

fechan, except to refer you to his chapter on *Aristocracy* in "*Past and Present*." While Carlyle was distrustful of democracy, my friend White here insists he saw the land question as clearly as Henry George. Calling attention to the fact that the Feudal Aristocracy, in return for the reaping of England's land and land values, had to do all the "Soldiering, Policing, Judging and Lawmaking, even the Church-Extension; whatsoever in the way of Governing, of Guiding and Protecting could be done. It was a Land Aristocracy; it managed the Governing of this English People, and had the reaping of the Soil of England in return. It is, in many senses, the Law of Nature, this same Law of Feudalism;—no right Aristocracy but a Land one! The curious are invited to meditate upon it in these days. Soldiering, Police and Judging, Church-Extension, nay real Government and Guidance, all this was actually *done* by the Holders of the Land in return for their Land. How much of it is now done by them; done by anybody? Good Heavens, 'Laissez-faire, Do ye nothing, eat your wages and sleep,' is everywhere the passionate half-wise cry of this time; and they will not so much as do nothing, but must do mere Corn-Laws! We raise fifty-two millions from the general mass of us, to get our Governing done—or, alas, to get ourselves persuaded that it is done; and the peculiar burden of the Land is to pay, not all this, but to pay, as I learn, one twenty-fourth part of all this. Our first Chartist Parliament, or Oliver Redivivus, you would say, will know where to lay the new taxes of England!—Or, alas, taxes? If we made the Holders of the Land pay every shilling still of the expense of Governing the Land, what were all that?"

## Protests Against the Name Single Tax

THE following letter was addressed to the late Henry George Congress:

"I wish, at the Congress, some protest might be voiced as to the continued use of the term "Single Tax!" While it is correct as the ultimate issue of Henry George's principles, it is wholly misleading to the ordinary mind, trained as it has been, for immemorial centuries, to the idea that government, monarchical, oligarchic, republican, democratic, alike,—has the power and right to levy taxation upon *all* forms of property. Why, a man asks, confine taxation to any one kind of property? To such, the idea of a single tax is the "red-rag!" Why create an opposition that is useless when you have at hand a better term and its synonyms; namely, Natural Taxation, Taxation of Land Values, Taxation of the Site-Values of Land? Of course, *we* know that such taxation would inevitably eventuate in but *one* tax,—that of the *economic rent of land*,—the only public value that the community has any *moral right* to levy upon. But it is foolish to ignore the transi-

tional steps from general taxation to single tax; it is against the evolutionary order and law. Any *violent* attempt at variation of a given species in nature, means death; *gradual* change, adapted to the welfare of the species and the individuals hereof, means life and progress. Why not, then, be law-abiding? The chief adverse criticism I have to most reformers is, that they tend to jump too rapidly from Vision to Consummation. And I am of the opinion that Henry George's ideals have been too long held back by the insistence upon the term, "Single Tax," instead of using the term, "Natural Taxation." Place the first tax-levy upon the Site Value of Land; then, wait up on events.

I wish some such word could be read at the Congress, and set forth in LAND AND FREEDOM.

—A. W. LITTLEFIELD

## Official Board Luncheon Meeting

HENRY GEORGE CONGRESS, SEPT. 11.

THE annual meeting of the Board of Trustees and Advisory Commission of the Henry George Foundation at Chicago was very well attended, about thirty members being present at the luncheon on Tuesday at the Congress Hotel, with President George E. Evans in the chair.

Announcement was made of the election at the annual meeting of voting members held September 4th, of eight trustees, viz: Otto Cullman, George E. Evans, George P. Loomis, John Mellor, C. D. Scully, Carl D. Smith, George W. Wakefield and Hon. Charles O'Connor Hennessy. Messrs. Hennessy and Cullman are the new members of the board, the former having been chosen to fill the vacancy arising from the death of Senator Ferris of Michigan. One-third of the board of twenty-one are elected each year for a term of three years.

The trustees unanimously re-elected all of the officers who had served during the past year; President George E. Evans; Vice President, Joseph Dana Miller; Honorary Vice President, Mrs. Anna George de Mille; Treasurer, Wm. E. Schoyer; Executive Secretary, Percy R. Williams; Assistant Secretary, Francis W. Maguire.

In the election of the National Advisory Commission, a number of additions were made to the membership of this commission, including Prof. Harry Gunnison Brown, Dr. Frederick W. Roman, John Z. White, Ernest B. Gaston, Andrew P. Canning, A. Lawrence Smith, Mrs. Emily E. F. Skeel, Henry H. Hardinge, Clayton J. Ewing, George M. Strachan, Miss Mildred Tideman, Oliver T. Erickson, Barney Haughey, E. Stillman Doubleday, J. R. Hermann, George F. Cotterill, Fred T. Smith, August Williges, James H. McGill, Frederick F. Ingram, Jr., and Prof. Wm. H. Dinkins.

A resolution was adopted favoring Pittsburgh as the place of meeting for the Henry George Congress of 1929.