

Grand View Addition

Lots are now selling at \$750.00 each, on the following terms: \$75 down, and \$10.00 per month, no interest or taxes for three years. In case of death money refunded to your estate, and a guarantee to repurchase at the end of three years at the purchase price. Building restrictions.

YOU WILL MAKE MORE MONEY OUT OF GRAND VIEW LOTS THAN ANY PROPERTY YOU CAN PURCHASE ABOUT LA GRANDE.

All lots unsold by January 1st, 1913, will be advanced in price to \$1,000 each. And they are cheap at that.

La Grande Investment Company

Phone Main 752

Foley Hotel Block

Want Ads

ROOM FOR RENT—Modern. Call Black 151. 9-14 tf

FOR SALE—Piano and auto. \$500.00 piano for \$300.00. Overland auto for cash or city property. Call or telephone Observer office. dly 9-3-tf

WANTED—Woman for general housework. Apply 902 Penn. avenue. Phone Main 715. 9-6-tf

WANTED—By family two adults, three or four room house or two or three housekeeping rooms. Phone Main 31. 1601 Wash. 9-6-tf

WANTED—Salesman. Experience not necessary. Phone Main 754. 9-9-tf

WANTED—Competent stenographer and bookkeeper. Address P. O. box 687. 9-12-tf

WANTED—Girl for general housework. Good wages. Apply at 2002 Oak street. 9-14-tf

WANTED—By respectable married man, steady position, prefer business firm. Can furnish references. Apply to Bx 632, La Grande. 9-16-6t

FOUND—Pair of glasses near high school. Owner may have same by paying for this notice at 908 Third street. Phone Black 382. 9-16-tf

WANTED—Fresh milk cow. Inquire J. D. Porter or telephone Black 872. 9-18-5t

FOR RENT—Furnished room for gentlemen. Inquire after five o'clock Room 9, Lewis building. 9-18-6tp

LOST—A Knight Templar charm in business section of city Saturday night. Suitable reward for return to Henry & Carr's store. 9-9-tf

FOR SALE—Gentle driving mare, rubber tire buggy, harness, all in good condition. Cheap if sold this week. Inquire Observer. 9-16-tf

FOLEY'S HONEY AND TAR COMPOUND
Stops Coughs—Cures Colds
For sale by A. T. HILL.

FOE OF SINGLE TAX SAYS NEILSEN IS FEL'S EMPLOYEE

Charles H. Shields, secretary of the organization warring against Single Tax, last night addressed a fair-sized audience at the Commercial club on the issues now pending in that great single tax question.

He attacked the theories of Henry George, challenged statements which he quoted from "Progress and Poverty," the hand book of the single taxers, and discussed the campaign of the single taxers in Oregon. He denounced graduated single tax as "single tax in aggravated form," and charged that Francis Neilson, member of the British parliament, who will speak here tonight in favor of single tax, is hired and paid by the Joseph Fels commission.

"Henry George," he said, "believed the earth is a heritage to all mankind and no individual has a right to own land, and that land should be held by all the people in common, and that all the ills and imperfections of society are traceable to private ownership of land."

"There was no land monopoly when his book was written 33 years ago and there is none now, because there is keen competition in the products of land, which is the same thing as competition in land. George was mistaken in saying that land is the source of all wealth."

Destroy Private Property.
"You people who own land—I want to tell you that this is not intended as a tax reform and has nothing to do with taxes. It has for its purpose the destruction of private property."

"Henry George drew his inspiration from Herbert Spencer, the great philosopher, who, in his youth wrote a book, 'Social Statics,' in which he advocated the nationalization of land and ownership of all land by the people collectively. But as Spencer grew older, he did all in his power to withdraw what he said in 'Social Statics.'"

"Henry George says that the selling value of land would disappear when the potential rental value of land is taken out of it, and that land speculation would receive its death blow."

Mr. Shields quoted from an article in the Single Tax Review, saying: "The land owner has no just right to get rich without working." He also quoted from single tax arguments that

tax appropriated the entire rental value of land, then the land, while nominally left in the ownership of the private individual, would practically belong to all the people.

Couldn't Determine Taxable Value.

He said: "Suppose your tax here on 1,000 worth of land is \$30 and you get \$80 rent, this gives you a reasonable return. But suppose that the tax were \$60, how much would you give for that land? Nothing. There is no commercial value left."

Mr. Shields continued: "The very principle of single tax destroys the system of getting the levy, and therefore every pamphlet sent out by the single taxers is a lie."

Couldn't Find Levy.

"Miss Margaret Haley came out from Chicago to Seattle and took the value of the improved lots and put them together, and then she took the values 10 years back. Then she told Seattle that the increase in property values has been \$300,000,000 in 10 years; that the community had made the values and therefore was entitled to receive the benefit and that if this money were used by the people, it would build all of the water, electric light, power traction systems for the city."

"I asked her if that wasn't commercial value. She said 'yes.' Then I said 'Well, if you take the land's commercial value, how will you find the levy?' She couldn't answer that question. No single taxer can. It sweeps away all of the single taxer's figures. They can't deny it, and I defy any single taxer to deny it."

Mr. Shields said that under single tax all lands would lose their commercial value; that in the city and town, owners wouldn't be able to find a buyer and would cease to pay the ruinous taxes; that on the farms, the fences would go down and the weeds grow up, the people would move away, and the state would become a great land-lord.

Thirty Per Cent Own Land.

"Thirty per cent of the people own all the land," he said, "and the other 70 per cent don't own any land. We had the revolutionary war over taxation without representation. Heavens! If a majority rules the minority at the ballot box and if the majority has no land, and if they vote on a question,

that kills the rental and commercial values of land, what would happen?"

"The laboring man will always be with us. Those are the conditions that exist. I may be on top today and you may be on top tomorrow. There must be some motive for enterprise. All individual enterprises would perish because there would be no incentive of gain under single tax. It is fine to be sentimental but incentive for profit has brought the race onward and upward through history."

Single Taxers Dodge Trusts.

"Why don't the single taxers ever point out the great injustices of the steel trust, sugar trust, flour trust, and all the other trusts and great combinations of capital that control the products of labor and have the people by the throat? Why on earth do they attack the homes and let the other fellows go free? Why do they just attack private ownership of land?"

"Under single tax, the millionaire, with his autos and fine mansion, and the shop mechanic with his little home home, would dump the same amount into the pot, because their lots would be worth the same."

All Values Community-Made.

"The single taxers say that the values in land are community values. Well, all values are community values. What would the lawyer, the doctor, the railroad, the store, or any other person or business institution be, if you should take the people away from them? It is not right to single out land and make it bear all the burden."

Mr. Shields devoted considerable time to graduated single tax, which he said is proposed as a tax on all land values above \$10,000, in addition to the regular levy. The purpose of the single taxers in proposing this, he said, is to appeal to prejudices against the man with franchises and all who own over \$10,000 worth of land.

No Value in Franchises.

"I'll show you there is no value in a franchise," said Mr. Shields. "In November we are to have the public service commission to squeeze all the water out of public service corporations and then see that they get a fair return on their investment. But let us take an example. The Portland Railway, Light & Power company would pay \$400,000 more. Suppose we take up this company and find it is capitalized at \$50,000,000 and is entitled to \$3,000,000 profit, because this is the income to which it is justly entitled."

Would Guarantee Profit!

"Who would have to pay that extra \$400,000? The company would go before the commission and object that this \$400,000 is taken out of the profit to which it is entitled and which the commission must guarantee under the law. The company would demand permission to increase its rates in order to cover this \$400,000. Therefore the people who patronize that company must, in the end, bear that extra burden."

"This would happen with every public service corporation operating under a franchise. But Mr. U'Ren says that the city or state wouldn't do this, on the ground that they have the company under a franchise and would hold it to the terms of the contract. Well, the city or state can't do this, and it has been proved in Seattle, where the Independent Telephone Co. got a franchise making the rate \$4, and it put in a lot of phones, then went before the public service commission and demanded that it be allowed to raise the rate on the ground that the \$4 rate didn't give a fair return on its investment, and the commission granted the increase in rates."

"So I say that a excessive tax on any corporation is an indirect tax on the people who patronize that corporation. The corporation is entitled to at least 5 per cent profit, so if there is no value in the franchise, you can't take any more out. Where there are no returns on the investment, then there is no value in the franchise to tax. Some authorities have gone so far as to say that we shouldn't tax public service corporations at all."

Tells How to Vote.

Mr. Shields concluded with an appeal to his hearers to vote on the amendments as follows: 308 X yes, 365 X no.

He said that 308 X yes would repeal the county home rule law, which was passed to let counties experiment with single tax, while the only change made in the law which he proposes to substitute is that there is no poll tax and it provides that the legislature can't declare an emergency and that all tax measures must be submitted to the people for action.

He said that 365 X no would kill

the proposed graduated single tax.

Mr. Shields did not discuss amendments Nos. 301 and 306, which the Oregon Equal Taxation league blue cards and circulars have connected with the anti-single tax measure, No. 308, but which, it is claimed, have nothing whatever to do with single tax.

Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

Toronto, Ont., Sept. 19.—Several hundred delegates, including many leading men both in the Anglican church and the Protestant Episcopal church of the United States, gathered in this city today for the opening of the annual convention of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew in Canada. The meeting will continue until Sunday. In addition to the many Canadians of note who will address the convention, there will be several from Great Brit-

ain, including the Right Rev. Dr. Talbot, Lord Bishop of Winchester.

York Academy 125 Years Old.

York, Pa., Sept. 19.—The York county academy, one of the oldest schools of its kind in America, celebrated its one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary today. Many visiting educators of note participated in the anniversary exercises.

Wilder Brigade Reunion.

Mattoon, Ill., Sept. 19.—The annual reunion of the Wilder Brigade took place here today with a large number of veterans in attendance, including Gen. John T. Wilder of Tennessee and Maj. James A. Connelly of Springfield, Ill. The city was decorated in honor of the veterans and the citizens turned out to welcome them with a program of entertainment.

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