

chines, books, cutlery, pipes, cigarettes, shoes, and even the English language is stopped. A negro comedian from the States was in the act of singing "On the Mississippi!" and the police stopped the act—"No English permitted, Angol tilos—Englisch verboten."

We Americans suffer by it, as we also speak the English language. We do not go on the streets at night, and the mob changes the sign of any merchant who has the word "English" on display.

Newspapers print only fixed news, and as no foreign papers reach us we do not know what is really going on in the world—or even in Europe. Nothing can appear in the press or in the stores without the sanction of those who are working at the war game. They have taken all the able-bodied young men away to the wars and have left the old men and the cripples. This is government by proclamation. Whenever the powers choose to send a letter or a message or the news of a battle they do it—otherwise the women do not know when they become widows. Women manage street cars and subways, as the men have been led to slaughter.

After it's all over Europe will awaken from her bloody nightmare. Her young men will be in graves or in hospitals and they will wonder—those who are still among the living—what it was all about. Europe is bankrupt today. Treasuries are empty and food is scarce. After the battles, the living will "make a break" for America, the land of many dreams of the future of the race.

NICHOLAS KLEIN,
Attorney of Cincinnati.



CONNECTICUT DEMOCRATS ARE PROGRESSIVE

Hartford, Conn., Sept. 19.

The campaign for progressive measures, which was launched by Democrats at Lake Compounce June 27th last, is beautifully reflected in the platform adopted by the Democratic State Convention at Hartford this week. This favors every one of the eight proposals put forward by the Compounce Committee as follows: Nominations by petition and direct primary; the initiative and referendum; the short ballot; votes for women; repeal of the personal tax; abolition of contract labor in jails and prison; home rule for all communities; and prohibition of special legislation. These questions were referred to the registered Democrats of the State, by means of a post card ballot. Several thousand answers were received, and with the exception of votes for women, the favorable majorities were overwhelming. The platform declaration on the suffrage question calls for the submission of the necessary constitutional amendment to popular vote.

CHRISTOPHER M. GALLUP.



NATIONAL TAX CONFERENCE AND SINGLETAX.

Denver, Colo., Sept. 15.

The National Tax Conference held on September 8 to 10 was interesting, especially the final session, which was devoted to the singletax discussion. There was presented a paper by Mr. F. J. Dixon

of Winnipeg which was read by Mr. A. C. Pleydell. F. C. Wade of Vancouver, who was to oppose the singletax, was not present but contributed a paper that was read by one of the delegates from Iowa. This was followed by a short speech by Pleydell in defense of the singletax. R. E. Smith of Roseburg, Oregon, followed with the usual stereotyped speech about the farmers owning much of the land and singletax being in the interest of the rich fellow. Smith's effort was rather sophomorical and I would judge that it did not make much of an impression. Thomas S. Adams, State Tax Commissioner of Wisconsin, immediately followed Smith. Without committing himself on singletax Adams played havoc with Smith's argument about the farmers. He showed that the great burden of personal property taxation in Wisconsin rests upon the farmer. The discussion had a good effect although it did not partake of the nature of a debate and was a rather tame affair.

JOHN B. McGAURAN.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

A HERESY TRIAL SUGGESTED.

Cincinnati, O., Sept. 18, 1914.

The editorial on page 890 under the heading, "A WAR-LIKE CLERGYMAN," is suggestive. Would it not be a wholesome proceeding for the Baptist denomination, in fact all Christian denominations, to try the Rev. Mr. Haldeman for heresy? We have had heresy trials in the past for difference of belief as to matters of fact inessential to Christian life. Why not expel Brother Haldeman for rank heresy in denying one of the supreme teachings of Jesus? Whatever the practicability and efficacy of the Golden Rule, it would seem unthinkable that a man should be a Christian clergyman and deny its applicability to life. A heresy trial as to fundamentals would be interesting.

EDWARD F. ALEXANDER.



MORE ABOUT THE RED CROSS

New York, Sept. 18, 1914.

The militarists are coming to their peaceful friends in droves now, pleading through Press and Pulpit for funds for the Red Cross, and many a heart melts at the thought of bringing healing and comfort to the "poor victims of war." Let us look at the matter calmly, we radicals, and speak the truth about this although it may make us seem unkind. Logic is frequently unkind, and offends the sentimental.

Our Comrade Bolton Hall wrote an answer to appeals for charity which the Public has often quoted. It is unique in its way, so perfectly does it cover the ground. And I shall quote some of it here once more, to show how, with some slight changes of words, it will serve as an answer all Singletaxers may rightfully make when asked to contribute to the Red Cross Funds.

Mr. Hall says:

"Asking help from supporters of things as they are is merely asking the persons responsible for poverty, misery and disease to do something to relieve