

All this will change at once, however, if one or more of the colonists assume ownership of the island, and have the power to maintain themselves as owners. Then the worker will have to buy the right to work the land, just by yielding a part of his produce, and then this rental would soon increase through competition continuously and finally only a bare living would remain.

The ownership of the land would mean a complete upheaval of all logic and reason. Labor, which alone produces all value, and which should be crowned with a diadem, would sink to the level of a beggar; it would be obliged to sue with good words for employment, and to accept all conditions demanded by the owner.

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We frequently have people, who finally realize the importance of the land question, ask "All very good and right, but how shall we change it. You cannot divide (re-apportion) the land." If the solution could be only thus, it would be hopeless. But fortunately there is a simpler solution: The accomplished wrong could be rectified without depriving any owner of his land, simply by abandoning all other taxes and tariffs, and exacting only a *ground rent*, based on the bare land value, for the benefit of the whole community.

## The Late James H. Barry of San Francisco

ONE of the very few remaining friends of Henry George to cross the threshold of the year 1927 has passed over the line of earthly life. His name was James Henry Barry. To the country at large and even in his own city of San Francisco he was best known and most appreciated as the owner and editor of *The San Francisco Star*.

Barry was born at New York in the year 1856, about the time that Henry George was sailing the seas as "a common sailor." When the Barry boy was about three years old his family moved to San Francisco, where Henry George, then a young man of twenty, had already settled down as a printer, the identical trade that Barry was himself to learn, and of which he made a commercial business in 1879—the very year in which Henry George first published "Progress and Poverty." At about this time, when George was somewhat more than forty and Barry about twenty-five, the two progressive typesetters came into personal contact.

Barry's *Star* was one of the first periodicals to advocate public ownership and operation of public service franchises; also equal rights for women, the initiative and referendum, and Henry George's economic principles and policies. In its editorial policy the *Star* was always frank and courageous.

That policy often brought Barry into uncomfortable situations. On one occasion, after he had denounced a well-known local editor for blackmailing schemes, two henchmen of the newspaper met him in the street—probably by design—and one deliberately spat in his face, with the intention undoubtedly of making Barry invol-

untarily reach for his handkerchief—a gesture which could be wilfully misconstrued as reaching for a pistol, and be made an excuse for immediately shooting him down. But Barry, with lightning grasp of the situation and extraordinary self-control, walked calmly forward until beyond his assailant's reach.

Such hostility took another turn in 1890 when Barry's exposure in the *Star* of the corruption of a local judge subjected him to one-sided contempt proceedings. Barry was commanded to apologize. He refused on the ground that he could not conscientiously apologize for telling the truth, whereupon he was sentenced to a five-days' term in jail. He served the sentence, but on the night of his release the largest mass meeting ever held in San Francisco, and attended by all classes of people, demanded a radical amendment of the law regarding contempt of court, a demand which resulted in the adoption of "the Barry law" which deprives California judges of their old power to punish their critics without a jury trial.

Among other services incidental to Barry's journalistic and business activities was his leadership in introducing the eight-hour workday in the printing trade along the Pacific Coast.

In politics Barry was a democratic-Democrat. This was his reason for supporting Bryan for the Presidency, and Wilson as Bryan's choice. Under Wilson he served for eight years as Naval Officer at the Port of San Francisco, resigning in 1921. At about that time he withdrew from his printing establishment and terminated the career of the *San Francisco Star*, which for many years he had edited and for many years had financed out of the earnings of his printing establishment rather than swap its economic and political principles for deceptive advertising.

James H. Barry was a straight man from the ground up. He was devoted to the principles of natural and moral law and to policies in so far as they were hand-maidens of principle. He was a friend of Henry George to the heart's core and Henry George of him. They were Democrats of the same variety, Christians of the same type, and men of like mould.

—LOUIS F. POST.

## Death of Dr. Mary D. Hussey

WE regret to learn of the death of Dr. Mary D. Hussey on October 26 at the age of 74. She had been ill for a long time.

Her work for woman suffrage made her nationally known and her labors in behalf of the Single Tax endeared her to the followers of Henry George everywhere. She was a generous contributor to all Single Tax activities and was a familiar figure at Single Tax gatherings.

For many years she had invited Single Taxers from far and wide to meet at her home, and to them she distributed iris bulbs. Here in her garden, brilliant in colors, she

entertained her visitors, and these gatherings will be long remembered.

She leaves two brothers, Frederick Hussey of East Orange, N. J. and Dr. George Hussey, of Maryville, Tenn. Funeral services were held at the home of her brother at East Orange.

Dr. Hussey left in her will \$5,000 for Single Tax work and appointed as executors of that fund Charlotte O. Schetter, Ami Mali Hicks and Jane E. Marcellus.

## Texas Single Taxers Honor William A. Black

THE seventieth birthday of William A. Black, veteran Single Taxer, former member of the Texas Legislature, and well-known lecturer on taxation and other social and political questions, was made the occasion for a dinner attended by some sixty of his friends and admirers at the Y. M. C. A. building.

E. Guy LeSturgeon, also a former member of the Legislature from Bexar County, presided as toastmaster. Letters were read from Hon. Warren Worth Bailey, former congressman from Pennsylvania; Dana Miller, publisher of LAND AND FREEDOM, New York; Harry H. Willock, Pennsylvania manufacturer; Waldo Wernicke, Los Angeles; Chas. H. Ingersoll, New York; Bolton Hall; Grover B. Foster, Dallas; Roy Bedicheck, Austin, Texas; John Charles Harris, Houston, and 80 others.

Felicitous speeches were delivered by a number of those present, and the climax of the evening came with the presentation to the guest of honor of a well-filled purse as an evidence of the appreciation in which he is held, responses and contributions coming from nearly every State in the Union. The presentation was made by John Fuchs, of New Braunfels, a long time personal and political friend of Mr. Black's.

Mr. Black responded feelingly and urged the reorganization of a club of which he was a leader some years ago for the free discussion of economic, social and political problems. He reviewed the work for Single Tax in Texas, and related a number of instances indicating the growing interest in the science of taxation as it affects business prosperity shown by leaders of what is known as Big Business. He expressed the conviction that the good health and mental vigor he enjoyed would permit his continuing the work of his lifetime for many years.

G. E. Melliff, chairman of the committee calling the meeting, requested that action be taken looking to the organization of an economic club for the study of the "science of making a living," which, as stated by Mr. Black, is all there is to economics. Expressions were heard from all those present showing unanimous sentiment in favor of an organization that would back up the work of Mr. Black and assist in spreading the gospel of social and economic truth.

A committee consisting of Messrs. Melliff, A. W. Hartman, Chas. Trimble and E. G. LeSturgeon was appointed to make arrangements for holding an organization meeting. A. W. Hartman was appointed publicity manager.

## Chicago Single Taxers Welcome Mrs. Bjorner

THE Chicago Single Tax Club held a dinner on October 13th in honor of Mrs. Signe Bjorner attended by about eighty of the faithful. The toastmaster was Joseph I. Murray.

Mr. S. N. Tideman, who has recently returned from a European tour, spoke of "Some Observations of a Single Taxer in Europe," and Mr. C. J. Ewing gave a report of the Henry George Foundation Congress in New York. Chicago Single Taxers are looking forward with pleasant anticipations to the next Congress to be held in their city.

Mrs. Bjorner spoke interestingly on Adult Education and Political Progress with special reference to Denmark and the advance of our cause in that country. The discussion that followed included remarks by Henry H. Hardinge, Henry L. Tideman, Otto Cullman, Emil Jorgenson, Mr. Olcott and others.

Mrs. Tideman reported the organization of a reading club which had been meeting in her home, the club having just completed the reading of "Progress and Poverty," chapter by chapter. This club has already attracted a number of young people.

On October 21 was held the first meeting of the Single Tax Discussion Club—this being formed for the young people, college students, teachers, etc., so that they might develop into speakers for the cause.

Meetings will be held twice a month and it is interesting to report that quite a number of young people have been enrolled, and show increasing interest.

## Speaking Tour of Mrs. Signe Bjorner

SINCE her appearance in New York in September at the Henry George Congress, Mrs. Signe Bjorner, of Copenhagen, Denmark, leader in the Danish League of Justice and editor of a Danish weekly Single Tax paper, has spoken at Single Tax dinners in Chicago and Pittsburgh, being the guest of honor at the recent meeting of the Chicago Single Tax Club and principal speaker at the Memorial Dinner given by the Henry George Foundation in Pittsburgh. While in Pittsburgh she spoke at the Pennsylvania College for Women, and has addressed the students of a number of colleges in the Middle West.

Being in hearty sympathy with the work of the Henry George Foundation, Mrs. Bjorner has consented to fill a number of speaking engagements being arranged by