

their organs, and far and wide are their periodicals circulated. Are these not potent factors in the growth of socialism?—are they not in some measure an explanation of such growth?

#### DEATH OF D. D. PATERSON.

The death of Duncan D. Paterson, of Brooklyn, N. Y., on December 4th, was as untimely as sudden. It came with a sudden shock not only to personal friends, but to all of those who through a knowledge of his useful influence, may form some estimate of the loss which his death means to the community.

Mr. Paterson came to this country in 1889, from his native city, Glasgow, Scotland, and at once connected himself with the wholesale grocery house of Francis H. Leggett & Co., New York. He retained this connection until the time of his death, well merited promotion having advanced him to chief position in the imported goods department.

In this position all the responsibility of purchasing foreign groceries from all parts of the world devolved upon him. Although but 84 years old at the time of his death, his mastery of the necessary knowledge fitted him as few men occupying similar positions are fitted, to conduct this department of the wholesale grocery business profitably and successfully. A master of details and ever watchful of opportunities to extend the scope and business of his department, diligent and faithful, he can not but be sorely missed by his business associates.

Though thus attentive to business, his own estimate of success was, however, something above and beyond the possible limits of a mercantile life. In 1897 his attention was called to the writings of Henry George and his active, open mind at once grasped the philosophy therein expounded. At that time Mr. Paterson was an enthusiastic worker in the Baptist Church; believing that the regeneration of society depended upon the religious conversion of its individuals, he devoted his energies accordingly. He now became convinced, however, that present unhappy social conditions are continued not through designs of the masses who might change them, but through ignorance as to how the change might be accomplished, and his life, aside from business activities, was thereafter largely devoted to enlightening the public as to the ease with which social reformation may be secured by application of the Single Tax.

Although an idealist, bent upon the propagation of mighty principles, he was, however, too practical to ignore opportunities for advancing reform into which those principles entered only partially, and which are, therefore, too often neglected by propagandists. At the time of his death he was

Treasurer of the Brooklyn Single Tax League, and also of the Radical Democracy; he was active in the Brooklyn Municipal League, which contributed effectively to the campaign work of Mr. Coler as President of Brooklyn Borough and Mr. Hearst as Mayor of New York at the recent election.

At the time of his death Mr. Paterson regarded the church institution as an impediment to intellectual and social progress. In recognition of this conviction his friends arranged a quiet, informal funeral service, the speakers being chosen from among those friends who had been associated with him in his Single Tax work.

#### DEATH OF WALTER ROEBUCK.

The cause of liberty and true reform suffered a loss on October 23rd in the death of Walter H. Roebuck, editor of the *Temiskaming Herald* of New Liskland and formerly secretary of the Toronto Single Tax Association. At the early age of twenty-two years he closed a series of battles for freedom that justly won him an unusual prominence and which give him now a conspicuous place among those who have struggled and fallen for the cause.

Walter Roebuck was a young man whose bright and happy ways and whose forceful progressiveness and breadth of character made a remarkable impression upon those with whom he worked. He was as popular as a man should be. He had innumerable friends, and a few warm enemies. For with all his pleasant, free and jolly ways he was a born fighter, a descendent of a family of fighters, from the celebrated inventor of the sulphuric acid process to the still more famous English Radical of Gladstone's time.

Walter Roebuck's personality first came into notice when he accepted the secretaryship of the Toronto Single Tax Association, succeeding his brother to that office in March of 1903. During the months that he led the forces for land reform much progress was made in the cause of liberty. It was while he was at the tiller that the plans were laid for the present powerful movement in Toronto for the exemption of houses from taxation. It was during his term of office that *The Canadian Single Taxer*, the Single Tax organ of Canada, was first published, and that the young Single Taxers of the city formed the so-called "fighting wing" of the association. When the Police Commissioners issued their high-handed order to the police to forcibly prevent the Single Taxers, socialists and labor men speaking on the streets, it was his courage that won a signal victory for free speech, as mounted on his "soap-box" platform he hurled defiance at the authorities to arrest him if they dared.

But it is seldom that the more enterprising of young men are content with the