

THE PASSING OF EDWARD McHUGH

We regret to have to record the death of our colleague Edward McHugh, which took place at his home at 324, Park Road North, Birkenhead, on Tuesday morning, 13th April. He was born in "Sweet Tyrone among the bushes," as he smilingly replied to a question as to his birthplace, on August 21st, 1853. He removed to Greenock eight years later and commenced his apprenticeship there as a compositor, going to Glasgow in 1869 where he graduated as a journeyman and continued for several years at his trade. He would further remark that he was the Irishman who had to explain that he was not a Scotsman. Since his return from Australia and New Zealand, where he addressed many meetings, in 1912, our strenuous co-worker had enjoyed but indifferent health. He broke down completely in November last, and had since been confined to his room.

In the presence of sorrowing relatives and friends from all parts of the country the body was affectionately laid to rest in the Flaybrick Hill Cemetery, Birkenhead, the Right Rev. Provost Barry, V.G., conducting the ceremony. Among those at the graveside were Henry George McHugh (only son), Chas. H. Smithson (President, Yorkshire Land Values League), James Busby (Scottish League), Arthur Weller (Manchester League), Chapman Wright (Midlands League), Eustace Davies (Welsh League), James Baker (Birkenhead League), John Paul and A. W. Madsen (United Committee), J. W. S. Callie (Financial Reform Association), F. L. Crilly (United Irish League), J. Havlock Wilson (Sailors' and Firemen's Union), W. J. Loughrey (T.C., Liverpool), R. J. Russell, J.P., T.C., John Randall (London), and the general mourners included representatives from various societies in Liverpool and Birkenhead.

From telegrams and letters of sympathy addressed to Mrs. McHugh we take the following extracts:—

T. P. O'Connor, M.P.:

"One of the best Irishmen and noblest men I have ever met."

C. E. Price, M.P., Chairman of the Land Values Group in the House of Commons:

"He was a tower of strength to the cause and will be greatly missed."

P. Wilson Raffan, M.P., Hon. Secretary of the Land Values Group in the House of Commons:

"I always regarded Mr. McHugh not only as a co-worker in the great movement to which he devoted so

much of his time and energy, but as a valued and trusted friend. I don't think I ever knew a man who was more unselfish, more transparently honest or more beloved by all who came in contact with him. His death will make a great gap in the circles which he adorned."

G. Caradoc Rees, Liverpool:

"I shall miss him, for he was one of the salt of the earth, 'The leaves are falling one by one,' but his falling seems to bare the tree."

C. H. Smithson:

"His noble life of continual self-sacrifice for others will be a sweet thing to remember, but we shall all feel his loss more than we can say. The great cause of suffering humanity has lost one of its truest friends, and very few have so richly earned the blessing—'Well done, thou good and faithful servant.'"

Mrs. C. H. Smithson, Halifax, Yorks:

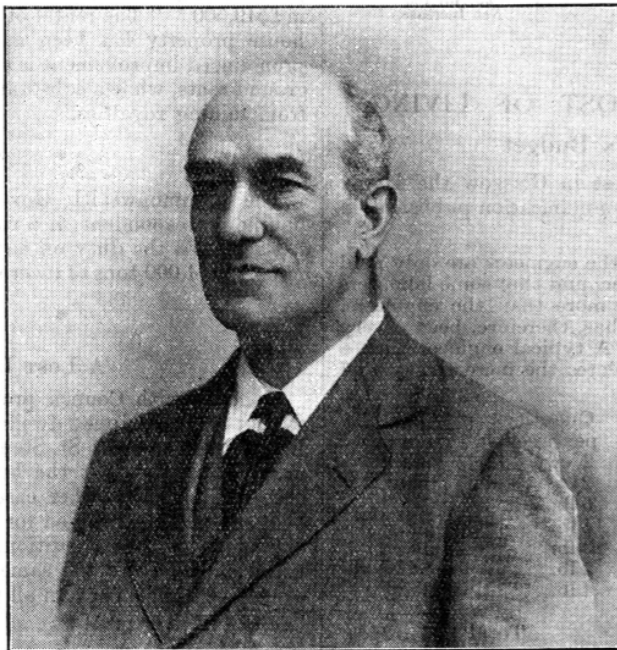
"I had for him the very warmest friendship. It is a grief to think that I shall never shake his hand or look into his kind face again, but we must all feel that he did his life's work splendidly; pressed right on in the way he deemed right. I wish we were all such strenuous fighters for our ideals as was Edward McHugh."

David Cassels, Glasgow:

"He fought the good fight."

G. B. Waddell, Glasgow:

"He was a man whom we single taxers all loved. How many of us can say how much indebted we are to him for his rich and varied services to the cause, his masterly illumination of the subject he dealt with so faithfully."



EDWARD McHUGH, 1853—1915

J. M. Baker, Birkenhead Land Values League:

"We can all testify to the many benefits conferred on us by our personal contact with Mr. McHugh. I owe my own knowledge of the single tax doctrine to him and can truly say my education commenced on my introduction to Mr. McHugh two years ago."

Edward L. Byrne (Birkenhead United Irish League):

"Mr. McHugh had endeared himself to Irishmen the world over for his unfaltering fidelity to the Irish cause. I wish to add my personal sympathy, as a member of Mr. McHugh's land values class. Reading Mr. Henry George's great book and having the privilege of knowing Mr. McHugh one can understand that God raises great men to accomplish great works, inspiring the faint-hearted with courage and the doubter with a deep and abiding faith. Mr. McHugh realised the Christian ideal in giving a noble and gifted life for the cause of the poor and the oppressed."

A. W. Madsen, London :

"I have been his friend for nearly six years and that is the length of my personal affection and unbounded admiration for one who has helped and guided me as he has helped and guided so many. But long before I first met him here in London I had known and respected him through all I had read in the literature of the movement. His death means much to us who knew him so well."

Eustace Davies, Cardiff :

"Mr. McHugh endeared himself to many friends during his stay in Cardiff and district. By his death the world is left so much the poorer and so too is our movement, which loses one of its most capable, whole-hearted and fervent exponents. The courage, sincerity and devotion to the cause of truth and justice that animated our great leader—Henry George—animated too his close disciple, Edward McHugh. I shall always consider it a great privilege to have enjoyed his friendship and to have been associated with him in his great work."

Fredk. Verinder, London :

"He had already done great things for our cause before I came into the movement and got to know him 31 years ago, and he has been doing a giant's work ever since."

William A. Meyrick, Cardiff :

"His friends in Cardiff number every man he met. Personally I feel indebted to him in many ways. His knowledge, patience and experience were always at the disposal of those of us who asked it, and he left on this town, although his stay was not long amongst us, an indelible memory. His influence was always for good ; his ideals were high. Above all he had a great capacity for friendship, and his name will be a sweet memory to us for all time. We loved him and venerated him."

Chapman Wright, Birmingham :

"He set us a noble example by his untiring energy and devotion and his fearlessness in the spread of truth. It was the knowledge that, while he himself might not see the full harvest, other generations of humanity would reap where he had sown, which gave him boundless courage, and this may now give us consolation."

William Reid, Glasgow :

"I was in many ways associated with his ideas and work, and I followed him as Secretary of the Welsh League in Cardiff, and know how much he was appreciated in that town. His loss will be felt by the whole movement, but I think you will be well aware that he did more than a full day's work for it."

Fredk. Skirrow, Keighley, Yorks :

"It is very hard to think that we have had our last campaign together, for Mac was one with whom it was always a great pleasure to work. More than twenty years have passed since I first wrote asking Mac if he could undertake a campaign in Yorkshire and what his terms would be. The reply came back : 'Yes, organise the meetings, and never mind the terms.' That was the unselfish spirit in which he worked through all the years in which we were associated. It was always the cause first and himself last. The 'Henry George' movement has had many devoted adherents but I doubt if it ever had one more worthy of the cause or more devoted to its founder. I shall always treasure as one of the privileges of life my acquaintance with and co-operation in the work with Mac for the emancipation of mankind."

James Busby, Glasgow :

"By his friends in the movement where he has laboured for more than thirty years his memory will remain as one who did his duty with all his strength. In such a movement as ours when we have to bid a long farewell to one of our friends we are cheered that his work will go on, maybe taken up by those he has taught and influenced, and so his place may be filled in some sense."

A. H. Weller, Manchester :

"I shall never forget my first meeting with Mr. McHugh in Manchester in 1907 when he was over here to address a meeting. I remember how delighted my wife and I

were by his charming courtesy. We both feel that we have lost a dear friend, and his death is an irreparable loss to the land values movement. His wonderful ability as a speaker and his wonderful knowledge as a speaker and his wide knowledge of men and things were a source of wonder and admiration to me. I consider it a real privilege to have been associated with him in the glorious cause of human emancipation to which he devoted his life."

Mr. Walter Coates, London :

"I got to know Edward McHugh more intimately last year and realised in this closer acquaintanceship how noble his life had been in serving the cause of humanity."

Messrs. Doblin, Murphy, Lustgarten and Weymann cabled sympathy on behalf of the United States single taxers.

F. L. Crilly, Secretary United Irish League of Great Britain :—

"The world is much the poorer by the death of our dear old friend Edward McHugh, and the cause of social justice has lost a great and capable advocate. To those who were privileged to enjoy his intimate friendship, as I was for nearly thirty years, his death leaves a great void that cannot easily be filled. We have lost a true and affectionate friend, an able and faithful colleague, and a brilliant and consistent apostle and defender of the great gospel taught by Henry George. Though gone from among us his work and influence remain, and thousands will share in our sorrow and join in our prayer for the repose of a great soul."

Louis P. Jacobs :—

"I grew to like and esteem him for the man of lofty character and sterling worth that he was. He was a frequent visitor at my house in Melbourne where his kindly presence endeared him to my wife and children. We all greatly enjoyed his society. If I thought that when my end came I would leave behind me a semblance of such self-sacrificing, devoted service I would indeed be a happy and contented man. He excited the admiration of all friends of the movement in Australia no less by his knowledge and powers of exposition than by his whole-souled enthusiasm and unstinted effort. His visit to Australia gave us fresh inspiration and impulse and will be a landmark in the history of the movement there, as I doubt not it will be in every centre in which he figured. He made friends and admirers wherever he went in Australia, and I know his loss will be felt by all these both as a personal one as well as for the noble idea to which he had concentrated the best years of his life."

Mr. Samuel Milliken (Philadelphia) :

"We loved him here as a good and faithful servant ; a man whose life was worth while."

Mrs. Fels (Philadelphia) :

"Now you have lost your dear one ; and the two, yours and mine, are together in the beautiful somewhere. We have not lost them, they have only gone before. I think of them as not only entering into glory but adding glory by their participation—wherever they have been they have left a trail of love and love's achievement behind them. We have the latter for what remains to us of life here, and the former for the enhancement of our aspirations. I can think to say but one thing : our good comrade is at rest, and yet going on working zealously and devotedly."

Edward McHugh was an enthusiastic reader of "Land Values." He made friends for it wherever he went. If you feel like taking his place for a time, in this respect ; if you feel like bringing the journal of the movement before some sympathetic non-subscriber, perhaps you will look at and consider our appeal for new readers on the back page of this issue.