

It is, however, no use to argue with them. They won't see it and never will till they come into contact with the working people and learn to sympathize with their ideals and aspirations, until they see that there are other interests than those of their own class. And as long as the idea prevails, "Only a servant" or "Only a workman," this can not well come about. At the best, we can hope for only a Platonic love for the "lower orders."

David Lloyd George once remarked to a Welsh friend: "In all my career I do not remember a hand being held out to me from above and a voice saying, 'Dring i fyny yma' (Come up higher, climb thou up here). But don't misunderstand me," he went on, "there have been thousands of hands which have pushed me up from behind." Of course, the real secret of his success, as always, lies within, but in his struggle upward he and Ramsay Macdonald and all of that type must struggle against great odds.

HORACE B. ENGLISH.



HENRY GEORGE IN DENMARK.*

Roskilde, Denmark, March 12.

Denmark being a fairly democratic country, a new movement here, especially such an important and far-reaching one as the Henry George movement, must be based upon the understanding and approval of the people at large; and as long as no definite step has been taken by the government, the work of the movement must for this reason, too, be largely educational and agitational.



The chief weapon used in this agitation and education in Denmark is public meetings and lectures. The more we can have of them the better, and during the years I am speaking of, the number of meetings has been growing faster than ever. Not only that, but the number of people present at each meeting and the interest of those present, may be said to have grown quite as fast. This is to a great extent due to the Fels Fund, through the assistance of which in 1910-11 alone, 470 lectures or meetings were held.

This year that kind of work has been further extended, especially by courses of lectures given by Dr. C. N. Starcke in about fourteen different places (mostly towns). Dr. Starcke has often had big and everywhere steadily increasing audiences, consisting of eager listeners, keen on asking questions.

I might here add that Singletaxers are more and more commonly asked by different societies, political and non-political, to give lectures on the Singletax; people want to know what it means and to discuss it.

Not a few of the lectures arranged by the Fels Fund are held in small-holdings societies; and we have found among the small-holders an ever growing interest and understanding, these people seeing that the taxation of land values is the only way of securing them cheap land and an easy admission to it.



But the small-holders seem also to make the fight for the taxation of land values a matter of their own societies. Last January the united leaders of all the United small-holdings societies sent a message to the

Danish small-holders asking them to keep a watchful eye on the present economic situation and to consider the question of the taxes and of the land from what must no doubt be characterized as the Henry George point of view. They were further asked to discuss these questions at their spring meetings, and the result has been the passing (often unanimously) of resolutions deploring the direct and indirect taxes now proposed by the Government, deploring further that the Government has not been wise enough to propose a reform of the taxes which could be of real benefit to the people at large—namely, a taxation of land values, of the values created by the public, and not by the individual.



As for literary agitation, it seems easier to get Danish people to hear than to read. But a good deal of interest is paid to newspaper articles, and especially to discussions between Singletaxers and others in the very widely spread provincial papers. The sale of books is meanwhile growing, people asking for Henry George's own works as well as for shorter pamphlets, which have been given out through the help of the Fels Fund; as examples may be mentioned L. Larsen's—"Taxation of Land Values in Foreign Countries," and T. L. Bjorner—"Facts and Figures for Working Singletaxers," both of which seem very useful and much asked for.

During the year 1910-11 the number of members of the Henry George Society rose very considerably—from about 2,000 to about 3,000; but, as will be understood from the above, the progress could not be measured by that only.



In the direct political fields Singletaxers have made themselves felt in different ways. The Radical-Liberal cabinet sitting in 1909-10 succeeded in arranging a sample land-valuation* in order to satisfy Singletaxers within the party. It has been going on since 1911 and is now nearly finished. Mr. S. Berthelsen, the well-known Singletaxer, has taken an active part in that valuation and done most helpful work.

The Radical-Liberal party has had a Commission within the party on the question of the taxation of land values; and the present leader of the Henry George Society, Jacob E. Lange, being on this commission, it has reported most favorably on the matter considered, 14 out of the 15 members strongly advocating taxation of that kind. The result was that the party at its last conference (May, 1911) pledged itself to advocate a certain (comparatively small) amount of taxation on land values.

ANDERS VEDEL.

*See The Public, vol. xiv, p. 370.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

DEMOCRACY IN MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

Hermosa Beach, California.

One of the purest examples of democracy in local government prevails here. To be sure, this "city of the sixth class" is only what would be called in the East a village, but the principles and methods used

*See The Public, volume xiv, pages 542, 584, 1192.