

one and the same thing. The better the organized association called government the higher the value of location.

There is such a thing as social value, community value, if you will, and its opposite, individual value. The value given a hat, for example, is labor value. In a state of free trade exchange of hats for dollars will approximate nearly exactly to a fair exchange, or as President Roosevelt puts it, a "square deal." Social value expresses itself in land or location, and is made possible by the fact that organized government guarantees peaceable possession. So the thing to which such value attaches should be the one thing taxed. In other words, and in such a state of society, people will pay only for what they get.

J. SALMON.

Baltimore, Md.

SINGLE TAXERS STAND FOR FREEDOM OF THOUGHT.

Editor *Single Tax Review*:

Some time ago Joseph A. Labadie, of this city, an employe of the Detroit Water Board, was discharged because he was an "anarchist" and never hesitated to tell people the reason for his belief in a non-coercive state of society. Immediately the Single Taxers and others remonstrated against such action, holding that Mr. Labadie's economic opinions were sacred, so long as he was a good citizen, did his work well, and minded his own business. He had been an employe of the board for fourteen years, and his "anarchy" was of the kind sometimes called "philosophical" and sometimes "parlor." Moreover he is a property owner, living in his own house and owning another which he rents. One petition for his reinstatement was seven feet and an inch long, and consisted in names of printers only, as he is an honorary member of Typographical Union No. 18. Other petitions bore the names of men of standing and even of wealth. At another meeting of the Water Board, Mr. Labadie was reinstated, whereat the Single Taxers have rejoiced. It was a distinct victory for freedom of thought in public

servants, and mind-warped people only are sorry.

JUDSON GRENNELL.

Detroit, Mich.

A CRITICISM.

Editor *Single Tax Review*:

An otherwise admirable article by E. I. S. H.* is spoiled by a slip of the pen, when the author gives what he (or she)? calls the full title of "A Single Tax on the selling value of land irrespective of any improvements." A volume—nay a library—of misunderstandings lies in the word "selling" interpolated before "value." The value of land, however it may be determined now, could not under Single Tax conditions be determined by sale. Even now (annual) rental (ground rent) is the real measure everywhere, and the legally recognized measure in many localities. In the early period of a Single Tax regime such would doubtless be the legal measure

I doubt the correctness of E. I. S. H.'s dictum that Single Tax is a good name for our movement. Mr. George doubted it and so expressed himself. It was the least misleading name, and perhaps still is—but we accept it, we do not "enthuse" over it. It keeps many away from us. Personally, when trying to gain converts, I reject the name. I say that ours is a *no tax* movement.

"Abolish taxes, take ground-rent." Thus, I conceive, is our doctrine best summarily stated.

SOLOMON SOLIS COHEN.

Philadelphia, Pa.

EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT WHEN THE ECLIPTIC MAKES ITS SWING.

Editor *Single Tax Review*:

I was a firm believer in Henry George and his system of taxation. Have all his publications in my home in Fla., but to be perfectly frank with you, I will say that I have been in touch with Koreshan Universology for 8 years, and

*The Single Tax and the Georgian Philosophy. S. T. REVIEW, July-Aug., 1908.

have come to believe in a different culmination of reform movements than most people. I have lost my Single Tax enthusiasm.

We are to have a great conflict of arms. It will come soon after the great conflict of ballots. The Socialists can never establish their system by the ballots, but inasmuch as the Socialists are the coming new and powerful party, they will force the conflict. The Single Taxism will be over shadowed. Out of the ruins of contending forces there will arise a just government, and that government will be based on, and patterned after the form and function of the Universe itself. Imperialistic, but it will be a Divine Imperialism, and justice will reign throughout the world. There will be no individual ownership of land, and the titles held by the present owners will not be taxed away from them, nor voted away from them, but when the ecliptic makes its swing into conjunction, or nearly so, with the equator, all land titles will be destroyed forever and become vested in the State, for the land and water surface of the earth will so change in 10 days that no one will be able to find his land from its legal description.

Of course, this sounds like a fairy tale to you, but you have only to wait a few short years, probably less than 15, to see this accomplished. We know this from a definite scientific knowledge of the structural form, and thus of the functions of the Universe.

E. B. WEBSTER

Bristol, Tenn.

LONELY BUT UNDISMAYED.

Editor *Single Tax Review*:

There are very few Single Taxers in the State and I feel very lonely in my support of the teachings of Henry George, but unwavering in my faith in their verity and truth. Very few, very, very few of even intelligent men in the State know what the "Single Tax" stands for. I have long desired that some of the eloquent advocates of the George philosophy would make a missionary tour

of the South and stir up thought and inquiry.

I have retired from active participation in public affairs, although only seventy two. Have been a disciple of the faith since 1885—after reading a 50 cents copy of *Progress and Poverty*. I take *The Public* and the *REVIEW* and thus keep fairly well posted in regards to Single Tax progress.

R. J. REDDING.

Griffin, Ga.

GEORGE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AT ARDEN.

The first week in September was one of festivities at the Single Tax colony, Arden, Newcastle County, Delaware, in which a number of our comrades from Philadelphia and Wilmington joined. New York City was represented in the presence of John J. Murphy, Jos. Fink, James Macgregor, Will. Ryan, Miss. Julia Huppert and Miss Amy Mali Hicks.

On Wednesday night Sept. 2nd, the Choral Society gave a concert, and on Thursday night Mr. James Macgregor made an address on the Single Tax. The opposition to the Single Tax was led by Prof. Nearing, who occupies the Chair of Political Economy at the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Macgregor has become accustomed to professors of political economy by this time, and numbers upon the list of those whose scalps he bears as trophies of more or less strenuous encounters in the past such monstrosities of economic misinformation as George Gunton and Prof. Van Buren Denslow. Prof. Nearing is an agreeable specimen of his class.

On Friday night there was a representation in costume of *Romeo and Juliet*. Mrs. Kumme was the Juliet and Fred. Whiteside the Romeo of the cast. Donn Stephens took the part of Mercutio and Frank Stephens was a capable Capulet.

Saturday night was devoted to *Julius Caesar*, with Frank Stephens as Caesar, Fred. Whiteside as Brutus, Frank Shandrew as Casca, Charles Ervin as Mark Antony, and Donn Stephens as Cassius.