

# PROVISIONAL NATIONAL SINGLETAX COMMITTEE

GEORGE A. BRIGGS  
OTTO CULLMAN  
BENJ. DOBLIN

A. B. DUPONT  
FRANCIS I. DUPONT  
FREDERIC C. HOWE

C. H. INGERSOLL  
JACKSON H. RALSTON  
LINCOLN STEFFENS  
W. S. U'REN

DANIEL KIEFER, CHAIRMAN

CINCINNATI, OHIO

October 12th, 1916

Mr. Maxwell Green,  
94 Beacon Hill Ave.,  
Lynn, Mass.

My dear Mr. Green:

There will shortly be launched a National Singletax League, if you, and others in similar situation, think well enough of the project to co-operate. The purpose of this letter is to solicit your opinions and support.

The crisis confronting the Singletax movement in America is that which confronts every young man upon coming of age. The late Joseph Fels consecrated his personality and his money to the cause at the time when it was at its lowest ebb. His specific object was to get Single tax at some point in America within five years. While he failed in this aim, he accomplished the immensely more important result of rousing a militant following in almost every section of America and greatly stimulating general interest in the subject of land value taxation.

The Fels Fund commission, through which Mr. and Mrs. Fels have given so generously, will cease to exist on December 31, 1916. This step is taken because Mrs. Fels was convinced that further subsidy would be a detriment to the movement; that the movement had now "grown up" and its future development depends upon the double stimulus of self-government and entire self-help in finance. Her judgment was enthusiastically approved by the recent conference at Niagara Falls and the members of the present Fels Fund Commission were appointed as a committee to organize a Singletax League. The Committee met in New York during the second week in September and authorized the undersigned to determine by interview and correspondence the extent and nature of participation that could be expected.

This work has just commenced. An early and gratifying response came in the form of \$500.00 a month or \$6,000.00 annually, pledged from one Single-taxer, without any systematic solicitation.

The opportunities, for far reaching Singletax work were never better. \$50,000.00 a year could well be spent in organization, lectures, publicity, publications and campaign assistance. If the project is carried out on a basis that appeals to the entire Singletax contingent, this amount can be raised without burden to anyone. But our success is contingent

upon a spirit of unanimous co-operation. For this reason we seek the plan of organization that shall meet with the maximum approval. As a supporter of the movement, you will be accorded an opportunity to vote on the plan and personnel of the new organization, but, in the meantime, your best preliminary judgment is solicited and such assurance of co-operation as you feel called upon to give.

Mrs. Fels will continue to give to Singletax objects, in the United States, when and where she sees fit, with the aid of a small board of personal councillors and trustees to be known as the American section of the International Joseph Fels Fund, but the organized responsibility for the movement is up to you, and those like you. So we must know what we may expect from you and we ask:

First, whether you are for or against a National Single Tax Association?

Second, whether you will contribute, and how much for the first year?

Yours very truly,



Chairman

P. S. - A sad waste of our money is due to the cost of "following up" and "getting in" the contributions of willing supporters. If each would take upon him or herself the sending in, unasked and ahead of time, his or her own contribution, it would save the cause a substantial amount.

*Q. I don't believe singltax is possible  
How about reducing the amount of tax.  
and improving what we get for  
tax collected. - What is the necessity  
of spending \$50,000 <sup>50</sup> per year on advertising  
for singltax?  
Yours truly  
Oct 16<sup>th</sup> 76 Charles W. Farn*