

3. The argument in favor of the amendment that seemed to have the most effect upon both petitioners and candidates was, that it was based upon a just principle—giving to those who had to raise the money their say as to how it should be raised. As soon as I discovered this fact, I confined myself to this argument, and from that time on, my progress was more satisfactory. I took pains to say to the candidates that the petitioners had not committed themselves as a body to any particular plan of taxation that would be possible under the amendment, but to the proposition that each city and town should be given a wider choice of plans than is permitted under the present law. A considerable number thus approached did not hesitate to declare that they favored that idea and were willing to be so quoted. Others were willing to be quoted as being unable, from their present standpoint, to perceive any objection to the idea. Only one man insisted that the real object of the amendment was the introduction of the Single Tax into Rhode Island. I couldn't exactly dispute this, and as I saw that he was hostile to the Single Tax, I pushed on to the next appointment.

Now it would have been a straightforward way to have said to all whom I interviewed, petitioners and candidates, "This amendment will give any city or town in this State the opportunity to try the Single Tax, and that is the reason why we favor it and want you to favor it and work for it;" but I am pretty sure that that would not have been the best way. Our object is to get the amendment, and I think that so far as public sentiment goes, that can be accomplished with less difficulty by appealing to the sense of fair play than by trying to emphasize any particular material advantage that will be possible if it passed. No man who pretends to believe in popular government can advance even a plausible reason against the amendment *per se*, and upon that fact rests the possibility if not the probability of its passage. At least, that is the way it looks to me at present.

All this is not to be understood as recommending the cessation of the direct propaganda of the Single Tax in Rhode

Island—not by any means; but as against talking Single Tax when the only effect will be to arouse opposition to the thing we want to get—the amendment. Let the general plea for that rest upon grounds that all who believe in government by the people can stand upon, shoulder to shoulder. In that direction lies possible if not probable success. The amendment ought to pass, even if the Single Tax had never been heard of.

But again, this is not to disparage the probable effect of a special effort on the part of a limited number of influential men, who do see what this amendment promises, to induce the commission to report in its favor. The only question is to find the men, or even one man, who will undertake this work. With the bringing to bear the very general sentiment favoring the amendment upon the score of its being no more than fair, coupled with a direct appeal to the Commission, its favorable report and passage ought to be a certainty.

H. J. CHASE.

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#### CANADA.

The *Ottawa Citizen*, one of the leading Canadian newspapers, which a short time ago came out in support of the Single Taxers' proposed amendment, to permit provincial legislatures to tax improvement values, business assessments, incomes and salaries at a lower rate than land values, and to which was largely due the credit for obtaining the endorsement of the Ottawa Council, offered its co-operation in obtaining the support of the other municipal councils of the Province. Petition forms, accompanied by circular letters, have been mailed by both the *Citizen* and the Single Tax Association to every council in Ontario, and as a result over 150 municipalities have already signed the petition, and the list is increasing daily.

The Provincial Government at the last session of the Legislature appointed a special committee to consider all proposed changes in the tax laws of the Province. This committee met in November, and the Single Tax Association is exerting every effort to roll up as large a list as possible

of municipal councils and other influential organizations and citizens favoring the proposed amendment. A special representative, in the person of Mr. F. E. Coulter, of Portland, Oregon, has been engaged, and is now visiting the different cities and towns that have not yet signed the petition.

This larger work undertaken is made possible only by the generous offer of Mr. Joseph Fels, to contribute \$5,000. per year for five years to the movement in Canada, provided Canada will raise a like amount. Encouraging progress is being made in raising this fund. The Montreal League for the Taxation of Land Values expects to raise nearly half of it, and is planning an active campaign, part of which will be the promoting of a measure similar to that proposed for Ontario, in the Quebec Legislature. The newly organized Manitoba League for the Taxation of Land Values is also planning active work.

The Toronto Single Tax Association has been expanded into the Single Tax Association of Ontario, in order to facilitate Mr. Coulter's work, which will consist, in part, of raising money for the Fels Fund of Canada.

L. B. WALLING, Secretary  
TORONTO, Canada.

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#### DINNER TO HENRY GEORGE, JR., IN BOSTON.

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A complimentary dinner, preceded by an informal reception, was tendered Henry George, Jr., by the Massachusetts Single Tax League in the Twentieth Century clubrooms, on the evening of Oct. 10th. President James R. Carrett presided and more than 50 members were present.

Mr. George, who had just returned from a study of conditions in Russia and Japan, described many things he had learned there. Other speakers were Prof. Robert Braun of Hungary; Miss Alice G. Herring, of the Single Tax colony of Fairhope, Ala.; Prof. L. J. Johnson of Harvard; Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Jr., and others.

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ONE per cent. of the families in this country own more than the other 99 per cent.—LYMAN ABBOTT.

#### MEMORIAL MEETING FOR LOUIS PRANG.

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Memorial services in honor of the late Louis Prang were held in Boston on the afternoon of Oct. 10th in Jordan Hall, Henry George, Jr., said in part:

"Only a few days ago, on the occasion of his death, the whole world rang with the name of Harriman. He was well regarded as a pillar of state, in our republic. He was king, in fact, and if he had lived a little longer would have been master over the masters, the laborers, and their children; he already had vast influence over Legislatures. Such a thing is a peril in a republic.

"If Louis Prang had a religion it was that of justice which negatives such a peril. Up to the time of his death he longed for the day when industrial slavery should be abolished."

A quartet sang selections in German. Mrs. William N. Heilmann, of Cleveland, read one of Mr. Prang's favorite German poems, and Robert Sturn spoke in German on behalf of those associated with Mr. Prang in the firm bearing his name. The Rev. Charles Wendt presided, and those who assisted in the exercises had all been friends of Mr. Prang and associated with him. These were Rabbi Fleischer, Louis Brandes, the Rev. Charles G. Ames, who pronounced the benediction, and Henry George, Jr.

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OUR bright little contemporary, the *Standard* of New South Wales, Aus., has a series of articles in its September issue, Single Tax vs. Socialism. Mr. A. G. Huie takes the Single Tax and H. Scott Bennett the Socialistic side.

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THE Henry George Lecture Association, F. H. Munroe, president, Palos Park, Ill. announce an eastern lecture tour for H. H. Hardinge, for the month of February. Mr. Hardinge is well known to the readers of the Single Tax REVIEW. He will direct his work mainly among labor unions. Mr. Hardinge is a prosperous manufacturer who devotes his vacation each year to lecture work on economic lines.