

Meeting Executive Committee Single Tax Party

A MEETING of the Executive Committee of the Single Tax Party met at headquarters Sunday, Nov. 19th and listened to a report from James A. Robinson of his work in California. There were present Messrs Robinson and Haug, of Pennsylvania, Wallace, Caffall, Bourgeois, Dintenfass, and Loew of New Jersey, Lloyd, Van Veen and Miller of New York.

The following resolution offered by Mr. Miller was unanimously carried:

"Believing that land values are the common heritage of the people we issue this statement to the voter:

Speculation in land is a crime against the community, the consequences of which are poverty, misery and unemployment.

We strongly condemn the individuals who engage in the business of land speculation as unsocial and unethical.

Those who would thus extract from the unrequited toil of the masses an income for which they render no return are animated by the same motives which in all countries and at all times have resulted in the enslavement of mankind."

Opposing Views Regarding Charity

ON November 27th, a successful week's campaign was closed in Cleveland to raise \$4,500,000 for the Community Chest, which supports 115 charity organizations. In an editorial congratulating the city on this undertaking, the Cleveland Press says:

"And now, with that good work out of the way, let's remember that it does not by any means complete our duty toward our fellow men.

"We can't chip in, once a year—even as handsomely as on this occasion—and imagine that this act closes humanity's account for a twelve-month.

"We don't get rid of our social obligations as easily as all that. Altho some of us would like to!

"Fact is, the need for charity should simply open our eyes. And make us study the CAUSES of this need. Must we go on forever, doling out alms?

"Christ said, 'the poor ye have always with you.' Did he present that as an inevitable, continuing fact? Or as biting comment on the lack of intelligence which permits poverty?"

Others do not agree with the *Press*. The *Cleveland Commercial* frankly speaks of the Community Chest as a permanent institution, and Samuel Mather, the richest citizen of Cleveland, says, regarding these annual charity money-raising campaigns: "I am beginning to look on them as regularly-established feast days."

EVERY improvement in the circumstances of society tends either directly or indirectly to raise the real rent of land.—ADAM SMITH'S *Wealth of Nations*.

Commercial Candor

PROHIBITION is here, and although it is anything but honestly enforced, its benefits to realty have been enormous. In the increased rents of retail stores in every part of the city it is worth untold millions to property owners. The money which formerly found its way into the saloon cash register is now devoted to the buying of wearing apparel. . . and other necessities of life, as well as luxuries. Former saloons renting for \$1,800 are now renting for \$4,800 for other lines. . . . The wife and mother now has the money to pay the rent and she has the money to clothe and feed the family and thereby heavily increase the business of the retailer so that he in turn can pay a very much higher rent. . . . Realty men should be foremost in the field to uphold the Eighteenth Amendment from purely selfish motives."

William D. Kilpatrick, "Active Associate Member of the Real Estate Board of New York" (Whatever that means, as one of George F. Cohan's characters used to observe at regular intervals).—*Real Estate Record and Guide*, Nov. 18, 1922.

The Schenley Estate, Pittsburgh, Pa.

THE Schenley Estate in Pittsburgh is one of the clearest cut, most convincing proofs of the inequality of land ownership on record and will do more to open the eyes of the apathetic, unthinking, unseeing millions when its particulars are thoroughly understood and made known than any concrete instance I can call to mind. These English people who claimed it, so far as we know, had never seen it, planted trees, built houses, or done anything whatsoever to add to its value. Neither had they spent their "good money" for it in the first place. They had generously allowed the people of Pittsburgh to do all this, as well as to pay the taxes on it. They had simply held on to it for a century, this little strip of land presented to them by King George during the Revolutionary war for fighting us. Now, through the teachings of another George—who thought the worst use you could put a man to was to kill him—they are being forced to release their hold on this \$3000, a day gold mine. Every year this strangle hold they had on the people was increasing in value; and, save a few followers of Henry George, ten years ago none knew or seemed to care whether or not they were being robbed! They had sweat shops, slums, soup houses, bread lines and all the other iniquities of a prosperous growing city. These are now being done away with, and henceforth Pittsburgh will be known as a city set on a hill whose light is to shine over all the earth.—JOSIE THORPE PRICE, in *New Iberia* (La.) *Enterprise*.

I have seen some nations, like overloaded asses
Kick off their burdens, meaning the upper classes.

—LORD BYRON.