

The result is that the City of Toronto, with a population of over a million, has the necessary legislation for rational taxation, but the City Council refuses to act on the legislation.

During the first week in December, when we carried on our main battle against the City Council and made our application to Court for a mandamus, we had with us in Toronto, Louis F. Post, who addressed a number of public meetings and our movement received considerable publicity in the newspapers, and although it is discouraging to realize how deeply vested rights appear to be entrenched, yet we have every reason to be satisfied with our struggle during the past year.

R. HONEYFORD.

Philadelphia Single Taxers Going to the Oxford Conference

AT the regular meeting of the County Committee of the Single Tax Party of Philadelphia, held January 7, the following motion was made by Mr. James A. Robinson and seconded by Mr. George A. Haug:

"That the County Committee of the Single Tax Party of Philadelphia indorse the calling of an International Conference to be held at Oxford, England, from the 13th to the 20th of August, 1923, and to accept the invitation to be present—"

The motion was unanimously agreed to. I should like to add that the Philadelphia Single Taxers are working enthusiastically for the Conference and promise to have a large delegation in England next August.

CHARLES J. SCHOALES, *Secretary.*

The Land Question in Parliament

HOUSE OF COMMONS held a series of great debates recently, on housing, unemployment and agriculture. They are fully reported in *Land and Liberty* of London. While no action was taken, the talk served to clear the atmosphere. Nothing like such strong discussion is heard in American legislative bodies. Lady Astor warned the party in power, of which she is a member, that she couldn't back a reactionary government. Some blamed "private enterprise" and some the government, but no one disputed the array of awful facts presented by Labor and Liberal party members. There are 184,000 dwellings in London condemned as unsanitary. In Glasgow, 60 per cent. live either in single apartments or in apartments of two rooms. In one of the smaller towns, 25 per cent. are living with two in each room. G. H. Warne, Labor party member, told of finding a family who had lived six weeks in a cave on the seashore. The head of the family died in the cave. The police inspector at the inquest said other families were living in the same way. The coroner declared: "Many thousands are living like wild beasts in this country." Glasgow is spending hundreds of thousands of pounds to

stop tuberculosis, which has a powerful hold on the people in the poorer quarters; that disease scarcely ever appears in the wealthy section of that city. Another Labor member told of the imprisonment of four of his constituents for seizing an empty house to give temporary shelter to a family of husband, wife and seven children. The Minister of Labor told of the millions of pounds expended by the government to build houses to aid unemployed, and to help agriculture. Major Burnie, Liberal, said houses had been erected by government in his district, costing \$6,500 each, and put on land that had been used merely for grazing cattle. The government paid \$3,250 an acre.

Conservative members admitted the failure of government, but had nothing else to offer. In the building trade there are 118,740 unemployed, who are drawing monthly doles from the government. Labor party members called attention to the large amount of idle capital and to the large areas of vacant land. Every house built and rented by the government involved a large loss to the treasury. The Prime Minister complained of the opposition: "They seem to have an idea that everything can be put right by the proper use of land," but he did admit that the land system was "lop-sided," as he called it. Mr. Asquith discussed foreign trade and Mr. Lloyd George was cleverly non-committal.

Death of Dr. Christensen

FROM Copenhagen comes sad tidings of the death of a true and valued Comrade in the Faith, Dr. Villads Christensen. One of the earliest Single Taxers in Denmark, Dr. Christensen was for years a leader of that devoted band whose intelligent constructive work has finally written a measure of land value taxation into their country's laws. He was president of the Danish Henry George Society for several years, and for more years chairman of the Copenhagen Circle which he helped to found, as well as editor, for a long term of the Society's organ *Den Lige Vei* (The Straight Road). He gave many valuable pamphlets to the propaganda work, notably a short history of the first Henry George movement in Denmark, and a charming little sketch entitled "Home From the Meeting," which has won many to the Cause.

Gifted both as speaker and writer, Dr. Christensen gave unstintingly of his keen trained mind and splendid physical energy to the Faith that meant more than anything else in the world to him. His honored position and standing in the world of science and letters added value to his Single Tax work. He had been for many years the Keeper of the Archives in the City Hall of Copenhagen and was a recognized historical authority. But his preoccupation with the past did not blind him to the needs of the present. It gave him only the surer understanding of real values. Despite his remarkable learning there was nothing of the pedant about Dr. Christensen. He was a "live wire" even by American standards, a fiery orator endowed, further-