

indomitable will and cheerful spirit until the end came on November 14th, 1916, when he had just attained the age of 54.

It was not only as a journalist, a lecturer and a statesman that Henry George, Jr. rose far above mediocrity. He wrote three books that alone would have brought him fame. "The Life of Henry George" was reviewed at length in the literary columns of newspapers generally, and after the lapse of a dozen years is still quoted. "The Menace of Privilege" put in startling concrete form what hundreds of thousands of Americans had been vaguely suspecting. It created a sensation, and is being constantly used by statesmen and lecturers. But the humanism of the man is shown in his "Romance of John Bainbridge." Harry cold and austere? I thought that I had reached an age and a state of mind when novels would no longer interest me; but when I first read it I was so entranced that I sat up nearly all night to complete it. A year ago last November, after having read it aloud to my wife, I felt an irresistible impulse to write to the author. A few days later I received an answer from Mrs. George written at Harry's dictation, stating that my letter had reached him on his birthday and had cheered him greatly. The book is dedicated:

"To my wife, to whose faith, encouragement and assistance it is in great part due."

On his trip around the world Harry visited Tolstoy. As they were parting Tolstoy said: "I am an old man and will soon see your father; have you any message for him?" "Tell him I have kept the faith." If indeed there be personal immortality, last November Harry greeted the prophet of San Francisco, and the prophet of New Russia, and assured them both with his own lips that he had kept the faith.

And so this man, in spite of the handicap of a great name and a frail physique, achieved much more than the average man. Above all, he achieved friendship. We loved him living; we love him now.

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## THE DUALITY OF THE SINGLE TAX

(For the Review)

By HAROLD SUDELL

An old legend tells of two knights who, riding along a road in opposite directions, met where hung a great shield. This shield was gold on the one side and silver on the other and these knights, each seeing only the side facing him, fought to the death as to whether it was a gold or silver shield they saw.

Something of this kind is now going on in the Single Tax ranks in the controversy between those who favor a "land for the people" policy and those who see in the Single Tax merely a fiscal reform.

The Single Tax theory, as developed by the genius of Henry George, is distinctly two-sided. It is a two edged sword, and an adherent who has not learned this is not using his weapon with full effect.

To some of our fiscal Single Taxers the tremendous moving power which lies in the appeal which "The Earth for All" makes to the hearts of men seems mere foolishness. The extremists on the other side however, equally narrow minded, would debar any reference to taxation and view the gradual shifting of taxes from labor to land as useless if not mischievous.

Henry George did not originate the doctrine of the equal rights of all men to the land. Many men in many ages had proclaimed this. What was novel in his presentation of this old truth and what gave his message its vitality and power was, that while, with a marvelous gift of word-painting, he pictured the evils of land monopoly, he at the same time offered a simple, effective and feasible remedy. His plan involved no revolutionary overturning of existing institutions. It used machinery already in existence and methods that everyone was acquainted with, and simplified this machinery and these methods. He proposed to take the ground rent of land by taxation. He pointed out that this could be reached by easy steps since it involved only the abolishing, one by one, of other taxes and the gradual concentration of taxes on land values. He demonstrated that both actions would produce beneficial results, the one by removing the crushing load of taxation from labor and its products and the other by opening up the land to use.

To the ordinary Single Tax convert the question of the opening up of the land freely to all men on equal terms, with its boundless possibilities, looms so large as to considerably dwarf the taxation question. It is not surprising, therefore, that the earlier stages of the agitation dealt almost entirely with the land question. But as the movement gathered strength and it began to seem possible to obtain legislation which would translate theory into action, the subject of methods came naturally more to the fore. The question of taxation, always a vexed one, was discussed in all its phases, and the fiscal side of the Single Tax assumed greater importance than in the earlier days of the movement. Possibly, at times, the land question, although of infinitely greater importance, was lost sight of or thrust into the background, and the driving force which it imparts was thus lost to the movement.

But while this is to be regretted, it is not an unnatural state of affairs and those estimable but misguided Single Taxers who would banish all reference to the question of taxation from the movement should recollect that after all the land is to be opened up to all men by abolishing one kind of taxes and by increasing another kind. And while freely admitting that the big end of the Single Tax proposition is to be found in the land question we should remember too that the taxation question is also of considerable importance. For even if we took the full ground rent of land for public use and yet retained our present burdensome taxes on labor and its fruits we would not realize the full

benefit which the Single Tax of Henry George—the taking of ground rent by taxation and the abolition of all other taxes—would give us.

Let us therefore use our energy, not in fighting one another, but in fighting the enemy and when doing this let us use the full weapon, both edges of the sword, which Henry George gave us.

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## THE LINE OF LEAST RESISTANCE

*(For the Review)*

By **ALEXANDER MACKENDRICK**

The publication of Dr. Young's excellent survey of "The Single Tax Movement in the United States," has probably stimulated among readers of **THE REVIEW** a desire to understand just where and how the movement now stands. Thirty years of continuous effort have brought us to—where we are: but the question remains "where are we?" That a vast number of men and women have been awakened to the injustice of the private appropriation of economic rent, and have been enabled to trace its results in the strangling of industry, in the increased cost of living, and otherwise in those many evils that are included in the "social problem," we cannot doubt. So far, the movement finds ample justification for its expenditure of effort, but when we ask ourselves whether we are perceptibly nearer the achievement of legislation that will give practical effect to the reform towards which we have been laboriously educating ourselves and others, it is difficult to give an encouraging reply. It may therefore be that the time has come when we may wisely cease reiterating the various articles in our confession of faith, or assuring ourselves of the justice of our demands, and concentrate upon the effort to discover a form in which these demands may be framed, that will command attention as being not only reasonable and just, but workable. This last word suggests perhaps the direction in which we have failed to make progress. We have hammered out the philosophy of the Single Tax and laid bare its first principles, to the point of having a ready reply to every possible objector. We have probably convinced most of those who have retained open minds that the social estates belong rightfully to society, and private estates to private owners; but, to the problem of how best to bring the new and desired order of things out of the old, we may have paid too little heed. To find then, a method of approach that will point straight to the ultimate goal, and at the same time be obviously workable and capable of adjustment to the existing systems of taxation, is today probably the most urgent desideratum.

It has been a matter of surprise to many Single Taxers both in the United States and Britain, that legislators who have been known to entertain feelings of sympathy with the movement have been shy of promoting bills or other-