

ness, of monopoly, but in fields of competition; in which case any suspicion of corporate manipulation would operate against a particular corporation precisely as would suspicion of honesty in any of its head officials.

Judge Grosscup's proposal does not lessen, it conserves, privilege. But perhaps it is because he has been one of the chief molders of the deadly injunction principles used by Privilege against labor unions, that he is blind to this, and that he uses his large abilities and commanding position to advocate not what will simplify, but what will complicate, social problems, and make more desperate the struggle to restore the Republic to its natal principle of equal rights.

HENRY GEORGE, Jr.

#### IS THE SINGLE TAX MOVEMENT MAKING PROGRESS?

Many of its good friends share the not uncommon notion that the Single Tax movement is decadent. But those who have been active in it from the beginning know that this notion is erroneous.

Since the inspiring days of the Henry George campaign, out of which the *Standard* and Anti-Poverty Society came, the Single Tax movement has grown immensely; and at the present moment it is larger and more influential than the socialist movement, with which its progress is sometimes disparagingly contrasted.

This statement depends, of course, upon one's standards. If the present state of the particular form the movement took in 1886-87 is the test, then the Single Tax movement is indeed decadent. So, also, if the test is the number and condition of its distinctive organs and organizations. For the fine ebullitions of those early days have passed away, and outside of the *REVIEW* in America, *Land Values* in Great Britain, and the *Volkstimme* in Germany, there is hardly a distinctive organ of the movement anywhere.

But the question is not whether those forms of the movement are decadent; it is whether such is the condition of the movement itself.

As to that question the reasons for believing in substantial progress are abundant. Though there is no longer a Single Tax party, and all efforts to organize one are futile, the movement in politics is more influential than ever, even if less exhilarating than when it was in its infancy. One of the two great parties is honeycombed with Single Tax principles, and in the other the same principles are not uncommonly discussed with favor. What is true in this respect of the United States is true in greater degree of Great Britain, where the parliamentary electioneering over free trade and land values taxation is now surging about the Single Tax idea; and in Australasia, before

the same rising wave of free trade and land values taxation, socialism is receding. These are but indications of the progress that may be observed on all hands, if one look for substantial growth instead of looking for spectacular demonstrations.

Who is there that would surrender the advances of the Single Tax movement as indicated by these conditions, for the Single Tax movement as it was in the '80's? If those who were thoughtfully active in the movement then, could have foreseen the movement as it is now—a vital force unobtrusively but steadily influencing the trend of affairs—they would have thought of the seed of their sewing well planted then—and well grown now.

If we have few organs, the accession of papers of the general press has reduced the necessity for organs. Probably no other movement of our time is so well represented by papers of the general press. Many daily and weekly papers, both in Great Britain and the United States, are under Single Tax control, and many more are responsive to Single Tax influences. They preach Single Tax doctrines, not only academically, but, better yet, in practical connection with the municipal, national and world movements, and as part of them.

These things mean progress such as no degree of party success, no extent of distinctive organization, and no possible number of organs could mean. They imply progress in the minds and hearts of the masses of the people; not so deep nor so clear as to apprehension of principles as in the isolated Single Tax groups of the earlier days, to be sure, but deep enough and clear enough for practical purposes, and vastly more extensive than ever.

Working among ourselves in the ebullient times of George and McGlynn, we favorably affected only the few outsiders who touched the edges of our groups, and astounded the masses by what they mistook for insanity. To-day our movement has so far progressed that its influence permeates public opinion and gives hopeful and wholesome direction to municipal reforms and national politics.

LOUIS F. POST.

#### THE SHORT-CUT OF THE SINGLE TAX.

It is a sign of the times that the *Denver Republican* should devote an editorial to the "Growth of Socialism" and state its conviction that a socialist tidal wave is among the possibilities of politics. Incidentally it declares that Socialists and Single Taxers are at one on the land question. This is a common error, for clearly the management of the land from a central office as the common property of the people (as Socialists propose), and the mere raising of the tax on land to its full annual value, after deducting all improvements, are very