

## EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

In my opinion Single Tax will never have a fair trial until it becomes a national measure. It would take a long while to get it passed and in force in the United States, with so many States to adopt it.

I believe Western Canada is the best place to try it out. We have a large domain sparsely settled. There is some friction between the East and West and some talk of seceding, though I think nothing will come of it. The West will have an increased membership in the federal house at Ottawa next election.

The farmers are in control in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta in the provincial legislatures. They are out for taxation of land values and almost to a man the leaders are strong for it. Their official organ, *The Grain Growers Guide*, advocates it. The trouble is the rank and file are passive and will not let their leaders put it into effect.

The Premier of Ontario is a Single Taxer, also the head men of the United Grain Growers, the largest grain company in the world, are mostly strong for Single Tax. Here we have the head men who direct affairs strong for it but cannot do much, as the ordinary people do not understand it.

Here seems to me a great chance to work. The heads of the farmers organizations in the Eastern Provinces are also in favor and with some encouragement would fall in line.

If some generous great soul would put up enough to finance a vigorous campaign for five years (advertising) by that time others would fall in line and help out. This advertising campaign to advocate 100% Single Tax with no compromise at all. In rural Manitoba on farms, there is no tax on improvements. No doubt you are familiar with what has been done in the other provinces along these lines. Vancouver particularly has led in exempting improvements, as well as Victoria, Edmonton, Calgary and other cities, but with the after effects of the war things have not gone as some predicted. Single Tax in a federal way would have solved the question.

Here in the West we could advertise it with least expense of any place and reach most of the people. The *Manitoba Free Press*, of Winnipeg, has a large circulation in the three provinces, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The *Grain Grower* also has a large circulation among the farmers in the four Western Provinces. These two papers with one in Vancouver would reach most of the people in the West. We call Port Arthur the dividing line between the East and the West. The farmers are just now in straitened circumstances and would welcome some kind of a change, are mildly in favor of Single Tax now but in mass have not studied it much.

Single Tax is my religion and like most Single Taxers count myself a citizen of the world. Am not advocating a trial here because I am a Canadian but because it seems to me the best place to try it out.

S. J. Farmer, Mayor of Winnipeg, is an ardent Single Taxer. F. J. Dixon, member for centre Winnipeg, and leader of the Labor Party, has been for years preaching the cause for us. Under proportional representation he received in 1st to 10th choice about 80% of the votes polled.

What I wish to show is that our leaders are in line but the rank and file are holding them back.

Toronto, Canada.

T. R. WILLIAMS.