Some New Argument for the Single Tax.

EDITOR ADVOCATE: - As there is a considerable amount of sgitation in favor of substituting the single-tax for our present system of taxation, perhaps a comparison of the two systems with especial reference to their respective effects on the farmer would drive away some of the prejudice that exists in the minds of some against said change.

It takes about \$10 per capita to run the government under the precent system, or about \$50 for each family of five -nearly 600 million dollars per annum, which would amount to just \$10 per espita for 60 million people.

If the farmers paid with same proportion as the balance of the people, each farmer would pay just an average of \$50 per annum into the government treasury. But any man of ordinary intelligence can see at a glance that the farmers pay a great deal more than the average citizen. Under the present system of taxation, each pays in proportion to what he consumes, and there is no other class of citizens that consumes anywhere near as much in proportion to their capital as the farmer. For instance, the farmer consumes steam threshers, binders, headers, plows, harrows, wagons, wire, lumber, nails, and many other things that no other class of people consume, and then they consume as much of the things that other people consume as they do; hence it would be entirely within the bounds of reason to estimate the proportion that the farmers pay at \$100 per family of five, just double what the average citizen pays.

Now, it is a well-known fact that by reason of the protective features of our tariff law that there is at least \$2 goes into the pockets of our manufacturers and mine-owners for everyone that is received by the government, hence the average farmer must pay at least \$300 per annum under our present system of taxation. It can be easily seen that this estimate is about correct, for the total receipts of an average farm of 160 acres will average about \$1,000 per annum, and if the tariff only increases the price of commodities 30 per cent, it would compel the average farmer to pay just \$300 more for the goods he bought with his \$1,000.

But the indirect effect of our system of taxation is worse than the direct, for a robbed customer must necessarily be a poor one; hence, by allowing the manufacturers to charge the masses, who are the farmers' customers, two prices for the goods that they are compelled to have makes them just to the extent that they are robbed that much poorer oustomers for the farmers; for it is a wellknown fact that the average family will scrimp at the table sooner than on their backs. People can see what they wear, but not what they eat; hence, a hungry stomach and good clothes often go together. By adopting the single-tax, at least 30 per cent. of the money that now goes into the pockets of our millionnatural course and soon find its into the farmers' pocket.

Now, we have seen about what our present system of taxation costs the are inclined to stay at home and attend cials, and all revenue outters and crews, tion and also consume the most. and also all internal revenue tax-collect-

we must have a tax levy of 1.4 per cent., taxation. so that an average farmer on a 160-acre less than one-tenth of the tax he is comthe state tax to the state treasurer now.

the interest of resident farmers and for, so that we can't possibly receive for business men as it would compel non- our produce more than one-third that resident land-owners to pay tax in pro- | we would under the single-tax and govportion to the value of land that they ernment ownership of railroads. Few owned. Non-resident land-owners don't even of the Populists comprehend the own any personal property in Kansas, withering effects of our present system and of course, if a portion of our taxes of taxation. It is so unutterably outare levied on personal property the levy rageous that it would make a pirate will be lighter on land, and non-resident land-owners' taxes will be lighter. Under the single-tax system the average farmer of 160 acres would probably have to pay about \$25 tax for state, county and township purposes, or a total assessment of about \$58 for state and national purposes. Now the single-tax contemplates the taking of the total rental state and municipal governments paid so we would have \$47 per 160 scree left. Now a proportionate tax levy on all of the land in the United States which the one more case where one of our workers all present public expenses. Suppose lars would pay 3 per cent. interest on 4 billion dollars of bonds which it would 5 billion dollars we could issue 1 billion dollars of greenbacks and pay one-fifth of their value down, and we could issue bonds for the balance; 504 million dollars would pay the 700,000 railroad employes an average of \$60 per month, which is more than they receive now and under the single-tax \$60 per month would go farther than \$100 now.

Now, we have 76 million dollars of our 700 million dollars left to buy the coal and pay for repairs and the other necessary expenses with. For fear that wouldn't be sufficient I would recom aire manufacturers would assume its mend a moderate charge for passenger fare. Free passenger fare would be in the in every school house in Kansas. For interest of the shifters. Some people shame on such a man and such conare eternally on the go while others temptible lies!

single-tax would levy this on land, irre- the single-tax to supply the required spective of improvements. The census amount and it would also supply a siskreport shows the value of real estate of ing fund for the purpose of paying off the nation to be about 39 billion dollars. the bonds. The single-tax would do all Deduct 10 billion dollars for value of im- of this as I have shown with a tax provements and we have 29 billion dol- levy of \$100 per 160 acres in Kansas lars of land values. Now, from this which is at least \$200 less than we pay land we must raise 400 million dollars, or now through our indirect system of

As the distribution of commodities is farm, which, irrespective of improve- next in importance to the prosperity of ments, in Kansas would be worth proba- the people to their production, I am inbly about \$2,000, would pay just \$28, or clined to the opinion that there should be no charge over government roads for pelled to pay under the present system. their transportation. I have shown that There would be no extra expense of col- an annual tax on an average farm of 160 lection, because our present assessors acres in Kansas would pay all the necwould be the only ones, and our state essary expenses of our national and treasurer would pay our proportion of state governments and transport all the government tax to the national commodities free. It now costs us \$250 treasurer, which would be in proportion to ship 1,000 bushels of wheat to New to the value of our land, just as our York, then our tariff and internal revecounty tressurer pays our proportion of one tax robs us of at least one-third of what we have left of our wheat after In regard to our state and county paying for shipping, through increased taxes the single-tax would be wholly in price for goods that we trade our wheat H. E. TRACHOUT. shudder.

Hukle, Kas.

Sixth District Populists.

EDITOR ADVOCATE:-We next went to Hoxie, Sheridan county. This is one of our western counties that have suffered from failure of crops. But her people are plucky and propose to stay. The value of land or an annual tax of about opera house was full of people who 5 per cent. of its selling value for public came to hear Captain Osborn, it being purposes. Now we have our national, the first time he had spoken in the county. At the close of the meeting for at \$53 per 160 scree, and 5 per cent, there were several parties who said they on a \$12,000 farm would amount to \$100, had never cast their lot with the Populists, but would bereafter.

Will you allow me, Mr. Editor, to cite single-tax contemplates, would amount gave cheerfully of his means to "send to 700 million dollars over and above out the light." I would not call your readers' attention to these incidents but we should apply this surplus toward the for the fact they show how earnestly the distribution of wealth, 120 million dol- people are working and what they will sacrifice for this reform work. When the question of raising some means to be necessary to issue in order to buy spread our literature was raised, a Mr. J. the railroads; estimating their value at said: "I only have one dime in the world. If some one will give me two nickles, I will put one in the hat." Every day we meet with just such noble men. I tell you, a cause that is backed up by such a spirit will win.

The next meeting was at Hill City. Prices for Kansas and Nebraska wools are: Fully two-thirds of all the voters of the county were at this meeting. After the captain had made his speech, it would have done you good to have heard O. L. Smith answer one James Troutman, candidate for lieutenant governor on the g. o. p. ticket. He handled him without gloves. I only wish Troutman could City Stock Yards horse and mule department, make his speech of vilification and abuse

From here we went to Natome, one of farmer, and, of course, we can't make a to their work. A moderate charge for the prettiest located little villages in all fair comparison of the two systems with- passengers would act as a check to Kansas, only two years old, and about out finding out as near as possible what abuses of that kind. But the free trans- six business houses. Our good friend R. effect the single-tax would have. In the portation of commodities would be in F. Baldwin is the founder of the town. first place, it would do away with all the interest of the industrious because He is a loyal Populist, too. The meetcustom houses and their necessary offi- they produce the most for transporta- ing here was not so large as we had been having, but more men come to shake If each of our 60 million of inhabitants hands with the captain and say, "Your ors, and a horde of spies, detectives, and paid an average of \$5 per annum for speech has convinced me that your a large share of United States marshala. passenger fare it would raise an annual course is just and right," than at any The effect of all this would probably re- fund of 300 million dollars which would other meeting. From this point the duce the annual expense of the govern- be enough to supply any deficiency that captain went to make his appointments ment to about 400 million dollars. The might be occasioned by the failure of further west, and your correspondent



started to take in some of the governor's meetings. We stopped over two days in Saline county, where we succeeded in getting 260 more readers for the Apvo-O. W. HENDER.

THE MARKETS.

CHICAGO, August 20, 1894. WHEAT-Cash, 54% cents; Sept., 55 cents; Dec., 58% cents.
Cons.—Cash, 58% cents; Sept., 55% cents;
Dec., 58% cents.
OAYs.—Cash.——cents; Sept. 30% cents.
Poss.—Cash \$13.50.

LIVE STOCK.

KANSAS CITY, August 20, 1894. Carrize—Texas steers, \$1.50692.95; native cows, \$1.30692.75; stockers and feeders, \$1.30692.75; bills, Hoos—Bulk of sales, \$5.00695.35; lights, yorkers and pigs, \$3.3665.15.

woot.

Silberman Bros., 212 and 214 Michigan street, Chicago, get out a weekly report of the wool market which they will be glad to send on application.

The exceedingly dry weather has placed corn on the top shelf, and judging from the active market, wool is a close second. The dry weather has not been the means of creating the firm market on wool, however, but the cause may be assigned to two reasons: First-Upon actual demand by the manufacturers notwithstanding tariff tinkering; and second, on account of the anticipated tariff revision many millions of sheep have been driven to the slaughtering pen. We are creditably informed by Messrs, Silberman Bros., 312 Michigan street, Chicago, Ills., who, by the way, are one of the largest wool commission houses in the West, that the demand for best grades of wool at this time is more active than for two years past. Speculators, with an eye to business, think wool is good property and this, together with above reasons, makes a decidedly firm market. Any shippers having wool to dispose of would find it to their advantage to correspond with the above firm and market their wool in the next two or three weeks while the market is strong, and before there is any possible show for foreign wools coming in free.

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W. S. Tough & Son, managers of the Kansas

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Market fairly active. A little more movement in all grades. Prices steady at quota-

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Labor's side of the labor of Swinton, the Pillar of Light ment. Send to for agents ou profits. Add. National Peb. Co.