

H. Wilson, of Beaver, presented the programme of Henry George as the only alternative to Bolshevism or the decline of civilization.

President George E. Evans read Henry George's eloquent tribute to Liberty and told something of present activities of the Foundation within the State of Pennsylvania. Carl D. Smith, in telling of some of the high spots of the recent convention, said that he had found every session intensely interesting and the discussions from all the various angles stimulating and helpful.

Among others who responded with impromptu remarks were Harry H. Willock, Charles R. Eckert and John B. Sharpe, three veteran leaders of Western Pennsylvania, who joined in this tribute to the memory of Henry George.

Keen interest was displayed in the address of Mrs. Signe Bjorner dealing with Danish conditions in general and the spread of Georgeism in particular.

Messages conveying felicitations were read from Mrs. Anna George de Mille, Louis F. Post, James F. Morton, Harry W. Olney, Dr. Mark Milliken, and Clayton J. Ewing, President of the Chicago Single Tax Club.

The Pennsylvania Campaign

RECENT developments in Pennsylvania seem to forecast a widespread campaign for land value taxation in that commonwealth. With Pittsburgh and Scranton as examples of the successful operation of the "graded tax plan," interest is being aroused in a number of the larger cities and the speakers of the Henry George Foundation are making the most of the situation. An address before the Harrisburg Rotary Club by Secretary P. R. Williams last August brought an immediate response in the form of a very favorable editorial in the Harrisburg *Telegraph* and, early in October, the editor, G. M. Steinmetz, came to Pittsburgh to further investigate the merits of the Pittsburgh plan, returning to Harrisburg to launch an aggressive publicity campaign for tax reform in Harrisburg.

During November, Secretary Williams addressed various clubs and civic bodies in Altoona, Johnstown, Harrisburg, Lancaster and York, and the speaking campaign will probably be extended to cover every city in the state. William N. McNair, of Pittsburgh, and other speakers are planning to join in the lecture tours.

In Johnstown, Prof. H. S. Bender, prominent Single Taxer nominated for Mayor on the Democratic ticket, made the Pittsburgh graded tax plan the principal plank in his platform. Though not elected, he made an aggressive campaign and polled a large vote.

The *Johnstown Democrat*, edited by former Congressman Warren Worth Bailey, continues to give strong editorial support and generous publicity to everything that tends to bring the Single Tax idea to public attention or promises progress in that direction, and Johnstown

will be found in the forefront of the movement to extend Pittsburgh's policy to the cities of the third class.

Two prominent members of the Pittsburgh club visited Europe last summer and both Harry H. Willock and Wm. N. McNair entertained the Henry George Club at recent luncheon meetings with very interesting accounts of their observations, particularly bearing upon economics and taxation, in England, Norway, France, Italy and Switzerland. Mr. Willock is leaving this month, via the Panama Canal and San Francisco, for an oriental tour and expects to meet the Single Tax groups in Australia and New Zealand, where there is so much evidence of progress.

An Interesting Campaign in Harrisburg

MR. G. M. STEINMETZ, of the Harrisburg, Pa., *Telegraph* has started an interesting campaign through the columns of his paper for reform in methods of assessment in that city. Every day in his paper for several months past there have been articles from Mr. Steinmetz's pen which furnish interesting revelations as to conditions in that city.

His object is, while securing drastic reforms in methods of assessment, to get for Harrisburg the Pittsburgh "graded tax." Mr. Steinmetz makes lengthy quotations from Thomas C. McMahan, who is Pittsburgh's assessor, Percy R. Williams, and James R. Brown of the Manhattan Single Tax Club, who has lectured in Harrisburg.

These articles are searching investigations into the tax system of Harrisburg. Mr. Steinmetz reveals the grossest inequalities in assessments. He asks: "Do you know how the assessor reaches his conclusions as to the value of real estate for city and school tax purposes?" He then shows that the small owner is frequently assessed at the full value of his property, while in many cases the large landowner escapes with an assessment of ten to thirty per cent. of the real value of his property.

He points out that the recent "socialist" victory in Reading was caused by the dissatisfaction with the city's methods of assessment, and quotes the recently elected mayor of that city as saying: "We mean to sit down with the best men in and out of our party to work out a system of equitable assessment."

We commend Mr. Steinmetz's very thorough treatment of his subject. It is no small task to submit to so keen an analysis the confusion and worse of Harrisburg's assessments.

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