

League. The anniversary number, Sept. 1923, which has just come to hand, shows as frontispiece a reproduction in miniature of the front page of Henry George's *The Standard*, of August 3, 1889, with a portrait of Henry George inset.

The justifiable satisfaction of the Argentine Georgists over the progress of their movement is expressed in the following announcement:—

"Our anniversary coincides with the sanction of the Tax on Land Values apart from improvements by the Municipality of Buenos Aires,—the first triumph of the Georgist doctrine in our Capital City, which for us represents a decisive initial advance toward the achievement of our aspirations.

"The ever-increasing acceptance accorded to Georgism in our country encourages us to persevere in our campaign with greater energy; and to this end we shall not omit any effort to respond to the ever-increasing attention which the producing classes are showing toward the Single Tax, in their anxious desire for freedom from the present infamous fiscal system, by means of the establishment of that regime of social justice which Henry George expounded with such consummate genius."

La Nacion, Organ of the conservative classes in Buenos Aires, refers as follows in its issue of Sept. 14, to the effects of the new land value tax now in operation in that city, in substitution of the general property tax:—

"According to statements of city officials, the new tax ordinance, as far as it affects the general property tax, is beginning to produce the results anticipated.

"As is known, the rate applied to the value of land apart from improvements has favored the majority of house owners, but not those who own vacant lots and buildings of only one story built on lots in the high-price districts.

"Since the application of the new tax has begun, the Municipality has granted a large number of permits for advertising on the street boardings the sale of vacant lots in districts where up to the present the owners did not build and would not sell.

"Moreover, the Municipality has succeeded in acquiring for 800 pesos per square metre a large piece of land needed for the Diagonal Avenue President Roque Saenz Pena at its intersection with Florida street.

"On the other hand, the Municipality has begun to receive numerous petitions for building permits, which justify the expectation that at the end of the current year new and important buildings will be erected.

"Meanwhile the Mayor is endeavoring to speed up the arrangements for continuing the work on the Diagonal Avenue, President Roque Saenz Pena, at the earliest possible date."

IF you start at the wrong end in doing even a desirable thing in government, you are likely to make the tangle worse, as is often done with a shoe lace.

Recent Deaths

IT is a very long obituary record that confronts us for the last few months.

We have already briefly noted the passing of J. W. Bengough in Toronto at the age of 72. Mr. Bengough died in harness. He had just completed a successful lecture tour, when illness overtook him. There are many of us who recall his "chalk talks," and the admirable cartoons which he used to illustrate his simple and convincing expositions of various phrases of our philosophy.

Mr. Bengough was born in Toronto in 1851. At the age of 22 he published a humorous weekly in that city which he named *Grip*, and his cartoons excited much comment, and gave him an international reputation. His work appeared in the London *Daily Express*, *Morning Chronicle*, and *St. James Gazette*. In 1899 he was appointed professor of elocution at Wycliffe College, Toronto.

Three years ago the Single Tax Publishing Company revived the publication of his Primer of Political Economy in Words of One Syllable, and in a few months the whole edition of this useful and remarkable *tour de force* was disposed of. Personally Mr. Bengough was a lovable man. His correspondence with the REVIEW extended over many years, and we had learned to regard him as a friend. His loss will not soon be replaced.

WILLIAM L. ROSS

THE death of Mr. Ross which occurred in Camden on October 23, comes as a great shock. He had but recently retired from his California work and returned home.

Will Ross was born in central Pennsylvania in 1859. His parents were of Dutch Irish extraction, but American born. When the Civil War ended John and Elizabeth Ross moved their family to Kentucky, where the manufacture of charcoal iron was being carried on. Both Will and his father were iron workers, Will entering that business when quite a young man. He left the iron mills when about thirty.

Will and his father were members of trades unions, and when Henry George spoke in Cincinnati sometime in the eighties, a Henry George club was formed of which John Ross was a member. He was a convert to Free Trade and the Single Tax several years before the Anti-Poverty campaign in New York and was an early and devoted reader of the *Standard*.

Later Will Ross came east and in 1892 was a member of the Philadelphia Single Tax club, spending much time in studying and learning to speak in public.

He never lost faith in the ultimate emancipation of the race through the remedy offered by Henry George. To him the Single Tax was a religion and he had discarded about all there was of the conventional kind. That he was the ideal leader for such a campaign as the militant Single Taxers have undertaken in California

against the timid and hesitating disciples in that state, may be questioned. But there can be no question of his devotion. It is therefore a melancholy reflection that the unjust criticism levelled against him by the opponents of the more courageous methods of propaganda, if it did not embitter, depressed him and hastened his end. His passing should teach us a lesson in charitableness which perhaps all of us need.

JOSIE THORPE PRICE

THE sudden death of Josie Thorpe Price, at Inwood, L. I. robs the movement of one of its most indefatigable workers. It was in our September-October issue that we printed the last of her communications.

The Single Tax Party at one of its Saturday night sessions passed the following resolution.

"Whereas: In the death of Mrs. Josie Thorpe Price the movement has lost a devoted soul whose many admirable letters in the newspapers of this city caused much favorable comment for their fine spirit and inimitable presentation of our philosophy; therefor be it

Resolved: That the Single Tax Party deplors the death of this devoted soul and extends to the relatives and family of the deceased its sympathy in the loss of one who lived her philosophy, and whose latter days, spent as an invalid, were cheered by the radiance of that vision of social justice which was her intellectual conviction and the aspiration of her deep spiritual nature."

Joseph Dana Miller, writing in the *Evening World*, of this city, said:

"Mrs. Price was an earnest student of the doctrine of social justice as expounded in "Progress and Poverty." The "vision splendid" of Henry George gladdened her career at its close and animated her philosophy of life. She believed that in it was included the solution of peace and war and many of the most vexing problems confronting our civilization. She was a great reader and had a rather extensive though miscellaneous library, consisting of books on all subjects, religious, literary and economic. In these she delved with that "divine curiosity" which directed her search for truth.

Discerning readers of THE EVENING WORLD will bear witness that this wide range of reading lent to her communications a style remarkable for its clearness and sincerity, and a quality that, whether or not they were able to agree with her conclusions at all times, was suggestive and thought-provoking.

What is more extraordinary is that Mrs. Price, who was over seventy and a confirmed invalid, should have been able to treat so incisively of current topics and have been so intensely alive to what was going on in the great world from which she was isolated by age and infirmity."

ELIZA STOWE TWITCHELL

WE learn with deep regret of the death of Mrs. Eliza Stowe Twitchell, at Boston, Mass., on October 17th. Mrs. Twitchell with her husband, Mr. Edward Twitchell, who pre-deceased her nine years ago, will be remembered

as among the active early members of the Massachusetts Single Tax League, in association with the late Mr. William Lloyd Garrison and Mr. C. B. Fillebrown. Numerous booklets, pamphlets and articles came from her pen from time to time, notably "Economic Principles" and "Truths Seen by Contrast" in which the fundamental principles of Single Tax economics were clearly expounded. Though in poor health during the later years of her life her mental faculties retained the vigor and alertness of youth, and as a persistent propagandist of the saving economic truth in which she so earnestly believed she lived as an example to all the followers of Henry George.

J. A. DEMUTH

ANOTHER old time Single Taxer and former contributor to the columns of the REVIEW, is dead in East Cleveland, Ohio. He was professor of music at Oberlin College for thirty years, but retired on pension from Oberlin nearly seven years ago.

He was born in Philadelphia, Ohio, and entered Eastman College at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., where he supported himself by playing a trumpet in the West Point Cadet band. As a member of the band he played at the funeral of Abraham Lincoln.

He was 76 years old. He leaves a widow, a son Fred and two daughters, Mrs. Charlotte Demuth Williams, of Cleveland and Mrs. George W. Morgan, of New York.

More Than Careless as to Facts

HERE is an extract from an article in the *Journal Ohio State Teachers' Association* by Hon. John Thraillkill.

"Then we have another group of tax theorists who call themselves "Single Taxers," and advocate a tax on land site values only. Placing this rate at 6% is advocated by the Cleveland Single Tax Club. Under this theory, in practice, I have seen home owners and farmers reduced to a condition of abject tax serfdom; have seen the destruction of any desire for land ownership; and the abandonment and forfeiture of land titles running into millions. This odious and indefensible theory needs no discussion. It would communize land, revolutionize society and Russianize America."

The gentleman who writes this writes what is not true, knowing it to be not true. He has never seen the Single Tax in operation because it has never been in operation anywhere in times of which Mr. Thraillkill can have knowledge. If he is intelligent he knows this; if he is not intelligent—in other words, if he is an unmitigated ass—his friends are privileged to offer this as an excuse for putting into cold type a statement that he has seen something which he never could have seen.

I WISH to call your attention to the utter absurdity of private property in land. Why, consider it—the idea of a man selling the earth—the earth, our common mother.

—HENRY GEORGE.