

Death of Viscount Snowden

WORD received yesterday of the death of Philip Snowden must have been a shock to countless thousands who had been his admirers and supporters during his long, dauntless fight—although his years of invalidism should have been preparation for the suddenness of his passing.

Sad that it took place before he reinstated himself in the faith of those who felt he had failed in the taxation of land values and the free trade fights, when his courage and tenacity were most needed. Sad that his devoted companion and champion, his wife, was not with him at the end.

It is deeply to be regretted that the articles telling of his death and giving a thumbnail sketch of his life—those articles at least printed here in New York—stress his adherence to the Socialists and completely ignore his unswerving support of the taxation of land values. It is part, no doubt, of the injustice we Georgeists have to bear in being considered “outmoded,” and “out of date” and “unimportant.” But Philip Snowden, I believe, did not fail to show his belief in the truth, as enunciated by Henry George, in *real* free trade—the freedom of trade in production as well as in exchange—and he knew that the taxation of land values, or Single Tax as we call it here, was the only way to bring it about.

I had the pleasure of meeting him three times. While he was Chancellor of the Exchequer I visited him in Downing Street. I was not prepared to find him the fragile, ill-looking man who greeted me standing, supporting himself against his desk, holding his other hand out to me as I crossed the wide room to him. I was not prepared for the pain in his white face; pain deeper than physical pain—that I at the time designated to myself as “*weltschmerz*.”

The second time I met him was at a big public luncheon given, if I remember correctly, by a group of free traders. Just as previously he had told me of his belief in the need for taxing land values, so at this free trade gathering Philip Snowden openly espoused our cause and shortly thereafter brought it to the forefront of political discussion when he fathered the fight to reappraise the land of Great Britain and to raise the tax on its value. That he was beaten in this fight added to the world's tragedy. Later came the protection or free trade fight, in which he compromised unfortunately, and thereby lost many who had been his staunch friends.

He retired from political life and moved through a simple but capacious house set on an English lawn and shadowed by fine trees, in the country near Aldershot, and there, on September 10 of last year I was taken to call on him by that faithful Georgean—Andrew MacLaren, M. P. Our visit was very brief as we had to make a train back to London, and the chief impression I carried

away of Viscount Snowden, was of his gratitude that a fellow Member of Parliament should have taken the trouble to go so far to see him.

For my own part I shall always find it difficult to believe that the courteous gentleman I found him to be, was reputed, on occasion, to have shown such bitterness toward his political opponents. I shall always feel gratitude for his strength and courage and dedication to the Truth.—ANNA GEORGE DE MILLE.

Activities of the Manhattan Single Tax Club

PRESIDENT Charles H. Ingersoll addressed a meeting at the Y. M. C. A., Waterbury, Conn., on Sunday, April 25, at 3:00 P. M.

Mr. Ingersoll, having originated the watch which not only made the dollar famous, but which has had a sale of some three hundred millions, largely produced in this Connecticut town, was inspired to a very interesting and somewhat reminiscent talk.

Dr. Royal E. S. Hayes was present with several friends who assisted in making the quiz following Mr. Ingersoll's talk exceptionally interesting. Especially was the point of economic rent discussed in all of its phases.

Dr. Hayes asked whether monopoly rent and speculative rent should not have separate consideration. To this the speaker confessed lack of enlightenment; and it is here mentioned for possible discussion among your readers. It is referred to in detail in a tract published by the H. G. Tract Society of Endwell, N. Y.

THE WOV PUBLIC SERVICE FORUM

The 1937 broadcasting series of the WOV Public Service Forum has been announced with Mr. Ingersoll as its chairman. Last season this forum comprised twenty-five forum hours including as guest speakers, Whidden Graham, Benj. W. Burger, Marietta Johnson, and many others on economic subjects, selected and developed by the chairman.

This year, the first two forums are 100 per cent Single Tax. The first had as its guest speaker, Anna George de Mille, her subject being “Henry George and the Problem of Poverty.” Her talk occupied about half the time, and the balance comprising prepared questions by the chairman, and the answers by the guest speaker. This broadcast was pronounced one of the most successful ever put on the air, by friends of the movement, and broadcasting professionals.

The Forum of May 16 will have Benjamin C. Marsh, Secretary of the Peoples Lobby, as the speaker on the subject of “Natural Resources in their relation to Peace.” Mr. Marsh will present a 100 per cent Georgeist statement which with Mr. Ingersoll's help will make this a