

NEWS—FOREIGN

Spain

THE suspension of publication of the Spanish *Impuesto Unico*, organ of the Spanish Single Tax League, is announced in its last issue.

This is deeply to be regretted. The Spanish Single Taxers have done admirable work in translating and interpreting the works of Henry George for the whole Spanish-speaking race. In organization, they may have been weak; but their clear vision and indomitable zeal in preaching the faith are of such salt as saves nations from decay. The undying spirit will only manifest in new forms and achieve yet greater works.

It is true that Spain is ruled for the moment by a military dictatorship. It is conceivable that such circumstances do not favor free expression of opinions unpleasant to the powers that be.

Argentina

THE front cover of the *Revista del Impuesto Unico* (Official Organ of the Argentine Single Tax League) displays an excellent portrait of Dr. Edward McGlynn. In the body of the magazine appears a sympathetic tribute to his labor and sacrifices for the cause of economic justice, together with a translation of his doctrinal statement before the Papal Delegate, Monsignor Francisco Satolli.

Derogation of the Single Tax by-law by the City Council of Buenos Aires. Following a combination of all the reactionary factors in that city and the Argentine, this new ordinance, upon which so many hopes had been based by our Argentine Single Tax friends, was derogated by the City Council that had passed it. After a bitter debate, the derogation was passed by a vote of 17 against 11.

Of the 11 votes against the derogation, 10 were by Socialist members and 1 by a Radical. The Financial Secretary of the Municipality, Dr. Emilio Ravigmani, in a stirring address before the Council, defended the new ordinance and denounced the move to abolish it.

The new ordinance was attacked principally on the grounds of alleged unconstitutionality.

It seems unlikely that the Argentine Single Taxers will allow the case to rest where it is. It is quite evident that they will have the unanimous support of the Socialists.

Mexico

THE proposed one per cent. tax on all land values in Mexico was killed in its cradle by a convention of state representatives held in Mexico City. As a substi-

tute there is to be a national cadastro (land valuation department) and an annual tax on future unearned increment of land values.

The one per cent. tax was opposed by the so-called Syndicate of Agriculturists heavily backed by the land monopolists of the Federal District who have so far lost nothing of their tribute-levying power by the decade of revolution. Until there is an economic revolution of Georgism there will be no relief.

The Recent Campaign
in Ontario

THE Tax Exemption "By-law Campaign" that came to a conclusion in Toronto on January 1st, was the most important as to interest and educational value in the history of the movement in Eastern Canada.

"The Municipal Tax Exemption Act, as amended in 1921, made the following petition operative, if sufficiently signed:—

THEREFORE we, the undersigned, hereby petition the Council of the City of Toronto that, under and in accordance with the said Act as amended, there be duly submitted to the electors qualified to vote on money by-laws, at the next annual municipal election after the presentation to council of this petition a by-law exempting from taxation for all purposes including school purposes, for the first year in which the by-law takes effect 10 per cent. of the assessed value of improvements, income and business assessment, and from year to year thereafter an additional 10 per cent. of such assessed value until the whole of such assessed value is so exempted from taxation.

After some months of work by efficient canvassers, 12,400 signatures were secured for the petition, which was presented to the Toronto City Council on October 15th, sent on by that body to the Assessment Commissioner to be examined by his department.

A most searching scrutiny of the signatures was made by this official, who for years has been our outstanding opponent, with the result that he reported at least 1,000 signatures over the necessary 10% of those qualified to sign.

After making this report it was passed over to the electors for a decision.

A month of strenuous campaigning followed in which we had the opposition of three city papers, but the support of the *Star*. The result was a defeat of 37,072 votes against and 6,317 in favor of the By-law. Though this adverse majority was much larger than any of our workers expected, the amount of newspaper and other publicity that the campaign received, made the effort worth while.

The mass of evidence presented to the Special Committee appointed by the City Council, by the Single Taxers of New York, Pittsburgh, Ottawa and Winnipeg, with our Toronto members in support, was logical and weighty, but the majority report signed by the Commissioners of Fi-