

## The Half Truth in Radical Ideas

### Single Tax Propaganda Shows Need For Reform

#### The Lesson From Oregon.

The current issue of the Political Science Quarterly contains an article of more than passing interest. "The Single Tax Movement in Oregon", it is called, and it is written by James H. Gilbert of the University of that state. The numerous and persistent efforts at single tax legislation which have been made in old "Astoria" since 1908 in one way or another are detailed there, and the various arguments for and against the proposition which have been advanced from time to time in the course of the debates are set forth.

Beneath the continuous agitation on the tax question thus brought to view, an ancient, hoary principle is revealed. It is a principle frequently reiterated in theory but woefully forgotten in practice: that in all erroneous doctrines which attract the minds of men a half truth is contained which gives the basis for their acceptance. Mr. Gilbert's article and his conclusion in particular strikingly illustrate this fact. In summing up the lessons which the experiences of Oregon have taught, he states some conclusions which will bear repetition:

"Despite the fact," he says, "that single tax propaganda has not been productive of tangible results or even increased support for specific measures, it must not be inferred that no benefits have sprung from a campaign of education. The indictment of the general property tax has exposed its weakness in theory and its defects in practice. Many critics of single tax policy, who in early campaigns were inclined to uphold the principle of the 'uniform taxation' of all property, now frankly confess that it cannot be done with any degree of fairness and justice. Defects of the existing system are now generally recognized and even the most conservative are beginning to see that the only way to forestall considerable concessions to single tax policy in the future is to promote the cause of rational tax reform.

"Single tax discussion has likewise made clear the nature of unearned increment on city lots and the theoretical justice of taxing urban site value at a higher rate than property that is more distinctly the product of labor. At the same time critics of single tax policy have emphasized the injustice of taxing away the entire value of land bought and paid for by hard-earned savings of present owners, and exposed the folly of placing all taxes on land while disregarding incomes from other sources. The practical outcome may be the adoption, at no distant date, of some policy resembling the German increment tax, which concedes something to single tax philosophy while avoiding its fiscal and ethical defects. Some single tax leaders in the state have already made clear their willingness to endorse the principle of the increment tax, and recommend its use as a supplementary source of state and local revenue." (Political Science Quarterly, Volume XXXI, No. 1, flourishing financial condition of the Association was wholly due to this generous support.

Certainly this utterance will commend itself to all thoughtful men. That single tax agitation has arisen in response to a real need for reform in our methods of taxation a cursory examination will clearly show. The proposed unearned increment tax rectors, Francis O'Byrne, Thomas Culhane, Miss Mary Carr, Miss Rose Carey, N. J. Devereaux and Martin K. Fenelon.

Those who believe in the efficiency and desirability of conserva-

tive principles and practices, cannot, it is plain, rest content with mere criticisms of single tax propaganda. That fact has been stated before on several occasions. It must needs receive constant attention. It cannot be stated too frequently. Sane reform is a crying need of the present day.

C. B. of C. V.

## REV. WILLIAM C. REILLY

### Funeral of Priest from Immaculate Conception Church.

The funeral of Rev. William C. Reilly, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. H. Reilly, of No. 79 Tremont St., who died suddenly last Thursday at Riverhead, L. I., where he had been pastor of a church for a number of years, took place Monday morning from Immaculate Conception Church in this city. Priests and laity attended in large numbers.

Mass was celebrated by Rev. A. M. O'Neill, M. R., assisted by Rev. J. J. Bresnahan, of St. Bridget's Church, as deacon, and Rev. Walter Lee, of Corning, as sub-deacon. Rev. Timothy A. Hickey, of Brooklyn, was master of ceremonies; Bishop Hickey was present and Right Reverend Mgr. Dennis J. Curran and Very Rev. Mgr. James J. Coan, chancellor of the Brooklyn diocese, were deacons of honor; Rev. Raymond Quigley, of Sonoma, and Rev. M. L. Nolan, acolytes; Rev. Bartholomew Quirk, Lyons, candle bearer; Rev. Louis Edelman, book bearer, and Rev. James Wood, censor bearer.

The male chorus of the church directed by William F. Predmore, sang the music of the mass. The ushers were Neil Curtin, Joseph P. Hogan, William McDermott and Frank Connors.

Bishop Hickey delivered the eulogy. Interment was made at Holy Sepulchre cemetery.

The honorary bearers were: James A. Hennessy, James O'Hagen, Charles McCabe, William L. McDermott, William H. Donovan, James H. McGee, August Kaehli, and William F. Fianagan, of Riverhead, L. I., and Dr. Jas. T. McGovern, William H. McDonald, Thomas H. Green, John P. Smith, George T. Boucher, Michael J. Hyland, Bernard V. Logan, and Joseph P. Doyle, all members of Rochester Council, Kts. of Columbus.

The active bearers were: Rev. B. W. Gommenginger, Rev. J. Schellhorn, Rev. John Lee, of Watkins; Rev. J. F. Nelligan, Rev. J. P. McArdle and Rev. E. M. Lynch.

### Gaelic Association Elect Officers

The Gaelic Literary & Musical Association held its annual general meeting at Columbia Hall on Saturday evening, April 29th.

Miss Elsie Cole, secretary of the Association submitted her report which showed a substantial balance of cash on hand to be carried forward to next year. Her report showed that the Treasurer, Miss Rose McAweeney, has been able to place 30 per cent of the gross receipts to the credit of a surplus fund.

The President, D. C. Ryan, thanked the organization for the plenary source of state and local revenue." (Political Science Quarterly, Volume XXXI, No. 1, flourishing financial condition of the Association was wholly due to this generous support.

The following officers were elected for the coming year:

President, D. C. Ryan; vice-president, Miss Lillian Mills; Secretary, Miss Elsie Cole; Treasurer, Miss Rose McAweeney; Directors, Francis O'Byrne, Thomas Culhane, Miss Mary Carr, Miss Rose Carey, N. J. Devereaux and Martin K. Fenelon.

On the motion of Miss Margaret McGrath, seconded by James Young, a rising vote of thanks was given to the officers for their efficient work.

The Association held its usual social session with music and dancing.

Sixty-one members of the Theological Seminary in Eichstadt, Bavaria, are in the army.

## Foreign Mission News

Special correspondence by The Propagation of the Faith Society 318 Lexington Ave., New York City.

Wednesday, May 3rd, the ninety-third anniversary of the foundation of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith was held.

This appreciation comes from Fr. Wm. Finneemann, missionary priest in P. I.:

"As soon as I have finished some pictures taken on my trip to the heathen districts I shall send photos and a short article to your most famous Society which is doing so splendid a work for the Catholic missions in the Far East. 'I promise to pray for your great work and all its officers.'"

Fr. Leo Ting says that some of the bonzes of Che Kiang have conceived the idea of praying to the god-Bousha that the European war may come to an end. Fr. Ting exhorted his neophytes to follow the example of the pagans and beseech the One True God for the same blessing.

The Congregation of the Missionaries of Issoudun (Sacred Heart-Fathers) celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its foundation on March 25. The Congregation was founded by Fr. Chevalier and Fr. Vandel, who established near Issoudun, a small apostolic college. This later grew to large proportions. The members are engaged in missionary work in New Guinea and Micronesia.

Mgr. Berloz, P. F. M., Bishop of Haxodate, reports that one of his parishioners, Fr. Hagaska, has been ordained at Rome in the Basilica of St. John the Lattarin. This young man was brought up in the orphan asylum and his work since his return to Japan, has been to give religious instruction in the same institution. Another orphan, born of pagan parents, has become a novice in the Trappist monastery.

## The Holiest Island in The World.

It is a surprising thing in these degenerate days to hear of a strictly pious district where the inhabitants not only profess the Faith, but fervently live up to it.

This favored region is the French island of St. Barthelemy, in the West Indies. Bishop Vuylsteke, who recently visited us, writes:

"This island, together with the French part of St. Martin, was taken over from Guadalupe three years ago, on the account of the lack of priests in that diocese. The parish of St. Barthelemy is one of the holiest of parishes; the whole world, there being only two men who did not make their Easter duty. The people are descended from the Bretons. The whole island had been without a priest for ten months until one of our missionaries was sent to minister to them. I paid them my first canonical visit in January of this year after I had returned from the United States."

## American Invention To Aid Missionaries To The Lepers.

About a year ago there appeared in Catholic Missions an article entitled "Preaching a Retreat to Lepers." In it the priest described in a vivid manner the awful physical condition of the inmates of the hospital and the almost un-governable naseau which overcomes the priest when hearing their confessions. "With my heart in my mouth," said the priest, "but with a smiling face, lest the lepers should suspect the disgust they inspired, I talked with these remnants of manhood, astonished to see that human beings could live in such a state of decomposition."

A gentleman in Detroit who read this article was moved to alleviate the trials of missionaries in leper asylums. He has invented an instrument which enables the priest to hear confessions at a distance of several feet. It resembles a stethoscope, having a rubber tube attached to ear-pieces at one end and a mouth-piece at the other. By means of it the slightest whisper is clearly heard, and the leper may indulge in what may be called a long-distance confession.

The invention presented by this kind friend of the missions has been sent to Fr. Bertrand, P. F. M., in his Japanese leper retreat, and he will doubtless offer up many prayers of gratitude for his unknown benefactor.

## Our Question Box.

What does anti-Pope mean, and who were the anti-popes?

Anti-pope means a pretended pope. The anti-Popes were men who, by the aid of faithless Christians or others, unlawfully seized and claimed the papal power while the lawful Pope was in prison or exile.

Why does the Church use Latin instead of the national tongue of its members?

The Church uses Latin instead of the national tongue of its members: 1st. To avoid the danger of changing any part of its teaching in using different languages; 2nd. That all its rules may be perfectly united and understood in their communications; 3rd. To show that the church is not an institute of any particular nation, but the guide of all nations.

Can a child be baptized against the wishes of its parents?

A child cannot be baptized contrary to the wishes of its parents; and if the parents are not Catholics, they must not only consent to the baptism, but also agree to bring the child up in the Catholic religion. But if a child is dying, we may baptize it without either the consent or permission of its parents.

What does an Indulgence of forty days mean?

An indulgence of forty days means that for the prayers or works to which an Indulgence of forty days is attached, God remits as much of our temporal punishment as He remitted for forty days' canonical penance. We do not know just how much temporal punishment God remitted for public penance but whatever it was, He remits the same now when we gain an Indulgence of forty days. The same rule applies to Indulgences of a year or any length of time.

What are the grades by which one ascends to the priesthood?

The grades by which one ascends to the priesthood are: 1st. Tonsure, or the clipping of the hair by the bishop which the candidate for priesthood dedicates himself to the service of the altar; 2nd. the four minor orders, Porter, Reader, Exorcist and Acolyte, by which he is permitted to perform certain duties that laymen should not perform; 3rd. Sub-deaconship, by which he takes upon himself the obligation of leading a life of perpetual chastity and of saying daily the Mass and the office; 4th. Deaconship by which he receives power to preach, baptize and give Holy Communion; the next is the priesthood which gives him the power to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and to forgive sins. These orders are not all given at once, but at times fixed by the laws of the church.

## Comedy To Be Repeated.

"Turned Up", a comedy in 3 acts, which was given at Holy Cross Hall on March 17th, will be repeated at St. Lucy's Hall, on Friday evening, May 6th, for the benefit of St. Lucy's church. The play is given by the Holy Cross Dramatic Club, under the direction of Angelo-Newman.

Those in the cast are: Messrs. Earl Keenan, Joseph Gebaud, Charles Twamley, Louis Slater, Frank Twamley, Misses Lena Broughton, May Cronin, Florence Keenan, Mary Twamley, Marguerite McShea and Master Leo Twamley.

## Catholic Notes of Interest.

Domestic.

The Novena of Grace was made in 16 of the churches of Baltimore.

The personal estate of the late Bishop Scannell, of Omaha, consisted only of the insurance policies taken out many years ago.

At the close of the St. Vincent de Paul Society retreat in Milwaukee the Archbishop celebrated a Pontifical solemn Mass.

Chi Ting Kwei, a Chinese student at Yale, was the speaker at the last meeting of the Holy Name Society, of Branford, Ct. Mr. Kwei spoke on "The Past, Present and Future of China."

The sixty-sixth anniversary of the erection of New York and Cincinnati as archdioceses will be celebrated in July.

The Catholic Summer School of America celebrates its silver jubilee this summer.

A new gymnasium costing \$125,000 has been dedicated at DePaul University, Indiana.

The new St. Thomas Aquinas School in Brooklyn, N. Y., will be a very imposing edifice. It will have 18 class-rooms 25x30 feet each.

In the Church in the United States, the educational year is now beginning on its ending. So far, it has been a satisfactory one—a fruitful one.

Mgr. Dr. Koch, V. G., of Harrisburg, Pa., has resigned in consequence of ill-health.

One of the pastors in Denver now suggests that all the parochial schools have a joint Commencement program at the Auditorium.

Foreign.

Because of attacks of aircrafts, evening devotions in the cities of England are concluded before night-fall.

The Holy Father says: "In the face of the tremendous conflict, we have striven to induce the fighting nations to lay down their arms."

In England, the Association of Perpetual Adoration sent the ruined parishes of Belgium vestments and altar requisites.

## Ladies' Auxiliary to the A. O. H.

Arrangements have been completed for the 20th annual Reception and May Party of the Ladies' Auxiliary, Ancient Order of Hibernians, to be held Thursday evening, May 18th, at the Hall, 198 Main Street West. Miss Loretta Cherry is chairman of the Committee, and Mary Murphy, Mary Reid, Mary McCarthy, Margaret Kelly, Elizabeth McVeigh, Mae Dixon, Marion Slager, Mary McHugh, Margaret Murphy, Mrs. Eleanor Conway and Mrs. Minnie E. Murphy are striving to make this one of the most enjoyable affairs of the season.

Irish figure and step dancing will be part of the evening's entertainment.

The patronesses will be Mrs. Robert Dixon, Mrs. Margaret Sloan, Mrs. John Murphy, Mrs. Owen Smith, Mrs. Michael Morrison, Mrs. Julius Slager, Mrs. James Finn and Mrs. John Sheehan. A large attendance of the members and friends of the Society are expected.

## "Work for the Blind"

If you need chairs caned, pianos tuned, toilet articles, flavoring extracts and brooms, telephone Stone 3533.

## News From Ireland

**Castow.**  
P. J. Byrne, Carlow, has been elected solicitor to Balinglass No. 1 Council by 23 votes to 13 for P. D. Blayney.

Died—April 2, John Ryan, Garryhill school.—March 27, at his residence, Slyguff, Bagnelstown, William Kidd.

**Cavan.**  
The death of Mrs. Margaret Judge, mother of the Very Rev. James Judge, J. P., V. F., Killshandra, is announced.

Dr. McElwaine, Bailieborough, has the sympathy of the public on the death of his brother, John McElwaine, Lisgar, who was most popular in the district.

**Clare.**  
During the hearing of cases of Ennis Quarter Sessions against the Ennis Rural District Council for damages in respect of the condition of laborers' cottages, Judge Bodkin said the state of the cottages was a scandal, and commented on the eviction of a tenant after a decree had been granted.

**Cork.**  
E. O'Mahony, organist, St. Patrick's, Cork, has been appointed to St. Patrick's, Fermoy and professor of music in St. Colman's College.

**Derry.**  
J. R. Scott, J. P., Willabore, has been co-opted to membership of the Derry No. 1 R. D. Council in room of Major Quinn, resigned.

Died—March 30, John, husband of Annie Brennan, 69 Huntington road.

Gertrude McCarthy, 16 Usher's Island, was knocked down by a motor car and treated for concussion in Stevens' hospital.

Killarney guardians have passed a vote of condolence to C. Moynihan, D. C., on the death of his father.

Killarney Guardians elected Miss J. Buckley, Crohane, workhouse school mistress.

Died—At his residence, Furry Hill, Rathmore, Naas, Hugh Clarke, aged 80 years.

**Kilkenny.**  
T. Crotty, merchant, Kilkenny, who has been appointed a magistrate for that city, is a brother of the Very Rev. J. T. Crotty, O.P.

**Limerick.**  
The Catholic church at Ballybritt, parish of Coolberry, near Birr, has been re-opened after having been closed for upwards of 70 years.

Limerick County Council re-appointed Dr. Harley tuberculosis medical officer for the ensuing twelve months.

Thomas Ryan, cattle dealer, Boher, was killed by the capsizing of a cart.

**Married—At St. Joseph's church, Limerick, by the Rev. M. O'Shaughnessy, Edmond, third son of the late James Sheehy Noonan, Ballyguile Castle, Ballygarry, County Limerick, to Ellen, second daughter of the late Michael Roche, Kilmoria, Ballygarry County Limerick.**

**Longford.**  
Died—At a Dublin hospital, Thomas P. Higgins of Melview, Longford.

**Roscommon.**  
The death is announced of John Shanaghan, Ardkillen, brother of Rev. P. J. Shanaghan, P. P., Tulak in his 75th year. Deceased was for many years a member of Strokestown District Council.

**Tipperary.**  
During the public procession in Tipperary on St. Patrick's Day, a man named Philip Donovan, Timsmith, New Road, collapsed in the street and died immediately afterwards.

**Waterford.**  
Most Rev. Dr. Hackett has appointed the Right Rev. Mgr. Power, P. P., Dungarvan, vice-general.