

March—April, 1928

Land and Freedom

FORMERLY THE SINGLE TAX REVIEW

An International Record of Single Tax Progress Founded in 1901

Tributes to Louis F. Post

Chicago Prepares for the Henry George
Congress

Acres of Diamonds

The So-Called Housing Problem

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LAND AND FREEDOM

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WHAT LAND AND FREEDOM STANDS FOR

Taking the full rent of land for public purposes insures the fullest and best use of all land. In cities this would mean more homes and more places to do business and therefore lower rents. In rural communities it would mean the freedom of the farmer from land mortgages and would guarantee him full possession of his entire product at a small land rental to the government without the payment of any taxes. It would prevent the holding of mines idle for the purpose of monopoly and would immensely increase the production and therefore greatly lower the price of mine products.

Land can be used only by the employment of labor. Putting land to its fullest and best use would create an unlimited demand for labor. With an unlimited demand for labor, the job would seek the man, not the man seek the job, and labor would receive its full share of the product.

The freeing from taxation of all buildings, machinery, implements and improvements on land, all industry, thrift and enterprise, all wages, salaries, incomes and every product of labor and intellect, will encourage men to build and to produce, will reward them for their efforts to improve the land, to produce wealth and to render the services that the people need, instead of penalizing them for these efforts as taxation does now.

It will put an end to legalized robbery by the government which now pries into men's private affairs and exacts fines and penalties in the shape of tolls and taxes on every evidence of man's industry and thrift.

All labor and industry depend basically on land, and only in the measure that land is attainable can labor and industry be prosperous. The taking of the full Rent of Land for public purposes would put and keep all land forever in use to the fullest extent of the people's needs, and so would insure real and permanent prosperity for all.

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Comment and Reflection

THE few among us who would confine the Single Tax movement to the discussion of the mere transference of taxes from labor products to land values, and who would hold LAND AND FREEDOM strictly to the narrow advocacy of that policy, have now something to consider.

PERHAPS the very reason why many people feel a lack of sympathy with the Single Tax movement is due to the too formal character of our agitation, to the purely cut and dried formulas, to the narrow range of our inquiry that fails to take into account the varied phenomena of social movements, and the many manifestations continually arising because of the lack of social justice which it is the aim of the Single Tax to establish. At a time when we were successfully appealing to many of the disinherited, to minds only vaguely conscious of great social wrongs, our words were out of a vocabulary more universal, and therefore more distinctly welcome to hearts that hungered for a message of emancipation. We were by reason of this better understood.

AND indeed if the proposal of Henry George is not for a new and different state of society, and if we will not accord our teaching to this very real vision, then indeed has this movement of ours lost its magic. Our sympathies must be with those who for any reason are raising the standard of revolt against the intolerable conditions of a false civilization. Their way may not be our way; their justice not our justice. But their right to revolt, and their right to express their convictions, is our right. We must defend their rights as peculiarly our concern. The state of society we are helping to build as disciples of Henry George, is a society of freedom, for it is that, and not a new tax system, that we would bring about.

OUR enemies are not merely those who attack the Single Tax. In a sense they are our friends. Our real enemies are those who, desiring to perpetuate things as they are, would bring under ban those who are doing anything to destroy what they regard as existing injustice. For the time being these are our friends.

THIS comment is for the purpose of leading up to what we want to say about a certain group of irresponsible,

reactionary busybodies calling themselves "Key Men of America." Their names, though not important in themselves, deserve mention for qualities that are typical of certain so-called 100 per cent Americans. Their names are Fred B. Marvin, Edward A. Hunter, of the Industrial Defence Association, and Harry A. Jung, of the Military Intelligence Association. Just now they are preparing a blacklist of men and women among whom we find some of the finest characters of our time.

THE object of this blacklist is to prevent certain persons from obtaining engagements to speak at public functions, town halls, and universities. In other words, their aim is to create a reign of terror that will suppress all freedom of speech. The *New York World* has been commendably active in disclosing the evil machinations of this dangerous group which may well arouse us to exercise that vigilance which has been declared to be the price of liberty. They have already prevented many distinguished men and women from addressing audiences by threat and intimidation and misrepresentation. They sought the removal from the high school faculty of a teacher whose sole offence had been that he won a five dollar prize for a definition of socialism. The man who sought this dismissal should be mentioned so that he shall receive the proper share of obloquy. He is Major General Amos A. Fries, Chief of the Chemical Warfare Service. Happily he was unsuccessful.

OTHER activities successfully achieved are said by the *New York World* to be the dismissal of two teachers from the West Chester, Pa. Normal College, their offence being the support of the right by the Student Liberal Club to criticise the American policy in Nicaragua, the cancelling of addresses by Lucia Ames Mead on the charge that she failed to salute the flag (though she has denied this), the preventing of Dr. Frank Bohn, journalist and lecturer, from addressing the Community Forum at Cranford, N. J. Other achievements are recorded to their discredit. And it is to be noted that members of the American Legion who fought in a war to make the world safe for democracy are active in this new movement to make democracy impossible.

THESE "Key Men," with the apparent object of making themselves as ridiculous as possible, have issued a blacklist of names of men and women supposed to be dan-

gerous to the welfare and security of the country. Look at just a few names on this list: Jane Addams, John Dewey, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, Zona Gale, Oswald Garrison Villard, Rabbi Wise, George Foster Peabody. We see by this that Single Taxers are not wholly ignored.

WE say now to these preposterous "Key Men of America" that Single Taxers are more dangerous than any of those named—dangerous to the spirit of war which they are fomenting, dangerous to the policies of injustice and oppression and militarism, and the government policies in Hayti and Nicaragua. What the Single Tax proposes is the destruction of most everything that these superheated patriots stand for. It spells complete obliteration of the spirit of persecution that this dangerous group would launch upon the country. It has nothing but supreme contempt for them, mingled with concern for their power of harm, which is in proportion to the hate they can engender among the ignorant and prejudiced.

THE last outstanding Liberal leader in British politics passed away in the person of Asquith a few weeks ago. With his death British Liberalism ceased practically to exist. There is no longer a Liberal Party in Great Britain animated by the old Liberal traditions and able to appeal to great names like Cobden, Bright and Gladstone. To celebrate the demise of British political liberalism the party has issued its valedictory in a document of 500 pages which they call "Britain's Industrial Future"—the report of the Industrial Inquiry Committee of the Liberal Party.

THE authors of this precious document do not call it a valedictory, of course. It is supposed to be a new political programme with recommendations to guide the party in its deliberations as to future policies. In putting forth this death warrant they ignore the fact that there is already a Socialist Party in Great Britain known as the Labor Party. As there is no room in British politics for two Socialist parties, members of the Labor Party must exult in this formal renunciation of nearly all the Liberal principles held by the party of Gladstone and Asquith.

WE have not seen this voluminous Report. Our knowledge of its contents is gained from the *New Republic* and a few papers we have seen from England. It is said to have taken eighteen months of intensive study devoted to the task by such men as John Maynard Keynes, W. T. Layton, editor of the *Economist*, H. D. Henderson, editor of the *Nation*, and B. S. Rountree. Party leaders like Lloyd George, Sir Herbert Samuel and Sir John Simon assume responsibility for the Report, and so we are left in no doubt as to the eminence of the pallbearers officiating at the Liberal obsequies.

IN his reply to James G. Blaine in the *North American Review* on the subject of Protection away back in 1890, Mr. Gladstone said: "The argument of the free trader is that the legislator ought never to interfere, or only to interfere so far as imperative fiscal necessity may require it, with the natural law of distribution." Evidently in the mind of Mr. Gladstone this truth did not solely apply to the question of Protection, but was of far more general application. But the *Manchester Guardian*, which is supposedly a Liberal organ and is a journal of high standing, refers to the Report approvingly as an attempt "to infuse into the mainly haphazard economic growth measures of control and co-ordination." It therefore proposes to interfere with the natural law of distribution, or to proceed as if it had been tested and failed.

WE are told by the *New Republic*, which can always be depended upon to do its best to add to the cloudiness and complexities of economic thinking, that "the influential Liberal leaders have turned their backs on *laissez faire*." "They are in harmony," says the *New Republic*, "with the thought in this country which is stretching out toward social control of economic institutions." We had sensed this and deplore it as much as the *New Republic* exults in it. We are told by this organ of confused economic thinking that "the main task (of these new and strangely constituted Liberals) is the better organization of business." This, we are told, may require, in some instances, "the taking over by public authority of important enterprises that are not well adapted to private ownership through lack of profit or through the danger of monopoly."

WE hope we are not unduly facetious in pointing out that there thus appear two reasons for taking over private enterprises—one that they are not making profits, and another that they are, for surely a monopoly must be profitable. If government is to take over unprofitable enterprises—presumably not without compensation—it will have accumulated quite a large collection before many years—quite enough, we should say, to bankrupt most governments. But the reader will observe that no principle is urged that should govern the acquisition by government of private industries, or any distinction beyond the broad one indicated, which, of course, is no rule of reason by any law of economics. Single Taxers agree that the distinction is between industries subject to the law of competition and others not so subject, and requiring the use of land for their operation. The distinction may not be an exact one, but it is at least a roughly convenient approximation.

THE degree to which the new liberalism would go in increasing the functions of government is appalling. We are told: "Thorough publicity of accounts of all

businesses is the basis of the remedies proposed." But the owners of privilege are reassured by the following from the *New Republic's* study of the Report: "All this looks in the direction not of preventing or breaking up monopoly but of substituting sound public regulation for the vanishing checks of competition." So land monopolists and monopolists of every other kind, most of which owe their existence to land monopoly, have nothing to fear.

THE Report also proposes that the government interfere with the free flow of capital into the most profitable channels, if we understand correctly. These new Liberals believe that the national savings, estimated at £500,000,000, should be used less for investment abroad and more for industries at home. Whether this is merely advisory, or whether forcible steps are to be taken to keep these savings in the country, does not appear, but the latter procedure is an easy step in translating this glaring economic fallacy into action. Surely there must be many of the old-school Liberals still alive in Great Britain who will read this Report with stupefied amazement, not un-mixed with a real sorrow in seeing a great political party forsake its most glorious traditions in a hodge-podge of ill-considered Socialistic recommendations. The only thing we miss is the Capital Levy, and we are grieved at the absence of an old friend.

INCOME and inheritance taxes are said in this Report to be the most scientific (sic) forms of taxation and should be made to bear a large portion of governmental burdens. We are still depending on second-hand information as to this Report, but have no reason to doubt the accuracy of the *New Republic's* statement of its contents. And again we cry, Shade of Gladstone! For Gladstone condemned the income tax as "overwhelmingly energetic in minutiae." Others of the great Liberal leaders would have relegated the income tax to periods of emergency. None would have advocated extensions of or substantial additions to it.

ONE proposal of this extraordinary Report which the *New Republic* calls "striking" is for the establishment of an "Economic General Staff working in close touch with the Prime Minister and Cabinet." No wonder this is called "striking." The mischief such a General Staff could do passes all imagination. The business of regulation and "snoop," after "the general statistics of all businesses" were in their hands, would give work to an uncounted clerical force, a great army of functionaries, and a department more extensive than anything in the Soviet government of Russia, and indeed in the history of any nation since time began. From mining operating companies and great department stores to peanut stands, the Economic General Staff would be kept pretty busy.

ONE thing this Report clearly shows. The economic thought of British politics has gone to seed; Liberalism is dead; the Liberal Party has no leaders. Everything advocated in this Report, which is the voice of the party's more influential spokesmen, the Labor Party will do better and more fully, and for those who like that sort of thing the Liberal Party cannot hope to compete. And another thing the Report shows: the confusion of thought is the child of the confusion that reigns in the economic, ordering of the country. Where the influence of land monopoly penetrates every nook and corner of the land, the disposition to evade this question of first importance leads to policies of makeshift of which this Report is the astounding culmination.

OWEN D. YOUNG, of the Dawes Reparations Commission, and widely recognized as a financial authority, has recently declared: "Here in America we have the standard of political equality. Shall we be able to add to that full equality of economic opportunity? No man is wholly free until he is both politically and economically free."

WE sometimes have to rub our eyes when reading statements from our leaders and politicians. Often they speak the dialect of Single Tax economics as if they had learned the language. How is it they manage to ignore the meaning? What is equality of economic opportunity for instance? What is economic opportunity itself? Is it not land, and is not every piece of land where people "most do congregate" an economic opportunity?

BUT let us give credit to Mr. Young for understanding just what he says. If so, he accepts what Henry George taught. If so, he is one of us. If so, he will feel impelled to do something for the truth he believes in. And there can be no more fitting conclusion to round off a useful life and the highly honorable career which has been his, than the doing of something fitting the action to the words we have quoted.

FOR today, and indeed in no time in recorded history, has there been such a thing as "economic equality." And for this reason what Mr. Young calls the "standard" of political equality, which he says we have, is a standard to which we find it impossible to conform. Your economic slave makes a poor political freeman. The individual who is pinched by poverty, or who lives in fear of want, or to whom his possessions are insecure, is the slave of his ward boss, or other boss, or of unseen influences to whose dictation he must bow. It is impossible to think of him as acting on his independent judgment in the exercise of the suffrage. Though even in cases where he may not be individually concerned he still has connections whose

material interests render them economically subservient, and whose welfare, for various reasons, influences his political conduct in their behalf.

WHEN he is not economically free, government possesses a power over the individual to influence his political conduct, and sometimes to crush him utterly in his material affairs. When the masses are poor they vote according to their economic herd instincts, and even when they are well-to-do must struggle for the possession or retention of economic privileges where opportunity is unequal. In such a state of society political opinions are colored to their economic needs; independence of judgment insensibly yields to the call for material advancement in a society of economic inequality. The standards of political and economic equality, however unflattering it may be to our prepossessions as "independent" American citizens, tend to exact uniformity in character, one declining as the other declines, rising as the other rises.

IN his Washington correspondence to the New York *Herald-Tribune* Mark Sullivan makes it clear that President Coolidge holds certain definite views with regard to the sharing of the cost of flood control and river projects that must be undertaken by government. His mind, according to Mr. Sullivan, is determinedly fixed in the opinion that "benefited property should pay." While undoubtedly the financial aspects of cost and benefit present some intricate problems, Mr. Sullivan says:

As one of many variations of the effect of flood control, there is some land and property that undoubtedly will be worth more after the improvements are made than it was ever worth before.

It thus seems clear to the President that the benefited land should pay.

WE congratulate our friends everywhere on the evidence this affords of the progress of the idea for which LAND AND FREEDOM stands. Once it has got clearly into the heads of our slow-thinking politicians that this is the principle that should govern us in the collection of revenue for public improvements, our cause is almost won. We congratulate also the President and his advisors. The principle once applied and generally accepted will send the Single Tax movement ahead with tremendous strides.

FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND men in this city are without jobs, according to the New York *American*. Commissioner Hamilton says we would have to go back to 1921 "to find anything like the present unemployment situation."

WHEN truth is revealed, let custom give place; let no man prefer custom before reason and truth.

—*St. Augustine.*

Why People Leave Ireland

WILLIAM T. COSGRAVE, President of the Irish Free State, and Eamon De Valera, Republican leader, united in sending greetings to the American people on St. Patrick's Day.

President Cosgrave said:

We may well reflect on what might have been had circumstances enabled Ireland to retain the services of her far-scattered children.

Mr. Eamon De Valera, recounting that 300,000 of young adults left Ireland since 1921, said:

To provide employment so that it may no longer be necessary for our young people to emigrate is perhaps our most pressing problem in Ireland today.

The method of providing employment in the mind of Mr. De Valera is the old protectionist way, which has been tried and found wanting in so many lands. He says further on:

We must not only provide substantially all our own food but we must organize and equip factories to provide ourselves with boots, clothing, shelter, and a thousand other things we daily need and use—importing nothing we can produce ourselves.

This is the fundamental aim of the economic policy of the Irish Republicans.

It is to be observed that neither Mr. Cosgrave nor Mr. De Valera ask themselves why people leave Ireland—they merely deplore the fact without seeking the cause. Yet Fenton Lalor, Michael Davitt, Bishop Nulty and Henry George have told them why.

And with special reference to Mr. De Valera's remedy for unemployment we call attention to the following from Henry George written in the third quarter of the last century:

"Can manufacture be carried on without land any more than agriculture can be carried on without land? Is not competition for land measured by price, and if Ireland were a manufacturing country, would not the value of her land be greater than now? Had English clamor for "protecting home industry" not been suffered to secure the strangling of Irish industries in their infancy, Ireland might now be more of a manufacturing country with larger population and a greater aggregate production of wealth. But the tribute which the landowners would have taken would likewise have been greater. Put a Glasgow, a Manchester or a London in one of the agricultural counties of Ireland, and where the landlords now take pounds in rent they would be enabled to take hundreds and thousands of pounds. And it would necessarily come from the same source—the ultimate source of all incomes—the earnings of labor."

Ireland has no leader in these days to hearken back to those who sought to direct her steps in the right path. There is no Bishop Nulty nor Michael Davitt now; her cause

sleeps where the winds from the sea stir her long grasses and quiet rivers. With the political freedom won after centuries of oppression she fronts the future clinging to the old and poisonous policies which have spelt decay and death to so many peoples. And there is less excuse for her than for other lands, since she has the teachings of the Brehon Code written in the dawn of her history. She has the ennobling sentiments of many of her patriots who saw the truth and proclaimed it. That the land of Ireland belongs to the Irish people, and not to the Irish landlords, is a truth held by many a humble priest whose memory is long and who has read much.

The statesman who will appeal to this slumbering sentiment in the minds and hearts of Irishmen will light a flame that will light the world.

But not yet!

Acres of Diamonds

ABOUT two decades ago, one Russell H. Conwell devised a lecture bearing the title which heads this article and which he delivered more than five thousand times. In doing so he visited all parts of the United States and earned fees which he devoted in a large part to sending young men through college. The lecture was devoted almost entirely to inculcating the belief that the diamond fields of opportunity lay all about us and only needed intensive cultivation to bring success to every man who would apply the principles exemplified by the lecturer. The appeal was to the low ideal of commercial success, with only the saving grace that the surplus when won should be used for the same educational purpose to which the lecturer was devoting his own profits.

A dispatch recently tells us that the condition which Mr. Conwell saw only in his vision actually exists on government land in South Africa, where diamonds can be picked up with little effort. Indeed the statement was made that the Minister of Mines and Forests had within a few hours picked up nearly a thousand dollars worth of the stones. The first thought of the unreflecting citizen would normally be "Happy South Africa! where wealth can be had merely for the picking; as this limitless wealth exists on government land clearly the Union of South Africa can exist for the future without collecting taxes and one of the grave sources of human discontent will be allayed." But he is not allowed to remain long in the contemplation of this glorious vision. One of those gloomy persons known as political economists buttonholes him and says, "Do you know that this diamond discovery on public land may precipitate one of the greatest financial catastrophies of all the ages? Don't you know that for many years past the output of diamonds has been regulated by a benevolent monopoly, which only permitted as much of the crop to be marketed as would not depreciate the value of diamonds? Just how much of previous crops remains un-

marketed only those on the inside know. And this situation has come about not altogether because of the desire of the diamond monopolists to enhance their own profits, but also because an unregulated market might easily deprive the diamond of perhaps its most valuable quality, its reliability as an investment which can be turned into cash without loss should an emergency arise. Large numbers of citizens have come to realize that such precious stones minister to their sense of their own importance, to the vanity of their wives or other female relatives and at the same time furnish an unfailing resource in times of financial stress. What is going to happen if, in addition to the undistributed hoard of diamonds whose existence is suspected, this new source of diamonds exists in the hands of the government, which can with difficulty be controlled by the trust and which will be under pressure to sell the stones as fast as they are found to meet the demands for new revenue which, if they do not already exist, will certainly arise, when the existence of a new source of revenue has become generally known?"

Then if we go a step further and imagine the Union of South Africa to derive from its diamond fields a sufficient revenue to enable it to dispense with any tax levy whatever, how would the country fare?

All land holders would immediately assume an even more highly privileged position than they now enjoy. Paying no taxes they would be under no pressure to sell their land or to permit anyone to use it save under such conditions as were favorable enough to overcome the natural inertia which is one of the chief characteristics of highly privileged classes everywhere. The lot of the landless classes would be much more severe than it is now. Rents would rise to the highest points that the traffic would bear, and unless the disinherited classes lost all the instincts of self-preservation, revolution would be speedy and inevitable.

This aspect of the case indicates that taxation, if properly applied may be the salvation of the people, not their destruction, as so many have deemed it.

The So-Called Housing Problem

FOR nearly eight years New York has been struggling with a so-called housing problem which has attracted the attention of the civilized world. The diversion of capital and laborers into belligerent channels from 1914 to 1920 brought about its normal consequences, the total stoppage of building in a city which was growing in population at the rate of 100,000 per year. Naturally a point was reached where living accommodations became congested and houses and apartments ceased to be available at any figure which ordinary citizens could afford to pay.

For a couple of years the Legislature considered the problem without being able to discern that the only line of policy, whether sound economically or not, which would

solve the problem of shortage of housing was to make the investment of capital in housing more attractive than investments in any other property. The only way the legislature could do this was to permit cities to take the tax off housing partly or wholly for a certain number of years. Not because the Legislature understood the probable effects of such a policy, but because it was that or nothing, the policy of tax exemption was decided upon and it certainly worked. Something like \$2,500,000,000 was invested in housing and although the exemption was stopped three years ago so far as new buildings were concerned, the flood tide is still running, and though most people think that the point of adequate supply has been reached there seems to be no end of construction in sight.

In the first years of the building boom complaint was frequently heard that the public was not getting the benefit of tax exemption but that it was all going into the pockets of the builders. But no claims had been made that, at the outset, rents would be reduced. All that was contended was that it would cause new buildings to be erected. No one could question that that purpose was accomplished. Those who were far-sighted saw that after a time the supply of building would exceed the effective demand and that rents would commence to fall. This condition has begun to happen. Rents starting at \$25. per room per month have fallen to \$20. per room per month and are now down to \$15. per month per room in many places and still the building boom continues, soon the price seems liable to fall to \$12., which is cost with a slight profit, and if we compute this value in pre-war dollars we will find that the price or rent of these rooms will not be far from pre-war rentals.

Still the cry for housing relief arises. Even if rooms rent for \$12.50 per month per room such rentals are beyond the reach of vast fractions of the City's population. How is the large number of families whose earning range from \$30. to \$40. to be provided for? A large number of well meaning people are committed to the idea that they should be housed in good homes regardless of what the cost of the homes may be.

For the first time, when the flood tide of prosperity is supposed to be running, we find people advancing the view that as there are vast numbers of people whose labor is necessary to our comfort and well-being, and who can not exact a living wage for themselves, that we must supplement this by providing homes below cost, but that this subsidy policy must be carefully differentiated from pauperization. The citizen's self-respect must be preserved even though he may be in receipt of relief by the expenditure of public money. Incidentally none of the projects which has been discussed have resulted in anything practical.

No one seems courageous enough to declare that what we are confronted with is just the old poverty problem back again; a large proportion of the people engaged in unorganized industries have been unable to get their wages

advanced enough to make up for the depreciated dollar, and so while their nominal wages have risen they are actually worse off than before the war. As usual when we get beneath the surface we find that all the so-called social problems, by whatever name they are called, proceed from the same fundamental cause, the denial of natural rights to the earth and its bounties.

Authority

(Republished by Request.)

THE following article by Joseph Dana Miller which appeared in Nov.-Dec. 1926, of LAND AND FREEDOM was in reply to President Coolidge who had said in an address at the Georgetown University: "I would not venture to say what our country most needs from its educated young men and women. But one of its urgent needs is a greater spirit of loyalty which can come only from reverence for constituted authority, faith in things as they are."

To this vicious teaching we made reply as follows: (Fred S. Wallace of the Coshocton, Ohio, *Daily Tribune*, paid the article the compliment of saying: "Several of the paragraphs rise to the heights of Henry George were he writing on the same theme.")

"The final arbiter of all intellectual truth is the mind; of all moral truth the conscience. These are the real authorities, and the duty of subjecting all things to the test of reason and conscience a man owes to his fellowmen, and to God. It is the most solemn of all obligations, for truth is the most valuable of all earthly possessions. How great a wrong then he commits by a slavish subservience to authority. The fallibility of human reason is not to be disputed—we hear much of it, certainly too much. But the fallibility of authority is of an infinitely more tenuous nature. We may decide wrongly by following our own mental processes. But ultimately the path if persisted in leads to truth. To the rational processes of the mind there is no other destination. But Authority is the rock in the way of intellectual and social progress. It is a tyranny that keeps kings on their thrones and fakirs in high places; that moves armies across the prostrate bodies of peoples; that sends Conscience that should rule the world quaking and trembling into dark corners.

What credentials has Authority beyond its apparel, insignia, gold lace or sounding titles? Can it "point with pride" to its record, or "view with alarm" the results of disobedience to its commands? Has it such achievements to its credit that justify the suppression of conscience and the reasoning faculty to its obiter dicta? Read the record and decide. For instead of being usually right this most worshipful Authority is nearly always everywhere wrong. Its history trails with blunders, bristles with fallacies; it is even now pompous with theories long exploded; everywhere it has cheated, humbugged and tyrannized over reason and conscience.

Look at the long record of Authority in every department of human activity. Authority supported slavery; it guided the whip in the hand of the overseer as it fell upon the quivering shoulders of the black; it sounded in the boom of cannon whose dreadful messengers brought death and sufferings to millions of men; its voice is forever on the side of war. And how has it treated the great ones of the earth? To Socrates it gave the poisoned draught; the Gracchi it stoned; Garrison it drove thru the streets of Boston; Giordano Bruno it burned; Christ it crucified.

It was Authority that threw Roger Bacon, the ablest man of his time, in prison. It was Authority that in the person of Calvin put Servetus to death. It was Authority that lit the Smithfield fires, that presided over the horrors of Siberia. It was Authority that exiled DeCamoens, and the glory of Portuguese poetry saw the light on an inhospitable Chinese coast. Authority has denounced the teachings of the prophets of all the ages as heretical, from the Hebrews to those of the present day. What a biting poison it is should be obvious to those who reflect how instantaneously and completely a man is transformed when its mantle falls upon him, and how strikingly it effects a metamorphosis from humility to arrogance.

It is the tyranny of Authority that keeps the Arab sheik of today like the sheik of Abraham's day; that has petrified Chinese civilization; that in the Middle Ages desolated western Asia from the Bosphorus to Jerusalem. It was Authority that hissed "Jacobin" to every proposition for social reform as now it shrieks "bolshevik." In Egypt Authority enthroned the cat and made sacrosanct the crocodile. It has been polygamist, monogomist, polyandrist, as suited its purpose. It put kings on white elephants and clothed them in mail of precious stones. It has invented all kinds of evil spirits from Belzebub to Hobomoko for men to bow before—and industriously they have made obeisance. They have yielded to Authority as did men in fabled Athens to the bed of Procrustes, to which they have accommodated the proportions of such independent judgments as they were capable of forming."

THE Henry George Congress, organized to propagate the Single Tax theory, held an international session at Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City, in September. It is not generally known that the late Bishop of Michigan, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Charles D. Williams, was an ardent Single Taxer, so careful and discriminating was he in his public utterance of his private social theories. However on greeting friends who made themselves known to him as churchmen during the General Convention in New York City some years ago, he made his usual gracious response. But when they added: "And we are Single Taxers, too," he bubbled over with enthusiasm and genial mirth and replied with ready wit: "Ah, then, you are very near the Kingdom!"—*The Churchman*.

Lecture Tour of George H. Duncan

DURING January and February, Hon. George H. Duncan, field lecturer for the Henry George Lecture Association, Chicago, filled forty-six engagements in the states of California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Colorado, Kansas and Missouri.

In Los Angeles and vicinity it was a pleasure to meet the veterans of the Great Adventure movement, Mrs. Lona Ingham Robinson, Mr. Gerrit Johnson, Mr. R. J. Miller, and others, who have never lost faith in the essential justice and righteousness of Henry George's philosophy. Here, also was found the interesting series of study forums carried on under the direction of Dr. F. W. Roman, in which attention is directed to current events, politics and history, as well as sound economics. Even for Single Tax enthusiasts a general knowledge of the great world movements of this and previous times is desirable; and for those not so fully grounded in economics a "balanced ration" may prove the means of a real gain in economic knowledge. The Tax Relief Association, under the immediate direction of Stoughton Cooley, assisted by Sid Evans, George A. Briggs, George H. Dunlop, and others, is continuously spreading progressive tax thoughts.

At Seattle the Commonwealth Club, with a membership of liberals including Councilman Oliver T. Erickson, W. D. Lane, with Miss Adele Parker as president, pays attention to all public affairs, including sane taxation.

In Idaho, Senator Dow Dunning (Boise) and Robert B. Wilson, (Emmett) lose no opportunity to point out what the state needs in tax method improvement.

In Denver it was learned that John B. McGauran is frequently speaking before various organizations in that city and elsewhere in Colorado on the Single Tax, while at Colorado Springs, Mr. M. M. Sinton, who recently visited Australia, told of the progress the movement is making there.

At Topeka, Kansas, Mr. George Hughes and J. H. Sawtelle arranged for public hearings, while at Kansas City, Mo., Mr. Edward White and Mr. J. C. Fuller kept the speaker busy during his stay. On Tuesday evening, February 14, under the auspices of the Open Forum, of which J. L. Jones is secretary, a Memorial meeting for Louis F. Post was held. At this meeting Mr. Vernon J. Rose and Mr. White paid tribute to our beloved leader, and many others added words of appreciation.

Mr. Duncan being the secretary of the New Hampshire Recess Tax Commission took pains during his visits to various state capitols to confer with state tax officials. In every state visited there is a growing interest in tax matters, evidenced by the organization of Tax-payers' Associations and similar bodies. While thus far study has been directed principally toward expenditures, in almost every instance the method of raising revenues is beginning

to attract attention. The general property tax, especially taxation of personal property, is coming in for condemnation on all sides. Such widespread interest in tax matters is encouraging; and those of us who feel sure we understand the proper method of taxation ought to be exceedingly active in proposing our plan at every proper opportunity.

The following bulletin of the Associated Industries of Missouri, "Tax Bulletin No. 4, October 8, 1927," is typical of current agitation, and is reproduced to indicate one of the most "horrible examples" of foolish taxation.

TAXES, LICENSES AND FEES AUTHORIZED IN MISSOURI

If there is any activity in the life of citizens of Missouri upon which a tax, license or fee is not paid under authority given by the statutes, it is not due to lack of effort or to carelessness on the part of the Legislature.

A complete analysis of taxes, licenses and fees just finished by the Associated Industries of Missouri, Research Department, shows that the State is authorized by statute to assess one hundred and fifty-two (152) varieties. Each of the one hundred and fourteen counties is authorized to assess one hundred and fifteen (115) kinds in addition to innumerable taxes, licenses and fees which cities of the first, second, third and fourth classes may assess and which various county and municipal officers may charge for personal service.

If the taxes, licenses and fees paid by the citizens of this state upon everything they use or come in contact with from the time they awaken in the morning until they go to sleep at night could be assessed against them on one tax bill, there would be no difficulty in arousing a unanimous demand for economy in public expenditures.

The Associated Industries, after a very careful study of the subject, is not at this time urging a reduction of taxes, but is insisting on a revision of our state system of government, in order that the taxpayer may receive full value for each of his tax dollars. * * * * *

Agriculture in Missouri is having a hard time making both ends meet; industry is having the fight of its life to compete with industry of other states.

In addition to the taxes, licenses and fees authorized to be assessed and collected by the state in the various counties, the cities are authorized as follows:

Cities of the first class are authorized to levy 57 different taxes, licenses and fees, and are permitted to license 229 additional enumerated activities.

Cities of the second class may levy 34 different taxes, licenses and fees, and are permitted to license 274 additional.

Cities of the third class may levy 58 different types of taxes, with authorization to license 220 additional. Cities in the same class operating under a special charter are authorized to regulate 104 activities.

Cities of the fourth class may levy 46 different types of taxes with authorization to license 104 additional.

There is a license tax upon the water we drink for breakfast, a tax upon handling the egg, a tax upon the gas which cooks it and upon the cigar which is smoked while reading the morning paper, the publisher of which also pays a tax which is charged against the goods advertised in its columns. The gas and oil used by the machine which carries us to town is taxed, as is the machine itself. We pay for the privilege of walking upon a cement sidewalk, a paved street or a state highway, and those of us who ride on a street car pay a higher fare because of the tax on public transportation. The elevator in our office building is taxed, the building itself, and the telephone upon our desk must pay. In fact every article we touch or use must pay a tax to the state, county or municipality, all of which is charged against us as individual tax-payers."

Mr. Duncan traveled 102 days and delivered 107 lectures to over 18,000 persons.

At the University of Oregon, situated at Eugene, Mr. Duncan gave two lectures, one to the School of Journalism, under Dean Allen, and the other to the class in Public Finance under Dean James H. Gilbert. This is the second time Mr. Duncan has lectured at the University, being one of the first to put in a claim for two lectures, saying "he made, on his last visit, such a favorable impression on the boys, and shall certainly look forward to his coming again."

Perhaps his busiest time was in the twin cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minn., where as many as three addresses were given some days—owing to the kindness of our staunch friend, Hon. Allen S. Stockwell, who aided us to get up the program, and to him we owe many thanks.

Mr. Duncan spent several days at Fairhope, Ala., and had the pleasure of being shown over Mr. E. B. Gaston's work. His meetings there were fine, and he is not surprised that Fairhope is the pride of every Single Taxer.

WHEN we have found out what it is that absorbs the profits of legitimate business and the purchasing power of the general public, we shall have found out what it is that periodically throws millions of workers out of work and puts an end to our national prosperity.

And the problem is not to be solved on the lines of the old nursery rhyme:

Mother, may I go out to swim?
Yes, my darling daughter,
Hang your clothes on a hickory limb
But don't go near the water.

The problem can be solved by discriminating and intelligent radicalism. If not so solved, be assured that the time will come when the pseudo-radicals will take a hand in the solution and mess it up worse than ever.

In New York State and elsewhere efforts to speed up public works to relieve the situation are being made.

—STEPHEN BELL, in *Commerce and Finance*.

Tributes to Memory of Louis F. Post

Memorial Meeting to be Held in New York

A PUBLIC meeting to commemorate the services to humanity and democracy of the late Louis F. Post will be held on Tuesday evening, April 10th, 1928, at the Community Church, Park Avenue and Thirty-fourth Street, New York.

Among the speakers at the meeting will be Frank P. Walsh, Fred C. Howe, Frank Morrison, representing the American Federation of Labor, Lawson Purdy, Chas. O'Connor Hennessy, Fred C. Leubuscher, Mrs. Anna George de Mille and John J. Murphy.

The meeting will be under the auspices of the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, the Civic Club, the American Civil Liberties Union, the Manhattan Single Tax Club, the Commonwealth Land Party, and the Brotherhood of the Commonwealth.

Henry George Foundation Pays Tribute to Louis F. Post

THE Henry George Foundation held a notable memorial dinner in the Congress of Women's Clubs rooms, Pittsburgh, on the evening of March 3d, in honor of the late Louis Freeland Post. Mr. Post had honored the Foundation by accepting a place on its National Advisory Commission when it was first organized and, while unable to attend either of the recent national conventions, had on various occasions expressed a keen interest in plans and activities and had sent messages to these gatherings conveying his greetings and counsel.

The memorial meeting was well attended and attracted, among others, several veteran disciples of George and Post who have not been seen so frequently in Pittsburgh gatherings of recent years. Charles R. Eckert, of Beaver, made a most admirable toastmaster for this occasion and voiced his deep appreciation of the very able and unselfish service to the cause rendered through the long years by Mr. Post, in whose writings he had always found both enlightenment and inspiration.

The speakers included Will Atkinson of New York, John M. Henry, former Assistant United States District Attorney, A. H. Swope, of Johnstown, James B. Ellery, of Erie, William N. McNair, Democratic candidate for United States Senate, George E. Evans, President of the Henry George Foundation, and Hyman Levine, of Milwaukee. Brief remarks were also made by F. W. Maguire, Assistant Secretary of the Foundation, formerly of Chicago, M. S. Robinson, President of the Henry George Club of Pittsburgh, former Magistrate Ralph E. Smith, and

Mark F. Roberts, who was Secretary of the pioneer Single Tax club of the early days in Pittsburgh.

Many fine tributes were paid to the memory of the departed leader, interesting incidents of his brilliant career recalled and his great service to the advancement of fundamental democracy cited as an example to those who would make this a better world in which to live.

Attorney John M. Henry spoke with eloquence of the ideals for which Louis F. Post stood and of his firm stand for civil liberties in the war days of the Wilson administration, while Will Atkinson in a very effective speech related personal incidents throwing interesting light upon the sterling character of Mr. Post, emphasized his loyalty to the preaching of Henry George's gospel in its fullness and made reference to that "master motive of human action" that characterized the life work of Post.

Mr. Atkinson spoke in part as follows:

I appreciate and am deeply grateful for the honor the Henry George Foundation have done me and for the privilege of saying a few words in memory of Louis Freeland Post, whom I met forty-two years ago during the first Henry George Mayoralty Campaign in New York City.

He was then Editor of the *Leader*, a campaign paper published in the interest of Henry George's candidacy for Mayor of New York City. It was started because every paper in New York without exception opposed Henry George. I did not really get acquainted with Louis F. Post until 1887 when I was a visitor to the State Convention of the United Labor Party at Syracuse, N. Y. Louis F. Post was Chairman and presided, under very difficult conditions with a tact, a fairness, a charm and an unvarying courtesy which compelled tributes even from his opponents.

In this 1886 Campaign, the Socialists had been tirelessly active and contributed largely to the tremendous vote polled in that short campaign made without organization and without a machine and which resulted (according to the testimony of Tammany Chiefs later) in Henry George's election although he was counted out.

In 1887 some of the Socialists believed that the United Labor Party would repeat in the State its success in the City of the year before and hoping further for a national success of the United Labor party in 1888, determined to capture the State Convention of the United Labor Party by methods which neither Tammany in New York nor the Vare machine in Philadelphia nor your own local Pittsburgh leaders have ever surpassed.

The Syracuse convention was, therefore, an exceedingly stormy one and was an acid test of the qualities of its presiding officer and I have never abated my affection and admiration for the effective way in which Mr. Post met every emergency. The Socialist delegates who were expelled after a red hot fight included some notable orators and they imported others from the outside, including Walter Vrooman, then called the "Boy Orator of the Socialist Party" who justified his title by a brilliant speech. Coming from another state I was accorded the honor of a seat on the platform and heard all the public discussions and some of the private ones.

After the expulsion of the Socialists Henry George was nominated for Secretary of State against his protest. He finally consented to accept the nomination at the urgent request of Father McGlynn and the other leaders of the convention. But the United Labor Party did not have the means to spread itself over the state. It was impossible to effectively reach the voters of the State with the few dollars they had and it was further handicapped by discredited politicians capturing nominations for minor offices in New York City.

It was always a joy to hear a speech by Louis F. Post, partly because he always had a good story to illustrate his point. In St. Louis he started in a speech by saying, "When I was young the test of every new thing which was proposed was, is it religious? But times have changed and now when anything new is suggested the inquiry is at once made, is it scientific? A Professor at one of our great universities, sometimes called the Standard Oil University, once evolved the theory that the sense of hearing in a grasshopper was in his legs. You know grasshoppers have no ears and it has been a moot point for many years as to how they hear. This professor decided that he would not promulgate his theory until he had scientifically demonstrated it. So he took a grasshopper and put it on a table and took a ruler and rapped on the table and the grasshopper jumped. Then he took the same grasshopper and broke off its legs and put it on the same table and rapped on the table with the same ruler and the grasshopper did not jump. He said, "Now it is scientifically demonstrated that the sense of hearing in a grasshopper is in its legs"; and, Mr. Post went on to say, "Many things were scientifically demonstrated nowadays in very much the same manner."

In 1896 it looked as if Grover Cleveland might be nominated for a third term. The Wall Street interests which he had so faithfully served wanted him and for a time it seemed as if they might control the Convention. Mr. Post said that if Cleveland was renominated and he was called on to make a speech in his favor he had already picked out a story which would fit the occasion.

A farmer was riding on a train and a clerical looking man sat down beside him. After a time the minister asked the farmer which Church he belonged to. The farmer said, "Me? I'm an Episcopalian." The Clergyman said, "Who is your rector?" The farmer said, "Rector, what is a rector?" The minister said, "What parish do you belong to?" The farmer said, "I don't know about any parish." The minister said, "What do you mean calling yourself an Episcopalian when you don't know what a parish is nor what a rector is?" The farmer said, "Oh, about being an Episcopalian; Betsy and I were in town over Sunday some time ago and we saw a nice looking church with the doors open and we went in and the congregation were saying "We have left undone those things we ought to have done and we have done those things we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us." I asked what kind of a Church that was and they said Episcopalian and we have been Episcopalians ever since."

When Louis F. Post was a young lawyer he went into partnership with another young lawyer who was also an active, fearless and tireless advocate of Single Tax and a personal friend of Henry George, Charles Frederick Adams. I heard Mr. Post once tell about his brief law partnership with Charles F. Adams. He said, "Charles F. Adams was a walking encyclopedia of law but he was not always practical. It was very hard to get him into court. He

preferred studying up some abstruse point of law which we had no direct interest in and probably never would have. We had a little reception room which we called the library and each of us had a private office opening out of the reception room. I had occasion to consult Charlie Adams several times the first day we opened our offices and each time I found his door locked. Finally I said to him, "What do you mean, Charlie, by keeping your door locked?" Adams said, "Well, you know, Post, I'm studying this case which has many interesting angles and I was afraid that some client would butt in and interrupt me." The idea that a young lawyer the first day his office was opened should be afraid a client would butt in and the further idea that it was more important to study the technicalities of a case with which we had nothing whatever to do, than to talk to a client (in case a miracle happened and one appeared) was too much for me."

"I always got Charlie Adams to go into Court with me when I could, but this was very seldom. One day I got him into Court and he sat quietly beside me and listened to my opening argument and then to the answer made by opposing counsel. When our opponent sat down, before I could get out of my chair, Adams who was as quick as a cat, was already on his feet and had started out into an eloquent and conclusive reply which left nothing of our opponent's arguments. Adams cited case after case and decision after decision while I sat back and thoroughly enjoyed myself. Presently the judge interrupted and said, "But I don't know about that last citation of yours, Mr. Adams." Adams pounded on the desk and said, "But it is your Honor's business to know." And we lost the case right there. You can't insult the judge and expect to win the case. I got Adams out into the hall and started him back to our office and came back and apologized, but it was too late; our case had been lost."

As the Chairman of the Single Tax Conference of 1890 in New York and of the Single Tax Conference at the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893 Post again won golden opinions from everyone who attended. While Henry George lived at 327 East 19th Street, New York, every Sunday evening many called, intent on seeing and hearing the great Apostle of Humanity. One Sunday evening, an old friend of the family was present and monopolized the time with a never-ending flow of talk while Henry George sat back silent in his chair and seemed to enjoy it. But Post did not. Lawrence Dunham, Post and I left the house together and we were hardly out of the door before Post broke out indignantly, "Have you ever noticed that the more of an infernal nuisance a man makes of himself, the kinder Henry George is to him?" I said, "I have often wondered why he was so kind to me."

Of Post's work in editing the *Standard* with Croasdale, when Henry George laid that work down; of his editorship of the *Cleveland Recorder* and afterward of the *Chicago Public*, of his numerous contributions to Single Tax Literature, of his tireless work as speaker and lecturer, of his courageous stand as Assistant Secretary of Labor in preventing the deportation of poor and penniless immigrants on trumped-up charges, you know. From the day when, as a young man, he first read "Progress and Poverty" till the day of his death, Louis F. Post preached tirelessly Henry George's Gospel in its fullness.

Even forty years ago we had men—able men, who thought it was a mistake to appeal to unselfishness as Henry George urged, and who believed the shortest road to the Single Tax lay in appealing to men's pockets, to their selfish

interests, rather than to their hearts and their unselfishness. It may be that they have gained a hearing we might not otherwise have had; it may be that they have advanced the Single Tax by advocating it merely as a reform in taxation; merely as the best method of taxation.

I do not know. But this I do know, that it is because Louis F. Post advocated the Single Tax in its fullness, without variableness or shadow of turning, because there was no taint of selfishness in the forty-five years of whole hearted devotion he gave to Henry George's Gospel; that we are here tonight to pay our tribute to his memory; that all over the world are men and women who sorrow because they have lost a loved and loving brother.

We used to call those who would minimize the Single Tax and preach it "sanely," as they said, as a reform in taxation solely, "Single Taxers limited." But since I read the little girl's school composition on her favorite bird, the better term would seem to be "Single Taxers, almost." The girl wrote, "What a wonderful bird is the frog. When he stands, he sits, almost. When he hops he flies, almost. He has no brains; hardly. He has no tail; hardly. When he sits, he sits on what he ain't got, almost."

Let me read a few of Henry George's own words on this.

"Shortsighted is the philosophy which counts on selfishness as the master motive of human action. It is blind to facts of which the world is full. It sees not the present, and reads not the past aright. If you would move men to action, to what shall you appeal? Not to their pockets, but to their patriotism; not to selfishness, but to sympathy. Self-interest, is as it were, a mechanical force—potent, it is true; capable of large and wide results. But there is in human nature what may be likened to a chemical force; which melts and fuses and overwhelms; to which nothing seems impossible. "All that a man hath will he give for his life"—that is self-interest. But in loyalty to higher impulses men will give even life.

It is not selfishness that enriches the annals of every people with heroes and saints. It is not selfishness that on every page of the world's history bursts out in sudden splendor of noble deeds or sheds the soft radiance of benignant lives. It was not selfishness that turned Gautama's back to his royal home or bade the Maid of Orleans lift the sword from the altar; that held the Three Hundred in the Pass of Thermopylae or gathered into Winkelried's bosom the sheaf of spears; that chained Vincent de Paul to the bench of the galley, or brought little starving children, during the Indian famine, tottering to the relief stations with yet weaker starvelings in their arms. Call it religion, patriotism, sympathy, the enthusiasm for humanity, or the love of God—give it what name you will; there is yet a force which overcomes and drives out selfishness; a force which is the electricity of the moral universe; a force beside which all others are weak. Everywhere that men have lived it has shown its power, and today, as ever, the world is full of it. To be pitied is the man who has never seen and felt it. Look around! among common men and women amid the care and struggle of daily life, in the jar of the noisy street and amid the squalor where want hides—every here and there is the darkness lighted with the tremulous play of its lambent flames. He who has not seen it has walked with shut eyes. He who looks may see, as says Plutarch, that "the soul has a principle of kindness in itself, and is born to love, as well as to perceive, think, or remember."

And this force of forces—that now goes to waste or assumes perverted forms—we may use for the strengthening, and building up, and ennobling of society, if we but will, just as we now use physical forces that once seemed but powers of destruction. All we have to do is but to give it freedom and scope. The wrong that produces inequality; the wrong that in the midst of abundance tortures men with want or harries them with the fear of want; that stunts them physically, degrades them intellectually, and distorts them morally, is what alone prevents harmonious social development. For "all that is from the gods is full of providence. We are made for co-operation—like feet, like hands, like eyelids, like the rows of the upper and lower teeth."

Mr. Atkinson concluded by the reading of a very remarkable poem written sometime ago by Vorley Wright.

Another ardent admirer of Mr. Post who paid deserved tribute to "a great humanitarian," was Ambrose H. Swope, a Single Tax leader of Johnstown, who spoke in part as follows:

"Those who are responsible for this gathering are to be commended for their response to a duty, because it is the duty of those who are interested in a movement to mark the passing of a leader in that cause. Louis F. Post was a capable leader in the movement that has called this organization, The Henry George Foundation of America, into existence. I am glad of this opportunity to pay tribute, weak and faltering as it may be, to this David in the cause of justice and human freedom.

It was not given to many of us here to sit at the feet of the master, but the mantle of Henry George fell upon the shoulders of Louis F. Post, and most worthily did he wear it. I assume that many of you are familiar with the incident that led to his conversion to the Georgian philosophy. It suggests the conversion of a Paul. While trying to refute the theory, a light dawned upon him and he arose a changed man. Like others possessed of a heart and an intellect, life had a new meaning for Louis F. Post after he came in contact with Henry George. He saw a new truth—a social truth—and he devoted his life to the propagation of that truth. Judged by our standards, Louis F. Post was a great man because he wrought in the cause of freedom; he worked intelligently and unselfishly that his fellow men might inherit the promise; that others might reach higher and nobler lives. He was not only an economist who saw clearly the true and proper social relationship, but also he was a great humanitarian. And when the final annals of civilization are written, in the light of human service the name of Louis F. Post will appear in luminous letters on the horizon of the new day.

HIS CAREER AS EDITOR

The work that Louis F. Post did as editor of the *Public* will constitute a glorious chapter in the history of human freedom; it was truly "a journal of fundamental democracy." No wrong or injustice that came to his attention escaped challenge and censure. For years the *Public* was the clearing-house of all liberal thought in the United States.

THOUGHT POSITION TOO SMALL

I remember getting off a train in Johnstown one evening early in the summer of 1913. Mr. Bailey, who was then in congress, was at the station to board the same train and he told me that he was on his way to Chicago.

That visit of Mr. Bailey helped Mr. Post to consent to accept the position of assistant secretary of labor in President Wilson's cabinet. I must admit that, for one, I thought it was putting a big man in a rather small place. Then when the world war came on, it was hard for me, and possibly others, to become reconciled to Mr. Post being in a war cabinet. But in those horrible times following the war, when the fever of deportation ran high, when proscription and head-hunting were the order of the day, how fortunate we were to have a man of Mr. Post's sanity and sympathy in a place of power. It reminds me of an incident in the life of Henry George, with which you are all possibly familiar as I am. On election night in New York, when Henry George was a candidate for secretary of state, he and Mr. Post were watching the election returns. When it became apparent that Mr. George was rather badly defeated, Mr. Post asked him, perhaps humorously, if he saw the hand of God in the results. Henry George replied: "No, I don't, but it is there."

Those of us who were unable to see the hand of God take Louis F. Post from the editorial chair and the lecture platform, and make him an under secretary, must, in view of the great humanitarian service he rendered in his cabinet position, admit that, while we could not see that hand, it was there.

AN AGE-OLD CONFLICT

"He who will hear, to him the clarions of the battle call. How they call and call and call till the heart swells that hears them." Louis F. Post heard that call and valiantly did he answer. And what was the battle, the conflict? Ah! the age-old one with Truth on the scaffold and Wrong on the throne, the powerful oppressing the weak and disinherited ones, the monopolists grinding the faces of the poor in the dust. But with his keen, analytical mind, able to see the relation of cause to effect, Mr. Post soon saw that the power of the oppressors was legalized special privilege, and foremost among these was the privilege of making private property of the earth. He consecrated his life to the abolition of that monstrous wrong.

This meeting will have been in vain if forth from this hall go not men and women who will dedicate themselves to the cause for which Louis F. Post did so much and made such great sacrifices.

The fields are white and ready to harvest. Let us not be dismayed because the master gleaner has gone on: this is "my Father's business" and it must prosper. This meeting will not have been useless if one courageous soul embraces the "cross of the new crusade," determined that it shall be carried to newer heights.

HIS SPIRIT PRESENT

It takes but little imagination to feel the spirit of dear old Louis F. Post is here with us tonight. "Where there are two or three gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." How then shall we honor his presence? Surely not by fulsome praise which we all know would be displeasing to him in person. Let us honor Louis F. Post by renewing our pledge to the faith so dear to him and resolve to do what we may to make effective those ideals for which he lived and, as he says, "attach ourselves to the causes that harmonize with the great order of things."

Letters of regret were read from Warren Worth Bailey, of Johnstown, John M. Moore, of Lancaster, and Charles H. Ingersoll, as well as a recent communication from Mr. Post himself to Secretary Williams of the Foundation.

An Old Time "Radical"

LOUIS F. POST, who has just died at Washington, was a familiar figure in Philadelphia in the early nineties when he took a conspicuous part in the meetings which the local Anti-Poverty Society used to hold on Sunday evenings in the Broad Street Theatre. The society was the chief agency of the Single Tax propaganda which was actively carried on in Philadelphia in those days, Frank Stephens, founder of Arden, being one of its most energetic local advocates. Mr. Post and Henry George himself frequently came over from New York to speak at the Sunday evening meetings.

Mr. Post was a Jerseyman by birth. He went from the printer's case to the bar and was prominent enough politically in the second Grant administration to become an assistant United States Attorney in New York. Later he turned to political radicalism of the third party variety and ran for Congress and other offices on Labor and Greenback tickets. He was one of the earliest converts to the Single Tax and became a close friend and associate of Henry George, aiding him in the memorable campaign of 1886, when George threw a scare into Tammany and likewise into conservative business men, by polling 67,000 votes as a candidate for Mayor. Post himself ran for District Attorney as a Labor candidate the following year.

At this period he definitely abandoned law for journalism and the platform. He was one of the old-line radicals attracted by the Wilson variety of progressivism and was made Assistant Secretary of Labor in 1913, serving until 1921. He was unsympathetic with the immigration restriction ideas which have prevailed in recent years, and came under fire for what was alleged to be undue leniency to alien radicals whose deportation was sought. With his death at seventy-eight, almost the last of the Old Guard of Greenbackers, old-fashioned Laborites and pioneer Single Taxers passes from the scene.

—Philadelphia, (Pa.) *Bulletin*.

Liberals Mourn Post

ANOTHER link with the time of Henry George has gone with the passing of Louis F. Post, noted advocate of the Single Tax and long a fighter for ideals of American freedom and democracy that in many quarters seem to be considered old-fashioned and quite out of date. Mr. Post, who died at 78, was one of the leaders in the Henry George movement of the early 80's when George was backed by organized labor and other progressive forces for Mayor of New York and came near being elected. Few remember those stirring days now.

During his long and useful life, Mr. Post was the champion of the oppressed and fought many a battle in behalf

of the "under dog." As assistant secretary of labor in the Wilson administration, Mr. Post many times proved his friendship for the workers. He kept his head during the "Red" hysteria of 1919 and succeeding years and did much to mitigate the lot of those who fell innocent victims to that popular outburst of unreason. In his book, "The Deportation Delirium of 1920," he told the story of the government's drive against alleged "Reds" and confirmed the opinion of many noted lawyers and others who had roundly denounced the whole proceeding as largely unjustified and tinged with inexcusable cruelty and autocracy.

Mr. Post's death is a big loss to the nation, which needs men of his liberality and enlightenment today perhaps more than ever before.

—Seattle, (Wash.) *Union Record*.

A Personal Tribute

MAN's ingratitude to man is common enough to have developed into doctrine. Like every other rule, however, it has its exceptions—with this tribute for splendid contrast. It was given to this column by the writer, and is printed here for the reason that loyalty to a friend who can no longer be of material help is a beautiful thing that all of us should know about:

"Testimonial to the Hon. Louis F. Post—a missing friend.

"A friend in need is a friend indeed. Mr. Louis F. Post's helping hand to me will never be forgotten, for when he came to Washington, D. C., from Illinois, to take over the duties of the First Assistant Secretary of the Department of Labor he found a messenger to be likened only unto a young calf with its mother on one side of a fence and he on the other side, seeking a little hole, where he might stick his head through to partake of her full bag of milk. Well, I got there, for he chose me as his messenger. From that day his helping hand, his most human kindness, were ever present.

"So one day, being so anxious to know how I was standing with him, I asked permission to see him to tell him how grateful I was to him for the promotion and his many kindnesses to me. I was granted the permission to see him. I walked in, wringing my hands, and said: 'Mr. Secretary, I came in to thank you for all that you have done for me.' He looked up from his papers he was reading, with a look as soft as down, and said: 'Carlos, I've done nothing. You have done it yourself.' I then saw my efforts had not been in vain. I thanked him and said: 'Mr. Secretary, you are one man brimful of human kindness, with a heart as big as the world.'

"Gracious Father, may it be Thy will for me to meet him again, for I know it will be in Heaven.

"CARLOS R. BLACKWELL."

—Washington *Star*.

Louis F. Post

WITH the passing of Louis F. Post almost the last of the Old Guard drawn about him by Henry George has joined the silent majority. William T. Croasdale, Thomas G. Shearman, Dr. Edward McGlynn, Judge Maguire, Edward Osgood Brown, William Lloyd Garrison, Tom L. Johnson and many others of the gallant band who led in the New Crusade which was inspired by the Prophet of San Francisco had long preceded him into that bourne whence no traveler e'er returns. And perhaps no death since that of Henry George himself will be so widely mourned as that of Mr. Post.

He had perhaps been closer to Henry George than any other man who had caught the new vision. Mr. George had been quick to recognize the extraordinary talent of Mr. Post, then a writer on the *New York Sun* under Charles A. Dana. "Progress and Poverty" had been assigned to him to review and answer. It was in his effort to refute George's argument in that monumental work that Mr. Post himself saw the light; and instead of undertaking to dispose of the philosophy advanced therein he adopted it as his own and for forty years he had been its undeviating champion as a writer, as a speaker, as a teacher and as a public official. He could not apply that philosophy in full as assistant secretary of labor in the administration of President Wilson, but the spirit of humanity which dominates it characterized all his acts while holding that high office.

Mr. Post had visited Johnstown on a number of occasions for the purpose of making addresses and he had many friends and admirers in the city and throughout the county. His books have likewise had many readers in this community. He was a prolific writer, his books including "The Ethics of Democracy," "The Single Tax" and several others, all relating to the social question. His whole heart was in the cause of human betterment. He never had a thought which was not inspired by lofty purpose, by humanitarian desires and by a keen sympathy with the victims of social maladjustments. Perhaps the spirit of this fine man is best set forth in his own words concluding his study of the ethics of democracy. He had been discussing utilitarianism in contrast with idealism and he ended with these inspiring words:

"That which we have likened to a swinging pendulum is as the ebb and flow of battle. Now one side seems to have the victory and now the other. But in this battle, whatever is true and good in both sides will conquer. For there is good and truth in both utilitarianism and idealism; and for the good and truth in each 'the stars in their courses' fight against Sisera. Whatever is imperfect, inadequate, narrow, indefinite and one-sided in our perceptions of the ideal is improved, expanded, broadened, defined and rounded out with every succeeding reaction from utilitarian epochs; while whatever is sordid in our utilitarian

practice and precept is in turn sloughed off by better and better ideals.

"In this great struggle which leads on toward general recognition of the dominion of the highest ideals of morality over the truest utilities of physical existence, toward the same recognition by man of the moral law that he has given to physical law, toward the adaptation of material righteousness to moral righteousness, toward the natural adjustment of human relationships both individual and social—in this battle for freedom from defective ideals and a sordid utilitarianism, many there be that fight with Sisera. But they cannot alter the predominant law. 'The stars in their courses' fight against them. They are doomed to defeat by those who, few in number though they be, attach themselves to the cause that harmonizes with the great order of things."

—Johnstown, Pa. *Democrat*.

From An Old Friend of Louis Post

WHEN Louis F. Post died the other day in Washington, America lost one of its most interesting citizens, a loss not confined to our own shores but felt also in many other lands where Post, as author, lecturer, and editor of *The Public*, a journal of fundamental democracy, was well known and admired.

As founder and editor of *The Public* from 1898 to 1913 he labored diligently and intelligently, and with the literary skill of a De Tocqueville, to impress his countrymen with the dignity and responsibility that is becoming to American citizens. His success in this endeavor is well epitomized by the verdict of another distinguished American, Mr. Charles R. Crane, when he remarked to the writer, "Lucky is the man who knows Louis F. Post. It is a liberal education to know Post." Every man or woman competent to pass judgment will corroborate Mr. Crane.

Born in 1849 Post spent his formative years in the atmosphere of those stirring times when the rights of man (even black men) seemed more important than the rights of property. They were days that might be fairly classified as our second revival of idealism, when our greatest leaders thought Freedom a prize worth any sacrifice of blood and treasure. It is not surprising that an ardent young idealist such as Post, baptized and fairly saturated in the philosophy of Garrison and Lincoln, should be actively engaged in every struggle for democracy that has agitated our country—or the world in the last fifty years.

PASSION FOR JUSTICE

Although a lover of peace and gentle as a woman, few men have had the courage and tenacity to engage in so many battles for Freedom as had this New Jersey Republican. Long before he went to Washington to act as Assistant Secretary of Labor under Wilson, he had earned the

right to rest from his long campaign. But even at Washington in what to an ordinary man would have been a sinecure free from responsibility he was not to find the rest he had earned. It was inevitable that a man with Post's early training and respect for American legal principles should refuse to permit his office to be used by any official high or low, to imprison or deport men and women not found guilty of crime. Once his duty became clear to him neither threats nor popular hysteria could persuade Post to allow any one to use the office he administered to issue warrants of imprisonment and deportation in the manner of Czaristic or Bolshevik Russian police, and in defiance of American legal principles and fair play.

From the day of his appointment in his twenties to the district attorney's office in New York to the time of his retirement from the Secretary of Labor's office, Louis F. Post fought a long campaign in defense of American ideals.

An interesting feature of Post's association with Henry George is the proof lent to the suggestion that we tend to grow into the likeness of those we admire most. It was surely so in Post's case. In the last work from his hand, "The Prophet of San Francisco," Post unconsciously, but none the less accurately, composed his own best epitaph, when he wrote of George, "With the intelligence of a philosopher, the patience of a scientist, the conscience of a saint, and the simplicity of a child, he followed the course of truth as he honestly saw its beacon lights."

HELD MORAL LAW SUPREME

The secret of Post's supremely successful life—what it was that made the life of this printer, lawyer, author, and economist a blessing to humanity—is indicated by the faith he had in the supremacy of the moral law. In the last chapter in his "Ethics of Democracy," he wrote:

"We know now that the material universe, from largest to least, is a universe of law—invariable law. Except in obedience thereto, no man—whether greatest of inventors or humblest of mechanics—would any longer think of pursuing his vocation.

* * *

"As certainly as physical law dominates matter does moral law dominate the physical. Though conformity to the laws of matter alone will enable us, for illustration, to forge a knife of keenest blade, the uses of the knife—without which it has no reason for existing and would not be made—fall within the jurisdiction of moral law. We may use it to carve things that minister to human needs or the human sense of beauty, thus serving our brethren and moulding our own characters more and more in the divine likeness, while conquering the stubbornness of external nature; or we may make it an implement for torture and murder. In the one case we advance in moral righteousness by conformity to the moral law. 'The stars in their courses' fight with us. Though the torture be inflicted and the murder done, the unrighteous purpose they were intended to serve will in the outcome inevitably fail.

"Be their cause what it may, whether material or moral, that of an inventor like the unknown discoverer of fire or the forgotten maker of the first wheel barrow, of a persecuted and disheartened explorer like Columbus, of patriots on the scaffold or of saints upon the rack, of the philosopher with his deadly potion of hemlock or the Nazarene carpenter upon the cross—whatever the cause, it always has conquered and always must conquer, in so far as it is in harmony with the great order of things."

BOOK EXPRESSES FAITH

Louis F. Post explored the fogs of a pseudo economic and political science with the lamp of a moral philosopher and verified the truth of what his friend Henry George had taught—that much of the anarchy and consequent misery of man is due, not to some inscrutable decree of Providence, but rather to a clear invasion, if not defiance of its beneficent laws. In tracing the beauty and harmony of these laws, he found more than a cure for undeserved poverty—and "a faith that was dead revived."

In the closing words of Post's last book, "The Prophet of San Francisco," he expresses the faith in which he lived and died, in a quotation from his friend George. The quotation contains some very searching questions—questions which interest most people some time or other, questions as pertinent today as when they were written some fifty years ago.

"Like the swallow darting through thy hall, such, O, King, is the life of man. We come from where we know not; we go—who shall say? Impenetrable darkness behind, and gathering shades before. The one thing certain to all of us is death. What, when our time comes, does it matter whether we have fared daintily or not, whether we have worn soft raiment or not, whether we leave a great fortune or nothing at all, whether we shall have reaped honors or been despised, have been counted learned or ignorant, as compared with how we have used that talent which has been entrusted to us for the Master's service. What shall it matter when eyeballs glaze and ears grow dull, if out of the darkness may stretch a hand, and into the silence may come a voice, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

—A. P. CANNING in Winnetka (Ill.) *Talk*.

One of a Great Company

WILL you permit me to add my small testimonial to the fine, patient teacher who has gone before. Henry George's daughter cannot claim him as solely her own. He is ours too.

Not only was he a lover of mankind, as all Christians presumably are, but he strove through his long life to acquaint preachers and laymen with the economic laws

of God. I never met him personally, but through his lucid writings I came to know him from the Primer to the Fifth Reader and through all the grades to a true course in true economics. The *Public* I took up to the last number and was a contributor to its Sustention Fund and saw with the same disappointment I knew Mr. Post must have felt the death of that fine publication.

He was long preparing for the next Great Experience and helped to prepare a good many of the rest of us for it. It is a great company to which he has gone, Henry George, Tom L. Johnson, Dr. McGlynn. Peace be with him!
Rew, Pa. E. W. PAINTER.

Memorial Meeting in Boston

A MEMORIAL meeting for the late Louis F. Post, assistant secretary of labor in the Wilson administration and a well-known lecturer and writer on the Henry George doctrine was held Wednesday evening, February 1, under the auspices of the Individualist School of Social Economics, at 719 Boylston Street, Boston. Messrs. E. N. Vallandigham, Edward J. Burke, Professor L. J. Johnson, Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Robert B. Capon, W. L. Crossman, George W. Smith, Mr. Thacher, a cousin of Mrs. Alice Thacher Post, Mrs. Alice M. Caporn, and others were among the speakers. John S. Codman was chairman.

In Memoriam

LOUIS F. POST

Responsive to the deeper needs of men,
His mind attuned to wisdom, free from fear,
Disciple of a prophet and a seer,
He taught and fought and wrought with voice and pen;
Philosophies he turned like sweeping lights
Upon the cumbered and disordered ground
Of social science that he might propound
A teaching that envisaged human rights;
And now that half a century has known
The theories that once seemed strangely new,
The verities he offered are yet true,
The faith he held is coming to its own:
His task is done; the life he nobly spent
Lights its own torch, rears its own monument.

—WM. LLOYD GARRISON, JR.

IN a recent review of some books published by the Vanguard Press, and commenting on "What is the Single Tax," by Louis F. Post, the New York *Herald-Tribune* says:

"The selection of Louis F. Post to present the essence of the single tax could not have been improved upon. For more than half his life an able exponent of Henry George's economic theories, he is eminently fitted to interpret them in popular form. His exposition of this rational method of bringing the present social order into conformity with natural social laws' is compact and comprehensive."

A New Edition of "Basic Facts"

A SECOND edition of Basic Facts of Economics by Louis F. Post is now ready. The publishers are William Ballantyne & Sons, 1409 F. Street, Washington, D. C.

The work reviewed in a previous issue of LAND AND FREEDOM is the last book to which Mr. Post set his hand and pen, and contains the ripened convictions of this economic thinker. The work is characterized by the logical precision which was the outstanding quality of Mr. Post's treatment of our problem. It is doubtful if any other work of our great teacher is quite so convincing.

Bid God Speed to Mrs. Signe Bjorner

ON March 8th an informal reception was held at Miss Schetter's studio, 3 University Place, in honor of Mrs. Signe Bjorner, who spent a few days in New York before sailing for Copenhagen. Many who were invited were prevented from coming by illness or absence from the city, but a number of the old guard, as well as some of the newer recruits, attended, in all nearly forty people.

Mrs. Bjorner is an inspiring human being and all present wished to hear her views on our cause.

She told us first a little about the movement in Denmark, showing how wise were her countrymen in choosing free trade away back in 1880, thus taking advantage of the cheap foreign grain and turning their own farms into dairies.

In order to deliver their produce quickly in England it was necessary to build a new harbor on the most adjacent spot, a sandy waste tract, hitherto valueless. When the harbor project was decided upon, this land of course rose immensely in price and the owners reaped fortunes. The farmers were quick to see that their cooperation methods of marketing their goods should have extended to co-operative gain in land value for the common good.

The Single Taxers of Denmark drove home the lesson and were given another object lesson of weight in Copenhagen which contains one-fifth the population of Denmark.

A few years ago a new town hall was to be erected on the site of an old market, which had been surrounded with very poor buildings, saloons and cheap hotels. These surrounding properties rose six millions in value, just one million more than the cost of the fine new town hall. Again the lesson was driven home.

Mrs. Bjorner said that the actual gains for our cause in Denmark were not great, but that there was a widespread understanding of the subject among the farmers.

Those who went to the Copenhagen conference can attest to the fine leadership as well. Mrs. Bjorner had been told that there was little interest felt by the Danes in

the United States in the land value agitation in Denmark. She was intent on visiting groups of her countrymen settled in many parts of the west. The result had been most gratifying. Wherever she went meetings were held and people came long distances to hear her lecture on our question. She spoke enthusiastically of the beautiful valley of California, where there are large colonies of Danes. The "Sunkist Raisins" are all raised by Danes. She said she could have had engagements to lecture till the autumn, but was obliged to be back in Copenhagen March 26th.

Those who had met Mrs. Bjorner on former occasions as well as those who saw her for the first time were alike impressed by her noble personality. She has vision, courage, perseverance and sweet reasonableness, a rare combination.

Pennsylvania Campaign Enlisting Strong Support

TAKING advantage of the unusual interest in tax problems that is now manifest in a number of Pennsylvania cities and boroughs, and citing the Pittsburgh plan as the best example of the application of scientific principles in taxation, the Henry George Foundation has been pushing vigorously its Pennsylvania campaign and the results are very encouraging.

On February 22d, a representative group of business and professional men and public officials met at Harrisburg to consider the best means of effective cooperation for the extension of special land value taxation and the introduction of more equitable and scientific methods of assessing real estate. As a result of this conference the Fair Taxation and Assessment League of Pennsylvania was formed and officers and directors elected, representing all sections of the state. John M. Moore, Lancaster business man and life-long Single Taxer, was elected President of the new League, Louis Frank of Wilkes-Barre, First Vice-President, George E. Evans, Pittsburgh, Second Vice-President, A. H. Swope, Johnstown, Treasurer, Wm. N. McNair, Pittsburgh, Secretary, and P. R. Williams, Pittsburgh, Executive Secretary. City Commissioner, John J. Blair, of Lancaster, was named Chairman of the Executive Committee.

A second conference is being held at Harrisburg on March 27th and at this meeting comprehensive plans will be made to carry the campaign of education to every corner of the state. A legislative programme will also be outlined. The first step will probably be the preparation of a bill that will make possible the adoption of the Pittsburgh graded tax system in the 39 cities of the third class. The Mayors of Erie, Reading and Bradford have already declared in favor of such bill, and the cities of Lancaster, Wilkes-Barre and Johnstown will be among those represented at the conference by friendly city officials.

Attorney McNair and Secretary Williams have continued to address clubs and organizations in various parts of the state. Mr. McNair has spoken recently in Philadelphia, West Chester, Harrisburg, Gettysburg and Pittsburgh. Mr. Williams has addressed audiences in Warren, Wilkensburg, New Castle, Pottsville, Mahanoy City and Harrisburg, is scheduled for several engagements in New York State in April, and plans to spend the first week of May in Delaware where Frank T. Stirlith is taking the leadership by a renewal of the legislative campaign in that state.

George E. Evans, President of the Henry George Foundation, was the speaker on March 7th before the forum of the Individualist School of Economics in Boston and had the pleasure of meeting the leading Single Taxers of that city. He also addressed the Credit Men's Association of Johnstown at a largely attended dinner on February 27th.

By a joint arrangement with the Henry George Lecture Association, Hon. George H. Duncan, of New Hampshire, will make a two-weeks tour of Pennsylvania cities beginning May 1st. His appearance is expected to strengthen materially the movement for a further legislative advance in Pennsylvania.

The Warren *Evening Times*, is another Pennsylvania newspaper that has come out editorially in favor of the Pittsburgh graded tax plan, commenting on the address of Secretary Williams to the Rotary Club of Warren on March 5th. The *Harrisburg Telegraph* featured most prominently the conference resulting in the formation of the Fair Taxation League and has given repeated editorial endorsement to the special taxation of land values as a means of breaking up land monopoly in Harrisburg and lightening the tax burden on the owners of improved property. With the development of new journalistic support of such strength, and the unwavering loyalty of the *Johnstown Democrat*, edited by Warren Worth Bailey, the Pennsylvania campaigners will be enabled to reach quite a large constituency.

Death Takes Henry George Foundation Leaders

IN the death of United States Senator Woodbridge N. Ferris, of Michigan on March 23d, the Single Tax movement has lost a sincere friend in high official circles and the Henry George Foundation a valued member of its board of trustees, to which place he was elected last September. This is the first death that has occurred among the trustees of the Henry George Foundation since its incorporation in August, 1926. Senator Ferris was 75 years of age and had had a long and useful career, crowning his achievements by serving first as Governor of Michigan and then as United States Senator.

One of the original founders of the Henry George Foundation passed away early in March, when Capt. Charles W. Brown, President of the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company, answered the call at the age of 70. Capt. Brown, before he became a captain of industry, was a captain of vessels sailing the seas. He knew Henry George in the early days and was a great admirer of George and his philosophy. While he was not able to take an active part in Single Tax work and declined official honors, he was a generous supporter of the movement and was in full accord with the economic teachings of Henry George. He was held in high esteem by all who knew him, and had an unusually large circle of friends and associates.

Death of John Doyle

JOHAN M. DOYLE, a very faithful member of our Denver Single Tax group, died September 30, 1927. Mr. Doyle was well known to many Single Taxers who are actively engaged in propaganda work. He was a generous contributor. He subscribed for every publication that advocated our cause in England, the United States and Australia; He was an indefatigable letter writer and would send letters to editors and the persons that he considered influential, hoping that some seed might fall on fruitful soil. He was a pioneer in the movement here and later in Milwaukee, of which city he had been an earlier resident, afterwards returning here a second time about sixteen years ago. He was engaged in the furniture business, 1849 Welton Street, until about six months before his death. Mr. Doyle was a printer in Milwaukee and Denver for a number of years and retained his membership in the Typographical Union up to the time of his death. His funeral was conducted under the auspices of that organization.

His furniture store was always well supplied with Single Tax books and newspapers and those wishing to avail themselves of information on the subject were free to help themselves. He saw to it that the students at our state university and other colleges were supplied with literature, and was active in seeing that books dealing with our side of the economic problem were placed in the public library here. For several years past Mr. Doyle contributed freely toward defraying expenses of every Single Tax lecturer that came to Colorado. We shall miss him. He was a warm admirer of LAND AND FREEDOM. He enjoyed the personal acquaintance of John Z. White whom he held in high regard and with whom he frequently corresponded.

Mr. Doyle was buried in the printers' plot at Riverside cemetery not far from where a brother of John Z. White who died here in 1886, is buried. A large number of Mr. Doyle's friends assembled to pay the last tribute of respect at his funeral. Denver Typographical Union No. 49 was especially well represented.

Mr. Doyle was 69 years old, and even in recent months when oppressed with a distressing kidney disease his

zeal for propagating the philosophy of freedom was never abated. Henry George's gospel never had a more enthusiastic and devoted advocate.

JOHN B. MCGAURAN.

Chicago Active Again

IT was a great dinner held by the Chicago Single Tax Club on the evening of Saturday, February 11th. It was indeed a pleasure to find one's self among a group of seventy-five to a hundred sympathetic souls. It was a pleasure to listen to speakers of individual characteristics, the wit and logic of John Z. White, the human sympathy and beauty of expression of Andrew P. Canning and the simplicity and sincerity of Wiley Mills Wright—these were what impressed me most in the three principal speeches of the evening.

Mr. Mills, as alderman of the Chicago City Council, does an invaluable work in bringing about a practical application of land value taxation principles; Mr. White, with his knowledge of history and human nature, is without a peer in the advocacy of the Henry George doctrine; and Mr. Canning has no equal in inspiring his hearers with a conviction of the justice of the remedy we advocate.

Mr. Mills told us something of his intimate relationship with Louis Post and described the funeral, which both Mr. Mills and Mr. Canning attended in Washington.

Mr. White pointed out in the course of his duties as toastmaster that the cause for the failure of democracy in the past has been the lack of knowledge. The aristocratic, land-owning class gradually became so tyrannical that the people realizing their misfortunes, would rebel eventually and get control of the government themselves. But not knowing the first principles in the governing of the great estates which the masses took upon themselves, the land-owning class would again seize the reins—and the whip. He quoted the verses by Don Sietz:

"The masses are asses
Who do as they're told,
Ridden to market
And traded for gold.
Once in a while,
To see how it feels,
They throw off their riders
And kick up their heels.
This being done
They halt in their track,
Whereupon their riders
Promptly climb back."

But he added, with a ray of optimism, that the Single Tax is the one economic reform that actually knows how scientifically, justly and equitably to manage the great public estate in the interests of all the people. The greatness of Henry George Mr. White emphasized as the pos-

session of great ideals and the requisite knowledge to a practical realization of these ideals.

James R. Brown, for whom the dinner was originally planned, was so ill that he was unable to make the trip from New York.

Mr. George C. Olcott read a fine paper on the Valuation of Urban Land which he had given at the Henry George Congress last September.

Mr. Henry Tideman was to give a talk on "Youth in the Single Tax Movement," but he very kindly relinquished this pleasant duty to the undersigned. I expressed on behalf of the young Single Taxers of Chicago appreciation of the efforts of Mr. Ewing, Mr. Murray and Mr. Tideman (officers of the Chicago Single Tax Club) in starting the bi-weekly Friday evening discussion meetings. The value of these gatherings lies not only in the opportunity they afford for self-expression on the floor, but in the stimulation which they give to our youthful adherents.

Marien Tideman is editing a little paper which announces and reviews the meetings, and this appears on the Tuesdays prior to the meetings. It is hoped that this little publication will grow to enable it to talk more in detail of Single Tax activities in the city and vicinity.

Many of those attending the meetings have been stimulated to a more serious study of "Progress and Poverty." And no one can call himself a Single Taxer until he has mastered that great work.

—JOHN LAWRENCE MONROE.

Chicago Prepares to Entertain Henry George Congress

THE third annual Henry George Congress will be held in Chicago on September 10, 11 and 12, and preparations for a great gathering are already under way. The invitation to go to Chicago this year was extended at the New York convention last September by Clayton J. Ewing, President of the Chicago Single Tax Club, and was gladly accepted, thus enabling all friends of the cause who appreciate the opportunity to meet and confer with their fellow-workers, to have ample time this year to make early plans.

President Evans announces the appointment of Mr. Ewing as Chairman of the Convention Committee. The new chairman has taken hold of his duties with enthusiasm and a strong committee is being organized to assist him in the preparations. The Congress Hotel has been chosen as the official convention headquarters and is offering us splendid facilities for the several sessions of the Congress. This hotel has an unexcelled location, being right in the heart of the city and yet having the advantages of the lake-front, and amidst the attractions of Michigan Boulevard.

This will be the first occasion that the Henry George Foundation has gone toward the West for its annual gathering, and the central location of Chicago is expected to

contribute much to the success of the Congress by bringing the meeting within easy reach of the greatest number. The Chicago Single Tax Club, recently re-organized and having a splendid quota of the younger generation in its membership, is displaying a keen interest in the approaching convention and promises to bring out a full attendance of the local Single Taxers. The officers of the Henry George Lecture Association, whose headquarters are in Chicago, are also cooperating in fine spirit to make this Congress a big success.

Chairman Ewing was strongly impressed with the fine programme offered at New York last year and returned to Chicago a real booster for the next Congress in his own home town. The programme this year is expected to maintain the same high standard of quality and a considerable larger attendance is anticipated. Both the committee and the officers of the Henry George Foundation will be glad to receive suggestions with a view to making the gathering of 1928 of the utmost helpfulness and inspiration to all who shall attend.

Plan now to be in Chicago, September 10th to 12th! Many can make this trip a part of their summer vacation. In any event, it will be three days well spent.

Work In Boston

AT the forum meeting of the Individualist School of Social Economics, at 719 Boylston Street, Boston, on January 6, Weldon L. Crossman of Revere talked on "Unemployment, a Social Evil—Its Cause and Remedy." He spoke in part as follows:

"In Genesis the Creator of the world instructs Adam and Eve to 'replenish the earth and subdue it.' Each one is told that 'in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread.' And in Psalm 115:16 it is asserted that 'the earth hath He given to the children of men.' It is evident that the Creator intended that man should live by applying his labor to land. It is from this source that our food, clothing, shelter and all wealth comes. It is by the application of labor to land that capital is produced. Hence there are three factors in production—land, labor, capital. The first is passive, the other two are active.

"The Creator has given man the raw material with which to work. God is not a bungler. He has made ample provision for sustaining the life of the entire human race. If workers cannot get at the earth to subdue it or cultivate it or use it, then it is evident that in some way man has violated the benevolent intentions of the Creator. Hence we have a condition where men are unable to employ themselves on land without having to first make terms with a land owner. In new countries unemployment is unknown. Land is free to those willing to put it to use. In the United States there is just as much land now as hundreds of years ago. Vacant land is in

abundance everywhere. But men who would gladly subdue a bit of the earth and cultivate it are denied the right because some one owns the spot. The monopolists.

Progress in the Argentines

THE new independent socialist party, which has been formed in this country by the organization of the more youthful members of the old socialist party, is displaying a remarkable acceptance of our principles.

The first item in the platform provisionally adopted is the following:

"Socialization of the land by the social control of its use and the collective appropriation of its rental value by means of taxation."

It also purposes the abolition of customs duties.

The newspaper *Liberty* (*Libertad*), official organ of the new party, contains in its issue of January 3, the following significant declaration by one of its most authorized spokesmen, who is a national congressman:

"As regards agrarian policy (including also urban land) we are from the outset Georgists, entirely out and out Georgists."

In addition, this party organ devotes preferential attention to the question of land value taxation and opens its columns freely to the educational and informative articles which I have personally contributed. Under today's date it publishes the important note appearing in *Land and Liberty* (Nov. 1927) referring to the opinions of Mr. O'Derrick and Mr. Snowden on the proposed surtax vs the Single Tax, which had been discussed at the Laborite Conference at Blackpool.

The above items show the increasing advance of Georgist ideal in the political opinion of this country.

—C. VILLALOBOS DOMINGUEZ.

News From Denmark

THE bills introduced January 31st, in the Danish Parliament, by Dr. Axel Dam and Pastor I. C. Willesen, the two representatives of the League of Justice Party, had for their chief purpose the rousing of discussion on the subject of land value taxation. This was as much as the most ardent advocates of our great reform dared hope. But these two bills, practically one bill with "rider," seemed to have aroused more discussion inside the ranks of the faithful than outside, where it was sadly needed. The first and most important bill, which its sponsors entitled FROM TAX TO DEBT, . . . (we might take the hint there and use the more easily-comprehended phrase "From Tax to Rent," as a slogan for our own work!) recommended a rapidly increasing percentage of land value taxation; 3% on the 1927 assessment, for 1928-9; to be raised to 5% in 1929-30; and after April 1st, 1930, a tax to the amount

of the entire ground rent, with, each successive year, repeal of other taxes as the rapidly increasing income from land value taxation make it possible. There were clauses regarding the participation of the federal state and the communities in this tax, and other local matters. But the main fact stood; that for the first time a direct measure of land value taxation, making (for this part of the first bill) little compromise with expediency, was offered in the Parliament of a European country. Could the discussion, in Parliament and out, have centered around this bill, the Danish Georgists might have won many a skirmish in such important battle. But alas, the opportunity was lost, in that this bill was saddled with a second measure recommending a very complicated system of Compensation for Land-owners, something which leading Single Taxers everywhere refuse to recognize. This point was seized upon for comment by the other parties and their press; the conservatives giving faint praise; the liberals taking credit for "fine moderation;" and the Socialists pouring out scathing satire on the Georgists and League of Justice folk. And, unfortunately, as far as one can tell by reading the Danish papers, the liveliest discussion has gone on inside the ranks, causing somewhat of a split between the Georgists and the League of Justice people.

The Georgists who had stood behind the League of Justice and helped elect the two Deputies, seem bitterly disappointed at this latest development. For the Danish Georgists, like the American Single Taxers, have never, from the beginning, allowed any justification for "compensation for land-owners." They have always realized that, as the land-owner has for centuries been reaping the advantage of present conditions, he is not in any way an object of pity. And also, they know, as we do here, that no land-owner is *only* a land-owner. His possibly larger loss in unearned income, will quite sufficiently be made up to him, in the release of any burden on his thrift and industry, the release of a burden of taxation on that part of his income (from his land-ownership) investment in industrial enterprises.

This second bill introduced by the League of Justice party men, seems to be a muddle of inconsistent and illogical measures, chief of which is an absurd, and quite unjust "capital levy" from which to pay landowners. The leading Single Taxers of Denmark have scored it unmercifully in their own organs, repeating statements from Socialist papers, the justice of which they frankly admit. Some of them, like Mr. J. L. Bjorner, whose fine sense of humor keeps him genial, realize that both Deputies were under pressure from many sides. And all are glad of even the slight discussion aroused by the first measure of straight land value taxation. It will hardly be fair for us, at this distance, to pass any definite judgment on the situation until we get some direct inside information from some of our friends in Denmark. All we can hope is that some good will come out of the discussion, and that our

comrades in that energetic little country will succeed in focusing public attention on the important measures of the first bill.

—G. I. C.

Holland's Opportunity

HOLLAND is taking in more land . . . not by militaristic conquest, not by robbery sealed by the blood of her sons, but by peaceful conquest of the sea. A magnificent work is going forward on the ocean side of Holland, the slow draining and reclaiming of great areas of the Zuider Zee. In all 200,000 acres are to be reclaimed, diked and turned over to agriculture, two hundred thousand acres of what will be immensely fertile land. It will take many years. But the work is already sufficient advanced so that 20,000 acres will be ready for use within the next year or so. This is government land, and a state commission has been appointed to study the question of distribution of this land, of its best possible division and utilization, for the good of the whole country.

The Dutch Single Taxers, a numerically small but intelligent and energetic body, are ready with a plan to be submitted to the commission by which land can be put into the hands of farmers and gardeners who will use it, with a just return to the state by taking the ground rent. Herr Prakken, editor of *The New Earth*, land value taxation organ in Holland, has been consulting with Danish comrades as to the manner in which the small-holding colonies were started in Denmark, and has asked Mr. Sophus Berthelsen to help in the preparation of a plan to be laid before the state commission.

It would be a splendid opportunity for so advanced and intelligent a state as Holland, to be the first to keep the values of this new land to pay the expense of further drainage of the Zuider Zee, and at the same time to aid its own farmers in enabling them to hold their land under a just system of tenure, while freeing them from oppressive taxation on their thrift, enterprise and ability.

Agnes deMille Triumphs

MISS DE MILLE, as has been stated on several occasions, is the daughter of William de Mille and the grand-daughter of Henry George, but she is quite able to stand on her own merits without any assistance from famous names. She has made but two public appearances, presenting only six different numbers in all, yet this slender repertoire has been prepared with such careful workmanship and such excellent artistry that it has been quite sufficient to win for her the serious appreciation of the dance world.—*New York Times*.

IN America crime has been caused by periodic unemployment. —LUTHER SHEELIGH CRESSMAN in January *Review of Reviews*.

Did God Give the Land to the People

IF SO, WHY DON'T THEY HAVE IT?

(Following are extracts from the first of a series of articles under the above heading from *Reynold's Illustrated News* (formerly *Reynold's Weekly*), an English paper of wide circulation, from the pen of Right Hon. Philip Snowden, M.P. ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Labor Government, and today one of the foremost leaders of the British Labor party.

The outspoken declarations of Mr. Snowden are in refreshing contrast to the timid evasiveness of Arthur Henderson, whose reply to the challenge of J. O'Donnell Derrick and the latter's comments appear on another page.—
Editor LAND AND FREEDOM).

A man is entitled to what he himself creates by his own industry, but there is no possible defence of a system which permits a few monopolists to take what other people have created.

So long as landowners are allowed by law to reap the fruits of public industry, public enterprise, and public expenditure, the mass of the people will remain poor and social progress will be impeded.

* * * * *

Land differs in one important respect from all other forms of property. It is a natural monopoly. We may increase its productivity; we may add to its social and economic value; but we cannot increase its area.

Men must have access to land or perish. When a few people have a monopoly of what everybody must use, these monopolists are able to exact the uttermost farthing the landless persons can pay for its use.

Rent is the price which monopoly extorts for the use of land.

* * * * *

Three things in the main, give economic value to land. First, the extent of the people's need of land; second, the density of the population; and third, the productive capacity of the people, that is the wealth of the community.

The more dense the population is the greater is land value. But we may have a dense population whose productive power is not very high; and on the other hand, we may have a very wealthy business community needing land, not for residential, but for commercial purposes.

The landowner in each case gets the utmost economic rent. But as the business community is richer than the poor residents of a slum area, he can extort a far higher ground rent from the former than the latter.

* * * * *

Other factors come in to increase the value of land. Every scientific discovery applied to production increases wealth, and therefore enables the landowner to get a higher rent.

The making of roads at the public expense; improved methods of transport which render land more accessible to the population; improved marketing facilities; these and a hundred other industrial and social activities give an added value to land. *Every child born adds to the wealth of the landowners.*

Instances of how land values rise with the public demand

for land are so familiar to everybody that it is hardly necessary to quote examples.

(Here Mr. Snowden follows with examples of increased land values and instances how public improvements are held up by landlord exactions. He then proceeds as follows:

And with the rapid development of motor transport land values are going up everywhere. The landowners are fattening in their sleep.

To make the land available for use, the local authorities are spending money on roads, schools, parks, housing, and all the amenities and necessities of a new residential district. A public debt is being created, rates are being imposed, and the landowners get off with all the social value given to their land by this expenditure.

It is a monstrous wrong to the community. I have no patience with the complaints about heavy rates, so long as the people calmly submit to this legalized robbery.

Instead of basing local rating on land values, we tax the fruits of industry. If the owner of a cottage wants the decency of an extra bedroom or a bathroom, the rate assessor comes along, and makes him pay an extra rate for it. If a factory expands, and provides more employment, its rates are put up and its production costs increased.

The taxation and rating of land values would secure public values for public purposes. It would relieve industry and agriculture, and liberate municipal enterprise. It would cheapen land and cheapen building, and encourage thrift and business enterprise.

The rating of land values would be the key to open the door to freedom for our municipalities to go ahead with schemes for promoting the health and well-being of the people, and for relieving local industries of the burden of heavy rates.

Nicknamed Industrial Freedom

“**T**HEN came the modern age, beginning, let us say, about a hundred and fifty years ago. The distinguished marks of it have been machinery and the modern city. The age of invention swept the people off the land. It herded them into factories, creating out of each man a poor miserable atom divorced from hereditary ties, with no rights, no duties, and no place in the world except what his wages contract may confer on him. Every man for himself, and sink or swim, became the order of the day. It was nicknamed industrial freedom. The world's production increased enormously. It is doubtful if the poor profited much. They obtained the modern city—full of light and noise and excitement, lively with crime and gay with politics—and the free school where they learned to read and write, by which means they might hold a mirror to their poverty and take a good look at it. They lost the quiet of the country-side, the murmur of the brook and the inspiration of the open sky. These are unconscious things, but the peasant who has been reared among them, for all his unconsciousness, pines and dies without them. It is doubtful if the poor have gained. The chaw-bacon rustic who trimmed a hedge in the reign of George I., compared well with the pale slum-rat of the reign of George V.”

—STEPHEN LEACOCK.

Surtax vs. Land Values

From *The Irish Weekly*, 21st January, 1928

OPEN LETTER TO MR. ARTHUR HENDERSON, M.P.

THE following is a copy of a letter posted to Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., last Monday in Glasgow, by a well known exponent of the Taxation of Land Values. The letter is as follows:

Glasgow, 16th January, 1928

Dear Sir,—In the *Evening News*, Glasgow, of last Friday, you are reported to have stated at Burnley that “the Labor Party was unanimous on the principle of the new surtax and that it is now a firm part of Labor’s financial policy.” In view of the many declarations you and other Labor leaders have made on Taxation of Land Values many people are wondering

why the Labor Party is concentrating on slicing lumps off big incomes instead of on the policy of preventing them being obtained, by changing the economic tendency of wages going to subsistence level through Budget Taxation of Land Values.

Mr. Ramsay Macdonald has stated:

“Rent is a toll, not a payment for service. By it social values are transferred from social pools into private pockets and it becomes the means of vast economic exploitation.”

You personally have made some notable and heartening pronouncements in favor of Land Value Taxation, pointing out—“It seeks to open the way to the natural resources from which all wealth springs.”

A surtax on incomes will not force idle or partially-used land into use. Diverting incomes which are being spent, into the National Exchequer will not create thousands of new jobs in almost every county in Great Britain, but this is what a drastic Land Value Taxation Budget would accomplish.

It seems to me a mystery why the Party should concentrate on a miserable shibboleth like the Surtax, with its questionable capacity as a revenue-raising device, whilst in thoughtful circles there *is no question about the capacity of a Land Value Tax to raise millions and enable a Labor Government to abolish all food taxes.* Surely it is more important for Labor to give a pre-eminent place to the taxation of Land Values, which compelling all the valuable natural resources of the country to be developed, would solve the present curse of life in Great Britain—unemployment—cheapen the price of land, burst monopoly prices for sites, and stimulate industry.

In your Burnley speech you state a Labor Government would “seek to readjust the burden of taxation more closely in accordance with ability to pay.” I commend to your notice the views enclosed of your colleague, Colonel Wedgewood, on “the ability to pay doctrine.” If Labor assumes office and attempts in its first Budget to tax Land Values and also a surtax on income, no L. V. disciple would be seriously alarmed, but the prominence being given to

Surtax raises the suspicion that Labor is going to shelve Land Value Taxation in its first Budget and that *we are going to be sold again as we were in Lloyd George’s alleged famous Budget and in the last Labor Government’s Budget*, though a year previously Mr. Snowden declared in the House, in reference to the “economic value of land:” *Let there be no mistake about it: When the Labor Government does sit upon those benches it will not deserve a second term of office unless in the most determined manner it tries to secure social wealth for social purposes.”* (Page 194. “Land Value Policy,” by J. Dundas White, LL. D.)

Now, may I point out that the Labor Party, in its first Budget, in the “most determined manner avoided the Taxation of Land Values.” If the Party will persist in putting forward proposals like Surtax that are so easily punctured, and fails to put in force the *tax that cannot be shifted* to the supreme position in its policy and programme, it need not wonder if the Labor vote makes little increase in the constituencies, when the Whigs can side-track the tax that would open up a new era in social and labor conditions, compelling owners of land to do what they never had to do before—search for land users.

I am, faithfully,

J. O’D. DERRICK.

P.S.—I am sending a copy of this letter to the Press.
Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., House of Commons, London.

VIEWS OF COLONEL WEDGEWOOD, M.P.

The following is the newspaper cutting posted Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., referred to in preceding letter:—

In popular thought the idea is current that the basis of taxation ought to be “ability to pay,” which, in essence means the more industrious you are all the more taxes you have to pay, and that the lazy will be lightly taxed. Colonel J. C. Wedgewood, M.P., in “Essays and Adventures of a Labor Leader,” page 179, writes:

“If one class benefit it is only right that that same class alone should pay. Harold Cox used to call it ‘taxing red-headed men,’ to point out its absurdity. If the red-headed men take and divide plunder I can see no wrong in asking them to find cash. But the question puzzles others than those wilfully blind. We have got so bred into us the idea that taxation should be according to ability to pay, that we cannot realize the justice of any other system—we cannot realize that taxation might in reality be payment for services rendered. The taxation of land values cannot be squared with taxation according to ability to pay. We have discovered the futility of that cliché. We know now that the persons who actually pay according to their ability *have in reality the best facilities for passing their tax on to the consumer*—that their payment is camouflage. On such a basis you hit the poor, not the rich who can afford to pay. The basis of ‘ability to pay’ is ineffective; it is also, even in its origin and still more in its result, unjust. Far better and far juster is our basis—that taxes

should be according to benefits received. Land values rise, therefore let land values pay. I cook with gas, therefore let the gas appear on my gas bill."

From *The Irish Weekly*, February 4th, 1928

LETTER FROM MR. ARTHUR HENDERSON, M.P.

THE *Irish Weekly* of January 21st contained an "Open Letter" to Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., secretary of the Labor Party. Five days before publication in these columns, the letter was posted to Mr. Henderson, with the *specific intimation* it was being sent to the Press.

Below will be found correspondence on the subject.

33 Eccleston Square

London, S.W.1.,

January 24th, 1928.

Mr. J. O'D. Derrick,
Glasgow,

Dear Sir,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 16th inst., which has been awaiting my return from the North. I note you have sent a copy of your communication to the Press, and from this action it is obvious that you are more anxious to raise a public controversy than to receive explanations on points of difficulty or misunderstanding which may present themselves to you. There could be no stronger evidence of your desire to get into public disputation than your statement that "the Labor Party in its first Budget, in the most determined manner avoided the Taxation of Land Values."

In these circumstances, I have neither the time nor the disposition to assist you to carry on your Press campaign.—Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR HENDERSON.

THE REPLY TO MR. HENDERSON

January 27th, 1928.

Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P.

Dear Sir,—It is 34 years since the late Mr. Michael Davitt, in *The Daily Chronicle* pointed out:—

"No intelligent workingman can give a moment's rational study to the labor problem of these countries without discovering where the root of evil in our industrial system lies. It is in the rent charges levied upon the use of these natural agencies which are the very life of our social and industrial organisms, where low wages, depression and strikes really originate. *The outcry against capital on the part of advanced Labor advocates tends to disguise an older and more formidable enemy of Labor, and landlords not a few are astute enough to send this clamant Labor on this seductive scent in order to divert attention from a system which is in reality the parent of Capitalism and all its works and pomps.*"

No one knows better the fundamental truths enshrined in those words of Michael Davitt than you do, yet the Labor Party of which you are secretary, proposes to make

a General Election stunt of the surtax, instead of raising the question of the bottom monopoly on which all other monopolies rest.

With that preface, I point out your letter of January 24th, completely evades explaining the mystery of the tendency of the Labor leaders and Party to concentrate on that miserable Whiggish taxation device—Surtax—instead of on land values, which would have the economic effect of forcing valuable land into use and thus occasion thousands of new jobs for jobless men.

It is a new orientation and remarkable, to find a Labor leader objecting to "public controversy" on the "Surtax vs. Land Value Taxation," which, of course, would demonstrate the wisdom of burying the Surtax with the Capital Levy, and making the supreme issue in the public life of Great Britain, of Land Value Taxation, as a revenue-producing proposal and as a factor in forcing all the natural resources into use.

Henry George disciples, untrammelled by search for public honors, by party interests and policy, fear no public or other controversy. The mystery of the failure to tax land values in the first Budget of the Labor Government is now accompanied by another mystery, the policy of proposing to slice lumps off big incomes, instead of concentrating on the taxation scheme which would tend to prevent them being obtained.

The Surtax is the public proposition of the Labor party, and in the most determined manner you avoid the issue raised in my former letter, an indication that there is no logical case for any really advanced Laborist wasting time on the ill-conceived fantastic Surtax device, whilst the public created fund of economic rent can be tapped to burst monopoly, cheapen land prices and solve unemployment.

A party, with the Surtax philosophy that its adherents cannot defend as against Taxation of Land Values, is evidently in a muddled mental state.

In view of your own many declarations in favor of economic rent taxation, it is satisfactory to find you do not seek to defend Surtax or suggest that it should be given a pre-eminent place in Labor propaganda.

Your letter is a sample of how to avoid great fundamental issues and its character is peculiar, coming from the secretary of a propaganda organization. If Mr. Baldwin and his colleagues accept that letter as a sample to copy, public controversy will be barren, with courteous, reasoned argument on one side and evasion and subterfuge on the other.

The function of men who know the Truth is to stand up for it and propagate it, irrespective of the convenience or stunt proposals of any party, and to keep raising public controversies until the people are aroused. Side-track tinker-patch legislative proposals, and concentrate on root causes, and demand that the Budget taxation expedient be adopted by the next Government in its *first Budget*,

and so ensure all of God's natural resources in the land of Britain being put to their fullest use.

Trusting the next Labor Government lifted to office by the people, will not go on false scents, and make the mistake of placing no tax on Land Values—a tax that *cannot be shifted*.—Yours faithfully,

J. O'D. DERRICK.

A Proposed Amendment in Colorado

PETITIONS are being circulated in Colorado for two amendments to the State Constitution; one for Old Age Pensions and the other for Single Tax. The Single Tax Amendment reads:

"All taxes shall be uniform upon the same class of subjects within the territorial limits of the authority levying tax, and shall be levied and collected each year under general laws, which shall prescribe such regulations as shall secure a just valuation for taxation of all taxable property; Provided, That for the year beginning January 1st, 1929, the tax rate on personal property and improvements on land shall not exceed 90 per cent. of the rate levied on the value of land; and the tax rate thereafter levied on personal property and improvements on land shall be reduced 10 per cent. each year until all taxes on personal property and improvements on land are completely abolished; and be it further provided that on and after January 1st, 1929, the personal property of every person, to the value of four hundred dollars, shall be exempt from taxation.

All provisions of the Constitution of the State of Colorado in conflict herewith are hereby repealed."

The Pension Amendment provides that revenue for such pensions not to exceed \$30. a month shall be derived from a special tax on the value of land. This pension includes all over 65 who are residents of the state, save persons convicted of crime and inmates of public institutions.

The sponsors named in the petitions are Barney Haughey, Frank H. Rice and Clyde Robinson. They have opened headquarters at 1605 Larimer Street, Denver.

If 25,000 signatures are secured the bills will go on the ballot in the state elections on November 6.

ISAURO GABALDON, Filipino Commissioner, addressed through the *Congressional Record* the American Congress as follows: They are thrilling words:

"What frightens me as a Filipino is the knowledge that those American 'captains of industry' who have millions invested in the Philippines are also heavy contributors to the campaign chest of the Republican Party. In the name of God, members of the American Congress, I beseech you to give us our independence before the Philippines, like the Teapot Dome and the naval oil lands, are donated to campaign contributors whose mouths are watering for our golden natural resources."

Taxing Speculative Properties

TEANECK Township's governing body has addressed a letter to the local assessors, directing them to consider fairer valuations of vacant lots, acreage and business property, with a view to relieving home owners of an unfair share of taxes.

This proposal is equitable and it is time that other municipalities in the county took up the same subject. Much land in Teaneck is held, either in plots or in acreage, for speculative purposes, from which very little revenue is derived for the support of a growing city.

We think that the commissioners have not correctly stated the rule of law which should govern in such cases. They have suggested that the asking price be made the basis. Justice Charles C. Black, in his New Jersey Law of Taxation, discussing the various judicial decisions on this subject finds that true value, at which property must be taxed is:

"That amount of money which a given piece of property would yield, in the hands of one willing to sell, but not required to sell, to one willing and able to buy, but not required to buy." This may or may not be the asking price.

However, in the case of vacant land in a community like Teaneck, where there are many conveyances, it is easy to establish values by comparison. Recently the Board of Freeholders was offered \$217,000 for the twenty-nine and a fraction acres known as the "Poor Farm." Other properties, large and small, are held for speculation by individuals.

All or most of them, like the "Poor Farm," have been valued for taxation at a ridiculous percentage of their worth.

Teaneck is quite right in driving these lands into the market and compelling owners to build houses on them so that the ratables may be increased and the taxes on existing homes decreased.

Bergen County (N. J.) *Journal*.

"THUS far the land speculators have reaped the chief benefits of subway building without having directly contributed a penny. Is it not about time for this injustice to end? Why should the car riders bear the entire burden of enriching the landowners and speculator and adding to the city's taxable values? It is not only the property along the line of the subway that is benefited. It benefits all property. What would the big office buildings and factories in the heart of the city amount to without easy access of the workers to and from them by subways? And how and where would the city otherwise house its workers?

—SAMUEL UNTERMEYER.

"If you would have the slave show the virtues of the freeman, you must first make him free."—HENRY GEORGE.

"Of Men Like Henry George"

ALL the country needs is a new and sincere body of thought in politics, coherently, distinctly, and boldly uttered by men who are sure of their ground. The power of men like Henry George seems to me to mean that; and why should not men who have sane purposes avail themselves of this thirst and enthusiasm for better, higher, more hopeful purpose in politics than either of the present moribund parties can give?—WOODROW WILSON.

[Quoted from "Life and Letters of Woodrow Wilson," by Ray Stannard Baker, Doubleday, Page & Co., and appearing on the outside cover of the new pamphlet "Statesmanship without a Philosophy," published by the International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade.]

IF property is greatly enhanced in value by the location of a subway, is it unreasonable to ask that its owners pay a fair proportion of the cost of the subway?

—N. Y. Telegram.

PROFESSOR MYERS, Princeton historian, is "glad that the Interboro wishes to charge what it costs to haul a passenger." If the professor were an economist, he would instead be glad that the city wishes to charge some of the cost to others who benefit from the rides as well as the passenger.

Owners of enhanced property values, for example; or business, which gets its patronage through transit.

—N. Y. American.

CORRESPONDENCE

DAN BEARD AND MARK TWAIN

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

When "A Yankee At King Arthur's Court" first appeared I was so fascinated by Dan Beard's Single Tax and Free Trade illustrations that I bought twenty-four copies and gave them away and then cussed Webster & Co. because they refused to give me any discount on them.

As soon as I could get to New York I went to Dan Beard's studio and asked him how he came to illustrate the book as he did and told him that I had had some difficulty in finding anything in the text to justify his illustrations.

Dan said, "I don't really know myself how Mark came to select me to illustrate the book. I think it was some illustrations I had in the *Cosmopolitan* at that time which attracted his attention. He sent for me and said, "Dan, I want you to illustrate that new book of mine."

I said, "Yes? How do you want it illustrated? What points do you want brought out?"

He looked at me for about a minute without saying anything and then in that slow drawl of his, he said, "Dan, if anyone says to me, 'Mark, I want you to write a book for me,' I say, 'All right.' But if he says, 'I want the hero to do this, and to do that and I want the heroine to look like this, and I want this to happen and I want that to happen' I say, 'You don't want me to write a book. You want some damn typewriter.'" "And that," Dan Beard said, "was all of the instructions I ever got about illustrating the book. So I went

ahead and illustrated it to suit myself and when Mark saw my illustrations he seemed surprised and he always spoke about it afterward as 'That book which Dan Beard and I wrote.'"

Capon Springs, West Va.

WILL ATKINSON.

A NOTE OF OPTIMISM

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

I believe that we are approaching the dawn of the realization of our hopes. The whole world is now earnestly seeking some remedy for its political and economic distress and I think will embrace this simple and clear doctrine as soon as it becomes widely understood. I think more people are interested now than ever before in finding a remedy. Progress in other parts of the world as well as in our own country indicates a revival of interest in this neglected science.

I believe a Single Tax campaign in Florida would now make progress. Releasing improvements from taxes there would give a substantial and welcome impulse to the development of my home state. Municipalities have already begun to relieve from taxation such enterprises as "community hotels." It will be easy to get the people to understand that unless improvements are released there will be little improvement and that there will be nothing lost if they do release them and improvements come.

Washington, D. C.

COL. WM. C. HARLEE.

ASKS POULTNEY BIGELOW TO BE FAIR

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

The written address by Mr. Bigelow, appearing in *LAND AND FREEDOM* and read by Mr. Miller at the Henry George Congress, September 14, calls for an explanation in the interest of our cause.

Referring to the paragraph wherein it states that Father McGlynn was excommunicated because of his loyalty to the Henry George movement, would it not be well to state that Father McGlynn was afterwards reinstated, without any retraction on his part, by Pope Leo XIII after studying Henry George's reply to the Pope's Encyclical?

As a personal friend of that noble priest, Father McGlynn, and knowing the facts as I do, I am prompted by the spirit of fair play to make this statement. The facts of reinstatement without retraction of Father McGlynn and that no further communication was received after Henry George's explanation to the Pope, should make this no longer an issue of doubt among our friends of all sects.

Chicago, Ill.

GEORGE M. STRACHAN.

WHO WILL REAP WHERE THE GOVERNMENT SOWS?

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

In the newspaper accounts of the plans of the U. S. Army Engineers for the control of floods on the Mississippi River, it is stated that the proposed plan contemplates flood control alone, that the estimated cost of the improvement is nearly three hundred millions of dollars, and that the estimated land values produced by the immunity from flood damages is over two and one-half billions of dollars. It appears from this that the improvement will be a very profitable undertaking. But who will reap the profit? The land owners in the territory affected. It is proposed to leave this immense fund untouched, the U. S. Government to pay eighty per cent. of the cost of the improvement, and the State Governments of the states along the river to pay the balance.

It should not be overlooked that the Great River is an asset as well as a liability. These assets are navigation, irrigation, water power and forestry. These interests, as well as that of immunity from flood damages, would all be served by the adoption of the plan of improvement outlined in the July-August number of *LAND AND FREEDOM*. The land values created by immunity from flood damages is only a small part of that which would be created by the more complete improvement. If the financial part of the plan of the army engineers is carried out, it will be safe to predict a land boom along the river valley that will eclipse anything in the history of California or Florida.

The land owners of the region affected should be staunch supporters of the more complete improvement. Who can imagine the increase of land values in such cities as Memphis, St. Louis, Cairo and Kansas City if they should be converted into seaports? The slogan of a few years ago, of, "Fourteen feet through the Valley," could at the present time be appropriately changed to, "Forty feet to the Gulf," if we had sufficient wisdom to pay for the improvement by appropriating increased land values.

The opposition of vested interests, such as that of the railroads to the navigation of the River, that of the power companies to the development of water power, and that of the farmers to the increase of agricultural facilities should all be ignored. With the development of the region, the railroads will probably find all the business they can attend to, in the passenger traffic and the distribution of products from the great river marts. The application of electric power to the propulsion of vessels, should in a great measure relieve the power companies from apprehension. The worries of many farmers might be relieved by abandoning farms, that on account of location or a lack of fertility, are near the margin of cultivation, and the labor that was formerly bestowed on them, applied to more productive land; notably, the strips of land between the levees and the river, that would be for rent by the Government.

According to the estimates of the army engineers, the land values created by the incomplete improvement will be nine times its cost, and it is reasonable to believe, that with the more complete improvement this ratio will not be lowered.

Stephnia, Russia.

W. A. WARREN

FRANKLIN K. LANE ON HENRY GEORGE

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

I have just finished reading the interesting letters of Franklin K. Lane, compiled by his wife. I copy Lane's references to Henry George, as follows:

Editorial—1889—Pg. 26—"His political interests brought Lane into the Reform Club where "Progress and Poverty," Henry George's new book, was the center for discussion on the whole problem of the distribution of taxation. Lane and Henry George established a cordial friendship."

1920—Pg. 368—Letter to George W. Wickersham—"What writers would you say were most distinctly American in thought and most influential upon our thought, men who a hundred years hence will be regarded not great as literary men, but as American social, spiritual, and economic Philosophers? It occurs to me that this singular trio might be selected—Emerson, Henry George, William James."

Pg. 375—Letter to John W. Hallowell—"Roosevelt, James and Henry George were the three greatest forces of the last thirty years."

Jan. 1921—Letter from Rochester, Minn. to James H. Barry—"Do let us meet when I am West, and talk of Henry George and John Marble and Arthur McEwen who have gone on and left not their like." Buffalo, N. Y.

D. D. MARTIN.

HAULING DOWN THE FLAG

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

While I have recently renewed for a year my small subscription for the support of Stoughton Cooley and his most enlightening paper, *Tax Relief*, I have felt it right to ask him, at a meeting addressed by him in Pasadena, (or was it Alhambra, which is really the same thing?) why he thought it wise to disavow explicitly to his audience on that evening any intention to propagate the Single Tax "theory." Being present at the meeting, I felt that, with all good will toward him and his excellent line of work, it was up to someone present to elicit what a good many of us are proud to say, namely, that one may be too careful of the "nerves" of his audience; and that if one has to scare a roomful of possible Tax-reformers the risk is well worth while if there be a mere possibility that one single hearer may carry away with him a

beginning of a conviction that perhaps the Single Tax "theory" may be straight in line with *truth* and that, if it is in line with truth it is sure, in the long event, to get itself embodied in human law. I do not like to hear a follower of Henry George state, in just these words, to his audience, that "The Single Tax, *if it can ever be brought into effect*, could only come about after a lapse of time so long that, . . . &c." I mention the matter because a certain letter of Louis Post warmly commending Cooley's work is being sent out from the office of *Tax Relief*. Cooley's work is good. But, imagine Post being present at that meeting! I was one of Post's hearers on a night during the old days of the Anti-Poverty Society, when Post told his audience that he had been an atheist,—but that with his reading of "Progress and Poverty" had come to him a conviction that through the welter and confusion of human affairs Order can be discerned. That an orderly world is just a world where Law rules; and that Law means Mind; and that "God" is as good a name as "Mind," so far as he could see. Therefore, what is ethically right is sure, in the long run, to be brought about. And that in this matter of the Single Tax, the main business of a Single Taxer, is to proclaim that the Single Tax *can* be brought about. That in fact, the so-called "theory" of Henry George is just a practicable proposal whereby some of our human institutions can be either quickly destroyed or in reasonable time be brought into line with universal law.

If Louis Post ever, in any way, knowingly allowed his name to be identified with the idea that, after all, the Single Tax is a "theory" "that may possibly never be brought into practical effect," the news has failed to reach me. I do not want to make a mountain out of a mole-hill,—but the circulation of Louis Post's letter, by the Tax Reform Association, (which would appear to be Cooley) in connection with the above-mentioned repudiation of the Single Tax by Mr. Cooley, really seems to me to amount to a very grave mis-use of Louis Post's name. What I am concerned with is, that the weight of his name should not, without protest from someone, be used to influence Single Taxers to haul down their flag from the masthead. Deck-cleaning is all right; but why should anyone think that the good old flag should come down in order to do that?

Pasadena, Calif.

JOHN F. SCOTT.

HAVE OUR READERS ANY SUGGESTIONS?

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

If you recall my remarks last September, at the Henry George Foundation Congress, I stressed holding services of a religious and moral nature, for the primary purpose of giving spiritual and moral emphasis to Henry George's philosophy, and his practical suggestions for the amelioration of the economic ills of humanity. Well, I'm getting ready to put the notion into action. I intend to hire the room of the "Economic Forum," recently formed in Boston, one afternoon each month until June, and inviting those interested to meet there for just such a service. I intend to pay the cost of the room and, in addition my carfare to and from Boston to my home in Middleborough, and see what comes of it. During June, July, August, and September, weather permitting, and a license from Boston City Hall obtained, some of us expect to hold a meeting each Sunday afternoon, under one of the "trees" on the Common; my personal contribution will be upon Henry George and Natural Taxation.

In addition to these activities, some of us,—particularly a doctor and others,—intend to hold a "Summer Conference" out at Mr. Fiske Warren's enclave of Tahanto, in the town of Harvard, Massachusetts, during the month of August, for similar doings.

I am convinced that the whole thing needs special publicity; and these are some of the means looking to that end. I intend to initiate such meetings where services may be held, literature distributed, addresses given, and conferences held.

I must have "Bibles" with which to conduct the Services and other meetings. By "Bibles," I mean not only the Jewish and Christian

Scriptures,—the Old and New Testaments,—but, also, the writings of Henry George, particularly "Progress and Poverty." For "Scripture" is always in the making! Somebody once said, "I write something true and of human worth; it is read a hundred years; then, I am Scripture!" This is preeminently true of the writings of Henry George; and it is astonishing how closely parallel the ancient Scriptures and Henry George's writings are! I intend to make alternate readings from both. Any suggestions to make, please?
Middleborough, Mass.

A. W. LITTLEFIELD.

NEWS NOTES AND PERSONALS

BERNARD W. TERLINDE, of Newark, N. J., is a thorough going Jeffersonian Democrat and traces his conversion to our principles back to 1885. Mr. Terlinde recalls one of the great meetings arranged for Henry George in 1890 by a committee of which Benjamin Urner, president of the Merchants' Exchange of N. Y. and James Redpath were active members. Hon. Herbert Boggs, then as now a prominent lawyer of Newark, presided.

AMONG our constant workers for the cause is Louis A. Kerwin, of Philadelphia. Mr. Kerwin during the past thirty years has been actively identified with the movement in Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver and Victoria in Canada, and also in Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Chicago before reaching his present home.

MISS MARIEN TIDEMAN, a student at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., is editor of the *Chicago Single Taxer* published monthly and reciting mainly the activities of that group of young men and women in and near Chicago who are today taking hold actively of economic work in that territory.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made for an extended tour by Hon. George H. Duncan through the state of Pennsylvania during the month of May. In April Mr. Duncan will fill a number of lecture dates in the New England states.

WELDON ROBERTS, of Montclair, president of the Roberts Rubber Co., is an old time Single Taxer. Mr. Roberts refers with much pleasure to the fact that he was one of the ushers at the wedding of the late Louis F. Post and Alice Thacher in East Orange nearly forty years since.

DR. A. D. GHESILIN, one of the examining physicians with the Equitable Assurance Society, located now in New York City, is an old time Single Taxer from Spokane, Washington.

It is an interesting report that James R. Brown, president of the Manhattan Single Tax Club, presents for his lecture work in the month of March. Twenty-nine lectures were delivered in this month and included an appearance before the Boston University, Johns Hopkins University, Catonsville High School, in Maryland, and Washington and Lee University, and University of Richmond, Va., and College of William and Mary in the same state. In Baltimore Mr. Brown talked for fifteen minutes over the radio.

MR. JOSE MIQUEL BEJORANO, who was one of the speakers at the Henry George Congress in September, has been appointed representative in the United States of the Mexican Department of Public Education. He will lecture in the schools and colleges throughout the United States explaining Mexico.

ATTORNEY Wm. N. McNair, a very zealous and active Single Taxer, has recently been placed in the field as the Democratic candidate for United States Senate from Pennsylvania. He had such influential support among his party leaders that no one has entered as an opponent in the primary and his nomination is therefore assured. He proposes to make the Single Tax the principal issue in his candidacy and is planning

an active speaking campaign. He will oppose Senator David A. Reed, of Pittsburgh, Republican candidate for re-election.

GEO. W. SLOCUMB appeared at the hearings of the California Tax Commission and made an argument for the Single Tax. None of the local papers printed a word of what is declared to have been a masterly presentation. The Pittsburg half rate plan was presented by George H. Dunlap and David Woodhead of the Tax Relief Association of California.

THE death of former Congressman William Kent of California at the age of 63 is announced. Mr. Kent was reputed to be a Single Taxer. He was among the world's richest men. He owned tracts of land in Mexico estimated at 1,000,000 acres, as well as mining land in Nevada. Much of "his" land he donated to the government. He gave to the state Muir Woods, one of the most beautifully wooded tracts in the west.

WE acknowledge the receipt of a new Single Tax paper entitled *The Liberator* from Perth, Western Australia. It is a militant Georgian journal, rejecting, however, Henry George's doctrine of interest, and teaching that the taking of the full rental value of land will abolish interest. The editor holds that interest is the child of rent, and that the failure of our argument to appeal to socialists is due to our defence of interest. He writes vigorously in support of his contention.

"THE Schalkenbach Foundation is surely to be congratulated on the publication of Significant Extracts from Henry George with the fine introduction by John Dewey. I am delighted with the book and it should perform a real service," writes P. R. Williams, secretary of the Henry George Foundation.

FRANK D. BROWN, proprietor of a restaurant at 38 So. Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, became interested in the Single Tax through reading Social Problems which as a news agent he was selling with others of Henry George's books on the Cleveland Division of the C. C. C. & S. L. R. R. between 1885 and 1895. Mr. Brown claims he was the train boy to whom Tom L. Johnson refers in his autobiography as the one from whom he purchased his first copy of *Progress and Poverty*.

HARRY OLNEY, of Washington, D. C., who has served on several important daily newspapers as city editor and editorial writer, is now operating two popular restaurants in Washington, one located at 719 Thirteenth Street and the other opposite at the Court House at 458 D Street.

PROF. FRED W. DEARNESS, Principal of the Sands School, at Cincinnati, Ohio, was converted to the Single Tax by Mr. Ernest C. Buechler, then of Cincinnati, now of Cleveland. The educational process was begun with the reading of *A Perplexed Philosopher* and a little later, *Protection or Free Trade*.

"LAND AND FREEDOM is a great inspiration to me," writes Victor M. Bissell, of Plymouth, Conn. Mr. Bissell was formerly connected with the publishing house of Wessels & Bissell and published certain of the works of Louis F. Post. Commenting on the proposal of Rev. A. W. Littlefield, Mr. Bissell said: "We should have a liturgy."

"I CONGRATULATE you on an interesting issue of LAND AND FREEDOM," writes Chester C. Platt, of the *Batavia Times*, who is now in Florida.

CARL MARFELS, of Heidelberg, writes: "I have read your paper with great joy. Please enroll me as a subscriber."

IT is not generally known among Single Taxers that Grace Isabel Colbron is a writer of detective stories. The Macaulay Company of New York announce the latest book from her pen, "The Club Car Mystery."

JOHN HARRINGTON, of Oshkosh, has resigned from the Wisconsin State Tax Commission and resumes his law practice.

HOWARD M. HOLMES, of Cleveland, writes: "The article about Florida by Chester C. Platt in your last number is excellent; also your editorials and book reviews. More power to you! You are doing good work."

EDMUND NORTON, now living at Tehachapi, Calif., has written a letter to Mrs. Alice Thacher Post which we have been permitted to see. In it Mr. Norton says: "With profound regret I heard of Mr. Post's passing. His unremitting, patient service; the immutable logic with which he unfolded the ways of God to man and the law of the natural order, proved him a loyal Knight of the Common Good. Blessed be his memory!"

WE regret to learn of the death of Joseph Farris, of Springfield, Ill. He was one of the original guards of the early eighties, and a personal friend of both the Georges, Raymond Robbins, Louis Post and George Schilling. He was intimately associated with the last named when Mr. Schilling wrote his memorable report on taxation (a straight Single Tax document) for which Mr. Post wrote the introduction. He was a driving force of that active Single Tax group of which the Bodes and Spauldings were active members.

OUR militant London contemporary, *The Commonwealth*, reprints the remarkable address by Oscar Geiger at the Henry George Congress in this city, *Natural Law in the Economic World*, which Louis Post called "a timely and extraordinarily able address."

OUR readers will regret to learn that Rev. A. W. Littlefield, of whom pleasant recollections are held by those who met him at the Henry George Congress last Fall, missed his footing on an icy pavement and was severely hurt. This accident has interrupted his Single Tax services in Boston on Sunday afternoons. We shall hope for his speedy recovery.

JAMES G. HAYDEN, a scholarly Single Taxer living in New Lexington, Ohio, is doing good work writing for the Letter Department of the *Ohio State Journal*, of Columbus, the most influential morning paper of Central Ohio.

DAVID GIBSON, of Cleveland, Ohio, publisher of the *Lorain Journal*, keeps his readers in mind of the land and taxation problems by means of timely editorial articles over his own name and frequently has articles in the *Cleveland Press*, whose circulation of 225,000 daily gives him a chance to reach many readers.

COUNTY AUDITOR A. J. THATCHER, of Columbus, Ohio, by means of articles in the *Ohio State Journal*, is informing the citizens of Franklin County regarding the difficulties of trying to assess personal property under the present complex tax policy imbedded in the Ohio Constitution.

LONG BEACH, CALIF., derives about one million a year from the city-owned oil wells since the discovery of oil at Signal Hill. From this revenue the city has been able to develop its municipal golf course, and Recreation Park, the city's 140 acre playground; also to purchase a site for a police station, provide additional buildings for its fire department, and spend approximately \$100,000 for its community hospitals.

HUGH REID, of Cherryvale, Va., who was private secretary to Louis Post when the latter was Assistant Secretary of Labor, was last Fall elected a member of the House of Delegates of Virginia and is spend-

ing this Winter in Richmond. Mr. Reid is a lawyer with offices in the Investment Building, Washington, D. C.

OUR good friend Wm. Matthews, of Spokane, Washington, was converted to the Single Tax at the early age of twenty-two by the poet Robert Cuming. Mr. Cuming after an unhappy experience at Topolobampo Bay, Mexico, a Socialistic experiment, had returned to the United States. He shortly after became acquainted with the works of Henry George and accepted the Single Tax as the only solution of our economic troubles.

PROGRESS AND POVERTY appeared in 1879. Shortly thereafter Francis W. Maguire, now of Pittsburgh, and Assistant Secretary of the Henry George Foundation, began the pleasant pastime of giving every moment of his leisure time to carefully thought out plans for popularizing the philosophy of that great book. Nearly all of Mr. Maguire's methods have been devoted to getting the books of George into the hands of the reading public. And he is still at it. And all this time he has carried on the work without compensation prompted by the one desire for service.

A NUMBER of Henry George men and women of Washington, D. C., are contemplating the organization of a luncheon club along the lines so successfully in operation in Pittsburgh.

ALEXANDER VEITCH, now of Linwood, Kansas, has a Single Tax letter in a recent issue of the *Kansas City Journal-Post*.

EDWARD BERWICK, of Pacific Grove, California, writes in the *Ohio State Journal* in favor of exemption from taxation of "all lands used for agricultural purposes, occupied, owned and worked by bona fide farmers."

AN interesting letter from Harry Willock appears in the *Pittsburgh Press*. Mr. Willock who is now in Hawaii, is enthusiastic over that country, and writes entertainingly of its future.

OUR readers will sympathize with P. R. Williams, Secretary of the Henry George Foundation, in the loss of his father, Thomas M. Williams, at Los Angeles. Mr. Williams was seventy-five years old, and though never active in the Single Tax movement was in full sympathy with our aims and purposes.

THE American Library Association has published a pamphlet entitled "Reading With a Purpose," by Raymond Moley, of Columbia University. It recommends reading certain books in the course, "The Practice of Politics" and among them is "The Confessions of a Reformer," by Frederic C. Howe.

DR. FRANK MILLIKEN, of Hamilton, Ohio, attended a recent annual meeting of the Ohio Tax Association, and tells, amusingly, in the *Ohio State Journal*, of the treatment he received when he offered a resolution looking to the freeing of a 77 year old Constitutional provision on taxation. A Single Taxer in such a group is as much at home as a Catholic in a K. K. K. convention.

"LET me felicitate you and all Single Taxers on the last two numbers of LAND AND FREEDOM. They are wonderful," writes Rev. John F. Scott, now of Pasadena, Calif.

P. Y. ALBRIGHT, of Oakland, Calif., writes: "This entire county is being revalued under the direction of an expert who has all the earmarks of a Single Taxer but never mentions the Single Tax"

ALEXANDER VEITCH, now of Linwood, Kansas, writes in the *Kansas City Journal-Post*: "God can do nothing for us as long as we refuse

to obey his law as interpreted by Henry George, Tom Johnson and Father McGlynn. It will take courage and understanding to put the Single Tax over, but it must be done or we are lost as a nation."

E. O. JORGENSEN, of Chicago, is soon to publish a new book on the Ely Institute similar to what he did in his "False Education in our Colleges and Universities."

AN error crept into our report in last issue of the funeral of Louis Post. There were eight pallbearers, Hon. Wm. B. Wilson, Glen Levin Swiggett, Dr. John R. Swanton, Judson King, Chas. T. Clayton, Walter I. Swanton, Ethelbert Stewart and Carlos R. Blackwell.

JOHN L. MONROE, son of our old friend, F. H. MONROE, writes us that seven meetings of the Young Peoples Single Tax Club of Chicago have been held, and the group has grown from nine to twenty-four, showing increasing enthusiasm at each meeting.

WE are told by an old actor that Ed. Harrigan of the famous Harrigan and Hart Co., was a believer in Henry George's doctrines. It is not generally known that Harrigan, the Charles Dickens of the American stage, was a profound scholar as well as a finished actor. There is little in his songs and plays to indicate his belief in Henry George unless it be these verses from "The Old Dudeen:"

"Let them who have studied history
Know that William Penn
Got the State of Pennsylvania
From the wild red Indian men.
He never drew a sword nor gun,
But he met them face to face,
And they all sat down together
And smoked the pipe of peace."

It was a great "con game" as Ed Harrigan saw it.

WE acknowledge receipt of a published monograph by Comm. Luigi Kambo contributed to the Annals of the National Fascist Association of Engineers in Rome, Italy. Its title is "The Distribution of the Land," and it raises the standard of Henry George in Italy. The author hopes that these doctrines set forth in the monograph will find the eye of some one who will give them practical application.

I. J. McCOLLUM, former partner of H. F. Ring, author of "The Case Plainly Stated," writes us an interesting letter from Teague, Texas. Mr. McCollum is 88 years old and knew Henry George well. He is still active in the work.

F. SKIRROW, of Keighly, Yorkshire, Eng., of the Yorkshire and Northern Land Values League writes us: "Things are not looking rosy so far as politicians are concerned but I think public opinion is as good as ever."

JAMES P. CODMAN, veteran in the movement, is doing Single Tax work with an occasional letter to the press. Among others whose letters are appearing constantly are George Lloyd and M. Van Veen of this city who never weary in well doing.

The City College Alumnus published by the New York City College contains in the December issue the names of John F. Scott, Class 1879, and Charles Le Baron Goeller, Class of 1906. It indicates that both of these gentlemen are interested in the Single Tax movement and states: "Mr. Goeller delivered an address entitled "Theory and its Importance" before the Second Annual Conference of the Henry George Foundation at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York which has been widely praised by those who heard and read it when it appeared in LAND AND FREEDOM, the magazine of the Single Tax movement."

WE acknowledge receipt of the first issue of the Ohio *Singletaxer*, a large sized paper issued when necessary by the Ohio Single Tax Party by Thomas J. Dolan and Nelson J. Burrows at 1762 West 25th Street, Cleveland, Ohio.

JAMES R. BROWN, president of the Manhattan Single Tax Club, held a very successful meeting at Rockville Center on March 8. He said in the course of his speech:

"Remember, that the property owner, who is practical, progressive and makes his land productive, is paying for the improvements his neighbor enjoys, although by his refusal to improve his land the latter does not contribute his rightful share of taxation."

THE Pennsylvania Hotel issues a little booklet, "About New York," indicating points of interest, among which are "the Union Square Hotel Fourth Av. and 15th Street where Henry George died and 17th Street, the Westmoreland Apartment House where William Lloyd Garrison died." It was at the Pennsylvania that the Henry George Congress was held in September last and where the uniform courtesy of the management gave general satisfaction.

THE death of C. A. Murdock of Oakland, Calif., at the age of 87 is announced. Mr. Murdock was a friend of Bret Harte, Mark Twain and Henry George.

HERE are a few commendations of LAND AND FREEDOM recently received: "The current number is as usual above praise."—A. C. SITIG, Baltimore, Md., "Your work in every way as editor of LAND AND FREEDOM has, in my estimation been a continuous revival of Henry George's message to mankind in its essentiality."—HENRY PRIESMEYER, St. Louis, Mo.—"Your Jan.-Feb. number is at hand and it is a knockout."—JOHN LUXTON, Brooklyn, N. Y.

CHARLES J. OGLE, of Baltimore, writing of "Thirty Years of Verse Making" by Joseph Dana Miller, says: "I have particularly enjoyed two of the poems and often read them to my friends. One begins 'Truth shall be born in a manger, Error shall sit on a throne,' and the other is, 'He lived the poems that the other wrote, etc.'"

J. A. HAMM is contributing letters to the Enid, Oklahoma, *Daily Eagle*.

OUR old friend Prof. James H. Dillard, of Charlottesville, Va., has been presented a gold medal and \$500 from the Harmon Foundation for his work in the interest of race harmony.

REV. JOHN F. SCOTT writes us under date of February 13: "It was my privilege on Sunday, the 5th, to address an audience in the Florence Theatre in Pasadena, on "The Ethics of the Single Tax." A Mr. McCasland (whom I met then for the first time,) announced that he would be glad to lend a hand in organizing the Single Taxers of Pasadena for some aggressive work. My invitation to speak came from Rabbi Jazin, under whose auspices a Civic Forum is held every Sunday morning. The proprietors of the Florence Theatre give the use of the Theatre without charge for the meetings. It is hardly necessary to state, that it was S. T. *unlimited* that the hearers listened to."

PRINCESS ALICE ANDREW of Greece, is interested in spreading the philosophy of Henry George not only in her own country, but elsewhere. She has joined the International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade and is urging translations of Henry George's works for her countrymen. Princess Alice is a direct descendant of Queen Victoria. She is connected with all the royalties of Europe except Italy, Holland and Belgium. She is young and said to be very charming.