

New York Celebrates Henry George's Birthday

THE Single Tax Party of New York held a dinner in commemoration of the anniversary of the birth of Henry George at the Aldine Club, on the evening of September 13th, at which many of George's old-time friends, and many new converts to the principles he advocated were present. The gathering was made the occasion for stirring appeals for a revival of the missionary ardor that marked the memorable mayoralty campaign of 1897, in which the Prophet of San Francisco again raised the standard under which he had fought eleven years before and died gloriously battling for the inalienable rights of men.

The keynote of the dinner was given by Oscar Geiger, in an eloquent tribute to the first great preacher of human brotherhood who had shown a practical way in which the doctrine of peace, justice, good will and harmony in the social order can be applied. The supreme merit of the philosophy of the natural order was that it showed clearly a simple method by which the high ideals of the world's prophets and teachers could be realized. Mr. Geiger's address carried his hearers to the higher plane on which the great reform we advocate must be regarded as the New Evangel.

Dr. John H. Girdner, who was Henry George's physician during the exciting weeks of the 1897 campaign, held his hearers' closest attention as he talked of the personality of the modest, unassuming leader who met the advice of his physicians that the strain of the mayoralty contest might have a fatal result, with, "Even if it were so, if I could do something to advance the cause for which I have lived and worked, how could I do better than to give my life in the effort to bring the truth that I see before the people." The story of the great meetings at which Henry George spoke on the evening before his death, and of the little group of friends who sat with him at supper late that night, was told with moving pathos. Dr. Girdner referred to Jerry O'Neill as one who possessed the love and confidence of Mr. George.

Miss Charlotte Schetter pointed to the widespread increase in Single Tax sentiment created by the 1897 campaign as the reason why present day workers should join the Single Tax party and aid in presenting candidates standing on its platform, as a means of securing publicity for its aims.

Mr. Robert C. Macauley made an earnest appeal to his hearers to show their appreciation of the life and services to humanity that had made the name of Henry George a beloved memory by aiding the Committee of the East to raise funds for the vigorous prosecution of the campaign in California for the Single Tax amendment. In reply to his call for contributions more than \$3,000 was subscribed, a large proportion of this coming from the friends who had previously made liberal donations.

~~Lawrence Tracy, the efficient chairman of the dinner,~~ who made a brief address, now called upon Samuel Bell Thomas, the Single Tax party's candidate for Supreme Court Justice. Mr. Thomas told how he had reported the speeches of Henry George in the campaign of 1897. Others who responded to the call of the chairman in short speeches were William J. Wallace, John Davidson, Gaston Haxo, Dr. Mary Hussey, Morris VanVeen, George Lloyd, and Maurice Firth, of England, who told of the disappointment of British Single Taxers over the repeal of the Lloyd George law for land valuation through the efforts of the Premier's Tory and reactionary associates in the Coalition government.