

# Signs of Progress

## GEORGEIST ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

### Robert Schalkenbach Foundation

REPORT OF V. G. PETERSON, SECRETARY

**CALENDAR**—Last year, about Christmas time, the Foundation published its first Henry George wall calendar. The idea proved extremely popular and was an effective instrument of propaganda. Many people wrote us during the year, after seeing this calendar in homes and offices, and some of these inquirers are now making their own study of our philosophy. The success of the calendar has justified our making another one for 1941. It will feature a handsome photograph of Henry George taken at the height of his career. It was generously loaned from her own collection by Henry George's daughter, Anna George de Mille. The date pad will carry inspiring quotations culled from the golden treasury of George's books. The calendar will again sell at twenty-five cents.

**CHRISTMAS GIFTS**—The giving of George books as Christmas gifts is a time-honored custom which has started thousands of people on the road to clear economic thinking. To encourage this type of giving we are offering special prices on quantity purchases. For instance, five dollars will purchase a full set of the George books in uniform bindings and a copy of "The Philosophy of Henry George," by Dr. George R. Geiger. Five dollars and seventy-five cents will purchase ten copies of our one dollar edition of "Progress and Poverty."

We are wrapping books to be given as Christmas presents in gay holly paper, with greeting tags attached. Individual attention is paid to all gift orders. Last year, about 500 books were sent out from the Foundation as Christmas gifts. This year, we are trying to reach the 1000 mark.

**BOOK DEALERS**—We have been very much encouraged by the lively interest on the part of our good friends, the book dealers. In the past few weeks, as a result of a special campaign, 200 books were placed with 20 new dealers, who had hitherto not deemed it worthwhile to stock Henry George books. It is worthy of note that dealers in small towns are now welcoming "Progress and Poverty."

**FOSTER vs. GEORGE**—Along with thousands of our friends who had hoped for Mr. George's election to the Hall of Fame this year, we suffered the disappointment (relative, of course) of learning that the vote was given to Stephen Foster, writer of American folk songs. Sharing honors with Henry George in the "near the top candidates," was Thomas Paine. He received fifty votes to George's forty-seven.

**THE SCHOOLS**—Last year the Foundation developed a lively interest in the Georgeist philosophy by circularizing the high school teachers of economics. This work had such splendid results that we extended our campaign this autumn to include normal schools throughout the country. Not only are we selling books to the teachers themselves, but are receiving requests for study material to be used in class. Also worthy of mention is the fact that several new colleges have introduced "Progress and Poverty" in their economics courses.

And now, in closing, let me extend the Season's Greetings and best wishes for a happy and busy 1941.

### American Association For Scientific Taxation

Readers will recall the "Legislative Plan of Action," prepared by the Association, which appeared in our September-October issue in abridged form. It was a proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the State of New York, and was intended to serve as a model for proposing the Georgeist reform in legislative assemblies.

Since its partial appearance in the last issue of *LAND AND FREEDOM*, the full, unabridged Plan was printed in the form of galley proofs and sent to numerous persons prominent in Georgeist, civic and educational work, for suggestions and criticism. The general response was enthusiastic, and the Association was gratified to observe the care with which the Plan was read and criticised. It is thus assuming the form of a cooperative work, and will undoubtedly be an important contribution toward the legislative adoption of the Georgeist proposals. Following are excerpts from some of the many letters received:

"The Plan seems to me to be of great merit and I want to wish you all success with it. I am one of those who have been waiting more than fifty years for such action as this."

—Henry Ware Allen, Author.

"If I could share your optimism as to the possibility of bringing about the taxation reforms which you advocate with the speed you desire and also that these reforms in state and local taxation would completely abolish unemployment and poverty, I should say that you have done an excellent job of draftsmanship in the proposed constitutional amendment and legislation."—Harold S. Bittenheim, Editor, *The American City*.

"I cannot see any way to improve this very excellent piece of work."—William E. Clement, Secretary, Benjamin Franklin Research Society.