

years "The Malthusian" has been disseminating in England, without hindrance from the Government, information regarding the prevention of conception. In France a number of Malthusian journals are published, and limitation of offspring has widespread and influential support. Malthusian Leagues have been organized in Spain, Italy, Germany, South America and even in Africa.

This case involves much more than Mr. Sanger and his wife. It involves personal liberty and a free press. If Mr. Sanger wins, the importance of the victory, for the whole people, cannot be overestimated. The Free Speech League is backing him. Gilbert E. Roe is acting as his attorney.

A FUND OF AT LEAST FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS IS NEEDED FOR LEGAL EXPENSES IN THIS STRUGGLE. More is needed for a campaign of publicity outside of the courts. This is your fight, too. The time to fight is now. You are asked to send as much as you can, and as soon as possible to the President of the Free Speech League, Leonard D. Abbott, 241 East 201st street, New York City.

[See current volume, page 235.]



#### Woman Suffrage News.

The Pennsylvania State Senate passed on March 15 by a vote of 37 to 11 the resolution to submit a woman suffrage amendment. Having been already adopted by the House and by the legislature of 1913, it now goes to a popular vote in November. Proposed suffrage amendments were defeated in both houses of the Delaware legislature on March 9. A bill for municipal suffrage was defeated in the Nebraska legislature on March 10. Mayor Mitchel of New York in an address on March 11 endorsed the pending suffrage amendment in that State. [See current volume, page 263.]



#### Tannenbaum Released.

Frank Tannenbaum was released from Blackwell's Island on March 10. He had served a year's sentence, having been arrested in March, 1914, for asking shelter along with 189 other unemployed on a cold night of the priest of St. Alphonsus church. Besides the jail sentence he was fined \$500. A collection to pay this for him was taken up and quickly raised, the contributions ranging from one cent to one dollar. Judge Wadhams, who had sentenced him, then agreed to remit the fine. The money for this will be devoted to other purposes. Tannenbaum was met on his release by a large number, composed of persons from all walks of life, who regard his treatment as unjust and was given an ovation. [See vol. xvii, p. 277.]



#### Texas Rent Restriction Law Passed.

The Texas legislature adopted finally on March 12 the bill favored by Governor Ferguson regu-

lating farm rents. It provides that where land is rented on shares the tenant shall receive two-thirds of the grain and three-fourths of the cotton which he grows, the remainder of the crop going to the landlord. Where the land is farmed on the money-rent plan, the landlord is prohibited from receiving any sum in excess of the value of the crop as based on the share division which the law provides. [See current volume, page 205.]



#### Vacant Lot Cultivation.

Mrs. Mary Fels, widow of Joseph Fels, has sent the following letter to every clergyman in Philadelphia:

I want to call your attention to a way of helping unemployment that is easily and immediately practicable, and one which helps a man to help himself. It is by the use of unused land. Our cities are full of vacant lots, thousands upon thousands of them; in New York they run into a million. In both the cities where he lived, Joseph Fels formed vacant lots cultivation societies, and thus in Philadelphia and London (and elsewhere, others following his example), active work of this excellent kind is in progress.

Will not you use your influence to further this work? Will you not speak of it, and ask your hearers to lend such unused land as they have, and also to give money for the necessary tools, seeds, etc., to the Philadelphia Association for Vacant Lot Cultivation? (No. 1122 Land Title Building.)

Should not, at the same time, everyone be urged to use all means in their power to get the Assessment Act amended, so that no man will find his taxes growing heavier because he has made improvements, or otherwise toiled to add to the prosperity of the country?



Principally through an agitation conducted in the columns of the Chicago Herald by William L. Chenery, the West Park Board of Chicago has set aside 6,000 square feet of land for cultivation by the unemployed and an impetus has been given the movement for vacant lot cultivation.



#### Tax Reform News.

The city of Houston, Texas, will appeal from the decision of Judge Read which ordered Tax Commissioner Pastoriza to assess improvements on the same basis as land values. Preparations are being made to assess all property at 100 per cent valuation. A letter to all taxpayers has been sent by Mr. Pastoriza, of which the following is a part:

There is now pending a suit which was brought by Jos. F. Meyer, J. J. Settegast, et al., against the City of Houston, and its taxing officers, to restrain them from assessing property for the year 1915 in accordance with the plan followed during the last three years. They are asking that all classes of property not exempt from taxation by law shall be taxed equally and uniformly. This includes personal