

which is attached to land, and this is an entirely erroneous view. The value which is really attached to land, that is, inherent in land, is the value of growth, or the value of convenience for the site of a house or other social use, and this does not come into the discussion at all. The value which the Single Tax proposes to take for the public treasury is not inherent in the land at all, nor is it really "attached" to the land in any true sense. It bears the same relation to the land that a shadow does. The shadow falls upon the land, but cannot be said to be "attached" to it. In the case in point, the value is the shadow which falls from population, indicating a growth or a diminution in numbers, and consequently an increase or reduction of the value of the opportunity for business, etc. The fact that the value follows the movements of population in every particular proves that it is attached to population, and the proposal that population should own it and use it for common purposes is one which will appeal to the reason of any thoughtful man. On the other hand, the fact that a man owns a piece of land does not necessarily entitle him to own a shadow which falls upon it, even though that shadow has a market value. That value belongs to the passer-by by whom the shadow is cast.

My contention is that our question has nothing whatever to do with the ownership of land; it is exclusively concerned with the ownership of the value which attaches to population, and which merely registers upon land the increase or decrease of the community, after the similitude of a shadow.

J. W. BENGOUGH.

TORONTO.

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#### NOT OUT OF THE PROPAGANDA STAGE.

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EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

I have just read your editorial in the Jan.-Feb. issue, page 69, on Politics versus Propaganda and want to say that my experience during the past year in this institution confirms your attitude. The Single Tax is to a vast number of intelli-

gent and serious citizens but a far-off, vague thing because it has not been brought to their attention, at least not in the right way. I had an experience the other day which is typical—attending a lecture by a "wise" Prof. on Socialism, a person sitting next to me made a remark after the lecture which gave me an occasion to mention the Single Tax. He became intensely interested and being of an inquiring mind in this field of thought he readily grasped the fundamental outline and expressed a desire to read *Progress and Poverty*, in which of course I encouraged him. But the point is, we are still in the propaganda stage and it is a great responsibility of present day Single Taxers to develop this feature along efficient lines. I am not going to find fault with recent political activities, as I would have to know more of the merits or demerits of them, but of this I am certain, there is vast amount of propaganda work ahead of us. Buckle's advice on page 69 of the *REVIEW* cannot be impressed too much.—University of Chicago. FRANK G. ADELMAN

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#### WICHITA, KANSAS.

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John Z. White spoke at the City Hall the evening of July 3rd on the prosperity of the cities of the Canadian Northwest, particularly as resulting from the application of the Single Tax. Although the attendance was small on account of the extremely hot weather a very good report was given in the *Wichita Eagle* of July 4th occupying two thirds of a column.

Mr. White's visit has had the effect of stimulating a fresh discussion of the important question. At noon of the same day after lunch at the Wichita Club, Mr. White spoke before a number of representative Wichita business men in the Club parlors on the same general lines and his address of something over a half an hour was listened to with very close attention by those present.

Wichita is one of those cities striving blindly to boost themselves by tugging hard at the city's boot straps. With great natural advantages, situated in the center of a most productive and highly cultivated

agricultural region, the town is in many respects stagnant at the present time. There is no reason why population should not increase rapidly. But it is stifled by excessive speculation in land and the heavy taxes that fall on business enterprise of all kinds. Meanwhile the business men voluntarily subscribe to an expensive business association, the object of which is to boost the town. We have the experience of meeting would-be ventures or other industries with extremely high-priced building sites which are generally raised quickly when a new demand is suggested for them, and then, when the new enterprise actually comes, taxes are piled on good and heavy. Of course, the business association could easily be dispensed with and Wichita boomed in splendid shape if the city would only cease penalizing industry by copying the examples of Vancouver and the other cities of British Columbia that have had so great prosperity since taking taxes off of improvements. No doubt, Wichita will come to reason much quicker than if Mr. White had not been here with his most instructive address.

Wichita, Kas. HENRY WARE ALLEN.

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### AUSTRALIA.

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We have just come through a general election, and the Labor Government has been defeated. When I speak of a general election I refer to the Federal Parliament. You will see by the report that I was run as a candidate for one of the seats. Of course, we never expected to get in. The campaign was purely an educational one. Neither of the parties in politics has any policy which gives relief to the people. Both favor high protection, both favor compulsory military training, and neither has a satisfactory policy for dealing with the land question. The labor party certainly has a progressive land tax which yields £1,300,000 per year revenue, as against £15,000,000 raised by customs and excise. And yet this party claims to be the friends of the workers.

Mr. Joseph Cook has formed a Liberal Ministry, but we do not expect any demo-

cratic measures from him. There is every possibility that we shall have a double dissolution and another election in a few months. The Liberals have only a majority of one in the House of Representatives, while in the Senate the Labor party has 29 out of 36 members. Any measure that does not receive the approval of the Labor party will therefore be thrown out. This will cause a deadlock and the Houses will be dissolved. The Labor party has had the chance of a lifetime. They have had an absolute majority in both Federal Houses during the past three years and could have made Australia a little paradise for the workers had they the knowledge of how to go to work. But instead of going for FREEDOM they went for restriction. They have more faith in Arbitration Courts and Trades Unionism than they have in giving free play to the laws governing the production and distribution of wealth. During the campaign I addressed 34 meetings and the members of the League are satisfied that good propaganda work has been done. We shall keep right on with our open air meetings and keep the protectionists going. We shall also turn our attention to the rating question. This is the time of the year to wake up the municipal councils to the need of taking polls in December at the time of the annual elections. We hope to add a few more Councils to those already rating on land values only.

E. J. CRAIGIE.

ADBLAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

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### MR. BALLANGEE ON FAIRHOPE.

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(The following article from the *Fairhope Courier* is a reply to article in our May-June number. We deem it only fair that all our readers should see this article, presumably from the pen of E. B. Gaston, editor of the *Courier*.—Editor SINGLE TAX REVIEW.)

Fairhope is indebted to the SINGLE TAX REVIEW for its publication in its May-June number of an article on "Fairhope, its Problems and its Future"—by J. Ballangee—and no less to Mr. Ballangee for the preparation of the article. It strongly pre-