

as possible, and should be divided among the people according to their ability to pay. In other words, it should leave all citizens in the same relative position as it found them. We are now going over more completely to a conception of taxation as an instrument for the socialization of production and wealth as a means of changing the currents and directions of distribution. In other words, the social as well as the merely fiscal ends of taxation are held in view."

I do not claim that the form of the proposed amendment is the wisest and best that could have been adopted, but I support it in the absence of a better because I believe it offers an enormous advance over our present basis, and promises the following benefits:

First. Justly placing the burden of taxation on socially created values.

Second. Wisely relieving merchants and manufacturers of license taxes, and the products of labor and the accumulations of thrift as represented by personal property from all tax burdens.

Third. Offering a system simple, certain and efficient.

Fourth. Involving a moral uplift of our taxpayers.

Fifth. Educating the social sense of our people.

PERCY WERNER.

CONDENSED EDITORIALS

A SENSELESS THING IN BOSTON.

Henry Sterling in The Progressive Workingman (Boston), of August 31.

There are over 7,000 acres of vacant land within the boundaries of Boston (assessors' figures); enough for an additional population of more than 35,000 at 50 persons per acre.

Yet, it is said that there are as many as 1,000 per acre living in some spots.

Could anything be more senseless, more heartless, than to let all this land lie empty, naked, staring up to heaven, useless, while all these thousands suffer so for a chance to live upon it?

Why not have a city Planning Board, and study how best to utilize our resources for the good of all?

Land is our only material gift from God.

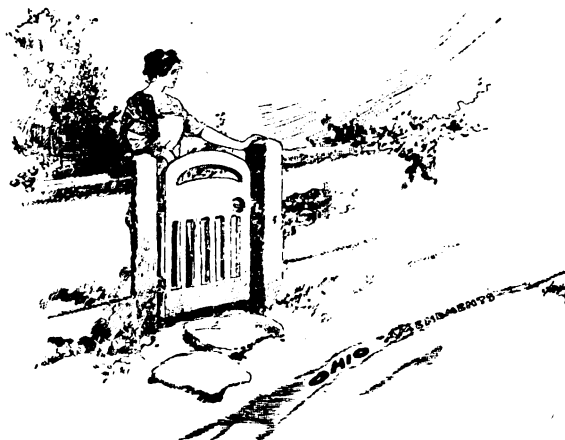
It is essential to all employments, all homes, all necessities, all happiness. Yet we mock God by making merchandise of His gift.

We exploit His children, charging extortionate prices for its use, and they perish for lack of space while half the land is idle.

Systematic, well-planned growth, with a heavy tax on land and exemption for buildings, would cure these two evils—congestion and unused resources—and also another Senseless Thing—unemployment.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Left Behind.



J. W. Donahey in Cleveland Plain Dealer of September 5, 1912. Reproduced in The Public by courteous permission of the Editor of the Plain Dealer.



WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE IN OHIO.

Lake Erie College, Painesville, Ohio.

The whole country has been watching Ohio to see what she would do on September 3d. She did some splendid things. The Initiative and Referendum, home rule for cities and welfare of employes were among them. But equal suffrage apparently received a black eye.

We say apparently advisedly, for the campaign has revealed some interesting facts with regard to the state of public opinion.

In the first place it was the liquor interests who fought it tooth and nail, their last coup d'etat being the broadcast distribution of a sheet of specious arguments when it was too late to reply. They know the propensity women have for thorough housecleaning, when they get at it, although in fact the suffragists were not mixed up as such with any other issue, some of them even favoring license.

In the second place, two of the counties to vote for the suffrage amendment were in the heart of the conservative Western Reserve region, settled by the descendants of Connecticut and representing the Eastern spirit more nearly perhaps than any other section of our country. Let New England and New York take notice. The women who were the leaders are worthy descendants of Plymouth Rock and Mary Lyon. To those watching the polls on election day it seemed evident also that the best men were on their side, that it was the more ignorant voters and those tied up with questionable business that were adverse.

A third fact is revealed, and that is that there has not been time enough for thorough education, that many men voted No because their wives were indifferent. This is one of the strongest arguments for the political emancipation of women. Let them once feel the responsibility of public questions and they will no longer speak of "your" cause and

"their" laws but it will be "my" cause and "our" laws. However, the summer's campaign has removed much of this childish irresponsibility, and women who never before thought seriously about public issues are doing so now.

The suffragists are especially thankful for the passage of the Initiative and Referendum. It was the most important amendment on the list, and they will be among the first to put it to a test. September 4th, plans were already afoot for placing the question before the people again within two years. Let no man think he is now to have peace. There will be no peace for him, nor for Ohio, until justice is done the women.

LAURA H. WILD.



A little Chinese girl, 16 years old, is taking special work at the University of Pennsylvania preparatory to entering Wellesley, and her name is Miss Mabel Lee. She is an ardent suffragist, and when asked how it came about that the women of China got the vote, she explained that education has always been the greater factor in Chinese life. "When the Chinese men worked side by side with the Chinese girls in American or foreign universities, it was a revelation to them. They came to appreciate the fact that girls could acquire education as readily as they did, and as Chinese always respect educated persons it was only natural that suffrage should have been granted to women as it was to men."—Woman's Journal of September 7, 1912.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

A NEW YORK VOTER'S VIEW.

New York.

I would like to suggest to radical "progressives" who fear to trust Roosevelt with the vast (too vast) powers, and the temptations, of the Presidency, but who desire to help "boom" (now) the several progressive policies which his party (much more reliably than himself) is "standing for," that they help to keep that dangerous "embryo Caesar" in his proper sphere of service, that of "agitation" (in which he is and would be immensely useful), by voting for Wilson for President, but voting for the candidate for Governor of the Progressive Party in each State in which their candidate and platform are distinctly more genuinely "radical" than the candidate and platform of either of the other parties.

In New York the probabilities seem now immensely against either the Republicans or the Democrats offering a candidate or a platform which could "compare," in the eyes of real radicals, with those proposed by T. R.'s Syracuse convention. I fully expect, therefore, to vote for Wilson for President and for Oscar Straus for Governor. (An additional qualification of the latter is that, having been born in Germany, he is ineligible to the Presidency, and would therefore be free from the temptation to try to make of Albany only a "stepping stone to higher things.")

The "protectionism" of T. R.'s party is happily immaterial in the field of State politics. Wilson is

not (yet) half radical enough for me, but then—the alternative is Teddy!

CHARLES FREDERICK ADAMS.

NEWS NARRATIVE

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of The Public for earlier information on the same subject.

Week ending Tuesday, September 17, 1912.

Constitutional Amendments in Ohio.

On the principal proposed amendments to the Ohio Constitution voted upon at the special election on the 3rd, the full vote reported by all the 88 counties to the Secretary of State of Ohio is as follows:

	Yes.	No.	Majority
No. 2. Abolition of capital punishment	258,796	303,246	44,450 No
No. 6. Initiative and referendum	312,592	231,313	81,279 Yes
No. 8. Limiting Governor's veto	282,412	254,186	28,226 Yes
No. 13. 8-hour day on public work	333,307	232,898	100,409 Yes
No. 16. Torrens system of land titles	345,373	171,807	173,566 Yes
No. 17. Abolishing prison contract labor	333,034	215,208	117,826 Yes
No. 22. Restraining government by injunction	240,896	257,302	16,406 No
No. 23. Woman's suffrage	249,420	336,875	87,455 No
No. 26. Direct primaries	249,801	183,112	66,689 Yes
No. 29. Bonds for road building	272,564	273,656	1,092 No
No. 40. Home rule for cities	301,861	215,120	86,741 Yes
No. 42. Licensing liquor traffic except in prohibition territory	272,361	188,825	83,536 Yes



Altogether, 34 amendments were adopted and 8 defeated. Those defeated were the amendments abolishing capital punishment, regulating contempt proceedings on injunctions, allowing woman suffrage, omitting the word "white" from the suffrage clause, providing for voting machines, making good roads by means of bonds based upon general taxation, making women eligible to certain offices, and regulating outdoor advertising. Among those adopted, other than the ones tabulated above, were the amendments for conservation of natural resources, for reform of the judicial system, for organizing boards of education and creating a state superintendency, for regulating insurance, on taxation, for regulating corporations, for a merit system of civil service, and providing a simple and easier method of amending the Constitution.



About 600,000 voters participated in the election, being about 50 per cent of the voting popu-