

At Los Angeles five thousand persons heard Mr. Edmund Norton at the Labor Temple in a masterly address. He appealed for votes for the Slocumb amendment. Many of those present assured Mr. Wernicke, who had helped to arrange for the meeting, that the largest number of votes ever cast for a Single Tax amendment would be rolled up for the measure in November.

Mr. Norton should be credited with two notable and stirring addresses to the striking railroad workers. At San Bernadino Mr. Waldo J. Wernicke had arranged for Mr. Norton to appear before nearly three thousand persons who gathered and listened to an inspiring speech. An invitation was extended to Mr. Norton to appear before them again.

A well attended dinner was held in honor of Henry George's birthday in Los Angeles on Sept. 2 at Paulais Cafe. William C. deMille presided. About three hundred persons were present. Mr. DeMille announced that there would be no discussion of policies on which some of those present differed, and this programme was adhered to. There were present a great number representing the fight for the Slocumb Amendment, among them James A. Robinson, Edmund Norton, Lona Ingham Robinson, Roth Reynolds, Charles Maguire, Charles Fox, C. R. Colburn, Waldo J. Wernicke and many others. The spirit of the occasion was gracious and tolerant, and the members of the Los Angeles League fraternized with the members of the Renters and Tenants League and the supporters of the Slocumb Amendment. Mrs. DeMille spoke of the views of her father, and addresses eulogistic of our leader were made by R. E. Chadwick, Mrs. E. K. Foster, Dr. Adah H. Paterson, and others.

The San Diego Single Tax League held a dinner in commemoration of Henry George's birthday on Sept. 1st. James A. Robinson spoke, his subject being "The Philosophy of Henry George." He did not forget to dwell upon the necessity of supporting the Slocumb Amendment.

A resolution supporting the Amendment was offered and according to our San Diego correspondent, was carried.

We have received the first number of the *Single Tax*, a six page paper published in Fresno, by John H. Meyer, in support of the Single Tax measure, now on the ballot. One page contains an appeal for a Federal Land Tax, with array of excellent reason for the passage of such an act.

We have received the *Henry George Standard*, for September 15. It is full of good things. Among other matter it contains the following announcement which is of special interest to our friends:

"The necessity for a separate political party to safeguard the fundamental truth of the philosophy of Henry George is now recognized by many Single Taxers of California. Mr. C. R. Colburn, chairman of the San Diego Single Tax League, strongly advocates party formation. G. W. Slocumb, A. H. Sanborn, of San Francisco, W. F. Burgener, of Norwalk, John H. Meyer, of Fresno, Waldo Wernicke, of Los Angeles, and others favor the idea. Whitney Hart Slocumb has started organizing a Single Tax Party State Committee."

## Minnesota

FROM 1881 to 1897 the enormously valuable iron mines of Minnesota were not taxed one dollar for any purpose whatever, neither for schools, roads, bridges, township, city, village or county, but they did pay one cent a ton to the State on mined ore. Not much land value tax here, not even one cent a ton.

In 1897 these lands were subjected to taxation by a unanimous vote in the House and only four negative votes in the Senate, in spite of a powerful lobby and a tremendous corruption fund. Since then they have paid several millions of dollars in land value taxes for schools, roads, township, village, city, county and State purposes.

But this was not enough. At the time they mine the ore, they secure, through this process of tapping the natural resource, an enormous land value due to high grade ore easily worked. (I have seen ore shoveled into cars with a steam shovel at a cost of about five cents a ton.) This ore sold for the market price. All the surplus over the five cents a ton was pure land value. The people then demanded a special additional tax when the ore is mined.

The legislature of 1921 passed a bill that will give to the State treasury about four million dollars additional—all pure land value, no tax on the labor, capital or business of mining the ore, but just the land value in the ore.

The House passed another bill by a vote of 103 to 14 which would have put about one million more land value in the State treasury, out of the ground rent values of some mine owners who leave their mines unworked. The Senate killed this bill by a small margin, but already 13 of those who voted against it are out and about seven or eight more are sure of defeat in November.

And we will not stop here. We will get more of that land value. Watch Minnesota, where all parties have been abolished in the legislature and we elect men on policies.

C. J. BUELL.

## New Jersey

THERE will again be an opportunity for a State-wide vote for the Single Tax in New Jersey with E. M. Caffall for Governor and William J. Wallace for U. S. Senator. Literature is being prepared for as wide a distribution as the means at hand will provide.

Mr. Caffall has addressed a letter to all the New Jersey papers stating briefly the principles for which he is standing in this campaign.

We quote from the last of this communication which has already found its way into the columns of newspapers of the State:

"If elected I will co-operate with the Legislature to abolish taxes on houses, factories, farm buildings, machinery and property of every kind, and to raise the necessary revenues for the State from land values alone. These are produced by the necessities of the population and not by the

efforts of any individual whatever. Hence they belong, of right, to the people."

To the old party candidates for governor Mr. Caffall has addressed the following challenge, and copies of this letter have been forwarded to the newspapers of the State.

"DEAR SIR: The Single Tax Party of the State of New Jersey have honored me with the nomination for Governor at the coming election.

"May I respectfully request that the candidates for this office meet me in debate at some time during the campaign upon the question: 'What is the vital issue before the citizens of New Jersey in this campaign?'

"Should you not find time for personal action in this matter, any speaker nominated to represent your candidacy would be acceptable to me so far as I personally am concerned. A revival of the ancient tournament in the political field would surely interest the public."

## New York

THE work of getting signatures for the nominees of the Single Tax party is proceeding satisfactorily. Some of the candidates are well known to the voters of this city, especially the two candidates for the judiciary, John J. Sheppard, brother of United States Senator Sheppard, and Samuel Bell Thomas. (See July-August SINGLE TAX REVIEW.)

The judiciary nominees will cover all of Greater New York, thus enabling every Single Taxer in this section to register his adherence to the cause of Henry George. Candidates for Congress and the legislature will appear on the ballot in some of the districts. (See July-August REVIEW.)

Our friends are urged to aid with their contributions the campaign now beginning. Whatever opinion may be entertained with regard to the importance of political action for the Single Tax, its usefulness to the cause in securing publicity should be obvious to all those not wilfully blind to the facts.

The little group at party headquarters are doing good work. There have been distributed tens of thousands of pamphlets and over fifty street meetings have been held. The Saturday night lectures have been well attended, due largely to the untiring work of Morris VanVeen who has given this activity his special attention.

On Sept. 16 Edward Owings Towne, Single Taxer, member of the party, and well known writer and lecturer on philosophy, delivered an address on "The False Philosophy of Omar Khayyam," and exhibited a great feat of memory by reciting, with fine elocutionary effect, the whole of the Rubaiyat, together with an almost complete paraphrase of his own animated by a much finer spirit, and not unworthy of Fitzgerald himself.

On Saturday, Sept. 23, Mr. Harold E. Simmelkjaer, a prominent colored lawyer and publicist, spoke on "The Outlines of the Negro Problem and Some Proposed Solutions." His presentation was a calm and forcible appeal for justice to the Negro. He admitted that the Single Tax

would go far in providing a remedy, but he does not yet see it fully. The speaker left an excellent impression.

On Saturday, Sept. 30, Oscar H. Geiger delivered a remarkable address, his title being "The Single Tax a Universal Panacea, and the Solution of all Human Differences." The title was deliberately chosen for the purpose of provoking discussion, and the lecturer got it. The eloquent and gifted speaker brought conviction to his audience. It is a high compliment to the speaker, and also to the unremitting efforts of Mr. VanVeen, who has done so much to make these lectures a success, that there was a large overflow that could not be accommodated with seats, though a large number of extra chairs were secured from a neighboring church.

The outdoor meetings continue with Messrs. Lloyd and VanVeen doing yeoman service.

## 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.