

MISSOURI A BATTLE GROUND.

An amendment to the constitution will be voted upon in Missouri in 1912. This amendment classifies property subject for taxation. The adoption of this amendment abolishes all taxes on personalty at once and it groups other property in three classifications and provides for their taxation or exemption. Class Two, which includes all improvements on land, provides that in the years 1914 and 1915 every owner shall be exempted on one fifth of the assessed value of such property; in 1916 and 1917 two fifths; in 1918 and 1919, three fifths; in the years 1920 and 1921, four fifths, and in the year 1922 and thereafter all property in Class Two shall be exempt from taxation. This amendment also provides that land, save that now exempt by the present constitution and lands within the right of way, shall never be exempt.

This far-reaching amendment is the work of the Initiative and Referendum League and the Single Tax League of Missouri. But special credit must be given to S. L. Moser, who has done the dray-horse work of the campaign so far. The *Kansas City Star* thus describes this indefatigable worker for the cause:

"S. L. Moser of St. Louis, who has charge of the preliminary work, came to Kansas City today to organize for the campaign in this city and will work here all this week. Moser is known to those who have watched the progress of the initiative and referendum fight. It was nearly twenty years ago when he first began to visit cities and towns and talk initiative and referendum. For fourteen years he was a familiar figure in Jefferson City working for his association's pet measure. A heavily built, stocky man with thick black beard, always ready for an argument, and always carrying a bundle of books or pamphlets under his left arm, he kept up the work until the initiative and referendum became a part of the constitution of the State. Moser did not know when he was whipped—did not care. He went on smiling and telling people why the plan he advocated was a good one for the public.

OTHER CITIES ORGANIZE.

The thick beard is not quite so black now

as it was ten years ago, but the face shows more determination and the bundle of books under his arm is no smaller.

He has his old crowd back of him and an accumulation of new support, and it all means that the fight for Single Tax in Missouri is started seriously and is in the hands of men who think nothing of being defeated once, twice or three times if they have a chance to win in the end."

THE CASE OF PROFESSOR BRINSMADE.

The experience of Professor R. W. Brinsmade at the West Virginia State University at Morgantown should make a young man in search of an education seek some other institution. Professor Brinsmade was until recently in charge of the department of mining engineering. Outside of business hours he devoted considerable time and energy to Single Tax propaganda and once presided at a public meeting addressed by Henry George, Jr. This was too much for the regents of the university, who are appointees of Governor Glasscock, a faithful servant of monopolistic interests. Professor Brinsmade was plainly informed that his economic views made him *persona non grata* and that his services will no longer be required.

Now, if a professor of mining engineering may not under penalty of dismissal teach economic truths outside of the university and in his own time, how much truth may a professor of political economy teach at Morgantown during working hours in the university? If freedom of opinion is not allowed in matters relating to political economy, how can anyone be sure that it is permitted in other matters?

Professor Brinsmade's former colleagues, as well as his successor in office, must be rash, indeed, if they should dare to inform their students of any truth which may possibly be distasteful to the interests which own the Government of West Virginia.

ORDER your books of THE SINGLE TAX REVIEW.