

THE LATE EDWIN P. WENTWORTH

Edwin Parsons Wentworth who died some months ago was born in Buxton, Maine, January 1, 1854, son of Eben and Priscilla L. (Hill) Wentworth. His early education was acquired in the public schools in Portland, his father and mother removing to that city from Buxton when he was about two years old. In 1869, at the age of fifteen, he became clerk in the book store of his brother, Daniel Wentworth, in Portland. While engaged in the book business he learned the art of stenography, and from 1875 to 1878 did considerable reporting in the courts, and also taught shorthand. In February 1878 he was elected Assistant Superintendent of the State Reform School, but resigned November 1, 1879. In March, 1880 he was again elected Assistant Superintendent, which office he continued to fill until June, 1897, when he became the Superintendent of the School. During Mr. Wentworth's superintendency the name of the institution has been changed to the State School for Boys, the public laws relating to the institution have been revised and modernized, the prison features of the School have been eliminated, the cottage system has been substituted for the congregate, new cottage homes have been built for the boys, and other needed buildings erected, and many other important improvements have been made.

Mr. Wentworth was a member of the National Conference of Charities and Corrections, and was corresponding secretary of the Conference for the State of Maine. He was one of the founders of the National Conference on the Education of Backward, Truant and Delinquent Children, and in 1907 was the president of the Conference. He was also president of the Maine Prison Association. For many years he was a member of the executive committee of the Maine Chautauqua Union, and in 1893 he was President. He was also a member of the Portland Society of Natural History, of Beacon Lodge and Portland Encampment of Odd Fellows and Maine Genealogical Society.

Mr. Wentworth was a Congregationalist and was for many years a member of the State Street Congregational Church in Portland. In politics he had always been a Republican. Mr. Wentworth always took a deep interest in all efforts and movements for the uplifting of mankind, prison reform, temperance, religious work, etc. In 1887 he read "Progress and Poverty," by Henry George, and ever since has been an earnest and enthusiastic advocate of the Single Tax. He made a study of criminology, and especially of juvenile delinquency, and he had very positive ideas regarding the causes and prevention of crime and the proper treatment of the criminal.

THE BROTHERHOOD OF THE
COMMONWEALTH

This organization founded by Chas. Frederick Adams is known to most of our readers. Its tontine plan of insurance which was the special conception of Mr. Adams, was recently described in an address in Brooklyn by its Supreme President, P. J. Tierney.

The insurance features of the Brotherhood are the reverse of ordinary life insurance. Payments are made by the individual as member of a birth year class, and the total payments plus inheritances from other members of the same class form the basis of income.

The scheme is attractive and far reaching. The membership of the Brotherhood has increased slowly but steadily. Its insurance plan does not exhaust its novel and interesting features. Single Taxers form a majority of the members, but membership in the organization is open to all to whom its old age pension scheme and its fraternal features are enticing.

THE report of the Special Tax Commission of Cleveland is an interesting document. It contains many valuable suggestions. John D. Fackler and John A. Zangerle were members of the Commission and the conclusions of both these men make the Report a valuable one.