

So great was Summer's interest in the idea that he had an American edition of either 10,000 or 30,000 copies printed in Boston.

Norfolk, Conn.

JOSEPH R. CARROLL.

JUST A SUGGESTION

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

What I have left in the way of a mind keeps on working. "We" ought to find a way to obtain publicity for a lot of questioning of the current governmental economic experimentation, without expending much. I have suggested to C. H. Ingersoll that this is possible in connection with a little snappy, gossipy four-page folder, to be offered with programmes at amusement shows or talkies. In Long Branch three to five thousand such programmes are used every week, and there are concerns which get these out cheaply by using rotary perfecting presses.

Long Branch, N. J.

GEORGE WHITE.

NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

Since writing you, the campaign in California has been moving steadily forward toward the goal of securing enough names upon the initiative petition to insure its placing upon the ballot for November. This week will see the filing with the proper registrars of voters in San Francisco, Los Angeles and other counties of some 80,000 signatures, and the other needed 31,000 names will soon follow. We may anticipate as the result that the citizens of California will this fall vote upon an amendment that will give immediate relief from a two and one-half per cent sales tax, and the elimination in the courts of five years of all taxation upon tangible property and improvements, provided a majority of the electors favor the plan.

Will the majority vote be favorable? We have to bear in mind that forty-two per cent of the voters on one occasion voted for a home-rule amendment which favored the adoption of steps in this direction, that as high as about thirty per cent have voted for the immediate taking of all ground rents for public purposes, and that we have the support at the present moment of the labor organizations and the socialists.

Since the votes referred to, the voting population of the State has we may say in a general way, doubled, but it is believed that now the swing of popular sentiment, in view of economic events, is stronger in our direction than it has ever been before. Further, the character of the State's citizenship is more largely urban than heretofore, about two-thirds residing in the cities. This factor renders it easier to get our case before the people, as well as to render less important the disposition of the farmer erroneously to regard himself as such a large land owner that his interests are allied with the privileged classes.

Personally I look for success at the election, though bearing in mind the attitude of the great newspapers controlled by owners of immense tracts of land, we naturally confront the certainty of misrepresentation. Our campaign must be made largely by word-of-mouth, circulation of pamphlets and books, and letterwriting.

We have been fortunate the past few weeks in having the aid of John Lawrence Monroe, who has spoken effectively before many labor and other bodies, and whose result of his observation is convinced of our good prospects of success. Recent material aid has come from the East only from Mr. Lawson Purdy and Mr. Blauvelt, to whom we owe thanks. Generally East of the Rockies the Single Taxers are oblivious of the fact that we are engaged in the most important campaign possibly in the history of the movement, so far as possible results may determine this question.

A few days ago it was my fortune to speak over the San Francisco office of the National Broadcasting Company radio, addressing farmers in a debate over taxation. I believe the results will prove this of value to our cause.

We have now to prepare for an active campaign running intensively

over nearly four months. For this we need thousands of dollars, and unfortunately have not even hundreds. Thus again I ask our friends in the East to wake up, and send contributions to Edgar Pomeroy, 83 McAllister Street, San Francisco; 212, Tax Relief Campaign Committee for Northern California, or A. J. Samis, Treasurer, 2422 North, Alvarado Street, Los Angeles, Treasurer for Southern California, or to me.

I shall not enumerate the list of efficient workers for the cause in Los Angeles, San Francisco and throughout the State. Suffice it to say that they are constantly increasing in numbers and interest.

Palo Alto, Calif.

JACKSON H. RALSTON.

FROM THE LATE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR THE U. S. SENATE

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

I want to thank you for the favorable notices you gave my candidacy in your issue of May-June. I hope I advanced the cause.

Ridgewood, N. J.

JAMES G. BLAUVELT.

HOW A LOT GREW RICH AND RICHER

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

An acre of land in the Cornhill area, London, is estimated to be worth £6,000,000. Strips of it have actually changed hands at a higher figure. If that acre could only speak!

Oh, I am rich beyond all dreams!
Far richer than the pearl that gleams:
Yet I am but a strip of land—
An acre—muddy clay and sand!
Two hundred weary years ago
My worth was but a pound or two:
Yet in those days I grew fine crops
Of barley, wheat and brewing hops.
Today I couldn't grow a weed—
I harbor not a single seed!
Yet I am worth six million pounds
And richer grow by leaps and bounds.

Yes, I am worth six million pounds—
Much more than many country towns:
Yet in the latter busy men
Work eight hours daily, sometimes ten.
But I have never raised a hand—
How could a docile piece of land?
I just sleep on; I bide my time;
I neither act nor spend a dime:
I simply own a right of way
For which men pay both night and day:
For men must come and men must go—
And that is why I richer grow.

London, Eng.

A. BLACKBURN.

DO NOT DISTINGUISH

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

I am inclined to believe the administration as a whole realizes that practically all that is being done to improve economic conditions is mere make-shifting and temporizing, and that we must finally or as soon as the people are ready adopt more fundamental reforms. Incidentally, too many of our friends take over-seriously the money question and matters of finance. They do not seem to see that about eighty per cent of the allegedly usurious interest and bloated dividends are merely economic rent.

Tacoma, Wash.

ROBERT S. DOUBLEDAY.