

Tax. Our best work in the past, and our best results, have been in the interest aroused by these campaigns. Voters have been interested in the concrete presentation through the legal petition. I do not agree that we should have a campaign of education to precede political action. Political action will itself supply the education. The initiative is not the only vehicle to get the Single Tax, but it is a way to break through the silence that our movement is trying to overcome.

Our two campaigns in Missouri were not a disappointment. We should desire opposition, for we shall never know how effective we are until we get opposition, and this opposition will create the desired attention. I regret the statement of Prof. Harry Gunnison Brown that we hurt the cause by the Missouri campaign of 1910.

I agree with Prof. Brown that we should minimize opposition, so why not make the amendment applicable to St. Louis and Kansas City and the land speculative belt surrounding these cities?

We must not fool ourselves about the future. We are faced with a great change. Most people are seeking a change. They are looking for a way out of their troubles. Now is our opportunity for presenting our cause as the fundamental solution. A few years ago we feared the farmer and the small home owner. Today they will welcome a change. Our leaders in Washington see the fire but have not the vision to stop the destruction.

Will be glad to hear from your readers on this suggestion.

St. Louis, Mo.

E. H. BOECK.

RENT VS. PRICE

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

In the controversy as to whether or not rent enters into price it would appear the arguments made pro and con are too inconclusive to be unanimously accepted. To clear the ground and clarify the problem I think it should be noted that Rent always reflects an inherent or adhering USE value, whereas Price, just as invariably, reflects EXCHANGE value. This distinction is vital. To illustrate let us take a farm above the margin of cultivation and where the rent is paid in kind. Let the crop harvested be 1,000 bushels of wheat and we find, irrespective of the division between Landlord and Tenant—be that harsh or easy—on its arrival in the market, the higgling therein, under the dominant law of Supply and Demand, sets an exchange value on the total quantity. This value when apportioned to a measured quantity makes its price, and price is exchange value expressed in the common denominator, money. Let the user of land ship to market a product not demanded there and he will have his labor for his pains, no matter what rent he has paid. So, rent does not enter into price.

Look over the world today. In the West they are burning wheat and corn for fuel; Brazil is throwing millions of bags of coffee into the sea; sugar in Cuba, produced by starving laborers, is selling c. i. f. at three quarters of a cent a pound in New York. Would you raise the rent to increase the price?

I hold no brief for the landlord yet I would like to point out that the landlord cannot levy a toll on the transportation of merchandise, for the charge on that is for carrier's service and is based on so much per ton mile, irrespective of the varying values of the lands passed by in transit. That the landlord may charge the user of land for the advantage of location near roads is certain, but neither the landlord nor tenant can shift that charge over to the carrier.

San Cristobal, Cuba.

ANTONIO BASTIDA.

ARE WE TOO HARD ON PROF. FISHER

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

May I suggest that you and other Single Taxers are bearing down too hard on Prof. Fisher? (Nov.-Dec. issue.) When a prominent teacher of economics is just getting a glimpse of the economic truths upon which the Single Tax is based, should you not encourage him?

For instance, now that the depression is a topic of wide-spread economic study, why not suggest that Prof. Fisher read Book V of "Progress and Poverty," on the cause of industrial depressions; and compare it afresh with the "many contradictory and self-contradictory theories," now offered by professors, editors and industrialists?

Henry George is alive today, while Frances A. Walker, his chief critic, is forgotten. In another fifty years Henry George will still be living, while Edwin R. A. Seligman, his critic of the present generation, will also be forgotten. Prof. Fisher is evidently learning. Why not encourage him? Tell him of Profs. Harry Gunnison Brown and Frederick W. Roman. Make the profession of economics respectable by introducing consistency.

JOHN HARRINGTON.

Oshkosh, Wisc.

NEWS NOTES AND PERSONALS

In the Peoria, Ill., *Star* of April 15, Mr. R. E. Green, secretary of the Peoria Single Tax League, has a communication on Idle Land. He quotes from an editorial of the *Star* in which that paper said: "There is seemingly no good reason why idle land should not be put to the good purpose of furnishing food for those who sorely need it." Mr. Green uses this for a text for a further elaboration of the truth contained in the editorial statement. Peoria, by the way, now has an active Single Tax organization, (see report of John Laurence Monroe on another page) and on April 30 had a public meeting in which our old friend Clayton J. Ewing gave one of his brilliant talks. Mr. Ewing who lived in Peoria renewed acquaintance with his Single Tax friends, and it is hoped that he may soon be able to visit Peoria again.

OUR glorious Single Tax cotemporary, *The Standard*, of New South Wales, ably edited by A. G. Huie, has entered the twenty-eighth year of its existence.

WILLIAM R. WILLIAMS, of Toronto, writes: "I appreciate very much the splendid articles appearing in LAND AND FREEDOM. It is the lode star which is endeavoring to keep the lamp of liberty burning in what otherwise seems to be a crazy patchwork of a world."

WE regret to chronicle the death of W. H. Slocumb, which occurred March 31 of this year. He did much writing for the Single Tax. During his active life he was a printer, machinist and hotel proprietor. He was the author of the Single Tax amendment to the constitution of California which was submitted to the voters in 1922. He was about sixty-five years of age, and at one time an all-round champion athlete. He was devoted to the truth as he saw it.

W. J. WERNICKE, of Los Angeles, writes informing us of the death of Fred. Jackson, of Pasadena, editor of the *Pasadena Labor News*, and who though a socialist was active in Single Tax work. Facing the death that he chose for himself he addressed the following letter to his associates:

"Well, friends, I have no unkind feelings for any one. I am sincerely grateful to many dear friends for having gone the limit for and with me. I wish for those who have done me wrong simply that their eyes may be opened and that they may be converted to zealous service in aiding in the destruction of the Hell-born economic and industrial system and the bringing in of the New Social Order, such as Jesus taught us to pray for. I thank you. Sincerely your friend, FRED W. JACKSON."

GRACE ISABEL COLBRON has addressed a letter to Heywood Broun on his abandonment of socialism, inviting him to embrace the Georgist principles. We believe it is with us that Heywood Broun belongs.

WE must make a few corrections of statements appearing in March-April LAND AND FREEDOM. Where we said that our old friend "Billy"