

to the fact that our strict rules of membership in the party prohibit any chance of such support being utilized for personal advancement politically; that they will be used for the propaganda of the Single Tax idea in its entirety. If personally you are not yet ready to give up allegiance to all other parties (a membership condition strictly exacted) you are invited to contribute financially to aid the work of those who have made that sacrifice for principle. Contributions may be sent to Wm. J. Wallace, Treasurer, 233 Prospect Ave., Newark, who will make proper acknowledgment therefor.

Those members who have strayed from the straight path during the past three years are exhorted to return to the fold. Past dues will be forgiven and they will be joyfully welcomed.

The present political muddle should be both a sign and a warning that there is no other logical way than ours to effectively advance our cause.

Finally the Land Value Party claims that its caustic criticism of inadequate, disguised and cowardly methods of work, heretofore in vogue, together with its good example in bringing forward the moral side of the cause as a political issue, is rapidly elevating and strengthening the whole propaganda.

Speakers for meetings may be secured by addressing the headquarters at 43 E. 22nd Street, N. Y. City.

ANTONIO BASTIDA.

Provisional Corresponding Secretary.

REASONS FOR LAND VALUE TAX PARTY.

For years it has been a source of deep grief to notice that interest in the cause was apparently dying out rather than increasing, since the death of Dr. McGlynn, who held up the land value tax idea in its true light as the foe of poverty. There had not been in recent years any signs of self-sacrifice for the cause. People who in their hearts favored the Single Tax idea were going to the polls and voting against it and in some cases receiving political rewards for so doing. The best way of attracting attention to a great idea affecting human

conditions is to get to voting on it; a hundred votes for a good cause will make more converts than a hundred speeches. Such organizations as Single Tax clubs were good enough in their day, but it was clear that the land value tax cause was dying under their care. The hopes of a quarter century ago were turning to despair; the longed-for fruits of devotion and sacrifice for humanity were turning to ashes on the lips.

In 1909 the people of England got to voting on the subject. That started a conflagration. The cause which was dying under club nursing in this country began to interest the people again. About that time some earnest Single Taxers of New York and vicinity were holding conferences and discussing means of attracting attention to the cause at the polls. I attended several of the meetings and was invited to preside at the convention called to organize the party. Being compelled to leave after the first session, I was sorry to learn afterwards that I had been chosen chairman of the executive committee. However, people who refuse to do the work assigned to them are as a rule not helpful to any good movement, and I agreed to stay until a suitable successor could be found.

The new party has done some good by attracting attention to the cause. It has probably distributed more literature and done more active propaganda work for the cause than any other agency during the past three years, at least in the East. It suffered many losses during the first year, from members quitting who were not sincere in joining or else did not understand the sacrifice necessary to carry on the work. But the party now has constant accessions of new members, and gives promise of more usefulness than ever. In my opinion it has also stirred up the old Single Tax Club of New York to unwonted activity. All of this is gratifying.

In my own district I tested the voting idea by running for the Legislature in 1911, and polling 700 votes, a result that surprised everybody, as the campaign was made solely on a Single Tax platform. I found the idea was unexpectedly popular, and there is no doubt in my mind that if

Single Taxers would unite at the polls the cause would soon win its way into the hearts of the people, and land value taxation would be adopted in the laws of the land.

A party hastily formed may not be perfect in its organization. It will necessarily do some crude things and make some efforts which do not succeed. But the Land Value Tax Party is facing in the right direction; it is enlisted in the cause of humanity. It has pleased me by its staying powers under adverse conditions, and by the interest it has stirred up in the cause, which is now under discussion more than at any time during the past twenty years. It is clear that such an organization was necessary; that it has done good work and still has a great work to do. There may be modifications in its methods of work, but it must continue to teach Single Taxers the lesson that votes have more influence than speeches; that they will have much more good effect than any other work that can be done for the cause.

GEORGE WALLACE.

NECESSITY FOR PARTY ORGANIZATION.

BY W. J. WALLACE.

On May 21, 1910, the Land Value Tax Party was organized at 43 E. 22nd St., New York, and it has abundantly justified its formation in its history from that date to the present time. Those who belong to it have the feeling of solidarity, of absolute trust and confidence in each other and in their devotion to the common aim, that so far as I know exceeds the mutual relations created by any similar organization.

The reason for this is not difficult to discover. The nature of the organization prevents any from becoming attached to it but those who are thoroughly convinced that the community should take all ground rents, and who publicly advocate this doctrine. This eliminates those who see in this idea only a fiscal reform, an improved method of taxation. It eliminates those who, while they are personally convinced that the community is entitled to all the ground rent, do not wish to take this stand before their acquaintances or the public for vari-

ous reasons which it is not necessary to state.

It eliminates all those who believe that the children of light are more subtle than the children of darkness and that it is possible for the first to "put one over" on the second while they are not looking.

It eliminates those who become attached to notoriously corrupt political bosses in order to feed upon the crumbs which fall from their table.

It eliminates those who do not see or do not wish to see the common ownership of ground rent as a living issue in the present and not as an issue whose consideration is to be postponed to some indefinite date in the future.

It eliminates those who have attained a vision of the truth, but are satisfied to fritter away their time on all other makeshift devices, which are usually restrictive of liberty, rather than to educate the people to know and to demand their rights.

The elimination of these undesirable elements results in mutual confidence among the members of the party and united and harmonious support of its principles and candidates.

We decline to throw away our vote and such personal influence as we may have in the support of parties which repudiate the truth and deliberately sell their influence and power to special privilege and monopoly.

An illuminating illustration of this is contained in a news item appearing in the *New York World* of August 25 of this year consisting of an extract from a letter by Benj. C. Marsh addressed to the New York County Committee of the National Progressive Party, reading as follows:

"The Progressive Party in this State (New York) is occupied in sucking the teats of privilege and just damning monopoly out of the corner of its mouth. The action of the City Convention in refusing to let the delegates to the convention decide whether or not to have a municipal plank submitting to a referendum vote the proposal to secure more of the ground rent for the expenses of the city showed that the party is controlled by land speculators. I am aware that many of Mr. Roosevelt's relatives are making money by land specula-