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EDITOR:

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A BUSINESS PROPOSITION.

A plain business proposition is being put before Ohio's business men by the Ohio Site Value Taxation League. In a letter sent to every manufacturer, merchant and other business man, the League states:

Last year the State of Ohio levied upon and collected from the industries and business of the state over \$11,000,000 in excise, franchise, license and other forms of business taxes. This amount was paid direct to the state and is in addition to the simple taxes paid to the county. A conservative estimate of the latter would be \$45,000,000. Before a cent of profit could be counted the business of Ohio had to first produce this \$56,000,000. A staggering figure, but it's going to be more this year and more the next, and the next, unless it is stopped.

The Ohio Site Value Taxation League proposes to stop it. We have opened offices in Columbus and are quietly at work initiating a Home Rule In Taxation amendment to the constitution which, if adopted, will permit the taxing units of the state to relieve business from this burden and redistribute it in accordance with benefits conferred. To get this amendment before the people will require at least 140,000 signatures. To perfect an organization necessary to get these signatures and conduct the work will require funds. We can not solicit these by personal canvass; we must do it by mail. This letter is such a request to you. We are enclosing for your use, a subscription blank upon which an amount is indicated. If for any rea-

son you wish to change the amount do not hesitate to do so.

There is no legitimate reason why human industry should be penalized with the burden of taxation. With but a fraction of one per cent of one year's toll on business we may be able to stop it forever. Will you help? It will be an investment for you that will return more than any you ever made.

It may be said in addition that this toll of \$56,000,000 a year levied on industry through taxation is over and above the amount levied by the landlord for permission to do business. Even before a business man settles with the State he must make terms with his landlord.

Whatever benefits the State and local governments confer on business, increase land values. Consequently business men pay to private land owners in ground rent, whatever they ought to pay for governmental services. The government ought to require the landlords to turn this amount into the public treasury. But instead of doing so it compels the business men to pay a second time in taxes for what they have already paid in rent.

The Ohio Site Value Taxation League is working to abolish this injustice in Ohio, as Single Taxers in other States are trying to do. Those business men who know a business proposition when they see it, may be depended upon to help.

