

ST. LOUIS MUSICIANS FOR THE SINGLE TAX.

Mr. H. Sycamore and other musicians who have labored for recognition by their fellow labor union members of the principles of the Single Tax have won a notable victory in their St Louis local in the unanimous vote for a second reading of the following resolution introduced by Mr. Sycamore:

"Resolved, That the Single Tax is the remedy for involuntary idleness, and

Whereas, There is a condition of industrial depression placing the great mass of the workers in a helpless condition where there is no employment for them and where they are not able to employ themselves; and

Whereas, This inexhaustible earth is our only source of subsistence, and by labor applied to it all our needs are supplied, and it follows if man cannot make a living there, there are barriers to this workshop and storehouse that yields so abundantly to his labor; our laws have superseded man's natural right to use the earth; and,

Whereas, Give labor a free field and its full earnings; take for the benefit of the whole community that fund which the growth of the community creates, and want and the fear of want would be gone, the springs of production would be set free, and the enormous increase of wealth would give the poorest ample comfort. Men would no more worry about finding employment than they worry about finding air to breathe; they need have no more care about physical necessities than do the lilies of the field. Therefore, be it

Resolved, By Local No. 2, A. F. of M., That the remedy is to destroy the profit in the ownership of the earth, and in so doing we will free it for labor to use; for such profit is the price labor now pays for the opportunity to use what already is here provided, as the community makes land values (the rent that now goes to the owner of the land), the community should collect it. We therefore indorse the Single Tax as the means to remove the cause of this involuntary idleness.

We further resolve, That this be printed in our Synopsis, and a copy with request to

print be sent to their Journal, the A. F. of M., and a copy sent to Mr. H. E. Read, President Single Tax League of Missouri."

PROVISIONAL EXECUTIVE COM- MITTEE FOR LAND PARTY ORGANIZATION.

Owing to overwork and illness I am hopelessly behind in answering correspondents and therefore submit this statement hoping to answer everyone generally and in part at least.

The committee reiterates that it is simply a volunteer body formed to advocate the formation of a State party in each State which shall nominate Single Taxers as State candidates pledged to stand for the socialization of rent through taxation as an immediate State issue; this party to refrain as a party from National issues so that its members may not be influenced from their objective by any antagonisms arising from differences of opinion on federal policies, such as the tariff, etc.

This committee is meeting its expenses without soliciting a cent from any source and it cannot therefore provide anyone with funds or literature, but hopes that the enthusiasm aroused by a direct programme for practical work will cause each individual and group to provide their own funds without applying for them elsewhere.

What is it that prevents the formation of a party? Is it not the notion that it has been associated always with the idea that it must be national in its scope? That it would necessitate a big group of men and a large campaign fund? Well, let us get rid of these ideas, let us localize the fight to its own particular area—the State; let us start in a small way in each State and grow rationally. For in the culture of this cause as a State issue the greatest and most effective educational propaganda will naturally be inaugurated. It will take the taxation of land values idea from the academic field into the arena of political strife, call forth opposition and in turn win new and zealous advocates.

How much money will it take to urge Single Taxers in your State to write the names of Single Taxers on the ballot in the

spaces devoted to assemblyman, senator and governor? How much effort will it take to convince any Single Taxer that the names printed on the ballots for these positions stand for anything other than competition for the offices and patronage? Why should we help any of them to a living at our expense without a programme of service to be rendered in return?

Is there in any State any issue worth supporting at the expense of refraining from voting for a Single Taxer who stands for "the land of the State for the people of the State?" In this State a Murphy and a Barnes as political bosses snap the whip and the people, including the Single Taxers, line themselves up in two groups like sheep and cast their ballots for their henchmen without any State issue and the interest aroused by the election is essentially the same as in a game between the Giants and Cubs, and when the election is over the result is just about as valuable a victory in politics as in baseball. Surely, if the estimation of the voter privately held by either Murphy or Barnes could be ex-rayed on to a screen for the voter's inspection, the average self-satisfied citizen would shrink therefrom in dismay.

In States where the Initiative and Referendum are available they should be used. But, does that mean Single Taxers should not write in the names of Single Taxers on the ballot for assemblyman, senator and governor? Why cannot you use both methods? What compels you to use one and relegate the other to the scrap heap? Because we have the Initiative and Referendum must we continue to allow the bosses the privilege of nominating and owning our representatives?

In conclusion this committee would urge upon you to analyze its contention that to vote for State candidates of either of the old parties is actually to throw your vote away, in that the candidates of these parties have no real State issues, and that when they ask your support for them on National issues they are buncoing the voter. A conscientious analysis of the situation we believe should induce each Single Taxer to vote for himself as a candidate for assemblyman, senator or governor, if no other or

others are known to him in his locality, rather than remain a quiescent dupe of the political bosses.

Such an attitude would ultimately draw Single Taxers together everywhere into organizations with a practical programme and the inherent truth in our cause would ultimately compel success.

When our efforts will be crowned with victory none can tell, but our duty to our age and generation is to work now, lest the reaper call us and we leave our stint undone.

A. BASTIDA, Secretary,
111 Broadway, N. Y. City.
(For the Committee).

HILDEGARDE HAWTHORNE, in a review of a remarkable book, "The Rat Pit," by Patrick MacGill, now a soldier in the trenches in France, says:

"After all, the icy waters through which Norah and her neighbors struggled that wintry morning have now been bridged. It is a sign, at least. Once the war now in progress is over, a greater war may start, a war for the joy of life for all, fought with the weapons of knowledge and intelligence and honest kindness."

JAMES B. ELLERY, of Erie, Pa., debated the Single Tax with a representative Socialist at the Socialist headquarters at Erie, on May 25.

PROF. ROBERT BRAUN, translator of "Progress and Poverty" into Hungarian, whose visit to this country will be remembered, is a lieutenant in a Bosnian battalion, and writes the REVIEW that he is in charge of a batch of Servian prisoners.

A SISTER of Hon. Francis Neilson, M. P., perished in the ill-fated Lusitania.

A SON of Rev. J. G. Hallimond, Single Taxer, and head of the Bowery Mission, has perished in the fighting in Flanders.

OUR readers will be glad to know that Captain Josiah Wedgewood, wounded in the fighting in the Dardanelles, is recovering.