

Los Angeles and then by the State legislature. Submission of the Charter to the people will be made at some date not yet reported prior to December 7th, and not improbably prior to November 27th. By the requirements of the Charter, as soon as the legislature shall have approved it the Board of Freeholders must prepare the Administrative Code and submit it to the city Council not later than April 5th. Thereupon the Council must submit it to the people of Los Angeles at the next primary election, to occur on the first Tuesday of May. But the provisions of the Code proposed for submission are not subject to the will of the Freeholders. Initiative petitions, if any are offered, must be submitted at the same time; and the ordinances proposed, whether by the Freeholders or by Initiative, must be submitted, not as one ordinance or code collectively, but in groups or separately. The Administrative Code will not be amendable by the Council after adoption by the people, nor in any other way than by Initiative. It will be in effect a part of the Charter, since it will prescribe the particular machinery for executing the general provisions of the Charter. As the Charter leaves open the method of electing officials, advocates of Proportional Representation* intend making a campaign for the embodiment of their system in the Administrative Code. The work of drafting the Charter and of making the preliminary draft of the Code has been done chiefly by Lewis R. Works, Leslie R. Hewitt, John W. Shenk, W. B. Mathews, Meyer Lissner and Charles Wellborn, under the advice of other Freeholders and an advisory committee, and with the tireless help of John J. Hamilton, the secretary of the Board.



Another Post-mortem Victory for Tom L. Johnson.

A decision of the Supreme Court of Ohio on the 22nd sustains Tom L. Johnson's fight against the land-grabbing policy of the Pennsylvania Railroad in Cleveland. It will be remembered that at the time of Johnson's first election as Mayor of Cleveland there was an injunction against the completion of this grab by the then Mayor. The Council had already authorized it and their ordinance only awaited his signature. This injunction expired so soon after Johnson's election that the signing of the ordinance by his predecessor was regarded as a certainty, it being usual then for a Mayor-elect not to enter upon the duties of his office until several days after election. Ascertaining that this was a custom only, and that he might take office at once, Johnson qualified immediately, and taking possession of the office hardly an hour before the injunction expired, he vetoed the ordinance. The case has been in the Ohio courts ever since, Mayor Baker having inherited it officially and pushed it to a successful conclusion. As re-

ported by the Cleveland Press of October 23, the decision ousts the Pennsylvania Railroad from Lake-front property lying between W. Ninth St. and the Cuyahoga river, and "gives the people of Cleveland a grip on the harbor situation which probably will result eventually in entire control." [See The Public of April 13, 1901 (vol. iv), page 2; current volume, page 998.]



Joseph Fels Fund and Singletax Conference.

The fourth annual meeting of the Joseph Fels Fund of America is officially announced to be held at Boston, Mass., on the 29th and 30th of November and the 1st of December. Coincident and co-operative with this meeting, the Commissioners of the Fund invite the assembling of a third unofficial Singletax conference of the United States. [See vol. xiv, pp. 1209, 1215, 1261; current volume, pages 76, 176.]



Following is the substance of the official call:

To Singletaxers: The third annual unofficial conference of Singletaxers in conjunction with the meeting of the Fels Fund Commission will be held at Boston on November 29th and 30th, and December 1st. Meetings at the Twentieth Century Club rooms; headquarters at the Bellevue Hotel.

This meeting will be the most important of any that have yet been held.

The fact that the Singletax, or some needed preliminary reform, will be an issue in a number of States at the elections on November 5th, the results of which will by that time be known, will make it necessary for this Conference to discuss many matters of importance. Reports will be received from the leaders in all the places where the fight is of special interest to our movement. Notable among these are W. S. U'Ren and Dr. W. G. Eggleston for Oregon, and Dr. William P. Hill, William Marion Reedy, Wm. A. Black and John Z. White for Missouri. Representation from California is also expected. Account will be taken of progress made, and plans for future work will be considered.

This announcement will, we believe, prompt those who were present at last year's Conference to make every effort to be present this year. We wish, however, this year to see new faces. Every Singletaxer, whether or not a contributor to the Fels Fund, is cordially invited to be present and to participate.

The Fels Fund Commission aims to spend wisely the money entrusted to it and is therefore desirous of having the suggestions, advice and criticism of all Singletaxers. But aside from their importance as councils of war, these gatherings are helpful to the cause through encouragement and inspiration imparted by the personal meeting of workers from widely separated places.

Public sessions will be held mornings, afternoons and evenings, according to the will of those present.

A public dinner will be one feature of the Conference. This will probably be on Saturday, November 30th. The details are yet to be arranged, but the price per plate will not exceed \$1. It would

*See Public of September 20, page 903.