

Such action would inevitably result in building; it would mean either a decrease in land values which would counterbalance higher costs of building, or it would give sufficient impetus to the landowner to make him consider building if there is any chance at all of such action proving profitable. Whether the authorities, who have sat with hands folded for a year and four months while this situation developed, can be made to understand the way out is an open question. If they cannot the city must face a very gloomy future unless fortuitous circumstances comes to our rescue.

N. Y. *Globe*, March 8.

I WAS surprised to find that it (Paine's 'Agrarian Justice') was the Single Tax of today enunciated 124 years ago by Thomas Paine, in honor of whose birthday we are here assembled tonight.

"Paine was indeed a seer, a revolutionist and reformer. He recognized the impostures of landlordism and the injustices of taxation from which his fellow-men suffered. Paine's 'Agrarian Justice' was written to awaken the people to their just rights in the matter of land and in the hope of eventually effecting a reform. 'Agrarian Justice' is a keen and incisive argument against land monopoly. Paine argues very ably for the cultivation of the idle acres that covered England and France and which were holdings, or inheritances, of the wealthy. Land monopoly is simply an example of the dog in the manger fable. I recommend to everyone present that he read Paine's fine essay 'Agrarian Justice' and I also recommend the works of that other great student of economic problems, Henry George."—CHAS. H. INGERSOLL, at the Thomas Paine Dinner, Jan, 29, 1920.

THE Henry Astor Estate is selling out. In page advertisements in the metropolitan newspapers they tell us many things intended to attract the purchaser of these properties, but which should be equally enlightening to the disinterested citizen. These advertisements tell us that "Purchasers not wishing to occupy the premises themselves can obtain largely increased rentals and make a good investment, with the opportunity of selling at a profit." "Tenants to erect buildings on the ground." "Tenants to pay all taxes and expenses." "For 125 years this plan has been followed by the Astor family." The following is the only erroneous statement: "The first opportunity the public has had to take advantage of this wealth-creating investment." Of course, these investments do not create wealth—they divert wealth. Among the things you may secure by purchasing this land, says the advertisement, are "above all, peace of mind and comfort." Nothing is said of the peace of mind and comfort of those who are to pay the largely increased rentals that are to be exacted by the new purchasers.

I SHOULD myself deny that the mineral treasurers under the soil of a country belong to a handful of surface proprietors in the sense in which these gentlemen appear to think they did.—LORD CHIEF JUSTICE COLERIDGE.

How can you buy the right to exclude at will every other creature made in God's image from sitting by this brook, treading on the carpet of flowers, or lying listening to the birds in the shade of these glorious trees—how can I sell it to you? Is a mystery not understood by the Indian and dark I must say to me.—N. P. WILLIS.

STATEMENT of the Ownership, Management, Circulation, etc, required by the Act of Congress of August 24, 1912, of the SINGLE TAX REVIEW, published Bi-Monthly at New York, N. Y., for April 1, 1920
State of New York, County of New York, ss.:

Before me, a notary in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Joseph Dana Miller, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Owner of the SINGLE TAX REVIEW and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in Section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor and managing editor and business managers are:

Publisher: Joseph Dana Miller, 150 Nassau Street, New York City.

Editor: Joseph Dana Miller, 150 Nassau St, New York City.

Managing Editor: Joseph Dana Miller, 150 Nassau Street, New York City.

Business Manager: Joseph Dana Miller, 150 Nassau Street, New York City.

2. That the owners are: Joseph Dana Miller, 150 Nassau Street, New York City.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent. or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

JOSEPH DANA MILLER,

Publisher.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th day of March, 1920.

J. Frederick Cryer,

Notary Public, Westchester County. Certificate filed in New York County. (My commission expires March 30, 1920.)

CORRESPONDENCE

FROM THE OREGON LEADER

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

I am pleased with your editorial position. Of course it is the same as ours. If we do not succeed along this line then the human race is hopeless. It is left without a guiding star, and our stewardship will be forfeited, and restrictive Socialist legislation will come. Mere appeals to selfishness will in the end wreck all semblance of social order and as George has plainly pointed out in the "Dawn of Human Progress," civilization will decline.

But we have reason to hope, and the hopeful spot is Oregon.

Portland, Oregon.

J. R. HERMANN.

THE SINGLE TAX CANNOT BE SHIFTED

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

In the July-August issue of the REVIEW I note a letter from Dr. C. J. Lavery, Aberdeen, South Dakota, asking in substance if the Single Tax cannot be transferred by the owner of land to the renter of it as it is under our present system of taxation, and your answer which does not seem to me to fully satisfy.

If all the site rent of land were taken for taxation—ownership of land for rental purposes would not exist, for what man would care to own land simply to have and hold it without receiving income from it? Suppose he did own and rent land, and suppose each year he raised the site rent and his tenant paid it, the State would take each year that additional amount. All site rent should properly go to the State.

A man might own improved land and rent those improvements and

supply and demand should regulate what a man could charge and get for the rental of them. If he charged too much it is inferred that his renter would move—and if all owners were charging too much rent, the renters would more than likely find a vacant spot of land and erect an improvement of their own thereon.

They could do this very handily, because there would be no ground hogs holding that land for inflated speculative prices. Land would be available. Single Tax effectively prevents monopoly of land.

Under Single Tax, that is to say, under a system where all site rent of land is taken by the State, there would be no returns, ultimately none, at least, on vacant land. The State would own it.

It seems to me the easiest concept of Single Tax is this: to think of the State as owner of all the land, which is to say, all natural resources, which the State rents to individuals or corporations, the rent collected being determined by the site value of the land's location. Think of the renter having all the rights and privileges an owner of land now has, so long as he pays the site tax, or rent.

You will in this concept then catch that broader vision of a society deriving all its revenues from values which accrue to land by reason of population—the civilization, advancement, and enterprise of that population.

You will see that none of this immense revenue will go into private pockets, thus making it impossible for men to make millions from land monopoly—the very root of all monopoly. You will see Labor, the farmer especially, receiving the full product or reward of his toil.

One must not infer that Single Tax will promptly make a perfect society. Honesty, goodness, and unselfishness, cannot be legislated into men. But certainly Single Tax will do more to increase production, reduce the cost of living, destroy Poverty and Parasites, and come nearer fulfilling the promise of the Declaration of Independence than any measure or programme yet conceived by the mind of man.

Chicago, Ill.

GEORGE D. CARRINGTON

CHARLES FOLLEN

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

You ask who Charles Follen was from whose paper you quote.

Dr. Chas. Follen was a refugee from Prussia after the revolutionary movement of 1850. His name was Karl Follenine, which he Anglicised to Charles Follen. He married Elizabeth Cabot of Boston ("The Lowells speak only to Cabots and the Cabots speak only to God.") and took a leading part in the reforms of his day. A church in Lexington was erected for him and a street in Cambridge named after him.

New Haven, Conn.

ERVING WINSLOW.

(Other correspondents have identified Chas. Follen. Mr. F. W. Lynch, of San Francisco, tells us that Whittier refers to him in his poem "Expostulation." James F. Morton, Jr. writes that an earlier statement of Spencer's law of equal freedom is to be found in William Godwin's "Enquiry into Social Justice," from which he conjectures both Dr. Follen and Herbert Spencer may have derived it.—EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW.)

A SUGGESTION WITH THE MERIT OF NOVELTY

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

Labor it is which applied to land produces wealth. But we Single Taxers in our eagerness to answer the question, Whose is the ground rent? have neglected at the start to consider the question, Whose are the wages? This is more inexcusable, because, under the Single Tax all, or nearly all, ground rent would be used in the payment of wages.

On page ten of the Jan.-Feb. SINGLE TAX REVIEW we find Smith charging Jones for sewerage, schools, fire department, street pavement, library, etc. Are not governments the products of repeated elections as truly as land values are the products of the above governmentally-provided advantages? What excuse can we have—with ground rent in our possession—to ignore the right of the voter to the wages due him for the mental, spiritual and physical work done when he votes?

Memphis, Tenn.

WALTER B. LOWENSTEIN.

NEWS NOTES AND PERSONALS

HON EDWARD POLAK, Register of the Bronx, N. Y. City, has addressed a letter to the Hall of Fame Committee proposing the name of Henry George as a candidate for the Hall of Fame. Hon. W. D. Foulke has done the same. It would be well for Single Taxers to follow their example. The Hall of Fame Committee may be addressed care of the New York University, N. Y. City.

MAJOR-GENERAL WILLIAM C. GORGAS has accepted a five year contract with the Peruvian government to direct its sanitation programme. General Gorgas is now in Peru.

AN article by Prof. Harry Gunnison Brown is translated from the REVIEW and appears in the February number of the *Revista del Impuesto Unico*, of Buenos Aires, under the title of "Modern Property in Land—a Parasitic Type."

CAPTAIN W. W. GILMER, a long-time subscriber of the REVIEW, is now the Governor of Guam.

MISS FRIEDA MYLCRAINE and Philip H. Cornick were married in Philadelphia on April 15th. Miss Mylcrairie was the secretary of Mrs. Fels for a number of years, and Captain Cornick is a well known Single Taxer, son of Dr. Boyd Cornick, of San Antonio, Texas.

A RECENT testimonial dinner was tendered to Mr. A. G. Huie, of Sydney, Australia, by his fellow workers. Mr. Huie was presented with a check for 125 guineas as a slight recognition of his work for the cause as editor of the *Standard* and in other efficient ways.

THE President of the Czechoslovak Republic, T. G. Masaryk, who celebrated his seventieth birthday in March of this year, in investigating the subject of suicides, finds that 30 per cent. is caused by want. He concludes that this proves that something is radically wrong with the economic and social mechanism of society.

THERE is a movement pending to impeach Louis F. Post, who is alleged to have exceeded his authority in throwing obstacles in the way of the deportation of aliens who are members of the Communist groups. One member of Congress has even accused Mr. Post of advocating Free Love. As Mr. Post is the author of a book exalting the ideal of marriage, and upholding the legal, social and moral status of the institution against its critics, the accusation tends to the ludicrous. As Mr. Post cites legal authority for his actions in the matter of accused aliens, the burden of proof rests with his accusers. He will succeed in giving them a merry time.

THE *Washington Herald* prints a half-tone cut of Charles Newburgh, an old Single Taxer who holds a position as translator in the Pension Office. We learn that Mr. Newburgh was born in Germany in 1837, and has been daily at his desk since the Civil War began.

PETER WITT, one of Cleveland's most distinguished citizens, is a Single Taxer of many years' standing. He was a member of Tom L. Johnson's Cabinet, when Johnson was Mayor of Cleveland.

He started his business career as an iron moulder, and as moulders use sand in their work, and as the land is made up mostly of sand, Peter naturally became a Single Taxer, and never got over it.

He has had lots of experience with sand, and has lots of it.

When he was a pupil in the kindergarten in Orchard School, in Cleveland, his teacher said to him one morning: "Petey, what would you say if I came to school with such sandy face and hands?" And Pete said: "I'd be too polite to say anything."