

platform such arguments as these: "Is it not a shame that my coachman has the right to vote when I am deprived of that right?" Or, when the contrast is painted in still darker colors, the question runs, "Is it not a shame that my colored coachman can vote"? etc. Why should not the coachman vote, even when he is colored?

The argument for a restricted suffrage shows a poor understanding of the worth and meaning of a republic, yet there is scarcely a woman's suffrage assembly where it does not find eloquent voice and advocacy.

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We are told that "all Negroes are opposed to woman suffrage," an astonishing statement which will not bear examination. I have worked with and among colored people for many years. In the institution with which I am connected, the Frederick Douglass Center, the subject of woman suffrage is a familiar and welcome theme. Suffrage meetings have been held in our assembly room where the subject was discussed by white and black. I have yet to hear a serious argument on the negative side from a colored speaker.

The feeling of the most thoughtful Negroes on this subject is one that does equal credit to heart and understanding. "I know what disfranchisement means," said one of these in my hearing. "I have suffered from it, my race suffers from it still. I should be ashamed to impose such a wrong on any other class." Compare this to the rallying cry, "Do not touch the Negro problem!"

It may be well in this connection to tell the story of one of Miss Anthony's very early visits to Chicago, her first I believe. She had come in the hope of securing a chance to speak her gospel word. Church after church was solicited from the white clergy and invariably refused. It so happened that the friend with whom Miss Anthony was stopping lived near the colored district and was on friendly terms with her dusky-skinned neighbors. She called on the pastor of Quinn Chapel, the oldest and largest colored church in the city, whose use was promptly granted. Thus it was from a colored pulpit and in the main to a colored audience that our Susan addressed her first argument in the City of the Lakes.

Woman suffrage had no more loyal friend than Frederick Douglass. Doubtless he injured himself in many more cautious minds by thus openly allying himself with a cause which was in those days far more unpopular than the black man's. Did anyone say to him, "Let the woman question alone"? One can easily imagine the reply he would have made, he who said: "I know no race problem; there is a human problem." His last public act was to attend a meeting of the National Association, where Miss Anthony spoke words of gratitude and praise to him, pinning a flower in his buttonhole. He went to his home and an hour later was dead.

Lucy Stone, Lucretia Mott, Mary Livermore, Theodore Parker, Thomas Wentworth Higginson and a host of other men and women came into the woman suffrage work through the anti-slavery door. Human freedom was the great cause they served.

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It is natural and right that we should choose our

particular line or field of work, but when in particular zeal for one class we are led to speak words of discouragement and opposition to another class in equal or greater need and seeking the same high ends, our power of usefulness and our understanding of the real situation are sadly impaired. Let us adopt Henry George's motto: "I am for men." Not for one kind of man, but the generic man, the black, brown, red or yellow man no less than the white, the woman and little child; every state and condition of being that needs a helping hand, for whose ultimate and common benefit all our social reforms are working. When we have learned to join hands in our common task, to help each other no less than ourselves, to recognize our common heritage and kinship, we shall find ourselves much nearer the ends we seek.

CELIA PARKER WOOLLEY.

NEWS NARRATIVE

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of The Public for earlier information on the same subject.

Week ending Monday, November 27, 1911.

American Singletax Conference.

An unofficial Conference of Singletaxers of the United States, participated in by Singletaxers of Canada, assembled at Chicago on the 24th under the call of The Joseph Fels Fund Commission of America. This Conference, designed by the Commission to be advisory only and to go out of existence with its adjournment on the 26th, conformed strictly in its proceedings to that design. The earlier meetings were held at the La Salle Hotel, as all the others were to have been, including a general dinner of delegates and their friends; but when the hotel refused to serve Negroes, of whom there were five or six among the expected guests, the Conference refused to draw "the color line" and went elsewhere for its meetings subsequent to the afternoon of the 25th. For the dinner, it chose Kimball's Cafe, after having canceled its arrangement with the La Salle Hotel; for its meetings of the 26th it engaged Willard Hall, in the Woman's Temple. The latter change might have been necessary in any event to accommodate the audiences; but the dinner change, although a lower price was in fact secured by it, was due wholly to the race question. Over 175 reservations for the dinner at the La Salle Hotel had been made (and there were reasons for expecting at least 50 more) when the Conference managers were confronted with the Hotel's ultimatum. They rejected it before hunting for another place for the dinner function and subsequent meetings, and with no assurance that they could find any accommodations at all. At one time there was apparent danger of a diversion

of the attention of the Conference to the race question from the specific subject it had met to discuss; but this danger passed away, and the Singletax movement, as one of immediate practical concern, was considered with a degree of thoughtfulness which the subject had not received since the agitation began. [See vol. xiii, pp. 1110, 1113, 1145; current volume, page 1194.]



When the Conference assembled on the 24th, it was called to order by Daniel Kiefer as chairman of the Joseph Fels Fund Commission; and upon motion of ex-Congressman Robert Baker of New York, W. H. Holly of Chicago was elected permanent chairman. Stanley Bowmar and Luther S. Dickey were then elected secretaries, and on motion of C. M. Koedt, Joseph Fels was elected honorary chairman. Among those present at the various meetings were the following:

Arizona—Mrs. Geo. B. Marsh.

California—James P. Cadman.

Colorado—J. R. Herrmann.

Connecticut—Charles S. Prizer.

Illinois—Edward Gates, U. A. H. Greene, Mr. and Mrs. Walter B. Griffin, Richard Greener, Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Graves, Mr. and Mrs. Vance J. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Barler, Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Bingham, Judge and Mrs. E. O. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Butler, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Harding, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Hornstein, Mr. and Mrs. Louis F. Post, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Max M. Korshak, Mr. and Mrs. Leo R. Klinge, Mr. and Mrs. John Z. White, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. V. Wells, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Spencer, Rev. and Mrs. August Dellgren, Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Dickey, Prof. and Mrs. H. B. Loomis, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Turner, Dr. and Mrs. C. H. Treadwell, Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Edson, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. R. Eames, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Moulton, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Vestal, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. C. Madison, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Bowmar, Mrs. Raymond Robins, Lydia Avery Coonley Ward, Nellie Carlin, Katherine Kennard, Sarah A. Kirkley, Mrs. J. A. Kelly, Mrs. Rudolph Heun, Mrs. Minnie M. Kapple, Miss Vickery, Frank Brown, Miss Sue Wells, Annie Pieton, Miss Gussie Cullman, Miss I. Olmstead, Lydia T. Loesch, Mrs. Herman Lieb, Mrs. Frederick S. Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Hale, Mary O'Reilly, Mrs. J. W. Sercomb, Mary L. Sayer, Mary David, Mrs. Mary E. O'Brien, Jean Wallace Butler, Mr. and Mrs. E. Ruzek, Mrs. Constance Engstrom, Miss Eliza Engstrom, Miss Lucia Norse, Mrs. L. D. Maclachlan, Mrs. M. Meredith, Ella Buchanan, Luvera Buchanan, Wilma Rhinesmith, Mrs. Julia Fox, Mrs. N. V. Eckert, Miss I. Olmstead, Mrs. J. J. Leach, Eliza Haley, Dr. M. Lychenheim, Mrs. Agnes T. Lychenheim, Miss Marion Lychenheim, Mrs. Myron M. Blackman, Dr. Alma E. Braucher, Dr. Roswell F. Connor, Dr. Mary H. Connor, Dr. Leonora Beck, Dr. Blanche Moyer Elfink, Ernest N. Braucher, A. O. Coddington, James E. Brennan, T. J. Amberg, H. G. Adair, Chas. R. Adair, H. A. Batchelor, Magnus

Branson, M. M. Blockman, Frank H. Bode, W. H. Bowe, W. R. Browne, H. S. Browne, M. L. Bryan, E. C. Buechler, H. J. Harrower, Henry D. Hatch, William H. Holly, A. G. Hubbard, Chas. J. Hudson, Chas. Horn, Chas. H. Cileski, Harry Heun, J. B. McGinty, Alexander Pernod, Dr. W. E. Harper, B. E. Page, Joseph B. Perkins, F. P. Ide, S. Jones, J. B. Johnston, Jno. D. Jones, E. W. Ritter, Thomas Rhodus, David Rosenheim, M. J. Rowan, Lawrence B. Ryan, Robert Cumming, W. B. Colver, Otto Cullman, G. A. Osinga, E. M. Miller, Chas. W. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Maynard, Miss Frieda Maynard, E. C. Moeller, Dr. John Muller, Henry Vick, E. M. Moore, Jay D. Miller, Wiley W. Mills, Chas. H. Mitchell, James B. Ellery, Joseph Farris, Michael Eldridge, Edward W. Eldridge, Fay Lewis, Geo. E. Lee, M. G. Lloyd, Myer Linker, Jacob C. Le Bosky, John L. Dennis, M. F. Daggett, V. Y. Dallman, Rev. Jesse S. Dancy, A. L. Daniels, W. C. Daniells, Samuel Dauchey, J. E. Dressendorfer, B. Sherman, Thomas Wallace Swann, Geo. M. Strachan, S. S. Stanger, W. A. Staub, Dr. Chas. L. Logan, W. J. Spaulding, Parker H. Sercombe, Geo. A. Schilling, Clayton B. Loomis, Wm. B. Steers, H. W. Macfarlane, John A. Swanson, Mrs. Elizabeth Tideman, H. L. T. Tideman, Geo. Tideman, Elby P. Tideman, S. N. Tideman, W. D. Tate, Morton G. Lloyd, E. Woltersdorf, W. J. Watts, Thos. Odell, E. A. O'Brien, R. M. O'Brien, Chas. W. Triggs, Geo. C. Olcott, J. W. Woolf, Chas. L. Young, Wm. D. Neighbors, Ralph Nash, A. A. Worsley, Fred M. Wheeler, S. Wetstone, A. Wangemann, Henry L. Wallace, H. L. Bliss, J. L. White, Edw. E. McMorran, Frank Kapple, B. Kendrick, Chas. H. Castle, A. P. Canning, A. P. Callahan, C. L. Craig, John W. Conway, Chas. W. Kellogg, C. M. Koedt, Lesley L. Kennedy, Dr. Walter E. Elfink, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Grimm, Mr. and Mrs. Avery Coonley.

Indiana—Geo. A. Briggs, U. G. Manning, Judge Lawrence Becker, James A. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Connell, Joseph H. Herr, Hilton Hammond, Geo. W. Brown.

Iowa—Frank Vierth, Vernon M. Vierth, James E. Jamison, Dr. A. O. Pitcher.

Kentucky—Susan Look Avery.

Massachusetts—Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Joy.

Minnesota—C. J. Buell, S. A. Stockwell, Stiles P. Jones, Wm. B. Stewart.

Missouri—J. W. Diller, Dr. W. P. Hill, Arthur M. Custer, Frank K. Ryan, William Marion Reed, John B. Herman.

New Jersey—Dr. Mary D. Hussey, Charles H. Ingersoll.

New York—Hon. Robert Baker, Bolton Hall, J. K. Rudyard, Frank Parker Stockbridge.

North Dakota—R. B. Blakemore.

Ohio—A. B. du Pont, Hon. Thomas Hunt, Daniel Gingrich, Herbert Quick, Daniel Kiefer, Mrs. Daniel Kiefer, Daniel Kiefer, Jr., Henry C. Kiefer.

Oregon—W. S. U'Ren.

Pennsylvania—Warren Worth Bailey, R. F. Devine, Chas. R. Eckert, S. Danziger, Henry J. Eckert, Gustave Friebe, Mrs. Augusta A. Harned, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Fels.

South Dakota—R. E. Dowdell.

Washington, D. C.—Willis J. Abbot.

West Virginia—W. I. Boreman.

Wisconsin—Dr. and Mrs. C. L. Babcock.

Canada—W. A. Douglass, Alan C. Thompson, C. G. Norris, A. B. Farmer, W. H. Lynch, M. T. McKittrick, Robert L. Scott, Chas. A. Brothers.

Guests—Ex-Mayor Edward F. Dunne, Hon. Frank Buchanan, George E. Cole, Mrs. Louise Root Coonley, Frances Avery Ward, Kate Starr Kellogg, Joseph S. Martin, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, Alice Henry, Editha Phelps, S. M. Franklin, Geo. E. Hooker, Prof. Ernest Freund, Geo. R. Carman, J. S. Coonley, Herman Kuehn, Lillian Harman and E. D. Jones of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Haag, Winnetka, Ill. Robert S. Vessey, Governor of South Dakota, Mrs. I. F. Ward and B. Brooks, Wyoming, N. Y. Miss Rose E. Briggs, Louisville, Ky. S. M. Macdonald, England.

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In the course of the Conference proceedings, the Joseph Fels Fund Commission reported to it for advisory action, Chairman Kiefer presenting the report of activities for the past year, the Treasurer, A. B. du Pont (successor to the late Tom L. Johnson), presenting the financial report. On these reports the Conference, after a day's consideration, and on motion of Emil W. Ritter, adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, that this Conference approve the work outlined in the report presented by the Joseph Fels Fund Commission for the year.

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Bolton Hall presented from New York a report of the discussion at a meeting of New York Singletaxers where some had criticized the action of the Fels Fund Commission for supporting Initiative and Referendum measures, basing their criticism on the ground that these measures are foreign to Singletax work, which meeting had by a divided vote adopted a resolution requesting the Commission, now that the Initiative and Referendum has been secured in several States, to cease supporting further agitation for it. Upon consideration of this communication from Mr. Hall, the following resolution was adopted by the Conference:

The report of a meeting of Singletaxers in New York and the resolution adopted thereat as submitted to this Conference by Bolton Hall having been duly considered, be it Resolved that this Conference convey to our New York friends the information that there has been but \$500 of the Fels Fund expended directly upon the Initiative and Referendum, and only small amounts in any way indirectly, during the current year; and that the administration of the fund is in our judgment entitled to their confidence. And be it further Resolved that the said report and resolution from New York Singletaxers are hereby respectfully referred to the Joseph Fels Fund Commission of America, with the advice of this Conference that promotion of the Initiative and Referendum has been and still is, in the opinion of this Conference, an appropriate object for the support of said Commission at their discretion.

Apart from the business described above, and from reports from Missouri by Dr. Wm. Preston Hill and from Oregon by Wm. S. U'Ren, together with speeches of information from Colorado by J. R. Herrmann of Denver, and from northwestern Canada by Robert L. Scott of Winnipeg, on the "Gateway Amendment" to the Federal Constitution by Herbert Quick, on the progress and financing of the movement by Joseph Fels, and on different phases of the proceedings by a large number of speakers, the only important business of the Conference was its adoption of a plan for circulating 1,000,000 copies of Henry George's "Protection or Free Trade," and of the following provision, moved by George A. Schilling, for a financial committee auxiliary to the Joseph Fels Fund Commission:

Resolved, that the Conference appoint an auxiliary committee to promote the raising of funds in behalf of and in conjunction with the Joseph Fels Fund Commission of America, and that the committee report during the year to the Joseph Fels Fund Commission and for discharge to the next Conference called by said Commission.

Pursuant to that resolution the following Auxiliary Committee was appointed and organized:

Charles S. Prizer (Connecticut), Chairman; and George A. Schilling (Illinois), H. W. McFarlane (Illinois), James B. Ellery (Illinois), Robt. E. Blake-more (North Dakota), Charles R. Eckert (Pennsylvania), R. F. Devine (Pennsylvania), C. H. Ingersoll (New Jersey), and S. A. Stockwell (Minnesota).

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At the dinner at Kimball's Cafe (La Salle and Monroe Streets) on the 25th, William Marion Reedy of St. Louis presided as toastmaster. Among the other speakers were William S. U'Ren, Herbert Quick, S. A. Stockwell, Joseph Fels, Robert E. Dowdell (president of the National Press Association), Robert S. Vessey (Governor of South Dakota), Dr. Mary D. Hussey, Mrs. Raymond Robins, Alice Thacher Post, Dr. Leonard Beck, Robert L. Scott and Andrew P. Canning. The speaking began with the introduction of and an impressive response by the venerable Susan Look Avery. Mrs. Avery, now in her 95th year, began her democratic career as an Abolitionist in Kentucky before the Civil War. She has had her interest and activities involved in the woman suffrage movement from its early days, in the "greenback" and "populist" movements of the seventies and eighties, in "Bryanism" since it began back in the nineties, in the revolt against imperialism at the beginning of the present century, and in the promotion of those ideals of Henry George which have made her a comrade of Daniel Kiefer and his associates in the work of the Fels Fund.

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The final meetings of the Conference were at

Willard Hall, with a special order in the afternoon and another in the evening. The afternoon order was a discussion of the fiscal phases of the Singletax, under the subject-title of "Tax Reform." William S. U'Ren of Oregon, Robert L. Scott of Manitoba, A. B. Farmer of Ontario, and John Z. White of Illinois, were the speakers. The evening order was a symposium on the social phases of the Singletax, under the subject-title of "Poverty." Mrs. Raymond Robins, Frederic C. Howe (from whom a paper was read), Joseph Fels and W. A. Douglass were the participants. At the close of the symposium the Conference dissolved, having taken no action to continue its authority other than the appointment of the Auxiliary Committee, which is directed to report for discharge to the next Conference the Joseph Fels Fund Commission may call, and meanwhile to report to the Commission.

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The Commission has added Charles H. Ingersoll to its number, making the Commission as it is now constituted, as follows: Daniel Kiefer (Cincinnati), Chairman; Lincoln Steffens (Connecticut), Frederic C. Howe (New York), Charles H. Ingersoll (New Jersey), Jackson H. Ralston (Maryland), and George A. Briggs (Indiana). Anthony B. du Pont (Cleveland) is Treasurer of the Commission, and its headquarters are in the Commercial Tribune Building in Cincinnati, where its Chairman may be addressed.

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Woman Suffrage in Great Britain.

Mr. Asquith's announcement on the 7th of the Ministerial agreement on suffrage, and his explanation, drew forth a Suffragette delegation on the 17th, at which Chrystabel Pankhurst was spokesman. Mr. Asquith had on the 7th announced officially that immediately after the Christmas holidays a bill for manhood suffrage and the abolition of the plural-voting evil would be introduced as a Ministerial measure; and had explained that this measure, while not including woman suffrage, would be drawn in such a form that the House of Commons could so amend it as to include women as well as men if a majority of the House desire. [See current volume, page 1170.]

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On the 17th the Suffragette delegation of which Miss Pankhurst was spokesman, was received by Mr. Asquith, Lloyd George and other Ministers, to whom she said, as London dispatches of the 17th report, that the societies the delegation represented "demanded that the Government make the question of woman suffrage a party one," and that these societies "refused to accept the suffrage on any basis narrower than that on which it was proposed to be granted to the men." Inasmuch as

the Prime Minister had already explained that the House could amend the measure so as to make it apply to women equally with men, the interpretation of that demand seems to be that the Ministry must include woman suffrage in their own bill, whether a majority of the House favor it or not, and thereby assume the responsibility of being forced into another general election immediately. Mr. Asquith replied to Miss Pankhurst, according to the same dispatches, that "the question of woman suffrage really lay with the House of Commons, and whatever form of qualification the majority thought best would be adopted for women and in that form would be introduced into the bill." Preparations were thereupon made by these suffrage societies for violent demonstrations in Parliament Square. On the 21st this program was begun, and in consequence a large number of arrests of women for rioting and resisting the police were made. Some were fined, and for non-payment were imprisoned for two weeks; others, charged with damaging property to the amount of more than \$25, were committed for trial. Among those arrested was Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, who was charged with striking a policeman in the face and was sentenced to a month's imprisonment.

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Meanwhile, Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, had addressed a message to the National Union of Woman's Suffrage societies, in which he said:

The Premier's announcement on the attitude which the Government is adopting toward the question seems to me to make the carrying of a woman's suffrage amendment, on broad democratic lines, to next year's franchise bill a certainty. I am willing to do all in my power to help those laboring to reach a successful issue in the coming session next year, which provides a supreme opportunity, and nothing but unwise handling of that chance can compass a failure.

This offer was rejected on the 24th under the signatures of 200 of the riot prisoners. They declared that they would accept nothing less than a Ministerial measure in which women are included on the same footing as men. The interpretation of this declaration seems to be, like Miss Pankhurst's speech, that the policy of the suffrage societies is to try to force the Ministry in to proposing a bill which, if defeated in the House of Commons for lack of a majority, would compel the Ministry to resign and thereby to challenge the Conservative party to another trial of strength at a general election. With the Labor insurance measure pending, also the measure to abolish plural voting and property qualifications, and the Irish home rule bill, to all of which the Liberal party is committed by two recent elections, it is highly improbable that the drastic policy of the Suffragette leaders, if it is as inferred above, will succeed.