

biblical times, it was seen by the early Christian Fathers, it was seen by the Physiocrats, and it was seen by others. But it remained for Henry George to show that the private ownership of land, which denied men access to the earth upon which they must live and from which they must satisfy all their needs and wants, is the primal cause, not merely of poverty and all the misery and wrong that follow in the wake of poverty, but that it is the cause of all evil on earth, and all injustice among civilized men; and that only by the elimination of the private ownership of land can liberty and justice be achieved, and evil forever abolished. It remained for Henry George to show that, potentially, this is a good world, that men are innately good, not innately bad, that Creation is based on justice, not on vengeance, that the earth is a banquet table, spread by the hand of a benign Creator, and laden with an abundance of all the things for which men have need, and at which every human being has a place.

Freedom, equality and security are man's estate in the intent and scheme of Nature. Freedom of access to land, equality of rights and opportunity, and security in the possession of his entire product are man's birthright and these he will some day attain, even if through his ignorance men first must suffer, nations perish, and civilizations die for it.

But why wait? Why permit the misery and suffering of mankind to go on? If misery and suffering are due to the violation of Natural Law, why continue the violation?

"Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." Render unto the individual the things that are the individual's, and to society the things that are society's.

Give back to society the one thing that is made by society, and which therefore belongs to society, and leave the individual in possession of the things that he creates, and which therefore are his.

Take the rent of land for communal purposes, and stop the robbery of the community by the landowner. Abolish all tariffs, tolls and taxes, and stop the robbery of the individual by the government.

Observe the Law—the Natural Law—which is the Word of God, and let each take his place at the banquet table God has provided for all.

THE Vienna mob burned the Palace of Justice and then went back to work to earn enough money to pay taxes for a new building.

—*St. Louis Star.*

I REMEMBER as a law student that the first thing I had to learn was that there is no such thing as private property in land,—D. Lloyd George: who now proposes to treat with Landlords as if they were "owners" having "private property in land"!

Commonweal, London, Eng.

Resolutions Adopted by the Henry George Congress

ADDRESS TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE UNITED STATES

THE Henry George Memorial Congress, assembled in New York City, respectfully submits for your consideration the following facts relative to the pending proposals for amendment of the Federal tax laws:—

All taxes now imposed by the National Government are taxes on industry and thrift. Tariff taxes increase the cost of commodities, restrict trade, and are in effect either a premium on inefficiency, or a bounty to a privileged class.

The income tax is based upon the false principle that taxes should be laid according to earning ability, instead of being imposed so as to constitute payment for government services rendered.

The inheritance tax confiscates the property of individuals for public purposes, without regard to its nature, or the methods by which it was acquired.

The corporation tax is ultimately paid by the consumers of goods, or recipients of services, furnished by the corporations, and is thus an oppressive burden on consumption.

The various internal revenue taxes are all alike in that they are shifted to the purchaser of the goods on which they are imposed.

Instead of patchwork amendments to the existing tax laws, we urge that you recommend to the Congress that it shall undertake a complete revision of the entire tax system, with a view to the adoption of a new tax policy that will promote the welfare of the great mass of the American people.

We urge the abandonment of all taxes upon industry and thrift; and that all public revenues shall be raised by a tax upon the rental value of land.

We submit that the various proposals for farm relief are all essentially unsound, and vicious, in that they involve special subsidies, or favors to one class, and we assert our conviction that the only way in which the great agricultural industry can be made prosperous is through the abolition of all forms of indirect taxation, and the exemption from taxes of all the farmers' improvements on his land, including buildings, stock, and implements.

The greatest problem now confronting American industry and commerce is that of so-called overproduction. In reality it is under-consumption that threatens a return of the industrial depression that only seven years ago closed down thousands of mills and factories, and threw millions of workers out of employment. To prevent a return of these distressing conditions the consuming power of the people must be increased. The only practicable way in which this can be done is through the abolition of all taxes that increase the cost of commodities, and the collection

of public revenues by a direct tax on the rental values of land. In this way only can permanent prosperity for all the people of the United States be assured.

RESOLUTION ON THE HOUSING PLAN

WE condemn as essentially socialistic, paternalistic, and vicious legislation, the measure providing for municipal aid for housing construction proposed for adoption by the City of New York. This plan for the abolition of tenement slums will benefit the owners of land occupied by old worthless buildings; will afford no real relief to the great mass of tenants with small incomes, and is a miserable makeshift intended to divert public attention from the evils of existing systems of land ownership and taxation. We denounce this attempt to perpetuate the robbery of the people of New York by a small class of landowners, and urge its defeat at the coming election.

Address of Bolton Hall

“SO conspicuous a group of gifted minds; so many men and women unselfishly devoted to humanity; so many humble souls who in the lower walks of life carry in their hearts the thought of Henry George and his inspiring message. These must in all parts of the world to-day number literally many millions.”

Is this from some novice whose wish fathers his thought, or from some wild eyed visionary, some dreamer of the Kingdom?—No; it is from our wise, experienced and able editor of the review for single taxers, LAND AND FREEDOM.

Says the *Square Deal*: “In the City of Toronto over 6,000 voted for straight Single Tax by-law, while less than 10 per cent of these are known to the local organization.”

It does not need to be said that we should have a Central Bureau to which all names, lists and suggestions as to interested persons should be sent. Lecturers and writers constantly get names of those who would like to know more of their subject, and I find that, if asked for, numbers of persons will hand in their names—(an usher should be sent to collect them). “Now, we’re going to take up a collection, not of money, but of names.”

This list would form the field for subscribers, votes, organized work, distribution of literature and directions for special work.

But we have not even an enrollment; that is because we have no organizer. Henry George said that to me. “Maybe,” he said, “you are the heaven sent organizer.” But I am not. This organization I could not make, partly because it is hard for me to remember people and their names; partly because it can be made by many individual workers. I have myself less than a thousand names in my list. It is not the work given to me. I know how it must be done and know nearly anyone who has the heart

can do it,—be “the heaven-sent organizer” in her or his own place—and even, make it a means of support.

Now all that is necessary is for anyone to begin at home, make cards with blanks for all the needed particulars; address, nationality, occupation, religion, politics, married, family, interested, opposed, well-to-do or poor, own land or house, etc., everything that would be a guide for approaching them again.

When you call, ask if they know any single taxers or Henry George man or woman. That is a question one can inoffensively ask as one can ask the way to the Town Hall. It will probably reveal their own attitude or ignorance and will open the way to such information as will interest them. The real estate dealer or owner will like to hear about the Pittsburgh plan and the politician will be interested in the California vote for straight out single tax. Most people will be glad to be told of Canberra or of the irrigation projects paid for by water rates based on the land value: the religious will like Dr. McGlynn’s “Thy Kingdom Come.”

Then, if “the prospect” can suggest anyone who would be interested, those persons should be called upon and asked for further names. If he knows of no one it can be suggested that he will probably think of somebody, and you will call again to know—call several times to know.

In the course of the interview you will find many who “used to be in the movement” who “knew Henry George,” etc., but “haven’t heard much of it of late.” Such will nearly always gladly give 25 cents for the *Pennsylvania Commonweal*, or anyhow 10 cents for “The Crime of Poverty” (which I can supply you free from the Fels Fund Ed.) or Joseph Dana Miller’s “Has the Single Tax Made Progress?”

Others will give \$5 or whatever you may suggest, on being asked if they would not like to have a hand in Single Tax. There could be no better opening for a canvasser to sell our books or to get subscriptions for LAND AND FREEDOM.

Here is a thing for everyone to do now, the most important of all work and needing nothing but the will to work. Begin in your own apartment house or your own block, and do it now.

But always and mainly keep looking for the man or woman who will go over the houses, streets, a couple of weeks after you have finished, or who will take new territory adjoining. If you do not do this, the work will cease with you. If you do it will always go on even after you are gone. Who will begin to engrave this army roll, self-perpetuating, more lasting than bronze, to the memory of Henry George?

“The Clarions of the Battle Call.”—

“I AM alarmed at these Socialistic schemes,” cries the Liberal leader whose own “Land scheme” is so completely Socialistic that the Labor Party had no difficulty in adopting it as their own! Is he fooling himself as well as his followers?—*Commonweal*, London, Eng.