

us the immortal Rights of Man—introduced a measure in the French Chamber of Deputies, of which body he was then a member, which proposed the very thing upon which the Clemenceau government has staked its existence today, along the lines of co-operative distribution by or through the government. Paine proposed an old-age pension and told his colleagues how it could be provided for with ease and certainty.

It was proposed to tax incomes on a sliding scale that would make the man who owns a great deal pay as much proportionately for the privilege of citizenship as the poor man who owns but little.

When Paine introduced his measure before the Legislature he said: "Every proprietor, therefore, of land owes to the community a ground rent, this ground rent to build up a fund for this pension."

Verily the world is moving, and although progress is slow, it is as certain as death itself. Paine discovered, along with Patrick Dove, Henry George and Clemenceau that the land is the treasure-house of the nation, reliable and inexhaustible.

France will lead in this old-age pension reform along the lines of co-operative distribution through the government.

As the world grows older and men learn to think more clearly and intelligently, the conviction becomes more marked that we are each our brother's keeper. This thought is the main spring, the fundamental principle behind the pensioning of aged people.

Premier M. Clemenceu is again elected for nine years. Certain pledges have been made. The holders of swollen fortunes gained through monopoly and privilege are at their wits end to prevent the French people from regaining what belongs to them. Not only are they alarmed at M. Clemenceu's intention to tax incomes, but they fear he will lay violent hands upon the unearned increment that has come to them so generously through the non-taxation of land values. Slow are the processes of evolution, yet how certain are they in development.

France is at the present time making a gradual absorption of all means of transportation and distribution by the people.

The Government has taken over the Western France Railroad. In doing this the people of France now own co-operatively, among themselves, a road that will now be used for their entire benefit. The French people are demanding co-operation, income tax, old-age pension, public ownership, land value tax and economic freedom.

LOUIS L. LEYH.

GERMANY.

THE SINGLE TAXERS OF THE EMPIRE IN CONFERENCE—DELEGATES FROM MANY CITIES BRING INSPIRING NEWS—W. R. LESTER, OF THE ENGLISH LEAGUE, IN ATTENDANCE.

The German Single Taxers held their 19th annual reunion on the 12th to 14th of April in Nurnberg, Bavaria, at the elegant hall of the Society of Culture and Industry on the evening of the 12th, Dr. Quidde presiding.

The presiding officer in his address of welcome emphasized the fact that he was the first Single Tax member in Bavaria and that he stood many years alone excepting for a few friends, without leaving his post, before new recruits were added.

Teacher Weiskopf greeted the delegates in behalf of the local Single Taxers of Nurnberg.

Prof. Feucht, of Wurtemberg, brought the greetings of the Single Taxers of his State.

Prof. Dr. Erman-Munster expressed the hope that in 50 years hence the truth we are now proclaiming will be universally recognized.

Exelence Oldekop said that in his home city Hanover (which is also my home town), Single Tax is steadily progressing.

Director Lambke brought greeting from Holstein.

Miss Katharina Zietelmann spoke in the name of Single Tax women and said that no great truth could be attained without the effort of women.

Damaschke spoke in the name of the officers of the Berlin Single Tax Society and reminded the meeting that only by persistence can we attain our end.

Weiler, of Cologne, offered greetings from the Wacht-am-Rhein to the Bavarians.

Epstein, of Frankfort-am-Main, reminded the meeting that his city had been a sort of pioneer in Single Tax, but that there yet remained a good deal to do.

Dr. Kuhn spoke in the name of the Saxons, and said that the strength of our movement was with the students.

Mr. Lester, Representative of the English League for the Taxation of Land Values, related the progress of Single Tax in England, which was translated into German by Mr. A. Pohlman.

F. BURGDORFF.

VICTORIA.

AUSTRALIAN SINGLE TAXERS SHOCKED BY THE DEATH OF MAX HIRSCH—SIR THOMAS BENT RECREANT TO HIS POLICY—THE DEFEAT OF THE MINISTRY.

Gloom has been cast upon the Single Taxers of Australia by news of the death of Mr. Max Hirsch. He died on Thursday morning the 4th of March, and by his death the cause of humanity and freedom has lost one of its foremost champions. We all have the sense of a personal as well as of a national loss. He died at the age of fifty-six, and there can be no doubt that, like Henry George, his unparalleled exertions in the Single Tax cause hastened his end. He died for the people that they might live fuller, better, happier lives, and his name should be enshrined in the hearts of all Single Taxers. His body is to be brought to Melbourne to lie in the country where he has won so many friends, and for which he has striven so hard.

Since Mr. Hirsch left Victoria some months ago the prospects of land values taxation have brightened. The *Age* newspaper, which has always been opposed to Mr. Hirsch's policy of freedom of trade, has nevertheless come out more strongly than ever in support of the taxation of land values.

The Government of Sir Thomas Bent has gone. He brought in a land valuation bill to make a valuation of the lands of the State, and to give municipalities the option of rating land values and exempting im-

provements. He then ran away from this policy, and some of his ministers left the cabinet. A reconstruction was followed by a hostile vote in the House, and the ministry obtained a dissolution, but were defeated at the polls, and a new ministry has been formed with Mr. Murray as Premier and Mr. Watt as Treasurer. The latter is a supporter of the taxation of land values, but the support of the *Age* newspaper is a factor of far greater importance than the personnel of any ministry.

VICTORIA, Australia.

A. C. NICHOLS

WOMEN'S NATIONAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT ARDEN.

The Annual Conference of the Women's National Single Tax League will be held at Arden, Delaware, on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, July 3rd, 4th and 5th.

Arden is a beautiful spot, thickly wooded, with a stream of water running through it, and situated near the town of Harvey on the B. & O. Railroad, between Philadelphia and Wilmington.

Single Taxers and radicals of all beliefs have their summer homes there, many living in tents, and a primitive "inn" accommodates the transients.

Arden affords an opportunity for outdoor living that is seldom found.

Interesting meetings are held here during the summer, and in view of the new impetus given the Single Tax movement by the generous offer of Mr. Fels, the Executive Board of the Women's National Single Tax League hopes that all who can, men as well as women, will arrange to spend the 4th of July holidays at Arden, where plans for work will be discussed, and where tired city dwellers can have a few days rest and renew their acquaintance with mother earth.

Further information will be gladly furnished by addressing Mrs. Minnie Ryan, 485 Hancock St., Brooklyn N. Y.

J. L. CALDWELL writes that "We must push the Fels movement—it is beginning to look as if we are going to do something. But, whatever else is done, we must keep up the REVIEW."