

dicted the following: State Senator John Broderick of Chicago, charged with bribery; State Senator Stanton C. Pemberton of Oakland, charged with conspiracy to commit bribery; State Senator D. W. Holstlaw of Iuka, charged with conspiracy to commit bribery; and Representative Joseph S. Clark of Vandalia, charged with conspiracy to commit bribery. Beginning with May 29 the Tribune has placed the following offer in large type across the top of its first page:

The Chicago Tribune offers \$5,000 reward for legal proof of the identity of all the members of the "syndicate" which put up the money for Lorimer's election to the United States Senate.

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#### A Land Value Tax Party.

Pursuant to a call for a convention to be held at New York City for the purpose of organizing a Single Tax political party, sent out over the signatures of a group of Single Tax men and women of New York City and vicinity (p. 442), seventy Single Taxers met at 43 East 22nd street on the 21st, and adopted a platform and declarations. The name chosen for the movement was the "Land Value Tax Party." After reciting the intolerable conditions which prevail "in this land of abounding sources of wealth," the platform announces:

As no organized party gives us a chance to vote against this injustice, the freeman's right to vote out a great wrong cannot be exercised without the aid of a party organized for that purpose. The Republican and Democratic parties, largely controlled by special privilege and monopoly, are unable or unwilling to get rid of these evils; the Socialist party, denouncing existing evils and seeking a cure, proposes a remedy that would destroy individual liberty and ambition, and thus retard human progress; the Prohibition party, fighting one form of evil, consents like the two great parties to the fundamental injustice which permits monopoly of the bounties of nature by a small minority of the people; other parties have sprung up and had a mushroom growth, but lacking in purpose or courage to attack the chief cause of human misery, they met an early death; numerous theories have been urged by able writers, and untold millions have been expended to aid suffering humanity, but all such efforts have failed to secure permanent good results; no intelligent attempt has been made to prevent the increase of poverty and to lessen the gap between rich and poor; conditions grow worse rather than better, and we invite those who demand equal opportunity for all with special privilege for none, who would work for freedom through the overthrow of special privilege, to join us in a party based on these fundamental principles. As Land Monopoly is the chief cause of present conditions, its abolition by the levy of taxes on land values only, exempting buildings and all other property from taxation, will be the controlling purpose of the Land Value Tax party.

The platform then shows the adequacy of a land value tax policy to cope with the evils of land monopoly, and outlines the blessings which would

follow its adoption by the community. The concluding paragraphs of the platform follow:

While keeping in view our controlling purpose to rid the country of the accursed private monopoly of land, we are also in favor of ballot reform to encourage independent voting, the direct nomination by voters of candidates for office, the initiative and referendum, the right to recall unfaithful officials, the enfranchisement of women, or any other policy tending to secure good government and the uplift of humanity; all advocates of such measures will find a hospitable welcome in our ranks, but all of these helpful reforms will be regarded in this contest as secondary to the great basic principle on which we invite the support and co-operation of all true Americans.

Cheered by the progress of our cause in Great Britain and in other lands, deploring the conditions in our own land which make this party organization necessary, realizing the integrity of our purpose and rejoicing that we have within easy grasp a practical remedy for the chief evils which afflict our nation, with a strong faith in the people when awakened, we submit these declarations to the considerate judgment of mankind, with an assured belief that the adoption of this platform by the various States and territories will at once promote the welfare and happiness of all our people; that it will solve problems which existing parties have neither the wisdom nor the courage to confront.

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#### The Tom L. Johnson Medallion.

At a dinner at the Hotel Astor in the evening of Decoration Day a medallion was presented to Tom L. Johnson (p. 490), in commemoration of his service in behalf of the truths of human brotherhood that Henry George taught, especially in their industrial aspects. There were 600 guests in attendance and Frederick C. Leubuscher, president of the Manhattan Single Tax Club, presided. The round bronze medallion, two feet in diameter, with obverse and reverse separately framed, exhibiting on the one side low relief profile portraits of George and Johnson together with an appropriate quotation from "Progress and Poverty," and on the other side an inscription from the donors, was formally presented to Mr. Johnson by Herbert S. Bigelow of Cincinnati, whose theme was "Johnson the Man." Henry George, Jr., of New York, followed with an address on "Johnson the Friend and Disciple of Henry George." Louis F. Post of Chicago with one on "Johnson in the George Campaigns," ex-Congressman John DeWitt Warner with one on "Johnson in Congress," Newton D. Baker, city solicitor of Cleveland, with one on "Johnson in Cleveland," and Edmund Vance Cooke, the poet, whose home is in Cleveland, spoke on "Johnson in Defeat," and read his poem entitled "A Man is Passing."\* Mr. Johnson, looking like

\*This poem first appeared in The Public of January 7, 1910, and is reprinted in this issue of The Public.