

elements, land and improvements, has not been made. We have seen so-called estimates of land value of London or Glasgow or the United Kingdom (and many are the absurd guesses made by reputed statisticians), to which we may reply: Here is New York where the thing has been done with scientific precision. It is a City of 5,872,143 people; the site value of ordinary real estate is £934,389,700, equivalent to £159 per head. Adding the land value of other real estate, the value of franchises and the taxation imposed, the annual rental value of the land on which the people live and work is at least £77,556,700, or £14 5s. per head. From these figures, what can we reasonably say is the value of London or Glasgow or Birmingham? Certainly, something very much more than even the present rateable value of land and buildings taken together. The New York returns at once dismiss our present "rateable" figures (arrived at under the British taxing system) as a reliable basis of any computation of land value.

A. W. M.

"JOS" WEDGWOOD

Colonel Josiah Wedgwood, D.S.O., member for Newcastle-under-Lyme, is a fighter first, last, and all the time. To seek out tyranny and diligently slay it, to protest against injustice and proclaim the rights of man, are the consuming passions of his life.



"Jos" Wedgwood.

In the first century he would certainly have fought alongside Paul with beasts at Ephesus. In the twentieth, when not employed in Antwerp, France, Gallipoli, or East Africa, he fights at Westminster.

He conducts a perpetual guerilla warfare against the exploiting interests. Scribes, Pharisees, and hypocrites, Under-Secretaries, Ministers, and the National Democratic Party—Wedgwood is ever ready to lead an assault

against them, careless whether any follow him or none.

He asks more questions than any man in Parliament. He is ready—and perfectly competent—to make a withering speech on any subject. No House of Commons, no debate, would be complete without him.

Wedgwood is a crusader for the cause of the underdog, whether conscientious objector or dispossessed native under the British flag.

He has done more than any single man to spoil the Russian gamble. His speeches on Koltchak, Denikin, Mannerheim, and Yudenitch make the "Friends of Russia" gibber in their seats.

It is related that, in a hot corner at Gallipoli, a certain man answered his call for prompt action at a critical moment. "I need hardly say," remarked Wedgwood, "that he was a single-taxer from Glasgow."

Violently interrupted recently in the House as to why, if he so loved the Bolsheviks, he did not go and join them, he replied instantly: "If it's got to come to a class war, that's my side."

The Radicals have lost, and the Labour Party have gained, a very able and dashing swordsman in "Jos." But he remains the most independent man in Parliament.—H. J. G. in the "Herald" (London), September 5th.

MR. R. L. OUTHWAITE AND HYDE

The COMMONWEAL (edited by Mr. R. L. Outhwaite) of October 4th announces that a largely attended Conference of delegates from Trade Unions and I.L.P. branches affiliated to the local Labour Party of the Hyde and Stalybridge Division met on the 27th September for the adoption of a candidate. The Chairman announced that the only nomination was that of Mr. R. L. Outhwaite, put forward by the Hyde I.L.P. Mr. Outhwaite addressed the Conference and urged that he should not be adopted unless the delegates were prepared to support him in the demand for the assertion forthwith of the common right to the land as the first essential step towards the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth. Mr. Outhwaite was unanimously adopted.

The BRITISH AUSTRALASIAN of October 2nd refers to Mr. Outhwaite's adoption as Labour candidate and recalls that his first parliamentary fight was against the late Mr. Chamberlain in Birmingham, where, though he was naturally unsuccessful, for it was a forlorn hope, he scored a bigger vote than any opponent of Mr. Chamberlain had done for many years. Mr. Outhwaite was then almost a stranger to England, having arrived only a little while before from South Africa, whither he had gone from Australia two or three years previously. Later he tried again at Horsham without success, and about eight years ago won the Hanley seat as a Liberal. Like many other advanced Radicals, he lately left the Liberal for the Labour Party.

We cordially wish Mr. Outhwaite every success in his campaign. His wide circle of friends in the Single Tax movement expected him sooner or later to resume his place in Parliament, and this announcement will give them the greatest pleasure.

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