

# SINGLE TAX REVIEW

An Illustrated Bi-Monthly Magazine  
of Single Tax Progress.

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## PUBLISHER'S NOTES.

Arrangements are being made to carry on the REVIEW for 1909. To do so successfully we must have the co-operation of all those who know the good work this publication is doing. What will *you* do? Will you help to place more public libraries on the list, more public men? will you add to the score or so of those Rhode Island Tax appeals to whom the REVIEW is now being sent?

Will you support this organ as loyally as socialists support theirs? There is not a subscriber on our list who cannot add another subscription to his own. And these are needed if the REVIEW is to continue its good work for the cause.

We shall undertake during the coming year the management of a lecture bureau for New York and vicinity. This we will do under the auspices of the American Single Tax League. By the time the next REVIEW is due we hope to be able to present a gratifying report of this work.

You can help this work by helping the REVIEW. By so doing we can be assured that the welfare of the publication will not be neglected, by reason of the time and labor that must be devoted to another field. We hope one mode of activity will help the

other, but this remains to be seen. And until this is proved your help is urgently needed. And to these two fields—the REVIEW and the lecture work for New York and vicinity—we purpose, for a period at least, to devote our entire time.

We want your financial help, but we want more. We have laid out a plan for a series of articles that shall exhaustively treat of certain important phases of the economic question. The series of articles on "The Single Tax—What is It," will be continued so that not even the casual reader of a single issue shall miss the answer. But we want help in forwarding to us the news of your locality, any information indicating progress in our direction, public and pulpit utterances that may seem significant, advances in tax laws, and newspaper editorials and items that may be of use to us in preparing these bi-monthly chronicles of our progress. And above all will our readers and correspondents in foreign countries keep in communication with us?

And remember the REVIEW needs your help, with such subscriptions as you can make, or which you can secure from those Single Taxers who are not now on our list. Help us to put the REVIEW on a self-supporting basis.

The Holidays are coming. Books are always appropriate presents. Order through the REVIEW any book you want.

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## NOW LET US TURN TO OUR OWN WORK

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For the third time Wm. J. Bryan is beaten for the presidency—this time, considering the circumstances peculiarly favoring his candidacy, more decisively than before. Many Single Taxers will be disappointed, for it is probably true that the larger proportion of our number supported him. But his Single Tax supporters have not been unmindful of the fallibility of his economic judgments and the shallowness of his proposed remedies. The trust plank in the Denver platform, said to have been dictated by Mr. Bryan, is of all remedies

the most preposterous, and it was upon this most vulnerable part of his armor that Governor Hughes, who on the Republican side made the most effective speeches in this campaign, directed his heaviest artillery. In this opinion respecting this extraordinary plank there is not a Single Taxer in the country who is not agreed and who could not in fifteen minutes demonstrate the worse than ineffectiveness of the remedy.

While it is no doubt true that Mr. Bryan can no longer aspire to the supreme leadership of his party, he will never cease to be an influential figure in its councils—that is, if the Democratic party is to survive. Mr. Bryan has shown signs of growth—he is a larger man to-day than when in 1896 he delivered that “crown of thorns” speech that secured him the nomination. But he is not yet fundamental.

Repeated efforts have been made to draw Mr. Bryan out with some expression of opinion on the right of every man to the use of the earth—without which the discussion of any economic problem is waste of effort. Before us as we write lies a letter of Mr. Bryan's written to Mr. Joseph Darling, of this city, sometime before the Denver convention. It reads as follows and is the first statement that Mr. Bryan has made on our question, though he still postpones a definite declaration of opinion:

“My Dear Sir:

Not regarding the Single Tax as a national question upon which the people are ready to act, I have not studied it as thoroughly as I desire to study a question before taking a position upon it. Mr. Johnson and I agree upon a great many questions upon which the people are ready to act. I have rejoiced in his victories in Cleveland, and he has commended my position on several questions, but I am not prepared to discuss the Single Tax question.

Very truly yours,  
W. J. Bryan.”

May we not venture to suggest that the time is now opportune for Mr. Bryan to “prepare” himself for such discussion. When the British political leaders do not hesitate to make an issue of the Taxation

of Land Values, adopting our arguments as their own, surely the leaders of the minority party in the United States need not feel any timidity in advocating some measure of our principles.

In this connection a communication addressed to Mr. Ryerson Jennings, of Philadelphia, by Count Tolstoy wishing success to Mr. Bryan in his late campaign, concluded with these words: Mr. Bryan admires the great Russian, and surely the admonition will not fall upon unheeding ears:

“I do not know, but hope Mr. Bryan will stand for land reform according to the Single Tax system of Henry George, which I regard as being, at the present time, of the most insistent necessity, and which every progressive reformer should place to the fore.

Yours Faithfully  
Leo Tolstoy.”

The impatience of some of our comrades at the apparent futility of a further alliance with the Democratic party is shown in a letter just received from a man who for twenty-five years has been foremost in Single Tax councils, besides having been a close personal friend of our great leader. This letter contains the suggestion that hereafter we act with the socialist party—that in this way, should the example be followed by radicals the country over, a most effective protest may be organized. Certainly we might do worse.

But in the meantime let us get to work. The progress of education must be hastened. There is a Bryan Federation which did effective work in the campaign just closed. Let that organization be maintained under some other name for radical ends, among which should be the securing of a Direct Legislation Law for this State.

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FROM a well known clergyman, brother of a better known Supreme Court Judge, to whom the REVIEW had been sent for one year comes the following communication: “I am surprised to see what seems to me to be true. But I must read and study more before expressing mature opinion. This by way of thanks to the editor.”