

## THE GREAT ADVENTURE IN CALIFORNIA

*State Headquarters*, LOS ANGELES, 203 Tajo Bldg., First and Broadway. Main 4905  
SAN FRANCISCO, 948 Market, Room 611, Douglas 5690. BERKELEY, 2617 Virginia.

of everlasting revolt. "Give Labor the Vision" pleads the poet in perhaps the most significant appeal to the hosts of workers that our Western movement has produced—epic in style. "The Great Adventure" is immortalized in the lines that Luke contributed to the furtherance of the movement. But life itself—naked, life—is held up to the light of the revolutionary vision. There is trust in humanity breathed into the Songs, a faith in the victory of The People that sustained Luke North during the years when he turned the currents of his poet-soul into the difficult work of making this a fit world for the development of poets—a world which will make poets of us all.

A limited edition (the first and only edition) of these beautiful poems was left by Luke North when he answered the summons home. The book, may be purchased thru The Great Adventure, 203 Tajo Building, Los Angeles; cloth binding \$1.50; paper, \$1.00. Those who knew and loved Luke should have the volume for the treasuring of memories of the cause; those who knew him not should have the Songs for the sake of the world of inspiration and beauty they will unfold.

DAVID BOBSPA.

### AN APPEAL

We, the members of the California group of Great Adventurers immediately associated with Luke North in the last single tax campaign, are putting forth this memorial issue of The Great Adventure as a tribute to our able and faithful leader recently passed from our midst.

He it was who first broke the thirty-five year habit of merely talking about Single Tax. "Somebody must begin to put it into operation and now." And he threw his genius into the fight.

This issue is paid for by California contributors and adds not to the deficit left at the close of the campaign.

In Everyman, Luke North explained this to be a debt for mechanical work and printing for the campaign. What was never published was that he and his wife worked all through the campaign on just their living expenses. There were never any stipulated salaries.

At the rate that managers of other campaigns were paid, the amount earned by the two that they did not get would go far toward liquidating the deficit. The treasurer and secretary—since it was possible to do so—contributed their services.

So, comrades and friends in the Cause, while we are assured that The Great Adventure movement will continue, we must first close up the books of the late campaign. Let us close them up as cleanly and liberally as befits the work achieved.

What we ask is not for Luke. He is beyond reward. It is for our own privilege and exemplification. Let's clean the slate.

Act at once. Please do not delay. Mail checks and postoffice orders to The Great Adventure Committee, 203 Tajo Building, Los Angeles, California.

the simple, the great and only change that will establish justice. And without justice can we hope for any real peace on earth? Many will mourn our brother Luke North."

Norman Duxbury, San Francisco: "The past ten years have shown me not a man who has been able to do one hundredth part of what you have already done. Until that man comes you cannot quit. And when he does it will not be necessary. Charles K. Stern, San Francisco: I herewith register an affirmative vote for you. Maude N. Brodeur, Berkeley: He fought a good fight and lived to see the dawn of the day for which he strove. He wanted to make California the morning hour. There is in our hearts now more of the hope that conquers because Luke North lived and worked.

Hugh Craig, Piedmont: Stay by the ship One Tax! This is no time for home rule or tax reform. We've passed that stage.

Benj. Putnam, Winters: If there is any one else in California more capable than yourself of handling the situation then why haven't they been heard from during all the years past? Keep at the throttle and the 'faithful' will endeavor to furnish enough fuel to keep the ship going until she safely reaches the long looked for port.

Wm. Breitinger, Bakersfield: "By all means stay in command. You have the land plumes scared as they never have before. They are already advocating a change making compulsory 25% of the voters to sign petitions on tax questions. Your hit straight from the shoulder policy has brought this about and will eventually win the fight. Passyfooting methods only prolong the agony."

Harvey E. Westgate, well-known newspaper man, Chicago: "Altho I had known Luke North only a short time, I loved him as a brother. His ability as a writer, his sincerity, and above all his fighting ability while battling great odds I recognized from the first. The work he carried on will not stop. No man since Henry George has so ably fought for the principles of Single Tax."

W. J. Wallace, Belleville, N. J.: I certainly hope that you will consent to stay and remain at the head of the movement in your state. If the program in California is to declare that the rental value shall be absorbed by the state or an equivalent, I will be able to continue some support. The vote that was received for the amendment this year in California was very satisfactory. There was a tremendous sentiment everywhere against anything that it was thought would in any way interfere with the success of the war. Under the circumstances you did marvelously well. With best wishes for the future of the next California campaign, and hoping that you may remain at the head of the movement.

C. A. Teagle, Houston, Tex.: Single Taxers of California who have shown active opposition to The Great Adventure movement should feel shame and humiliation for their actions in the past two or three years, and the result of their opposition. The least they could do, it seems to me, is to have remained quiescent and allowed the fight to progress unhindered.

Wm. L. Ross, Philadelphia, Pa.: Do not accept the lucrative position offered you. Go on with the campaign. I'm for you first, last, and all the time.

## Songs of the Great Adventure

"Songs of The Great Adventure" embody the soul of the cause to which Luke North dedicated his life. He was essentially the poet, the lover of beauty; at the same time he was the propagandist—the unrelenting and unswerving fighter for human rights. The blending of the two sides of his nature found expression in his songs, sung off in the quiet of the cloister in the short hours Luke allowed himself during the years of conflict. The Songs are not ephemeral; they breathe the spirit

Food Will Win the War  
Don't Waste It!

Food Comes from Land  
Don't Hog It!

# The Great Adventure

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## TO KEEP THE IDEAL

By Luke North.

**H**ave you a love that you would keep?  
Pour it out into a larger love.  
Have you a friendship you would hold?  
Share it with the world.  
Have you an ideal you would not lose?  
Lay it on the Altar to Man.

Nothing is an end in itself.  
Everything is only a means to something else.  
Satiety is the only sin.  
Only what is given can be kept.  
What is hoarded turns to Ashes.

Nothing is stationary.  
Treasure grows or lessens.  
This is true of love, a friendship, or an ideal.  
To keep it, share it.  
Love is not an end in itself,  
But a means of human growth.

Everything is for use,  
Nothing is "for keeps."  
Things, qualities, thoughts, feelings—  
The world and its contents  
Tangible and imponderable—  
Are for the growth of Man.

You have heard this before  
And gushed over it, no doubt.  
Now stop the gush and get it into your system:  
Live it! Save your love,  
Hold your friendship,  
Keep your ideal  
By use!



LUKE NORTH

Harriet Dunlop Prenter, Toronto, spoke relative to Luke North's ovation at Niagara Falls: "His work will certainly live." She read numerous telegrams and letters sent since his demise.

Rosetta Waters Merrick, Glendale, read the following poem,	
He, the man of ideals and earnestness	High upon the hilltops!
Untrammelled by Time's custom's	Visioned it against the sky
Undaunted by pillars of opposition,	Where it burned into the scarred
Unharmd by envy and calumny	Hearts of men.
Untethered by man's warp of gold,	And behold!
Unbound by rules save those,	Out of the ashes of the past
Of human kindness,	The flower of Justice arises
He, the great soul, with sight so clear	And on each petal clearly cut,
And faith so strong	I see the name we love and revere,
Bore the standard of Single Tax	Our brother, Luke North.

Immediately after the memorial service some twenty-five of those present repaired to the headquarters office and there decided to get out a memorial issue of The Great Adventure.

### Extracts From a Few Letters Written Before and Since

W. D. Hoffman, Berkeley: Only the fiery crusade and high idealism of a sincere free land fight could reach the pocket books of the rank and file as the last two campaigns have done. It was never done before. I believe in a popular financial support . . . and you have demonstrated its present practicability. I fear we should have a long and rocky road to travel in finding another who can do so well.

As to objection to your leadership—the question of personality—that you have alienated many good workers, there are two sides to that. It is impossible to conduct a full-fledged fight without division. There is no movement worthy of the name without two schools. Let the home-rulers home-rule to their heart's content—we are out to free the land! But you are guilty of alienating some fundamental single taxers? Perhaps they are guilty of a lack of devotion to a great general principle, or of misunderstanding. Perhaps you are guilty; and if you had been a better diplomat such alienating would not have happened. But I have seen you work—always for a crust, at a great personal sacrifice—and I know this: That for every single taxer you scared away you got a hundred new ones to take their places.

On the side of personality, you err favorably to the cause, for the reason that when we admit the charge, we know that the whole Great Adventure revolved about that same person lity. Your contagious eloquence and enthusiasm enabled you to get new converts faster than the old ones could get out. And they didn't all get out. Most of those who have got out have since proved they care more for the defeat of singletax than its success."

Feb. 17: What California knows today of the fundamental land solution, it owes next to Henry George, to The Great Adventure and Luke North. He could have sat in the editorial chairs of our most opulent newspapers and commanded position and wealth. He chose the humble path. And he stuck to the end—stuck fighting. Ah! what a fighter. The death stood waiting, almost tapping his shoulder hour by hour, Luke North stuck to the fight against Landlordism and poverty throughout the world—Stuck to the end!

J. H. Young, Alameda: "It was my privilege and pleasure to know Luke North twenty years ago when he was in the newspaper business in San Francisco. I have often sat with him in the small hours of the morning and listened to him talk of the big things of life. One thing at all times was very predominant in the mind and soul of Luke North, he loved his fellowmen."

J. A. Haggstrom, San Francisco: "He was an able writer and untiring worker for the Cause. He spurned any compromise with injustice. He did good work for

## MEMORIAL TO LUKE NORTH

At early morning of February 8th, Luke North passed away. The funeral ceremonies at the Little Church of the Flowers, Forest Lawn Cemetery, consisted entirely in selections from his own poems.

The memorial service was held on February 16th, in the Y.W.C.A. assembly hall where gathered some hundred of his friends.

The opening address was given by Lona Ingham Robinson, as follows:

"We meet today to pay our last public tribute of appreciation to our comrade and leader, Luke North, recently passed from our midst. But these will not be his last tributes. There will be hundreds, thousands all over this land for years to come as the work he began comes to fruition.

As he lived not to himself alone, no true idea of him can be given without mention of some of the obstacles against which he struggled.

But he would have it that he never sacrificed himself. Civilization as he knew it, pained him, and to alleviate his own pain, he would reform it on basic principles. That was all! The fact dawned on him first, that propaganda of the Single Tax idea academically by after-dinner orators might go on for a thousand years and never a thing would happen; not so much as one hungry child would be fed! He was called visionary; he was so visionary, his vision of freedom and justice were so intense, that he almost saw it materialize as he worked to enact it into law.

About that time the world was grappling with the problems of navigating the air. The only way to test these machines was to fly in them; and many brave fellows thus came to their death. But Luke was engaged in work far more fundamental. He was trying to establish by law, man's just relation to the land upon which he must live. The only way to test the legal machinery was to set it going and get into it. And the second attempt cost him his life.

He had no backing of money or position of any kind. He relied upon the common sense of the voters when presented with the just proposition.

He succeeded in getting on the ballot a measure, which if carried would at once begin to alleviate poverty.

He was immediately opposed by a coterie of near-single taxers shocked at his precipitation in bringing before the people a real Single Tax bill, and who insisted that their bill (with no Single Tax in it) which had been up twice before, should be substituted. They said their bill would not alarm business men, and that thousands of them would vote for it who were opposed to Single Tax (!). Their legal advisors declared that no kind of a Single Tax bill could be constitutional because the words necessary to state such a bill had not yet been adjudicated!

"This campaign of 1916 awoke interest clear across the Atlantic ocean, and the first thousand dollars came from England! Herman Kuehn was made co-administrator with Luke North and came from Minneapolis to throw in his genius and energy on the same terms. They both believed in doing 'the impossible'—until it was done.

When this bill was safely on the ballot, by 135,000 signatures, Luke Felt Fund conference at Niagara Falls and tell them what he had done. At the first session he was greeted by cheers which grew into a veritable ovation. But soon he was to perceive a miasmic mist of dis-paragement and calumny joined by another that had trailed clear across the continent. Both together, succeeded in emptying his honors of any material benefit to the campaign then pending.

The result of the election—small to him who went in to win—so amazed single taxers near the eastern coast that they got up with much time and expense, the Atlantic City single tax conference to indorse the Great Adventure movement. They paid Luke's return expenses to go there and tell them how he brought about such a big vote. But the same calumnious mists joined forces as before. His enemies expecting this time to bring him to bar in self defense for having brought out over 200,000 California votes for Single Tax! But this assembly now resolved into a National Great Adventure conference, turned a deaf ear to this faction who left utterly discomforted.

After weathering all such annoyances, Luke North and Herman Kuehn concentrated forces for a second onslaught against Privilege. Then, early in the campaign Herman suddenly dropped in the harness. Luke's right hand man was now gone. Still he did not swerve. He crowded down his grief with "Fill up the ranks; we must go on." And reinforcements, financial and otherwise, made going on still possible, even amid the confusion of a war year.

During this last summer his mind was continually at high pressure, meeting all sorts of emergencies. He worked his frail body up to the limit both at the home office and at San Francisco, where his near-single tax opponents were assiduously abetting the Anti-Single Tax league with falsehoods in the daily press. He was literally spending his heart's blood in that campaign. At its close, his earthly life was fast nearing its end. Even then he could not be allowed to rest. He must meet one more buffet. Because of a falling off in the percentage of single tax votes—in war time—below his own previous record, a move was set on foot from supposedly friendly quarters, to call a vote as to his continued leadership. His last Everyman shows the kindly and philosophic spirit with which he met this thrust. He could not hold rancor even against his enemies. Then the hundreds of letters,

votes of confidence in his continued leadership that now poured in, were a great satisfaction to him. H. W. Noren, Pittsburg: "Just two men have in any degree reached the masses, namely: Henry George and Luke North." Olive Schreiner tells of the march of a swarm of locusts, that coming to a stream, threw themselves into it, drowning in great numbers. But those who followed could pass over the water on the dead bodies of their comrades. Luke North, as well as Herman Kuehn, threw his life down that those to follow could cross over on the results of his work and experience, the present inhuman gap between slavery and economic freedom."

L. D. Beckwith, Atascadero, paid a fine tribute to the man and his personal influence in arousing enthusiasm. In closing he read the following poem by John O. Varion, Halcyon:

Human, unassuming, kindly, he of the high ideals, building true growth into humanity;  
Philosopher, poet, hero! unconquerably, persistently, building true growth into humanity;  
He will be with the Christos strengthening the strong soul in him for another day.  
And we behind here facing the evils he fought,  
We must not be forgetting this persistent indomitable spirit,  
We must be fighting ourselves now by his dauntless flame of inspiration;  
For the Gods of Readjustment are walking the Earth,  
And the sword of Justice must be tempered with Love.  
Philosopher, poet, hero! unconquerably, persistently, building true growth into humanity;  
Human, unassuming, kindly, he of the high ideals, building true growth into humanity;  
The mysterious door has opened for him,  
He will be seeing into the depths of ideation now,  
He will be sensing the age-old soul of Humanity itself,  
He is turning inward to the Gods of High Growth for renewal,  
He is the warrior worn by his lifelong fighting for free racial manifestation,  
He will be with the Christos strengthening the strong soul in him for another day.

The Great Adventure of Adventures has called him inward.  
Clara P. Wright, San Pedro: "Among other things said, 'Luke North and his work.'"  
E. L. Lourel, Los Angeles: "Paid a beautiful tribute to Luke North and suggested a memorial issue of The Great Adventure."  
Murray Schloss, Los Angeles: "Spoke earnestly in tribute to our departed leader."  
N. J. Wright, San Pedro: "Luke North was one of the staunchest fighters for Single Tax I have ever known."  
Jesse Thorpe Price, Los Angeles: "Luke North could sway men and reach the masses as no other man since Henry George's time. Every phase of man's relation to man was vital to him."  
Lucy Durham, Glendale: "As I passed by his bier and gazed on his peaceful face, I thought, his work is not done but just begun."