

Russia

FOLLOWING is a translation of a letter from the editor of *Teristo*, a Single Tax journal published in Esperanto, received by the English Committee for the Taxation of Land Values. It has been sent to us by A. W. Madsen, of the United Committee, by whose courtesy we are enabled to give to our readers this news from Moscow of the beginning of the Single Tax movement in Russia.

We will gladly accept your publications in exchange for ours which we will send to you regularly. We shall also be pleased to give you information about the Single Tax movement in Russia when anything worthy of attention occurs. Just now we are excited because it has been decided to replace the present land tax by the Single Tax (as an experiment) in some of those districts (divisional governments). When we have received more detailed information it shall be forwarded to you.

The most famous works of Henry George, "Progress and Poverty," "Social Problems," "Condition of Labor" and others have been translated into the Russian language by our friend, S. D. Nikolajev, who, to our intense grief, died last year. In 1917 with his help we founded a Single Tax League, but the conditions of the time made it impossible for the League to continue its operations. Judging by our experience, the original works of Henry George are not easily read by the masses and so we issued in that year some pamphlets, hoping that they would be more easily understood. By this post we are sending you the chief of these, including the "Story of My Dictatorship," translated by

our second friend, Dr. A. I. Nikolajevskij. Whether our hopes will be realized we do not know—we have not had enough experience. After a lapse of 5 years we resumed our work some months ago under such difficulties that any extension is unthinkable. After all that has taken place, the people have hardly regained social consciousness and are chiefly concerned about re-establishing their ruined material conditions. On the one side lack of means, on the other apathy and indifference; this is not a favorable moment to propose a new social arrangement, the more so because everything new has been followed by disillusionment. We suppose, nevertheless, that the force of circumstances will break down this indifference. We are firmly convinced that not only Russia, but the whole world can find no other way of escape from the present imbroglio than that shown by Henry George. We endeavor to prove this on every page of *Teristo* which at present has only a small number of friends.

In our journal we nevertheless advocate not only the Single Tax system, which we believe to be indissolubly bound up with moral and social reforms, but also co-operation, garden cities, etc.

Up to the present time we have not succeeded in establishing relations with the chief world groups devoting their strength to the propagation of the teaching of Henry George. We would be very grateful if you would send to us the addresses of all such groups and journals. It seems to us that all groups must unite in a world-wide League to advance this most important social reform at this time. Our Moscow friend, Mr. V. Levenson, has just published his book about the Single Tax which he will certainly send to you soon. Publishing difficulties greatly hinder us; we cannot produce everything which we have at our disposal.

We repeat our requests: kindly supply us with the fullest information possible about existing societies, journals, year books, experiments, etc. Specially we beg you to send the address of the SINGLE TAX REVIEW, New York, and *L'Impot Unique*, Buenos Aires.

Accept our greetings and expressions of high esteem.

In the name of the Editor of *Teristo*.