

tions than his advocacy of some particular principle of taxation, important as it may be in the life of man.

As editor of *The Public* for many years his brilliant intellect was always at the service of those who were fighting to realize that equality of opportunity, so vital to the happiness of the race and so necessary to the continued existence of a truly free government.

One remembers the magnificent fights he waged in the latter part of the last century and the early days of this one for absolute freedom of expression. Some of his greatest battles were fought to maintain the rights of those with whose opinions he had not the least sympathy. He once said that he would fight for the right of the devil himself to give expression to his point of view and that no institution could endure whose humblest member was deprived of the right to express the truth as it was given him to see it.

Post believed that the prime reason for the existence of government was to enable its citizens to exercise the fullest freedom in individual development. Men were not made to be the mere pawns of the state. Government could be either a tyrant or a nourisher of great souls, and Post had no love for it except as it allowed the freest individual development.

Louis F. Post chose to serve the cause of the common man throughout his long life, and he died in the full assurance that he had achieved that happiness which comes only to those who have kept faith with their souls. His life will go on in the struggle that other men will continue to wage against all the powers of tyranny in whatever shape they show themselves.

FROM THE *Evening World*

THE death at the age of seventy-nine, of Louis F. Post ends a long controversial career of no little brilliance. He joined forces with Henry George on the latter's tax theories almost half a century ago, and became one of their most clever and persuasive advocates. His temperament leading him instinctively to a public career, he early abandoned the law for journalism. Scholarly, pungent, concise, vigorous, he soon gathered to himself a following independent of his great leader. His impulses made him the inevitable spokesman of the "under dog." Thus he was associated with numerous movements and parties described as "radical" by the conservatives or reactionaries. For many years previous to his appointment by President Wilson as Assistant Secretary of Labor he edited the *Public* in Chicago, a powerful weekly dealing ably with political and economic problems. As he grew older his interests and hobbies expanded, and for some time previous to his call to Washington he had been recognized throughout the Middle West as one of the foremost of the progressives.

His activities as Assistant Secretary of Labor were wholly satisfactory previous to the war; and then his troubles began. He refused to be stamped into some

of the absurdities of "patriotism" and insisted on consideration of the cases of "radicals" brought up for deportation. Time enough has elapsed to make us all heartily ashamed of some phases of the hysteria of those times. It required just such courage as Louis Post had to take the position he did. The threat of impeachment was abandoned, probably with reason; and the fact that his resignation was not requested by the President may be taken as evidence that Woodrow Wilson saw nothing unpatriotic in his position. And that is quite enough.

FROM THE *Baltimore Sun*

LOUIS FREELAND POST, who has died in Washington at the age of 78, was an outstanding example of the old-time American radical, the man who persistently and intelligently sought root causes for social discontents and economic maladjustments. Clear-headed, kindly, blazingly sincere and transcendently honest, he won and held the admiration of all fair-minded men, regardless of how they differed with his theories. The passing of Louis Post is in itself a cause for national regret. The loss is increased by the thought that his type, so influential in the early days of the Republic, is now becoming very scarce.

None could more perfectly meet the test of "one hundred per cent. Americanism" than Louis Post. Not merely in the fact that he was a scion of three centuries of American stock, but even more in the fact that most of his absorbing intellectual interests, such as the Single Tax, or, in late years, the League of Nations, were of American origin. He even took, as vividly he showed during his eight-year term as Assistant Secretary of Labor, the Constitution of this country with utmost seriousness. In the sorry episode of the deportations delirium of 1920 the courageous liberalism of Mr. Post stands out as a bright and a redeeming light.

From the Daughter of Henry George

IT is difficult for me to write of Mr. Post,—so closely has he been associated with some of my deepest and dearest memories that he seems like one of my very own.

He who had dedicated his life to service, who had worked for Truth as he saw it—almost to the last, had grown so weary that no one who loved him could want to hold him, unless the old strength and vigor could be given him again. He was more completely ready for the next Experience than any "professing Christian" I ever met. He was long in preparing himself for the Birth into another Life and during the short visit I had with him a few days before he died; he spoke of his own death as casually as another might speak of going on a journey.

It was difficult to believe that he was so seriously ill—he looked so much better than one had dared to hope. His eyes were keenly bright and his voice was strong.

We chatted and laughed in the old way. Something was said that suddenly called forth the old power. In his own words he expressed his grief that we Single Taxers are so often unable to work our separate ways in the field of propaganda, without antagonizing each other over the different means we take to reach the same end.

His brown eyes flashed and I checked his excitement by giving him proof that Individualists though we be—we are learning tolerance inside the lines.

And then we switched to a discussion of and an expression of our joy in the new little book of Significant Paragraphs from Progress and Poverty.

When Mrs. Post signalled to me that my time was up and I must go he said "Good-bye." I tried not to believe what I knew he meant—

Where is one to find again so wise a councilor, so clear-visioned a leader, so unbiased a judge, so selfless a worker? Where is one to find another FRIEND such as he?

—ANNA GEORGE DEMILLE.

Who Lived His Faith

To the Memory of Louis F. Post

They say he sleeps, with folded hands, at rest,—
Done for an Eon with an ancient quest.
What Grail he sought, not any man shall know. . .
He gave us more, the living way to go.
And here, Beloved, where his purpose wrought,
Burns higher yet the Flame whose light we caught.
Ah! But to keep its radiance aglow,
As long his patience sought to teach us how.

He needs no wreath of amaranth or bay . . .
Time keeps for him a calm, unclouded day,
Yet would he smile, watching with kindly eyes
Our struggle to march on without disguise,
Could he behold our courage, as his own,
Fearless to go with Faith, unarmed, alone.
The sun shines brighter where his spirit rode,
To find for man a happier abode.

—GEORGE ERWIN BOWEN.

How Assyria Fell

ASSYRIA fell, as far as we can make out, from two causes. The necessity to keep up a huge standing army ruined agriculture because the king needed so many soldiers that he could not spare men to till the fields. Moreover, the sudden growth of luxury led to the establishment of big estates by the millionaires of the age. Small farms were swallowed up. Assyria was unable to grow the food that Assyria needed.—*Boston Post*.

William J. Wallace

THE death of William J. Wallace, leader of the Commonwealth Land party, at his home in Newark, N. J. after a short illness, at the age of 67, is a serious loss to the movement.

At an early period Mr. Wallace felt that there was something wrong in the distribution of wealth. The various theories propounded for the solution of the problem that was troubling him, were all unsatisfactory. He continued however to attend meetings and listen to speakers. At last the inevitable happened. He heard the gospel of Henry George expounded, and he straightway bought a copy of "Progress and Poverty" and read industriously.¹ He soon became convinced of the soundness of that philosophy and later affiliated himself with the organized group in this city.

Later he found himself in disagreement with the methods pursued by the Single Taxers, and when the late Joseph Darling started an independent party movement joined with him and others for direct party action. He was never deceived as to the importance of the party movement, regarding it merely as a good means of publicity. There is no doubt that at a time following the dissolution the Fels Fund Commission and the death of Joseph Fels, the Commonwealth Land party movement exercised a wholesome influence in its explicit declaration for the abandonment of the taxation programme of agitation and a renewal among Single Taxers of the pure unadulterated gospel of Henry George. This at least the party movement accomplished, and a debt is owing William J. Wallace for the enunciation of that policy at a time when bolder utterance was sadly needed.

At times his attitude may have seemed to partake of an intolerance toward those as sincere as himself, but he followed his conviction in much the same spirit as determined his attitude as a devout Churchman and follower of a militant Christianity.

He was a generous contributor to the Single Tax activities of which he approved, and liberally aided the campaign of Luke North in California. As a retired manufacturer he possessed a comfortable fortune but lived a life of quiet seclusion. The hospitality of his home was at all times open to his friends in the movement, and there the visitor might breathe the gracious atmosphere and the fine spirit made possible by the presiding genius of himself and wife.

In 1924 Mr. Wallace was the candidate for President on the Commonwealth Land party ticket and for a number of years was president of the Single Tax Publishing Co., his place being now filled by Herman G. Loew.

The following Resolutions were passed by the Executive Committee of the C. L. P., at its last regular meeting:

WHEREAS, in the death of William J. Wallace the Henry George movement has sustained a severe loss which cannot soon be replaced, the Executive Committee of the