

gree the two great gifts of his race, the capacity for money-making and a whole-hearted enthusiasm for ideals. It has been said that nearly all the money he made by soap he put into the Singletax campaign. His generous assistance to land reforms in this and other countries was a theme for caustic criticism with those who cannot understand why any man's philanthropy should extend to foreigners, or why any economic truth or social reform should have a world-wide significance. But though the propagation of the gospel of Henry George was his chief object in life, he had a wide and generous interest in many other causes, and lent a helpful hand to innumerable cases of personal distress.

London Jewish Chronicle.—Many of the late Mr. Joseph Fels's services to social and political causes are well known to the public, but others are known only to a few. One of the most remarkable, which he took care was never mentioned in his lifetime, occurred about four years ago. Mr. Nicholas Tchaykovsky was arrested in Russia and the Russian authorities, yielding to the pressure of public opinion in this country, and yet unwilling to release their man before the trial, fixed bail for him at the enormous sum of 5,000 pounds sterling. Mr. Fels was approached by Mr. Tchaykovsky's friends, and without much hesitation put down the money. He never took back his money, but gave the greater part of it to the fund for the support of Russian political prisoners and Siberian exiles. There was yet another occasion on which he came to the rescue of the Russians in a remarkable manner. That was in 1907, when the Russian Social Democrats, intending to hold their party congress in Finland, were successively driven from there and Sweden, and ultimately came, several hundred strong, to this country, without any means of either staying or departing. It was Mr. Fels who came to their rescue and lent them 17,000 pounds sterling without interest and on the mere promise to repay on some future occasion. Only an insignificant fraction of the money has been repaid. This was all part of his hatred of the despotic and anti-Semitic Government in Russia—a hatred so great that he invariably refused, in spite of many tempting offers, to extend his business to Russia even in the form of granting an agency to some Russian commission firm. . . . Israel Zangwill writes: "The death of Mr. Joseph Fels is a grievous loss to the Ito. Some six or seven years ago he walked into the office of the Ito as a stranger from America and offered me a hundred thousand dollars on condition that Itoland should be established on a Singletax basis. Though not without sympathy for the Mosaic economics of Henry George, I did not see my way to accept the money or to handicap the Ito's chances by binding it to any particular program, and Mr. Fels gradually became sympathetic with the objects of an Itoland irrespective of its economic basis. He also joined the committee of the Emigration Regulation Department, and on one occasion traveled with me to Bremen to receive a number of capriciously deported emigrants. Of all the Ito schemes, the Mesopotamia project interested him most, and he was disappointed that all Judea did not enthusiastically rally to the concep-

tion. He had, however, offered some of his own land in Paraguay as a nucleus for a colonization scheme, and it was by his ready generosity that the Anglo expedition was able to start without waiting for the funds which were collected later. In Mr. Fels the Ito loses its only English-speaking capitalist, but it is on moral grounds that his loss will be most deeply lamented, for his cheeriness and good humor and breezy American speeches (always working round to the Singletax panacea for poverty) lent inspiration to every Ito gathering that had the privilege of his presence. Of the loss to me personally, it is more difficult to speak, for to know Mr. Fels was to love him."

John Paul in Land Values Press Bureau (London).—The writer of these brief words knew him as well as any man, and better than most people, and can faithfully say that if ever a man stood body and soul for social justice and human progress that man was Joseph Fels. He simply burned himself out with enthusiasm for the cause he loved to serve. He was rightly regarded as a great advocate and a great fighter, but in all his strivings he bore no malice. He was a simple-minded lovable character, one whom it was a privilege to know and have as a friend. Like most men who occupied the position he held, he was frequently misunderstood, but he accepted this with much philosophy, and never neglected an opportunity to have a frank talk with an opponent. He loved his fellow men in whatever walk of life he found them. He gave much from his store of worldly goods to spread the light on his cure for social problems, and with his devoted wife he generously helped many other causes as well. He gave himself—he gave his life—ungrudgingly to the cause of human progress. Whatever company he found himself in, whether at a conference convened specially to consider the practical policy, or at any kind of public demonstration, he fearlessly proclaimed himself as an unfettered disciple of Henry George. He knew that a beginning must be made in the direction of the practical policy advocated by the land values movement, but it was the ideal of complete industrial emancipation which inspired him. He looked on other kindred movements with much sympathy, but with a profound conviction that the best way he could help all genuine progressive thought was to promote the agitation to free the land from the bondage of monopoly. This was his religion, and he lived up to it. The radical movement the world over for the restoration of the land to the people has lost its greatest advocate in the death of Joseph Fels.

My only use for money is to wipe out the damnable conditions that make it possible for a small number of people to make money at the expense of the many. I consider charity another name for the manufacture of beggars.—Joseph Fels.

I do not claim to be a Socialist, Tory or a Liberal. I am all of them. I am a Tory because I have got something that doesn't belong to me; I am a Liberal