

Progress and Poverty Condensed

Reviewed by ROBERT CLANCY

OVER the years, many efforts have been made to present Henry George's *Progress and Poverty* in shorter or simpler form. Some have been abridgments using George's own words; others have been complete rewritings.

Just arrived from England is a new and condensed edition of this classic published by the Hogarth Press (London), with a preface by A. W. Madsen. This condensation was worked out by Mr. Madsen, with V. H. Blundell and P. R. Stubbings, of the Henry George Foundation of Great Britain.

A great deal of care and thoughtfulness have gone into this work. The condensing job was based on years of experience, both with Henry George School students and with general readers. The result is a smooth-reading book of 238 pages, for the most part in George's own words (including a good index and a biography of Henry George), containing all the essential arguments and illustrations of the full work. The division into ten books has been dropped and there are instead chapters numbered from 1 to 27. Frequent and useful sub-headings throughout further guide the reader as to subject matter.

An abridgment, or condensation of *Progress and Poverty*, has to leave something out. One will omit much of the economics, another, much of the inspiration. The current condensation has the merit of keeping a good balance. There may be some argument about the rearrangement of some of the chapters, the chief one being that the application of the remedy comes before the justice of the remedy. But this also has the advantage of explaining at once just what reform is being proposed.

This very creditable book will undoubtedly fill a need, not only in England but on this side, too. Copies may be ordered through the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation for \$1.25.