

Our one object is to see single tax enacted—put into practise. To that end we have already sunk most of our inclinations—and gladly. Now, ungrudgingly, we are ready to sink the very last, that of having any personal part in the Victory!

These words are weighed, and set down slowly. They mean what they say. Lona Ingham Robinson, Herman Kuehn, and myself are ready to step aside from the active management, or any participation in, the California campaign, upon assurances that the canvass for signatures to the initiative petition now begun will be completed in due time—which is merely a matter of dollars for clerical work—and that the campaign for the enactment of the measure will be candidly and aggressively waged, the issues of changing the land system and of opening the earth to production kept constantly before every voter until the closing of the polls on November 5th—and that due effort will be made to guard against a miscount of the ballot.

All this can be easily done for about \$100,000, even if the enemy spends twenty times that as in 1916—which it will probably not do this year, for it has lost hope of defeating single tax, and if the amendment is presented as an immediate war relief measure, as it honestly is, the speculators will not dare to oppose it openly, and entire frankness on our part will disarm their bushwacking taxation and fiscal quibbles.

Do the Singletaxers Want Single Tax?

Only one thing lacks, at this moment, to insure single tax victory in the state where Henry George wrote and where was first published *Progress and Poverty*—an adequate campaign fund, \$100,000.

Out of an income of a million a year this sum could be given by pressing a button. It would mean food for a hundred thousand children, work and good wages for their parents, the opening of the richest land and resources in the world—the beginning of the end of privilege. Larger sums are spent carelessly every hour on the merest whims, on baubles, enervating luxuries—to care for pet cats and dogs. It would do more to strengthen the Allied armies and people and kill Prussianism—end the Cause of War—than any other thing.

Will a wealthy single tax woman sell her surplus jewels to open the twenty million idle acres of California to an impoverished populace half of which is unwillingly idle or working for less than the cost of living?

Will one or a dozen life-long singletaxers with incomes of half a million a year supply

There is no single tax opposition or division of forces in the state this year. No other taxation issue is mooted, nor apparently any other radical measure. Government assumption of the railroads has forestalled socialist activity in that direction. Over and again socialism and union labor have endorsed single tax and it needs only a little stimulus to make them active workers for it.

The three Scripps papers in California were boldly for The Great Adventure amendment in 1916—and now the powerful Hearst papers have swung in line. Arthur Brisbane's full page single tax editorial is reprinted in this issue. Brisbane is Hearst's chief editorial writer—probably the greatest and surely the highest paid editorialist in the country.

Francis J. Heney, a courageous and honest man, and a wonderful fighter of graft and profiteering, a singletaxer, will be the radical candidate for governor. He will sweep the state—and proceed with Hiram Johnson's good work.

At last there is (everywhere more or less) particularly in California a season of public receptivity toward single tax. World events have produced for single tax the one essential thing for the application of any theory or principle, a great and Obvious public need for it. Everybody sees the connection between land and food. It cannot be obscured or distorted by the most ingenious tricksters and quibblers if we are candid and sky-high in its presentation.

that lacking \$100,000—after having assured themselves that it will win California, and having provided for its proper disbursement?

We are not sure that a personal reason exists that retards the subscription of such a paltry amount—objections to the personnel of The Great Adventure or to their views on other subjects have in the main come from those who had nothing else to give—but if there is it can be quickly removed. There must be such a reason, it would seem, or the fund would have been over-subscribed before this. It can be completely obviated.

We three (or any one or any number of us) are prepared at once to relinquish our part in the management, control, direction, or any voice or participation in the campaign. We will absent ourselves entirely from it—or stay and work under orders of anyone or group of people who will supply the adequate war chest and conduct the campaign boldly and frankly as a moral humanitarian issue.

This is not a bluff. Call it and see. It is thoughtfully and seriously said. Nor is it a

desertion, friends—for our withdrawal can only come as removing the very last obstacle in the way of a glorious victory for single tax—its immediate application!

Properly financed and frankly waged the campaign cannot be lost. On that we will stake everything—for that we will forsake even participation in the winning—and do it without bellyaching. Both Herman Kuehn and I have other and more alluring intellectual passions than single tax, and it would not be much of a "sacrifice" for us to pursue them, paying no further attention to economics and politics. Analogously, the same is true of Mrs. Robinson, who would welcome retirement to her family engrossments and literary pursuits.

Or—to repeat for emphasis—we will stay on and work under orders, as desired, of whoever will supply the one thing lacking for success.

The California situation is now clear and

simple. Circumstances have brushed aside all conflicting, confusing interests among single-taxers, personal or academic. It will be a face to face conflict between economic equality and privilege; between the human cause and plutocracy. The stars of human destiny are with us. Unknown powers are leading. On these Golden Shores where ripened the thought of the world's greatest economic philosopher—from which was sown to nations the seed of a possible, practicable, immediate plan of social salvation—the harvest will now be gathered; by whose hands, no one will stop to consider or long remember. This is the dawn of that era when All men shall become proficient each in his own way, and the artificial values and smug appraisements of individual worth will give away before new values and appraisements evolving from a social era based on justice and an Abundant Life for All.
