

Henry George School of Social Science, that only the teachings of Henry George should be taught therein, without any ifs, ands, or buts.

Thoughtless remarks disparaging to the memory of old, deceased Single Taxers were offensive to his ears. He would counter by asking how many young men have we in the movement today who measure up to the stature of the old timers. Not that he didn't appreciate the movement is making greater progress than ever, in spite of a dearth of magnetic personalities.

It seems hard indeed to lose Joseph Dana Miller. But let us be thankful for having him as long as we did. It is for us to carry on the battle. "Strong soul and high endeavor, the world needs them now."

CHARLES JOS. SMITH.

From John C. Rose

I LOOK upon the death of Joseph Dana Miller as one of the great tragedies of recent years, for I always regarded him as one of our ablest Single Tax authors and leaders. I admired his writings and read every word he wrote, including his "Single Tax Year Book," "Verses From a Vagrant Muse," "Thirty Years of Verse Making," etc.

Miller carried on the work of Single Tax education in the noble spirit of Henry George and other predecessors. In his Single Tax campaigns and work of education, he held no personal grudges, and he never debated or argued by hurling invectives or by "calling personal names." Instead, he debated with logic, arguments and facts, and all who came in contact with him—including his political and economic "enemies"—admired his sincerity and good taste.

As a matter of fact, the very words he used to pay tribute to the late Francis W. Maguire (in his review of my book, "Philosopher and Reformer"), can well be applied to him. This tribute is, in part, as follows:

"And to this task Maguire [Miller] brought a thoroughness and devotion that set him apart with those who are . . . rearing the structure that is being built for the benefit of posterity. . . .

"Maguire [Miller] like all large-minded men, was of a tolerant spirit. His philosophy had taught him that man was innately good and that the meaner traits so often exhibited were born of the exploitation and tyranny to which he had been so long subject."—(Joseph Dana Miller, *LAND AND FREEDOM*, Vol. xxxviii, No. 3, page 93, May-June, 1938.)

I shall never forget the encouragement he gave me, at our first meeting, "that if all Single Taxers labored as earnestly and diligently as you, we would be well on our way to victory."

It was such encouragement, from men like Joseph Dana Miller, that enabled me to do as much for Single Tax as I have fortunately been able to do.

As I Remember

Joseph Dana Miller

By ROBERT CLANCY

SERENE, with a certain detachment, yet allowing himself to be part of the event. That's the way you would find Joseph Dana Miller at meetings and gatherings. And you would usually find him in a group where people were speaking with hope, planning, and asking "What are we going to do next?" Such things would evoke his presence. But let the conversation turn into a dispute over a small matter, or an internecine feud, and he would turn and walk away. Almost like a force of nature. Certain combined compounds produce life; break up the compounds and life disappears.

Always ready for the task at hand, looking forward, but not questioning the future too far, and never lingering on the past. That was Miller in his work. That attitude kept him young—I could never think of him as aged. Somehow I got the impression that he was growing. Well, he was always on the lookout for new events in the movement, hopeful signs of progress, and he was always absorbing new ideas. "What's new? Any new lectures going on tonight? When are you coming down again? Did you see this letter I got today?" Pass some trite compliment on his latest essay and he would be tickled.

Samuel Johnson was Miller's favorite figure in the world of letters. He himself was a sort of Johnson in the movement. People would gather round him, come to him with their ideas, problems and disputes. He was father-confessor for a great variety of sins.

He was smiling, always, with a smile that gave forth benediction. Even now I see that smiling happy face. Yes, it was a happy face—he was happy in his work. He was one of those who kept at quiet, steady, constructive toil, not noise and shouting. And how imposing are the results of all those years of chronicling the movement! Great, impartial spirit, he realized that the movement was larger than himself and his ideas, hence he gave space in *LAND AND FREEDOM* to all representative ideas and activities in the movement, whether or not he agreed with them, and regardless of whether the writers criticized his own views. For instance, he allowed many stormy battles to be waged in the pages of *LAND AND FREEDOM*, over the question of interest. As for himself, he said "There is no problem of interest!"

Miller was a man of principle. He was not over-anxious to ascertain the exact figures on land values, how much rent land owners are collecting, whether there would be enough or too much for government expenses. "I don't care," he said, "whether the landowners are collecting 90 per cent or 10 per cent of the rent. They're not entitled to one cent of it. It belongs to society as a whole."