

legislation threatening the interests of the party of privilege gave him a much needed opportunity of rehabilitating himself to some extent in the eyes of the Tory Party, and he shook himself for the time being out of his characteristic pose of aristocratic languor and became quite a lion in the way. Though powerless in the House of Commons he has friends ready to do his bidding in the House of Lords and it was in the Upper House that the fatal blow was delivered to the Bill. Lord Robertson moved its rejection, which motion was carried by 118 votes to 81. Lord Robertson occupies his seat among the Peers by virtue of holding a salaried judicial position, and his action in taking the lead in the rejection of the bill was sufficiently open to criticism on this account. But what can be said of a gentleman who delivered himself of the following flash of oratorical brilliance. "There were certain quack remedies that wanted the semblance of authority, and it was to be given in this way by putting in the eighth column some nostrums of the Radical party to accustom the people of this country to deal with them as if they were realities. To this he strongly objected. He had had a long acquaintance with the valuation roll and had a sort of affection for it. It came of a respectable Whig family, and he would be sorry to see it in its old age become a sandwich man for advertising the theories of Mr. Henry George, and do the dirty work of Scotch Radicalism."

The action of the House of Lords has raised, this time in a more acute form, the Constitutional issue in Great Britain. "What," all persons interested in reform are asking, "is to be done with the House of Lords? How much longer is the will of the people to be thwarted by a body of men whose functions, in theory, is revisory, but whose practice is obstructive to all genuine reform?" This is the issue that the people of England must soon decide for good or ill. The Lords have forfeited all claim to be considered a true revisory body. Their action in regard to the Scotch Valuation Bill alone condemns them on this head. The Bill was the initial step, and truly but a little one, towards a settlement of the land question. But as Viscount Ridley, speaking at Newcastle-on-Tyne on January 13th of this year said: "Not far from a third of

the land of the country is owned by the House of Lords in one way or another." This admission offers the real explanation of their Lordship's action in smashing the Bill. "The House of Landlords is fighting for its own." There is still need for the educative work of Single Taxers in this country. When "the man in the street" has recognized the importance of the land question he will compel some Government to deal with the House of Lords. When the Lords have to fight for their existence as a legislative body the Single Taxers of Great Britain will see to it that the fate of the Scotch Valuation Bill is not forgotten.

LONDON, England. FRANK APPELBY.

TAXATION OF LAND VALUES CAMPAIGN.

The United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values, whose headquarters are at 20 Tothill Street, Westminster, are mapping out a number of meetings for the recess. Mr. Alexander Ure (Solicitor General for Scotland) will speak for the Committee, along with Mr. Trevelyan, M. P., at a demonstration on the Land Values Question at Leeds, October 4th; at Saltaire along with Mr. Percy Illingsworth, M. P., October 26th; at Partick, November 15th, and later at Chesterfield and Bradford. The Committee hope also to arrange meetings at Anddersfield, Greenock, Aberdeen and other centres. Mr. Winston Churchill will speak for the Committee at Newcastle-on-Tyne on the 3rd of February, and the Lord Advocate has promised to speak for the Committee at Hanley about the same time. Open air speakers, under the auspices of the Committee, have been at work during the summer months in various places throughout the country, and much new explanatory literature on the question is being circulated.

LONDON, England. JOHN PAUL,
Secretary.

HUNGARY.

Excuse me for my long silence, but I would not write you before I could show your readers a sign of some activity here.

The *Review* (Twentieth Century) I send you is devoted to the science of sociology, and is the greatest authority in this branch of science in Hungary. It contains my article on Henry George and the taxation of Land Values—being the first article in Hungary by a Single Taxer. My next work will be the edition of George's Protection or Free Trade; the translation is almost ready, but I am unfortunately short of means. I am preparing also a copy of The Land Question on request of the editor of *Twentieth Century*, who is publishing a "library of social and natural sciences."

The appearance of Protection or Free Trade is peculiarly favorable for us at this time, as the tariff question is very actual now. We are preparing our own tariff system independently of Austria, and as the question is not yet settled, the book will arouse more interest now than at any period in the past.

I know thus far the history of the movement; that it is nowhere the platform of a strict political party. Its aim is to retribute by the full taxation of land values economic justice. It is not inconsistent with the platform of any political party that does not exclude economic justice. I think the greater the percentage of the full rent that is taken the more we approach to social and economic justice. Anybody promoting this aim is a Single Taxer. I hope my interpretation of George and the Single Tax is the correct one.

LIPPA, Hungary. ROBERT BRAUN.

CHINA.

THE REVOLUTIONARY LEADERS FOR THE SINGLE TAX — MANY PROMINENT VICEROYS BEING INFLUENCED ALONG OUR LINES.

I have a whole set of propaganda literature circulating about and the Chinese are learning. Wherever they have received the knowledge, Kang Yei Wei and Sun Yat Sin, the revolutionary leaders, are pronounced in favor of Single Tax. In Kang Yei Wei's books he advocates the method, and a friend of mine in Tokio, Japan, had a chat with Sun when he spoke for our doctrines. There is a great desire among the Chinese, from high to low, to keep their

own natural wealth, and it is getting harder and harder for foreigners to get land and railway mines and other franchises. Our viceroys change every few years and every new viceroy I memorialize on Single Tax lines, and usually get a friendly response. My memorials are read by many besides the viceroy. In order to pay the indemnity for the Boxer war a house tax was planned, but the government fears to adopt it.

Lately our viceroy, Ywan Fan, the man who visited America, was going to use the house tax. I prepared a memorial advising a site tax, which is after the ancient Chinese order of things, as Mencius says: "In the markets have a site tax and no tax on goods or houses." I told him that if he adopted the site tax he would have the scholarship of the Empire to back him, but if he adopted the house tax he would fall into the miserable system of Shanghai, where foreigners have the house tax and rents ruin the common people. I am told that he has given up the idea of a house tax, and some say my memorial convinced him. He has not communicated with me, however. Some day, I hope, if I keep on working, to get at some big official to adopt the plan, as the Germans did in Kiouchu. I had last year a long talk with our former viceroy, Chen Fu, and urged him to adopt the Single Tax. I'll find the right man yet, and I have the literature translated to meet the occasion. I have George, Dove and Spencer translated, also a large number of sheets and booklets.

NANKIN, China. W. E. MACKLIN.

GERMANY.

The German Single Tax organ, *Bodenreform*, not only reports much progress from the Fatherland, but has also an article headed: "A Single Tax Fight in the Eternal City." In Rome there is a great house famine. Hundreds of families are waiting in ruins, store rooms, hotels, etc., for dwellings to be vacated, although they are situated so that they can pay the rent, which is in consequence extraordinarily high. The reason of this famine can be traced back to the great panic in the eighties, when most of the houses, as well as the