

a chance to learn as we go along together adopting one or another reform.

The Socialists will undoubtedly cooperate with the League but may retain their own identity and organization. In a national election, and in elections in smaller political subdivisions where there is little chance for a Socialist candidate, they will vote for the candidate of the new party. Likewise, the Farmer-Labor Party of Minnesota might vote the new party ticket in a national election only, or it might identify itself with the new party. The new party would not try to duplicate the Farmer-Labor Party in Minnesota nor would it try to duplicate the Socialist Party in Milwaukee or Reading. Georgists, may retain their identity and organizations and carry on as always, but in addition would have the satisfaction of voting for a party pledged to free trade and taxation of land values.

Last, but not least, here is a chance for Single Taxers, and Socialists as well, to undo the public's suspicion of, and prejudice against, the single track mind. As Norman Thomas says, let us take the attitude of path-finders and not that of a Messiah.

The leadership of John Dewey should induce Georgists to join the League and do it now.

Chicago, Ill.

WALTER VERITY.

"UNEARNED INCREMENTS"

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

In regard to the recent discussion in your paper as to the desirability of working with the Socialists to attain common ends, I think such a course of action is highly desirable. As I understand the situation, Single Taxers and Socialists both desire that unearned increments in land values be appropriated by the public. The Single Taxers think this will cure most of the ills of society. The Socialists agree that it will cure many of such ills, but contend that there are other unearned increments that should be appropriated as well. As it is manifestly impossible to cure all the ills of society at one stroke, and whatever reforms are effected will have to be effected gradually and by piecemeal, it seems to me that the appropriation of the unearned increment of land will come first, as it is so much more easily effected and will not have the opposition that the whole programme of the Socialists will have. When that reform is achieved by the help of the Socialists, the Single Taxers will then use their judgment whether to go along with the Socialists in order to capture other unearned increments, or to rest content with their achievements and part company with the Socialists in their future operations. It is my belief that when that time comes, conditions will be so much improved and people will see the benefits of taking for the community what belongs to it that Single Taxers together with the Socialists will insist that all unearned increments of whatever nature go to those to whom they of right belong, but whether they do or not, let us work together as much and as long as we possibly can.

Seattle, Wash.

A. M. MOREY.

IS THERE A REAL DANGER HERE?

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

Permit me to say a word anent the current discussion in your columns of the relations between Socialists and Single Taxers.

The Socialists would destroy private property rights in land as a first step toward destroying all private property rights; the Single Taxer would destroy private property rights in land as a first step toward conserving private property rights, recognizing that to extend private property rights to the inclusion of land is to deny true property rights, because equal right of access is thus denied to that from which all property must be produced.

The Methodist asked the Quaker for a contribution toward tearing down the Church steeple and replacing it with a higher one; the Quaker replied that Quakers did not believe in Church steeples, but that he would contribute \$5 toward demolishing the present one, hop-

ing that this first step would exhaust the fund available and that the Church would thus be left steepleless. The Bootlegger and the Dry both vote for Prohibition,—the first because he thinks it will bring him more profitable opportunities for selling liquor, the other because he believes the law will stop liquor dealing.

Can the Methodist and the Quaker, the Bootlegger and the Dry, be properly regarded as "cooperating," or is it merely incidental that for the time being they are just doing the same thing?

Truly, there is merit in the thought suggested by Mr. Geiger, that while the Methodist and the Quaker are together demolishing the old church steeple, one may convert the other as to the desirability or undesirability of replacing it with another,—but which will be which? It is obvious that a very large percentage of those who rank as "Single Taxers" are such chiefly from sentiment; they do not clearly comprehend economic principles, and would flop either way, with the crowd. Is there a real danger here?

Towaco, N. J.

GEORGE L. RUSBY.

MAJOR MILLER FOR SUPPORT OF NORMAN THOMAS

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

My experience of over forty years leads me to the belief that our progress will necessarily be very slow if we vote only for those who are completely and exclusively devoted to the Single Tax pure and simple.

While it is true enough that Socialism is, by its nature, contrary to the Single Tax, yet it seems to me that when a Socialist candidate such as Norman Thomas clearly endorses what would be an important step in our direction, we should support him.

All political platforms are more or less compromises, and it would be always our privilege if not our duty to state the grounds upon which our support is based and our reasons for not endorsing other planks in the candidate's platform.

There are no arch-angels available as candidates for public office and we must take them as we find them and make the best of them.

Lake Worth, Florida

FRED J. MILLER.

NEWS NOTES AND PERSONALS

JOHN A. ZANGERLE, assessor of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, asked by a Cleveland newspaper to reply to a Cleveland landowner who had complained of the assessment of his land for taxation, did so in detail, and his last paragraph must have been a shock to the real estate board:

"I note that the complainant urges that Euclid Avenue development is being delayed by high taxes on land value. This is news to me. I always had assumed that a high tax on land value stimulated improvement of the land, and that low taxes delayed its improvement. On the other hand, I always understood a corollary to be that a high tax on improvements delayed the improvements but that a low tax on the improvements stimulated their development."

IN Bengal, India, although land values have enormously increased, the government's revenue from landowners remains exactly the same as fixed by Lord Cornwallis a century and a quarter ago, and that's what the land speculators would like to do here.

PRAGUE does not give housing subsidies, but has exempted buildings from taxation until 1935, and the old city is building up rapidly, furnishing better shelter and much employment.

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND, to give employment to 450 idle men, paid \$885,000 for idle land, or \$1,300 per man.

WE have had frequent occasion to speak in terms of high praise of the excellence of our contemporary, *The Standard*, of Sydney, N. S. Wales. There is no Single Tax paper in the English speaking world that excels it in vigor, wit and clarity. Those political time-servers