

**Eulogy for William Hope (“Coin”) Harvey**  
**Given by W.B. Holyfield, Rogers attorney**  
**Saturday, 15 February 1936**  
**at the tomb of the deceased at Monte Ne, Arkansas**

We come today, my friends to pay a sad tribute of respect to a man whose passing from this life has called forth the comment of a nation.

William Hope (“Coin”) Harvey was born at Buffalo, West Virginia, August 11, 1851, died at his home in Monte Ne, Arkansas, February 11, 1936, and thus we have the beginning and the end of the life of a man who lived placidly among his neighbors, but projected his mind vigorously into all matters which nearly concern the temporal welfare of his fellow man.

He was a man of retiring modesty, but so bold, forceful, and convincing in his mental processes — in his writings and in his speeches — as to impress the logic of his thought upon the age in which he lived. His life’s work is a part of the history of his time, and his writings mostly upon civics, economics, and finance, are so well known among scholars as to make it unnecessary to comment upon them here, except the fundamental principles he advocated.

He was not a visionary theorist, nor Utopian dreamer, but directed his thought to existing conditions and exposed with merciless logic the fallacies and wrongs of organized avarice. He had an honest and abiding conviction that most of the hardships and privations suffered and endured by the men, women, and children of this distressed land were the direct result of gross injustice deliberately practiced upon them, and that such injustice could be removed by an efficient government, honestly administered.

He believed that exorbitant tax burdens wrongfully laid upon the people by irresponsible legislative assemblies, and by them appropriated with reckless abandon, was the prolific cause of much economic distress, and showed how unjust tax exactions were passed on down to the masses of the people, reducing them to poverty.

He believed that the practice of usury, or the charge for the use of money and credit, now commonly called interest, was inherently wrong, and fortified his strong reasoning on this subject by quotations from the Bible and from Aristotle, Cato, and other great philosophers.

He clearly showed that the issuance of currency and control of credit were governmental functions, and that the constitution was violated by the transfer of these functions to private corporations and individuals. And shows, by his writings, how the government, industry, and the people are financed by these corporations and individuals who control the credit and currency of the country, shows how they pyramid their loans so as to collect many times the legal rate of interest on their capital, and shows how the loan sharks of the country are rapidly but surely absorbing all the wealth of the nation, and these conditions he summarizes as harbingers of moral decay and national debt.

His untiring efforts and his labors for half a century to better the condition of the common people finally became so despairing that he conceived the idea of a pyramid at his home here,