

WANTS A CAMPAIGN IN MICHIGAN

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

If the world will ever need Single Tax, it needs it now, and how to get it is, of course, the question uppermost in the mind of every Single Taxer. During the two years past, we tried to do something in Michigan and did secure about 34,000 out of the necessary 64,000 signatures to an initiative petition, providing for constitutional amendment that would exempt personal property and improvements to the extent of about 50% of their value. It was easy to get signatures. The only trouble was that we hadn't enough money to keep men in the field to circulate the petitions. In my opinion, we could get 100,000 signatures to this petition in this State just as easy as we got 34,000 if we could only place the petitions before the voters, and one of the best things that could be done in promoting the campaign, or any other Single Tax campaign, would be to circulate petitions just as widely as possible. The educational results would be worth the cost.

In other words, although the law might require only 64,000 signatures in Michigan, I believe it would be advisable in the case of sufficient funds to keep right on securing signatures until the last moment or as long as the money held out, not forgetting, of course, that some money would be necessary to help put over the election after filing the petition. What I am leading up to is this: I have believed for a number of years that if all Single Taxers of this country would forget their own State and local measures and put all their money and efforts at work in one State that results might be accomplished. I believe there is more than one State where two years' work, perhaps less, would make it possible to succeed with a Single Tax measure just as strong as Single Taxers care to make it. I think this can be done in Michigan but, perhaps, it can be done much easier in some other State. Anyway, my hat is in the ring and I will agree to support any campaign which a conference may determine is best for us.

If someone will call a national conference with this express purpose in view, I will be glad to attend and I will pledge \$25. per month for two years, or any other period which the conference may determine upon, provided we can agree upon some real definite action.

Pretty soon I will be an old man with one foot in the grave and I really don't feel that I have the time to pussyfoot around any longer with conversational Single Taxers.

Detroit, Mich.

A. LAWRENCE SMITH.

THE SINGLE TAX PARTY AND THE FUTURE

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

Before the next issue of the REVIEW reaches its readers, a Convention of Single Taxers will be held and a National Single Tax Party will enroll its name in the hall of Political Fame. Let us not waste time debating why this was not done years ago, but turn our thoughts to making the venture a thing of *pleasurable* and *practical* utility.

Even to those of us who have enjoyed the privilege of voting for Single Tax in the several States in which it has "a place on the ballot," there comes a desire for better things, and a feeling that this joy of voting should be extended to Single Taxers everywhere. A well grounded hope also exists that a National Party can lay down such a "barrage" of advertisement and efficient grasping of opportunity, that the advance of the State Units will be made so irresistible, that the Hun of Privilege—Private Ownership of Land—will be driven from his heretofore impregnable trenches and dugouts and be forced into the open.

Once in the open, what can he do in battling with representative, well equipped, National Organization, flying one "Land for the People" flag, and, for its accomplishment, the Single Tax? What more can we or should we ask on this American continent? Then would our *great big live* issue be presented in a *great big live* way, enlisting the support of forward looking men, and arousing the opposition of the stand-patter, the beneficiary of privilege, and the Bolsheviki. These two things are essential to the growth of any moral issue, and, particularly so, for ours. Single Taxers who are not affiliated with the Party (either through choice or from lack of opportunity) must be made to see the suicidal stupidity and the blundering idiocy of professedly *espousing* a cause, and

then *voting against it* on every occasion. The poorest and humblest exponent of "the right of men to the use of the earth" has some, or perhaps many, neighbors, friends or relatives, who know of and are impressed by his words, but when they find him (by chance or lack of opportunity) openly and enthusiastically supporting some party known to be antagonistic to Single Tax, then they very humanly class it as a minor, not a major, issue and unworthy of the attention of wide-awake practical men. The National Single Tax Party is designed to remove all incentive for such a course in the future. Its endeavor will be to place Single Tax on the ballot sheets of all the States, if possible, and furnish opportunity to every voter to go all the way for Single Tax—by voting for it.

We can then say to the body of voters—Do you want Justice and Equality established in the God-given resources of Earth? Do you want Opportunity to wait on each child born into the world, so that, whatever measure of intelligence he may possess or to what lofty height his mind may aspire, they can be developed and not killed? If you want all this, then vote for Single Tax. How will the voter answer? He may not be absolutely convinced that the Single Tax will bring all these blessings, but he does know that the old parties have no such programme, and that they are in fact, by their policies in the past, responsible for the opposite conditions which now beset us. Is it unreasonable to think (he being accustomed to vote for the things he thinks he wants) that he will remain no longer a tool of the system which he knows is oppressing him, but for which, in the past, no remedy was provided?

Let us forever put an end to our former Pharisaical utterances that the average man is not wise enough or righteously inclined enough to vote for Single Tax. We must remember that he has not been encouraged to do so or furnished with the opportunity—only to a very limited degree. Let the National Single Tax Party furnish both encouragement and opportunity, then, and only then, will we have (should the average voter refuse to respond) the right to chide or reproach him for his unwisdom or unrighteous inclinations.

Philadelphia, Pa.

OLIVER McKNIGHT.

PRAISE FOR ONE WHO FAITHFULLY FOLLOWED THE LIGHT

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

Although I subscribe for a number of Single Tax periodicals, your March-April issue possesses the unique distinction of being the only one that has thus far evinced sufficient appreciation of the valuable work done, and the supreme sacrifice made, by Luke North in his fight for the economic freedom of all mankind, which he would have initiated in California.

North will be remembered as a genius with the keenest insight to see, and with unequalled ability to clearly and incisively express, the very heart, the inmost core, of the economic change which must be made before there can possibly be great general prosperity, happiness and international peace, and before any nation may even consider daring to "beat its swords into plowshares and its spears into pruning hooks."

The strange reluctance of our leading Single Tax periodicals to digress upon the matchless value and the great price North paid for the privilege of voluntarily serving humanity in maximum degree, reminds me of the words of Mark Antony over the body of Caesar: "Now lies he here, and none so poor to do him reverence. . . . What private griefs they have, alas! I know not, that made them do it; they are wise and honorable, and will, no doubt, with reasons answer."

Little Rock, Ark.

K. P. ALEXANDER.

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

I am for a Single Tax Party, to vote and measure strength; even if we figure as the Prohibition Party did; it is the only way. The fools that suffer from exploitation will do nothing until a party shows strength; then they become "jinners." I believe a few raps on the heads of the high official Single Taxers whose Single Taxidity dies in office, may be a mirror held up to such as Lane, Baker, and others.

Chicago, Ill.

C. F. HUNT.