

BY THE RIGHT HON.  
*LORD WEDGWOOD*

By VIRTUE of thirty-seven years spent in uninterrupted and active parliamentary combat, Lord Wedgwood brings his readers a *Testament* rich with experience, and full of seasoned advice. Though he saw the merits of the British system, he was its most outspoken critic, and some of the strictures of this modest descendant of England's master potter, will amaze his American audience.

He takes his reader behind the parliamentary scene, and argues the case of Government by reason against Government by force. He compares the English system with the written constitutions in America and elsewhere. He points out their weaknesses, shows whence Fascist attack comes, and offers Federal Union as a means of salvaging the world after the war. Those interested in peace-time reconstruction, will find significant material in his analysis of Political Parties, Government Agencies, Corruption, Placemen, and the efficiency of the Bureaucracy. He urges closer relations between America and Britain, and suggests how this can be achieved, together with an understanding with the Soviet Union. He surveys the influence of religion on contemporary thought, and makes concrete proposals for the solution of the Arab-Jewish impasse in Palestine. As "Father of the British Labor Party", Minister of State, Privy Councillor, magistrate and traveller, Colonel Wedgwood has known everyone of importance, and has participated actively in shaping the affairs of state. Partly biographical, the volume mirrors the author's adventures during three wars, in the course of which his writings and speeches have demonstrated the justification for his selection by an American newspaper "as one of the six outstanding Englishmen in the intellectual class, possessing the strongest faith and clearest vision".

THE N. Y. TIMES ON  
LORD WEDGWOOD

"JOSIAH CLEMENT WEDGWOOD, Lord Wedgwood, described himself in a letter to this newspaper as "a dyed-in-the-wool old radical, steeped in the tradition of John Bright and Henry George." He started as a Liberal and became a Laborite, largely on account of the land question. It was hard for him to define exactly his position. He was an incorrigible individualist and a Socialist. He loved unpopular causes, minorities. He was an independent. Last year there was a debate in the Lords on national education. Lord Wedgwood said he had a grave suspicion of it. He wanted "it to produce rebels who think for themselves, not robots who think as others want them to." He belonged to the long line of English rebels.

His great-great-grandfather, Josiah I, the ceramist, was a friend of Dr. Franklin's and thanked God at the end of the Revolutionary War that "America is free." In his thirty-six years in the House of Commons the great-grandson was an asker of questions and a pursuer of injustices. If he thought that the single tax would bring back the golden age and longed ardently for peace, none the less he was a captain in the Boer War, and in the First World War fought in Belgium, the Dardanelles, East Africa, Mesopotamia, Siberia and got a grievous wound and the D.S.O.

His recreation was writing and he wrote well. He was editor of that vast history of Parliament of which a tenth has appeared in four volumes. Posterity is welcome to that, but in "Memoirs of a Fighting Life" he is himself, hearty, humorous, out-of-door, enjoying life to the top of his bent. And so in "Essays and Adventures of a Labour M. P.," at least in the adventures. He had a multitude of friends in this country, which he often visited.

His enthusiasm for Zionism was constant. He proposed that Palestine be made a Seventh Dominion and wrote a book about it. He was also eager for a closer connection between Great Britain and the United States. A man of thought, as well as action, a rich and salient character."

—From an editorial, July 28, 1943.

**SOME OPINIONS . . . .**

"Lord Wedgwood's chapters on Parliament are a valuable portion of his volume . . . He knows Parliament through and through: Lord Wedgwood faces the dangers from within. . . . *The Times*

"Teach them to think, not *what* to think". These are a few characteristic data from Lord Wedgwood's 'Testament to Democracy' . . . English to the core, he is imbued with the finest traditions of England, proud of that tradition . . . jealous of its honour and integrity. Well framed argument, carefully tested and marshalled facts and foolproof statement . . . provide the hard shell for truth".

*Manchester Guardian*

"The whole book is superbly robust. A proper manual for a rising generation of free peoples". *Punch*

