

WILFRID HARRISON

WITH much sadness we have to record the death of Wilfrid Harrison, who passed away peacefully on March 10 at his home in New Jersey.

Wilfrid Harrison became a convinced believer in the philosophy of Henry George before the first world war when the Land Question was a burning issue in British politics. He served in the army during that war and took part in the ill-fated Gallipoli affair. After the war he left England for China, and was in business there for many years. It was there that he met his devoted wife.

About 1930 he returned to England and when he had settled down got in touch with Arthur Madsen and the United Committee, of which he was soon made a member. He was a tower of strength to the Committee. His financial abilities were soon realised and he was elected a treasurer of the U.C. He was undoubtedly a financial genius and by his wisdom the financial stability of the U.C. is assured for many years to come. Not only did he manage the financial affairs so successfully but he added his own very generous contributions.

But Wilfrid Harrison was not only a wonderful financial manager. He was always on the look-out to sow the seed. There are many good friends in the Movement today through his discreet planting of a copy of *LAND & LIBERTY* or a pamphlet, and then the recommendation to read *Progress and Poverty*. He made converts while he was living in South Africa.

He was ardent in defence of liberty, as is shown in his own pamphlet *Why Liberty*, and he had no mercy on those who betrayed it. In his last letter to me, dated February 26, he refers to the reactionaries who have done so much damage — "Who told them they should go to Europe and offer up our sovereignty? They did it at Ottawa. They are not satisfied with wrecking our ship-building and banking, world markets, insurance supremacy and currency. Let us get back to honesty, Free Trade, Land and Sound Currency."

With failing health in the last few years and failing eyesight he never wavered, and would have fought on and on, however long he had lived, even if he had been the last friend of liberty on earth.

Our sympathy goes in full measure to his widow who has lost such a champion.

Ashley Mitchell

OTTO CULLMAN

WE REGRET to report the death of Otto Cullman, industrialist and philanthropic economist who died at Skokie, Illinois, on January 22.

Otto Cullman, 95, was active up to the last week, when he experienced a consuming fatigue. The doctor diagnosed a weak heart and apparently the end came only because "the machine ran down."

Early in life he invented the bicycle sprocket which transmits leg power to the rear wheel and soon founded

the Cullman Wheel Co. which has prospered ever since and which he now leaves to his heirs. His public spirit was manifested in supporting with his talent and means the principles of economic justice as divined and presented by Henry George. He supported the Merchants and Manufacturers Federal Tax League, housed in an office in his factory on Altgeld Street in Chicago, with Emil Jorgenson, dynamic executive secretary and publicity director. The League pushed hard for land-value taxation as a means to a free economy. At a later period Mr. Cullman backed a magazine *Cause and Effect*, pursuing the same object. Still later he persisted in his purpose to alert his fellow citizens by writing and publishing three monographs; the latest *Behold The Future* in 1942.

He strongly warned that negligence in allowing the economic rent of land to escape to private privilege would certainly lead away from freedom to tyranny in all its manifest forms. Hope on the other hand lay in coming alive to the need to distinguish between values created by public service—rent, and values created by the labour of producers in industry—wages. Let economic rent support the public service and wages go untaxed to the individual. He sought to demonstrate that the public appropriation of economic rent of natural resources would work out substantially into a voluntary revenue for which he coined the phrase "Volmatic Revenue."

George T. Tideman

HONG KONG

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a number of the Colony's Laws. A further function of the Council is to consider appeals and petitions under certain Ordinances.

The laws of the Colony, known as Ordinances, are made by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council. This Council, of which the Governor is the President, has nine official members and eight appointed unofficial members. The Legislative Council also controls finance and expenditure through its Standing Finance Committee on which all the unofficial members sit. Procedure in the Council is based on that of the House of Commons.

The Common Law and Statutes of England as they existed on April 5, 1843, except where inapplicable to local circumstances, form the basis of the legal system of Hong Kong. They have been extended and modified by the application to the Colony of some later Laws of England and by Hong Kong Ordinances. The Judiciary, or Courts of the Colony, operates under the direction of the Chief Justice quite separately from the Executive.

Under the general direction of the Colonial Secretary, the administrative functions of government are discharged by some forty departments, all the officers of which are members of the civil service. The majority of the members of the civil service are full-time employees of the Government and as such are not permitted to take part in political activities or in business and other forms of employment.