

was a man of humble habits. Of an evening he went searching for his cow, drove it and milked it, groomed his horse and cleaned his stable, and chopped and brought in the wood. In his own estimation he was the humblest of mankind, yet God laid upon him the mightiest of tasks. From the practice of law in this obscure little town God called him to the presidency at Washington, put the sword with the civil power in his hands and made him the instrument for the destruction of the vast, arrogant, monstrous institution of chattel slavery which had dominated the government since its foundation.

God had told off the days that made chattels in the open market of man's flesh and blood, and the humble Springfield lawyer was His vice regent for its abolition. And now other times have come and new men. But is the old slavery over which the bloody civil war was waged abolished? We of the newer time know that it is not."

Other cities were not behind in the general celebration of the birthday of our great leader. Omaha, San Francisco, Montreal, Seattle, Los Angeles, El Paso, and other cities observed the day. St. Louis will celebrate in October, too late for mention here. As this promises something notable in the way of speeches we shall hope to present a full report in our next issue.

ALL CITIES CAN DRAW THESE DIVIDENDS.

Of course, every city is fundamentally, so to say, on a paying business. Just the advanced values in lands, for which growth in population is the sale value to be credited would carry on a municipality. * * *

Only one American chartered city possesses all its lands. It is Fairhope, on Mobile Bay. * * *

You see, according to this, there would be really nothing supernatural or miraculous about dividend paying cities. Only an extreme sort of practicability.—"Cities that Pay Dividends," by Franklin Clarkin, in *Success* for July.

DOES the public library of your city receive the SINGLE TAX REVIEW?

NEWS—DOMESTIC.

RHODE ISLAND.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION TO REPORT IN FEBRUARY—LITTLE HOPE THAT CONGRESS WILL FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT—RHODE ISLAND NEEDS THE EXCLUSIVE SERVICE OF AN ACTIVE, FIRST CLASS MAN.

Since the last issue of the Single Tax REVIEW there has been little change in the Rhode Island situation. The joint committee on Taxes, which is to report to the legislature not later than February 15th, 1910, has held no public meetings this summer, but has had before it the written opinion of 40 or 50 citizens, no doubt dealing with many phases of the tax question. It is expected that public hearings will be given later, before the report is prepared, but perhaps not until after the November election.

Open air Single Tax meetings have been less frequent than during the season last year. Every week, however, one or more out door rallies have been held by the Providence Single Tax Club, which also had a supper on September 2nd commemorative of Henry George.

Several other meetings have been held, but the principal propaganda work has been through the daily press. In our two Sunday newspapers several columns have been given each week to expositions of land value taxation. In this way many thousands of readers have been reached, where only a few hundred will listen on the street.

Mr. H. J. Chase, of Newport, Col. George D. Liddell, of Providence, and myself, have been the most prolific correspondents, but there have been others, some of them anonymous, only a few antagonistic.

Speaking for myself, I feel inspired to work still more zealously for that reform which ultimately is to make life better for the rich, easier for the poor, and happier for all. The numerous commemorative meetings of the birth of Henry George are indicative of a new vitality to the cause in this country.

The Single Tax dinner of Pittsburg,

Pennsylvania, on the 2nd, and the service at Arden, Delaware, on the 5th instant, both of which I was privileged to attend, were well up to the high mark set by Henry George himself. Such gatherings cannot fail to do good, rousing to greater activity those who already believe in the land for the people, and stimulating thought upon this most important question among many others who are seeking the common welfare.

Even more encouraging than the revival of Single Tax vitality in this country is the budget of the Liberal Administration in the United Kingdom and the discussion it has caused. Assuredly our cause and our arguments are made respectable, when supported in and out of Parliament by a Cabinet representing a tremendous majority of the votes of Great Britain and Ireland.

It is with humiliation that we are forced to confess that there is no present hope of seeing our Congress follow in the footsteps of the mother country. In England the generous contribution of Mr. Joseph Fels is being expended in aid of the National movement; here to devote it to a like purpose would be to waste it. The decision of the Fels commission to concentrate upon a few States has met, I believe, with almost universal approval. I am hoping that a first class man may be found to give his entire time to a continuation in Rhode Island of the work for municipal home rule in taxation, so well begun by the American Single Tax League.

LUCIUS F. C. GARVIN.

LONSDALE, R. I.

MISSOURI.

The St. Louis Single Tax League meets regularly and is always doing something, be it much or little. H. Sycamore, the League's ever active corresponding secretary, has had a series of open letters in the *Post-Dispatch*. The League has had a committee before the Board of Freeholders, having in preparation the revision of the charter, in regard to the manner of raising revenue, franchise and water works. The Board is hampered by statutes and the

State constitution, but is favorably disposed to changes along our lines.

The week beginning Oct. 3rd is the celebration of St. Louis' centennial and a State conference of Missouri Single Taxers is to meet on October 5th at 10 o'clock A. M. in Aschenbroedel Hall, on Pine street, for a two days' session. Our ever active St. Louis League has issued an inspiring call for this Conference, announcing its belief that in no other State are conditions so favorable for the early adoption of the Single Tax.

CANADA.

As a result of the campaign begun by the *Citizen* of Ottawa, Canada, sixty-six townships have petitioned for the proposed Assessment Act amendment giving municipalities the power to tax improvement value at a lower rate than land values.

In Ontario the legislative committee, to which all amendments to the Assessment Act were referred, meets early in October. The offer of Mr. Fels of \$5,000 a year providing a like sum can be raised by the Single Taxers of Canada has infused new life into the alert, energetic workers for the cause in the Dominion.

WORK OF THE HENRY GEORGE LECTURE BUREAU.

F. H. Monroe, of the Henry George Lecture Bureau, announces that Messrs. Herbert Bigelow, Lee Francis Lybarger, Henry Hardinge, John J. Murphy and Western Starr will make speaking tours of from two to eight weeks in the central and eastern States and eastern Canada. In Oregon John Z. White will follow a special programme under the direction of Hon. W. S. U'Ren, of Oregon City. On October 2nd a farewell dinner will be given to Mr. White on his departure for the west.

WE are glad to be able to deny the reported rumor of Hon. Tom L. Johnson's illness. He has had a slight trouble with his eyes, but is otherwise in buoyant health and spirits.