

pause to listen a while on the street corner, or in their meeting places, you hear so much about food, clothing and shelter, you are prone to think of them as a very worldly and materialistic group, with minds set on secondary things. But back beyond our plea for better food, clothing and shelter, and the abolition of involuntary poverty and all that goes with it, is a clear recognition of the fundamental truth, that man does not live by bread alone, and that God's laws cannot be violated with impunity by individuals or nations. Surely no argument is required to prove this today. Our objective is not merely a society of better fed, but a nation of free men and women, knowing and enjoying all the gifts, material and spiritual, of a bountiful Creator, and recognizing the equal right of all others to the same. Whether he stated in the same terms or not, Charles L. Logan believed implicitly in the philosophy of that beautiful 23rd Psalm, to which we have just listened, which comes down to us through the ages, giving emphasis to the truth of political economy and describing the wonderful care of the heavenly Father for all His children. Our friend Logan was strong in the faith that no mistake was made in the provisioning of this planet to take care of all of its inhabitants. He saw nature's cup running over, and a table spread before man sufficient for all his wants; he saw green pastures and still waters, peace, leisure and rest for all, if only the laws of property, through taxation, could be squared with the moral laws, and he did what he could, with voice, pen and money, to hasten the coming of the day when that could be done."

ANOTHER Chicago Single Taxer to pass away is August Dellgren who for a number of years conducted a Swedish Single Tax paper and was an earnest and well-known worker for the cause.

THE death of Joseph McDonough, of Albany, is reported. Mr. McDonough was a member of the Manhattan Single Tax Club in the early days, and prominent in the beginnings of the agitation in this city. He was a well-known bookseller in Albany, but of late years had almost dropped out of sight of his early Single Tax associates.

DEATH OF E. STUART HINTON

(January 3, 1867—May 20, 1917).

Erwald Stuart Hinton—"Waldy" Hinton as he was familiarly known to the friends who were privileged to love him—had many enthusiasms, but there were two which dominated the rest: Single Tax and—fishing. It would be hard to say which of the two was his favorite sport. Often as, on his visits to us in the country, we have gone fishing together, I promised myself that, as we sat waiting and smoking between bites, I would get him to expound to my somewhat cloudy political intelligence, the mystery of what to him, as I understand,—to all other Single Taxers—was the one political panacea, the economic cure-all for governmental ills. Many a time did he begin—but ere he was fairly launched there came an imperative bite, and a three-pound black-fish switched him off onto that other theme on which he was fascinatingly learned, and Single Tax had to give way to tarpon and kingfish and the other big game of the sea that haunt the Florida waters.

But, though I thus missed his exposition of Single Tax, I have often listened, held by his handsome magnetic eyes, to his elucidation of many another political question or situation, marvelling at once at his astonishing memory for all the minutiae of recent party history, his intimate knowledge of all the ramified workings of all the party machines, and at the rare fusion in him of political practicability with political idealism. In that fusion lay his special gift and usefulness to his fellow-workers, who knew also that all his uncommon equipment was supported by two other qualities, rare indeed in politics, a flawless honesty which it was impossible to doubt, and an utter lack of personal ambition.

Erwald Stuart Hinton came naturally by his political bent, and Single Tax may be said to have come to him by inheritance; for when his father, Mr. Howard Hinton, still happily with us, was editor of *The Home Journal*, Henry George, William Croasdale, Benjamin Doblin, and other Single Taxers, were friends of the family, and the eager boy thus early became enlisted in the cause. One of his earl-

iest pieces of work as a sculptor was his bust of Croasdale, now at the Reform Club. In those earliest years he did much ardent proselyting, and laid the foundation of that political knowledge of which I have spoken. Subsequently his work as a sculptor took him to Chicago, where he remained for many years, not, so far as I know, taking any part in politics there, but, of course, watching and studying them, as it was natural for him to do.

With his return to New York, however, some seven years ago, he once more threw himself into the congenial fray, and speedily made himself an inspiring and leavening force in the 23rd district, where he happened to reside. While always keeping Single Tax in mind, he was, so far as organizations are concerned, chiefly interested with Mr. Benjamin Marsh in "The Society to Lower Rents and Reduce Taxes on Homes," and in "The Business Men's Society to Un-Tax Industry." In the field of general politics, the singular thing about him was that while his main affiliation was with the Progressive Democratic Party—some of his later most strenuous work was put in for "The Wilson & Seabury League"—yet he was able to enter at will, as *persona grata*, in all camps. In the Progressive-Republican Party he was trusted and listened to gladly, and even in Tammany he had many warm friends and admirers. The reason was, that, while for practical purposes he found it necessary to espouse one party, yet he was in sympathy with the progressives of all parties, anxious to give any of them of that knowledge and inspiration which he poured out with all too-generous a forgetfulness of himself. It is, too, probable that it is to his exhausting expenditure of himself in the last Presidential campaign that we owe his loss—a loss far greater than the loss would be of many whose names are more on the lips of advertisement. Had Erwald Stuart Hinton been less unselfish, had he cared less for mankind and more for party, he might speedily have taken high rank as a political leader; but he would not tie himself down to any party machine, and he cared more to do good work than to be given credit for it. He was one of those noble souls behind all spiritual movements, who emerge but seldom into the vanity of fame, content to inspire

and direct, and unostentatiously give, day in and day out, as he veritably did—their lives.

But, withal, he was far from being a mere dreamer. On the contrary, let me repeat, that his rare value lay in his insistence on the necessity of practical means—practical politics—for ideal ends. He was what James would call a "pragmatist"—a political "pragmatist"; dreaming, indeed, great things for man, but knowing that such dreams can only be fulfilled by concrete methods—practical bit by bit. Few men in recent American politics have so single-heartedly and effectively filled his own corner of the field. His political associates will miss a pure and inspiring presence in their future campaigns, a figure whose personal distinction gave a rare aristocratic note to the sordid surface of ward electioneering, as well as a shrewd counsellor and most efficient fellow-worker; and all who knew him, and, therefore, loved him, will miss beyond telling a noble, most lovable, and irreplaceable human being. Once more, "Death delicately takes the best."—RICHARD LE GALLIENNE.

NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota made radical changes in its tax laws this year, practically taxing improvements only one-sixth as much as land. This is the furthest step taken toward the Single Tax by any State.

The constitution of North Dakota formerly required the general property tax; that is, the taxation of all property at the same rate. In 1914, the constitution was amended so as to permit classification, and apparently the text would allow the exemption of any class of property, although the legislature seemed to doubt its power to give entire exemption.

At the session of 1917 the assessable property of the State was divided into three classes. Class one comprises all land (both city and country), railroad, express and telegraph property, and bank shares, to be assessed at thirty per cent. of its full value. Class three includes all household goods, wearing apparel, and structures and improvements upon farm lands, such property to be assessed at five per