

And I believe that the chief mission of the SINGLE TAX REVIEW will be, not so much to reach the masses as to be the guide for the workers of the movement, to help and inform the leaders, and to bind community effort into one great national drive toward the realization of the principle that all men, no matter how humble, have a share and a right in the divinely created natural resources of the earth.
Vancouver Barracks, Wash. JOHN A. PIQUET, 318th Engrs.

HEADED FORWARD IN A NEW DRIVE

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

On my trip in the interests of the Great Adventure I found that Single Taxers were confused in many ways. They were confused with reference to the personnel of the campaign in California, and were confused and divided on the advisability of prosecuting a campaign at this time.

But I am glad to report that the sky is clearing. The issue is no longer in doubt. For no matter how Single Taxers may be divided on other issues when the Single Tax is on the ballot there can be but one thing for Single Taxers to do, and that is to support it or cease to be Single Taxers.

Those who are for democracy here and against autocracy everywhere will be with us. The campaign in California will be a real test of our democracy at home. No more important issue was ever waged in the United States. The Titanic struggle is on, and all personal differences will soon be forgotten in this extraordinary contest. I feel that the movement is headed forward in a new drive.
Los Angeles, Calif.

J. R. HERMANN.

INTERNATIONAL FREE TRADE

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

In the REVIEW for May-June is an invitation to Single Taxers "to declare themselves clearly and briefly upon the issue of international free trade after the war."

The editorial article to which this invitation is a conclusion has amazed and saddened me. Before having read it, I would have scouted the possibility of such an article from such a source. I have read and re-read the article. I condemn it absolutely and entirely. Accepting your invitation I, a free trader, proceed to define my position with unmistakable clearness. Free trade is natural trade, unmolested by government, protected by government. Tariff-for-revenue is governmental robbery-for-revenue, a monstrous crime. "Protection" is public taxation for private purposes, even more monstrous, crime masquerading as philanthropy.

The editorial proposal (paragraph 8) is, in brief, a proposal that the present war of "blood and iron" be followed by an economic war in which the entente nations shall violate individual rights of their own citizens in order to further punish the Central powers—in other words, that the approaching treaty of peace shall be one only in form, and that the economic errors and crimes which (in my opinion), have caused the present horror, be continued and even aggravated. "And what doth war but endless war still breed?"

While inviting Single Taxers to write "clearly," the editor is anything but clear. What is meant (p. 2) by exposing "our national industry to foreign competition in our own markets?" The nation has not any "national industry," nor has it any national "preferences." There are individual preferences—which it is the government's first duty to respect and protect. The editor advises that we violate them. I regretfully nominate him for membership in the "Home Market Club." They will welcome him.

While agreeing with the self-evident editorial proposition that "in our personal buying and selling we have our preferences" affected by "personal and moral values," I deny absolutely that "nations, too, have a right to moral discrimination in trade relations." Such discrimination, made compulsory on private citizens, is crime.

I regret the necessity of brevity in my disapproval of this astounding article. I am an absolutely free trader. Free trade to me means free trade. I ask the editor to define what he means by "meretricious free trade," "legitimate free trade," "real free trade."

I am one of the "loose thinkers," classed in the editor's 9th para-

graph with "aliens and renegades." I protest against that entire paragraph as an incorrect statement of Single Tax doctrine, views and programme. Indeed the editor's programme is exactly contrary to that advised by Henry George himself, in Chapter 29 of "Protection or Free Trade?"

Single Taxers who agree with me that there is crying need for world-wide absolutely free trade are earnestly invited to join the International Free Trade League, 38 St. Botolph Street, Boston. (\$1.00 a year.) Join us now. We need your help against enemies and friends.
Philadelphia, Pa. SAMUEL MILLIKEN.

REPLY

We agree with all that Mr. Milliken has to say regarding either a tariff for protection—in the sense that it is advocated as a "protection" to either industry or wages—or a tariff for revenue. The first is a delusion and a fraud, and the second a foolishly expensive way of raising revenue.

But we do not concede that a nation forfeits its right to determine the conditions under which it (or if Mr. Milliken prefers, *its* citizens) shall hold commercial intercourse with those of another country. It is here that ethical and moral values must be considered.

We do not concede the right of a citizen to trade with an enemy in war time. Germany has by her acts removed herself from the pale of civilization, and when peace is declared may still be without the pale. If Germany should still show a disposition to hold to the strange obsessions which have involved the world in carnage we must continue to use against her the weapons that remain—which in this instance include utter exclusion from our markets. With a penitent and regenerated Germany the case would be different—but another policy may be considered only when a penitent Germany arrives.

Mr. Milliken does not see it, but to advocate world-wide free trade at this time is to serve the purposes of Germany. This International Free Trade League is, significantly enough, made up largely of pacifists and those suspected on pretty fair evidence of pro-German leanings. It is unnecessary to name them, but their activities in other fields leave them open to grave suspicion. In the very first circular sent out they quote declarations made in the Reichstag. This body, as most of the leaders of the League are perfectly well aware, does not represent the voice of Germany—it never has been more than a debating society, and at this time is not even that.

Free trade between peoples is the conservator of peace. But trade relations can easily be used to advance a war policy, as Germany has done for many years. This is made clear in the revelations of Dr. Paul Lensch, a member of the Reichstag, a nominal Socialist, but an advocate of the destruction of Great Britain. "How Germany Does Business," by Dr. Gourvitch, gives us a further insight into her methods.

To refuse trade with such a people is not to serve the arguments or aims of protectionists. Nor need we attribute such a refusal to a desire to wreak injury upon a defeated nation. To so represent it is to confuse the issue. It is a necessary measure of national security.

Germany has shown a disposition not only to impose her Kultur by force of arms, but as in the case of Russia, Finland, Roumania, and the Ukraine, to impose her trade in the same manner. For years she has sought to do this by the forces of intrigue and chicanery. All her trade relations have been entered into with a single eye to the coming war when she proposed to strike at civilization.

Let this be repeated: To advocate free trade with Germany at this time is to serve the purpose of our enemy. To deny, as Mr. Milliken does, that nations have a right to moral discrimination in trade relations is to deny them the right to a measure of self-protection. There can be no trade, nor any sort of friendly intercourse with a people whose commerce has been made so serve an illicit and monstrous purpose, involving nothing less than our own destruction.—EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW.

FROM CAPTAIN STEWART

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

I wish the REVIEW could be a national organ so that you could be relieved of all financial anxieties. I am particularly pleased at your