

believers in the principle of the Single Tax on land values, and as they claim to represent before the people the Single Tax idea, we regret exceedingly to learn that they adopted a resolution endorsing 'a Federal income tax.' Such a tax is directly contrary to the teachings of the great philosopher, Henry George, and of all the propositions of the present day none is more inimical to the land tax philosophy, or more cunningly devised to kill the Single Tax propaganda. We respectfully urge these former leaders of the Single Tax movement in New York state to rescind their resolution and to work with us for the adoption of a system which would raise the necessary expenses of government by a tax on land values alone, distinctly reprobating the proposed income tax and all other taxes, which are a burden on industry, and which tend to increase widespread poverty among the people.

"RESOLVED, That we urge all Single Taxers who have affiliated with the 'Progressive Democrats' to come out from among them, as their being found in such company is likely to do much harm to the cause."

At a meeting of the Executive Committee on July 2nd, the following minute was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That we congratulate our brethren in Great Britain on the marked progress our cause has made in their country during the past year; that we are greatly cheered by the enactment of the Lloyd George budget, which we regard as an important first step toward the attainment of our hopes and the adoption of a Single Tax on land values to provide all necessary expenses of government; that we rejoice to know the British Chancellor of the Exchequer has boldly declared his stand for the ultimate abolition of land monopoly; that we bid our British brethren God-speed in their work, and look forward to the glad time when the curse of private land monopoly will be abolished both in the mother country and in our own land, having an abiding faith in the fulfillment of the promise that "the needy shall not always be forgotten: the expectation of the poor shall not perish forever.

"As the Chairman of this Committee, Hon. George Wallace, is about to visit England we are glad to introduce him to our working brethren abroad, and we send these greetings by him in person."

THE PRESS AND THE LAND VALUE TAX PARTY.

The new Land Value Tax Party has received a number of press notices. Most of these are of course determined by the policy of the newspapers making the comments. But the new movement is recognized as a somewhat startling phenomenon in the progress of our cause, and perhaps destined to develop and grow. *The Globe and Commercial Advertiser* of this city says:

"Tax land and nothing but land, make land pay for government, not according to area, but according to value. That is the meaning of the Land Value Tax party.

"We think that there are a good many thousand men in New York who believe in that," said William J. Wallace, one of the leaders to-day.

"Hundreds, even thousands, of Democrats and Republicans, it is said, believe in the principles enunciated by Henry George—the principles adopted by Lloyd George—but they have not favored the idea of organizing a new party. The men of the Land Value Tax party have become tired of waiting for one of the old parties to come to them. They think the time has come to take their theory into politics as Lloyd George did in England."

The *Buffalo News* says:

"The Land Value Tax party is really our old friend, the Single Taxer, in a new guise. The fundamental idea is to tax every man holding land title to such an extent that the taxes are at least equal to the rental value, so that there will cease to be any object in ownership of land for any purpose. It is never to be forgotten that the fundamental point is, practically, land confiscation. Henry George made it as clear as one can make anything that he would have the holder of land title, if he wanted such futility in his hands, have nothing more than the empty shell of which

the kernel was extracted by way of taxation."

The Cincinnati *Post*, though friendly to the Single Tax, refuses to favor the new party movement and has this to say:

"The proposal is one alien to the George methods. He might have changed his mind if he had lived until now, but in his lifetime he always opposed the placing of the great principle for which he fought in the custody of any political party.

"As a result the Single Tax has made progress silently, imperceptibly, creeping into the consciousness of millions who do not even know what the term means. It was promulgated 30 years ago. It is now, in principle, the issue under which the Ministry of Great Britain and Ireland holds office. It is, in principle, the rule of taxation on a great part of Australia. It is widely accepted as the best form of municipal taxation in Germany. Men who would deny that they are Single Taxers are arguing for it every day. So much for the progress, without a political party back of it, of the merely fiscal demand made by the George philosophy.

"And all over the civilized world the moral principle that the earth belongs to the children of men, and not to landlords, is accepted by the vast majority of the people. The war song of the last British campaign on the Liberal side was 'God made the land for the people!'

"Without any political party, George has in 30 years caused the world's thought to change face on the basic fact of social life. This is a wonderful, an epoch-making thing. Could it have been done if cabined, cribbed and confined in an 'organization?' Probably not. It goes faster and further, as just plain Truth. The time will come when it must become an issue in its complete form. Half-way measures will not always satisfy the Georgeites. But just now, and for many years, it would seem that they had better leave well enough alone."

The Newark (N. J.) *Evening News* thus comments in an entirely friendly spirit:

"There is some indication that a new party will appear with the conservation of natural resources as the chief motive. Gifford Pinchot has already expressed the

opinion that the Republican party is in the toils of the special interests and can give little encouragement for the future. In agreement with him a new party already launched has made known its principles and has adopted its platform at its first convention in New York. It is the Land Value Tax party. It demands that the general government shall cease to sell or give away any more public land to individuals or corporations on the ground that the government has no right to dispose of such property in perpetuity which of right belongs to future generations. But the special point which the Land Value Tax party brings to the attention of the proposed conservation party and to all others is that all the power of special privilege rests on land monopoly and the unearned increment. The Republican and Democratic parties are unwilling or unable to get rid of land monopoly and its attendant evils because they both are so deeply in the toils of a 'secret oligarchy.'

"It is land monopoly that is the source of poverty at one end of the social scale, and of trusts and stupendous fortunes of the others in a country where the wealth per capita is nearly \$1,400, indicating that an average degree of comfort and prosperity for all the people should be the fact. On the contrary, seventy-five per cent. of the people pay rent; those who occupy their homes have loaded them with mortgages; human life is counted cheap; 20,000 are annually killed in industrial operations; suicide is on the increase; defective, insane and dependents are in larger number; child labor is a present problem; 600,000 persons die yearly from preventable diseases; feudal towns, trust-owned and controlled, are springing up; the gulf between want and excess is widening; the great combines are consolidating into a system that controls Presidents, Governors, law-makers, and everywhere is social unrest. All this is caused by land monopoly. Land is the source of life. Land monopoly is the foundation for all trusts that control nature's resources. So declares the Land Value Tax party. The remedy that will make easy the conservation task is the Single Tax on land values. Tax the holders

of vacant lands what they are worth to those who can afford to use them—keep all franchises in the ownership of the people.

“If this simple programme will do what its advocates believe it will, the marvel is that any hesitancy to adopt it is observed. At any rate, Germany has put in effect the tax on unearned increment from land. Great Britain has adopted it in her present budget. Now, the Land Value Tax party calls for deliverance from the ‘American House of Lords.’ It extends ‘greetings and good wishes to the insurgents, independents and ‘new idea’ members of the Democratic and Republican parties,’ and points the way to the ‘land of promise’ by the Single Tax route.”

Prof. Robert Braun, Single Taxer of Hungary, reappeared in New York last month after a long trip through the west, where he had met most all the leading Single Taxers of the chief cities, and was received with a cordiality that his unselfish services to the cause, his modesty and great ability, so justly merit.

He was induced to speak at one of the open-air meetings of the Manhattan Single Tax club, and told the crowd who surrounded the stand something of the impressions he had gained of the movement while in this country. A supper at one of the Hungarian restaurants on the east side at Prof. Braun's invitation to Messrs. Macgregor, Brown, Weyman, and Miller, and a late leave-taking of our distinguished friend, were the incidents that marked his second visit to New York, followed by his final departure to his native land on the following morning. We know those who were permitted the rare pleasure of his society on his two visits to this city will unite in wishing him a pleasant journey to the country where those of our faith are yet few and timid, and to whom he will bring the strength and courage of his own splendid convictions and wealth of intellectual resource.

Laurie J. Quimby, editor of the *Chancellor* of Omaha, will stand for Congress from that city. His platform has the true ring.

NEWS—FOREIGN.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE PRESENT TRUCE FOLLOWING THE KING'S DEATH OF ADVANTAGE TO THE OPPOSITION—THE LORD'S VETO DOOMED NEVERTHELESS—RAPID EXTENSION OF THE WORK—WINSTON CHURCHILL HAS JUST FINISHED READING PROGRESS AND POVERTY.

At the moment of writing British politics are very tame indeed when compared with what they were during the past fifteen months. The House of Commons which has so recently been the scene of long and fierce encounters between the representatives of democracy and of privilege would hardly be recognised as the same place by those whose acquaintance with it is limited to the recent past, the whole tone and temper of its members having so completely changed. As T. P. O'Connor says:

“The psychological condition of the House of Commons at this moment is unexampled in its history. That spirit of unrest, of contention, of briskness, of cut and thrust, which is its normal state, has vanished so completely that one thinks that either the Saturnian reign of universal peace or the decadency of universal exhaustion has suddenly come to the place; and that it is but the wreck of its former self.”

Undoubtedly, exhaustion from the strenuous fight over last year's budget might in ordinary times have been sufficient to account for great changes, but in these exceptional times of political unrest, of determination for the eradication of special privileges there was little real evidence of political or physical exhaustion, on the part of the members of the House of Commons, or amongst the electorate throughout the country. The manner in which a few months ago all the forces of progress were lining up for what was expected to be the final struggle against our hereditary legislators was a sight to gladden the heart of every lover of freedom. Then came King Edward's death. This was made an excuse for deferring the civil conflict on which all parties were entering with the