

If other proposals for the abolition of labor exploitation and the establishment of social justice are futile, that will become evident as they are tried. If they contemplate an over-doing or an under-doing, progress in the general social movement will slough off the non-essentials and develop the essentials. The Singletax *principle*, the Singletax *method* and the Singletax *policy* commend themselves as guides to all who in good faith and with good vision are looking for that labor state in which those who earn shall have and social justice reign. Be their labels of any denomination in religion, of any party in politics, of any cult in philanthropy, of any sect in anything, they will find the Singletax their best asset for the realization of their own ideals, if their purpose coincides with its objective, which is *industrial democracy*.

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## CONDENSED EDITORIALS

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### SINGLETAX SEED TIME AND HARVEST.

Herbert Quick, in a Private Letter.

There was a time when truth seemed to me so plainly true, that I thought all it needed was bold and wide proclamation and everybody must be converted. That was a long time ago. I know now that the Kingdom of God is not to be set up in our day in Jerusalem. A few may be healed. Some dead may be raised, some blind eyes may be opened, crowds may follow a teacher, and it may look to the Sanhedrin and the Synagogue as if things are going to be overturned. But they are not overturned. The teacher still must be lifted up in crucifixion in order that all men may be drawn to him. There are numerous Gethsemanes and Calvaries along the road yet. Missouri and Oregon are not lost, nor is the cause. It has only been a skirmish. Long after this election has been forgotten, the truth sown in those States will be found growing. This is seed-time. Nobody knows when the harvest time shall be. But it will come. Probably we shall have to suffer a great deal more. Quite probably the chance of loot through unearned increment will have to become more distant from the average man's mind before he will enlist to abolish loot. Remember how corrupted we are as a people by and through this loot. Bedouins would doubtless be better off were the robbery of caravans abolished; but the robbery of caravans is too much a thing bred in the bone to be unpopular in Bedouin camps. Southern mountaineers are prone to feuds. The feuds are bad for the feudists, but more than one campaign is called for before this type of murder will be given up. Monopoly of land is ingrained in our people's minds as a part of the eternal scheme of things. It is not to be shaken in one or two campaigns.

Some speak in terms of bitter disappointment over the failure of the Initiative to get results in Singletax legislation. There is no reason to blame the Initiative. The people voted as they believe. They may not have been well informed, and they may have

followed blind guides; but that is neither here nor there. What they wanted to do in those elections they have done. Singletaxers failed to convince them. Very well—then Singletaxers ought to have failed in the election. No good can be accomplished by any possible rushing of legislation in advance of public sentiment. You can't sneak up on God's blind side in that way. Only one victory is worth while, and that is a victory through the sober, enlightened judgment of the voters. It is better not to win, until we can win through that. I would not enact a Singletax law in Missouri or Oregon if I could. We have demonstrated that these States are not yet ready for it. We have had a good, democratic licking. It will be good for us, if we are the right sort of democratic soldiers.

The Clackamas County tax roll and the township rolls made in Missouri are the really big things we have done. Now let's use them. Let's go about it to show people where their material interests lie. Let us appeal to class consciousness a little more. After all, in the main men vote in their own interests if they know what they are. We ought to have the people listed according to the way they would be affected by Singletax—laboring men, home-owners, mortgaged people, speculators, farm-owners, farmers, tenants, hired-men and the like. We must eventually win by appealing to the victims of monopoly, rather than to its beneficiaries—or to victims and beneficiaries alike. Perhaps, after all, the best course is the thorough one. "Private ownership of land must be abolished," could not fail as a slogan much more completely than the softer speech has failed.

All this is a plea for democracy first, and then education. The Initiative as a means of getting Singletax may not be a swift means, but it is the best means, for all that. Or, if not the best, it is better than any means by which the Kingdom of God might be thought capable of being slipped over while the people aren't looking. That can't be done. Education is the only thing worth while. I am disposed to believe that the appeal to reason which has been made in Missouri and Oregon is worth a great deal more than it has cost.

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## EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

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### THE LABOR WAR AT LITTLE FALLS, N.Y.

A Clergyman's Report.

Schenectady, N. Y. November 19.

Wednesday morning, October 30, about half-past six, 250 or 300 strikers started on their daily parade around the mills. They had a permit from the Mayor for these parades that had never been revoked. The marchers seemed unusually happy and joked with those on the sidewalk as they passed along. Every block or two spontaneously would burst forth the Marseillaise—in five different tongues—the only song that all the nationalities knew. The line swung down past one of the mills and doubled back. Suddenly a confusion was noticed, and then a muffled shot down the front half of the line!

The lines broke. The middle of the street was