

ference. The fee for club membership is one dollar for every five members. Any individual may also become a member of the League upon payment of one dollar.

For copy of Constitution and By-Laws, or other information, address Mrs. John S. Crosby, president, 335 West Fourteenth street, New York City.

### PERSONALS.

Disclaimer.—Samuel Milliken, of Philadelphia, desires to disclaim the authorship of a diagram from "Six Centuries of Work and Wages." The authorship was erroneously attributed to him by *Land Values*, of Glasgow, and by the *Commonwealth*, of Detroit.

Dr. Samuel Chisholm, who is a well known single tax worker in Glasgow, it is rumored is soon to wed.

The Sunday *World* of recent date printed a number of reproductions of Richard George's caricatures in clay, heads of Morgan, Hanna, Bryan and others. Speaking of these, Mr. George says:

"My father found much entertainment in these creations, and expressed the belief that they might attract attention some day. He made it plain to me, however, that my reputation as a sculptor would establish itself more firmly if I kept always in view the importance of being in earnest."

Among the recent visitors to Fairhope colony was Frederick F. Ingram, of Detroit, whose services in the cause of single tax and public ownership of national monopolies have made his name known to single taxers everywhere. Mr. Ingram has done much lecturing during the Winter, and has not confined his efforts to his own city. Our Toronto friends were fortunate enough to secure him for one of their great public meetings.

Miss Anna George, daughter of Henry George, was married on Monday evening, March 30th, to William Churchill de Mille, of Pompton, N. J., a son of Henry C. de Mille, the playwright.

Rev. Thomas P. McLoughlin, who succeeds "Father Tom," of blessed memory, to the pulpit of the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, of New Rochelle, is known as the "singing priest," and is a lecturer and singer of Irish ballads. He is a nephew of "Father Tom."

Rev. Herbert S. Bigelow, pastor of the Vine Street Congregational Church in Cincinnati, will begin a series of meetings at Johnstown, Pa., commencing May 3rd.

These are sure to be effective in the work of spreading the true gospel of righteousness.

Mr. John Moody, publisher of Moody's Manual of Corporation Statistics, is now proprietor of the *Evening Times*, a daily newspaper of Elizabeth, N. J. Its politics are of the genuinely democratic kind, and it is, at the same time, a real newspaper.

Mr. J. Belange, of the Fairhope Single Tax Colony, addressed the Washington, D. C., Club last March, and the members of the club subscribed a sum of nearly \$300 toward the purchase of additional land for the Fairhope experiment.

Our friends will be grieved to learn that our active and efficient apostle of single taxes, J. J. Pastoriza, of Houston, Tex., has been ill with pneumonia. He is recovering, and will soon be out.

### News—Domestic

ALABAMA, DAPHNE.—(Special Correspondence.—E. Q. Norton.)—There is nothing in the way of single tax legislation going on in this State, but there has been much legislation the last two terms of the Legislature that will eventually set people thinking along single tax lines. The Legislature two years ago struggled with the tax question, and finally turned it over to a committee, with orders to sit during the recess and prepare a revenue code for the State. On the reassembling of the Legislature, that body, after some debate, set aside the work of the committee, modified the old laws that had been in force for the past few years, and passed them. This last Legislature, the first session of which has just closed, struggled with the tax question and showed the same lack of knowledge as to correct principles upon which to build a just tax system, and it now looks as if we are as far from a genuine reform in taxation as ever.

The idea has yet to win its way in this State that a tax can be so laid as to either encourage or discourage industry and enterprise. I hope to publish soon some illustrations, showing the effects of our present system or lack of system of taxing labor, and the products of labor, and by this means hope to arouse an interest in this part of the State in this most important subject. Mobile has three tax offices and three sets of officers, and is a good city in which to show the benefits to be obtained from a simple, inexpensive and just system of taxation.

The Mobile Single Tax Club has not been meeting for some time, but there are quite a number of citizens who are interested in the study of the question, and

we hope later to concentrate this interest and do some effective work. Several large buildings have been erected in Mobile within the last two years, and the added taxes have made the owners think some, although they plan to shift, as far as possible, the tax burdens over onto the tenants' shoulders. Success to the REVIEW. It is entitled to the aid of all single taxers.

CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES.—(Special Correspondence.—Ralph Hoyt.)—The most interesting item of news that I can report from Los Angeles just now is that this city is to soon have a daily paper of the truly Democratic brand. Such announcements have been made here at intervals many times during the past few years, or since the *Herald* was sold out to a corporation with principles "for revenue only," and in one night was transformed into an organ of sham republicanism. Yet no Democratic daily paper has materialized in this city, or anywhere else in Southern California, as yet. Such an enterprise is a long felt want, and if the want becomes properly supplied there will be great rejoicing among democratic Democrats in this section of country, including, of course, all single taxers. At last the demand for such a paper is to be supplied—so I am told. It is to be an evening paper on week days, with a Sunday edition of considerable magnitude—one that may be a formidable rival of the Sunday papers now issued. Its advent into the journalistic field will be hailed with joy by thousands of good people throughout the city and country, especially as its founders and managers have plenty of money to push the enterprise to a permanent success. It is safe to say that while the new paper will in no sense be a Single Tax organ, it will be liberal in the matter of giving our cause a hearing through its columns.

This city is now the theatre of a tremendous real estate "boom," which means that prices of earth are enormously high, and that speculation in God's bounties, intended for all alike, constitutes the principal "business" of several thousand men, with a liberal sprinkling of women. The boom, thus far, has not reached the wild-cat proportions of the old boom of fifteen years ago; but it is evidently here to stay—till it bursts. However, it must be admitted that Los Angeles is now a beautiful city, rapidly growing, alive with business enterprise, and a modern Mecca for tourists and health seekers. It may meet with a temporary lull, soon, but as long as these "prosperous times" continue through the country generally this place will continue to grow more and more lively. Single Taxers know what land speculation means, and they know what would do away with it.

The time for holding regular meetings for our propaganda here does not yet seem

to have come, but we expect it ere long. Meanwhile we get in our work occasionally by accepting invitations to address audiences gotten together Sunday nights by various secular and religious organizations. As for printed arguments, it is now much easier to get them into print than it was a few years ago. I find no difficulty in having my articles appear in numerous prominent papers here and elsewhere in the State—so long as they cost the proprietors nothing.

A few weeks ago we had the pleasure of a brief visit from that sturdy, uncompromising single tax champion, William Lloyd Garrison, who favored us with several addresses, and was a guest of honor at a banquet given by the Economic Club. He also addressed the Woman's Friday Morning Club. On each occasion he was well received, and his admirable talks and readings were keenly appreciated. He is a grand man and a splendid logician. The daily papers here devoted a good deal of space to his addresses. Long may he live to promulgate the Gospel of Individual Freedom.

From the North I hear good reports for our cause, but as the REVIEW will doubtless receive details from San Francisco and Oakland single taxers, I will not attempt to include that field in this communication.

I will add that it is always a pleasure to me to receive calls from single taxers from the East—my former home—and they are sure of a hearty welcome whenever they call at my office, No. 241 Douglas Building.

CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO.—(Special Correspondence.—Stephen Potter.)—The assessors of the State of California recently held a convention in this city for the purpose of discussing existing evils in the revenue and tax laws, and suggesting and considering remedies. The unequal and unjust operation of the present laws, and the great difficulty of their enforcement, was pointed out and admitted; and as a result of their deliberations the convention passed several resolutions indicating the changes which they deemed wise. They favored the repeal of the poll and mortgage taxes, and proposed to increase the total revenue from taxation and lighten the burden of the realty owners by a greater diligence in the pursuit of personal property. They further favored a gradual revision of the revenue laws to the end of raising revenue for State purposes by means other than a general property tax, and demanded the creation of a tax commission to carry the proposed changes into effect. A resolution calling for the assessment of alfalfa grass and other root crops was voted down. At the conclusion of its labors a permanent organization was effected, under the title "The Assessors' Association of the State of California," which will hold annual meetings at different points in the State for the

transaction of business along the lines mapped out.

The various propositions suggested by the convention have since been submitted to the Legislature, which has just adjourned without action upon them.

While the sympathy of the assessors with the "over-burdened" land-owners will not appeal to single taxers, it is of interest to see that these officials are alive to some of the evils of the present absurd system of taxation, and are groping in their blind and feeble way to improve it. The abolition of the poll tax would be welcomed as a distinct relief, and would make the precedent for the removal of other onerous taxes which now worry our assessors and oppress industry. It is generally believed if the Legislature should submit to the people of the State a proposition to amend the constitution by abolishing the poll tax, the amendment would carry; and should the Assessors' Association, at its future meetings, develop energy and influence enough to induce the Legislature to listen to them, there would be the possibility of this relic of barbarism being removed. At any rate, if the assessors continue in their efforts to alter the existing laws, we may fairly hope that the frequent discussion of the subject will open their eyes to the great value and extreme simplicity of a system which would obtain all governmental revenues from the taxation of land values. Of course, at the outset they are faced in the opposite direction, and in San Francisco the tax rate upon realty has been reduced within the last year, while the total personal property roll has been raised from about \$70,000,000 in 1898, to about \$132,000,000 in 1902. This pursuit of hitherto concealed personal property has not been successful outside of this city, and possibly Los Angeles, and in those cities the efforts to further increase the roll will probably fail, as the devices for concealment will keep pace with the attempts to ferret it out. One assessor said, "Any fool can assess land, but a man must study his subject to get at personal property." The truth of this statement will become more and more apparent as they relate their experiences and compare notes from year to year, and the difficulty of assessing personal property, and the ease and simplicity with which realty can be assessed, may bring them to a right-about, and put them in a frame of mind to listen to the arguments of the single taxer. At any rate, a point has been gained by this public agitation of the deficiencies of our present system.

COLORADO, DENVER.—(Special Correspondence.—E. O. Bailey.)—Single taxers in Colorado have survived the shock of defeat with exemplary fortitude, being neither silenced nor discouraged. They saw the

labor of months and the expenditure of an amount that, to many reform causes, would have been the draining of their lifeblood, come to naught in the November election, not from lack of votes, but by power of our opponents to purchase fraud in the count.

There are those among us who gave the bread and meat from the table, who gave time and profit from the work bench, who gave position and political honors, to forward the cause of justice in her fight against entrenched privilege—and yet, none of these are made objects of complaint, nor regretted, nor grieved over. Single Taxers alone bore the brunt of the battle; by them the influence and support of the labor unions were enlisted; they were the active, ever moving power in the State, organizing the necessary political machinery and carrying on the campaign, with its merciless demands, until the closing of the polls. The actual single tax cause received less benefit from the work done than has any other movement of equal importance ever yet made. The cause of this is not hard to find—we concentrated our efforts upon the local option feature of the Bucklin bill, denying that the single tax was involved in the question at issue, dodging the accusations made by our opponents that land value taxation was the prize we coveted, fearing absolute failure from an attempt to educate the people *en masse* upon the moral principles involved in such taxation; weakening our power to preach the truth by reason of this digression, arousing suspicion in the minds of the conservative, and by appearing to be ourselves afraid of the single tax, making others actually so. Our opponents hung out the red flag, and beneath the skull and cross bones of "the Bucklin bill" they wrote "the single tax." We stood in front of it, trying to conceal it with a plea for "home rule," instead of exposing it to ridicule and reason.

Thus we lost the great opportunity to propagate the single tax, and while defeat, doubtless, would have followed the radical plan, as it did the conservative one, yet it would have left us with fruits that we do not now possess—namely, an enlightened public sentiment.

However this may be, it is equally true that this calling together of the radical Democrats bids well for the future. We have the nucleus of an organization in all the larger cities, with a strong and capable Single Tax League in Denver. They are mixing in every movement for better government, getting upon the ground floor of politics, and rendering excellent service to the cause in individual capacities. Our interests here are centered upon the new charter soon to be formed and submitted to the citizens of this newly created municipality. We have delegates in the "New

Civic League" which will put a ticket and platform in the field, advocating the initiative and referendum, municipal ownership, and the recall, by imperial mandate, of public officers, with provisions for submitting all public franchise grants to a popular vote.

The labor organizations are making strenuous efforts to get together upon matters political, while the socialists, encouraged by repeated advancements, have put numerous local tickets, for town and county elections, in the field. Corruption has run rife in this State, and, with strikes and lockouts, and a general depression slowly but surely setting in, there promises to be "much doing" at the polls this Spring. Monopoly bears bitter fruit, but the people eat thereof and know not how else to live.

CONNECTICUT, NEW HAVEN.—The Connecticut Single Tax League was formed at Meriden, January 8, with C. W. Dougherty, of Hartford, president; W. T. Brewer, of Meriden, vice-president; W. Trueman, New Haven, secretary and treasurer. A number of names from various cities have been sent in, and in a short time Connecticut will have a well organized body of single taxers who, up to the present, have done a vast amount of work along any path that offered itself.

Arrangements are now being made to hold the convention of the Women's National Single Tax League in New Haven in June. Delegates are expected from many States, and any able to come will be welcomed and cared for to the best of the ability of the single taxers of this city.

Alderman Trueman was defeated in the democratic primaries here last Tuesday for renomination for alderman at large. It was well known that corporation money would be spent to this end, but the figures prove that the democracy is not only corrupt but vicious as well, and has placed itself on record in a way that we could not have thought of asking for.

The cry was "Clear the City Hall of cranks." One of our local papers, referring to this, suggests that it might be better to "clear the Hall of the crooks."

The New Haven democracy prefer as men to represent it those who attend the board so drunk they cannot speak, and representatives of corporations who will do their bidding. But a new time is coming, and some of these vultures will get their reward.

DELAWARE, WILMINGTON.—(Special Correspondence.—Harold Sudell.)—The work in Delaware during the past three months has been along the lines of legislation, and although the result was failure, yet it marked the furthest step yet reached in the work here, and thus encourages us to further effort.

Bills were introduced into the Legislature separating the assessment into land values and improvements, and giving local option in taxation. The first named bill goes further than any law now in operation elsewhere, inasmuch as it specifically details what shall be considered as improvements, so that the assessor could only assess, in the land value column, the value of the bare land. This bill failed in the House by a vote of 22 to 13.

The "local option in taxation" bill fared better, however, passing the house by a vote of 21 to 13. In the Senate it unfortunately fell into the hands of a committee whose chairman was bitterly opposed to the single tax, and despite our efforts he refused to act on the bill, and it lay there until the day before adjournment, when it was returned to the House on a technicality, and it was then too late to get any action taken. The newspapers commented quite extensively on the passing of the bill by the House, one of them stating it was the most important and far-reaching bill that had been brought before the Legislature for a generation.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA.—(Special Correspondence.—Wm. Riley Boyd.)—Since my letter of January, little of interest has transpired; yet the inevitable trend of public sentiment is in the direction of tax reform, and that means the adoption in part of the single tax idea.

The South is undergoing the usual persecution over what is termed "the race question," a matter which, if let alone, would find reasonable adjustment; but so long as there is interference from abroad tending to produce friction, so long those at home who essay to deal fairly with each race are subject to these hindrances, just so long will there be retrogression rather than progress.

The adoption of the single tax into practice would tend to the solution of all doubtful issues and would open the way for a natural drift of the negroes southward, where nature has prepared for them a fitting home.

The people of Atlanta desire a new post office; the Federal power approves; but there must be a lot purchased. Near the present site a suitable lot has been selected. It was valued at some two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Those resident here in 1860 or thereabouts recall that the entire tract had not a selling value of more than five thousand dollars at that date, and the question is asked, "Who has created a value of nearly a quarter of a million of dollars?"

And as the answer must be, "the community," another natural question is, "Why does not the community receive the profit which it has earned?"



The viaduct, which enables foot passengers and vehicles to cross the railway tracks at Whitehall and Peachtree streets, is a great boon, and has changed the entire section, rendering it an object of beauty as well as of increased utility. Of course, this must be paid for, and the private land owner is justly taxed; but one or more demur, and hold that their property has been injured, demanding from the city damages to the extent of the alleged injury.

Atlanta is to have an election on April 22 over the question of an issue of bonds to the amount of \$800,000.

In order to carry it, two-thirds of the registered voters must vote yea, so that the inert non-voter becomes effective as a negative force, and the issue is gravely in doubt.

All of this and similar problems will find adjustment when our tax reform becomes effective.

But I am unable to fix a date.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO.—(Special Correspondence.—G. J. Foyer.)—The Chicago Single Tax Club has been placed in a peculiar position for the coming Spring election. It was the intention of the club to put a complete ticket in the field and carry out the political programme as it has done heretofore. It was rumored that the candidate for the labor ticket was to be a single taxer, who has been active in the single tax cause, and that this being the situation, single taxers would support this man as their candidate, being invited and cautioned to do so. But as this gentleman was of a weak disposition, and prolonged his acceptance or rejection of the nomination of the labor party—which had grown to a large extent—until the time was too short to make out our own ticket and obtain the required number of signatures, the single taxers then decided to support the candidate that did accept the nomination of the labor party. The nominee that did accept the nomination of the labor party was a candidate upon the single tax ticket in the first campaign, is a member of the club, and is the better man for single taxers to unite upon. Our former recording secretary has accepted the nomination of the labor party, and is making the effort to be elected city attorney. The single taxers have affiliated themselves with the labor element in such a way as to be conventional, in the hope that we may be able to persuade them to organize a single tax labor party. Should we accomplish this, we feel that this campaign has been the greatest success yet accomplished in our line of activity. Immediately after this Spring campaign the organization will be under way. The labor element is very favorable to the single tax—in fact, when the candidate for city attorney was introduced at a mass meeting for the endorsement of candidates, he received the great-

est applause from the audience, not excepting the candidate for Mayor. The labor movement in this city is what might be called the radical element of the labor unions. On Friday, March 20, the club gave a dance in Schiten Hall instead, of our regular meeting. This social entertainment was a success from every point of view. It was estimated that between 250 and 300 persons were present, mostly strangers. Our hall was a little more than comfortably full. The enclosed unique programme, with the various dances underlined with single tax phrases, and our ticket of admission, is one that would catch the eye of the thoughtful and awaken the sense of the observant. This social gathering was such a success that many members of the club believe in continuing them.

OHIO, CLEVELAND.—(Special Correspondence.—J. B. Vining.)—At this writing the city is in the heat of one of the fiercest campaigns in its history. Defeated in three successive battles, fought under the leadership of Tom L. Johnson, his enemies are more united in this Spring's election than ever before. They know that this is the last ditch; that if beaten this time, they can not fall back on the courts, as they have already passed on the new code and pronounced it valid. To lose now will be death to privilege, so far as franchises in this town are concerned. To meet this struggle, Mark Hanna has nominated a ticket and adopted a platform that, for cunning, can not be beaten. It contains all the elements for catching the unwary. It has a conservative candidate for Mayor, personally acceptable, but withal a corporation lawyer, who has made a success in life by his association with and work for men of the Hanna kind, so that he comes to see men and measures largely through the eyes of the "better class," that possess the privileges. Then there is the "old soldier" candidate, a fine fellow and gentleman; and the "labor candidate," of doubtful quality; and so on down the line, taking every one that has a pull or has a hope for one. Amazed by the terrific pace of Tom Johnson, the "House of Have" is thoroughly aroused, harmonious, and altogether alert to hanging on to what it has and to get more. They will let nothing get away, no matter how much it may cost in money—or mud.

This is the proposition Tom Johnson has to face almost single handed. The common people, never too alert, will be frightened out of their wits by howls, cajollery and threats. Will they stand by their guns? Under similar conditions, in the last McKinley-Bryan campaign, they took to their heels. Well, if they do that now, they will have forsaken the biggest, brainiest, truest friend they have had in many a long

day, and whose like they are not soon to see again.

If at this time, when success is so near, the people, either through fear or ignorance, give up the fight, they will surely get "all that is coming to them"—which means that they will be saddled for enough to make good all their waywardness has cost the "best citizens" when they, the people, encouraged Tom Johnson, by their votes, to make so much trouble and expense for their masters. But Tom is very hopeful. He is going in the fight to win, and expects to succeed. He is made of the "never say die" stuff. May his tribe increase!

The controversy about Booker T. Washington, in the last number of the *Review*, calls to mind the experience I had with him last Fall during his visit to this city. I had heard at different times that he had declared himself a single taxer. As secretary of the O. S. T. L., I was in a position to contribute to his school library a set of the Memorial edition of Henry George's works. With this in view, I attended his lecture given at Western Reserve College. The room in which he spoke was crowded, and many stood in the halls. His address received careful attention and marked approval. I listened closely for an inkling of the fact that he had "seen the cat," and though through the entire lecture he dwelt largely upon the negro and his relation to the land, I was unable to see that he had caught even a glimpse of the George vision. I think I would have been able to read between the lines if there had been anything to read. However, knowing his audience and the purpose for which he was talking (financial aid for his college), I waited until all who wished had spoken to him, and then handed him my O. S. T. L. card, saying, "Your time seems very much taken, but I ask for a moment, as I have something to present which I think will interest you." He very coldly informed me that he would have to be excused, as he had no time whatever that could be at my disposal. Somewhat abashed, I stepped back, with the remark that I had wished to make a gift to his school. His secretary, who stood by, overheard this last remark. I immediately took my leave, but was overtaken in the lower hall by Mr. Chestnut, the colored author, who said that Mr. Washington wished me to return and he would hear me. I informed Mr. Chestnut that Mr. Washington had my card, and if he wished the contribution which I had offered he could communicate with me. I have never heard from Mr. Washington, so the League has not had the honor of placing Mr. George's books in Tuskegee College.

Down in Youngstown, the home of Billy Radcliffe, S. T., there is always something doing along single tax lines. Billy was

Democratic candidate for sheriff last Fall—not, as he said, because he wanted to put people in jail, but that, if elected, he could show the county what kind of a "graft" there was in the job. Under his now famous sign of "One thousand dollars fine for any man putting a \$5,000 building on this lot," he placed a large barrel, which he kept filled with ice water, having a placard, "Have one on me, and vote for Billy Radcliffe for sheriff."

They have a Reform Club, which meets every Sunday afternoon, at which Mr. Radcliffe, John F. Conroy and others look after the single tax part of the discussion. Mr. Conroy is a member of the American Press Writers' Association, and runs a column of single tax targets in the *Boston Press Writer*.

He is also the means whereby many articles appear in the *Vindicator*, by such well known writers as A. Freeland, of Mt. Pleasant, Tenn. Billy is arranging for a tour of the State, giving single tax chalk talks on the busy street corners.

Marietta, O., is to the front with indefatigable single tax workers. O. P. Hyde is the citizens' candidate for Mayor. Mr. Hyde is known as a Johnson man, and his fight will be an aid to the future work of Our Tom.

During the past four years Mr. Hyde has been the means of keeping the Polen Lecture Bureau in the field, supporting it largely out of his monthly salary, so that there is probably no place in the State where the single tax is better understood than in Marietta. Mr. Hyde writes me:

"To read the Republican papers, one would think that Tom Johnson was the candidate for Mayor of Marietta. If I win out it will be, in a measure, a victory for him. The single tax is being frequently mentioned. There will not be many people here after election who will not know that I stand for it. I am more anxious that Johnson should win out than that I should. I would feel my election a barren victory if he should not be elected."

Many newspapers favorable to the single tax and advanced ideas are printing weekly, a synopsis of Rev. Herbert S. Bigelow's Sunday sermons. This has been brought about by Daniel Kiefer, who has organized the "Bigelow Press Bureau," and is giving it much of his time. Mr. Kiefer is also active in putting the "Pingree potota patch" plan into operation in Cincinnati. He has taken up headquarters in Rev. Herbert Bigelow's famous Vine Street Congregational Church, where, from now on until the close of the growing season, he will devote his time and splendid business ability to helping thousands of people help themselves. His plan is to borrow the vacant lots in and about Cincinnati, of which there are thousands, and put people to work on

them, raising their own food. The idea grew out of a conversation between Mr. Kiefer and C. M. Rothschild, proprietor of a mortgage loan business. It had been Mr. Rothschild's plan every year to give Christmas dinners to thousands of poor people. Kiefer told him that charity was degrading, and urged the just and common sense plan of helping the poor by putting them on the earth and let them help themselves, each one in his own way. The plan so favorably impressed Rothschild that he then and there agreed to back Kiefer for all expenses if he would put it in effect.

Carnegie's offer to give a library to Marion, O., has raised quite a discussion and given the George men a good opportunity to teach a lesson in taxation. It was pointed out by our friends that the present method of taxation was most unequal and injurious.

The American Federation of Labor, No. 9900, met in regular session and took up the library proposition which has been made by Andrew Carnegie. It was unanimously agreed to oppose the acceptance of the proposition, and to use all honorable means to defeat the aim of Mr. Carnegie in erecting a building in Marion.

The following shows exactly the ground taken by the labor organizations:

"Any increase made in taxation increases in greater proportion the injustice resulting therefrom. At the dedication of his library at Washington, a few days ago, Carnegie said: 'It is the people helping themselves by taxing themselves.'

"The rapid growth that our city is now making will increase taxes, as the number of streets are increased and extended, which will require additional sewers, water mains, paving, sidewalks, lighting, police protection, etc.

"Fully 95 per cent. of the land within our incorporate limits is vacant. This portion of our city is practically exempt from taxation.

"All taxes upon labor and its products eventually fall upon the consumer, who usually fails to be the financial beneficiary.

"Therefore, be it resolved: That we condemn as unjust all taxes levied upon labor and the products of labor, and demand a repeal of such laws that restrict or prohibit the production of wealth. We particularly condemn that law which permits all special taxes in excess of a 25 per cent. valuation to be levied as direct and indirect taxes upon the community. We condemn the acts of all persons who take advantage of this law when such cases apply to vacant land.

"The above proposed remedy would enable the producers of wealth to provide themselves with the libraries and other essentials without the aid of non-residents."

**RHODE ISLAND.**—With the election of Lucius F. C. Garvin to the governorship of Rhode Island is revealed what a man of personal force and character may do in office. Incidentally is disclosed the degradation of the elective franchise in that State. Governor Garvin says:

"In a considerable number of our towns bribery is so common, and has existed for so many years, that the awful nature of the crime has ceased to impress. In some towns the bribery takes place openly, is not called bribery, nor considered a serious thing. The money paid to the voter, whether \$2, \$5 or \$20, is spoken of as payment for his time."

Undoubtedly long familiarity with this sort of corruption breeds contempt of the morality that condemns it. Let us hope that the first single tax governor in the nation may succeed in arousing the new conscience to the enormity of all offences against the integrity of the ballot.

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## News—Foreign

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### CANADA.

#### MONTREAL.

It must be a matter of great regret to your various correspondents that they have not more hopeful and encouraging messages to communicate to each other through the medium of the *Review*. Yet at times we read of happenings which would seem to indicate that progress is being made in other places, and even at home where changes are gradual and apt to pass unobserved, we note an occasional awakening of the people to a realization that something's got to be done.

Just now an awakening seems about to take place in Montreal. Self-preservation, that first great law, will be the compelling force. A couple of years ago, when the electric lighting franchise had expired and new tenders were about to be called here, we had Messrs. John S. Crosby and F. F. Ingram, the latter of Detroit, deliver a public lecture here in favor of municipal ownership of public franchises. It was pointed out to the people that whereas there was now competition between the various companies, a combination was apt to take place at any time, and that they would then be at the mercy of the power they were fostering. Needless to say, the strongest company got the franchise, but the competition from a dark-horse company, after a lot of manipulating, compelled them to reduce their tender from \$90 a light, per year, to \$62, the old contract being at \$110. The combination has now been effected, to all intents and purposes, and at any time we may hear of the last company coming in out of the cold.