

Argentina is approaching the idea of English radicalism and is getting away from the principles of Marx and Hyndman. The leaders of the Socialist party comprise a group of educated men, students of political economy, and without hatred or rancor toward the bourgeois or toward capital. With the tax on land values as the first article of the Electoral Programme, it is natural that the idea of a "Tax Reform League" (with the purpose of relieving industry and discouraging monopoly) should have had a good reception. The nucleus of this league is already formed and within a very little while will have the means for an adequate propaganda throughout Argentina.

As Doctor Justo well said in his last address, the Socialist party of Argentina is just now taking upon itself the advocacy of reforms which should be carried forward by the Liberal party; in this way the former is gaining the support of the intelligent middle class against the common enemy, namely the Special Interests.—*El Impuesto Unico*, May, 1913. Translated by Clarence E Todd.

FOR A NEW YORK STATE LEAGUE.

At the invitation of Mr. William Lustgarten, twenty-five veteran Single Taxers, mostly of the vintage of '86, sat down to a dinner, called for the purpose of considering the advisability of organizing a New York State League of Single Taxers for educational purposes. Five and ten minute speeches were made. These speeches were notable in this; that all those present without exception agreed that wherever Single Taxers meet to organize for the advance of the movement, they should declare emphatically for the full and complete principle, without deviation or compromise. Individually we may take part in such movements for other reforms as appeal to us for one reason or another, but as an organized force it is the supreme duty to keep the banner flying for the principle for which Mr. George contended, careless of results, heedless of what is done politically in the way of compromise measures by others, and keeping

our eye solely on the star that beckons us. And it was further urged that whatever we should do as a State League should be without prejudice to other movements that were attempting in other ways to reach results.

On motion it was resolved that those present constitute a provisional committee for the calling of a convention to effect a permanent State organization for Single Tax work. This was unanimously carried.

PENNSYLVANIA THE FIRST SINGLE TAX STATE.

Events move so rapidly these days that it is hard to keep up with them. Scarcely had we completed our bi-monthly newsletter ere the news arrived of the signing of a bill by the Governor of Pennsylvania, by which the rate on buildings in cities of the second class will be reduced to ninety per cent. (90%) of that on land, the third year to eighty per cent (80%), and so on by reductions of ten per cent. (10%) every third year until a fifty per cent. (50%) reduction is reached in fourteen years. The cities of the second class in Pennsylvania are Pittsburg and Scranton. This is slow progress, but it is a tremendous move forward, and we congratulate the men who have made this fight, among whom are W. D. George, R. E. Smith, Bernard B. McGinnis, and others.

With no reference at all to the Stein Bill, the Philadelphia *North American* in its issue of May 22d printed a remarkable double-columned editorial in which, quoting from the *Outlook* and *Colliers*, it says:

"Out of the George doctrines, then, has come a realization of the fact that, as subjects of taxation, land values should be regarded entirely apart from the improvements on the land. The old theory of real estate was that the land and every immovable thing on it were one.

"We know now that this isn't true, that land is the creation of God, that improvements put on land are the creation of man. Whatever tax is levied on it cannot be a just tax unless there is first an honest assessment. No real estate assessment is honest

unless the value of the land is a distinct item from the value of the buildings.

"New York, Cleveland and other cities discovered this truth some time ago. And it filled their treasuries. Such a dual assessment, one which would honestly fix the value of each piece of land in Philadelphia, would solve all the financial difficulties of this city over night.

"Recently the public acquired a piece of property in Germantown, paying \$150,000 for it. It had been assessed at \$90,000. That false assessment had for years been cheating the city out of forty per cent. (40%) of the taxes due it. This is but one instance in thousands. The remedy is a scientific assessment which fixes the value of the land apart from the value of the buildings thereon.

"Those who profit by the present system of dishonest taxation view with alarm every advance made by the George doctrines. Yet nothing is so rapidly hastening their further application as is the present inequitable, unjust and unsocial tax system. This imposes heavy burdens on the merchant or manufacturer or farmer who improves his land, while it largely exempts from taxation the speculator, who leaves his land idle or erects thereon only ramshackle and unstable buildings for the sole purpose of collecting enough rentals to pay the charges. And in the meantime the community is adding to the wealth of the land owner by adding to the value of the land."

DEATH OF TWO BOSTON SINGLE TAXERS.

John G. Pike died at Newton, Mass., on April 26th, after an operation for appendicitis. He had been ill for only a week, and was 57 years, 3 months in age. The deceased was a native of St. John's, Newfoundland, but had lived in Boston many years, being employed most of that time as a salesman in the department store of the Jordan, Marsh Company. He became a convert to the Henry George doctrine at the time the Standard was published, and was one of the active workers in the cause, having been a mem-

ber of the executive committee of the Massachusetts Single Tax League since its organization. The movement for direct legislation and kindred reforms based on justice and freedom has lost an energetic and tireless worker in the death of Mr. Pike.

Dr. P. J. Timmins died in South Boston on May 4th, after several weeks illness. He was born in Fermanagh, Ireland, on February 28, 1851, and had been a resident of South Boston for thirty years. He was widely known and highly esteemed, and was an ardent advocate of Home Rule for Ireland and a firm believer in the principles of Henry George. Dr. Timmins is survived by a widow and son, the latter being of the same profession as his father.

JAMES H. WILKINS, in an interesting article in the San Francisco *Bulletin* telling about early days at the University of California, makes reference to the high esteem in which Henry George was held by Dr. Daniel C. Gilman, at that time president of this great seat of learning. Mr. Wilkins says: "Dr. Gilman was a very great man. He was an intellectual force until his death several years ago. Imagine what he was forty years ago, overcharged with energy and personal magnetism. Among other things he worked up an interest in University affairs among leading men that never has been duplicated. At Friday assemblies and at all stated events, he managed to attract all sorts of notables, with whom the student body became more or less intimate. He discovered Henry George, then unknown to fame, in whom the quick-witted Gilman recognized a genius, and Henry George became a frequent entertainer of an afternoon. Passing mention of this phase of the life of the Prophet of San Francisco was made by Henry George, Jr., in his address before the students of the University of California, in Berkeley in October, 1911. He recalled that at one time there was broached the election of Henry George to the chair of Political Economy, and he was invited to deliver a lecture on the subject before a general assembly of the University. On that occasion a full avowal of his phil-