

**The Single Tax**

Cincinnati, Oct. 4.—"Candidate Herrick's Lecture on the Single Tax." This was the subject of an address delivered by Mr. Herbert S. Bigelow in his pulpit at the Vine Street Congregational church.

Text: "Let there be light."—Gen. 1:3. Mr. Bigelow said in part:

Is the story of Genesis the literal truth? We have more important business than to quarrel over that question. We are engaged in building upon the earth a human society which shall make possible the perfect development of all the latent powers of the race. Our work is to create a world where all men shall grow into the widest possible freedom, where all shall be clothed with the light of reason, and bow in glad submission to Love's royal law, and bow to that alone.

Such a state of society is what Jesus called the kingdom of God upon earth. Salvation I hold to be that condition of mind and heart which fills a man with hope and energy to work for the establishment of this coming society of the sons of God.

But how shall we work? Let us find the answer in the language of our text. There is the hint of a profound truth in this Genesis story. It contains some good philosophy if it is not good history. For we are told that the first condition of the world was that of utter darkness. We are told that the first command of the Creator was: "Let there be light." We cannot go back of these luminous words. Whatever imperfections exist in the world are due to mental darkness. If order is to come out of chaos, if ugliness is to give way to beauty, if freedom is to take the place of slavery, if there is to be progress, it must be by letting the light in on the dark problems. Let there be light. Let the truth be known. Bring every proposal for the improvement of society out into the broad day. Let us welcome the clash of opinions. There is no health in stagnant water. Let the battle of bayonets cease that the battle of ideas may proceed. This is our only safety.

The republican candidate for governor, Mr. Herrick, is trying to keep people from voting for his opponent by telling them that the single tax, which Mr. Johnson is known to favor, has been a disastrous failure wherever it has been tried. Every man who is informed as to the single tax movement knows this is not true. But those who are most solicitous for the advance of this movement, may look with serenity upon such statements. Even though they are false, they serve to force this question into the arena of public debate. Out of this debate will come the truth. Even the enemies of truth are pressed into her service, and those who seek to defame her, do but publish her virtues.

After Mr. Herrick's remarks thousands of people will be asking for the first time in their lives, "What is the single tax and where has it been tried?" To ask that question is to throw open their minds to the light.

The first city in the world to adopt Henry George's plan was Palmerston North, a little city in the north of New Zealand. In 1897, this city decided by a vote of 262 to 12 to raise their local revenue by assessing the land values alone, and exempting all buildings and personal property.

If, as Mr. Herrick says, this plan had proven a failure, do you not think the people of Palmerston would have heard of it? They have had it now for six years. Why have they not repealed it? After it had been working for three years, the taxing district immediately adjoining Palmerston adopted the plan by a vote of 105 to 10. Do you not think these next door neighbors had a better chance than Mr. Herrick to judge of the merits of the plan?

Wellington is the capital of New Zealand and has a population of 50,000. On the 14th of November, 1901, by a vote of 1,261 to 591, this city adopted the single tax plan of raising local revenues. In his annual report of last year the city clerk of Well-

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Tailored suits for \$16.50—Another unusual value in Women's suits. Our New York buyer sent us last week 75 suits that he secured at a fortunate figure—suits made from just such cloth as our regular \$25 suits are made from—there are grey, blue, brown, green and black Zibeline mixtures—long coat and blouse front—jacket and skirt button trimmed to match—jacket has leather belt—skirts are plaited at bottom—the suits were first placed on sale last Saturday and were much admired  
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...or said of this single tax measure: "That which was claimed by its exponents has been amply fulfilled; it encourages improvements, stimulates the use of land, secures the unearned increment to those who have added the value," etc.

Again he says: "It is only stating a fact to say that much, if not all, of the activity in the building operations of the city and surroundings during the past year, is due to the influence of this healthy measure."

The city clerk of Wellington does not profess to be a single tax man. He was not making a campaign speech. He was writing an official report and this is what he says. Which testimony do you think of greater value, the official report of the city clerk of Wellington, or the stump speeches of the candidate for governor in Ohio? Which man is likely to be best informed? Which is likeliest to be disinterested in his testimony?

Not only does New Zealand permit its cities by a vote of their citizens to adopt the single tax plan of raising local revenues, but in 1891, a law was passed for the purpose of raising a portion of the state revenue in that way. They have thus had twelve years experience with that law. After nine years experience with it, this is the testimony of Hon. George Fowlds, member of parliament, Auckland, New Zealand:

"The fierce denunciations of the system and the innumerable predictions of disaster if it were adopted, with which the colony fairly rang when, in 1891, the government proceeded to apply it, have been proven to not have the slightest foundation. . . . It is now beyond all question that no political party can possibly hope to repeal the land tax, but a large section of the community look confidently forward to a more extensive application of the system." What is Mr. Herrick's flippancy assertion in comparison with such testimony?

But if this is not sufficient, let us put the premier of New Zealand on the witness stand. This is what the Hon. R. J. Seddon said in 1903, while at the head of the New Zealand government:

"In reply to your first question, 'Has the land tax, as imposed in New Zealand, been a fiscal success?' the answer is in the affirmative, and this is further demonstrated by the fact that during the last general election, those who in former years opposed this policy have gone the length of saying that they would not disturb it. . . . Popular opinion is very strong in its favor, so strong that repeal is out of the question."

The fact is, that since these measures were first adopted in New Zealand, in 1891, there has been no repeal of them. On the contrary, there has been a gradual extension of their application. And the party that has stood sponsor for these laws, has never suffered a reverse at the polls.

So successful have these measures been that the sentiment in their favor is at the present time, the most significant factor in the political life of England. The city council of London has repeatedly petitioned parliament for the privilege to raise taxes in the great metropolis by this very plan which Mr.

*Modern Commercial School*

Lincoln has long been known as the educational center of the west. Its educational facilities have brought to the city scores of families who had children to school, and who have found Lincoln all that could be desired as a residence city.

A representative of the Star was a visitor this week at the Modern Commercial School and was delighted with what he saw there. Every body was busy. The rooms were large, airy, light and clean. All the furniture was new and up-to-date.

The glass partitions between rooms gave them especially pleasant appearance. They are lighted by electricity, the heat is furnished by the city, and the equipment is complete and up to date in every particular. Mr. J. L. Stephens, the president of the school, has had years of experience in the business and is recognized as one of the most successful instructors and educators in the west. He is supported by a force of experienced teachers, and they make a specialty of private instruction for the students which is of inestimable value to them.

The Modern Commercial School holds night sessions on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, which enables many young men and women who have to work during the day to take the course of instruction and thus equip themselves for earning larger salaries.

We feel that too much cannot be said in praise of this school. The sanitary condition of the building and the rooms, the perfect heating, lighting and equipment, the force of experienced teachers, and the individual instruction given each student, make it an ideal place for a young man or woman to secure a business education.

—Lincoln Daily Star.

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Herrick declares a failure. A few months ago, parliament came within 13 votes of granting the privilege. Today, the liberal party, which is now on the eve of a return to power, stands committed to this principle of taxation.

Thus the mighty movements of humanity grow apace, and every blow that is directed against them, opens new minds to the light and becomes an unwilling agency in the dawning brotherhood.

The railroads want a sure hand. They have already three of a kind—Mickey, Weston and Prout. They want to make it four of a kind and have it Mickey, Weston, Prout and Barnes. They think nothing less than four of a kind will do them because they are all two-spots.

**NOTICE OF INDEBTEDNESS**

In compliance with the compiled statutes of the state of Nebraska, for 1895, and especially in compliance with section 135 of chapter 16, entitled "corporations," we, the president and a majority of the board of directors hereby give public notice that all the existing debts of The Woodruff-Collins Printing Co. amount to the sum of Nine thousand, One Hundred and Ten and 37/100 (\$9,103.37) dollars.

L. D. WOODRUFF, President,  
 E. LEWIS BAKER, Vice-Pres-Secy.  
 Lincoln, Nebraska, Oct. 1, 1903. Directors.

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If the occupation of the Philippines was the "logical result" of the Spanish war, then logical results do not seem to have any money, common sense or liberty in them.