

I gave him my copy (just then at hand) of the Autumn, 1906, issue of your REVIEW together with a letter to Mr. P. J. O'Regan with whom I have had some correspondence and exchange of literature in the past.

The Democratic Party of this Territory had a tax plank for its platform that shows the trend of thought in this community, and it is safe to say that inside the next two years much progress will be made along these lines.

Please send same number as a sample copy to Geo. R. Carter, Governor of the Territory of Hawaii, who I am sure will be highly pleased to read Mr. O'Regan's article, as he also had intended to visit New Zealand some time ago, and this article would inform him on a number of matters into which he would personally have made inquiry.

JOHN EMMELUTH.

Honolulu, T. H.

FROM MR. BOLTON HALL.

Editor *Single Tax Review*:

Mr. William J. Ogden lays down rules that "The street railway is a public function simply because it is a part of the public street. (This seems to be true if we mean "way," and not cars); and also that "all the services of the government are street services" and he says that "there are two exceptions to the last rule—education and the care of the poor."

If being a "street service," that is, its effect being communicated to the citizen through streets (as Mr. Ogden thinks judicial services are) is sufficient to make a thing a public function; then a board of education (which depends on streets for executing its functions just as much as Mr. Ogden's "board of health") is also a public function and the tariff and blackmail are also public functions.

But Mr. Ogden thinks that "education and the care of the poor" are not street functions and takes refuge in saying that these are exceptions to his rule. There are no exceptions to any rule. Apparent exceptions show only that the rule is loosely stated or wrong.

To the rule that "Everything is a public function which is of its nature a monopoly," there are no exceptions. It shuts out public education to be sure, but under free conditions public education would be needless and impertinent. As for care of the poor—you know the story of the boy that said "Gimme the core of your apple." The other replied, "There won't be no core to this apple."

After giving his reasons why public ownership of (street) railways is a public function, Mr. Ogden slips into his last paragraph but one "government operation" as though he had given reasons for that.

BOLTON HALL.

IT IS ADVANCING.

Editor *Single Tax Review*:

While the cause may have advanced slowly during the past year, I feel that it is surely advancing and hope and believe that each year will bring us nearer to the end we are striving to attain.

GEO. DANA LINN.

Spokane, Wash.

AN INTERESTING LETTER.

Editor *Single Tax Review*:

I am one of the obscure, humble and late-born Single Taxers of whom I believe there are many in this and all other English-speaking countries. No expression can possibly convey what the Georgian Philosophy is to me. To paraphrase Lincoln, it is the birth of freedom, but a world instead of a nation birth. Oh, that the nation would drop everything else—art, astronomy, war, commercial development, and sit at the master's feet until it had irrevocably learned the lesson which he taught—peace on earth good will to men. reduced to method.

I was born and raised in the east end of London—a poor son of a poor mechanic, who was yet of humanity's blood royal. The hopeless, hell-hatched suffering caused by poverty of which I was a daily witness in my growing years tortured me as it did the master. His teachings have enabled me to diagnose it, and a disease correctly diagnosed is half conquered. But the misery of my native streets has scarred my soul, I believe, for eternity. I would not have it otherwise. Until I met the master's writings (and I had never even heard of him until he died), my heart despaired of help for the oppressed of our civilization—God save the word. But George's message answered Milton's great prayer for me. What was dark it illumined, what was low it raised and supported, and to the very climax of argument justified the ways of God to men. Someone has said that Science is simply "knowing why"! If that be true, the Georgian Philosophy is the science of all sciences. I am now living on the Pacific coast, where we have time for a few hurried free gasps before the black tide of forced poverty reaches us, but I am thankful that I do not forget and still suffer with the suffering that

"Time but the impression deeper makes,
As streams their channels deeper wear."

I am without influence or talent and destitute of that self-centered acquisitive cunning which is the requisite of commercial success. But if "Antony were Brutus and Brutus Antony," there were an Antony that would cry with Myers,

"Give me a voice, a cry, and a complaining,
O, let my sound be stormy in their ears,

an Antony who would move "the very

stones to rise and mutiny." But I can help the movement by doing what little I can to uphold the hands of the supporters and leaders. Therefore I desire to get into touch with you.

Trusting that you will pardon this garrulous letter and promising not to do it again.

H. E. VENESS.

Doty, Wash.

FROM AN ULTRA CONSERVATIVE
SINGLE TAXER.

Editor *Single Tax Review*:

I truly hope the REVIEW will live and prosper. If it does not I trust that in spite of financial loss and disappointment you will feel repaid.

Why our movement halts or is slow must, I think, be due to deep-seated causes, scarcely suspected or understood. My belief is that our radical reform is slow for the same reason that all radicalism is slow, because it is usually a one-sided radicalism, and because a fanatical zeal really allies itself to reactionary forces. The radicalism of Russia is so rabid that it tends to terrorism and anarchy, and in Germany it opposes a bold and rational exercise of authority. In America it tends to lend aid and sympathy to strikers, to mobs and mob law, and to a Jacobin construction of human rights.

My belief is that this is false principle and bad policy. Law and order, however poor they be, are still precious things. And our present system of order, bad as it is, stands for a degree of justice and for the attainment of fuller justice.

ROWLAND HILL.

Seneca, South Dakota.

(We print Mr. Hill's letter, or part of it, because it is expressive of the convictions of a sincere Single Taxer, however much it is opposed to the less conservative views of the great body of our believers. It will be recalled that Mr. Hill was one of those who in the controversy in the columns of the old *National Single Taxer* wrote in favor of the Phillipine policy of the government. Mr. Hill is an imperialist—we believe he would not resent this appellation—and as such his position will seem to most of our readers curiously contradictory. But he is at least an intelligent imperialist, and his position is much the same as Professor Giddings who is very friendly to the Single Tax, takes in his "Democracy and Empire."

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW.)

AN APPEAL FOR ORGANIZATION.

Editor *Single Tax Review*:

Our forces are woefully unorganized. About two years ago I suggested a plan of organization, but nothing came of it. We seem to be too individualistic or too aristocratic

for our own good. Haven't we Single Taxers in the United States got brains, nerve, perseverance, organizing capacity enough, and are we not sufficient in numbers to effect an organization? I am sure the Single Taxers of the country would be more than pleased if you as the editor of the official organ of the movement would go to the front and plan and effect an organization. We are beginning to look to you.

For myself I have not been idle here in Jamestown, the home of Mr. Arthur Wade, the Chairman of the newly appointed N. Y. State Tax Commission. I hope to be able to do something.

F. G. ANDERSON.

Jamestown, N. Y.

MR. WAKEFIELD'S STATEMENT.

Editor *Single Tax Review*:

Mr. Wakefield begins by making me out a socialist, for which he has not the least proof. He then says I depend more on my feelings than on economic facts for my principles, and forthwith proceeds to exhibit conclusions taken from his own feelings as an answer to my statistical facts taken from official sources. He calls these worthless and his feelings—for there is nothing to show that his own figures are based on anything else—correct. Upon this nothing further remains to be said.

I commend him to our friend Mr. Louis F. Post, who has the honesty of acknowledging when he has stumbled into a misstatement. In reply to a letter in which I drew his attention to the same error he made in regard to the farmers' portion of the nation's land values, he says: "The statement that the farmers own less than ten per cent. of all the land values of the country is one that I think I must apologize for using. Whether it is true or not I really do not know and I doubt if anyone else does. It is simply one of those statements that pass around, and, which, since it represents a substantial truth even if out of proportion, one is apt to utilize for current writing or speaking." * * *

This is an excuse for following feelings instead of statistics and perhaps the feelings are right and the statistics wrong, which, however, does not justify my antagonist posing on the side of statistics and throwing me on that of feelings, his own place all along.

MICHAEL FLURSCHHEIM.

Coronado, Cal.

WHERE IS IT?

Editor *Single Tax Review*:

In re the Wakefield-Flurschheim controversy, the sale of the Jim Hill iron lands to the Steel Trust is of some moment. The editor of a prominent Milwaukee paper gives facts and figures to prove the