

*The rent of land belongs
to the People.*

DECLARATION of PRINCIPLES

SINGLE TAX PARTY of NEW JERSEY

Headquarters — 491 Mt. Prospect Avenue
NEWARK, N. J.

10289

The Single Tax Party in this campaign has nominated candidates for the offices of Governor, U. S. Senator and Members of the State Assembly. These are all positions of legislative influence. It has not nominated candidates for any purely administrative position.

Our purpose is to secure a change in the laws relating to land and taxation so that they will operate for the common good, will protect the rights of the people and will lay a sure and firm foundation for the state.

To our aims no patriotic American can object,—a government standing firm in the confidence of the people, safe from foes without and free from foes within,—a people under just laws secure in the possession of their rights through a Government that is the expression of their will.

These most desirable conditions can be secured by the Single Tax. It will remove from society the injustices which cause the serious discontent so evident today in all parts of the world. Injustice is the root of our social troubles. There are many injustices, but the greatest of all is the system which permits the exclusion of millions of people from all right or title to the land. Yet these same excluded masses are the ones who make land valuable for others.

The conferring of value should result in some return being given for the value conferred. Value is created in farming, mining, manufacturing, trading, etc., and in return the worker receives wages. But the values conferred on land by the work and industry of the people bring no return whatever to those who create them. Worse, much worse, this increased land value is the measure of the land owners opportunity to appropriate more of the earnings of the disinherited masses through increased rents for permission to use the land for homes, farms, factories and stores.

The increased cost of living is merely the increased land value which is collected from workers in the form of land rent. Land owners must

receive the tribute they demand for rented homes, stores, warehouses, factories, farms, mines, forests, terminals, yards, docks, railroad and street cars, rights of way, sites for schools and parks, public buildings, court houses, hospitals, post offices, etc., before they allow the land to be used, which, in our folly, we have permitted them to own.

Land values are created by all the people and are appropriated by a few.

Since the results of this infamous system are the poverty and distress which the utmost efforts of charitable people cannot relieve, is it any wonder that discontent prevails? The wonder is that there is not a universal outcry against it, and that a cause so easily seen has been so successfully concealed.

The people have been diverted by socialism, theoretical and applied, as in the income tax, which makes its appeal to the discontented and to mistaken philanthropists in the suggestion that conditions may be equalized by taxing the rich. This is applied communism, sanctioned by the states of the American Union by constitutional amendment. Real equality is equality of opportunity. It can be realized only in a condition of society from which special privilege has been removed.

Our Government has available a source of revenue which would give it an ample and certain income. That is, the rent of land. This is a fund created by the work of all, and which should be used for the benefit of all. The people who create this value, when they have by their work and industry increased the value of land, will then realize that they themselves are receiving the increased rent through their Government and that it is being used for public purpose and for the common good.

Now, our Government strongly resembles the medieval barons, who levied tribute upon any unfortunate worker, traveler or merchant who

came within their power. Tariff taxes are laid on goods consumed and are collected from all consumers. Merchants are taxed on their stock, buildings, incomes and capital, merely because these are handy ways of obtaining money. The question of right and wrong in reference to taxation has disappeared from public thought. All ways are right that are successful. The Government needs the money.

We now point to the rent of land and ask why it has escaped. None of it is taken by the National Government except indirectly and in small part by income taxes, and much too small an amount is taken by the city and state. Taking it for Governmental needs would decrease rent by making all land available for use. It would decrease the cost of living and increase the comfort and security of the people. It would make us a nation of home owners instead of tenants. It would encourage business and enterprise, prevent periods of business depression, increase wages to all, not merely to a few as by trade unionism, prevent monopoly now based on land ownership, provide a Government strong in the affections of the people, remove the temptation to vice and crime, purify politics and improve the character of public officials, enable us freely to trade with all people with benefit and not injury to American workers, make this country a land of peace and contentment and an inspiration and example to all the nations of the world.

The candidates of The Single Tax Party ask your support on this platform. They believe that the rent of land belongs to the people, and if elected, they will vote for laws to appropriate land rent to public use.

WILLIAM J. WALLACE

Candidate for U. S. Senator.

EDWARD M. CAFFALL

Candidate for Governor.

Paid for by Edward M. CAFFALL Campaign Manager.