

to give Georgeist books as Christmas presents. The merit of this type of work has been proved many times over and, for hundreds of persons, the gift of a book by Henry George has marked the beginning of a deep interest in our economics. We have made our appeal this year to ten thousand people all over the United States and Canada, and it is our earnest hope that our effort will meet the same enthusiastic reception that has greeted other Christmas campaigns. Many new books are offered and special prices have been worked out.

An added attraction this year is a beautiful wall calendar featuring a handsome colored picture of Henry George and a date pad with quotations from "Progress and Poverty." The picture is a replica of the famous oil painting made by Harry Thurston See and reproduces the rich, deep tones of the original portrait. The quotations were chosen carefully, with a view to conveying a few of the most important points of our philosophy. Because of the expense of producing these calendars, only eight hundred and fifty were made up, and already half of them have been "spoken for." We are selling them at twenty-five cents each.

The excellent speech which Judge Samuel Seabury made about Henry George at the World's Fair on September 2, has been printed in pamphlet form and is now available at five cents each.

A new edition of "Duty to Civilization" by Francis Neilson, is ready for distribution. Through the generous cooperation of Mr. Neilson we are able to offer this one hundred and four-page booklet at ten cents each. Going behind the scenes of the last great war, the author examines the effects of so-called "secret diplomacy" in urging us into battle. In light of present conditions, "Duty to Civilization" is particularly significant.

Our President and our Board of Directors join me in thanking each and every one for the cooperation you have given us during the past year and in their behalf, as well as for myself, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

V. G. PETERSON, Executive Secretary.

Correspondence

EDITORS LAND AND FREEDOM:

Arguing the "Rent in Price" question, one of our fundamental economists wisely states that economic rent being a payment for "value received" could not increase price, lower wages, or cause poverty. The rent went into cost but was absorbed in increased production before the price stage was reached. Then came the question: "What is the mission of the Georgeian movement if other kinds of rent also do not play the exploitive role?" And then came confusion, due to suppression of this question.

Having discovered that economic rent does not exploit, as our editors and manuals seem to teach, we must not wait but must make it perfectly clear *what does exploit*. Or else the answer to the question must be that our mission is accomplished. Our teachers and

editors do not literally teach that *economic* rent takes all wages save a bare existence, but they do teach that *rent does* this, and they do not tell of any other kind of rent than economic. So the whole routine must go together in every statement of the Ricardian law, of the Georgeian philosophy, or of the economics of democracy: (1) *Private appropriation* of economic rent causes—(a) monopoly of land and monopoly of rent; (b) a consumer tax system. Monopoly of land closes it to labor, reducing wages. Taxes on consumption may double prices, halve consumption and production, creating millions of unemployed, business depression and poverty. Failure to make any element here stated perfectly clear will do irreparable injury to progress in teaching. Excess monopoly or speculative rent is what our movement is built around, and because George did not make this clear until twelve years after "Progress and Poverty" does not discredit him. But it does discredit a teaching system that teaches such ridiculous error, even by implication.

East Orange, N. J.

CHAS. H. INGERSOLL.

EDITORS LAND AND FREEDOM:

When a brave spirit like Joe Miller goes out of this world—we hope he has found the meaning of it all and that he is in communion out there with all the other benefactors of the human race—there is a void, but the written legacy he has left for us will ever keep us on tiptoe, striving to emulate him.

"Lost—The Individual" was a gem. Carry on!
Lake Ronkonkoma, N. Y.

CHRIS KINSELLA.

NOTE: Our correspondent refers to the posthumous Comment and Reflection which was published in the May-June number of LAND AND FREEDOM.—ED.

EDITORS LAND AND FREEDOM:

Have you ever taken a trip by auto going west from Easton through the State of Pennsylvania? No? Well I did! And I'd like to tell you what I saw. It is not necessary to be a farmer to perceive the land traversed to be tremendously rich in its production of food-stuffs. One need not be a geologist to realize the greatness of its wealth in the natural resource of extremely high-grade crude oil and perhaps the best anthracite coal deposits to be found anywhere. And even more, nature's gift of gorgeous scenery of mountains, hills, dales and valleys. And amid all this I saw the most abject and direst poverty. The ramshackles, the hovels in which the people are compelled to "live" who are engaged in extracting from mother earth the great wealth which is there and should be theirs can only make one feel that it just doesn't all "add up." It's all wrong. I realize there is nothing new in this thought, it's simply an added observation.

New York, N. Y.

J. H. McMIx.

THE CALIFORNIA CAMPAIGN

EDITORS LAND AND FREEDOM:

To me it seems extraordinary and inexplicable that the recent campaign in California should have met with so little sympathy and support, at any rate from sympathizers in the American Union. It is evident that the forces of untaxed privilege were under no illusions about its potentialities inasmuch as they spared no effort to insure our defeat. Had the effort succeeded a great initial step would have been taken and an object-lesson given the world, and, as Henry George once wrote, "anything done anywhere helps the movement everywhere." However, the work achieved has not been in vain, and I have pleasure in offering through your columns my congratulations to Jackson H. Ralston and his co-workers.

Time was in the history of California, in the days of the gold discoveries, when the wages of cooks in San Francisco restaurants rose to 500 dollars per month, and ships were left in the harbor without crews, unless wages were increased. As Henry George points out