

## ACTIVITY IN TORONTO, CANADA.

The local Association of Single Taxers are preparing to do some aggressive work the coming fall, and are straining every sinew for the fray. The plan is to roll up a monster petition asking that the \$700 exemption be again submitted to the electorate. There is a great advantage to the cause in canvassing for petitions as each one who signs will ask questions and have the measure explained to him. It is most likely when the petition is submitted to the City Council that they will vote to refer it again to the people, and we are sure that the result will be similar to the last referendum of our measure which resulted in 8,000 majority in its favor.

The paid secretary has resigned his position in order to cut down office expenses for the summer and in this way aid the campaign in the fall.

The Toronto brethren are also thinking of moving in the direction of Majority Rule, but for the present have their hands full; but it is almost certain that a direct legislation measure will find its way before the public ere long.

Single Tax is progressing very favorably and even the most conservative minded men are discussing social reform; the fact is they have to be up to the times, and the local Single Taxers realize the value of seizing the present moment for carrying on an effective propaganda.

FRED. B. LAKE.

## VISIT OF HON. GEO. FOWLDS.

Mr. George Fowlds, member of the New Zealand Parliament from Auckland and a resident of that country for twenty-one years, arrived in New York on Monday, June 25th, while on his way home from the celebration of his father's centenary in Scotland.

Mr. Fowlds was entertained at the Manhattan Single Tax Club in the evening. Owing to the short time, no notice could be sent out, but a number of Single Taxers were advised by telephone and by personal calls.

Mr. Fowlds talked for several hours on the general conditions of New Zealand and told of the results of the various reforms adopted there. "Invariably," said he, "the troubles we have had, have been due to the socialistic and paternalistic experiments." He told of the government's attempt to destroy the coal monopoly by operating a mine, but after eighteen months' operation they have not been able to reduce the price of coal and are producing at a loss, the rate payers making up the deficiency. The engineers in charge of the mines were chosen because of their pull and not for their ability, and they chose land that private enterprises would have passed over.

In the building of railroads, the engineers have been forced to pay the laborers a uniform wage no matter what the results of their work. This has demoralized the workers.

"The railroads cost the government four times what they would cost private corporations," said Mr. Fowlds.

Wherever the land value tax has been applied it has proved beneficial, and none of the communities that have adopted it have ever gone back to the old system.

In the suburb of Auckland, where the land value tax has been in effect several years, the population has increased 125 per cent., while adjoining towns where it has not been applied have increased only in proportion to the normal growth of the whole country.

Although the Conciliation Court had settled the wages of mechanics in Palmerston North, when the land value tax was adopted, it so stimulated building that the employers began paying more in order to get mechanics to do the work.

"We have no unemployed," said Mr. Fowlds, "and every man that wants work can find it. Of course New Zealand is a new country, and not yet developed, so wages are not as high as might be expected where opportunities are so plentiful."

In speaking of the education of his people in economics, he said that there was no general conception of fundamental principles. They had some of the absurdities of other countries. They held strongly to the protective tariff, although they threatened to put flour on the free list when a trust was organized. He said they knew good things when they see them and the land value tax is one of them.

Mr. Fowlds left for Boston the next day, and will then go on to Chicago and Milwaukee, stopping at Denver to visit Mr. Bucklin, and in California to see his old friend, Michael Flurscheim.

WILLIAM RYAN,

Secretary Manhattan S. T. Club.

## WHY LITTLE CHILDREN ARE AT WORK.

Mr. Will L. Ross, of Philadelphia, having received from Tudor Jenks, secretary of the Anti-Child Slavery League, an invitation to join that society, has written to Mr. Jenks the following letter, giving his reasons for declining to take part in the work of the society, and indicating the futility of its methods:

"I have your very kind invitation to join the Anti-Child Slavery League.

Your purpose in this matter is noble and praiseworthy. But I cannot agree with your method of doing away with this disgrace to civilization. For many years I