

in their own merit, and that those who are poor in a State are poor by their own fault. Mr. Kipling, in his swan song of suicide in the *Morning Post*, speaks of the unemployed laborer as the man "whose unthrift has destroyed him." He speaks of the modern landlord as the man who has toiled, who has striven and gathered possession. Now there are some occasions upon which a blasphemy against fact renders unimportant even a blasphemy against religion. It is so in these cases in which calamity is made a moral curse or proof of guilt.

It becomes quite a secondary fact that this new Tory theory is opposed to the Christian theory at every point, at every instant of history, from the boils of Job to the leprosy of Father Damien. It does not matter for the moment that the thing is un-Christian. The thing is a lie; every one knows it to be a lie; the men who speak and write it know it to be a lie. They know as well as I do that the men who climb to the top of the modern ladder are not the best men, nor the cleverest, nor even the most industrious. Nobody who has ever talked to poor men on seats in Battersea Park can conceivably believe that they are the worst men of the community. Nobody who has ever talked to rich men at city dinners can conceivably believe that they are the best men of the community. On this one thesis I will admit no arguments about unconsciousness, self-deception or mere ritual phraseology. I admit all that and more most heartily to the man who says that the aristocracy as a whole is good for England or that poverty as a whole cannot be cured.

But if a man says that in his experience the thrifty thrive and only the unthrifty perish, then (as St. John the Evangelist says) he is a liar. This is the ultimate lie and all who utter it are liars.

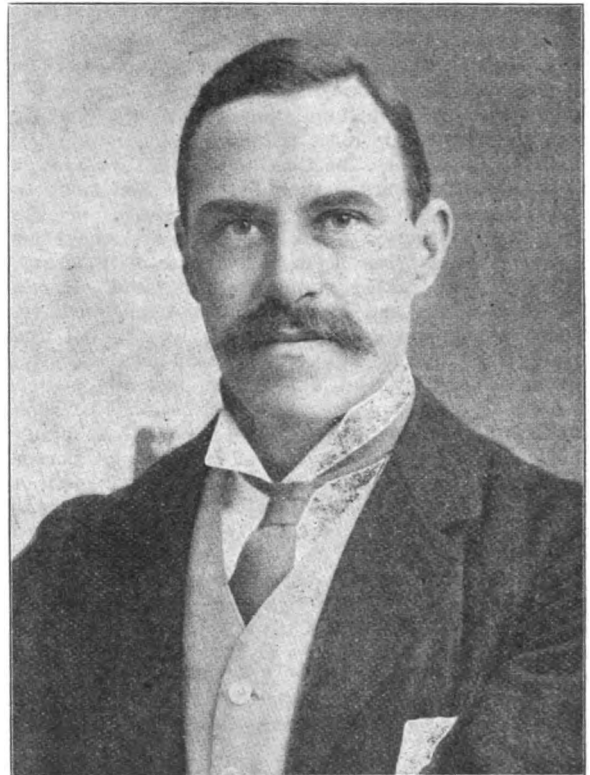
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JOSIAH C. WEDGWOOD, M. P.

Josiah Clement Wedgwood went into Parliament for Newcastle-under-Lyme, in the Liberal landslide of 1906, with a majority of 2,207 in a total poll of 8,103, because he was a Wedgwood; he was re-elected in 1910, after a hot campaign, by a majority of 1,368 in a total poll of 9,858, because he stood for the land value taxation policy and had become a national figure among radical Liberals. On his mother's side a nephew of Lord Rendel, he is on his father's, a great great grandson of the founder of the Wedgwood potteries. Mr. Wedgwood was born in 1872, got his education at Clifton College and in Germany, served apprenticeship as a naval architect at the Elswich Ship Yard and studied his profession at the Royal Naval College at Greenwich, served in the Boer war in South Africa as captain of the Elswich Battery, was resident British Magistrate after the war of the South African district of Ermelo and head of the

local repatriation department, and in 1908 was president of the English League for the Taxation of Land Values, of which he is still an honored member. His wife, a daughter of the late Lord Bowen, is, like himself, a devoted disciple of Henry George and an effective coadjutor of her husband in the field of radical politics.

ONE OF MR. WEDGWOOD'S CAMPAIGN CIRCULARS.



JOSIAH C. WEDGWOOD

Just Think!

Is not everything needed for our physical wants drawn from the land? Yes.

Can labor produce these things? Yes; nothing but labor.

Is there any scarcity of land? No.

Is there any scarcity of labor? No.

Are all human wants satisfied? No; children are crying for bread.

Then why should you tax food, and make it dearer?

Vote for Wedgwood.

The taxation of land values will force all valuable idle land into use,

Lower house and shop rents and abolish rates,

Raise Wages,

And establish justice for all.

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A correspondent sends to the *London Nation* the following as "the joke" of the recent elections: An