

From The National Executive Chairman

THE closing of the polls at the recent election marked the completion of the most definite step taken for the adoption of the Single Tax in the United States that has ever been taken. While at this writing sufficiently complete returns have not been received to understand clearly the full results of the campaign we waged in eleven States in this, our first attempt to put national candidates before the people pledged to the full principle of the Single Tax and nothing less, yet we have sufficient information from various sections in a number of these States to sufficiently encourage us and have good warrant for the action of the national executive committee of the party in laying immediate plans for carrying the party work on further without delay.

In some sections the Single Tax vote has increased more than 100% since the last election, and practically everywhere where a real canvas for the party's cause was made, new members have voted our ticket. Our work has fully demonstrated that there is nothing but disappointment in store for those who have thought that if we dreamed about the beauties of the Single Tax, possibly discussed its hair-splitting points before some Philosophical Society, or discussed the quality of the rhetoric in "Progress and Poverty" at the weekly literary meeting, we would awake some morning to find the Single Tax in operation. And we have also proven that the fellow who is doing the most for the Single Tax and who is going to be a real factor in bringing it about is the fellow who is now showing actual votes for it in his own election precinct. We need public meetings, we need good speakers, we need newspaper publicity, we need up-to-date, practical literature, but the most valuable thing of all is the fellow who stands among his neighbors and assures them that he is going to vote for the Single Tax and influences them to follow him and do likewise.

Let none be discouraged by having their attention called to the comparatively small vote for our national candidates. We who have watched the growth of the party know that this does not show the strength of the party movement, for the party's progress is not made up solely from dyed-in-the-wool Single Taxers who vote at once for the whole ticket. Thousands of new converts in whom we see our great hope are not breaking their old party affiliations at one stroke, but in many thousands of cases voted, as we expected them to do, for one or the other of the old parties for the head of the ticket while aiding our cause by voting for some other of the candidates in the Single Tax column. It is this new blood which is gathering strength and momentum to our movement, which is building it up for certain success as sure as the snow adheres to the ball and enlarges it as it rolls along.

Then let this election be but a signal to everyone who holds the Single Tax cause dear to start at once and pledge himself that an increased number of his own neighbors shall stand with him at the next election and again increase

the numbers being counted for our movement. Remember we started but five years ago at a local election in Philadelphia. With anything like the same progress in the next five years, we will be an influence that cannot be ignored.

JAMES H. DIX

Chairman Nat. Executive Com.

California

THE big wave of reaction that has swept across the country has given us a shock but it has not overwhelmed us. We have some things to be thankful for. The Anti-Single Tax measure has been beaten by over 100,000 majority. Besides, our vote has nearly doubled over that of two years ago. Our measure then received about 118,000 votes. Incomplete returns now indicate that we shall get over 200,000 votes and also an increase, in the percentage of the total vote, over that of the last election.

The brotherhood of thieves brought great pressure to bear on the newspapers. Their editors tried to out-do one another in the lies they told about what they called Single Tax failures in other places. These unfortunate slaves had to obey their masters. Nothing better was expected from the *Los Angeles Times*, the *San Francisco Chronicle* or the *Oakland Tribune*. But the Hearst papers and the Scripps papers were equally active and dishonorable in deceiving the voters.

The State Controller greatly aided our opponents by false statements. One false statement was that it would probably require \$11.69 tax on each hundred dollar's worth of land to raise the necessary revenue under the operation of our amendment. This statement was given wide publicity. Hon. John S. Chambers said so; ergo, it must be true.

Within our own ranks the campaign was one of the most harmonious ever held here. Both organizations co-operated with a spirit of tolerance worthy of emulation. Excellent service was rendered by Mrs. Lona Ingham Robinson, Mrs. Wm. C. deMille, George A. Briggs, R. E. Chadwick, David Woodhead, T. A. Robinson, Mrs. Josie Thorpe Price, Diana D. Griffes, C. F. Hunt, W. C. deMille, G. J. Johnson, Charles Alexander, Judge Ryckman, W. S. U'Ren, R. R. Waterbury, W. D. Hoffman, H. F. Dessau, Prof. and Mrs. Brodeur, Edmund Norton, J. H. Eldowney, Mrs. K. P. Alexander, F. W. Workman, J. H. Talbot, Mrs. Lucy Durham, George Cartwright, Dr. Mary Hussey, James P. Cadman, John Davidson, and many others who should be mentioned if space permitted.

We hoped for a larger vote. But the beast of privilege is thoroughly aroused. He froths at the mouth with fear and anger. Never before has he been so savage. He has failed to remove us from the map as he boasted he would. He bragged that he would dispose of us for all time to come by destroying our right to get a Single Tax measure on the ballot by the initiative.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee arrangements have been made to have the *Great Adventure* published

monthly in San Francisco with Mrs. Zoe D. Hoffman as editor. The committee has decided also to move the State headquarters there when reorganizing next Spring. The Tajo Building has been sold and we are obliged to give up our present quarters.

We began the campaign just closed with a big deficit. We are fortunate in having no deficit in beginning the new campaign.

W. L. Ross.

Oregon

THE vote on the Oregon Single Tax amendment is 37,281 in favor, with 138,594 opposed. Multnomah County gave about half of the affirmative vote. It ran almost as strong as Cox. The Land and Loan measure of 1916 got 43,390 in favor and 154,000 opposed, so that we hold our percentage. The 1910 measure which was known as the State-wide Single Tax with graduated tax provision received 31,534 in favor and 82,915 opposed. It is to be observed that the voters do not vote on amendments. There are 335,000 registered voters and forty thousand do not go to the poll, so that REVIEW readers will see that we have quite an army to recruit from.

Beside the Single Tax amendment there were eleven other initiative measures that went down to defeat. We have carried on a wonderful campaign with pitifully small resources, and had it not been that all progressive legislation and policies were defeated we might have stood some chance of winning.

The campaign ended with several speeches by J. R. Hermann to large audiences in and near Portland. The Granges, Unions, Press Clubs, Women's Councils heard the measure discussed, and 80,000 leaflets were distributed. The press gave us space for a letter every day, but advised the voters to vote "no" in the final recommendation. The *Journal* said that "People have shown by previous elections that they do not want the Single Tax, and the *Telegraph* insisting that it was 'vicious.'"

The last days of the campaign were cheered by the visit of Hon. George Fowlds who spoke before a half dozen audiences under our management and that of the Y. M. C. A. He told of the success of the limited Single Tax in New Zealand.

I could mention many who did good work here, but content myself with saying that they were the same devoted workers who have figured in previous Oregon campaigns. I believe this campaign, because it was a straight-out Single Tax measure, secured more publicity and understanding of and sympathy with the Henry George philosophy than any campaign previously conducted. And it was done on less than three thousand dollars, with volunteer work that entailed many sacrifices.

The people are willing to listen, and a few years may bring about a landslide in our direction. All those who fought out the present campaign will be willing to do so again, and some day we will win.

As we have said, the vote is a slight gain in percentage

over the Land and Loan measures, and a little under the graduated Single Tax measure of ten years ago. But this campaign has no precedent to be measured by. It is true the Land and Loan measure was the nearest to it, since it demanded the full rent, but it was coupled with many details regarding loans, etc. This campaign can therefore be said to be the first Single Tax measure ever submitted to any electorate.

Readers of the REVIEW have read some of the official arguments for the defence of the measure and will therefore know that the vote is a strictly Single Tax vote. We shall begin the campaign for the same measure immediately. We have demonstrated that Single Tax is as popular as Single Tax-exemption reform.

CHRISTINA MOCK.

Ohio

IN our tour of Ohio, Mr. Macauley and I spoke on the Public Square of Cleveland, and I addressed a meeting of about 800 women. Mr. Macauley addressed a meeting at the North Congregational Church as well as the City Club where 600 or 800 were present. Then we spoke at Sandusky, Toledo, Marion, Columbus, Springfield, and Dayton, Ohio. Our most enthusiastic meeting was at Marion, Ohio, Senator Harding's home, and our biggest meeting was at Dayton, O. Allow me to describe the Dayton meeting. We had selected a place where Governor Cox' headquarters were on one corner and Harding's on the other, and when we arrived at Dayton we found that the newspapers had announced that Watkins, the Presidential candidate on the Prohibition ticket, was to speak at the same hour and at the same place. We agreed with the Prohibition people that if Mr. Watkins arrived by 7.30 then Mr. Macauley would draw cuts as to which should speak first. As Mr. Watkins did not arrive on time Mr. Macauley first addressed the audience. We had announced for a half hour previously through a megaphone that two candidates for President of the United States would speak at that corner at 7.30 so we had an audience of some 1,200 or 1,500 people. Mr. Macauley aroused a lot of interest in the Single Tax and many of them wanted him to keep right on speaking rather than to listen to the Prohibition candidate. We were somewhat surprised when Mr. Watkins arose and said before he talked on Prohibition that he wanted to announce publicly that he had been a Single Taxer for a number of years, and that he was in full accord with its principles. He stated that it was a great reform that must come. Then he spent about five minutes illustrating the Single Tax and endorsing it. I believe this is the first time in the history of politics that one Presidential candidate has stated publicly to an audience in the presence of his opponent that he was in entire accord with the entire platform of his opponent.

At these meetings we had in Ohio we saw a number of old Single Taxers who have not as yet publicly allied themselves with the Party but who seem to be catching the fever, and who had good words for the work we had been doing.