

for in studying the true relations between the factors in the production of wealth, the base of all material progress. And in searching for this solution he makes no use of the dry deductive system of Adam Smith, nor the dry logic of the economists who followed, but based his deductions upon human nature, because, although political economy is as exact a science as geometry, according to the economists, it is the most strictly and intimately united with the life and necessities of nations and individuals. From this springs the spirit, so intensely human, of justice, of Christian charity and equality which illuminates the whole doctrine of Henry George.

The three factors of production are Land, Labor and Capital, and that part of the product which is destined to the second of these factors is denominated Wages. Wages are, then, the reward belonging to labor, as distinguished from the return for the use of capital and the part which goes to the owner for the use of the land.

These are the terms which George studies and establishes. Land includes all the materials, forces and natural conveniences and everything which nature offers freely to man. Labor is human force employed in producing wealth, and Capital is the fund or tools employed as auxiliary in production. From the enunciation of these terms it will be seen to follow that George gave a signification to Wages that was different and distinct from that accepted by all the economists who preceded him. He was the first who, defining the true functions of Capital, affirmed that Wages do not proceed from Capital but from the product of Labor, by which they are paid—a theory now universally admitted, and a theory which totally destroyed the old idea of production which affirmed that wages depended upon the relation between the number of workers and the amount of capital invested in enterprise, or, in other words, that wages proceeded from capital.

This theory, which gave a new orientation to economists, presented in a plane completely distinct the relation between

Capital and Labor, of which we will speak in another article.—PALMERIN.

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### OREGON NEWS LETTER.

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SOME DETAILS OF THE FIGHT—THE NEED OF FIELD WORK—IN SPITE OF DEFEAT IN THIS, THE FIRST BATTLE, MUCH HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.

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Did we have a Single Tax campaign in Oregon?

We most certainly did.

It was a Bull Run; both sides scared and both ready to run. The Single Taxers "retreated in good order." The war went on.

The Big Business Beast of Oregon knows he was in a fight. He knows there is going to be another fight, and he cannot be sneaked up on in the future. He will fight anything that looks like a step in the right direction.

For the first time the people of the State were aroused and the Single Tax led as a State issue. It surpassed the interest in the presidential election, and called out more strenuous opposition than equal suffrage. We were beaten on the State Wide Graduated Single Tax amendment fully  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 1, and on the Multnomah county measure by nearly two to one. The repeal of the Home Rule Tax amendment so far as that feature of it was concerned was effected by the most strenuous and concentrated efforts of the Beast. No lie, no subterfuge, no effort, literary, personal, psychological was neglected to effect this repeal because the Beast realized that "to TRY it meant to buy it," as the horse dealers say. The repeal was carried by about 7,000.

Equal suffrage was defeated six times in Oregon, and carried the seventh.

Against us was any amount of money and the best of talent, and a prostituted press with but a few honorable exceptions. The appeal against the Single Tax was made by scaring the people rather than convincing them. We neglected, so it seems to me, the personal and field work and relied almost entirely until the last

three months of the campaign on literature. The literature was ably written, thorough and exhaustive, but the enemy got right out in the field with scores and probably hundreds of well paid "jay-walkers" (possibly an Australian term) who went from house to house and town to town scaring the people and giving the most lurid accounts of the effects of taking taxes off improvements. Not a woman or man was missed and the bugaboos exhibited were fearfully and wonderfully made. The people were confused, doubts and suspicions were created, and the vote of NO was given because in thousands of instances it was absolutely impossible to ascertain the claims of the Single Taxers. Requests for speakers could not be granted. The enemy had \$100 to our \$1, and a ton of literature gotten up by expert advertising writers and word-twisters to every pound we could issue. The railway mail clerks were swamped with the yellow-backed stuff purporting to tell the "Truth About the Single Tax." It was left at the door by hand, passed out from every hotel waiting room and saloon, handed out at church meetings and given away generously by "jay-walkers" at every country home. The night before election literally millions of little cards and slips bearing the legend "To Kill Single Tax vote 308, 365, 379," were strewn all around the election booths. This alone must have cost as much as we spent in a month.

J. W. Bengough, the philosophical and devoted cartoonist, gave splendid service for three and a half months, drawing his striking crayons. Street speaking was kept up from a wagon every evening and every noon when possible. Enormous crowds listened and took literature. An immense amount of seed was sown that will yet blossom forth in results.

The accredited organ of plutocracy in Oregon gave us fully \$50,000 in free advertising that should be made to bear returns in the future.

Some campaigning in the outside towns was done by Bengough, F. E. Coulter and H. D. Wagon. President E. S. J. McAllister made one street speech and four or five in Coos county in the southwestern part of the State. A few volunteer

speakers got out in other parts of the State for local work, but not many. W. S. U'Ren held a series of five debates with the manager of the anti-Single Tax campaign, and made a number of speeches in various parts of the State.

In Portland H. D. Wagon, Paul Turner, W. P. Wagon and the writer made hundreds of speeches and short talks. M. L. Dowling helped in this work often. We found that the eyes of the people were obscured with the "sky-scraper," the railroad train and the auto, while the diamond necklace glittered so that they could not see at all at times, and the "million dollars in the bank" simply deadened their understanding. Meanwhile the opposition poured schrapnel into us from the skyscraper, and the owners of these very things raked us with machine guns.

On the 14th about 35 Single Taxers met and talked over the next campaign. A strong spirit of confidence was manifested, and more harmony than was expected. It was realized that mistakes had been made and that the lessons were valuable. There are 25,000 men in Oregon who cannot be scared, bulldozed, mystified, stampeded. They can be organized, but they have not been. They can be set to work for some practical measure of advance. They are to be relied upon. To abandon them to the wolves would be great folly, in my opinion. The greatest mistake is procrastination and delay. It takes time for ideas to grow into votes, and time to plant them.

A temporary campaign committee was elected with Miss C. Herman as chairman, for we have equal suffrage in Oregon.

Oregon is not peopled by radicals, but the hearts of the people are honest, and we must appeal to their intellects through their hearts. Efforts are being made to submit another measure in the near future, along some lines that will unite the different factions. Perhaps we may leave the owners of skyscrapers and railroads, diamonds and automobiles, to fight their own battles and do no fighting for them ourselves. One department store proprietor whose establishment was used as an awful example contributed

\$1,000 to defeat H. D. Wagon for assessor, and undoubtedly more to defeat the Single Tax. There were others.

The advancement in tax legislation made in four years in Oregon is (1) abolition of the poll tax; (2) abolition of all taxation on household furniture; (3) probable carrying by very close vote of a measure to allow different rates of taxes on different classes of property; (4) stopping of tax laws being passed by legislatures with the "emergency clause," which clause prevented the referendum. These steps are inch-steps, but they are steps wrung from the opposition in spite of all they could do to keep the laws as they were. With a solid, local organization and a measure that would afford still further and more positive relief from taxes on labor values, the Single Taxers and tax reformers can compel further concessions and attain one outpost after another until the Port Arthur of the Beast has capitulated. The next regiment will now step forward.

We have relieved 60,000 men of the poll tax; we have struck \$12,000,000 of labor-made values off the tax rolls; we have provoked the people to thinking. They will think some more if we keep them at it.—ALFRED D. CRIDGE.

THE postmaster of Portland pays about \$85 in taxes on a lot where he resides. Next to him is an empty lot of the same value and size that pays about \$3.50. The P. M. has valuable and commendable improvements. The speculator has some stumps. Every year the lot grows more valuable without any labor. Every year the improvements decrease in value unless labor is added. To require that each of these lots pay \$4.75 to \$7 in taxes would encourage the use of both. The thousands of vacant lots held by speculators in our suburbs would take up the taxes now levied on the home owners and home users and renters.

Good roads mean better land values, and better roads mean ten dollars' profit to the land speculator to one that the farmer ever gets.

## TO FRIENDS OF THE CAUSE, NOTICE!

Mr. Joseph Fels announces that his contribution to the cause for the current year is conditioned upon the friends of the movement elsewhere putting up a like sum. He will give no greater amount than is subscribed from other sources, but this he will match dollar for dollar.

## CONGRESSMAN GEORGE'S CAMPAIGN.

The campaign of Henry George, Jr. for Congress this year lacked the spectacular feature of two years ago. As the result was a foregone conclusion there was not the same interest manifested in his candidacy.

Mr. George received 13,488 votes; his Bull Moose opponent, 8,378 and the Republican candidate, 5,194. Mr. George thus lacked 84 of a majority. It is of interest to know that the candidate led both the presidential and gubernatorial nominees of his party in 54 out of the 77 election districts comprising his Congressional district. Some of this may be accounted for by the vote of the colored brother. There are 4,500 negro voters in the district, and of these 85 per cent. voted the Bull Moose ticket. Many "scratched" for George.

The campaign was conducted efficiently and with spirit. The secretary, Joseph H. Newman, in charge of headquarters, deserves not a little credit for the outcome. John H. Scully was Chairman of the Campaign Committee and F. C. Leubuscher was its treasurer. Among those who spoke at the George meetings were Oscar Geiger, John Moody, August Weymann, Wm. Ryan, John Jerome Rooney, Peter Aiken, W. B. Vernam, Hon. Robt. Baker and others.

The campaign was waged on a clean cut tariff issue, nor did Mr. George disguise the fact that he was a free trader and Single Taxer, avowing his intention in answer to "hecklers" of going much further than President-elect Wilson proposes to travel.