

A LETTER FOR THINKING MEN

AN APPEAL TO REASON BY GEO OGLE OF CANBY.

A Letter that Voters Should Read and Think Over.

Editor Courier:—

Amidst the multiplicity of arguments on the various issues now before the voters for decision, it is sometimes difficult to always remember the fundamentals and not be side-tracked by arguments on minor phases or imaginary possibilities, especially as the opponents of important measures exert all their efforts to lead investigators away from basic propositions and lose them in many by-paths. Especially is this true of two of the most important measures; Equal Suffrage and Graduated Single Tax.

Regarding the first question the wily anti will attempt to argue that women do not want the ballot; that had women would all vote; that women would neglect the home; that husband and wife would quarrel over politics or just the opposite; that they would vote exactly alike, thus doubling the vote without changing the result, and a score of other minor arguments, which the suffragist feels compelled to stop and answer and usually does satisfactorily, but all this has crowded the ONE GREAT FUNDAMENTAL QUESTION into the background. The only really important proposition in this controversy is "Is voting a natural right?" And even THAT is scarcely an open question, for the basic law of our state has decided it in the affirmative, by allowing suffrage to MEN of all degrees of intelligence and moral character of all crime. We are working on the basis of suffrage, a duty, or a privilege, there should certainly be some moral or educational qualification but such not being the case we are living under a condition not only not logically indefensible. When the anti can make even an attempt at answering the REAL questions, "BY WHAT INTERPRETATION OF JUSTICE, A NATURAL RIGHT IS DENIED TO ONE-HALF THE PEOPLE MERELY ON ACCOUNT OF SEX? Shall ALL citizens be equal before the law, or shall they not?"

It will be time to consider the matter of expediency and all the imaginary difficulties of administration conjured up, until such time, such objections are not EVEN talking to the question.

The same is true, though not in so great a degree, of the so-called single tax measure. The fundamentals are that laws should be first based on justice, second on expediency, and third we have here a concrete measure to BE considered on its merits; that OUR PEOPLE have the opportunity to amend or REPEAL at any ensuing election, while the contention of single taxers is that the general property tax is both UNJUST and inexpedient; that it is no t and cannot be enforced equally; that, even were it possible to devise methods inequitable enough to list all property, much of the burden would be shifted, just as the tariff has been, to land values—aside from improvements, differ from labor values, being in the larger degree the creation of society; that this species of value being created by society, and not by the individual owner, is the natural source from which social revenues should be drawn, but the spokesman of the land speculators wish to conjure up the ghost of what Henry George said or what they think he might have meant, thirty or thirty-five years ago. Here AGAIN they are off the question. Do not the people have the right to take just what degree of single tax or socialistic theories they desire, rejecting the balance, just as congress holds the power to favor just what degree of absolute free trade or of prohibitive protection they please? It always has and will no doubt continue to be the tactics of the beneficiaries of special privilege to set up a man of straw, attack and pose as the brave champion of the common people.

GEO. OGLE.

FROM A COLTON PHILOSOPHER.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED BEFORE YOU VOTE.

Some Pretty Good Advice from a County Ranchman.

Editor Courier:—

I saw in the Courier of a few issues ago, a question by Comrade Myers, "Is there not a greater issue than the single tax?"

I say yes, there is, but the people have been so long under a representative government that the most of them are in the kindergarten, for it is along the economic lines that they must be educated. Perhaps when they see how that works they will not shy at something else. Single tax is just a short step in the right direction. It will not hurt anyone very much nor do any one very much good. It seems that they skipped me in sending out the state pamphlets, but I got one from another fellow that did not want it.

I see that the first is the Equal Suffrage Amendment. Now the argument against it is they say there is always an active minority in favor of it. If they would read history they would find that is the case with most great reforms.

Then they say Democracy is not a failure. I think they had better look up their dictionaries and

see the meaning. They have only to look at some of the bills that are referred by the legislature, all of them in fact, to see whether the people have ruled in the last fifty years or not. I claim it always has been a failure and another thing I say is that any person who will take a liberty and not allow every other person the same liberty is a thief and a robber morally and you know it.

The next is that they don't regard it as a privilege but as a duty. Now I would not force them to vote if they did not want to. They might belong to as many associations as they please and try to block the wheels of Progress, but I don't think they will be successful.

I was talking to a man the other day who is about fifty years old and who can neither read nor write, and who said, "what is the use of so many new things? It is good enough." Lots of progress about that, eh? If everybody had always been that way we would now be living in trees or caves with a club, with a stone tied to the end of it, for a weapon of defense.

Along about 73, when the first self binders were used in Iowa, there were some fellows who piled some bundles around one of them and set it afire because of their jobs. Now they were fighting progress, but what effect did it have? It robbed the farmer of the money, or the note, that he put up for that binder—that is all. The right way for those fellows to have done would have been to make a plan wherein they would have received a part of that machine's earnings and then no one would have been hurt.

Mark Hanna said some years ago, "If anyone gets in the way of progress, they will surely get run over," and I believe it.

The next question I am going to write about is Capital Punishment. I see in the Journal where a minister discussed the subject and he took the old Mosiac law, "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" etc. But I claim these laws were made by men who had no man or set of men have any right to make any laws contrary to God's law; no man or set of men have any right to take that which they cannot return. A queer make-up that minister must have had. He is teaching the people that Christ loved the world, or people, that he died to save sinners, but he forgets what he said when he was nailed to the cross. And when the men were doing everything they could think of to make it uncomfortable for him, he said "Oh father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." That don't sound much like an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth to me. The idea is to stop murder. Well, you can't stop murder by murder; that has been tried for ages and it has failed. So far it has given up that the man that takes his own life is insane. Well the man who takes another's life is just as insane as the one that takes his own life. He don't think or care for the consequences. He has brooded over the deed he has done until he is on the verge of insanity and the deed is done. Can you make people good by law? That depends upon what kind of law. If you should pass a law stating that Mr. John Smith should be good, it would not have any effect on John Smith more than the ones we have now. But if you were to pass a law that John Smith should be surrounded by a good environment and then carry the law into actual operation, John Smith would begin to get better right.

So it behooves every man to look sharp and vote on every measure.

I am going to be like the fellow that was playing ten pins. After he had thrown his three balls he said "set 'em up Johnny; they are all down but nine." I am going to turn them all down but nine.

G. E. ROGERS.

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If the kidneys are sluggish in their action, general ill health usually results. Skin affections arise, due to the extra work thrown upon the skin in removing poisonous wastes that should be cared for by the kidneys; heart affections, caused by the pressure of fluids dammed back by the sluggish kidneys; eye diseases, nervousness, chronic headaches and other ailments.

These are often due in great measure to the poisonous action of matter left in the body.

We want you to try Rexall's Kidney Treatment if your kidneys are out of order. We don't ask you to take any financial risk. We don't want your money unless Rexall Kidney Treatment helps you. We feel the utmost confidence in this treatment, which is especially designed to strengthen the kidneys, restore their normal functions and help in rebuilding the general health. That confidence is what prompts us in urging upon you not to overlook this opportunity to try Rexall Kidney Treatment at our risk. For if it does not help you, we will give back your money without argument or hesitation. Rexall Kidney Treatment in liquid form, costs you 50 cents and \$1.00. In pill form, 50 cents. Sold in this community only at this store. The Rexall Store, Huntley Bros. Co., Oregon City, Canby, Molalla and Hubbard.

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DEFENDS U'REN AND HIS WORK

AND DENOUNCES MAYOR DIMICK FOR HIS ABUSE.

Caustic Letter by S. L. Castro, on Mayor's Recent Speech.

Editor Courier:—

I respectfully ask space for a few words upon the alleged "Talk Upon the Merits of the Single Tax" given by Mr. Dimick at Warner Grand last Saturday.

By reference to my notes of his speech, I find that he devoted approximately 25 minutes of the 43 minutes of his speech to insulting and abusing Mr. U'Ren, Cridge, Eggleston, Fels and the Fels Fund, and generally did he dwell upon that of Mr. U'Ren.

We have all known these two gentlemen for a number of years and can conscientiously say that Mr. U'Ren is as good, clean and sane a man as Mr. Dimick any time, and that their political records show that Mr. U'Ren has done more for the people in a political way, ten times over, in the few years that he has been in Oregon, than has Mr. Dimick, and Dimick was born and raised in Oregon. Mr. Dimick as a lawyer, knows that personal abuse is not a logical argument and is bearing whatever upon the justice of the principles involved. I wonder then, why he persists in using such abusive tactics. To me it appears he does it to arouse the prejudice of his audiences against Mr. U'Ren and the moral principle for which he is at present contending, the Graduated Single Tax and Exemption Amendment. It is evident that there is considerable jealousy among the lawyers of Oregon City because of the fact that when it comes to a discussion of political issues, there is not one that can hold a candle to Mr. U'Ren.

Mr. Dimick knows also that it requires greater amounts of money to establish new laws than it does to repeal an old one. It has long been established. He knows also that the amount of money expended has no bearing upon the justice or injustice of a proposition.

A further ten minutes of his time was used in trying to convince his hearers that the Graduated Single Tax and Exemption Amendment is the Henry George theory of taxation and that the Henry George theory means confiscation of the land. He read extracts from George's writings and remarks upon them, immediately after placed false interpretations upon the meaning. Was this done for any other purpose than to create prejudice? No. The other 8 minutes was devoted to miscellaneous statements having no bearing whatever upon the "Merits of the Single Tax."

Here's another one: Preceding his remarks upon the alleged "Talk upon the merits of the single tax" Mr. Dimick gave a short address upon the equal suffrage amendment and among other things said "About forty per cent of the taxes are paid by the women" and that he believed that women "ought to have a voice in the making of the laws under which they are governed, and that taxation without representation is tyranny."

But, women, listen! Later in his talk upon the "merits of the single tax" he said:

"If I thought the women of Oregon would vote to establish this principle of single tax I would be as much opposed to suffrage as I am now for it."

Fine sentiment this, isn't it, women? I wonder if the women of Oregon want this kind of a man to be governor over them? A man who says that he is going to make a prediction. Looking back a few years to the strenuous days of the fight for Statement No. 1, we recall the fact that the Republican candidates for the legislature in Clackamas county started the campaign upon an anti-Statement platform and after stumping for a few days discovered the favorable sentiment of the people upon that issue, a council was called an announcement was made that all legislative candidates were henceforth for Statement 1. Following is my prediction, that like the days of Statement 1, the sentiment expressed by the voters upon the graduated tax amendment this year will be an eye-opener to all future legislative candidates and aspirants will be only too glad to endorse this great principle.

Here's for a majority vote, and if not, then a big vote for the graduated single tax and exemption amendment.

S. L. CASTRO.

Flagged Train With Shirt.

Tearing his shirt from his back an Ohio man flagged a train and saved it from a wreck, but H. T. Alston, Raleigh, N. C., once prevented a wreck with Electric Bitters. "I was in a terrible plight when I began to use them," he writes, "my stomach, head,

CUT OUT THE MONKEY DINNERS

ALFRED CRIDGE TELLS WHAT RICH WOULD HAVE TO DO

And What the Farmers of Oregon Would NOT Have to Do.

Editor Courier:—

Friend Heinbothem is off his feed again. Got a lot of doctored figures about Multnomah county this time. The fellows who get up those figures ignore the franchise values that the local land value tax measure puts on the assessment roll. They ignore the fact that with any approach to an honest assessment there will be more land values assessed that are now left off the rolls than all the improvements and personal property that is taken off by local single tax. Assessor Pastorozzi of Houston, demonstrated this very thoroughly. He is a single taxer, and this kind know where real values are located and where to show them up. We have Wagoner for next assessor in Multnomah county, and he is a single taxer. That means a square dealer, one who will take the speculators and tax dodgers toe the mark, and let out the widow's cook stove and rag carpet.

There are twenty millions of land values in Multnomah county collected by a few land owners every year, most of it by 232 of them. The public needs are less than seven millions. The working people do not own Multnomah county. Only 14,000 own homes in part or in whole. It is proposed to take more of this land values (in reality people made values) for the people, and let the few land owners cut down their trips to Europe and their monkey dinners and that sort of thing. Friend H. has an idea that it will double the taxes on land, who owns Multnomah county? Not the people who work for a living, nor those who perform useful service of any sort. No one who is using his land would be injured. Friend H. has an idea that his land is un-taxed from what he is using on, or under it. If it did double the taxes on land no man with a lot assessed at \$500 and a house and contents at \$500 will be out a cent.

In fact, however, the franchisees will make up for personal property, the improvements, the graduated taxes will make up for them over again and H. D. Wagoner will dig up enough vacant lot and down town shack covered speculative property to secure a plenty of revenue for needed public improvements without issuing any bonds.

There is no farmer in British Columbia paying as much in taxes value for value of the farms as in Washington or in Oregon. People are leaving Washington by thousands to go to British Columbia. Think of a farm with the finest herd of dairy cows on the Coast paying nothing on the cows, nothing on the improvements and machinery and only a twenty mill tax on his land values! Across the line there would be five times the tax. But there is no such dairy herd in all Washington, and probably not in all Oregon.

Friend H. is always inclined to buck the reason of an average

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mind. His cows would probably wander over the line to where they were taxed; his chickens would probably lay eggs where they were taxed; but ordinary people and ordinary chickens and cows prefer to go where unmolested. That is why the exemption of improvements and personal property MUST come. That is why the holders of 70,000 acres of land in Clackamas county in one great block are so solicitous about the poor farmer, and so willing that the farmer's horses shall be taxed instead of the trust water power horses, the big land grants and the valuable franchises. If the farmer of Oregon ever finds out what the farmer of Western Canada thinks of him for paying taxes his ballot can shift to the trusts and land hogs, said Oregon farmer will hire some dusky son of Ham to kick him nine times a day for a year.

ALFRED D. CRIDGE.

Didn't Know His Methods Would Find Him Out.

Just a few years ago, when but, ter was packed in gallon crocks, and exchanged at the town store for sugar or muslin, says the Western Stock Journal, a journal devoted exclusively to the livestock industry, and published at Oregon City, Ore., a close fist farmer conceived the idea of putting one over on the merchant by placing a two-pound stone in the bottom of the crock, covering well with excellent butter. Of course no one ever found it out—the stone became soft, and spread on some unsuspecting person's bread—just as smooth—but what became of the wise farmer? He still exists—you can find him in your own neighborhood—slightly advanced though—out of the stone age, we might say—but still practicing his close-fisted methods. He retains cheap scrubs on his place—not appearing to know the difference between the pure blood and scrub stock, and wonders why he cannot get the prices paid his neighbor, for what he terms "pigs."

There is a difference in livestock breeders, just the same as there is a difference in the stock, and the pure-bloods will show up every time head and shoulders above the scrubs.

The boy's appetite is often a source of amusement. If you would have such an appetite take Chamberlain's Tablets. They not only create a healthy appetite, but strengthen the stomach and enable it to do its work naturally. For sale by Huntley Bros. Co., Oregon City, Canby, Molalla and Hubbard.

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A most valuable pamphlet. Tells and illustrates how to clear stump land at the lowest known cost per acre by devices just perfected. Free to owners of stump lands who send me their names. John A. Gorman, 1112 Western Ave., Seattle.

Within a 15 mile circle around IMPERIAL there are now several hundred prosperous farmers raising enormous crops wheat, oats, rye, barley, vegetables, potatoes, etc. THREE large stock ranches, owning several thousand horses and cattle are also in this circle. Poultry raising is also highly successful.

IMPERIAL is now the trading point and will soon be the shipping point (the railroad, are now building) for the products from thousands of acres surrounding it.

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THE PLANTED LETTER

Read this letter to the farmer who has been misled by the single taxers.

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—From New York World.

THESE NUMBERS WILL BAR SINGLE TAX IN OREGON

308xYes Against Single Tax Repeals County Home Rule

365xNo Against Graduated Single Tax

377xNo Against Single Tax Clackamas Co.

Within a 15 mile circle around IMPERIAL there are now several hundred prosperous farmers raising enormous crops wheat, oats, rye, barley, vegetables, potatoes, etc. THREE large stock ranches, owning several thousand horses and cattle are also in this circle. Poultry raising is also highly successful.

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—From New York World.

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