

Sun Yat Sen's Economics

China's present program is to carry on the work of Dr. Sun Yat Sen, whose ideas are brought forth in a statement from THE PUBLIC of April, 1912.

"In the hall of the National Assembly at Nanking, on the 1st, Sun Yat Sen formally withdrew from the office of provisional President of the Great Republic of China. Speeches were delivered by the Speaker of the Assembly and by several deputies. Dr. Sun urged that every effort should be made to unite China, and to achieve the highest ideals of the Republic. He reiterated his confidence in President Yan Shi Kai as well as in the cabinet and the National Assembly.

After his withdrawal Dr. Sun proceeded immediately to Shanghai, and cabled dispatches of the 4th report an interview in which he laid down the program of economic reform to which he now feels free to devote himself. The interview, as reported in various American papers, included the following statements:

"I intend to devote my future to the promotion of the welfare of the Chinese people as a people. The teachings of your single taxer, Henry George, will be the basis

of our program of reform. The land tax as the only means of supporting the government is an infinitely just, reasonable, and equitably distributed tax, and on it we will found our new system. The centuries of heavy and irregular taxation for the benefit of the Manchus have shown China the injustice of any other system of taxation. A single reasonable tax on the land will supply all the funds necessary to put China among the first of the civilized nations in political and economic advancement. We will embrace all of the teachings of Henry George and will include the ownership by the national government of all natural monopolies. No private interest will be allowed to tax and exploit the people through control of any material or service which is a necessity to life and happiness. These reforms China is certain to adopt, and under them we will grow into an industrious, peace-loving, prosperous people."

According to the Chicago Tribune's report, "Dr. Sun Yat Sen, who lived for years in the United States, is a personal friend of Representative Henry George, Jr., of New York."