

rents, especially in the cities, have risen enormously; so that wage earners are probably worse off than before.

It works in a "vicious circle"; wages are raised by the wages boards; the employers if possible raise their prices; protected manufacturers demand increased duties, and generally get them; and the cost of living mounts faster than wages.

ERNEST BRAY.



THE SINGLETAX IN MISSOURI.

Kansas City, Mo.

A debate on the Missouri Singletax amendments came off here on the 15th at a banquet of the Merchants' Association. The debaters were the Secretary of the Land Owners' Protective Association, Mr. Silvers, and Vernon J. Rose.

Mr. Rose opened the debate with one of the most effective explanations of the George philosophy I ever listened to. After a clear presentation and explanation of the proposed amendments he gave a splendid account of Henry George's doctrines, emphasizing the moral and human side of the question. He was frequently and vigorously applauded. Especially pronounced was the applause when he made his plea for securing for every child born into this world—rich and poor alike—an equal right of access to the natural bounties of the earth. This, he said, is the object that inspires every follower of Henry George.

Mr. Silvers quibbled some in reply, but was in no way offensive. He is young, rather slender, smooth-faced, and would seem boyish were it not for an air of ease that he assumes. He said some very foolish things, considered from our point of view. For instance, that the just principle would be to tax every man alike because we are all citizens alike and are protected alike by the government. Some of the well-fed, with fat faces and bald heads—must have been as bald inside as out,—heartily applauded that sentiment. Mr. Silvers won frequent applause from Singletaxers for his correct statements of the George teaching, but the objections he offered were pitifully weak.

The cities and mining districts may make a good showing in favor of the amendments. The farming districts wherever I have come in touch with them, are, or seem to be, solidly hostile. But no matter if defeat comes, the favorable reaction will come. The educational work that has been done in the cities

has awakened a faith that can not long be held in check.

ROBERT CUMMING.



MORE CAMPAIGNING IN MISSOURI.

Topeka, Kansas.

Once upon a time when Frederic C. Howe was a McKinley Republican largely, I said this to him: "Why does a man so busy as you are, and of such steel-like sense, live down here in a settlement to do good to these foreign and ignorant folk?"

His answer was a direct denial of "doing good," and made claim "that he was being educated."

For the last seven years I have thought I was a well grounded advocate of land value taxation. But now I really am, for I have spent a week in Cass Co., Missouri, and got educated.

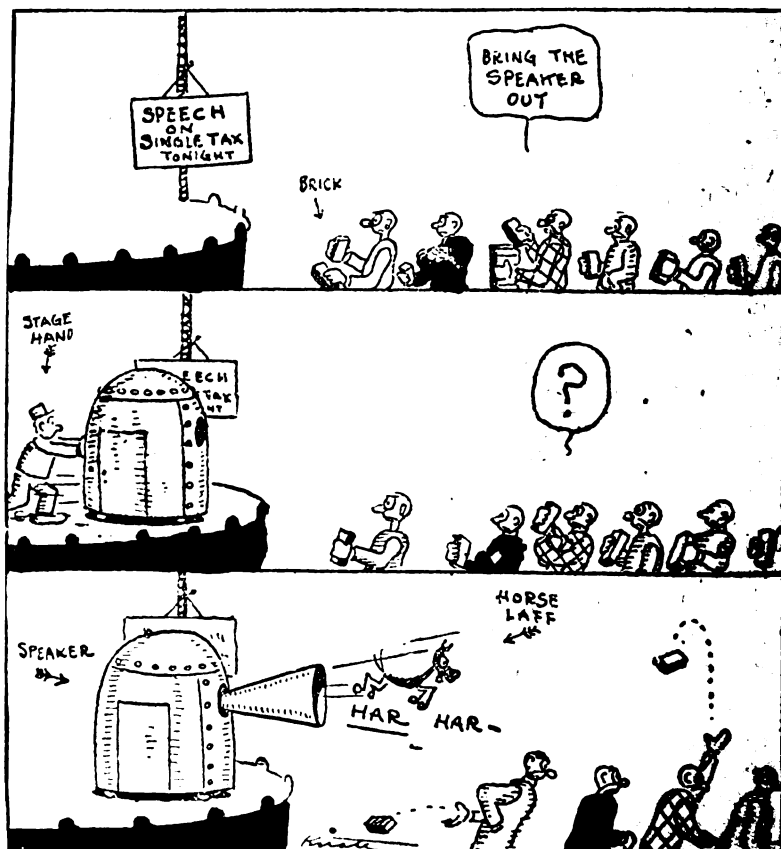
Letters already published in The Public have given dramatic pictures of what is doing. Yes, dramatic—pictures to make the heart bound by the unbreakable chain of Henry George's forging, leap up with joy. My picture is not of quite that kind; we did not win exactly.

To not have won exactly, does not prevent one who is bound by that sacred chain, from having seen things—from being better educated.

In Pleasant Hill, Missouri, I saw some things good

In Missouri.

Cartoon in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.



to look upon. I saw my comrades—both named White, one 26, and the other 60, I should think—standing on the street arguing and explaining unturningly. And on the edge of the crowd I saw a few faces changing from hatred to interest, and then to enthusiasm. I saw a real estate man with a troubled face come across the street and ask me up to his office to explain just what this same amendment really would do, and what really was happening in England and other countries regarding this of land value taxation. This real estate man had got up Judge Wallace's opposition meeting. And then I saw another real estate man come to the train to say good-bye to Uncle Jim White—our "Uncle Jim"—26 years a warrior for George's philosophy, and a man who puts the logic of rent, interest and wages into the simplest farming language. I saw that real estate man thank the Whites, and he did it with sincerity.

And then we went up against Harrisonville, and it might be said we got nowhere much; were unable to speak; raised nobody on our side, and but little discussion. And as we left our Uncle Jim at Belton, tears came in his brave eyes—into the eyes of the man who was not acquainted with fear, but knew nothing of diplomacy or coaxing. And as we went on to Kansas City, the other White and I sat silent; those tears meant so much to us.

And then at Belton there was Uncle Jaque, too, brother to our Uncle Jim. Uncle Jaque is 70, I guess; he has been voting for Debs ever since he got the first chance. Uncle Jaque can tell you about apple trees, and do it as Ernest Crosby would. Uncle Jaque staid at home to do Uncle Jim's chores. Uncle Jaque hardly stands a minute on the street without starting up about what will result from freeing land to labor's equal use; and he does it with acumen, too, even if he does think that interest and profit are dragons and to be destroyed.

And then the most lasting scene of all. The Captain's cabin, in Midland Building, Kansas City, and the blessed quiet skipper—Wm. A. Black himself. Outside two, sometimes more, Missouri girls, his orderlies, well in hand and enthusiastic. In the cabin, men of prosaic appearance, either coming in or going out to do these speaking jobs. Business men, not heroes; and yet those men not only give their time, but probably hurt their business, too. Yes, such men! it is to learn to have seen them—they who are not addressing sunny audiences, but audiences some of whom would take their blood if it were a hundred years back or so, and can do pretty tidily even in 1912.

And then my last vision: The skipper saying good-bye; no exasperation, no reproach. Just the calm, kind and sincere courtesy of the true commander. And to know that he had about \$200 to go on with that day; yes, \$200, with a bare chance of winning, and worse counties I guess than Cass, to get the amendments truly published in.

Yes, it is to learn, to expand one's heart; yes, yes, and to cut the string of one's purse and to let everything run out into that cabin but what one is owing.* Yes, indeed; one learns of the purse string cutting anyhow, if one has been in Harrisonville, and that

quiet, earnest skipper's cabin, and truly loves the chain of George's forging.

GEORGE HUGHES.

NEWS NARRATIVE

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of The Public for earlier information on the same subject.

Week ending Tuesday, October 22, 1912.

Presidential Politics.

Owing to the injury suffered by Mr. Roosevelt on the 14th at the hands of his insane assailant, Mr. Wilson announced on the 15th that he would cancel every campaign speaking engagement from which he could possibly withdraw, until Mr. Roosevelt resumes his speaking. In his announcement Mr. Wilson said:

I cannot cancel the engagements which are immediately ahead of me without subjecting those who have arranged them to serious embarrassment and great unnecessary expense, but I shall cut the series at the earliest possible point. Mr. Taft has at no time taken an active part in the campaign, and I have no desire to be the single candidate on the stump, engaged against no active antagonist.

Accordingly at New York City on the 19th Mr. Wilson concluded his speaking campaign until Mr. Roosevelt shall have resumed his. [See current volume, page 995.]

Mr. Roosevelt's wound, as described by the Chicago Tribune of the 17th, consisted of a fracture of the fourth rib on the right side. The bullet was found resting against this rib. The fracture was not such as to give cause for alarm. He left the hospital for his home on the 21st. His assailant, John Schrank, according to three prominent New York alienists—Dr. Carlos McDonald, Dr. William Mabon and Dr. Max Schlapp—as reported by the Chicago Record-Herald of the 17th—belongs in the class of mental defectives who are potential criminals, liable at any moment to commit deeds of violence upon the slightest provocation to redress trivial or imaginary wrongs.

Schrank is a native of Erding, a village in Bavaria about 20 miles from Munich. He came to the United States some 16 years ago. For his expenses in pursuing Mr. Roosevelt he had borrowed \$300, and in his valise have been found leases, deeds and other legal papers indicating that he has at least \$22,000 worth of property.

Through ex-Senator Beveridge of Indiana, in a speech at Louisville on the 16th, Mr. Roosevelt asked Mr. Wilson—

to answer categorically and specifically, and not by

*Address Wm. A. Black, Sec'y, 441 Midland Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.—Editors of The Public.

loose general arguments, just why it was that after making the recommendation he made in his inaugural, and while insisting that the trust question was a State question, and in view of the fact that in New Jersey he had ample power to deal with trusts, he nevertheless, during the entire time he has been Governor, has failed to take action of any kind, sort or description against the Standard Oil, Tobacco, Sugar, Beef Trust or any other trust.

Following these questions, Mr. Roosevelt, as also quoted by Senator Beveridge, added:

He owes it to the American people to answer this question directly and specifically, and he cannot answer it satisfactorily. He cannot answer it in any way that will show either that the principles he has announced for dealing with the trusts are the right principles or that his practices in these principles have been correct.

Governor Wilson replied on the 17th through Senator O'Gorman as follows:

I authorize you to say that the Republican majority in the legislature made revision of corporation laws impossible, and no New Jersey official could prosecute or propose dissolution for breach of the Federal statutes.

Mr. Roosevelt has made no response to Governor Wilson's answer.

The straw vote of the syndicate of newspapers represented in the Middle West by the Chicago Record-Herald was not reported in national percentages by that paper of the 20th; but instead, the following estimate on Electoral College results as they appear two weeks in advance of the election were given:

Taft	11
Roosevelt	78
Wilson	429
Debs	0
Doubtful	13
Total	531
Necessary to elect.....	266

Campaign Funds.

The witnesses examined by the Senatorial committee on campaign funds on the 17th were Thomas W. Lawson, Frank A. Munsey and George B. Cortelyou. Mr. Lawson testified to huge contributions to Presidential campaigns but could give no details nor sources of information. Mr. Munsey said, as reported in news dispatches, that he—

had given \$10,000 to the Republican national and New York State campaign funds in 1904. In 1908 he gave \$15,000 to the national and \$1,500 to the New York committee. In the pre-convention campaign of this year he had given \$67,166.56 in cash to the national Roosevelt movement. "Altogether my contributions amounted to \$118,005.72," said Mr. Munsey. "I assume that Mr. Perkins, who has been

mentioned in connection with myself as one of the two heavy contributors to the movement, gave approximately the same that I did. I made no other contributions, either directly or indirectly, or in any other conceivable way. Counting all that Mr. Flinn in Pennsylvania and that Mr. Hanna gave in Ohio, our total for the country in the pre-convention campaign this year was \$574,000. Outside of what Mr. Hanna and Mr. Flinn gave for organization purposes, our campaign did not cost over \$350,000. Mr. Perkins and I each gave approximately \$118,000 and the rest of the contributions, aside from the \$25,000 given by Mr. Cochran, the carpet man, were what I might call dribblets."

[See current volume, page 995.]

Elmer Dover, Medill McCormick, Chauncey Dewey and George Harvey testified on the 18th. Mr. Dover, private secretary to Mark Hanna and secretary of the Republican committee in 1904, when Mr. Roosevelt was Republican candidate for President, produced what is supposed to be the only record of contributions to the Republican Presidential campaign of that year. It shows a total of \$2,080,011 contributed, including \$100,000 from "H. H. R." and "J. D. W.," which Mr. Dover understood to mean H. H. Rogers and J. D. Archbold or J. D. Rockefeller, the final "W." in the latter set of initials being probably a clerical error. E. H. Harriman's name appears for \$100,000. Besides \$100,000 from Pierpont Morgan previously disclosed, the list shows \$50,000 further from him. Mr. Dewey testified to the Roosevelt pre-convention campaign of 1912, as did Mr. McCormick. Mr. Harvey's testimony was of no importance.

One of the witnesses on the 21st was Thomas Fortune Ryan, who testified to giving \$450,000 to the Parker fund in the campaign of 1904. He explained that it was a personal contribution and that he did not give it to elect Mr. Parker but to preserve the Democratic organization which was on the point of financial collapse. Mr. Ryan testified as to the pre-convention campaign of the Democratic party for the present year that he contributed between \$75,000 and \$80,000 to Mr. Harmon's campaign and over \$30,000 to Mr. Underwood's; and that he would have contributed to Clark's and Wilson's if he had been asked, but that he was not asked. George W. Perkins, the other important witness of the 21st, testified that the total of his gifts to the Roosevelt pre-convention campaign of 1912 was \$122,500.

The Labor War.

News of the Labor War for the week comes principally from Nevada and central New York. [See current volume, page 996.]