

nance and Assessment, the City Solicitor, with representatives of the Manufacturers and Board of Trade, was opposed to the By-law.

The large interests such as the Manufacturers Association, the Real Estate Board, the Down Town Owners Association and other bodies spent thousands of dollars in newspaper and billboard advertising against us.

The City of Toronto voted \$5,000 of public funds in a propaganda to defeat the By-law and it was an illegal use of civic funds. We did not have money to launch an injunction to prevent it.

Socialists were openly opposed to the By-law, though their leaders in other years had favored our proposal as going halfway to their objective.

It is within the mark to state that our opponents spent \$15.00 to our \$1.00 in a newspaper campaign of misrepresentation against us.

Apart from the endless work of distributing literature at the homes of those who signed the petition, our workers made a further distribution of 190,000 copies of special reports, stating our cause, during the month of December just prior to the vote.

During the past two years, our friends and members on both sides of the line have heartily responded to calls for the finances that made the campaign possible.

In the month before the vote, our President, Mr. A. W. Roebuck, practically devoted all his time to the work of the campaign, not to mention the excellent legal advice that was beyond our ability to purchase.

The Treasurer of the Association, Mr. Alan C. Thompson, was also a tower of strength during this campaign.
S. T.

Robert Smilie's Victory

COMBINED with our pleasure in the success of our first attempt at a National Women's Day is the Labour triumph of Robert Smillie's return for the Morpeth Division. At a very large number of meetings the first item on the programme was a message of hope and good wishes to the women of Morpeth. Robert Smillie's victory has its special significance because no man in the movement has been more wholeheartedly on the women's side. During his campaign the miners' wives rallied magnificently in the cause. At a great meeting of over 8,000 women at Ashington, Smillie received an ovation which showed how they appreciated his constant sympathy with their needs, and when he was opening his speech to them he said: "I have often told the men in the movement that I feel inclined to set to work and organize the women to do what they haven't yet done, but when I look at this magnificent meeting I must confess that I hardly know what to say to you and that I am even a little awed," and that was also the feeling of some of the men when they looked around at the meeting at Durham.—*The Labour Woman*, London, England

Recent Deaths

ROMYN HITCHCOCK

NOTED SCIENTIST AND SINGLE TAXER

ROMYN HITCHCOCK, well known as a research botanist, chemist and professor of English, and for many years a resident of Ithaca, died on November 30 in Baltimore, Md.

Mr. Hitchcock was born in St. Louis, Mo., on December 1, 1851. He prepared for college at Hamilton, Nassau County, and entered Cornell University at its opening. He was professor of chemistry at Lehigh University, 1872-4; professor of chemistry and toxicology at the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College, 1876-1877.

The American Quarterly Microscopical Journal was established in 1878 with Mr. Hitchcock as editor. This was followed by the American Monthly Microscopical Journal, which became popular and was continued for eight years under his management. Mr. Hitchcock's literary activities have covered a wide range of subjects including "The Practical Applications of the Automatic Telegraphy," and articles on government ownership.

In 1886 Mr. Hitchcock was appointed professor of English in Koto Chu Gakko, the Japanese government school at Osaka, Japan.

In later years Mr. Hitchcock had made special studies in botany of which preliminary notes have been published in the Bulletin of the Torrey Club 1919.

He was one of the early members of the American Chemical Society, of the New York Academy of Sciences, of the the New York Microscopical Society, which organized largely through his efforts, and a Fellow of the Royal Microscopical Society of England.

Mr. Hitchcock's labors in the scientific field so occupied his time and attention that it was not until well passed middle life that he gave heed to economics and when the Henry George doctrine was brought to his notice, he approached it with many misgivings.

To a mind trained to tracing effects back to their causes it was however only a short time before he became an ardent and outspoken advocate of the Single Tax, although failing health prevented him taking an active part in the various campaigns which were under way for the spreading of the gospel.

Romyn Hitchcock was a clear thinker with an unusual power of expression and to his intimates a charming companion and devoted friend.

P. H. MAHAFFEY

P. H. MAHAFFEY, one of the most active and most widely known Single Taxers of Pennsylvania, died at the Mercy Hospital, Johnstown, on Thanksgiving Day, November 29, 1923. Death was due to diabetes and came after an illness of about six months all of which was spent in the hospital where he died. Mr. Mahaffey was a native

of western Pennsylvania and from young manhood spent his life in Johnstown. When a young man he taught in the public schools of Johnstown and later engaged in the plumbing and heating business. He was in his 53rd year at the time of his death. His widow and a daughter, Miss Margaret Mahaffey, survive.

A Memorial Service for the late Mr. Mahaffey was held in the Majestic Theatre, Johnstown, on Sunday afternoon, December 16th. This service, which was largely attended, was presided over by Hon. W. W. Bailey. Several local friends paid brief, but feeling, tributes to the worth and character of their co-worker and the eulogy was delivered by Lee Francis Lybarger. Letters and telegrams of regret and appreciation from prominent Single Taxers and others from all parts of the country were read at this Memorial Service. It was the first time in the history of the city of Johnstown that a Memorial Service was held for a private citizen.

While it was the moral feature of the Single Tax which had a compelling attraction for Mr. Mahaffey, yet he was keenly interested in all the practical work being done for the cause. At the time of his death he was the president of the Cambria County Single Tax Club. A very constructive piece of work was his effort to have what is known in Pennsylvania as the "Pittsburg Plan" of taxation extended to the third class cities of the state. There were then about 25 of these cities and through the efforts of Mr. Mahaffey trade organizations and civic bodies all these cities except one, endorsed the "Pittsburg Plan" and passed resolutions asking the Pennsylvania State Legislature to enact a law to this end. Mr. Mahaffey did considerable work with members and before committees of the 1915 term and just when indications pointed to favorable action by that body a political exigency arose and the resulting factional feeling made further progress with the matter impossible.

Mr. Mahaffey's voice and wisdom will be sadly missed at Single Tax councils.

HENRY G. CASEY

ON January 14 passed to the higher life Henry G. Casey, of Auburn, Maine, aged sixty-eight years. Brother Casey was a pioneer in the movement, earnest, aggressive, never for a moment losing interest in the cause of human freedom. With voice and pen he ably and persistently preached the religion of Henry George as manifested in the unanswerable logic of Progress and Poverty. From the pure sparkling spring at the original source he drank in and offered to mankind what he believed to be the very water of life. Enthusiast? Yes. In a world torn by the conflicts of international strife, dismayed by clouds of doubt and uncertainty, of lax allegiance, and illusions of victory through compromise, would that there were more of his kind:—faithful sentinels, clear visioned, pointing the way.—E. M. E.

A Priest on the Land Question

VERY REV. CANON VILLIERS, of Birmingham, has been writing in the *Catholic Times*, Liverpool, on the land question. In opposition to the views of the respected Canon it has been usual to quote Pope Gregory the Great, Bishop Nulty, and Rev. Dr. M'Glynn. A notable priest who has given years of special study to the land question and taxation subjects, supplies a statement which will interest *Irish Weekly* readers. Here it is:—

"I feel bound to presume that Canon Villiers writes seriously when he deals with the most serious subject of our day—the social problem. The land question is that. The unemployment question is that. The misery of the people has sufficient appeal in itself for any Christian heart. But that misery we know to be responsible for a great deal of vice and religious ignorance and indifference.

"Canon Villiers writes as if there were some special theological teaching of Christian doctrine concerning the virtue of justice. In truth, however, the Decalogue is older than the Old Testament. It was written on the tablets of the heart before being on the Tables of Stone.

"Of course, every theologian will say, because every educated lawyer will say, and because every fairly intelligent honest man will say, that we must acknowledge private individual claims over land. The chief modern teacher of the doctrine that (considering the nature of things and the good of the people) there cannot be real private property in land, has fully explained the exact sense of his words. Henry George quite admits private claims in the individual cases. Only he says (like the English law, for that matter) that such claim or right is not the same as one's ownership of a coat or a carriage. He says that the landlord should always (as he did of old) pay rent to the public authority. If there were a just land law to that effect THEN THE OWNERS (let them so call themselves, since custom has given the word a wrong meaning) OF MINES AND GROUND WOULD PAY A JUST RENT—the very fairest of all taxes. A just land law would bring about real freedom to work. And freedom of employment is even more elementary than freedom of trade. Yet many people who must be thought well meaning refuse to consider the question of the natural and true remedy for poverty. They not only approve of such irrational and expensive arrangements as 'Customs and Excise.' They also approve or propose various Socialistic dodges which are degrading and demoralising. If men able to work were free to work, they would have neither desire nor claim for dole or relief. They would provide for themselves and their families with ease and with pleasure."

Irish Weekly and Ulster Examiner

Lot dealer's advertisement asks: "Do you realize that 90% of the men in the U.S. are earning \$1,800 annually and less?" We are not sure about the earning; but admit they don't get more.