

news letter than Mr. Leggett furnishes for each issue of the *Star*.

Among the dailies frankly and unequivocally committed to the Single Tax is the *Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat*, of which Warren Worth Bailey is editor. This paper is rapidly taking a foremost place among the more influential journals that are voicing the aspirations of the rising democratic spirit of our times. In another column we print an editorial from its pages on the trial of Haywood, now in progress at Boise, Idaho. Few editorial writers of the day—certainly none but those whose vision has been widened and made clear by a knowledge of economic truth—could write in this luminous way.

Along with the *Johnstown Democrat* as a newspaper committed to the Single Tax should be named the *Pittsburg Leader*, in which recently appeared an editorial—reprinted in the columns of the *REVIEW*—announcing its conversion to our principles.

A much larger list of periodicals could be made with Single Tax leanings, and a larger one still of those sufficiently hospitable to print Single Tax communications. Even the great metropolitan journals, so many of which are in bondage to privilege, will do this, and they would do it even more readily were they convinced that the movement had a vitality and a public sympathetic to its teachings. The *REVIEW*, which contains such evidences in convenient form, ought to be on the editorial desk of every daily and weekly newspaper in the country.

THE SINGLE TAX AND OTHER REFORMS.

Do not let Single Taxers be opportunists. Let others adopt that role. Let us preach the Single Tax. By educating public sentiment it will move in our direction—not the whole way, but part of the way. This will be the politicians' opportunity—they are the opportunists, not we. Our work is more serious—in a sense, and so far as avails immediate ends, more hopeless.

Our position is academic, we may be told. It is. So is the position of all teachers and preachers of righteousness. So was abolitionism in the days of chattel slavery before abolitionism got into politics. But "You make history and we profit by it," said Seward to the abolitionists of his day.

In this there is intended no criticism of those Single Taxers who are working for municipal ownership and direct legislation. Let them continue to agitate for these reforms, as individuals, for they are both important, the latter exceedingly so. But the Single Tax is supremely so. It is important that the people should possess in their own hands the machinery of government. But it is more important that they

should know how to use such machinery intelligently. Representatives today seem to be capable of all sorts of fool legislation on every conceivable subject. But are the people themselves likely to be any wiser when framing their own laws or when rejecting or accepting such laws as come before them? Is it not a question, after all, of the intelligence of the man who uses the instrument rather than a question of the instrument, to put it somewhat crudely?

There are two motive powers behind all reforms. Socialists say there is only one, but never mind that just now. There are really two—economic necessity and our sense of responsibility—the religious, or ethical motive. Both together accomplished the reform of the corn laws; both together brought about the abolition of chattel slavery; both together will give us industrial emancipation.

Economic necessity we have nothing to do with; we cannot create it. But the ethical motive we can appeal to, and the ethical motive, enlightened by an intelligent apprehension of our doctrines and purposes, will deliver us from economic bondage. To this as Single Taxers, no matter what we choose to do as individuals in other spheres of political activity, let us devote ourselves, knowing that here is the power that will provide opportunity for the opportunists, strengthen the hand of the Nicodemus, render the timid confident, and overcome all and every imperfection of our defective political machinery in the passionate impulse of a people economically enlightened and ethically awake.

J. D. M.

THE ISSUE JOINED IN GREAT BRITAIN.

It is weighty and inspiring news that comes from England and Scotland, telling of the remarkable progress being made by the friends of the cause in the United Kingdom. Very little of this finds its way into the news despatches printed in the American newspapers. Even the special correspondents make only veiled reference to the rising democratic movement for the restoration of equal rights to land through the exercise of the taxing power. This movement is stigmatized as "socialistic," and in the correspondence of the *New York Sun* persistent effort is made to represent the Liberal party and the premier as committed to weak and ineffectual policies. The organs of privilege in this country realize the danger of giving too great a prominence to a movement which has for its ultimate object the destruction of landed privilege, and we find that a general policy of silence characterizes nearly all news-