

It is always difficult for reformers such as we Single Taxers to work harmoniously together, for we are by nature individualistic, following Truth as our only leader; and caring little for expediency, that continued unity of action is rarely possible. Some of the most devout disciples became so filled with their own standards of right, that they are often impatient with their brothers because they do not view every question from their stand-point. One thinks it morally wrong to vote, unless he can vote for the destruction of private property in land; while another thinks it wrong not to vote, since the power of his ballot may assist in suppressing privilege.

Forces are gathering for a conflict, and the party that represents the trust democracy will use the aid of every liberty-loving man, to assist it in divorcing the control of government from the power of special privilege.

When the great truths we stand for are more clearly understood, we can safely leave the issue to the voice of the people, whatever be the name of the party.

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#### *Editor Single Tax Review:*

Those of our friends who are anxious to lay the groundwork for a new party machine and build upon it for the future triumph of the cause, should be willing to await the outcome of the efforts of those who claim that it will be easier to capture a first class machine in splendid condition for immediate work in the fields we are plowing and seeding; a machine that we know will work; a machine that, with a little trimming up and cutting off here, and adding to there, will enable us to reap the harvest years in advance of the shortest possible time the most enthusiastic of us could begin to imagine, working through the new instrumentality.

Let us await developments in the Ohio field. Tom L. has a fine machine in operation over there and there is no one left to dispute his supremacy. Let us wait long enough to see what the harvest will be. If he gets a good crop, including a fair return from the seed he has been sowing among the tares (republicans and those lukewarm in the past), we will have then demonstrated that we are entitled to retain possession of the machine and to go after the bigger one for the greater harvest.

In other words, if Johnson holds the bulk of the Democratic vote in Ohio this fall and adds recruits sufficient to show that being an adherent of Henry George is not hurtful to him as a leader of the Democratic hosts, notwithstanding the campaign being waged against him is a campaign of misrepresentation, based on his known advocacy of the Single Tax, then there will be no reason to

justify us in spending a moment of our precious time in the experimentation and worry of trying to build up a new machine.

If our friends will take a look backward and see the evidences of success already attained to in the five victories that wonderful man has had in the heretofore solidly republican county of Cuyahoga, where for thirty years or more, there was hardly a Democrat holding an official position in the County Courthouse, and how, now the building is in control of our people, administering the affairs of that County as they have never before been administered—that is, honestly and in the interest of the whole population without regard for special interests or party designs, more than to profit politically by conducting the business of the public honestly and for the public interest, they will, in a measure, realize what glorious advances are possible in the immediate future, if Johnson wins in the State this Fall. But whether he wins or not, and it is almost too much to hope for under the conditions which confront him, he will have gained for us an immeasurable amount of prestige if he holds the Democratic vote and adds to it sufficient to show the people that the Republicans had to take advantage of all of their powers to overcome him. That they are doing this, that they have put in the field more than eighteen hundred speakers, or an average of eighteen or twenty to a county, many of them orators of national reputation holding, too, high public positions, affords ample testimony. It demonstrates what the Republicans think of Johnson as a political factor, and their object in making such extraordinary provisions for his overthrow are two-fold: In the first place, they desire to make sure of saving Hanna's scalp. In the second place they imagine that by bringing into the state all of their heavy guns and discharging them in every quarter of the local field, they can overwhelm him with an adverse vote that will forever blast his political prospects and destroy him as a leader of the new Democracy.

I do not make any predictions as to the result more than to say that I am extremely optimistic and hopeful of the outcome. I know that the hearts of the great common people—the masses, including those of all classes, rich and poor alike—are properly tuned for the harmony our thoughts inspire, and that they will join in if we can only strike the right chords. I believe Tom L. is striking them in every speech he makes, and we need not be surprised if, at midnight on November 3rd, the returns from the old Buckeye State give us an opportunity to expand our lungs in vociferous shouting for joy as reward for the many, many disappointments the long years of our labors have vouchsafed us.

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