

of Mayor and Aldermen will rent that land—for economic ground rent. Improvements on enclavial land will be exempt from municipal taxation. Land values will be absorbed for public use. The Single Tax will be applied, municipally, to the area owned by the enclave.

Collierville urges cities in America and the world to study her plans and aspirations, to follow her example.

Collierville asks the followers of the Prophet to "fight the good fight, and keep the faith." What is to be done here can be done throughout the nation.

The way to freedom is not easy. They are free who deserve to be free.

Collierville deserves economic freedom, and means to have it. Collierville faces the future, fearless and unafraid. Collierville invites you to know her aims and aspirations, to share her upbuilding, to help her to hold aloft the Torch of Economic Truth to a dismayed and darkened world.

Collierville sends greetings to the followers of Henry George! Collierville sends assurance that the better day is dawning!—*Collierville Herald*.

This is from the Henry George issue of the *Collierville Herald*. In the same number appear communications and greetings from Chas. O'Connor Hennessy, Judge A. B. Pittman, Frank Stephens, Lois S. Bejack (just raised to the chancery bench), Fiske Warren, Joseph Dana Miller and others. Hon. P. L. Strong, Mayor of Collierville, who writes; "On behalf of myself and the board of aldermen I wish to extend to the Henry George Congress my heartiest greetings and hope they will be successful in their deliberations."

We are glad to see a communication from Edward J. Meeman, editor of the *Memphis Press Scimitar* of whom we have delightful recollections while in Memphis last year. He does not think the Single Tax is a cure-all, but he says:

"I do think that the Single Taxer's conception of land ownership is scientifically correct and morally right; that the earth belongs to all and any individual or group should be considered to have only the right to use a part of it, paying society 'rent' therefore, rather than to have the right of absolute ownership."

Our congratulations to the *Collierville Herald*!

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM.

A TAX on beer is as inexcusable as any other tax on industry. The higher the tax the lower the benefit which labor will get from the restored industry.

SAYS a press dispatch: "Even the lost civilization of the Mayas had its real estate boosters." So now we know how this civilization came to be lost.

THE prospective ending of prohibition is notice to rumrunners from Canada that their occupation will soon be gone. But Canada is coming to their rescue with new smuggling opportunities. This is sugar smuggling, into Canada not out of it. The Canadian tariff on sugar has been boosted so high that the price of sugar across the border is twice what it is on this side. So opportunity knocks once more at the door of the prospective ex-liquor smuggler. The smuggler is Nature's remedy for asinine statesmen and their works.

Address of Anna George deMille at the Henry George Congress

HERE we are—a small group of the advocates of a great truth. We have got together to help one another to impart that truth. We have got to preach it in a form that will be comprehended and accepted. This means that we have got to use as many different tactics as there are minds to be reached. But for our general mode of attack we must find the Greatest Common Denominator that may inspire interest in the majority. It was to make this broad appeal that Henry George on occasions stepped from his study or lecture platform into the political arena.

He knew that he could not carry his deepest subtleties to the masses but he could awaken a vast number of voters and inoculate them with a desire for sound economic advancement and with a surer understanding of and faith in Jeffersonian democracy.

Thus while he spent his last strength in a New York Mayoralty campaign, fighting municipal graft and preaching clean government and honest policies to millions of his fellow citizens, the ink was hardly dry on "The Science of Political Economy" that he was writing.

What our greatest Common Denominator is today I know not. That is for us to decide at this conference that we may go forth with a definite programme. But I do know that in making our *big* campaign we must not ignore the *little ways* of campaigning. A sniper carrying off a general may be more efficient in winning a battle than a "big Bertha" shelling a hundred privates.

The enemy is at our very doors—there is no time to waste in petty differences, in arguments as to what name to use in place of the "Single Tax," or attacking the Socialists or other reformers, who are trying for the same goal as we are—no time for anything but winning new converts to the faith. For now is the appointed time!

People are thinking as they have not thought for decades—we must reach them now while they are groping for understanding and help. It is our supreme opportunity. It means tremendous work, boring, fatiguing work requiring patience and tact. Our enthusiasm must not make us intolerant or didactic. We must not demand that our programme be adopted over night, or even that the *understanding* of it be made over night.

We have got to preach our philosophy while we are advocating the fiscal reform.

Many of us are unconsciously waiting for another Joseph Fels to come and back a highly advertised campaign, or another Tom L. Johnson to carry us into the political arena.

We cannot blame old Single Taxers who have fought

through the years for being weary now—though now is the time for that second wind, and the renewed spirit that leads to victory. And now is the time to train and send forth that spiritual heir, that younger man, to go out with the same old courage and perhaps newer tactics into today's front line trenches.

We come to these conferences and have the joy and inspiration of meeting one another, but how many of us go back to our own circles and *really work*?

We are at a vital point now—civilization is standing with her back against the wall. It is for us who know the way to fight as we have never fought before, and whether we decide at this convention what is the Common Denominator—we can each and all return to our homes with renewed enthusiasm and strength for our own particular solo work. For my part I have joined the League for Political Action. I think Single Taxers have flocked alone too long, that much can be gained and little lost if we trail along with those who are going even part of the way in our direction.

Henry George did not see eye to eye with Grover Cleveland, but he campaigned with him because of his free trade leanings. Henry George did not believe in free silver, but he worked for Bryan because of his Jeffersonian tendencies. But in neither of these campaigns did he cease to preach the full philosophy.

So I wish that in a body we could join the League for Independent Political Action even though we do not approve of all the planks in their platform. We could make ourselves felt, could leaven the lump, could prove that we are again to be reckoned with, that we are a living, vibrant force.

Single Taxers seem always to have no money, and what little they have must be given to keep going the activities already started, our magazines, this foundation, our leagues, and above all that splendid work, the Henry George School. That is more important even than my own particular pet, the Essay Contest, which demands not only money but a sympathetic and understanding professor.

Whenever I get to a place of black despondency and walk the floor weeping because we have no money to carry on, because there is no leader with the flaming personality of a Henry George, I have to re-strengthen myself with the memory of his words that "though defeated and defeated we would still go on." I have to give myself new hope chronicled so many times in his experience where having worked his very hardest he came to a blank wall, when lo, a door had opened!

For us this is a glorious gamble. One of us here in this room may sow the seed that is to grow to a mighty tree.

A great adventure, where one of us today may light the very spark that shall ignite, not the conflagration that will destroy civilization, but a light that shall illumine the world!

The Road to National Recovery

THOMAS RHODUS AT HENRY GEORGE CONGRESS

THE prosperity of this country depends upon the purchasing power of the consumer; and more purchasing power is the need of the great majority. Some say, "Increase wages and you increase purchasing power." But increased wages, unless we adopt the right tax system, will increase the cost of production and increase prices; the high prices will off-set the high wages, as high wages will buy no more at high prices than low wages at low prices; so there is no increase in purchasing power if high wages are off-set by high prices.

To solve this problem, we must follow truth and commonsense, step by step. If the price of human effort is low and the price of things is high, the great mass of consumers will have little purchasing power. It is plain, therefore, that purchasing power depends upon and is distributed through relative prices, and that, to solve this problem, we must know how to increase wages and salaries, and the earnings of every useful business man, without increasing prices of other things.

Now it happens that a simple change from the wrong tax system to the right tax system will change the prices of everything; it will increase the price of human effort; but it will reduce the price of everything else. Under the right tax system there will be only one tax; this tax is therefore called the Single Tax. This one tax will tax land only; all improvements will be exempt. By means of this one tax, the ground rent will be taken for all and for public use; other taxes will then be unnecessary and abolished. This will take taxes out of prices.

The right system will increase wages but it will reduce rent and interest and take taxes out of prices; in this way it will take out of prices more than is put in by the higher wages; and while wages will be higher, the price of everything will be lower.

The right tax system will also make employment available to every idle person by increasing production and consumption of goods and by making access to the natural resources free to capital and labor. This will also increase wages and lower rents. Under the wrong tax system, labor-saving inventions compete with the workers and take the jobs, as machines work cheaper than men. This lessens wages and increases ground rent; but under the right tax system labor-saving inventions will be called wealth-producing inventions and will shorten the hours of work, increase wages, make prices lower and increase the purchasing power of human effort. Under these conditions, with everybody employed and working, the total production of wealth and the total purchasing power of the nation will increase enormously; and, with high wages and low prices, this enormous wealth would be justly distributed and the problem would be solved; prosperity would reach everybody and every business.