

A SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT IN REGARD TO THE CALIFORNIA SINGLE TAX SITUATION

In the protest signed by twenty-four Single Taxers, members of the minority, attending the Single Tax Conference at Atlantic City, New Jersey, on April 13-15, 1917 it was stated: "That while we do not presume to advise individuals, we do respectfully urge upon Single Tax organizations outside of California that until such time as harmony is restored in State Single Tax affairs, no financial support be extended to any group in that State."

This protest was drafted and signed before "The National Great Adventure for the Single Tax" was formed to exploit the "Great Adventure" as represented by Luke North. This action was taken in face of the fact that every Single Tax organization in the State of California has endorsed the constitutional amendment proposed by the Equity Tax League. To solicit contributions throughout the United States to aid "Luke North" in opposing practically all of the Single Taxers in California is an unwarranted interference in the affairs of that State.

The statement that the Great Adventure amendment is a Single Tax measure, while the Equity Tax League amendment is only an exemption measure, has misled many who do not know the situation in California.

Neither of these proposed amendments would take the entire annual rent of land for governmental purposes. The Great Adventure measure would raise all State and local revenues by a tax on land values only. The Equity Tax League measure would raise county and other local revenues (85 per cent. of the total State, county and local revenues) from a tax on land values only. It would leave State revenues to be raised as now from special taxes, chief of which are the inheritance tax, and the gross earnings tax on public service corporations, which was adopted by the people as a constitutional amendment six years ago. There is now no State tax on ordinary real and personal property.

Only thirty per cent. of the voters favored the Great Adventure amendment of last year, which would have abolished these State taxes. After due consideration, Single Taxers familiar with local conditions, have decided to leave the matter of State revenue in abeyance for the present. They believe from their experience in the last campaign, that many voters who did not favor the Great Adventure amendment will favor the Single Tax for local purposes. The Socialist party and Labor Unions which endorsed the "Great Adventure" last year have endorsed the Equity Tax League measure. It is estimated that about 100,000 Socialist votes were cast for the Great Adventure measure last year.

Both proposed amendments are avowedly expedients. In such case, when the great majority of Single Taxers in California have decided which

measure they think should be placed on the ballot at the next election, any outside aid for the Single Tax should be extended to them.

Peter Aitken, Albert Brandt, A. P. Canning, Stoughton Cooley, Otto Cullman, Benjamin Doblin, E. Stillman Doubleday, John Filmer, Joseph H. Fink, W. D. George, Whidden Graham, Byron W. Holt, Julian Kennedy, Emanuel M. Klein, Frederic C. Leubuscher, Sidney C. Lewi, William Lustgarten, Joseph Dana Miller, Samuel Milliken, Frederic H. Monroe, John J. Murphy, A. C. Pleydell, Edward Polak, A. P. Potter, William Ryan, Robert Schalkenbach, E. J. Shriver, Walter G. Stewart, August Weymann, Harry H. Willock.

THE DAUGHTER OF HENRY GEORGE ON THE CALIFORNIA SITUATION

(For the Review)

By ANNA GEORGE DE MILLE*

Since the beginning of time there has not been such need as there will be when this world strife shall have ceased for those "who see the light" to show the crushed and bewildered peoples a way out of their economic tangles.

And so it seems vitally important that Single Taxers, who are surely the clearest of economic thinkers, should lay aside all petty differences and personal desires and pull together toward their great goal where they may demonstrate to the suffering world an ethical philosophy and a tax system that will make it possible to have peace on earth and good will to men.

That we in California should band together in one strong group that will make for concerted and focused action seems vitally important. We live in a State where Nature has been superlatively bountiful, but where graft and privilege stalk rampant. Here the Single Tax philosophy was born, and last November the fact that many thousands are looking toward the Single Tax as a solution of their economic troubles was demonstrated by the inspiring number that voted for a near-Single Tax Constitutional amendment. This splendid propaganda, led under the banner of the so-called "Great Adventure" group, is now being followed up by even more vigorous and widespread proselytizing. Two measures are to be submitted by petition to the voters of the State.

The fact that there are two petitions means a waste of money and energy, and a certain weakening in results. Therefore the question as to which one Single Taxers should concentrate on, is of great import.

A true Single Tax document to be circulated in a petition that he who runs may read, and that afterward goes on ballot, must be short and concise. It cannot, unfortunately, cover all details in disposing of the old regime and

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