

Signs of Progress

GEORGEIST ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

Robert Schalkenbach Foundation

REPORT OF V. G. PETERSON, SECRETARY

Several abridgments of "Progress and Poverty" have made their appearance in Georgeist literature. Some of these shortened versions have had wide circulation. "Significant Paragraphs from Progress and Poverty," for instance, ran into editions totaling sixteen thousand copies. It was widely used in colleges where professors did not hesitate to make it required reading because the price was low and the reading time a matter of only an hour or two. However, after years of using that book in his economics class at Missouri University, Professor Brown, compiler of "Significant Paragraphs," came to feel the need of a book which presented the argument more fully and yet demanded not over half the reading time of the unabridged work. This objective was realized last year when Professor Brown prepared "Progress and Poverty, Abridged." He has omitted the eighty page discussion of the Malthusian Theory contained in "Progress and Poverty," much of the section on the wage fund theory, and the chapters on interest. Thus, it has been possible to keep the book down to 232 pages and yet maintain a consistent march of the argument in Henry George's own words. A trial edition of this book was published last year by the Henry George School. The first large edition is now on the Foundation's press and will be ready by early April. It will retail at twenty-five cents a copy, postpaid.

It is a real privilege to announce a limited supply of "The Struggle for Justice," by that distinguished author and lecturer, Louis Wallis. The books, which have previously cost one dollar a copy, will be sold at fifty cents. In a thumbnail sketch of that most thrilling of all dramas, as old as history itself, the struggle for justice is pictured in its various phases: the period when the Hebrew race was being forged from the nomad clans of Israel and the Amorites of the walled cities of the lowlands of Canaan; the years when the barbarous tribes of Europe were being fashioned into the nations of today; the Middle Ages; the Reformation; the heightened tempo of the Nineteenth Century, down to Modern Times. "Within recent years," says Mr. Wallis, "the people have more and more turned away from the church because it has been identified with a platform which has failed to meet the increasing pressure of our time. It has denounced the shortcomings of men in their private lives; but it has not flamed with high enthusiasm for the righting of social wrongs." Mr. Wallis predicts that the struggle for justice will end with the social gospel triumphant, and the Bible, as explained by scientific scholarship, as the center of the greatest movement for justice and freedom that the

world has ever seen. One of our friends, who had purchased many copies of this book at the original dollar price, has already subscribed for twenty-five of this special fifty cent offering.

At long last we have been able to obtain a shipment of the Spanish edition of "Progress and Poverty" from Madrid. They are the first to come into this country since the Spanish civil war. German and Italian translations, which are often asked for, are unobtainable, and the time seems far distant when we shall again be able to import them.

A recent trans-Atlantic mail brought an interesting letter from Mr. Madsen of London. He asks for twenty more of our calendars, reports on the activities of the British Georgeists and says nothing, absolutely nothing, about the war. Also on that boat came a fresh supply of "The Great Iniquity," by Tolstoy, and some copies of the popular Verinder book, "My Neighbor's Landmark." This interesting book, which retails here at thirty-five cents, is a series of informative studies of the land laws of the early Jews.

Our circularizing of the normal schools throughout the country has resulted in the sale of several hundred copies of "Progress and Poverty" to instructors and professors in these important educational centers. It has also brought us requests for material for class study and evidence of a kindling interest in the whole subject of Georgean economics.

We quote from an interesting letter from a well known professor with whom we have been corresponding: "Thanks for the book you sent me and also for the calendar. I think it is about time that I gave Henry George his due and I consequently plan to include him this year in my course on economic thought."

From a friend in Texas—one who now finds an outlet for his Georgeist energies in the writing of strikingly original poetry—comes this encouraging remark: "I am much pleased with the calendar. It has the best picture of our prophet I have ever seen. I congratulate you on the selection of the quotations. Each one is as good as a sermon."

Into a letter which Dan Beard wrote us the other day, he tucked this sentence: "The trouble with us single taxers was that because we saw it so plainly, we thought everybody else could, and I have a suspicion that many of them did, and that was the reason they were so bitter in their opposition." Dan Beard, you know, is the Grand Old Man who has done so much to build the Boy Scout movement to its present size and strength.

In ordering literature or making inquiries, address Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, 32 East 29th Street, New York, N. Y.