

known. Having secured the Single Tax in one state the Commission believes that the result of its operation will be worth all the time and money that might be spent in the work of paid speakers, writers and tract distributors, for which some of the friends of the movement believe the whole fund should be spent.

At the recent meeting held in New York it was suggested by Mr. Steffens that the advisory committee of the Fels Commission meet together when convenient, and this will be done, preferably when some member of the Commission itself is in town. At this meeting, it was resolved also that Mr. Hall be appointed a committee of one to select some suitable person as a collector for the Fels Fund, so that the real effectiveness of personal solicitation may be given a trial.

A RECENT number of *Puck* contained two pictures—one of land about our big cities that is shown under cultivation, another of the same land dotted with real estate signs and unoccupied save for these. The caption is "One Reason Why We Pay More for Food," and under it the following:

"Formerly the land about our big cities produced vegetables, eggs, and dairy products daily. Now the same land is held by real estate speculators, and it doesn't produce anything."

IN a review of "Social Service" which is entirely non-committal in the *N. Y. Times Saturday Review of Books*, it says: His book is supplementary to Progress and Poverty. It is frequently lucid and often interesting."

THE San Diego (Cal.) *Sun* reprints from the Single Tax REVIEW the speech of Hon. George Wallace of Jamaica, L. I. which was delivered at North Hackney, under the caption "Americans Aid in British Budget Contest."

IN a recent issue of the *Sunday American* the editor remarks "No man who is good for anything need cringe to any other man." The writer knows better, of course. Every man who wants a job must cringe to those who have a job to give.

FOR POLITICAL ACTION

Dissatisfied with the present lack of activity in this city among Single Tax circles of agitation, a number of our comrades have banded together for the purpose of bringing the Single Tax into politics. The conviction seems to be strongly entertained that the present social unrest gives the needed opportunity for the formation of a Single Tax political party, which even if it does not place candidates in the field, may act as a balance-of-power party to secure the nomination and election of candidates favorable to the cause, or the passage of measures looking in our direction.

There have been several small committee meetings, and following these, three dinners, each of which has been attended by between fifty and sixty well known and active workers in the cause. Invitations to these dinners were sent to Single Taxers in this city whose names and addresses are on various lists, and announcements made at the Sunday night meetings of the Manhattan Single Tax Club. At the first of these dinners the suggestion of separate political action was discussed, and developed an astonishing unanimity of sentiment as to the advisability of entering the political field with all banners flying. At the succeeding dinners only those were invited who were known to be in sympathy with this object and they numbered all but three or four of those present at the first dinner and who still doubt the wisdom of this course.

A significant feature of these gatherings was the presence of some of the veterans of 1886 who have not been seen at any of our meetings for many a long year.

We express no opinion now as what may come out of this movement. Nor shall we comment at this time on the reasons given for opposing it.

We will say, however, that Single Taxers should be allowed to work for the Single Tax in their own way, without obstacle or hindrance. Numerically the number of those in this city in favor of independent political action of some sort is overwhelming. We confess ourselves utterly astounded at the response that this movement has met with. We had some reason to know

the intensity of this demand for political action. But we were not aware of the universality of the conviction that the time has come when, defying precedent, suggestions of inexpediency, or counsels of caution, this city should now witness the birth of an American Single Tax Party. And though by no means sanguine of immediate results, we confess that there is much in this that appeals to us. As a means of propaganda its value seems to us inestimable. The open air meetings in this city which have been carried on during the summers make a rather futile appeal to those accustomed to give their convictions a party label. We are not in a position to advise the new convert how to use his vote to get the Single Tax, or if we think we are, the result is likely to disappoint both him and us, as experience has proven.

Before the next issue of the *REVIEW* appears the convention will have been held and a plan of political campaign mapped out. The snares and pitfalls in the way are many, and the obstacles may well daunt the bravest. But on the other hand some conditions are strikingly propitious. It may be that these will more than outweigh the obstacles.

We invite correspondence on this subject from our readers, and as many letters as we conveniently can will be printed in the forthcoming issue.

Following is the text of the convention call:

TO ALL SINGLE TAXERS OF NEW YORK AND VICINITY:

The undersigned Single Taxers believe that a number of reasons now exist for the formation of a Single Tax Political Party, as follows:

1. The increased knowledge of our principles in this country, due to the recent political campaign in England.
2. The Movement for the Conservation of Natural Resources.
3. The Cost of Living agitation, which involves the basic economic question, "What is the labor of the producer worth, in exchange for the labor of others?"
4. The concentration of privilege and the ever clearer confrontation of the exploiters and the exploited, now gradually

marshalling themselves in the consciousness of the people, into two sharply defined and hostile camps.

5. The great social unrest.

6. The increasing demand for Woman Suffrage, cannot be disassociated from any movement in behalf of economic progress.

7. The complete discrediting of the Democratic and Republican Machines, not only because of their corruption and their failure to frame vital party issues, but also especially because, being notoriously controlled by privilege, their platforms do not respond to the demand of an aroused people for adequate social solutions.

8. The failure of all existing parties to present to the people the first true step of an economic revolution, the land for the people.

9. The loss of confidence by the people in proprietary third parties.

10. The incompleteness of purely propaganda methods and of diluted and inexplicit political efforts for the dissemination and effectuation of our principles.

Convinced therefore that the "psychological moment" has now arrived for an American Single Tax Party, both for propaganda and for practical purposes, we beg to notify you that if you are among those who agree with this opinion, you are invited to join with us in participating in the first convention of such a party, to be held at -----, on Saturday May 21st, 1910, at 11 A. M., for the purpose of organizing the same, of choosing its name, of deciding upon its tactics and propaganda methods, and of framing a call to all opponents of special privilege to unite with us in restoring the opportunities that belong to the people.

THE *Times-Star* of Cincinnati prints a portrait of David Lloyd-George reproduced from a photograph presented to Mr. Daniel Kiefer. The *Times-Star* says "Mr. George has autographed the photo in his peculiar chirography which resembles Syrian more than it does English script. Mr. Kiefer is a great admirer of the powerful little Welshman."