

### News—Domestic.

#### WOMEN'S NATIONAL SINGLE TAX LEAGUE.

SEVENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE MEETS AT ORANGE—MANY ADMIRABLE PAPERS READ—A WHOLLY SUCCESSFUL AFFAIR.

The seventh annual conference of the Women's National Single Tax League was held at Union Hall, Orange, N. J., May 27th, 28th and 29th.

Although the day was cold and the rain came down in torrents, there was a splendid gathering of women. Presidents and members of Orange clubs came on despite the unfriendly elements to extend a greeting to the Single Tax women gathered in their town and show their good-will to the cause.

The meeting was called to order at 2 p. m. by the president, Mrs. Minnie Rogers Ryan of Brooklyn, N. Y. After a prayer by Rev. Adolph Roeder, an address of welcome was given by Miss May L. Adams, president of the Orange Woman's Single Tax Club. A brief business session followed, and among the reports submitted it was shown that Single Tax speakers had been sent to about forty woman's clubs during the year.

The president reported that in response to a circular letter sent out a few weeks before the convention, asking for contributions to help continue the work, \$125.00 had been received.

Several interesting letters were read, showing that the clubs were so well pleased with the speakers, and so much interested in the subject, that they desired other speakers, and in many cases have arranged to have Single Tax talks at their meetings next season. At the close of the business session, Mrs. Thomas S. Henry, vice president of the New Jersey State Federation of Woman's Clubs, extended a warm greeting to the delegates and friends of the conference. Then followed a charming soprano solo by Miss E. Jones.

Mr. Chas. Maginn gave a brief but clear and very instructive explanation of the Single Tax. Miss Charlotte Schetter told of the progress of the cause in various parts of the world.

Miss Grace Colburn spoke of municipal ownership in the old world, and gave special praise to the management of public utilities in Sweden.

On Monday evening several excellent musical numbers were given. Miss Aeschmen quite charmed the audience by her singing. Mr. Wilson Farrand, president of the New England Society of Orange, welcomed the convention, and expressed his belief in the ultimate success of the Single Tax. Owing to illness, Mrs. John S.

Crosby could not be present, so Mrs. Jennie L. Munroe of Washington, D. C., responded to Mr. Farrand, and assured him that the delegates were enjoying to the utmost the hospitality of the good people of Orange.

The principle address of the evening was made by Mr. John S. Crosby, who in his usual clear and convincing manner pointed the way to industrial freedom.

The Tuesday morning session was devoted entirely to business.

The election of officers which brought the meeting to a close, resulted as follows: Pres., Mrs. Minnie Rogers Ryan, Brooklyn, N. Y.; 1st Vice Pres., Mrs. Jennie L. Munroe of Washington, D. C.; 2nd Vice Pres., Miss Charlotte Schetter of Orange, N. J.; 3rd Vice Pres., Dr. Florence Leigh-Jones of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Rec. Sec'y, Mrs. Kate E. Freeman, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Cor. Sec'y, Miss Maud Malone, New York City; Treas., Dr. Mary D. Hussey, E. Orange, N. J.; Auditor, Mrs. Florence A. Burleigh, Philadelphia. Executive Board—Mrs. Noah Pomeroy, New Haven, Conn. Mrs. E. Murray Frye, New York City. Mrs. John S. Crosby was made Hon. Pres. by unanimous vote. At the Tuesday afternoon meeting Miss Volckman delighted the audience with a soprano solo, and a few words of good will heartily commending the organization for its broad scope and abiding faith in the ultimate triumph of its principles were spoken by Mrs. Sarah Platt Decker, President of the Orange Political Study Club, and by Mrs. Fred. G. Handel, President of the "Monday Topic" Club.

Mrs. E. M. Frye gave a short, but very clear explanation of the Single Tax, followed by a paper on "Child Labor" by Miss Ida Hibbard, who in a manner which brought tears to the eyes of her auditors told of the pitiful conditions of the children who are working long hours in the cotton mills, tobacco and cigar factories, etc., and showed the only real door-way of escape.

The President very wisely struck while the iron was hot, explaining that the League was sending speakers to other clubs to bring before them this terrible evil, and the only effective remedy, and called for contributions to help on the work. Seventy-six dollars were added to the fund. Two violin solos by Mr. Lucius Cole, of the Philadelphia Philharmonic Orchestra, were enthusiastically encored. Addresses were also made by Maud Malone on "Equal Suffrage," Mrs. Jennie L. Munroe on "The Fairhope Experiment," and Mrs. Margaret Hughan on "The Single Tax in Relation to the Home."

At the meeting in the evening Mr. Thomas S. Crane brought a greeting from the Civics Club of Orange, of which organization he is president, and gave every evidence of a thorough grasp of the Single Tax philosophy. A violin solo by Mr. G. Hasler, and later a vocal solo by Miss Moffat were much enjoyed.

Miss Anita Trueman in her address on "Single Tax and the artists" brought out very clearly the sad truth that under present social conditions the painter instead of being able to give his best efforts to the world must paint unsightly signs that can be read blocks away, and the musician with the ability to compose symphonies puts "rag-time" on the market, "because there is a living in it." Mr. Alfred J. Boulton, Register of Kings County, closed the meeting with an address on "The Uses and Abuses of Trade Unions."

The convention which was voted a success in every way was brought to a close on Wednesday evening with a banquet. Addresses were made by George L. Rusby, Mr. Robert Towne, Miss Jennie A. Rogers, Henry George, Jr., Frank Stephens and Miss Grace Isabel Colbron.

### MASSACHUSETTS.

NOTABLE MEETINGS IN BOSTON—THE SINGLE TAX MOVEMENT NO LONGER DISCREDITED BY THE SCHOOLS—ALICE STONE BLACKWELL ANNOUNCES HER CONVERSION.

The REVIEW asks for articles showing the progress of the movement. Two meetings have recently been held in Boston which reveal this in an interesting manner.

The Massachusetts Single Tax League, which is ever rich in fresh devices for the good of the cause, has taken a new departure. Instead of inviting prominent guests to a public dinner, and after feasting them ask them to listen while we instruct them in the three factors of production, with their laws of distribution, prominent guests were invited to dine with us and then to instruct us concerning Single Tax theory and the progress of the movement. The result was most encouraging. The public announcement that Hon. Josiah Quincy, ex-mayor of Boston, was to speak, as well as Alice Stone Blackwell, Professor Bullock of Harvard, the well-known editors of the *Transcript* and the *Watchman*, the announcement of these speakers, with others, including the name of William Lloyd Garrison, drew a fair and expectant audience.

Think of the scheme of inviting a professor of political economy and editors of the press to tell us Single Taxers—who know the whole alphabet of this science, and every wind and tide of its movement—to tell us how the Single Tax will work when put in practice, how much of it should be at once adopted, and the wonderful interest these truths are arousing in England. This last—the Single Tax movement in England—was the theme of the address by the editor of the *Transcript*, and it was not only interesting and instructive to our guests, but to Single Taxers as well. The very fact that it seems no longer necessary,

here in Boston, to tell intelligent people what the Single Tax is, reveals, strikingly, the progress of the movement.

Hon. Josiah Quincy's address revealed the fact that he was thoroughly conversant with our theories and largely in agreement with our principles. He stated his belief in the justice of taking the entire ground rent for all public uses, provided it was done gradually.

Alice Stone Blackwell for the first time publicly declared herself "a Single Taxer from conviction." Professor Bullock had time only to rejoice that we had one organization in Massachusetts that was devoting its time and energy to the study of taxation. Compare this with the objection to the Single Tax so often made by scholars only a few years ago, that Henry George was discredited by *The Schools*.

Mr. Walker, an architect, whom the present mayor of Boston has engaged to work out plans for beautifying the city, assured us that although his knowledge of the Single Tax was quite limited, he yet found himself in harmony with many of its ideas and ideals.

These speakers are by no means exceptional, but are fairly representative of a large class of intelligent and observing people who are with us at heart, yet who do not appreciate their need of being marked and ticketed with the Single Tax label.

We purpose to continue these meetings, taking up different points of interest, such as "The Selling Value of Land as an Untaxed Value," "The Agency of the Single Tax in the Distribution of Wealth," or perhaps devoting one evening to the subject, "The Power to Tax." This, it seems to me, is the most important truth to be emphasized at the present time, and here let me urge all writers and speakers to impress this point upon those whom they have the privilege of addressing. The "*de-lenda est Carthago*" of our movement. Constitutions rest the power to tax in the hands of the people, yet owing to their ignorance of the importance of this power there has ever been a privileged class. Carthage can be destroyed only by taxing privilege.

Would it not be well for every member of the Letter Writing Corps to write out a clear, brief statement of this theme, keep it "on tap," and when asked to fire at a target use it. It would save much time and labor; for, by a few introductory remarks it could be made to fit nearly every case.

If the masses could only know how they are enslaved by taxation, and how easily they could be freed by taxation the beginning of the end would appear.

The second meeting that revealed, somewhat, the progress of the movement was a smaller gathering of old time Single Taxers. At this meeting the progress of the movement, and the proposed confer-