

The petitions for the pending measure must be signed before July 1st by 25,000 qualified electors. The vote is on Nov. 6. Our friends are therefore urged to communicate with Barney Haughey, secretary Single Tax and Old Age Pension League, 1605 Larimer Street, Denver, Colorado. The pamphlet containing instructions to circulators of the petition is a carefully prepared argument which does credit to Mr. Haughey's committee.

Prof. Harry Gunnison Brown will send his "Tale of Two Cities" for distribution by thousands throughout the state in addition to which, if funds are available, reprints of Prof. Brown's article on the Farmer in this issue of LAND AND FREEDOM will be widely circulated.

Single Taxers Planning for Chicago Convention

COMMITTEES to take care of every phase of the third annual Henry George Congress have now been organized under the able leadership of General Chairman Clayton J. Ewing, who is also the popular President of the Chicago Single Tax Club, having recently been re-elected to that office in recognition of the good work accomplished during the first year of the re-organized club's activities. Stimulated by the success of the two Congresses which met in Philadelphia and New York, the Chicago Club is eager to do all that is possible to make the Congress in that city one that will be remembered as another milestone in Single Tax progress.

It is too early to make announcements concerning the actual programme for the Congress, but we are assured that there will be a number of prominent figures in the movement and that discussions will be provided to cover all of the more important phases of the Single Tax progress to the extent of the capacity of the three-day session which opens Monday, September 10th at the Congress Hotel. This Hotel has reserved for our convention, meeting rooms admirably adapted to the purpose and the management is lending its hearty cooperation.

The following sub-committees have been named:

Reception Committee: Henry Tideman, Chairman; George C. Olcott, Joseph L. Murray, John F. Connors, Mildred Tideman, Mrs. Angeline Loesch Graves.

Registration: John Lawrence Monroe, Chairman; Marien Tideman.

Press Publicity: Leo Heller, Chairman; Emil O. Jorgensen, E. A. Howes, Joseph Bauer.

Local Transportation: Otto Cullman, Chairman; Dr. Walter Verity, Edwin Hamilton.

George M. Strachan has been appointed Vice Chairman of the general committee.

Mrs. Henry Martin, Secretary of the Henry George Lecture Association, reports a keen interest on the part of her correspondents in various parts of the country in the approaching convention, and that a number have

indicated that they are planning to be in Chicago to participate. A goodly delegation from the Pacific Coast states is expected in view of the central location of Chicago as compared with the recent places of meeting.

The value of the annual Congress in the way of instruction and inspiration has been demonstrated by the gatherings of 1926 and 1927 and the Convention Committee appeals to all disciples of Henry George throughout the United States and Canada to rally to the support of the Chicago convention. A special effort will also be made by Chairman Ewing to have delegates present representing the international movement in lands across the seas.

The first announcement of convention plans will go out through the mails within a few weeks and fuller information as to the programme will be available for the July-August issue of LAND AND FREEDOM. Those who have the cause of Henry George and his philosophy at heart are urged to plan early for a great gathering in Chicago in September.

Lecture Work of the Henry George Foundation

SECRETARY PERCY R. WILLIAMS, of the Henry George Foundation, responding to invitations from co-workers in several different fields, carried his speaking campaign into New York, Ohio and Delaware during April and May, in addition to carrying on the work incident to the movement for advanced tax legislation in Pennsylvania.

At Syracuse, New York, he spoke to the Rotary Club, one of the largest of its kind in the world, and found a keen interest in the idea of concentrating municipal taxes upon land values along the lines of the Pittsburgh plan. Journeying into Ohio, he spoke on Sunday, April 22d, to the congregation of the People's Church of Cincinnati, presided over by the veteran Single Tax leader, Rev. Herbert S. Bigelow. Mr. Bigelow himself gave a most desirable introductory presentation of the fundamentals of the Single Tax philosophy, in which he evinces the same deep interest he has maintained throughout the years. Mr. Williams was also the guest of a representative group of Single Taxers of Cincinnati at a luncheon in the University Club, arranged by Fenton Lawson, another member of the Advisory Commission of the Foundation.

Dr. Mark Milliken, chairman of the Ohio state committee, also spoke at this meeting, commenting favorably on the work of the Henry George Foundation and on its last Congress in New York City, and emphasizing the need for organized effort in Ohio. Through the cooperation of Dr. Milliken, Mr. Williams also addressed the Economics Class of the Western College for Women at Oxford and students of the Hamilton High School.

Visiting Delaware early in May, Mr. Williams spoke on the Pittsburgh Plan to the members of the Wilmington

Chamber of Commerce at their luncheon in the DuPont Hotel, the Mayor and other city officials being present to hear the discussion in view of the movement now on to extend the graded tax system to Wilmington. Other public meetings were addressed at New Castle and Belfonte at which the local officials were present.

Under the leadership of Frank T. Stirlith, there has recently been a vigorous renewal of the campaign to introduce the graded tax system in Delaware. Mr. Stirlith and his associates have undertaken the systematic distribution of literature throughout the city of Wilmington, about twenty thousand pamphlets having already been distributed in this manner. Influential members of the Chamber of Commerce are seeking to enlist the support of that body and thus far there is no evidence of strong opposition on the surface. Last year a bill permitting Wilmington to adopt the graded tax system passed unanimously in the State Senate and had very strong support in the lower House when the date for adjournment brought the effort to a close.

Attorney William N. McNair is now most active in the lecture work in Pennsylvania and is devoting a large share of his time to this activity. During May he addressed a number of meetings, covering among others, several gatherings of churchmen. He reports a very favorable response to his presentation of the fundamental doctrines of Henry George from the ethical viewpoint. In these discussions, Mr. McNair dwells particularly on the land laws of Moses and other scriptural references to the land question. He also appeared before a number of civic bodies, including the Greensburg and Donora Rotary Clubs, and the Kiwanis Clubs of Aliquippa, Coraopolis and Beaver Falls.

Attorney Carl D. Smith made Single Tax speeches to the Rotary Clubs of Carnegie, Pa., and New Martinsville, W. Va., and Mr. Williams addressed students at the Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh, and members of the Business Men's Association of Duquesne, Pa.

Pittsburgh Club Activities

WILLIAM N. MCNAIR, who was nominated in the recent Pennsylvania primaries as Democratic candidate for United States Senator, announced to the Henry George Club of Pittsburgh at its luncheon on May 18th in the Chamber of Commerce rooms, that it is his purpose to make the Single Tax the one outstanding issue in his campaign and declared that he would not "pussyfoot," but would undertake to present the Single Tax in its full significance. "I will declare that I am a Single Taxer and a free-trader. I will not be silent in the campaign on the things for which I have stood."

Speaking to his fellow members of the club on the subject, "Why I am a Single Taxer," Mr. McNair said that he had been attracted to the Single Tax philosophy many

years ago because it offered a remedy for many deplorable social conditions with which our modern civilization is cursed. Among other things, he was interested in the Single Tax as a means of abolishing slums and of placing desirable land within the reach of all who want to use it.

Having followed with keen interest the operation of the graded tax plan in Pittsburgh, he had frequently cited Pittsburgh as an example of the direction which tax reform should take and favored the extension of the graded tax system to other cities. But he was convinced that the graded tax plan as now in operation in Pittsburgh had not increased land taxes sufficiently to have any important economic effects, particularly with regard to lowering the price of land or abolishing slums; hence it could not be cited as a real object lesson to the social reformer. Since the reduction of taxes on buildings makes building sites in Pittsburgh more desirable, it gives the land owner an added advantage as compared with the situation in adjacent boroughs, and thus tends to offset the effect of the higher tax levied on land.

"It does not do much good to lower the tax on buildings a few mills and increase the land tax a few mills," said Mr. McNair. "We must seek to collect the annual rental of the land. If we believe in the Single Tax, why 'pussy-foot?' Let us tell the truth. The time has come when we must go out and talk the straight Single Tax to the people and say that we want to take the full rental value of the land. Don't let's pat ourselves on the back merely because we have the graded tax law. We cannot be satisfied with what we have done. We must go further. If we are to realize the benefits of the Single Tax programme, we must apply it to the whole state and, if possible, to the whole nation. The Articles of Confederation of the United States provided that taxes should be collected in accordance with the value of the land, but in drafting the Constitution this provision was changed to read that taxes should be collected in accordance with population. We should return to the idea embodied in the original Articles of Confederation.

"My opponent, Senator David A. Reed, declared in a speech the other day for 'Sanity in taxation.' This sounds interesting, but what does he mean? Can there be such a thing as 'sanity' in taxation? If I were to start now and discuss frankly all the different kinds of taxes that are foisted upon us, I would not finish by election time and there would not be a sane tax in the whole bunch.

"Of all the fool taxes, the building tax is the worst,—fining a man who builds a house. With all these workmen out of a job, surely the worker is the man to be encouraged; there is no sanity in burdening men who put others to work. Yet that is the building tax. And the inheritance tax—it is bad enough to get after the living; they can defend themselves, but to go after the widows and orphans, snoop around their little bank account and make them pay in their distress, is that sanity?"