

SINGLE TAX ISSUE ABSORBING TOPIC IN SEATTLE NOW

Campaign in City On in Earnest and Plans for Statewide Fight Are Being Made; Erickson Amendment.

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 20.—To the Editor of The Journal.—The issue of the single tax is a living one before the people of Seattle. The opposition is well organized and apparently well financed, a committee of the real estate men is making a strong campaign. There are speeches made for and against the principle and the particular measures by the score every day. Miss Margaret Harley, the famous Chicago school teacher who made the public corporations of that city pay \$600,000 a year more into the public treasury after a 10 years fight, is one of the principal speakers for the single tax. The recent recommendation of the royal tax commission of British Columbia that all taxes on personal property and improvements be done away with, the establishing of the principle of land value taxation in all the cities and towns of Alberta, and the certainty that the city of Portland is going to vote on a strong measure of single tax next November, has aroused the people of Seattle as never before.

Tax Measures Before People.

Wherever a street speaker gets up in an auto and yells "Single Tax!" the crowds congregate and the literature is passed out to eager hands reaching for it.

Seattle has over 40 measures to vote upon on March 5, and three of them are tax measures. One takes all city taxes from improvements and personal property. Another takes all city taxes from improvements 25 per cent at a time. A third takes all city taxes from manufacturing plants for 10 years from their establishment. The others are discussed in the "Erickson Amendment" and "Cousins" the single tax, according to their nature and ownership. The people are talking it on the street cars and in the restaurants and cafeterias. Will Atkinson, the son-in-law of Henry George, is debating in churches and halls the leading issues of the hour. Whatever the result of the election there is no doubt but what the people of Seattle will be much better informed on the question than they have ever been, and while the winning of this skirmish will be of great satisfaction to the single taxers, they regard it as only a skirmish.

State Wide Campaign.

A state wide campaign for single tax is already being planned as soon as this local issue is over for the time.

With every city and town in British Columbia exempting improvements and personal property from local taxation, and with a very strong sentiment among all classes there to sweep away every kind of tax on industry, thrift and enterprise except income and inheritance taxes, the economic revolution is beginning to be very strong on the sound cities. The port commission of Seattle officially points out that one railroad terminal, several factories and enterprises and an unestimated population has already been driven out of Seattle because of the attempted extortions of the idle land owners. The report does not say single tax, but the single taxers have seized upon this as ammunition which is used unsparingly upon their opponents.

That the proposed measures may be unconstitutional if passed is the strongest argument against them.

Figures Overwhelming.

That they would relieve the burden of taxation upon homes and concentrate it upon business lots and speculative tracts is admitted by the debaters against it. The official figures are simply overwhelming. It is believed that in view of the economic and commercial pressure and the doubtful meaning of the constitution the supreme court of Washington will follow the election returns.

Should Seattle carry the "Erickson Amendment" exempting all city taxes from improvements and personal property and it is sustained in the courts, what will be the effect on Portland? The measure to be before the people of Multnomah county will go twice as far as the "Erickson Amendment" in Seattle. It is high time that the opponents of single tax in Oregon put on their thinking caps. A tidal wave is likely to overtake them if they continue to play upon the beach.

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PUPILS OBSERVE BIRTHDAY OF "FATHER OF OUR COUNTRY" IN FITTING MANNER



"George Washington Girls" at St. Mary's academy, celebrating one of the many events of the evening.

ROSE BEDECKED CITIZENS PLANT SYMBOL OF CITY

(Continued from Page One.)

and join in the ceremonies of planting, for the Potlatch is an summer carnival after the same general fashion as your own Rose Show—a carnival planned for the amusement and profit of our citizens and the entertainment of her guests. Each of these two wonderful cities of the northwest is thus providing a well planned annual event which proclaims year after year to the world at large that we are possessed of a temperate climate, of natural beauties, of orderly communities and of energetic people.

Plants Seattle Rose.

Portland has for her emblem the rose, which proclaims her a place of beauty, of health and of progress. It is fitting that her neighbors should rejoice in the blooming of the trees rather than seek to blight them with the breath of jealousy. I am planting today side by side with your rose trees one of our own as a pledge that the Seattle Carnival association will rejoice in your prosperity. The Potlatch bug will be a friend of the rose, not an enemy. May your rose crop for 1912 be exceeded only by the growth of your population.

"The rose stands for many things: for good soil, for good climate, for thoughtful people, for law and order, and for prosperity. Let me briefly show you these many creditable attributes of the rose.

"First, good soil. The rose that you and I are honoring today is the rose of the open air, the natural rainfall and the natural soil. It is not the hot-house product, beautiful as that may be, that wins our enthusiasm here today, but the native citizen of Oregon soil. The rose grows easily and hardily here, proving the value of the earth from which it springs. But where a rose grows there will grow also a potato; where roses will grow may be grown grain and fruit. And so the growth of the rose means that man may settle here and grow food in abundance.

Praise for Climate.

"Climate does not impress itself so much upon the man who enjoys its blessings as on the man who suffers from its extremes. The man in Minnesota admits that his winters are very cold; the man in Arizona admits that his summers are almost unbearable. But the man in Oregon—the climate of the rose—has to be reminded of the lines where his summer merges into his winter, so little is the difference between Christmas and Fourth of July. For such a climate the rose is the symbol. The hardy wheat of the far north may not be here; neither is the scorpion of the hot desert; nor the moccasin snake of the Florida everglades.

"Good soil means plenty; good climate means comfort; an orderly city means peace; and peace plus plenty and comfort means prosperity. Such is Portland as symbolized by the rose, and Seattle is honored to call her sister."

WASHINGTON'S NAME GRATEFULLY HONORED THROUGHOUT THE CITY

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chestra; male quartet; address, Rev. Oswald Taylor; cornet solo, Bruce Rowen; bass solo, George C. Hayner; orchestra; reading, Florence A. Smith; saxophone solo, W. H. Bequaith; male quartet; orchestra; accompanist, Melvin Ogden.

At St. Mary's Academy.

The day is to be celebrated at St. Mary's Academy this evening at 8 o'clock with physical culture drills by the pupils of Miss Mildred Raab, and readings by the pupils of Mrs. Ruth Carter-Smith. The program is: "The Star Spangled Banner," chorus; club drill, seniors; reading, "A Country Store," Dorothy Dearing; Masurka, seniors; reading, "The Rising of 1776," Mary Condon; wand drill, Minims; reading, "The Promise," Gladys Cohn; flag drill, tableau, "Mt. Vernon Bells," Minims.

A special train will leave Portland at 6 p. m. for Estacada, carrying members of the Western Association of Old Time Telegraphers and of the Telegraphers' Mutual Aid association, who will hold their first annual banquet at that place. S. A. Josselyn, who operated at Salem 50 years ago, and Dr. Plummer, who was first superintendent of the lines in Oregon, will contest for rapid sending honors.

Assistant United States District Attorney Walter H. Evans, and E. S. Hooper of Denver, will address a meeting of the men of the Universalist congregation, who will serve a New England supper at Broadway and East Twenty-fourth streets. Dr. George Gardner, Mrs. Gardner and Miss Ada Trotter will furnish music for the occasion.

Aid Society's Tea.

The Ladies' Aid Society of the Presbyterian church, is holding a tea and silver shower at the church parlors, Twelfth and Alder streets, this afternoon.

Rose planting day is being celebrated at Peninsula park by the Rose Festival officials, the Rose society, the Park board, Seattle Golden Potlatch officials, Tacoma Montanara Pesto representatives, officers of the government, state and city, church dignitaries and boys and girls of the public schools.

Impressive services marked the dedication this morning of the new church of the Magdalene, Twenty-third and Skidway streets, high mass at 7:30 o'clock being followed by a banquet attended by many prominent state, city and church officials. Archbishop Christie assisted by visiting clergy celebrated. Father O'Hara preached the dedicatory sermon. Governor West, Mayor Rush-

Light, J. P. O'Brien, and John F. O'Shea were among the guests at the banquet served by the women of the parish.

Special Washington services will be held in the Sunday school of Beth Israel next Sunday. Rabbi Wise will deliver a patriotic address and Miss Meyer will have charge of the music. George Wright post, G. A. R. held a combined Washington-Lincoln celebration last night at Alisky hall, Third and Morrison streets. Major J. H. Woodward gave an address on Washington, and Rabbi Jonah B. Wise talked on the life and works of Lincoln. The veteran quartet and Mrs. Haygren furnished patriotic music.

In a few days more of like delicacies will be down to 10 cents a dozen. Then Oregon people will eat Oregon eggs.

\$748,000 MADE FOR CITY IN HALF A DAY BY MAYOR, AUDITOR

Although all the offices at the city hall were closed to the public today on account of the day being Washington's birthday, Mayor Rushlight and City Auditor A. L. Barbur put in a profitable half-day, making \$748,000 for the city. They "made" \$800,000 yesterday, too—\$1,248,000 in a day and a half. They simply affixed their signatures to \$500,000 of water bonds and \$748,000 of public improvement bonds, that's how they did it.

CIVIL WAR IN ENGLAND PREDICTED TO FOLLOW BIG STRIKE OF MINERS

Leader of Derbyshire Workers Says Walking Out of 800,000 Coal Diggers Will Bring on Walkout of at Least 800,000 Other Laborers.

(United Press Leased Wire.)

London, Feb. 22.—Premier Asquith met the coal operators and representatives of the miners are here today in an effort to avert the threatened strike of 800,000 miners throughout the United Kingdom. The men want the minimum wage plan of payment, and while the owners are willing to grant this scale in abnormal places, they have flatly refused to consider the minimum wage scale as a general thing. If the strike is carried into execution at least 300,000 persons in addition to the miners will be made idle. Many of the big ironworkers, believing that the strike is sure to come, already have served notice on their employers that their services will not be needed after February 29, when the coal miners are scheduled to quit work.

In London and other big trade centers the price of coal is soaring and is already beyond the reach of the poorer class. The coal operators are making no deliveries except to the government.

COMMISSION CHARTER LIKELY TO BE DEFEATED

Klamath Falls, Or., Feb. 21.—There is trouble ahead for the commission charter. When the document was presented to the council with a petition from a large number of taxpayers asking that it be submitted to a vote at the coming election, it was referred to the city attorney. He returned the charter to the council with a lengthy opinion setting forth that it had not been submitted in legal form, and that it was defective in many places. It was proposed by some of the councilmen that the defects could be remedied by ordinance so that the charter would be entitled to go on the ballot. This proposal was acted upon favorably.

ARMORY PROPOSITION LIKED AT OREGON CITY

(Special to The Journal.)

Oregon City, Or., Feb. 22.—An armory in Oregon City is practically assured. The Live Wires of the Commercial club last night endorsed the proposition, and it is assured that the state will appropriate \$15,000 for the building of the structure. The city is expected to donate a like amount. A committee was appointed to work in conjunction with a committee of the National Guard to obtain the money.

R. V. D. Johnston explained that the city needed an armory, and pointed out that there is no hall in the city capable of seating more than 400 persons.

Journal Want Ads bring results.

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