

of a new party. As to the advisability of a new party, that is an old thrashed over question, and one that single taxers have been divided on since the movement started, and I can see no reason why the old arguments pertaining to that subject are not as good now as they were twenty years ago, and I fully agree with Post on his theory of political parties as was fully outlined by him in an issue of the *Public* some months ago.

But, I can see arguments on both sides, I can see that political activity may retard or strengthen propoganda work, and I can see that straight propoganda work can retard, at a given point, political work.

It may be said that our agitation in consequence of the political issue in this state, has furthered our cause from a propoganda point view. At the same time we can say that we have retarded the movement in consequence of our failure from a political point of view. We have set many to thinking, it is true, but at what cost? Not financial cost, but the most valuable of all, the moral sacrifice, for the moment our movement left the track of simple and pure propoganda to the cesspool of place hunting politics it degraded it to the dead level of the cheap political grafter from whom it must be wrested by almost a new generation. But, you exclaim, good Single Taxers must not go into politics for office merely, but whether they must or must not does not change the fact that Single Taxers are merely human, and generally poor, and know more about the power of the almighty dollar than most people and are as apt to be influenced by temptation as anybody, and it matters not what form it takes when it enters the arena of politics it lays itself liable to all the vice that power and influence is capable of. I think that our greatest danger is not that the movement will not get into politics soon enough, but that it will get there too soon. It seems to me that it ought not to get into politics until it gets there in spite of the efforts of reformers to keep it out, and then when it does come, it will come as an advance movement, and not as a reactionary movement.

What I would like to see in this country is a propoganda organization which carries on its work in the spirit that the Socialists carry on their work. To be sure, we are too individualistic to make any such united demonstration as they do, but this I heartily believe, that until there is an upheaval or deep awakening, something like the Anti-Corn Law agitation in England, we will not see even the entering wedge of the Single Tax. If any one who has witnessed the desperate opposition to even the remotest application of our theory in this State does not realize the sober task before us, then he must be dreaming indeed.

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Editor *Single Tax Review* :

It seems to me that the policy pursued heretofore by Single Taxers has been one of indecision, as if we were not convinced of the truth of what we advocate. We are begging the endorsement of organizations indifferent, if not hostile to our principles; and our timidity is such that we dare not of ourselves, and without the assistance and guidance of our opponents, expose to the criticism of the public the light of truth which has been intrusted to us. What great reform has ever been accomplished by methods as timid as these? If the Abolitionists had adopted these tactics, negro slavery would still be flourishing; the American Revolution would have failed; the Union troops could never have restored the Union. On every page of history we can see that the prerequisites to success is a principle or a cause for which men will give their labor and if necessary their lives.

And if a great light has been entrusted to us, have we the right to cover it with a bushel? It is true that practically the works of Mr. George are the only means we have of propagating the Single Tax; and one of the great elements of strength of these works, is their fearless and uncompromising honesty. What have Single Taxers done to advance the cause? To how many have we shown the light? And if, through Mr. George, the light has been shown to us, it is our duty and we are morally bound to show it to as many as we can, and we need not fear, for it is of the nature of truth to gain by being investigated. The more intense the light and the more searching, the surer will be the triumph of truth over falsehood. Of all the methods known, that of a political campaign to carry out a political principle, is the one that will bring the issue home to the greatest number, and cause the widest discussion. And after all is said, why should we not have a candidate for Governor, and for President? Failure to elect our candidates can not discredit our party. If our claims are true, if our principles are correct, and if the remedy we propose is morally just, and does not violate, but enforces the Divine command, "Thou shalt not steal," we must come out of a political struggle immensely stronger than we went in whether we elect our candidates or not.

And if our claims are not true, if our principles are not correct, and if the remedy we propose does violate the command, "Thou shalt not steal," we have no right to withhold our position from the searchlight of a political campaign.

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Editor *Single Tax Review* :

I favor a straight out Single Tax fight. Nearly all Single Taxers are like women's