

too, that the heart of our movement is sound. Single Taxers here as there expect to triumph through an appeal to principle; they will not permit this splendid movement for industrial emancipation to be led into by-paths. They who have seen the vision breaking through the cloudy night of our civilization, they who travel with the ever increasing host will keep to the broad highway, and will relegate to the rear those who minimize the message which the great prophet of our era brought to a civilization which, if it is to live at all, must be born again.

MANHATTAN SINGLE TAX CLUB
DINNER.

It was an interesting dinner of the Manhattan Single Tax Club that was given on Saturday, January 11, because it was the first dinner given under the new administration, of which Mr. Alfred Bishop Mason is the head. Mr. Mason was president of the Manhattan Single Tax Club many years ago, and he has his work cut out for him in the splendid example set for all succeeding presidents by Mr. John T. McRoy. Mr. Mason made a complimentary referencce to Mr. McRoy, who left a few days later for a long journey abroad, and who was with us for the last time for many months to come. He said that New York had had three men prominent in the hearts of Single Taxers for the local work they had done to make New York an active center, and those men were Henry George, Dr. McGlynn—and John T. McRoy. He then called upon Mr. McRoy to stand up and be seen, but absolved him from the duty of making a speech. The modest, self-effacing man who has done so much in the last twelve months to rejuvenate the local organization, arose, and was greeted with a tribute of hand-clapping that must have shown him that he is held in high esteem by those who have watched the great work he has done. The fact is, that few men have been more loved by those with whom he has worked, and the association of his name with the two great leaders whom we most delight

to honor was a happy compliment and well deserved.

A few evenings before this, in the rooms of the Club at 42nd Street, a silver loving cup had been presented to the retiring president.

Among the speakers at this dinner on the 11th of January were Messrs. Weinberger, Blech, Lybarger, and Bengough. The first named is a newcomer into the ranks, and made a most excellent speech, as did young Mr. Blech, who spoke on the Single Taxer's idea of property. Mr. Lybarger, whom New York Single Taxers have never before had the opportunity of hearing, fulfilled all the reports that had reached us of the graces of oratory that are his, and Mr. Bengough brought the evening to a close by his entertaining "chalk talks," in which he is always interesting.

WILLIAM LUSTGARTEN.

(See portrait and article by Mr. Lustgarten on another page.)

Mr. Lustgarten was born in 1881. He was educated in the public schools of the city of New York and the City College, and he is a graduate of the New York University Law School. He was admitted to the bar in 1903 and was married in 1906 to Matilda Goldstein, a young woman of attractive personal traits who has contributed much to his success and who entertains the same convictions as to the need of our fundamental reform.

He was assistant secretary of the Committee of Fifteen which about ten years ago was appointed to investigate vice conditions, out of which came the independent nomination of William Travers Jerome for District Attorney. He has always taken an active part in the reform politics of the Democratic Party, and worked to secure the nomination of William J. Gaynor for Mayor. He was chairman of the executive committee of the Progressive Democracy, and was in no small degree responsible for the failure of the nomination of several well known reac-

tionaries. He again took an active part last year in preventing the renomination of Governor Dix, by the holding of meetings and the distribution of effective literature.

Although a close friend of Mayor Gaynor, and a supporter of his policies, he has not hesitated to vigorously express his opposition to the Mayor's subway policy, both in speech and through the press.

Mr. Lustgarten is by profession a lawyer, with an excellent practice. He is a member of the Manhattan Single Tax Club, the Reform Club, the City Club, Merchants Association, and president of the East Side Club.

Our readers are referred to page 63 for an article by Mr. Lustgarten on New York's method of raising revenue, on which subject he is an authority.

DINNER TO JOSEPH F. DARLING.

It was a deserved tribute that a hundred men and women, themselves active in one or other of the movements that make for human freedom, paid, on the night of January 4th, at Colazzi's restaurant on 24th Street, this city, to Joseph F. Darling, for his many years of service in the various causes he has espoused.

Toastmaster Albert E. Firman began the occasion by many happy references to the guest they had met to honor. Dr. A. L. Goldwater told of Mr. Darling's career as a public school principal, and his work for the utilization of the public school buildings for public purposes, a beneficent use in which Mr. Darling was a pioneer. Mr. Bastida told of Mr. Darling's work as a street campaigner, and gave a history of the formation of the Land Value Tax party. George Wallace, being compelled to leave on an early train, addressed the diners briefly. Mr. Dintenfass told of Mr. Darling's work for free speech in Philadelphia, in which fight he had forced the authorities to yield. Mrs. Valentine made a humorous speech. She said that she had last seen Mr. Darling in jail. "Indeed he generally is in jail. I don't want you to laugh at this, for when Joe Darling is in jail it is for some principle of human

liberty, and we ought all of us to be ashamed that we are not there for the same principle." Mr. Theodore Schroeder spoke of Mr. Darling's imprisonment in Central America. Mr. Cornelius Shehan dealt with the subject of free speech in the courts and about the courts, and Mr. Cornelius Donovan had for his topic the Tenants' Union. Other speakers were Mr. Jerome C. Reis and Mr. Bolton Hall.

TORONTO.

By a vote of four to one on January 1, Toronto asked for permission to appeal for the exemption of improvements for local purposes. Few politicians have received such a rebuke as Sir James Whitney has in this overwhelming condemnation of his course. The *Toronto Globe* warned Sir James that there were a lot of Conservative tax reformers whose party loyalty was strained to the breaking point by his autocratic manner when he dismissed with such scant courtesy the committee that came before him.

In discussing the proposals of the committee that visited him he branded them as Single Tax pure and simple. To this the *Citizen* of Ottawa, quite undismayed, said: "They are as much Single Tax as schools are socialism. In any case it is no argument. The partial exemption of improvements is common sense, pure and simple."

With every candidate but one favoring tax reform, with the vigorous backing from the Toronto Board of Trade, the Dominion Grange, and the Trades and Labor Council, it seems impossible that Sir James can much longer hold out against the tide of public opinion. It is through and owing to his influence alone that municipalities have been denied the power to exempt improvements.

In the work that has brought about the splendid victory in Toronto Single Taxers have been in the forefront. A. B. Farmer has presented some startling figures in which he shows that the homes of workingmen in Toronto are assessed at about three quarters of what they can be sold for, while vacant land is assessed at 55 per