

Colonel Wedgewood's Visit

COLONEL JOSIAH WEDGEWOOD, M.P., has come and gone without an opportunity for Single Taxers of this city to welcome him. The dissolution of Parliament with the resultant elections called him hurriedly back to the seat of war.

The American Labor Party of this city arranged for a dinner which never took place. It is perhaps just as well that it did not. The invitation to that dinner which we have been privileged to see contained this naive announcement:

"Mr. Wedgewood, for many years a Single Taxer, as a result of his study of economic conditions became a Socialist and joined the Independent Labor Party and has become one of its leaders."

We are compelled to believe that this misstatement was deliberately made. At all events, it will do the enterprising and imaginative persons who compose the Executive Committee of the American Labor Party no harm to reflect upon the following letter from Colonel Wedgewood to George Lloyd of the Single Tax Party.

"DEAR MR. LLOYD:

Of course I have not changed my views on Single Tax. I have just been reelected by labor with a majority of 5,000 on the issue of the taxation of land values, and to the inspiring tune of the Land Song. My branch of the Independent Labor Party are all Single Taxers—that is our socialism, and the Marxians can digest that fact.

Yours.

JOSIAH C. WEDGEWOOD."

Some misunderstanding of Col. Wedgewood's position may have resulted from the action of the *New York Times*.

When he landed he was interviewed and gave out a statement to the press listing the causes in which he was interested, specifying the Single Tax among them. This statement was published in full by several papers; the *New York Times*, however, printed all except the sentence about the Single Tax. Thus its readers were deliberately misled as to Col. Wedgewood's views.

We say "deliberately misled." For when Gov. Garvin of Rhode Island died recently, the press dispatches recounted his Single Tax activities; and similarly, the *Times* printed the same dispatch as did the other papers, except the portion relating to the Single Tax.

Such petty attempts to suppress news about the Single Tax are unworthy of a paper of the standing of the *Times*, but the facts are as we have stated.

Col. Wedgewood made his position on the land question clear in a meeting at Cooper Union, this city, where he said in substance that the great problem confronting the British public was unemployment and the remedy for unemployment is the taxation of land values.