

revolution the world has ever seen. You are also the true patriots, for the nation which is first to accept this doctrine, will gain the great victory over all other nations, a victory which will be beneficial alike to the victor and the vanquished.

God's speed with your work! This message is sent you by a simple sentinel at a forgotten post, grateful for the blessing which came over him at the revelation of the great Truth laid down by Henry George.

Yours truly,

JAN STOFFEL.

NOTE—Mr Stoffel writes in English and asks that his mistakes be corrected, but they were few indeed. We can be hopeful that a few years more will see a good organization in Holland, headed by such an ardent worker and true Single Taxer. The Hollanders are slow to take up new thought, but when they do take up any plan, they generally carry it to fulfillment. G. I. C.



THE MOVEMENT IN SWITZERLAND.

FROM LETTER WRITTEN BY OSCAR SCHAR, JUDGE OF CRIMINAL COURT,
BASEL, SWITZERLAND.

(Judge Schar is the son of Professor J. Fr. Schar, leader of the Swiss Single Taxers. Letter was read at Jefferson Dinner.)

Basel, March 29th, 1903.

To the Jefferson Dinner Committee, Manhattan Single Tax Club.

As my father, Prof. J. Fr. Schar, is so overburdened with work just at present, he has asked me to answer your request for a letter. In the name of the Swiss Single Taxers, I send to the Manhattan Single Tax Club our best wishes for the success of the Jefferson Dinner as well as in their fight for the doctrines of Henry George. May their efforts be crowned with every success.

Here in Switzerland we are not yet able to report as great a measure of success as we could desire. From 1888 until 1894 we were organized under the name "Free Land Society;" we worked most energetically, and it seemed as if we had succeeded in attracting public attention to our theories. But when the attempt was made to secure practical fulfillment of our plans for reform, no one was willing to side with us against the opposition of the land owners and land speculators. These last, touched in their most vital interest, found us more dangerous even than the Social Democrats, who looked towards an indefinite future for their hopes whereas *our* reform could have been easily and instantaneously put into practice.

Several hard reverses discouraged us so that we let our organization fall to pieces, hoping, however, that economic conditions would of themselves prove in time how true were our doctrines.

And it has come as we hoped. There are few city dwellers to-day—conditions in the country are different—who do not see how many millions might have been saved if the State had adopted our reform ten years before. The truth has been understood, but municipality and citizens alike are still timid of practical introduction of any change, the all-pervading influence of the powerful land owning interests makes itself felt everywhere.

But in spite of this, we Single Taxers believe the movement to have come when an organization can again be of value to us, and our club was formed this winter in Basel.

One of our demands, "State Monopoly of the Water Power," was up before the General Parliament for several years, until defeated in 1895. But it

has been again brought up since 1902 by leading politicians, and is being actively pushed.

Our agitation in 1888-1894 had at least the result of calling the attention of several larger municipalities to the great importance of the question of the unused land about a growing city, and several of them, notably Basel, have largely increased their ownership and control of this land. We are endeavoring to teach the people the importance of the law of "Erbbaurecht" as advocated by the German Single Taxers but we would leave it entirely in the hands of the State, as we also wish to have the State control the water power.

Once more the best wishes of

OSCAR SCHAR,
President of Criminal Court.



THE MOVEMENT IN SCOTLAND.

COMMUNICATION FROM JOHN PAUL.

We are always gratified here at the reports of the progress of the movement contained in the REVIEW and wish you all success in the good work. Here on this side the question for which we stand politically, the taxation of land values, is making headway in all directions. The press of Great Britain as evidenced by the leaders and comments in the recent discussion in the House of Commons on Dr. Macnamara's Bill is much better informed as to the nature and scope of our proposal than two or three years ago. In October last the Municipal Council of Glasgow convened a meeting of the Local Rating Bodies to consider how best to promote the taxation of land values as a question affecting the local government of the country. It was a most satisfactory convention. Resolutions were passed affirming the principle that land values should be rated for local government expenses; most of the speeches in support of the resolutions adopted went to the bed rock of the question exposing the evils of land monopoly in quite a pleasing manner to a Single Taxer.

Part of the proceedings which met with the hearty approval of the meeting was the appointment of a Committee of twenty-five representatives from the various important municipalities to further discuss the matter and report to a subsequent meeting. The proceedings at the Conference were published by the Glasgow Corporation in pamphlet form of forty-six pages. Since that time the special Committee appointed have met in Glasgow, the proceedings of which have been published in pamphlet form of thirty-one pages. The result so far has been the appointment of two sub-committees to deal with a special bill applicable to England and another for Scotland. This work, as you know, is very important and very valuable from our point of view. It is work that no amount of money or effort could secure in political circles. The Municipalities of Great Britain have now taken hold of our question, and will proceed with it until legislative enactment gives power to rate land values for local purposes, and to overthrow the ring of land monopoly around our growing towns and cities which causes so much mischief and disaster everywhere. Most of the supporters in the municipalities have got the view of the economic importance of the taxation of land values as a means to the destruction of land speculation, and that makes them quite safe for us. In political circles the question has given place to Mr. Chamberlain's Preferential Tariff Proposals, which in plain words spells Protection, but that move has only altered the direction in which the energies of those who stand for our question shall take. The League here and in London and our own organization, which as you know