

CONVENTION OF THE WOMEN'S SINGLE TAX LEAGUE.

The third annual convention of the Women's National Single Tax League was held at New Haven, Conn., June 25, 26 and 27.

Mrs. John Sherwin Crosby, President of the League, presided, and Dr. Mary D. Hussey, of New Jersey, was Secretary.

The sessions were held in the beautiful and commodious Harmonic Hall on Elm St., and the Local League, Mrs. Leo Herz, President, had made every arrangement for the comfort and convenience of the delegates in attendance.

The ladies who took part represented many different sections of the Union, and the exercises showed a high order of talent and a degree of enthusiasm which made the occasion one of great interest and value to all who were privileged to attend. For the most part the sessions were open to the public, which availed itself of the opportunity, and the programme throughout was received with great interest and appreciation. The principal address of the first session was by Miss Eva J. Turner, of Brooklyn, upon Women's Organizations.

Owing to sickness Mrs. Minnie L. Brown, of Fairhope, Ala., was unable to attend or send a paper, and for the same reason Miss Bessie Agnes Dwyer, of Washington, D. C., was not present to respond to the addresses of welcome by the Local League, presented by Mrs. Leo Herz and by Mayor John P. Studley, on behalf of the city. Mrs. Belle De Révera, of New York City, made the response in a very happy and able impromptu address.

The remainder of the programme was carried out as planned.

After the addresses of welcome and the response a poem by Ella Wheeler Wilcox was recited by Miss Anita Trueman, and an address was very ably and pleasantly given by Mrs. Margaret L. Coope, of Washington, D.C., on the subject of the "New Convert."

The evening of the first day closed with a reception of the visiting delegates, among which Mrs. Ella Wheeler Wilcox was the center of attraction.

Friday forenoon was utilized by the visitors in seeing the many places of interest in the city and vicinity.

In the afternoon session Rev. Alexander Irvine, Pastor of the Peoples Church of New Haven, in a strong and impassioned address showed the inconsistencies and evils of our present system of taxation as illustrated in the iniquitous evasions of the law that it induces. Short talks on the Single Tax by Mrs. Jennie L. Monroe and others followed.

Friday evening a fine audience listened with great interest to addresses by Mrs. Wm. Trueman, of New Haven; Miss Grace Isabel Colbron, of New York, who told very interestingly of the work for the Single Tax

in Europe; Prof. J. Bellangee, of Alabama who gave an account of the successful experiment in the application of Single Tax principles at Fairhope, Ala. Mrs. Belle De Révera, of New York City, and the Hon. John Sherwin Crosby, who aroused great enthusiasm.

Saturday morning session was devoted to the election of officers and other business of the League. The officers elected for the ensuing year are as follows:

President, Mrs. John Sherwin Crosby, of New York; Vice-President, Miss Bessie A. Dwyer, of Washington; Recording Secretary, Dr. Mary D. Hussey, of Orange, N. J.; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. Charlotte Dickson, of Philadelphia; Treasurer, Mrs. Jennie L. Munroe, of Washington; additional executive officers, Mrs. Kate E. Freeman, of Brooklyn, and Mrs. Rose E. Holme, of Adrian, Mich.

Arrangements were made to send the President through the country to organize Leagues and in this work she is to have the co-operation of the State Vice-Presidents. Mrs. Ella Wheeler Wilcox and Mrs. Henry George were made honorary members of the League.

The programme was interspersed with music most beautifully rendered on the piano by Miss Gertrude Trueman and Miss Annie Rule, and by vocal solos by Mrs. Louise V. Sheldon and Miss Eva Augusta Vescelius. Master Nathaniel Herz rendered a solo on the flute.

At the close of the Conference the delegates were entertained at the home of Mrs. W. Trueman, 409 Edgewood Ave., where an elegant lunch was served, after which they proceeded by trolley to Short Beach, where Mrs. Ella Wheeler Wilcox received them at her charming summer home, The Bungalow.

Thus ended a very successful and inspiring Conference, from which all felt that a great impetus had been given to the cause of the Single Tax. It is planned to hold the Conference next year at St. Louis during the Exposition.

PROF. BELLANGEE'S TOUR.

I presume your readers will be interested in a short report of the tour I have been making in the interest of the Single Tax in general and Fairhope in particular.

I left Fairhope the middle of February coming by the Steamer San Marcos of the Mallory Line from Mobile to New York.

After visiting a few days in New Jersey, I went to Philadelphia where I had the pleasure of addressing the Friendship Liberal League, the Henry George Club and the Single Tax Society. These societies seem to have a good membership and embrace some strong and influential people among their members. The story of Fairhope aroused

much interest and at two of my meetings my remarks were supplemented by the testimony of Mr. R. F. Powell, who had been in Fairhope two winters. Mr. Powell is Superintendent of the Vacant Lots Cultivation work which is carried on after the model of the Potato Patch enterprise of Gov. Pingree at Detroit.

Besides addressing the above meetings I spent considerable time in personal interviews with Single Taxers of the Quaker City, meeting with very substantial encouragement, financial and otherwise. While in the city I was entertained by Dr. Dickson.

From Philadelphia I went to Baltimore speaking Sunday evening to the congregation of the Rev. J. M. Baedekoff of the Canton Congregational Church. I spent a week in Baltimore, meeting many warm supporters of the Single Tax among which were the old time workers Dr. Wm. Hill, John P. Salinan, and a lawyer by the name of W. J. Ogden, the City Register, G. N. Numsen and the Rev. A. Bilkonsky. Rev. Baedekoff entertained me while in Baltimore.

March 15th I spoke in Dr. Kent's church, the People's Church, from the text. "Am I my brother's keeper?" and at the conclusion of my discourse I told briefly the story of Fairhope with which all were interested. Later in the week I addressed the Single Tax Club and made the acquaintance of these veterans: Ralston, Siddons, Quisenberry, Newberg and many others. I enjoyed the hospitality of Mrs. Jennie L. Monroe while in Washington.

In all of these places I met with appreciative interest in Fairhope and secured substantial contributions to her land fund to enable her to take up some very favorable options which she holds on much needed land contiguous to her village sites.

The greater part of April was spent in visiting and making a tour of the central part of New York State. Meetings were held in Binghamton and Geneva and several other places were visited and the friends were interviewed. At Binghamton with the skillful assistance of J. H. Blakney, one of the old guard, I was able to address the Academy of Sciences, the labor organizations, the ministers and the senior class of the High School. Much interest was here aroused both in the Single Tax and in Fairhope.

May and June were mostly spent in New York and Boston. Various meetings and gatherings were addressed, the most notable of which were the Brooklyn Single Tax League, the McGlynn Memorial Association and the Manhattan Single Tax Club on the dedication of their new club house.

In Boston I held several open air meetings.

June 24th the Rhode Island Single Tax League held a banquet which was presided over by Col. George D. Lidell of the Gov-

ernor's staff, at which, after the supper, the story of Fairhope was listened to with great interest. Gov. Garvin also made a short talk.

June 25th, 26th and 27th at New Haven, Conn. was held the Annual National Conference of the Women's Henry George League. Your correspondent was given a place on the programme for the evening of the 26th. In honor of Fairhope, in which she has taken a great interest, Mrs. Ella Wheeler Wilcox extended an invitation to him to visit the "Bungalow," her summer home at Short Beach near New Haven and spend the Sabbath.

Everywhere I have journeyed I have found disciples of Henry George much interested in our practical application of Single Tax principles at Fairhope and their responses to my appeals for assistance have been both cheerful and generous. To date I have secured in cash and pledges about half the amount needed to clear off the options we hold.

One condition I have found everywhere that has afforded me much satisfaction. Without exception I have found all newspapers and magazines to which I have given an opportunity willing and oftentimes anxious to secure matter for an account of Fairhope progress. All the time I could command has been devoted to the preparation of such matter. Through such means in my judgment the work that Fairhope is doing is the greatest for the propaganda of our faith that is being done in the United States.

As I anticipated I find that the busy striving world is ready to give indulgent credulity to the story of what is being done, while they will listen with unbelief and cynical indifference to an ideal presentation of what might be done.

In a short time I shall resume my tour through the north and west visiting the cities of the Great Lakes and the Mississippi Valley.

J. BELLANGER.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Washington, D. C.

Editor *Single Tax Review*:

To meet the need of more coherence and united action of persons anxious to spread the Single Tax idea, a number of its supporters started about two months ago, a society modeled after the Free Masons, Odd Fellows, Maccabees, K. of P., &c., with a ritual and three degrees giving full instruction in the Single Tax political economy. There is also a financial scheme connected with it, but aimed at giving the living an income, not benefits to survivors. We have accumulated a fund or stock of over \$1000—have something in our expense fund besides, and want to start "councils" elsewhere. Are your readers favorable to such an idea of propaganda, and if so, will our workers here and there, get a number of