

## Notification to Candidates Wallace and Lincoln

ON the afternoon of Saturday, April 26, a notification committee waited upon Wallace and Lincoln, candidates for President and Vice President of the Commonwealth Land Party, on the lawn in front of Mr. Wallace's home in Newark, N. J.

Mr. Lawrence Tracy, chairman of the notification committee spoke as follows:

Mr. Wallace, Mr. Lincoln and Friends:—

For centuries, aspiring and courageous souls have come together at intervals to plan how they could best promote some cause that must have seemed to them supremely great, for their devotion has been amply proved by the great number of them that deliberately made the supreme sacrifice for their beliefs; but never in all time, have people gathered in support of a cause more grand and a vision more splendid than animate those who are here, and also a growing multitude scattered over the earth who are with us in spirit though not in the flesh.

The exalted position here assigned to our CAUSE may well surprise many, but it is not justified when we realize that our philosophy not only declares the fundamental conditions that are absolutely requisite to the attainment by everyone of his highest ideals, whatever they may be, but more than that, it states explicitly just what it is in the social arrangements common to practically the whole world, that defeats humanity's best efforts to establish those conditions, and it further explains exactly what must be done to make our social plan harmonize with the Natural Laws that govern human relations.

Our purpose is not merely to effect a social readjustment, but by so doing, to remove the artificial barrier that men, in their ignorance, have erected and now maintain across the path of human progress. We would open the gate to FREEDOM that lies just on the other side,—that splendid FREEDOM which is our Natural Right and in which, without interfering with others, each may proceed in his development toward the ultimate of the purpose of his existence.

This philosophy is entirely free from any taint of racial or national limitation, there is in it nothing sectarian or partisan, it recognizes no distinction based on age, sex or condition, and it will make possible the ultimate attainment of that Brotherhood of man toward which all humanity has striven consciously or otherwise since time began.

Fortunately for us, the world has already made such progress in ideas that we can now declare our purpose and openly strive to attain it without violent estrangement of family and friends, without loss of social position, of fortune, and possibly of life itself; but the modern world on the other hand, requires much more general intelligence, more practical knowledge, more intense and sustained

activity to make progress toward our goal. Present facilities for spreading our gospel are greater than ever before and in the quicker tempo of modern life, opportunities for effective action are more frequent and varied; but the price of our success is the greater effort we must make to recognize these occasions before they are upon us, and to know what to do and how to do it.

Ever since the great heart and fine mind of Henry George challenged the thinking world with his clear, convincing and courageous statement of the Natural Social Laws, his disciples have tried many and various methods for arousing the interest, if not the conscience, of the mass of humanity, and for quickening its comprehension of its basic needs.

All these efforts, though certainly contributing to the general impetus, left so much to be desired that finally some of the devoted men and women who had long done yeoman service in other ways, determined to try the methods available to a political party, so they created an organization and called it the Single Tax Party.

Their number was not imposing and their resources were meager, but by heroic efforts, candidates were put on the ballot in several states. The vote was disappointing to the more hopeful and less discerning; but there were other conditions, especially the publicity secured, that made most of the party supporters feel that they were headed in the right direction, and so they struggled on.

That was 12 years ago, and now on this happy occasion under our new name of COMMONWEALTH LAND PARTY we are gathered here to celebrate an important step in the orderly fulfillment of our plans. At our National Convention in New York City, charged with that duty, on the 9th of last February candidates were selected to represent us in the highest offices in our Government, and our choice fell on two men who are tried and true. They know our purposes, are fired with our enthusiasm, and are ready to make the efforts and the sacrifices which our declarations and their convictions require in order to stand forth in full public view as our standard bearers.

With assurances of our full support and heart-felt gratitude for their willingness to serve, we now officially notify our friends of their nomination:—

Wm. J. Wallace of Newark, N. J.  
for President

J. C. Lincoln of Cleveland, Ohio  
for Vice President

ADDRESS HON. W. J. WALLACE, OF NEW JERSEY

The Commonwealth Land Party was formerly called the Single Tax Party. The change of its name will make its purpose clearer to the people.

We are opposed to income and inheritance taxes which are a communistic assault on incomes and property. They are substitutes for and imitations of justice. They breed bribery and dishonesty, as is evident from the fact that it

was necessary to discharge about eight hundred clerks and examiners in the income tax department who had been corrupted by the conditions and opportunities of the service.

The land and natural resources of the country, belonging to the people, have become the particular objects of private plunder.

The first duty of the state is to establish justice and to enforce it and to protect the property of the people, but in the income and inheritance taxes the Government sets the example, to its employees and to the people, of rapacity and extortion sanctioned by law.

Many methods of obtaining wealth were formerly tolerated which are today illegal, as piracy, slavery, lotteries and commercial trusts. It became evident years ago that the rapid accumulation of wealth by some of the people was not because of their greater ability, skill or application, or on account of any great service they had rendered, and to correct this it is necessary for us to know from what source it is obtained. Every method of obtaining wealth without work should be examined to determine whether it is entitled to the revenue it receives.

The purpose of this party is to call the attention of the people to the land of the country so that they may know whether the great revenue that goes to land owners is properly earned.

The land question, like all fundamental questions, is a very simple one.

Land was not produced by man but was created by God. It is essential to life.

All men are equally entitled to the opportunity to make a living for themselves and can do so only by obtaining their food, clothing and shelter from the land.

There cannot be equal opportunity for all when the land is privately owned by some, who charge others with rent for the privilege of using it.

So inequality of opportunity begins and grows greater and greater as the rent of land increases.

Men have not equal abilities, but they should have equal rights.

Land rent does not come from any service that the land owner gives the community but from the need of the people for land to carry on the business or industry by which they make a living.

Land rent is the value of a privilege which the land owner has unjustly obtained in violation of the equal rights of all other men.

These equal rights can be preserved only by paying the rent of land to the Government, as the trustee of the people, to be used for Governmental expenses and the common welfare. This would equalize opportunity, make every one equal owner of the land by becoming equal sharer in the land rent every member of the community helps to create.

We insist upon the Government taking the revenue which belongs to it and not permitting it to be taken by land owners who have no right to it. We also insist upon the Government discontinuing the confiscation of incomes and property of the people to which it has no moral right.

Our fathers established political liberty, of which we are justly proud, and we have a Government which is responsive to the public will, but they had a very imperfect knowledge of what gives economic freedom and did not provide for it in the constitution they gave us. Every age has its own problems to solve. The distribution of wealth seems to be particularly ours. We have tinkered with it in various ways, particularly in the income and inheritance tax laws which leave the source of illegitimate and unearned incomes undisturbed while active and useful businesses are crushed under the burden of taxation, supervision, interference and expensive professional advice.

In this country the people can secure their rights by voting for them and do not deserve to have them if they do not vote for them.

Every intelligent man knows that land rent is available for the support of the Government in place of taxes and that the people would be much better off if it were so used.

The Commonwealth Land Party will be on the ballot in thirty-five states in which the people will have the opportunity of voting for its candidates. Our members are enthused with the prospects of a large vote by the increased public interest in the principles of the party.

#### ADDRESS OF HON. J. C. LINCOLN, OF OHIO

The most important question before the American people today is the just distribution of wealth. The feeling is general that the present distribution of wealth is unjust.

The ordinary discussions of the subject assume that there are two factors in the production of wealth—Labor and Capital. Many who work with their hands believe that they are not getting a fair share of the wealth their labor helps to produce. Many employers believe the only way to increase profits is to decrease the wages paid to their employees. About 1880 there arose a man, Henry George by name, and we can all be proud of the fact that he was an American, who thought this problem through and got the solution. He emphasized the fact that there are three factors in the production and not two and these three factors are Land or natural opportunity, Labor and Capital.

In the production of a ton of coal, it is obvious that there must be Labor to remove the coal from the ground and put it on the cars. It is just as clear that by the use of capital in the shape of mining machinery and locomotives and tipples, that production is greatly increased, but the coal in the ground is neither Labor nor Capital; it is part of the bounty that the Creator has provided for the use of his children and is included under the term "land."

Consider what happens in the production of a bushel of