

an effort being made by the State Revenue Agent, and appointee of the present Governor of Texas, Tom Campbell, to insist on assessments of property at the full value.

"Whereas Captain W. P. McDonald, State revenue agent, has insisted that the various assessors of the State shall enforce the law requiring a full valuation of all kinds of property, and

"Whereas, this action has subjected Captain McDonald to much adverse criticism, therefore be it

"Resolved, By the Houston Single Tax League, that we endorse and approve the action of Captain McDonald."

It is true that a tax upon improvements and personal property tends to discourage their production and increases their cost? This is not Captain McDonald's fault. It is the people's law. It is true that a tax on money tends to drive it out of the State, but it is the people's law. It is true that a tax on various forms of credits is double taxation, but it is the people's law. It is true that all these forms of taxation tend to promote perjury, but it is the people's law. For over twenty years the Single Taxers of the State have been proclaiming the evils of these laws, but the people have insisted on maintaining them. Captain McDonald, in carrying out the will of the people, deserves our thanks, and we hereby extend them."

In the evening the members of the Log Cabin Club gave an informal supper in honor of Mr. Pastoriza, who was to leave on the following week for Europe. The meeting was a veritable love feast. Many speeches were made, and as the only inspiration furnished was black coffee and cigars, the eloquence which flowed in golden streams from the lips of every speaker could only have been inspired by the affectionate regard and esteem in which the guest of the evening was held. It was such a gathering as will long live in the memory of those present as one of the delightful resting places along life's somewhat weary journey and they can doubtless say, as did the disciples of the Nazarene on their way to Emmaus when the Master unknown to them walked and talked with them, "Did not our hearts burn within us?"

The following were present: J. J. Pastoriza, J. G. M. Buck, Jas. Charlton, H. F. Ring, J. C. Porterfield, P. W. Schwander, E. P. Boyle, B. E. Tarver, Col. P. W. Robinson and D. Woodhead.

D. WOODHEAD,  
Secretary.

#### GOOD WORK OF GOVERNOR TOM CAMPBELL IN ENFORCING THE LAW TAXING LANDED ESTATES.

Owing to existing laws in this State it will be impossible to adopt the Single Tax or even a kindred measure until we get a

constitutional amendment providing for local option in taxation. The present law not only fixes the rate of taxation, but it also designates the species of property to be taxed.

For a long time it has been customary to allow the owners of farming lands to render it for taxes much below its market value. Good intentions have inspired this practice for the purpose of leniency towards the producers of wealth, but the fact that the land grabbing element have gradually enlarged and extended their powers at the expense of the public in general and home seekers in particular, have convinced the enquiring element of the economic error in which the State has fallen.

The election of Governor Campbell in this State was a great surprise to the ring politicians who have almost wholly had control for many years. Some time ago when Governor Campbell was a fairly successful lawyer, attracting no special attention, until he was appointed Receiver for the International and Great Northern Railroad. But a short time after he took charge of this road a peremptory order was given him to cut the salaries of all the employees of the road. This he flatly refused to do, but after some wrangling about it he did cut the salaries of all the high officials, including his own, and then added it to the pay rolls of the employees receiving the least pay. When he was voted upon for Governor at the primaries all friends of the labor movements organized their forces with a silent determination which knows no defeat. In the meantime the Farmers Union had started its organization in this State and it too aligned itself with this movement, with about 125,000 members. When the results of this primary were flashed upon the curtain Tom Campbell's large majority was a surprise even to his most enthusiastic friends. He has been instrumental in the enactment of many good and progressive laws. The 30th legislature under his administration repealed the occupation tax law. We also have an effective anti free pass law. Corporations can no longer lobby with the legislature. A pure food law was also enacted. It is a heavy penalty for railroad companies to work their train crews long hours and thereby endanger the lives of passengers. Heavy penalties for gambling have virtually driven all the gamblers out of this State. Pool rooms and bucket shops have gone with them. Juvenile courts have come to stay. The intangible asset law while somewhat imperfect in its operations reaches the hidden franchises of many corporations.

The governor has strictly enforced the law taxing landed estates and its direct result has been to completely rout many land grabbing individuals and corporations, and in spite of the rapid influx of emi-

gration to this State many large tracts of land have been thrown on the market at reduced prices.

A. W. FOLSOM.

#### DEMONSTRATION AT COOPER UNION.

THE MANHATTAN SINGLE TAX CLUB HOLDS A MASS MEETING TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF SUBWAYS—SPEECHES BY PRESIDENT LEUBUSCHER, HON. BIRD S. COLER, JUDGE JOHN FORD, HON. ROBERT BAKER AND HENRY GEORGE, JR.—RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

The Manhattan Single Tax Club, feeling the impulse that is now stirring among Single Taxers everywhere urging them to renewed activity, held a meeting, enlivened by a band of music, on the night of July 1st, in the big hall in Cooper Union for the purpose of urging upon the newly appointed Public Utilities Commission the calling for bids for the construction of the new subways, leaving their operation or leasing until after completion, and urging that body to keep to the routes already selected. President Leubuscher opened the meeting in a vigorous speech, after which the resolutions prepared for submission to the meeting were read by the editor of the *Single Tax Review*. Speeches followed by those named at the head of this column. That of Hon. Robert Baker drew attention to the undemocratic nature of government by commission, and the small hope that existed of such a commission doing anything effective to correct monopolistic abuses. "No Pass Baker," as he has come to be known, no longer in derision, since there are dozens of "no pass" governors now-a-days since Congressman Baker took that bold stand, and more who wish they were, aroused the enthusiasm of his audience. Mr. Coler, President of the Borough of Brooklyn, went into the debt limit bugaboo, and made short work of that contention to prevent the people from escaping the toils of monopoly. Judge Ford, author of the Ford Franchise law, touched aptly upon the situation, and the meeting wound up by Chairman Leubuscher putting the resolutions to a vote, and their adoption by acclamation.

#### A REFERENDUM LEAGUE FOR NEW YORK STATE.

There has been organized in this State for active work an Initiative and Referendum League, the objects of which are "to render bribery futile, needed reforms possible and make the government more directly answerable to the people." The president of the league is Hamilton Holt, and among its vice-presidents are F. W.

Hinrichs, Rev. Newall Dwight Hillis, Josiah Strong, James B. Reynolds and Edward M. Sheppard. George Foster Peabody is the treasurer, and the chairman of the executive committee is John Martin. Among the members of such committee are the well-known names of A. J. Boulton, John B. Clark, C. H. Ingersoll, Herman G. Loew, Milo R. Malthie (just appointed member of the Public Utilities Commission), Gustave Thompson, John De Witt Warner, and Judge William H. Wood. The secretary is Henry B. Maurer, and the office of the league is 299 Broadway, this city.

The work of the league will be to propagate its doctrines by means of lectures and a press bureau, etc., to secure legislation providing for the referendum in the cities, and to put candidates on record respecting this much needed reform. It will start referendum leagues wherever possible, and will co-operate with all bodies, farmers' Granges, labor and suffrage organizations, etc., which will aid the work. A bill has been framed, combining the advantages of the Maine and Oregon amendments, and is now in the hands of Senator Fuller, of Brooklyn, who may introduce it at the next session of the legislature. It is proposed to call a convention at Carnegie Hall, perhaps some time in January, at which it is hoped John Wanamaker will preside. One night will be given to mayors of cities where the initiative and referendum are operative, and another night to the governors of States similarly situated.

Single Taxers will give this movement their support without relaxing their efforts to popularize the Single Tax, realizing that the electors must be trained to the intelligent use of political instruments even before the instruments are perfected.

#### THE CHURCH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF LABOR.

There was held on May the 13th, in this city, the Fifth Annual Convention of the C. A. I. L., which is short for The Church Association for the Advancement of the Interests of Labor. Bishop Potter is president. Its specialty seems to be rummage sales, advancement of legislation respecting the prohibition of child labor and tenement betterment. Worthy objects, all of these. But like all people who are fighting symptoms rather than causes, and who, all things considered, rather prefer that kind of campaign, since it arouses no antagonism and threatens nobody's special interests, they evince a decided aversion for doing anything that would go to the roots of privilege.

Mr. Alexander Law, who was a delegate from the St. Chrysotom Chapter to the convention, is not that type of man. He knows what is the matter with society and is will-