

The Passing of Fiske Warren

FISKE WARREN, founder of a dozen Single Tax colonies, "enclaves" as they are called, and an attendant at nearly all the Henry George Congresses which have met from year to year under the auspices of the Henry George Foundation, was born at Waltham, Mass., in 1862. He graduated from Harvard in 1884 and later studied law at Oxford, England.

He was a fighter for Philippine independence in 1899 and was intimately associated with the Filipino leaders, knowing many of them personally. He was proud of the title bestowed upon him, "Champion of the Unpopular."

His particular service to the Single Tax cause was the founding of the "enclaves" by which he hoped to demonstrate the advantages of paying all communal expenses out of land values while exempting all improvements from taxation. He founded the enclaves at Tahanto, and Ayer, Mass, Halidon at Westbrook, Maine and Sant Jordi in the Republic of Andora. He also founded the Georgeian Trust Fund for the promotion of the Georgeist cause.

Mr. Warren was prominent socially and was a member of many clubs. He was national amateur court tennis champion in 1893.

His friendship with Erskine Childers is an interesting incident in his career. Fiske Warren and Erskine Childers married sisters, daughters of Dr. Hamilton Osgood of Boston. Childers was a veteran of the Boer War and the author of a novel warning against Germany. He became interested in the Irish fight for independence and used his yacht to convey guns to the Irish rebels. He was taken and died wearing the green before a firing squad.

In an interesting sketch of Fiske Warren life the *Boston Globe* in its issue of Feb. 6 says:

Both men operated on the principle that the highest patriotism is to prevent your own country from dominating a small nation. Both were "lone wolves"; Warren resigned from the Anti-Imperialistic League so as not to embarrass it, before campaigning for Philippine Independence on the spot at Manila. Childers separated himself from his English friends to carry on the fight in Ireland. Both men appeared to have failed in their objectives, but in both cases these seem to be approaching achievement.

The Philippines have become a Commonwealth and are on their way to independence. A British Prime Minister recently had a friendly discussion at London with President Eamonn de Valera regarding the details of Ireland's newer, more independent status in the British Commonwealth of Nations.

Those who remember the quiet, soft-spoken man that was Fiske Warren will have some difficulty in visualizing him for what he was, a heroic fighter, willing to take up any cause that appealed to him. In this he was like his friend Childers. It is difficult to feature him as the

daring advocate of a cause that aroused the utmost bitterness.

As illustrative of the intensity of the bitterness aroused by the controversy over Philippine independence we may mention the address delivered by the Rev. Dr. Rossiter before a gathering of American veterans at Manila, at which the Reverend gentleman said, that if William Howard Taft, then Governor General of the Philippines, would give the word they would duck Fiske Warren in the Pagis River. It never happened, but Mr. Warren later carried on a newspaper controversy with William Howard Taft while that gentleman was Governor General and Secretary of War.

It was not until 1909 that Mr. Warren read "Progress and Poverty." It was an indication of his venturesome character—always the "lone wolf" as the *Globe* has called him—that in place of cooperating with existing activities he sought to establish through Single Tax colonies the principles which he had eagerly espoused. And it must be said that these "enclaves" have been measurably successful. While colony experiments have come and gone the Single Tax "enclaves" have continued to flourish. They are not sufficient in their scope to produce any great economic effects, but they may be said to be working examples not without their value as partial demonstrations.

When the history of the movement is completed the name of Fiske Warren will occupy a high and prominent place in its annals. He was a brave soldier in the war for human freedom.

A Tribute to Fiske Warren

THE sudden passing of Fiske Warren in Boston was a shock and sorrow to his many friends. He was in the full tide of his usual even and athletic health; he walked, he bicycled, and he even ran over hill and dale with ease and zest of a youth up to the moment when an aural operation intervened.

A childhood of delicate health had robbed him of the heritage of open-air activity enjoyed by most American boys. This he battled with and conquered, becoming one of the earliest national champions in tennis. Later his crusade, almost single-handed and at risk of life and limb, to stem imperialistic trends by a long trip through the Philippine Islands made vivid and picturesque history, known to but few.

Travel, faithfulness to his business activities (in an inherited paper-making concern of high repute), study in delving deep into the scholarship of the early English language, a felicitous marriage to a most rare and understanding mate (who, with their three children, shares his aims and purposes to introduce Single Tax), rounded out a distinguished career, though withal a most modest one, of amazing energy, concentration and earnestness.

Practicing the most rigid self-denial in all luxuries or even comforts (he habitually traveled to Europe by third-class), no harsh misunderstandings, no tacit social ostracism on the part of others who did not understand his high ideals, ever turned him by one jot or tittle from his path.

To Georgeism—chiefly as exemplified in several successful enclaves which he either founded or in which he shared management—he gave unremittingly of himself and his substance with a single-minded devotion rarely found.

So, over and above the swift yet enduring pangs of grief that must be felt by many in every walk of life, scattered over several continents, to whom he endeared himself by his sincerity, his roguish humor, his Spartan simplicity, his human-ness, his tolerance, his courage and his integrity in the largest implications of the word, his admirers and friends must learn to merge their sense of loss in the larger realization that though the world is literally the poorer for his going, it is infinitely richer by his efforts and his spirit.—EMILY E. F. SKEEL.

Activities of The Manhattan Single Tax Club

PRESIDENT INGERSOLL has had unusual activity in public speaking engagements in the last few weeks:

The Lions Club at White Plains, in conjunction with Radio Station WFAS of that city, had Mr. Ingersoll on March 3; and Mr. Frank A. Seitz arranged for the address on the air, and also each question and answer. As the latter consumed nearly three hours, this programme was very interesting. It might be promoted in each place having a radio station. (See separate report on this event.)

The Lions Club of Fall River, Mass.

The Kiwanis Club of Fall River, Mass.

Dr. F. M. Padelford has arranged for these two service clubs to hear Mr. Ingersoll at a union luncheon meeting on April 20. His subject will be "The Cause and Cure of Depression, Unemployment and Poverty."

The Rotary Club of Bridgeton, N. J.

This club will have Mr. Ingersoll as its guest speaker on June 9. His subject: "The Cause and Cure of Depression, Unemployment and Poverty."

The Rotary Club of Haddonfield, N. J.

This club arranged with Mr. Ingersoll to be its guest speaker in April, but has not decided as between which Thursday.

Mr. Ingersoll is giving special study to his appeal to business men and in connection with broadcasting of current events.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE FORUM

A number of forums have given special opportunity to Mr. Ingersoll as Director and Chairman to introduce economics. This station, having 5000 watts power, enjoys a coverage of the whole East as evidenced by com-

munications from as far as Minneapolis, Miami and Nova Scotia.

Mr. Ingersoll's weekly broadcasting schedule:

Mon., WCNW, 2:30 P. M.; WWRL, 11:15 P. M.; Tues., WFAS, 10:30 P. M. (White Plains); Wed., WCNW, 3:45 P. M.; Thur., WLTH, 8:15 P. M.; Fri., WPEN, 9:45 P. M. (Phila.); WDAS, 12:45 P. M. (Phila.); WSNJ, 2:45 P. M. (Bridgeton); WTNJ, 7:45 P. M. (Trenton); Sat., WOV, 3:15 P. M.; WWRL, 11:15 P. M.; Sun., WBIL, 8:15 P. M. The Public Service Forum, (C. H. I., Director.)

1400 to 1500 k. c. except WBIL, 1100 k. c. 5000 watts. WOV, 1100 k. c. 5000 watts.

REPORT ON PRES. CHAS. H. INGERSOLL'S ADDRESS TO THE LIONS CLUB OF WHITE PLAINS

This report is deemed important in view of the following comment made by Frank A. Seitz, Manager of Radio Station WFAS at White Plains. Seitz arranged this meeting and serviced it with not only the speaker's microphone, but shifted another receiver to each diner as he asked questions, thus getting the whole proceeding.

"I can only repeat what I told you after the meeting—that I have never yet seen the members of the Lions Club give up the greater part of their afternoon for a speaker! Since a great many of them are interested in real estate in Westchester County, your subject was particularly appropriate."

This report is important as an example of radio technique which should be extended, and as indicating a well-balanced talk to business men, as evidenced by the fact that practically everyone of these sixty Lions members asked one or more questions, and stayed away from their business three hours to get the answers.

The high points of Mr. Ingersoll's talk were as follows (his subject being "Single Tax—the only remedy for depression," suggested by the club President): He explained that while the Single Tax was descriptive, it tended to narrow a great moral and business philosophy. The first democracy, and greatest producer of wealth, should not be "at the cross-roads." Our troubles are economic though involving morals, spirituality, and philosophy. Business men should stick to the tangible, financial and temporal.

There are two schools only, approaching the breakdown from the economic viewpoint—the individualist democrat of the Jefferson and George type, and the Marxian collectivist philosophy (or fallacy). These two opposite schools very significantly agree: (1) that our prime trouble is poverty itself; (2) that it is caused by exploitation; (3) that it is curable; and by stopping the exploitation; (4) that the approach is economic; and (5) that socialization is the remedy. This takes them together to the half-way point, because the individualist would socialize all social values which comprise about half of our "national wealth."

This is very important because these two schools and the followers of them, make up the vast majority of all the people; and if they can come together on the only point of difference, we will be practically out of our trouble. This point is: "who or what is the exploiter?" As you know, collectivists would destroy our private system of business, capital and wealth—by socializing it. The individualist would correct the errors of that system and insist on absolute integrity of it. So, instead of the absolute agreement of the two schools, as up to the 50-50 point, they are as absolute in their disagreement from thence on, because this difference involves not only our business and profit system, but our democracy, and civilization as we now understand it.

Now, we come to the answer: the Single Tax is the only alternative to (a) this Marxian, leading to chaos, or (b) our present system, which