

to be "going in our direction." But perhaps if we advertised the fact that hereafter we were going to cast our votes for the Republican Party we might get from that party just as little as we ever got from the Democrats. Of one thing we can be certain, and of only one thing—a Single Tax party with a Single Tax platform is indeed "going in our direction."

A Single Taxer's Work in China

JUST how much of the democratic ferment in China that has resulted in the changed attitude of so many of the Chinese people, is due to the modest efforts of one individual will probably never be known. But it is certain that the literary and educational work of W. E. Macklin has had its influence in breaking down or weakening many traditional institutions, and the bringing of a new light to the understanding of thousands of thoughtful Chinese students.

Mr. Macklin early conceived the idea of giving to the Chinese a knowledge of the great leaders who have given us our liberties. As a life of Washington had already been translated, he added to this a life of Thomas Jefferson with the Declaration of Independence. Later he translated the Life of William the Silent (Motley's Rise of the Dutch Republic) This work was soon put on the list of subjects for the examination of students. He then began work on the great heroes of English history, such as Alfred the Great, Stephen Langton, who gave us the House of Commons, Cromwell, Milton, Hampden, Pym, Wilberforce, Thomas More, Wesley, etc. He finished a life of Wycliffe taken from Greene's history of the English People. Then followed a translation of Greene's History which was completed in five years. The British Consul recommended it to the Viceroy, who wrote a preface for it. Later Viceroys Chen Foo and Chang praised the work and wrote Mr. Macklin in congratulation. The Viceroy, Twan Fan, who wrote the preface for Mr. Macklin's translation of Greene, notices the contribution to the cause of liberty made by great Christian leaders.

Mr. Macklin has just succeeded in printing a life of Gustavus Adolphus from Schiller's Thirty Years' War, which he completed after a year's labor. Henry George's Progress and Poverty, his Protection or Free Trade, Spencer's Social Statics, and Dove's Theory of Human Progression, are other works which this indefatigable worker has rendered into Chinese.

In a recent letter Mr. Macklin says: "I have been oppressed by the robbery and extortion which are coming to China under the cloak of philanthropy and have translated Henry Demorest Lloyd's Wealth Against Commonwealth, and it has been taken up by the big dailies. I have finished translating Ida Tarbell's History of the Standard Oil and it is being printed in book form. One large daily has offered to print it serially. I have to thank Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Fels for their generous help in all this work."

Things Do Not Stay Equal

THAT one New Jersey editor knows "what is what" is shown by the following from the *Daily Record* of Long Branch:

"We find in the recent encyclopedic and commendable message of Mayor Flock the statement that excessive charges for public utilities have a tendency to prevent and discourage investment, and the development and improvement of real estate. If excessive charges exist in a municipality for public utility service property becomes unsalable; the place is avoided and decays.

"We have no particular objection to this statement. It runs along with general public sentiment, and seems to be axiomatic. Naturally, if water and gas rates were four times as high as they are, it would be less desirable to live in Long Branch than it is, other things being equal. And if water and both gas and electric light were furnished gratis in unlimited quantities, it would be more desirable to live and do business here, other things being equal.

"The difficulty in too readily accepting the Mayor's pronouncement as reaching the bottom is this: Other things do not stay equal. Improvements and reductions in cost of public utilities are accompanied by a shifting of conditions.

"The Mayor could not guarantee that other things would be equal. The natural result of the public ownership of public utilities in Long Branch and the reduction of a minimum of rates for utility service would be the encouragement of both progressive and speculative investments, and a new level of values of 'property,' would be reached.

"The experience of other cities shows that the people cannot get something for nothing, unless they privately own something that public progress may increase in value,

"Wherever there is progress there is what is called a boom, and the proper function of a boom seems to be to prevent most people getting any advantage from progress. For them is the skim milk.

"So no one need enthuse too much on the general situation to be brought about by public ownership of each and every Long Branch public utility.

"Some day, after the war, and after he decides to travel for pleasure, the Mayor can visit a German city which levies no taxes, provides all public utilities at low cost, gives the young men a financial start in life and the young women each a dowry, but still the millenium has not been reached. The city is owned by a few people, and they charge for everything currently there to be obtained."

SINGLE TAXERS might do worse than re-read the works of Henry George, not in search of new points for dialectical difference with fellow reformers, but in order to bring into the settlement of the present-day economic disorder the marvelous weapons forged in that inspired brain and prepared against this time of perplexity and need. No later writers have equalled George's precision of statement and breadth of vision.