

we know it is—we need not expect anything else from those who advocate an unusual doctrine.

Purely therefore by way of illustration, and not by way of censure, I may say that not twenty people in the United States, outside of California, have given any visible signs of interest in our California contest, and by this I mean contributing money, or expressions of sympathy, or offers of help. As a matter of fact, it may well be the case that the first fervors of adhesion to the cause have been burned out in the passage of years. Among those who forty years ago were concerned in the Delaware fight and who still remain alive, we in California have heard from but one.

Referring, however, to what I was saying shortly above, when the test comes the Single Taxer who is honest with himself will have to confess that he has little more ground of complaint to the action of trade unions than he has to the usual action of those who, being better informed, should be more in earnest. May I give a quotation I heard when a boy, made by Tom Hughes, the author of "Tom Brown of Rugby," "Woe to the faint heart or the feeble knees of the man who looketh two ways."

I am sometimes reminded of the scriptural paragraph which tells of a certain man who made a great supper and bade many, and they all with one consent began to make excuses: "I have bought a piece of ground and I must go and see it." "I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them;" "I have married a wife and therefore cannot come." Now some may say, "You have striven to do too much at a time," or "too little;" or, "I would have phrased the matter differently;" or, "Fifteen years ago we disagreed about something;" or "It is useless and ridiculous to think that we can succeed against exceeding odds, and any money we give will be thrown away;" or—but the excuses for not working are innumerable.

They are also, I regret to say, those who will appeal to a slogan,— "Do not follow the step-by-step method." To them I have only to say that if our principles are as fundamental as we believe them to be, there are but two methods of bringing them into play; one is, step-by-step—here a little and there a little; and the other is revolution. The latter none of us want, and when we speak of the former, let us not overlook the fact that only step-by-step do we progress along the street to our given aim, or learn a language, or acquire a profession, or accomplish any reform that is at all worth while—a comparatively recent illustration being Woman's Suffrage. In fact, the step proposed is, as I have before indicated, a very long one.

If we are to accomplish our reform which is of a political nature, it must be done through using the instrumentalities of politics, and this sooner or later. For my part, I believe that we have delayed much longer than is necessary, meanwhile erring through presenting preconceived measures in some cases, and in others through attempting the formation of an independent political party. It is not my purpose, however, to pursue this line of thought, but to call attention to another essential thing.

We have held up the Single Tax to view from every point and in every colored light. We have dissected it to the bone. We have thought that none who did not do the same could be among the elect. And we have to no small extent forgotten that this country does not operate in an atmosphere of superculture, but it is a democracy and largely ruled by the feelings and intelligence of what we call the common man. Therefore, it could not be necessary that the progress of the Single Tax should be halted until the last man in the country has taught nuances familiar to us.

Let us remember that the appeal to the man in the street can be made in simple and understandable language. He will readily understand that there are but two sorts of values—those created by the individual and those created by the community; that in the name of justice no part of the first values can be taken by the State and in the same name as much as the State needs may be taken of the value the community has originated. This simple lesson can be mastered by the most uncultured, and he can be made to realize that certainly the most of the evils of society proceed from its non-recognition.

Approaching the problem from the point of view just advanced, it will be the fortune of any speaker to make converts of the majority of any meeting he may address, the hearers not finding their benefits in land speculation. Our political advancement may not need to be halted any longer on any idea that dilettante discussions are necessary to precede it and convince the majority before we join battle.

Remember that the vast majority of men are not interested in theoretical discussions relating to some unknown time in the future. They are interested in what may happen in the immediate present.

Meanwhile we may take such solace as we can in the fact that Henry George said of the truth, "It will find friends—those who will battle for it; suffer for it; if need be, die for it. This is the power of truth."

We of California have exhausted ourselves in getting the measure upon the ballot. For the making of the campaign the next six months or two years, as the case may be, we have scarcely any funds. We feel we have a right to ask those of kindred belief throughout the country to help us, for in helping us they will be helping themselves. We therefore with confidence appeal to the Single Taxers of this country to give of their means, even until it hurts, to help on a campaign the labors of which we stand ready to undertake.

Palo Alto, Calif.

JACKSON H. RALSTON.

Resolutions Adopted by Henry George Congress

IN SUPPORT OF THE HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL

Whereas, it appears to this Congress that the grievous social and economic ills of our country at this time, as in the past, and the recurrence of periods that impose vast suffering and misery upon the American people through recurrent business depressions and unemployment, are the result of causes first clearly delineated more than fifty years ago by Henry George in his great book "Progress and Poverty," and

Whereas, it is a fact becoming more widely recognized that Henry George's delineation of these causes, and his proposals for their removal constitute a convincing and unanswerable revelation of economic truth, and,

Whereas, it seems to us that the absence of a more general recognition of the root causes of business depressions and unemployment in a land of plenty and a failure to apply the simple but certain remedies proposed by Henry George, is the greatest tragedy of political life in these days, therefore be it

Resolved, that it is our deliberate judgment that the most vital public need of our times is the work of sound economic education, according to Henry George, and further

Resolved, that we commend the movement already formed in New York for the extension throughout the land of the Henry George Fellowship, an educational fraternity, having no political aims, but aiming solely at uniting men and women everywhere in a comradeship devoted to spreading the knowledge of the vital significance to human welfare of the philosophy and economic teachings of Henry George, and further,

Resolved, that we heartily endorse the programme sponsored by the founders of the Fellowship to extend its educational work throughout the United States by the organization of groups in all population centers in the country who will apply the teaching methods that have proven so effective in the Henry George School of Social Science, in sending out into the world earnest men and women equipped for leadership in good citizenship by a sound education in fundamental economics.

THE ROOSEVELT PROGRAMME AND CALIFORNIA CAMPAIGN

Resolved, that the Henry George Congress regards as ethically and economically unsound those policies of the Federal Government aimed at the curtailment or destruction of the products of the farm or other forms of wealth; and further

Resolved, that we condemn the payment to landlords of large sums of public money for withdrawing land from cultivation, and thus lessening opportunities for employment, while increasing the cost of living to the masses of our people.

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Resolved, that we petition the Congress of the United States to levy an annual tax of one per cent for Federal purposes on all land values throughout the entire jurisdiction of said Congress.

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Whereas, the Amendment to the Constitution of California formulated by Judge Jackson H. Ralston, to be voted on at an approaching election, meets with the approval of this Convention: Therefore be it

Resolved, that this Convention hereby extends its sincere sympathy and support to our comrades in California, and invites the Georgists of other States who favor political action to assist according to their ability.

ECONOMIC PLANNING

In this serious time of planning and effort for liberty, security, and advancement, we reaffirm our faith in the rights of the individual to self-employment and self-development and self-regulation on the land resources, whether rural or urban.

We favor a more localized exercise of political power—and that the States, counties and municipalities shall more fully exercise and develop their powers of settling intelligently their local problems of a public character, rather than of surrendering these powers to a more and more distant and centralized authority.

We favor the fullest development of *voluntary* cooperation in productive effort and cultural accomplishment.

We protest against the crushing burden of taxation now resting with destructive force upon the home owners, farmers, manufacturers, business men and laboring men; in short upon all forms of productive enterprise.

We protest against these intolerable tax burdens now pressing down with such force upon all branches of legitimate industry—both upon producer and consumer.

We favor a more truly liberal and enlightened policy whereby there shall be in this nation a far greater freedom and opportunity to produce wealth—and an opportunity for those who so produce it to enjoy the fruits of their production—and an untrammelled opportunity to exchange. These elements of freedom are vital and essential (as we view it) to a preservation of our civilization or to further desirable extension or development of same.

We favor a far greater production of wealth than we have ever before known and an equitable arrangement whereby this enhanced wealth may be more broadly enjoyed among the producers.

In thus reaffirming these statements, we call attention to the developments of the past year which have proved the correctness of our affirmations.

FREEDOM OF THE INDIVIDUAL

We, the members of the Henry George Foundation of America in Congress assembled, declare

The adoption of the Single Tax is the only means of preventing government by socialism, communism, or a form of government in which the individual becomes the servant of the State in place of the State the servant of the individual,

To attain freedom, justice, abolish unemployment and retain our democracy, we offer the economic philosophy of Henry George, otherwise known as the Single Tax.

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Natural resources, land and water rights, acquired through forfeiture, foreclosure or purchase by any administration, national, State or local, if not held as communal should not be surrendered in fee simple but should be retained and let upon leases whose value is regularly assessed and collected as public revenue, thus placing all reclamation, homesteading and subsistence homesteads under the enclavial system.

IN MEMORY OF THE DEPARTED

Whereas, there have passed from us since our last meeting together fellow workers, able, devoted and deeply loved, notable among them Oscar Geiger, George Fowlds, Chester Platt, Stoughton Cooley, and Fred C. Bahni

Resolved, that this grievous loss leaves upon us who remain a even heavier responsibility for devoting our lives to carrying on the all important work we have in common, shown to us by Henry George and even more needed now than when he led us in human form as he still leads us in spirit.

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Other short resolutions were adopted endorsing the Henry George School of Social Science, the Henry George Fellowship, as well as resolutions of sympathy for Francis W. Maguire (since deceased) and for John Lawrence Monroe who met with a serious accident that prevented him from attending the Conference.

An Important Point

BENJAMIN W. BURGER has written the following letter to Senator Copeland:

Dear Senator:

In yesterday's *New York Times* you are quoted:

"When only fifteen per cent of a person's blood is in circulation he is in a coma and close to death," he continued. "Until the New Deal came into existence business was in a state of coma and has been since 1929, when the panic started. Just as a person's health improves when his circulation increases, so it is with business. Now that the flow of bank credit is increasing from a mere fifteen per cent to a more normal figure, business is increasing. The coma is lifting and after the November elections the nation will soon be on the rapid progress to recovery."

Your statement reveals why the Roosevelt measures must fail. I am not a physician but the fallacy of your statement is obvious to me.

When the conditions under which a person lives become more favorable his health improves *and his circulation increases*. One of the results of living amidst better conditions is improved blood circulation, which clearly, is an effect, not a cause.

To attempt, artificially, to increase blood circulation, while ignoring the conditions which produce health, must prove ineffectual. Likewise, when business is active, bank credit increases.

To attempt to increase bank credit, as this Administration is doing without changing the conditions that cause bad business must result in failure. Business is bad, and must remain bad, so long as it is taxed to death.

Until the people collect their full ground rent for their community needs, and abolish taxation, so long must industry lag.

To extend bank credit as a means to stimulate business, or increase the blood circulation to create health, is analogous to lighting a fire under a thermometer as the means to increase the temperature of a cold room.

Warm the room and the thermometer will take care of itself.

Rent-Producing Machines

IT is plain that if a man does not own any land he must live upon the land of another, and he must, directly or indirectly, pay to him that owns it a premium or rent for permission to be there. This is the condition of the vast majority of the people in England, and even man, woman or child in the community, who has no share in property in land, is—whether conscious of it or not—as much a rent-producing machine for the benefit of the landowners as the cattle that browses in the fields.—JUDGE ARTHUR O'CONNOR, K.C.