

the delegates present who are voters. It will not be on any program, nor connected with the sessions of the convention. The time and place may even be kept a secret, but for a long time women voters have felt that there should be some plan for unified action among them, and they intend to make one now.

It is well known that Sarah Platt Decker, ex-president of the Federation, is heartily in favor of such action, and the faithful will probably look to her as their natural leader.

Women divide on national policies, but it is believed that they can be prevailed on to unite in a demand for "The Ballot First," and to give their united strength to the candidate who is pledged to bring about the general enfranchisement of their sex. It is easy to see that the united vote of women would control in any State, for the vote of the men is sure to be divided.



For months past, women voters and would-be voters have been writing to prospective candidates asking their views on this question, and the answers have been wholly unsatisfactory, save and except in the case of Senator La Follette.

As Governor of New York, Roosevelt favored it; as President of the United States he afforded it neither aid nor comfort. They find him on both sides in his recent Outlook utterances. They have not forgiven President Taft for his "Hot-tentots" speech to the suffrage convention in April, 1910, and they have expressed themselves with considerable vigor concerning Governor Woodrow Wilson's letter in which he declares his mind at sea. Mrs. Champ Clark is a suffragist, and it is possible, so some of the suffragists say, that Mr. Clark would join them in the strains of what bids fair to become a campaign classic, "You Gotta Stop Kickin' My Dawg Aroun'."

Without a candidate pledged to their cause the women may fail to effect any concerted scheme of action, but they will lay the way for 1916.

ELLIS MEREDITH.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

WOMEN'S SINGLETAX LEAGUE.

Washington, D. C.

The eleventh annual convention of the Women's National Single Tax League was held in Washington during Memorial week. The first session was opened at 10:30 a. m., on Monday, May 27, at the New Ebbitt House, with prayer by the Rev. Chas. Everest Granger of Gunton Presbyterian Church. The only formal address at the opening session was

made by Colonel H. Martin Williams, reading clerk of the House of Representatives. The colonel called attention to the great number of men in enforced idleness who were anxious to work at almost any wage, and pointed out clearly and convincingly that land monopoly is the underlying cause.

At the afternoon session addresses were made by Mr. Herbert J. Browne, Miss Ada Rhodes and Jackson H. Ralston, Esq., of Washington.

Mr. Browne gave an interesting account of the inhabitants of a small island, 200 miles south of Cuba, where there exists no labor problem, no question of unearned increment; where locks, bolts, and bars are unknown; where the entire population live a simple life of brotherly kindness toward one another.

Miss Rhodes gave a vivid description of an English mining town after an appalling accident, such as happens quite frequently in mining regions, quoting a statement from the London Telegraph, one of the most conservative papers of Great Britain, in which it advocated the nationalization of the coal mines as the only remedy for coal strikes.

Mr. Ralston called attention to the progress being made in Oregon and Missouri and showed how the Initiative and Referendum made it possible to force the Singletax into practical politics, incidentally paying a high compliment to W. S. U'Ren of Oregon.

The evening session was held at the Public Library, at which an address of welcome and of commendation was delivered by Prof. Thomas E. Will, who is now a resident of the Capital City. Mrs. John Sherwin Crosby, president of the League, responded in a felicitous manner, and then introduced Miss M. Elma Dame of New York City, who is a nurse in the tenement district and also a Settlement worker. Miss Dame pointed out the utter inadequacy of charity, settlement work and other forms of organized philanthropy to cope with conditions under our present system of oppression and injustice which penalizes industry, thereby pauperizing labor.

Miss Grace I. Colbron of New York City followed Miss Dame, speaking on a subject closely allied to the Settlement workers—Child Welfare and Economic Justice. Miss Colbron dwelt upon the futility of legislative action to meet the demands of the situation, which ignored a radical change in our system of taxation. Referring to Miss Dame's address, she said charitable workers soon discovered that this evil was not due to parental greed, nor entirely to the greed of the mill-owners, who were themselves the victims of the system, and crushed out the lives of other men's children in many cases, only to keep their own above the possibility of being similarly crushed if the wheel of fortune turned. "It would be much better to understand the evil of land monopoly which lies at the bottom," she said, "and give the workers justice, than to offer charity while continuing to reduce them to a stage where they have nothing further to lose and, in a fit of desperation, will seize what they can get in any way they can get it."

Henry George, Jr., the final speaker of the evening, spoke on "Taxation in the District." Mr. George is chairman of a sub-committee of the Congressional Committee on the District, which has been making a thorough investigation of the methods of taxation in vogue in the Capital City. Whilst he pointed out

many inequalities and absurdities in the present method of assessing property in the District of Columbia, he intimated that he was withholding some startling facts for a larger audience. "The country at large," he said, "had been generous in its expenditures on the District, but under the present system of taxation, every dollar which the Federal Government pays toward the District expenses only serves to make it harder for the poor to live here."

Mr. Charles Adair of Illinois, Mrs. Mariette L. Johnson of Fairhope, Alabama, and Rev. Chas. E. Granger were the formal speakers at the Tuesday morning session at the New Ebbitt.

Mr. Adair's subject was "The Makers and the Takers." He showed how the introduction of inter-urban railways, or other improved means of transportation, every application of human ingenuity to labor, every improvement in methods of production or distribution, result in increased returns to the man who owns the land instead of the man who performs the labor. "When we are all thoroughly aroused to these wrongs," he said, "we will preach to society what we now preach to individuals, 'Thou shalt not steal,' and we will change the laws which rob the makers and give to the takers."

Mrs. Johnson gave a very interesting address on Fairhope and on Organic Education. In closing her address, she said: "Children should be given stories, games, singing, nature study, gardening, etc., but not have books forced upon them or even given to them until they become interested in them—when they will want them naturally. High schools and colleges should ask, not, 'What do you know,' but, 'What do you need?'"

The Rev. Mr. Granger, whose subject was, "The Church and Social Service," said: "That churches are failing to give the people what they need is strikingly indicated by the fact that the Presbyterian church has increased but 3 per cent, and the Methodist church but 1 per cent during the past year. Many members of my own church oppose the preaching of the larger message and clamor for the old gospel—some from motives of greed and selfishness, fearing it will hurt their business, and some honestly opposing it, not realizing that social service is really the old gospel, rightly understood. And shame on that preacher who, having the vision and knowing the need, is too cowardly to voice it."

On Tuesday evening the annual national banquet of the League was held at the New Ebbitt. The President of the League, Mrs. John Sherwin Crosby, acted as toastmaster, and five-minute responses were made as follows:

"Immediate Effects of the Singletax," by Dr. Mary D. Hussey.

"The Female of the Species," F. L. Siddons, Esq.

"What Is Speculative Value?" Miss Amy Mall Hicks.

"The Wise Farmer and the Fool Mule," Mr. Herbert J. Browne.

"The Innate Love of Freedom," Miss Jennie Rogers.

"The Parcels Post," Hon. David J. Lewis.

"The Truth Is Marching On," Miss Grace I. Colbron.

"The Way Out," Hon. Henry George, Jr.

The closing session of the convention was held at the Ebbitt House on Wednesday morning. At this session it was unanimously agreed to change the form and character of the League, turning it into a national committee, with chairman, vice-chairman,

secretary and treasurer, and one woman's representative from each singletax club. Mrs. Henry George, Jr., gave a reception to the ladies of the League on Wednesday afternoon at her residence, 1931 Biltmore street, and on Memorial Day, in the afternoon, a picnic and reception was held at the suburban residence of Colonel H. Martin Williams.

Among the delegates were: Mrs. Maude E. Pearson, British Columbia; Mrs. Mariette L. Johnson, Alabama; Miss Charlotte O. Schetter, Dr. E. E. Bowen and Dr. Mary D. Hussey, New Jersey; Mrs. J. A. Rogers, Miss Jennie A. Rogers, Dr. M. C. Hollister, Mrs. E. Louise Arnim and Miss M. B. Havens, Brooklyn; Miss Grace Isabel Colbron, Miss Amy Mall Hicks, Mrs. John Sherwin Crosby, Mrs. C. M. Hibbard and Mrs. Margaret Hughan, New York City.

D. S. LUTHER.



THE ANARCHY IN SAN DIEGO.

San Diego, Cal.

As nearly as I can ascertain there were about 200 active "Vigilantes" under arms, and subject to immediate call. This group was divided into about 20 companies of 10 men each and led by a captain. In case of unusual excitement this battalion would, they thought, be able to summon several thousand men to its assistance, should they desire to tar and feather any I. W. W. whom they found off his guard, or to storm the jail. The jail was guarded by deputy sheriffs or other officers unfriendly to the I. W. W. These officers were perfectly willing to relinquish their prisoners at the first show of strength on the part of the "Vigilantes." Never have I been in a city where such a reign of terror prevailed.

At every possible opportunity I denounced these "Vigilantes" as cowards, thugs and assassins. No one would join in my denunciation. In the hotels and on the streets men would walk away, refusing to be even in a company where anything but sanction was shown.

The situation was interesting in that both sides were in the wrong. One of the leading druggists—a Mr. Ferris—put the matter before me about as follows: "The growth of business required that crowds be not permitted to congregate in certain districts. The I. W. W. refused to recognize the ordinance prohibiting street speaking in certain congested districts, and as arrests were made the I. W. W. proceeded to rush to San Diego hundreds of their unemployed members which soon filled our jail and those of the surrounding cities. The I. W. W. announced their plan to rush 10,000 men to San Diego, and it looked as though they would succeed. While the county could feed a few hundred, to be forced to feed several thousand men would bankrupt the locality in time. In addition to this the business of the courts was being clogged, for every man demanded a separate trial and one by jury. The time that would be required from our citizens even to meet the jury requirements was a serious problem. We could not repeal the ordinance, for the people were for it. An attempt to secure a referendum petition failed miserably, indicating that the great majority of the people approved of the ordinance. We who lived here and enjoyed the climate and scenery and had established ourselves in business,