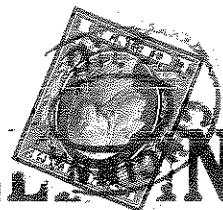


Gertrude Colles,
929-8th Ave.,
New York City.



JOSEPH FELS FUND BULLETIN

BLYMYER BUILDING

Monthly Information for Contributors to THE FELS FUND and Single Taxers Generally

PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH FELS FUND COMMISSION

LINCOLN STEFFENS
GEORGE A. BRIGGS

DANIEL KIEFER, CHAIRMAN
JACKSON H. RALSTON
CHARLES H. INGERSOLL

A. B. DUPONT, TREASURER
FREDERIC C. HOWE
CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT

S. DANZIGER, EDITOR

[PRICE 10C PER YEAR]

Entered as second class matter March 14, 1913, at the Post Office at Cincinnati, Ohio, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Volume 2

Cincinnati, Ohio, October, 1914

Number 10

CONCERNING THE NEXT CONFERENCE.

The time and place of the next conference being still in abeyance, it is not too late to correct a wrong impression unintentionally given by the wording of Mr. Barr's letter in the August issue of the Bulletin, concerning rates to California. This letter said:

For a continuous trip from New York to San Francisco \$18.00 for a single trip or \$36 for a round trip with a lower berth and a Pullman car and \$14.00 for each way or \$28.00 for a round trip will engage an upper berth on a Pullman sleeper. It is presumed that these rates will be amended somewhat when full rates are fixed for the Exposition.

These rates are Pullman rates only and do not include transportation, as might be supposed from a careless reading. In a later letter Mr. Barr gives the following rates for transportation to San Francisco independent of Pullman rates.

Colorado and Return.....	\$45.00
Cincinnati and Return.....	71.10
New York and Return.....	94.30
Washington and Return.....	92.30
Philadelphia and Return.....	92.95
Buffalo and Return.....	83.50
Detroit and Return.....	73.50

California and other Western States Single Taxers are hoping the conference will be held at San Francisco next summer. Without asking that anyone say now with certainty they would attend if it were held there, it would be desirable if we might have a tentative expression of those who would be able to consider going. This would afford an indication of whether or not San Francisco might even be considered as the place for holding the conference. Communications on the subject should be addressed the chairman at the Cincinnati office.

SURGEON-GENERAL W. C. GORGAS, U. S. A.

Copy of a speech recently delivered by the man, whose work made the Panama Canal possible, at a banquet in Cincinnati—with a late picture—entitled "Economic Causes of Disease," may be had on writing this office.

Of the address the Cincinnati Post the next day said, editorially:

Dr. Gorgas is a Single Taxer. Incidentally, we venture the opinion that the number of men in Cincinnati seriously investigating Single Tax is vastly greater today than before it became known that the tremendously practical Gorgas had looked into the idea and found it good.

CARTOON.

The cartoon with this issue of the Bulletin is forceful in its silent eloquence. Subscribers should place it where it may be seen. More can be had by writing this office.

NOVEMBER ELECTIONS.

The elections of next month mean a great gain for our cause. One need not have the gift of second sight to see that the cause will gain regardless of how the majority of votes will be cast. Voters have been forced to discuss and consider our principles. That is the first thing necessary to ultimate success. To be sure many of the voters have been unfortunate enough to hear nothing about our measures except the misinformation which our opponents see fit to spread. Others have not, perhaps, had sufficient time to consider, to their own satisfaction, what we had to say. These may vote against us. The elections will show the places where our work has been thoroughly done and where more effort is needed. If it has been thoroughly done in enough places to carry the election, well and good. The cause will be at least two years nearer to its ultimate goal than would otherwise have been the case. If enough work has not been done to carry the election, we will still be closer to our ultimate goal than we would be had there been no campaign. We know we have made progress. An election gives us the opportunity to see just how far ahead we have gone—and to learn what we have left undone that should be done.

For Single Taxers an election is not a question of victory. It is only a question of whether there has been a gain sufficiently great to advance the cause as much as we can reasonably hope to see it advanced during the period required for a political campaign.

We are going to make a showing of great gains. But we must not be satisfied with that

TAKE NOTICE.

Post-office rules limit sample copies to 10% of paid circulation. If this copy comes to you under 1c postage, it means that you haven't yet subscribed. Send us at once 10 cents for a year's subscription.

alone. Every effort must be made between now and election day to make the showing not merely a good one, but the best possible.

When we take note of the results of the campaign, let us hope that none of our Single Taxers will have cause to feel that these might have been better had he not been one of those who neglected to do his share. There is still time for eleventh hour workers to come in.

MEMENTO MORI.

The work you are doing for the cause need not stop with your death. The converts you have directly or indirectly made will continue it. Their work will be yours. By active work while alive, you will thus continue a worker, even long after you have passed away.

If in addition to giving work you have been so situated as to give money, that need not stop with your death should you leave more than your family needs. The incorporation of the Single Tax Endowment Association gives you the opportunity to continue as contributor as well as worker, even when your physical presence will be no more.

Get full information on this matter before you make your will. You will have more satisfaction in your life work when you know you have arranged matters so that not even death can stop it.

SALMON'S PLATFORM.

The platform on which Ben Salmon, secretary of the Colorado State Single Tax League is running for the legislature is as follows:

"Colorado has natural resources to employ more than one hundred times her present population. Silly laws taxing the use of these available resources and surrounding them with artificial barriers prevent employment of labor and investment of capital. Tax population values only—employ more people—invest more capital. We need fewer laws and these made to conform to natural law."

AMENDMENT No. 7 ENDORSED.

Because the pending California Amendment for Home Rule in Taxation "makes home rule in taxation permissible but not compulsory" is one reason why the Political Study Club of Santa Barbara has endorsed it. The Amendment gives more power to counties, cities and towns than they now have, but does not take any power from them, and will not compel them to use their new power of Home Rule in Taxation.

If the present tax laws were satisfactory, there would not be so much complaint and so much tax dodging. The Amendment is based on home rule laws under which more than nine million English-speaking people are living, and some of those home rule tax laws have been in force more than thirty-five years. The laws are giving so much satisfaction that no attempt has ever been made to repeal them, either in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, or the Irrigation of California.

The Amendment has been endorsed by The

Farmers' Educational Co-operative Union, The Fruit Growers' Association, the State Federation of Labor, the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco and by the councils of more than forty cities and towns.

OUT OF THEIR OWN MOUTHS.

Senator Owen's able expose of the plot against the Initiative and Referendum, engineered by Missouri's monopolistic interests is making these interests squirm. They, through such journalistic tools, as the Citizen of Kansas City, are denying their enmity toward that reform, and in the face of all evidence Judge Wallace, owner of the Citizen, brazenly claims to be a friend of the Initiative and Referendum.

But Judge Wallace can not exculpate himself by any such methods. He was one of the workers in 1912 for the Land Owners' Protective Association, the name under which Missouri's plunderbund worked against the Single Tax Amendment. That organization published a pamphlet entitled "Single Tax Explained," the authorship of which was attributed to Judge Wallace's fellow worker, George Falloon. Just how friendly Falloon, Wallace and the interests back of them feel toward the Initiative and Referendum may be seen in the following on page 23 of that pamphlet:

"Initiative and Referendum was conceived in iniquity and born in sin. It first saw the light of day outside the State of Missouri, in swaddling clothes provided by a hobo tramp, it was fostered in Missouri by a scheming meddlesome set whose work has always been in the dark and whose actions are objects of suspicion. Initiative brings to the surface the scum of society, and, were it not for this constitutional law, land values in Missouri would not now be menaced by Single Tax. The Recall is a club whose only use will be, for the big daily newspaper to dictate to and control public officials. Initiative, Referendum and Recall are of no benefit to the poor or those in the ordinary walks of life, as they are expensive, unwieldy, and can only be made use of by those who have the means to pay the expense of agitation and operation."

Now the same people who only two years ago circulated such misleading matter deny that they harbor any grudge against the Initiative and Referendum. Does the plea seem credible?

But there is more evidence to show that the pending Anti-Single Tax Amendment was submitted in furtherance of a design against the Initiative and Referendum. Shortly before the election of 1912, George Falloon wrote a letter to Daniel Kiefer in which he boastfully predicted that the next legislature would fix the Initiative and Referendum. It did not seem possible, at that time, that even a monopoly-controlled legislature would dare to take action against the Initiative and Referendum. So, little attention was paid to Mr. Falloon's boast. But it is now evident that what was in view was underhanded action. Prejudice against the Single Tax having been created by misstatements of similar quality to the one quoted concerning the Initiative and Referendum, the design was clearly to make use of this prejudice to get the consent of Missouri

farmers to an assault on popular government. That is why the attack has been made under the pretense of blocking the Single Tax.

Wallace, Falloon and other members of that combine may swear now to their love for the Initiative and Referendum if they wish. But here is evidence against them, and there is more of the same kind that can be presented, but is not necessary. Out of their own mouths are they convicted.

WHAT HAPPENED AT DENVER.

At the National Tax Conference held at Denver on September 8 to 10 the principle talk against the Single Tax was made by Mr. R. E. Smith of Roseburg, Oregon, secretary of an organization called, for some mysterious reason, the Oregon Rational Tax Reform Association.

Mr. Smith's opposition to the Single Tax was based on a misunderstanding. This he made clear when, to bolster the usual erroneous notion about injury to the farmer, he said that farmers own all the land with the exception of "the one millionth part" which he declared to be in the cities. Mr. William Ryan of New York City asked Mr. Smith if he knew how the value of the so-called "millionth part" in the cities compared with that of the farm lands. Mr. Smith did not. That was not surprising. Every opponent who honestly uses the "injury to the farmer" argument is either unaware of the fact that farmers own the least amount of land values, or is unaware of the equally important fact that the Single Tax will fall on land values not on land area.

Perhaps the information Mr. Ryan gave him will better enable him to make his "Rational Tax Reform Association" live up to its name.

INVESTIGATING INDUSTRIAL UNREST.

The Rockefeller Foundation endowed by John D. Rockefeller to the extent of \$100,000,000, announces that it is going to investigate the cause of industrial unrest and learn the remedy. This in the face of the fact that the United States Commission on Industrial Relations has been conducting a thorough investigation for the past year with results yet to be announced. Then some years ago the Russel Sage Foundation, with many millions endowment started an investigation, looking for the cause of labor troubles in every possible place but one. The one place overlooked was land monopoly. Charity organizations in every city have been conducting investigations about the same way as the Sage Foundation.

Every time industrial conditions become acute, and it seems that something radical must be done to remedy matters, an investigation is started of the cause of the trouble. Pending the investigation the trouble is allowed to continue unchecked. The investigation is long-drawn-out and directed toward every place except where the cause is most likely to be located. Occasionally palliative remedies are suggested which neces-

sarily have little or no effect. Finally the investigation is forgotten. Then when some new trouble starts another investigation is started and the farce is repeated. Consequently this announcement of the Rockefeller Foundation can not be received with enthusiasm.

The investigation is not needed. A very thorough one was made about thirty-five years ago which definitely located the cause of industrial troubles and located the remedy as well. If the trustees of the Rockefeller Foundation wish to learn about it they need but read "Progress and Poverty," by Henry George. It is a connected argument which traces industrial evil to its source. It subjects the evil to the test of all proposed remedies of palliative or superficial nature and shows wherein these must fail. It shows plainly that nothing short of the Single Tax can remedy it. It takes up all the objections to this remedy—and no one has proposed since "Progress and Poverty" appeared, a single objection based on understanding of the proposition which is not met in that work—and completely disposes of them. No investigation, however thorough, can come to a more satisfactory conclusion than the one that Henry George has made.

But the trouble with George's investigation is that it leads to a definite result. It proposes a measure that will remove the cause of unrest. It would put a stop to appropriation by some, of the earnings of others.

Such a conclusion is not altogether popular with most of those who endow investigations. Therefore the need of more investigations.

MORE ACCURATE THAN USUAL AT THAT.

Single Tax Review.

Joseph Fels was one of the organizers of Fairhope Colony, which collapsed a few days ago. —New York Times.

There are only two items of misinformation in this paragraph of two items. Had there been more items there would have been more misinformation. Mr. Fels was not one of the organizers of Fairhope and it did not collapse a few days ago.

AN ARGUMENT FOR FARMERS.

Carlson's Rural Review, published at Norfolk, Nebraska, has an article in its September issue well worth reading. It is by the editor, G. L. Carlson and is entitled, "Single Tax as Applied to Farmers." The price of the magazine is five cents.

Mr. Carlson feels that the ordinary expounder of Single Tax fails to appreciate the particular phase of Single Tax which interests the average farmer and he supplies the deficiency. Any working farmer, whether owner or tenant, who reads it will be prepared to ask some embarrassing questions of the individual who starts to tell him that the Single Tax will hurt him.

A TRUE PEACE POLICY.

Had the Single Tax been in operation in any country in Europe there would have been no war. The people of that country would have been prosperous and as busy as they cared to be. No talk of new foreign markets would appeal to a people able to dispose of their products at home. No appeal to national hate or prejudice would have

had any effect on a people who could not be injured by any domestic policy of any foreign nation.

Without a single soldier in the field or a single battleship afloat such a nation would be safe from foreign attack. Freely trading with all the world, to attack it would mean serious financial loss to the commercial interests of the attacking country. But an even stronger defense would be the fact that it would be a haven of refuge to the poor and oppressed of all nations. Citizens of all other countries, knowing that this one nation offered them opportunities to locate within it and be free from want and the fear of want, would not tolerate a suggestion of war upon it. Their ruling classes would realize this fact, and be very careful to treat the lucky nation with respect.

Had there been but one such nation in Europe, it would not only have been safe from war itself, but it would have kept others from going to war. It would have done this without any offer of mediation or other form of intervention. **The people of the other countries would have reasoned:**

"Why go to war when we can get greater benefits than any bloody victory can give us, by adopting the Single Tax, even as this peaceful nation has done? We have natural opportunities withheld from use by our own countrymen. We have taxes levied by our own government, hampering our trade, fining us for being industrious, producing predatory monopolies which rob us of the fruits of our industry, depriving thousands of our people of opportunities for employment, and creating poverty, vice, crime, and misery, throughout our borders. Why go to war in the vain hope of getting some relief from these evils, when by peacefully following the example of this fortunate nation we too can adopt the Single Tax and abolish these wrongs?"

Reasoning of that kind would produce an awkward situation for the ruling classes, which they would prefer to avoid as long as possible. War would become obsolete.

But unfortunately Europe has no Single Tax country, and its people as yet have not acquired the knowledge to show them the way to avoid international troubles with safety and honor, and without the use or threats of physical violence.

FIGHT ON.

It's fun to fight when you know you are right and your heart is in it, too.
Though the fray be long and the foe be strong and the comrades you have are few.
Though the battle heat bring but defeat, and weariness makes you reel,
There's a joy in life that can know such strife and the glory and thrill you feel!

When the wise ones pant that you simply can't, it's fun for a fighting man
To laugh and try with a daring eye, and prove to the world that he can.
And if you stick till your heart is sick, and lose when the game is done,
It's fun to know that the weary foe paid dearly for what they won.

It's fun to dare in the face of despair when the last lone chance seems gone,
And to see hope rise in the angry skies like a promise of rosy dawn;

For victory's sweet when it crowns defeat, and you learn this much is true;
It's fun to fight when you know you're right, and your heart is in it, too!

—BEKTON BRALEY.

AN APPEAL TO THE UNCHARITABLE.

Somebody once likened "organized charity" to a person standing on the brink of hell, throwing snowballs into the furnace to reduce the temperature. The pastime is largely enabled to continue because the throwers operate from a pavement of the "good intentions," which is popularly supposed to constitute the flooring of hell itself.

Here, for instance, is that detestable organization which dubs itself the "New York Association for Improving the Conditions of the Poor." It has year in and year out issued its appeal for more snowball ammunition, for ostensible bombardment of the hell of poverty, yet every year, as it admits, "the condition of the poor" seemingly gets worse instead of better.

Its latest appeal calls for 10,000 charitable persons to contribute \$10 each to form "a pension fund" for the relief of 500 widows and orphans and other destitute persons and families. The winter, it suggests, is coming on, greater misery is expected, and, despite the fact that a large number of families in which it claims to be interested are at work, their health is impaired and deterioration is plainly observable among them.

One might suppose that this was a confession of impotence on the part of the N. Y. A. P. I. T. C. O. T. P., but they will never flinch from their noble object, while financial snowball ammunition can be procured by wheedling and cajolery. * * *

The N. Y. A. P. I. T. C. O. T. P. has asked us per circular to give some publicity to their activities. This is the best we can do, and we are sincerely sorry we cannot do more in the matter of influencing the public in regard to "organized charity." * * *

If you have \$10, or any other amount, put it into a movement which will teach the poor how to improve their own conditions, by uniting and destroying the economic system which produces their poverty. To throw it into the rathole of "organized charity," even when it comes hypocritically masked under the guise of a "pension fund," is the worst possible use you can make of it, as its real and only effect is to support and perpetuate the conditions that make poverty inevitable.—New York Call.

HOW TO ENCOURAGE GOOD HOUSING.

The owner of an unsanitary shack in Chicago was fined \$100 and costs for keeping it in that condition. He has appealed the case, but even if he loses in the upper courts, it will be cheaper to pay the fine and keep his building unsanitary, than to put up a decent sanitary building.

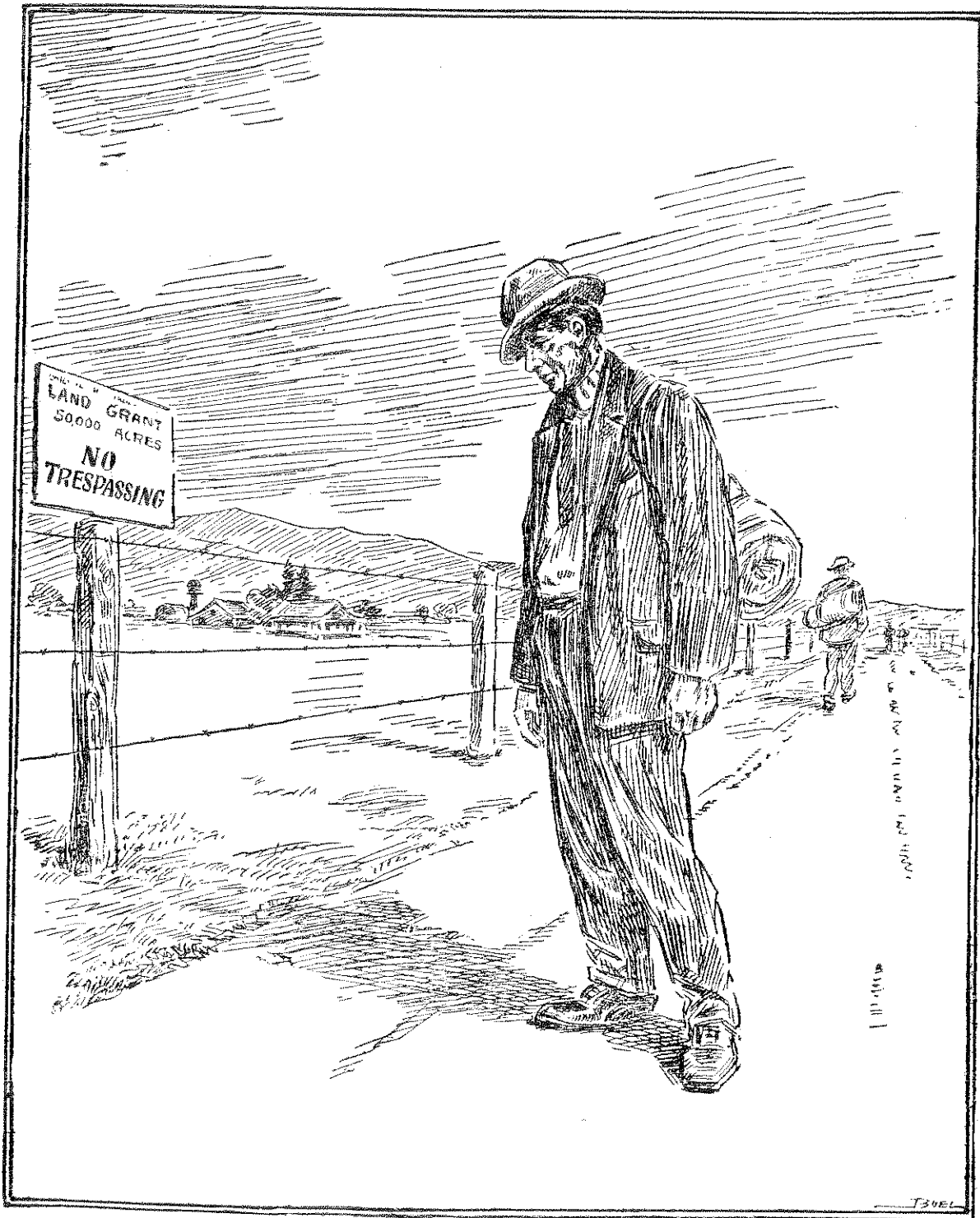
If he puts up the kind of building that the court thinks he should his taxes will be raised considerably more than \$100. So it is cheaper to pay the fine. Even if the fine should be increased, it will not stimulate improvement as long as improvements are taxed. A higher fine would probably induce him to tear the building down and leave his lot vacant, thus enabling him to escape both fine and taxes in the future.

After awhile the lot will increase in value sufficiently to enable him to get a profit without doing anything.

The untaxing of buildings and increased taxation of land values will do more to encourage erection of sanitary buildings than the tomfoolery of criminal prosecutions, dilly-dallying of courts and imposition of fines.

THE LANDLESS MAN AND MANLESS LAND

SACRAMENTO (CALIFORNIA) BEE



A California official tells in letter to the Stockton Record of the number of unemployed men seeking work he has observed on the public highways. These men, he says, are not hoboes, but earnest seekers for employment, who, in their search for work, must pass by thousands of acres of good land held out of use by speculators.

SUPPLEMENT TO JOSEPH FELS FUND BULLETIN

(October, 1914)

