

State Federation of Labor, and the expectation is that substantially as worded above it will be endorsed. The appeal to the curiosity of the worker "to let us see how it will work," also is a strong argument. He has heard something of its operations in New Zealand, and he is able to appreciate the fact that twice two is four in Oregon the same as elsewhere in the universe. The forces of organized labor in the cities will accept the measure with pleasure. The organized farmers will be the hope of the special privileged of Oregon, but if they are approached under the leadership of U'Ren, and with men able to patiently present the arguments, their opposition can be melted away.

At this writing we are hoping for the legislature to do nothing rash, and if it does, for a chance to hold up their enactment through the referendum. It will require constant watching until the session is over, and our forces will probably be concerned in this rather than in active propaganda work for some weeks.

Because of the many inquiries from all over the world coming to a large number of people in Oregon from Governor to sub-editors a number of them have combined to issue a circular explaining briefly just what has been accomplished since Oregon established direct legislation. This document will be sent in reply to letters of an inquiring nature. Mr. W. S. U'Ren is simply overwhelmed with such letters, as are others who have worked with him.—ALFRED D. CRIDGE, Portland, Oregon.

The N. Y. *Times* in its Saturday Review of Books tells us a few facts concerning a well known Single Taxer and one of the five members of the Fels Commission, Frederick C. Howe. Mr. Howe is a graduate of Allegheny College and Johns Hopkins University. He has served as Secretary of the American Economic Association, and in 1894 he went to Cleveland, where he joined the law firm of the late President Garfield's sons, known as Garfield & Garfield. He was President of the Municipal Traction Company in Cleveland, and has served in various public and semi-public capacities.

## RHODE ISLAND.

JOHN Z. WHITE'S WORK IN THIS STATE—HE ADDRESSES THE LOCAL COUNCILS OF WOONSOCKET AND CENTRAL FALLS—RHODE ISLAND NOT SO CONSERVATIVE AS SOME PERSONS IMAGINE.

In the last three issues of the *SINGLE TAX REVIEW* I have expressed the hope and expectation of welcoming Mr. John Z. White to continuous work in this State. That hope and expectation has finally been realized. Mr. White has been here and has been very busy for nearly two months. He is not prepared as yet to make any public report to the Single Taxers of the country as to past progress and future prospects. Evidently he finds it necessary to do additional preliminary work—to cultivate particular fields, instead of sowing the seed broadcast, as we have been doing for several years.

The Tax Commission, which has been in existence for nearly two years, decided not to give any public hearings, but to leave the gathering of public sentiment to the legislature itself, after the Commission's report has been made to it. Rhode Island has six cities. The Mayors of two of them, the one a Republican and the other a Democrat, had endorsed the platform of the Rhode Island Tax Reform Association, which reads as follows:

"Local self-government is the right of a free people and every community is entitled thereto in all matters affecting itself alone. The method of taxation by which local revenue shall be collected is such a matter, and each city and town should have power to decide this for itself without being held back by those indifferent to the injustice and dishonesty of present systems."

Through the courtesy of these officials Mr. White was invited to address the members of the city councils of Woonsocket and Central Falls, upon the question of local taxation.

Although these are the only official bodies whom Mr. White has had an opportunity to meet, he has been getting acquainted with the field by observation, and the people have been getting ac-

quainted with him by listening to his talks upon taxation and kindred topics. He has spoken to business men's associations, church clubs, the Radical Club, the People's Forum, a church service, etc. His topics have included "The Single Tax," "The Commission Form of City Government," "Competition, The Only Just Distributor," "The French Revolution," "Public Ownership," and "Civic Righteousness."

It is not necessary to say to the Single Taxers of the United States and Canada that Mr. White convinces his audiences of the truth of what he advocates. Most of his addresses have dealt with subjects other than that of taxation, for two reasons: first, in order that, by treating of matters to which public opinion already is favorably turned, he may gain the unprejudiced attention of his hearers, and, second, that when the mooted subject of taxation does become his principal theme, he may have specific data from local assessments which will lead to definite action.

I am interested in Mr. White's judgment of the people of Rhode Island. A western man, himself, who has spent much of his time in recent years in the far West, he finds here a citizenship which considers itself peculiar. Sometimes he is told that because of our peculiarity it is folly to expect us to adopt any new system of taxation, however much of an improvement it may be. Mr. White has replied that he finds the same notion everywhere he goes. In Colorado, for instance, they claimed to be peculiar, asserted that the adoption of the Initiative and Referendum was impossible—and yet it was done.

It is a matter of history that Rhode Island, notwithstanding its supposed conservatism, has during the past quarter of a century effected very radical reforms in its constitution and laws.—LUCIUS F. C. GARVIN, Lonsdale, R. I.

Calling around him 322 Tenement House Inspector, Mayor Gaynor of this city said recently that in the past he had heard many complaints against the Inspectors, but since the appointment of John J. Murphy as head of the Tenement House Department there had been almost no complaint.

## BOSTON.

The Liberal League has opened a hall at 48 Dover Street, where meetings are held on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights. The league was formed to advocate direct legislation, the Single Tax, free trade, government ownership of transportation monopolies, abolition of the army and navy, etc. W. Lathrop Meaker, of Revere, is the moving spirit in the organization. He was an independent candidate for Congress in the seventh district, at the recent election, standing for the principles enumerated above. He received 1800 votes, the Republican candidate 16,614 and the Democrat 14,177.

At the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Single Tax League, the following officers were elected: President, James R. Carret; Secretary, Edwin T. Clark; Treasurer, Prof. Comfort A. Adams; Executive Committee, Arthur R. Bush, Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Jr., Prof. Lewis J. Johnson, John G. Pike and Henry Sterling.

Henry George, Jr., was the speaker at the opening meeting of the Ford Hall series on Sunday night, Oct. 16, speaking on the question, "Has the Single Tax Got Anywhere?" Other Single Taxers who will speak at the same place before the close of the season next March, will be Bishop Williams, Rev. Herbert S. Bigelow, Charles Frederick Adams, and J. W. Bengough.—W. L. CROSMAN.

## CANADA.

Mr. A. B. Farmer, secretary of the Tax Reform League of Ontario, is busy lecturing in different parts of the province. The Stratford, Ontario, *Daily Beacon* contains a fairly full report of Mr. Farmer's address before the Stratford Board of Trade, and the *Signal*, of Goderich, Ontario, reports Mr. Farmer's speech at the Baptist church of that city.

In the course of his speech Mr. Farmer said:

"The law of God's kingdom, whether in the individual heart, in heaven beyond, or in the kingdom yet to be established on this earth, was the law of love. A deep, broad