

# The Coming International Single Tax Conference at Oxford, England

THE United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values, with headquarters in London, England, have issued an invitation to the International Single Tax Conference to take place in Oxford, in August. In it the committee say:

"Prepared typewritten statements, to be included in the proceedings of the Conference, are invited from groups and societies like yours setting forth a report of the activities of the movement in your town, district or State. Such a report should inform the Conference what progress has been made, what lessons are to be derived from work done, what aims and prospects you have in practical legislation—and generally what organization and propaganda you employ in advancing the cause.

The sessions of the Conference will be held in the Hall of the College, which seats 250 persons. Members of the Conference will be in residence in Oxford during the whole week, many at the College itself, others in an adjoining College and others again in apartments and hotels in the immediate neighborhood.

There will be a dozen meetings or more and instructive addresses will be delivered on the position of the movement in many countries, on the legislation adopted or required in each, on what can be done to promote our aims through international co-operation, on the problems of valuation, on lessons learned from practical experience, on the moral law and property, on the land question in history, on Single Tax communities, etc., etc.

The Conference will naturally not be all work and no play. An Entertainments Committee will see to that. The City of Oxford, its historic colleges, boating and pleasure sailings on the river Thames, motor drives and excursions into the beautiful surrounding country are among the many delights that will contribute to a memorable and enjoyable holiday.

Mention of the Conference has been made from month to month in *Land and Liberty* since October last. The announcement has been received with great enthusiasm by hosts of friends in this and other countries. Added to the many promises of attendance we have received, already 70 members have definitely enrolled.

We know that you will greet the Oxford Conference as an inspiring occasion to add new strength and dignity to our world movement, and we ask you to do what is in your power to make the event a triumphant and enduring success.

The Conference membership fee is 10s. (ten shillings) per member, which may be paid at the date we assemble or may be remitted to us beforehand.

With fraternal greetings,

Yours faithfully,

JOHN PAUL."

The committee announce the following provisional list of delegates as of March 23, which has been added to since that date:

DENMARK: Mr. Abel Brink, Mrs. Brink, Mr. P. Larsen, Mr. K. J. Moller, Mr. S. Berthelsen, Mr. J. L. Bjorner, Mrs. Signe Bjorner, Mr. A. Ravnholt.

SWEDEN: Mr. Johan Hansson, Mrs. Hansson.

SPAIN: Mr. A. Albendin, Mrs. Albendin, Mr. E. Garcia, Miss Carmen Garcia.

GERMANY: Mr. Otto Karuk, Mr. Paletta.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Mr. Fiske Warren, Mr. J. A. Hamm, Mr. A. Tozer, Mr. W. N. McNair; A group from Pittsburgh; A group from Cleveland.

LONDON: Mr. A. MacLaren, M.P., Mr. C. H. Smithson, Mr. J. D. White, Mr. W. R. Lester, Mr. John Paul, Mrs. John Paul, Mr. C. Morley, Mr. F. Verinder, Mr. H. Morrill, Mr. C. Bevan, Mrs. Bevan, Mr. A. W. Madsen, Mrs. Madsen, Mr. Geo. Stone, Mr. G. Crosoer, Mr. H. W. Houlden, Miss Barnes Miss Calder, Miss Waugh.

YORKSHIRE: Mr. R. W. Jenkins, Mr. J. E. Dugdale, Mr. F. Skirrow, Mrs. Skirrow.

WALES: Mr. E. Davies, Mrs. Davies.

In addition to these there are many other names from different parts of England. From America the names of persons indicated in last issue of the REVIEW as prospective members of the conference are Bolton Hall and William J. Blech, of New York, Henry George Heigold, of St. Louis, Mo., and S. Y. Gillan and son, of Milwaukee, Wis.

The National Committee of the Single Tax Party has issued the following stirring call, which has been mailed to all Single Taxers in the United States.:

DEAR SINGLE TAXER:

Now is the fortuitious moment for freeing mankind, long cherished by the heart of every Single Taxer by a world-wide dramatization of the philosophy of Henry George.

Seizing this great opportunity afforded by the collapse of the taxation systems of virtually every nation in Europe, the United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values of Great Britain has issued a call for an International Single Tax Conference to be held in Oxford, England, August 13th to 20th, 1923.

Already more than a dozen European countries have joined this movement to emphasize the urgent necessity of immediate world-wide adoption of the Single Tax, if civilization is to be saved.

The eyes of the entire world are focussed on America. From her alone, it is believed, must come solution for the problem.

To have peace and prosperity the world must adopt a sound economic system. An international conference of Single Taxers cannot fail to challenge the attention of the governing bodies of the world to the epitome of our philosophy, namely: That the Rent of the land belongs to the people, and its collection, is the first duty of every government.

The Single Tax Party fully indorses the action of the British group and is co-operating to make the delegation from the United States as large as possible. It urges every Single Taxer, whether a member of the party or not, to exert himself, or herself to the utmost, to be present at the Oxford Conference. A big delegation from America, the

English Committee in charge believes, would augur success for the Conference.

The American Liner, "Manchuria" has been selected to carry the big delegation from the United States. This well equipped 14,000 ton "one cabin" steamer sails from New York, August 2nd, landing its passengers in England in ample time for the Conference. The fare on the "Manchuria" is one hundred and twenty dollars, and five dollars revenue tax, each way, (the minimum rate) but by going in a group all are assured better accommodations. To be binding, applications for reservations must be accompanied with thirty-five dollars, the balance, ninety-five dollars, to be paid not later than July 12th. Those desiring to return earlier than September 15th should make reservations for the westward trip, prior to sailing from the United States.

Make checks payable to the "International Mercantile Marine" and forward same at once to the Single Tax Party Committee, 842 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Again reminding you that the present opportunity to do big things for the Single Tax cannot possibly come again in the lifetime of Single Taxers,

We are your obedient servants,  
 Committee { WILLIAM J. WALLACE, *Nat. Chairman*,  
 E. YANCEY COHEN, *Nat. Treasurer*,  
 R. C. MACAULEY, *Nat. Secretary*,  
 JAMES A. ROBINSON, *Nat. Organizer*,  
 842 North Broad Street,  
 Philadelphia, Pa."

Later advices as to attendance given by Mr. A. W. Madsen, of the English Committee, show the membership of the conference as follows:

England and Wales, 40; Scotland, 15; Norway and Sweden, 3; Denmark, 11; Spain, 4; Germany, 2; Hungary, 1; U. S. A., 42. A total of 118.

We ask all those contemplating attendance to get in touch with both the English Committee at 11 Tothill Street, London, S.W. 1, and the Conference Committee of the Single Tax Party here.

Among those who are going to the conference is Mrs. Elizabeth Towne, of Holyoke, Mass., editor of the *Nautilus*. She commends the project and encloses a generous cheque to defray the committee's expenses.

John Joseph Lenney, of Washington, D. C., also makes a contribution, and will attend.

William Lloyd Garrison, Jr., of Boston, writes: "Am greatly pleased with the style and substance of your inspiring letter; Mrs. Garrison and myself wish fuller details. We expect to be with your group."

Mark M. Dintenfass, the well-known moving picture producer, sends the following: "It is needless for me to express to you my approval of the contemplated conference and my desire to make it a notable success. Will advise you within a few days what reservations to make for my party."

Miller A. Smith, of New York and Havana, Cuba, testifies his deep interest and appreciation of work incident to organizing the transatlantic trip by sending a substantial check to the committee.

The indefatigable Chairman of the New York Committee, Mr. Morris VanVeen, writes glowingly of the prospects of

a large delegation from New York City and vicinity, and contributes liberally.

The following letter to the committee from Oliver McKnight, who is always found at his post ready to go when the call comes and duty urges, will be of interest to our readers, who are asked to bear in mind what Mr. McKnight says regarding the importance of numbers to the significance of this event:

"Enclosed find cheque for \$5.00 for contribution to expenses and another to I. M. M. as deposit on passage money to Oxford, \$35.00. Someone has remarked that the bravest men he ever knew was a soldier, who, when the battle started, would immediately run away, but that his sense of duty would so operate before he got very far and would check his footsteps, and, he would return to the duties awaiting him.

If this man was entitled to any medals for bravery, then I too may lay claim to the D. S. C. of our Single Tax service.

Of course, in spirit I want to be in Oxford and will likely enjoy every minute of the time spent there especially if the conference is a success in point of numbers and gives us the advertising so much needed, but to my home loving habits and almost infantile knowledge of travelling and last, but not least, the big hole that will be made in my little old-age fund, my natural tendencies are to run away; only a sense of duty brings me back to service in a holy cause.

I am glad you have "got going." The conference *can* be made the biggest thing in economic salvation that ever happened and every Single Taxer should hold himself or herself personally responsible for its success.

Can you give me any further information regarding the numbers of delegates that will attend. With a small conference, our money will be practically wasted in so far as attracting the world's attention, but a big one will return a rate of interest unprecedented."

## Untaxed Privilege

WE are told of a piece of land at Miramar, which has just changed hands "at a price well over £2,000 per acre," the seller of which has bought a forty-six acre farm with house thereon at Otaki for less than he realized by the sale of his suburban land. Of course, such illustrations of the people-value of land are by no means rare. Not long since, a section in Willis street changed hands at £500 per foot, and last year £1,200 was the purchase price of a section in Queen street, Auckland. A curious commentary on these facts is that supplied by the Taxation Commission, who tell us that they are unable to discriminate between earned and unearned income! So much for experts. In the end the people, not the experts, will determine whether their birthright is to be forever blockaded by the few who are permitted to appropriate what belongs to all—to the man who cleans the streets, to the woman at the washtub, as well as to the speculator and the wool king.

P. J. O'REGAN, in *Evening Post*, of Wellington, New Zealand.