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EDITORIAL

## PROGRESS IN THE SINGLE TAX.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**W**ITHIN the broad field of the “Antis,” there are two adversaries of the Socialist Labor Party, who, although very different in point of complexion, yet, in one respect, ever remind the Socialist of each other, every time the one, or the other, utters himself.

The one is the Anarcho-Syndicalist, the other is the Single Taxer.

At one with the Socialist that the revolutionary economic organization of the working class is essential for the emancipation of the proletariat, yet denying all virtue to political action, when the Socialist asks him: “How are you going to recruit the forces for your revolutionary economic organization unless you set up a political party to preach the Social Revolution, and thus agitate, educate and drill for the revolutionary army upon the only field in which such a mass-army can be agitated, educated and drilled for, to wit, the open field?”—when the Socialist puts to him that simple question, the Anarcho-Syndicalist gives the question the go-by, and he breaks forth in more or less sonorous, more or less discordant, but at all times irrelevant declamation.

On the other hand, at one with the Socialist that the land is essential for work and freedom, yet denying the equal essentialness of capital, when the Socialist asks him: “How is the capital-less man, the proletariat, to utilize ‘free land,’ even if the Single Tax freed the land; how is such a man, the workingman, to produce competitively with the mammoth plants of capital which can turn out, in plenty, hence, cheaply, whatever article the capital-less workingman should attempt to turn out, and in less time than it would take such a capital-less member of modern society to turn out anything?”—When the Socialist puts to him that simple question, the Single Taxer goes to pieces, and when he picks himself up together again, he breaks forth in more or less resounding, more or less incoherent, but at all times irrelevant wordiness.

While, so far as this common feature of the Anarcho-Syndicalist and the Single Taxer is concerned, we regret to say there is no progress noticeable in either, yet are we happy to be able to record some progress, however small, yet encouraging, with the Single Taxers, at least with one of them.

Mr. George Wallace, Land Value Taxation (Single Tax) candidate for Assembly in Nassau County, has done this office the honor of furnishing it with a copy of his address to the voters of Nassau County, in the course of which he declares the Socialist demands to mean that the people should “depend upon the state to see that they are fed and clothed.” However baroque such a conception of the Socialist demands may be, it is to be hailed with gladness as one that marks progress.

Time was when Single Taxers—and not the small fry among them, but their big guns—used angrily to contend that the Socialist demands meant that the state would dictate the color and size of the handkerchiefs that the people were to blow their noses in.

For an anti-Socialist Single Taxer to have advanced in his conception of Socialism beyond the primitive point of holding that the Socialist demands meant that the state shall tell us what color and size of handkerchief we shall blow our noses in, to the point of proclaiming that the Socialist demands mean that the people should “depend upon the state to see that they are fed and clothed,” is progress, not a hair-on-end-setting progress, yet a modicum of progress, which deserves being recorded, as we hereby do.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official website of the Socialist Labor Party of America.  
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[slpns@slp.org](mailto:slpns@slp.org)