

12:15 p.m.—Luncheon.

2:00 p.m.—Subject: Legislative Progress and Plans

Speakers: Hon. Charles R. Eckert, Washington, D. C.
Dr. Mark Millikin, Hamilton, Ohio.
Walter Fairchild, New York City.

Discussion.

6:30 p.m.—Annual Banquet.

Speakers: Hon. Marvin C. Harrison, Cleveland, Ohio.
Mrs. Anna George de Mille, New York City
Hon. Peter Witt, Cleveland, Ohio.
Hon. Herbert S. Bigelow, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The California Campaign

TO Our Supporters and Sympathizers: We have met with a temporary check by the action of the State Supreme Court, based upon the petition of the head of the Parent-Teachers Association.

The lady in question, about a month ago, filed in the Supreme Court an application for an injunction restraining the Secretary of State from putting our measure upon the ballot. Several grounds were alleged, only one of which entered into consideration by the Supreme Court. This requires a little explanation.

Under the direct legislative provisions of the State of California it is the duty of the Attorney General to prepare a summary of all proposed measures in not more than 100 words. This appears on the first page of all petitions. At the top of the second page in our instance there had to be what is called a "short title in not to exceed 20 words, stating the nature of the petition and the subject to which it relates." In our instance these 20 words were as follows:

"Certain sales taxes forbidden—certain tax limitations rescinded—certain homestead improvements and, progressively, improvements and tangible personal property taxes abolished."

In brief, the decision of the court was to the effect that these words were insufficient, failing to disclose the fact that taxes so abolished were transferred to land values. Where the court expected them to go except to land values, we are at a loss to imagine.

Of course, but for the limitation of 20 words, the result to follow from the successive abolition of taxes on improvements and tangible personal property might have been included in the sub-title, but any one of intelligence enough to vote in the state of California must have known the natural course of events. Nevertheless, it was the idea of the court that some person whose identity is absolutely undisclosed might have been misled.

The court divided, six as stated, and one of its ablest members, Judge Seawell, dissented, regarding the decision of the majority as a weakening of the initiative upon, as he said, "hyper-technical and captious reasons." He also remarked that "many of such (like) titles by actual

comparison which have passed the inspection of the courts furnish far less information to the signer than is given by the title attacked."

The simple fact remains, however, that we shall not be on the ballot this year.

A word as to the history of the application. We heard several months ago that such an application was likely to be made, although the grounds of it were not disclosed and our imagination was not sufficiently vivid to discover them. It was, however, the further understanding that the petition should not be submitted unless, as election day approached, it became manifest that there was a probability of the adoption of the amendment. Evidently this condition had arisen demanding filing of the suit on almost the last possible day.

There was ample reason for the fear exhibited by the commencement of the action. In all the largest cities of the state our amendment would have undoubtedly received a great majority, not to be overcome probably by the adverse votes of the smaller counties. Nevertheless, tremendous efforts were made to solidify such vote.

One thing is clear beyond peradventure, and that is that we in the advocacy of the amendment were following sound policy. As a result of the campaign hundreds of thousands of people have gained new ideas upon the subject of taxation, and these they will not lose. We have had the absolutely solid support of the labor press of the state, and the unanimous vote of every labor organization before which the subject has been brought. In saying this we include both the American Federation of Labor and the leading Railway Brotherhoods.

Some of the high points of the campaign may be briefly recapitulated as a guide to those who enter upon like struggles in other states.

As indicated, we started by gaining the solid support of the ranks of organized labor. This must be the case anywhere our principles are brought into practical operation. The interest of labor is absolutely with us. In the business districts of San Francisco, Oakland, Los Angeles and San Diego we circulated to advantage 150,000 copies of the *Sales Tax Repealer*.

Another matter of moment, the effect of which will be lasting, was that we were able to secure the introduction in the Congressional Record of a fairly comprehensive document prepared by Jackson H. Ralston, and its circulation to the extent of about 500,000 copies going particularly into every rural neighborhood and small town of the whole State. To this we were able to add, to the extent of a hundred thousand, a very effective radio speech made by Ralph E. Chadwick, of Los Angeles.

By the time the Supreme Court had struck our measure from the ballot it was manifest that, aside from the Presidential issue, in the center of attention on the part of every voter in the state was our measure. This is attested by over a thousand newspaper clippings turned in for the month

of August, and innumerable speeches for and against the proposition had been made.

The State Board of Equalization, an organization now in high disrepute in California, turned out great amounts of literature, undoubtedly paid for by the state, containing falsehoods of so gross a character that one would not have expected a child to be deceived, and these were solemnly attested by the state and county officials as deserving credence.

It is important that the public should be as thoroughly instructed in our programme as may be, and this imposes upon us a great labor, for which from a pecuniary point of view we are not well prepared, although hopeful.

Many of you have subscribed for the *Sales Tax Repealer*. The circumstances we have narrated have rendered it inadvisable to go to the large expense incident to their printing at the present time. We should therefore appreciate it if we were not called upon to return any part of the subscriptions paid therefore, although if desired this course will be taken.

We should have had difficulty in carrying on the campaign as well as we feel we have, but for the fact that we were able to receive the sum of \$5,000 (not \$20,000 as stated by a Single Tax paper in the state, which misstatement was largely used against us), from the Ingram Estate. All other contributions have been exhausted in the campaign, and about half of this sum of \$5,000 remains for the future work.

At every point where our campaign has been most active—San Francisco, Los Angeles, Stockton and San Diego, it has been our fortune to have active, earnest, and determined workers. Every one of these has been lively and energetic and ready to work for the success of our amendment. Their spirits are in no wise cast down by temporary adjournment of the debate.

For obvious reasons it is not well now to go into details as to future action. Further in some degree these may be modified by events. We can only say there will be another day in two years. This period cannot be shortened.

It is our intention to maintain permanent offices in both Los Angeles and San Francisco. Work of education will be continuous. We are out to win a war, not a battle. And in this sense we will appreciate your continued help and support.

JACKSON H. RALSTON, General Chairman.
N. D. ALPER, Executive Secretary,
Northern Division.

TARIFF warfare breeds hatred and suspicion. If tariffs and international duties were abolished, it would be possible to abolish navies, and armies as well, for there would be no more war. The pacifists should work against the economic war. Then, if they were successful, they would have little difficulty in putting armies and navies out of business and putting the unemployed to work.—ADMIRAL SIMS, U.S.A. Navy.

Activities of the Manhattan Single Tax Club

CHARLES H. INGERSOLL'S WEEKLY RADIO SCHEDULE

Mon. WCNW, 2:30 P. M.; WWRL, 11:15 P. M.

Tue. WLTH, 1:15 P. M.; WCNW, 2:30 P. M.

Wed. WOV, 10:15 A. M.; WWRL, 1:15 P. M.; WCNW, 2:30 P. M.

Thu. WOV, 9:30 A. M.; WCNW, 2:30 P. M.

Fri. WDAS (Phila.), 1:00 P. M.; WILM (Dela.), 3:15 P. M.

Sat. WCNW, 7:00 P. M.; WWRL, 11:00 P. M.

Sun. WOV, 6:30–7:00 P. M.

All kilocycles 1400 to 1500 except WOV, which is 1130.

Broadcasting in August and September excelled any previous two months, totaling 135 fifteen minute periods. The character of the current events programmes steadily improved in attractiveness to the average listener and in economic content.

The study of novel forms of presenting our principles is Mr. Ingersoll's daily work. The examples below will verify this. Mr. Ingersoll is full of the idea that before we get the Single Tax across, we will have to boil down economics to the movie and radio fan level. Here is something he has written on this subject:

"While we will doubtless usher in the Economic Era through the leadership of 'key men,' we have long enough made the mistake of catering to them in our propaganda; and should henceforth conduct our educating with and to the public—the average intelligence.

'Key men' are very coy: who and where are they? We have thought—quite naturally—that educational leaders were the ones to concentrate on; individual and organized economists have conducted whole campaigns on professors, colleges, and libraries: and the net results seem to be a concentration of economic illiteracy in our educational system grater than at any other point."

VOX POP ECONOMIC LETTERS TO THE PRESS

The last two months have been unusually productive in letters to the press. Tests have been made in a variety of papers and their location. And also, of capacity of individual papers to use our material. The case for organized letter writing is complete. Our letters are popular, and should be going to practically all the largest papers in the country continuously. It is rare that one fails of publication, and none contain less than 100 per cent of Georgeism.

Mr. Whidden Graham is assisting Mr. Ingersoll in organizing letter writing, as a model for assistance of hundreds of capable writers in the country. A partial list of recent