

(2) He appreciates and thanks his United States brethren for their work during the war and its calamities, but wishes they would call a world congress of Jews so that there would be real representatives to speak for the nation.

(3) Palestine must be extended to the widest borders in history and must include the Hauran, which is now a wild barren country which the Jews can develop, but it must be previously understood that neither the Turkish crown lands nor the rest of it must ever become individual or corporation property for speculative purposes, and while the exact "shmita" and "Jubilee" of the Mosaic and prophetic laws cannot at present be inaugurated in their integrity, we ought to establish the principles of Rivadavia of Argentina and Henry George of America."

Death of James W. Bucklin

JAMES W. BUCKLIN, one of the pioneers in Single Tax reform, died at Palo Alto, California, on July 14. His body was brought to his old home in Grand Junction, Colorado, for internment. He leaves a widow and two sons, one of whom will complete his course at Stanford University next year.

Mr. Bucklin was born near Big Rock, Ill., on Nov. 13, 1856. His father and mother were both descendants of Revolutionary soldiers. His mother's grandfather was Thomas Winch, who enlisted at the age of 53 in the Revolutionary army and spent a winter with Washington at Valley Forge.

Young Bucklin attended school at Wheaton College for two years and later entered the University of Michigan, where he graduated in 1877 with the degree of L. L. B. Mr. Bucklin served two terms in the House of Representatives of Colorado, being elected in 1880 and later in 1896. In 1895 he was appointed county attorney of Mesa County, Colorado, and held the office of city attorney of Grand Junction a number of terms.

Mr. Bucklin was, without doubt, the greatest, the most persistent and one of the most capable Single Tax leaders in the West. He was an able lawyer, and his profound knowledge of the law was brought to bear on the courts and the legislature of this State in the effort to advance the cause he had at heart. Some of the best safeguards of the people are the laws that he wrote into the statutes of this State, notably the law authorizing Colorado cities to purchase or condemn water, gas and electric works at actual cost of plant. Due to his efforts, more than almost anybody else in the State, Colorado cities have home rule charters. His report as chairman of the Revenue Commission of Colorado in 1901 was widely circulated throughout the country and his magazine articles, lectures on municipal and social problems, the result of deep study in the fundamentals of government entitle him to the undying gratitude of Single Taxers. Some of these contributions to the literature of scientific taxation and government have appeared in the *SINGLE TAX REVIEW*.

His famous fight in 1902 when he undertook to carry an

amendment to the Colorado State Constitution which would permit the Single Tax in Colorado aroused fierce opposition. The story of this campaign is told in the *SINGLE TAX YEAR BOOK*.

Mr. Bucklin presided over the Grand Junction Charter Convention in 1909 and was father of the charter, declared to be "the most democratic municipal charter ever adopted." He was first to propose the "Preferential Ballot" system in America. It was adopted in Grand Junction. Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Denver and Boulder, and many other towns accepted this electoral system. Mr. Bucklin was President of the Mesa County Bar Association for thirty years. His death is a great loss to the movement in the United States.

John B. McGauran delivered the eulogy at Mr. Bucklin's funeral. A long and close friendship had united the two, and none could be more fitted to make a just estimate of his great services to the cause of the Single Tax as well as the minor civic reforms that enlisted his energy and devotion.

The Grand Junction Daily News says this of its distinguished fellow townsman:

A most peculiar thing about the funeral of Mr. Bucklin was that the town in which he is buried was laid out by him; the streets down which the funeral proceeded were planned by this old timer; the church in which the services were held, he planned and chose the site for; he started the agitation for the bridge over which his body was carried and finally, the graveyard in which he is buried is now being conducted under the rules drawn up under his hand.

Mr. Bucklin did not live to see more than the beginnings of that revolution in Single Tax sentiment, policy and methods which he would soon have learned to regard sympathetically. His work is done, and he has left his impress on the history of the movement for the restoration of the right of mankind to the use of the earth.

Ethics of Land Auctions in 1919

UNDER the title "Real Estate is Merchandise," an advertisement in the *New York Times* of Sept. 21st announces the public auction of 471 lots of the Claflin Estate on University Heights, New York City. The terms of the announcement are typical of the contempt of our times for community rights. To the land speculator of today the traffic in public values seems as morally defensible as did the sale of the private liberty of the black man to the slave-dealer of but a few decades ago. Says the advertisement:

"Read this actual photograph of University Heights shown below as you would a book.

Note that present line of building stops short at the Claflin Estate, which, crossing University Ave., blocks northerly growth along that great artery. H. B. Claflin, the Merchant Prince, bought these 471 lots as farm lands in 1866. His family held the property for half a century.

Now, transit has come, practically girdling the property.