

other, but it must be admitted that the Single Tax has not that warm compelling motive that socialism, with its class appeal, has. I look to the Central Committee which we created to achieve very substantial results. Among other things, I hope they will get out some artistic leaflets like the Fabian tracts. Our literature has often been so cheaply printed that it did not reach the classes that it might, and it has been so scientific in tone that it often repelled. I should like to see men like William M. Reedy of the *St. Louis Mirror* drafted into the preparation of a tract, together with other men whose artistic or temperamental instincts are strong. I have long waited a pamphlet on the Single Tax as a cure for the housing question. That seems to me to be a point of easy entrance in our large cities. There are a number of other subjects that might be treated which will doubtless occur to the Committee.

FREDERIC C. HOWE,

CLEVELAND, Ohio.

PROGRESS IN HOUSTON.

Editor Single Tax Review:

I think we have every reason to be satisfied with the progress of the movement in Houston. The city board of equalization is raising the assessments generally, but it is raising it on the value of the land, and assessing the vacant lots as heavily as the improved.

In the country the land and the improvements are not separated as they are in the city, but one of the members of the commissioners court told me that they never asked anything about the improvements.

J. W. PORTERFIELD.

HOUSTON, Texas.

SINGLE TAX PROGRESS IN SWEDEN.

Editor The Single Tax Review:

The understanding that the land question lies at the root of our great social problem is at this time making very good headway in Sweden. The other day I got a letter from one of the most popular writers and reformers in that country. "The ideas of land reform are," he said, "everywhere in

the air." Now I see that the Liberal party, which has, together with the labor members, a majority in the Lower House, have adopted a new programme, which with regard to the land question is a real advance from former platforms.

The land question is pressing more and more to the forefront; our future as a nation depends greatly on how we are using and owning our Swedish earth. This party will in all ways further such investigations and work of education, which are necessary to find the right way in settling this great social and economic question, especially for preventing emigration.

And so the programme goes on and states that land belonging to the State should be preserved and extended for the benefit of coming generations. When the State is furthering home colonization and small holdings, it should do it by leasing our State land under reasonable terms.

The party is also in favor of a tax on future increase of land values. But the taxation programme, as a whole, shows that the party has not yet understood either the land values question or the fiscal problem, and I am sorry to say, that we have land reformers who are badly influenced by the unreasonable moderate German land reform movement and also by old-fashioned political economists to do their best in teaching the people in such a way that they will not be easily understood.

NEW YORK.

JOHAN HANSSON.

SOCIALISM RAMPANT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Editor Single Tax Review:

I am much encouraged by the success of the English Democracy in the last general elections, and am looking to England to strike the first blow for real freedom. I do not see how the Government can withstand the power of the advanced Liberals, the Socialists and the Trade union element combined.

In this Province the Single Tax element is not very much in evidence. A noisy, rampant Socialism has succeeded in forcing itself on the attention of the public, and previous to our last general election held the Government of the Province in