

Pennsylvania

PHILADELPHIA SINGLE TAXERS TENDER DINNER TO ROBERT C. MACAULEY

ONE hundred Single Taxers and their friends testified by their presence and enthusiasm their appreciation of Robert C. Macauley's splendid work in behalf of Single Tax during the recent Great Adventure campaign in California.

This reception which, by the way, was one of the most brilliant social events in the history of the Single Tax Party of Pennsylvania, was given under the auspices of the State Committee at the headquarters, 842 N. Broad St., Saturday evening, June 12, 1923.

Mr. John Dix, of Ardmore Park, chairman of the reception committee, delivered the address of welcome.

He said that he considered it a great honor to be selected to welcome Mr. Macauley home after his long absence in California and to voice the appreciation of those present for the work that he had accomplished in the Golden State. The chairman then briefly, but eloquently, gave an account of Mr. Macauley's work and, amidst a burst of enthusiasm, introduced the distinguished guest of the evening.

In reply Mr. Macauley said that while he deeply appreciated the kindly sentiments expressed by the distinguished chairman, yet that he personally would not be satisfied until California was won for Single Tax. He pointed to the large number of voters who, while not voting for Single Tax, showed by their not voting against it that they were

not opposed to it. He also pointed to the still larger number who had not voted at all. He declared that these voters must be reached to win the State, and to do this needed the co-operation of Single Taxers everywhere.

He then directed attention to the tremendous importance of the International Single Tax Conference to be held at Oxford, England, August 13th to 20th, 1923, and said that regardless of all obstacles, it was the sacred duty of everyone present to attend the conference.

At the conclusion of Mr. Macauley's speech one young man, James Black, said "he seemed to speak directly to me." Very likely everyone else thought the same thing.

The chairman then announced Mr. James A. Robinson, whose popularity was shown by the splendid ovation that he received. As there were present many who had but a slight knowledge of the basic principles of Single Tax, Mr. Robinson devoted a large part of his address to an exposition of its philosophy. He pointed to the injustice of the present system, and to the inevitable poverty and suffering that follow. He explained the beauty and justice of Single Tax, and the happiness that it would bring to mankind.

The effect of Mr. Robinson's speech may be judged by the remark of one young lady, Mrs. James Black, who declared that in future she would vote for Single Tax and get all her friends to do the same. This young lady is very popular among a large circle of friends. No doubt many more went out from this reception with the same missionary impulse.

Mr. J. B. Chamberlain, who is one of our most effective campaign speakers, revealed himself in a new light. His anecdotes and humorous stories were one of the big hits of the evening, and added greatly to the success of the reception.

Mr. Oliver McKnight showed his devotion to the cause and his high regard for Mr. Macauley by sending an original poem of welcome.

When the addresses were finished, the chairman told everyone present to make themselves at home, and invited everybody to the commodious ballroom of the Party.

The Entertainment Committee, Mr. George Haug, Rodney Emsley and Raymond James, had provided a splendid orchestra which furnished music for the dancing.

This feature of the programme was greatly enjoyed and Mr. Sobel received requests from twelve young men to be admitted to the Party. At a previous celebration, held in December to celebrate our great gain in the recent election we received a number of new members.

The great value of these social gatherings is that they bring us in contact with a large number of young men and young women whom we could meet in no other way. This is simply working in harmony with the social instincts of the young.

The result may be seen from the following extracts from *The Philadelphia Record*, May 18, 1923:

"A social club as an auxiliary to the Single Tax Party was formed yesterday. The object of the association is to furnish a meeting place for young persons. The officers elected

were: President, Raymond James; Vice-Presidents, John Koch and Harry Weisher; Executive Secretary, Peter Sobel; Recording Secretary, Rodney Emsley, and Treasurer, D. Oscar Sobel."

This plan, if adopted in other communities, would, in my opinion, be rewarded by a rapid growth of Single Tax sentiment among the young.

CHARLES J. SCHOAL