

A brief synopsis of the speech is as follows : " If you will read me the items in the tariff I will tell you the rate blindfolded by the following simple rule : Whatever the richest of the rich have to sell and the poorest of the poor have to buy, is always the highest rate, and whatever the poorest of the poor have to sell and the richest of the rich have to buy is always in the lowest rate. The only thing the poor has to sell is his labor, and that is in the free list all the time. Worse than that, you tax the laborers upwards of half a million dollars yearly to employ a number of agents to scour the poorest countries of the old world to inundate the labor market so as to crush down wages to the lowest level. Your nominal rate on the clothing, on the tools of the industrial classes is from thirty to thirty-five per cent. Add to this the profits of the wholesaler and the retailer and it comes to fifty per cent. What does that mean ? It means this : By law you convert the two dollars of the rich man into three dollars and also by the same law you compel the poor man often to carry three dollars to the market to buy two dollars worth of goods. If this gave the slightest encouragement to industry there would be some excuse for it ; but if you want to find who is protected go to the home of the Astors in New York, and if you want to see the manner in which labor is protected, go to the slums and the sweat shops of that city."

I am very glad to be able to report that in spite of tremendous pressure the government refused to make any advance in the tariff. Hitherto enormous grants have been made to assist any new railroad ; but this session of the house that policy has been changed. The government has decided to guarantee the bonds of the Canadian Northern Railroad and to take a first mortgage on the road for their security. That is one step decidedly in advance.

A few months ago our active worker Alan C. Thompson got together a deputation which waited on the local members of parliament urging that the government grant no subsidy to a proposed trans-continental road ; but that the government build the road itself and set aside enough land to pay for the construction. To-day's papers report that a scheme of that kind is likely to be adopted by the government. The world "do" move.

The local government had a tax revision law under consideration which proposed to abolish the personality tax and partly the income tax and to substitute a rental tax on the premises occupied. While this is not all the Single Taxers desired, it is a move in the right direction. The committee will meet again in the fall. We may possibly get a proposal before them to grant a measure of local option ; but it is questionable if the present house would grant it. There are members of the local parliament who acknowledge that we are right in our

effort to get taxes removed from improvements ; but it will take a good deal more than a prayer meeting to stiffen their spines.

The Single Tax Association has opened an office at No. 155 Bay Street where the Secretary, Walter Roebuck will be glad to welcome any visitors.

It was my good fortune to be invited to visit the town of Mount Forest about a hundred miles from here to occupy the pulpit of the Methodist Church morning and evening and to speak in the Opera House on Monday evening. In the pulpit I tried to give them a contrast between the system of Moses and that of William the Conqueror. The former recognized the land as the gift of God while the system of the latter ignored that fact, with the result that in Britain with all its boasted freedom society for centuries has been divided into the contrast between the castle with its leisure and superabundance of wealth on the one hand and the slums and horrors of Whitechapel on the other.

Mr. Arthur Roebuck has organized a number of the younger members to address open air meetings during the present fine weather. Of their success more anon.

Our meetings during the winter were advertised as for Religious and Social Reform and though attended by large and most enthusiastic audiences, their existence was as thoroughly ignored by the religious (?) press and pulpit as though they had never been.

WALTER H. ROEBUCK, Sec'y.

NANKIN, CHINA.

I have a discussion on in our most conservative Shanghai paper (English). One of the other papers publishes all the Single Tax I please to send.

My translation of Dove appears monthly in our leading paper and goes all over the country. I am now translating the commonwealth period from Green's English History. The Chinese need liberty. Viceroy Tin was favorably considering my Single Tax propositions when he died. I presented to him the aspect of foreigners plundering the Chinese of mining, railroad and business sites and advised a lot tax rather than the house tax that was being levied in order to pay the indemnity. I wish you would look at that article on Mencius, it ought to be very interesting to Single Taxers everywhere to find that the great Chinese sage was an earlier Henry George. Also the other reformers show the failure of Socialism.

W. E. MACKLIN.

F. T. Moreland, of Portsmouth, Ohio, has a long article in the May number of the *Iron Moulders' Journal*, on "The Trust and the Workingman," which is an admirable argument for the Single Tax.