

should be addressed directly to Chas. LeBaron Goeller, Union, N. Y.

It is expected, however, that this lecture work will be carried on in close cooperation with the Henry George Foundation, which organization will assist in obtaining lecture engagements, supplying literature, and in other ways endeavoring to make this new enterprise a marked success.

Common Lands on Long Island

THE southern shore of Long Island is mostly low, marshy land, with numerous bays and inlets; fronted by a series of long sand-bars, some of which have become extremely valuable as summer resort property, such as Coney Island, Rockaway, and Long Beach. These low lands were originally the property of the various Towns (townships) by grant from the King of England. As these common lands became valuable they gradually passed into private hands, usually for much less than they were worth.

The Town of Hempstead, however, still retains about 11,000 acres, just east of the New York City line and north-east of Long Beach. By act of the Legislature, 1928, these lands are put under the jurisdiction of a Planning Commission for development. Being marshy land considerable draining will be necessary, but the commission intends to develop waterways, establish parks and golf courses, and create sites for residence property. Under the law this common land cannot be sold; it must be leased for not more than 65 years; and if for more than a term of fifteen years, it must be re-appraised at the end of such time and every ten years thereafter and a new rent fixed. The land being owned by the Town will not be taxed, but charges may be assessed for public improvements; and buildings will be taxable at the same rate as other property.

The Town of Oyster Bay also owns as common lands, an area of some two miles square on Jones Beach, which adjoins Long Beach to the east. The State is planning a fine Shore boulevard which will span the channel separating these two beaches, and continuing along Jones Beach, open up this hitherto inaccessible spot.

Some speculative interests connected apparently with the Long Island Railroad have cast a covetous eye upon this beach property, and have come forward with a proposal remarkable for colossal impudence—offering to lease a square mile of this beach for 99 years at the rent of \$1,000 a year. Considering that this area would divide up into 10,000 lots, and that it is a poor bungalow lot along the shore anywhere near the city which does not rent for \$10 a year upward, the possible profit is obvious. And when the ocean front boulevard is finished in a few years values of course will soar.

The Hicksville Chamber of Commerce at a recent meeting voted overwhelming to oppose this project, after it

had been vigorously criticized by Dr. E. Curtis, of Hicksville, as an effort to get possession of the beach before the people appreciated the enormous value this property would have when this highway was completed.

Dr. Curtis was well equipped to take part in this discussion as he has been educated in those matters by our old associate, Edward Polak.

Providence Will Celebrate

AT a recent meeting of Single Taxers of Providence, R. I., it was decided to hold a celebration of the 49th anniversary of the birth of "Progress and Poverty" on September 29, 1928, at which meeting former Alderman John Kelso will preside. The meeting will be held at the Palestine Shrine Club.

Visiting Single Taxers and their lady friends are cordially invited. Those who can be present are asked to communicate with David Fraser, 25 Burlington street, Providence, R. I.

William Bradford DuBois

ONE of the most consistent fighters for a cause that this city has ever had in its midst was William Bradford DuBois, who died Sunday night at 74.

It did not matter to him that the thing he fought for was a lost cause, and as far as his own lifetime was concerned, a hopeless cause. All that he knew was that to him the Single Tax seemed to be the only cure for whatever economic ills afflicted the world, and that its prophet, Henry George, was a great and wise leader worth following. And those who knew him will testify that William Bradford DuBois fought for the Single Tax standard with intelligence and gallantry.

To ascribe to him these latter qualities is to say in another way that Mr. DuBois was not a fanatic. Like Henry George, who was an undisputed master of reasoning and a writer who deserves to be read for his literary qualities alone, he appealed to men's minds rather than to their mob emotions. Nor did he forget that as a public-spirited resident of a growing city, he had duties quite aside from the self-chosen mission of radically changing a governmental system. Thus we find that in the course of his many years here he was instrumental in the establishment of the Free Public Library and in the organization of the Independence Day Association, a body which annually concerns itself with the proper observance of the birthday anniversary of the United States.

In the death of Mr. DuBois a great many people of the city have lost a fine friend and the city itself a worthy citizen.

—Editorial, Bayonne (N. J.) *Times*.

DOES not this issue show impressive evidence of advance?