

done beyond receiving a report from Mayor Johnson in pamphlet form to be circulated over the city, which is described by the local press as having practically opened a new fight for 3-cent fares. As summarized by The Plain Dealer, the pamphlet shows that the total traction receipts for October, November and December were \$9,977.16 above actual expenditures; and that the excess above ordinary normal expenditures was \$42,887.69. It is then argued in the pamphlet that if a 1-cent charge for transfers had been made, the surplus would have amounted to \$133,313.69—a surplus of over \$100,000 above even the extraordinary expenses. Yet the receivers reported an operating deficit of \$120,470.59. They have since reported a further deficit, in January, of \$65,827.

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Public Utilities in Los Angeles.

By an extraordinarily large majority on referendum the City of Los Angeles, Cal., has just adopted municipal ownership and operation, and protected the public interest against improvident sales, leases and franchises. The charter amendment by which this has been done, provides for supplying the city and its inhabitants with water, gas and electricity, or with other means of heat, illumination or power; and for acquiring, constructing, leasing or operating conduits or railroads, or other means of transit or transportation, and plants and equipments for the production or transmission of gas, electricity, heat, refrigeration or power, in any of their forms, by pipes, wires or other means; and for incurring a bonded indebtedness for any of such purposes, provided the question of the issue of bonds therefor shall first be submitted to the qualified electors of the city at a special or general election, and that two-thirds of the votes cast on the question shall have been cast in favor. The amendment also provides for the supply of surplus water and surplus electric power, or either, belonging to the city, to other municipal corporations, and to consumers and users outside of the city limits; and for acquiring or building and operating railroads and interurban railroads from any point within the city limits, to any place or places within Los Angeles county and located on the ocean, or any inlet thereof, for the purpose of transporting passengers or freight between the city and the ocean, and to fix and collect charges therefor; and for acquiring or constructing and operating public wharves, docks, piers or moles upon the seashore, in connection with the transportation of passengers and freight between the ocean and the city, and to fix and collect charges therefor. It also provides in detail against the sale or lease in whole or in part of the public utilities property of the city without a two-thirds referendum vote.

Promoting the Single Tax Movement.

Under the authority of the American Single Tax League, which has headquarters at 27 Union Square, New York City, the following circular announcement has just been made:

Mr. Joseph Fels of Philadelphia and London has offered to contribute \$25,000 per year for five years for the promotion of land value taxation, provided an equal sum shall be raised in the United States for the same purpose. Among the persons invited to lend their aid and advice in carrying the work to a successful issue are those whose names appear on the appended list. The active direction of the work will be in the hands of Daniel Klefer of Cincinnati, Senator Frederic C. Howe of Cleveland, George A. Briggs of Elkhart, Ind., Jackson H. Ralston of Washington, D. C., and Lincoln Steffens of Boston, Mass.

BOLTON HALL.

Chairman for Temporary Committee.

Henry George Jr.

Charlotte E. Hampton.

Daniel Klefer.

F. C. Leubuscher.

John J. Murphy.

The names in the list of persons who have been invited to co-operate, as stated in the above circular are those of—

Charles Francis Adams, Boston; Theodore J. Amberg, Chicago; Robert Baker, Brooklyn; A. J. Boulton, Brooklyn; James H. Barry, San Francisco; Judge E. O. Brown, Chicago; James W. Bucklin, Colorado Springs; Champ Clark, Washington, D. C.; Dr. S. Solis Cohen, Philadelphia; Grace I. Colbron, New York; John S. Crosby, New York; Clarence S. Darrow, Chicago; Prof. J. H. Dillard, New Orleans; F. I. Dupont, Wilmington; Edward F. Dunne, Chicago; Mrs. C. E. Dodworth, Pasadena; Louis R. Ehrich, New York; W. G. Eggleston, San Francisco; Hamlin Garland, Chicago; L. F. C. Garvin, Lonsdale, R. I.; E. B. Gaston, Fairhope, Ala.; Henry George, Jr., New York; Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Boston; Margaret A. Haley, Chicago; Wm. Preston Hill, St. Louis; John B. Howarth, Detroit; Bolton Hall, New York; Charlotte E. Hampton, New York; Elizabeth J. Hauser; Dr. Mary D. Hussey, Orange, N. J.; C. H. Ingersoll, New York; Fred'k F. Ingram, Detroit; Mayor Tom L. Johnson, Cleveland; Robert A. La Follette, Wisconsin; August Lewis, New York; Joseph Leggett, Police Commissioner, San Francisco; F. C. Leubuscher, New York; H. C. Lippincott, Philadelphia; F. J. Loesch, Chicago; James G. Maguire, San Francisco; Benjamin Marsh, New York; Dr. T. S. K. Morton, Philadelphia; Jos. Dana Miller, New York; John Martin, Stapleton, N. Y.; Jennie L. Munroe, Washington, D. C.; John J. Murphy, New York; A. J. Moxham, Wilmington; Judge A. S. Niles, Baltimore; Rt. Rev. Wm. P. McVickar, Providence, R. I.; E. Q. Norton, Daphne, Ala.; N. O. Nelson, St. Louis; T. F. Osborne, Auburn, N. Y.; U. S. Senator Robert Owen, Oklahoma; J. J. Pastoriza, Houston, Tex.; Edward Polak, New York; Louis F. Post, Chicago; Louis Prang, Boston; George Foster Peabody, New York; Lawson Purdy, New York; Herbert Quick, Madison, Wis.; George L. Record, Jersey City; H. F. Ring, Houston, Tex.; Raymond Robins, Chicago; Mrs.

Raymond Robins, Chicago; Dr. Elizabeth Robbins, New York City; U. S. Senator B. F. Shively, South Bend, Ind.; S. A. Stockwell, Minneapolis; R. T. Snediker, Kansas City, Kan.; Samuel Seabury, New York; Mayor Edward R. Taylor, San Francisco; Eliza Stowe Twitchell, Wollaston, Mass.; W. S. U'Ren, Oregon City, Ore.; John R. Waters, New York; W. H. T. Wakefield, Mound City, Kan.; Francis Warren, Detroit; George Fred Williams, Dedham, Mass.; Peter Witt, Cleveland; Alfred J. Wolf, Fairhope, Ala.; C. E. S. Wood, Oregon; Rt. Rev. Chas. D. Williams, Detroit; Prof. Charles Zueblin, Boston.

In explanation of the uses of the fund, the circular states tentatively that of existing plans to be promoted the following are regarded as foremost:

The work for the practical adoption of land value taxation in Rhode Island, Oregon, Missouri and Oklahoma. Press bureaus, such as that kept going until recently by Charles D. Ryan, should be maintained on a larger and more comprehensive scale. A depot for the distribution of literature along the lines now being operated by Mr. Swinney. The Single Tax Review and the institution of a press agency which will be continuously employed in circulating press matter on land value taxation and cognate questions among the papers of the country. To maintain at headquarters as correct a list as possible of Single Taxers throughout the country, to be extended and developed by correspondence. Special work, such as procuring expert reports by economists upon various phases of the land question. The stimulation of an international convention at some time in the near future, chiefly for its advertising value, and the endeavor to maintain closer relations than have hitherto existed between the land value taxatlonists of the United States and the rest of the world, realizing the value that comes from such experiments as are now being made along our lines in foreign countries.

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A similar movement is already under way in Great Britain in consequence of a like agreement on the part of Mr. Fels. A few months ago he offered to the United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values (20 Tothill street, Westminster, London) an annual contribution of £5,000 for five years, on condition that it be doubled from other sources. In consequence, the agitation of the policy of land value taxation has been spread throughout the country. It is at this moment the pressing question in Parliament.

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Honor to General Weaver.

A memorial portrait of Gen. James B. Weaver was unveiled at the Iowa State Historical Society building in Des Moines, on the 15th. Governor Carroll presided, the presentation address was by Father Nugent, and the oration by William J. Bryan.

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General Weaver won his military title in the Federal service during the Civil War. He was a

Republican until the question of currency contraction agitated the West, and was then elected to the Forty-sixth Congress by the Greenback party. He was elected to the Forty-ninth Congress by a fusion of Greenbackers and Democrats, and to the Fiftieth by a similar fusion. In 1880 he was the Greenback candidate for President of the United States, receiving about 350,000 popular votes. Twelve years later, as the candidate of the People's party for the same office, he received 1,041,028 popular votes and 22 electoral votes—the latter having been cast by Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Nevada, North Dakota and Oregon. General Weaver has been mayor of his little home town of Colfax, near Des Moines, for several years.

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Lincoln's Centenary and the Negro.

A unique feature of the Abraham Lincoln Centenary of the 12th, and one that may prove to be among its most important results, is the call issued from New York, for a national "Lincoln Conference on the Negro Question." The object of the conference is to secure a full discussion of the question of how far the nation has lived up to the obligations imposed upon it by Lincoln's emancipation proclamation. The call emanates from New York and is signed by many prominent New Yorkers. Among the signers are Jane Addams, Chicago; Samuel Bowles, Springfield, Mass.; Ida Wells Barnett, Chicago; William Lloyd Garrison, Boston; W. E. B. Dubois, Atlanta; Francis J. Grimke, Washington, D. C.; Emil G. Hirsch, Chicago; Louis F. Post, Chicago; William M. Salter, Chicago; Mrs. Rodman Wharton, Philadelphia; Susan Wharton, Philadelphia; Charles Zueblin, Boston, and William English Walling, New York.

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Liberia at a Crisis.

Last Spring, the presence in this country of a delegation from Liberia, bearing an appeal to the United States to give advice, and if possible, still more substantial aid, was noted (vol. xi, p. 203). The situation, as then stated, was as follows:

Liberia, the little state created on the southwest corner of equatorial Africa by Negroes who had been released from slavery in America, is suffering from inability to cope with the growing spheres of influence exerted in its neighborhood and over its borders by England and France. A series of boundary disputes with both of them has been settled by yielding in every case to the strong nations. Worse yet, the difficulty of maintaining order among the native tribes of the country is coupled with responsibility for the disorder as it reaches out of bounds, and now England has delivered an ultimatum to the effect that Liberia must either maintain better government or submit to intervention.

Since that time, the Department of State has been in correspondence with foreign governments and