

right, that his prophesy about England will come true—it will be there sooner than in the United States that we shall see installed the Taxation of Land Values.

But that will happen only if those of us who believe in it work tooth and nail to help spread through Great Britain an understanding of our philosophy. Surely there was never so opportune a time for us to make headway as now when millions of unemployed are groping for help, when the Premier's indebtedness to Henry George and to "Progress and Poverty" is iterated and reiterated in his biography, and above all, when the hero of the hour—who happens also to be Chancellor of the Exchequer—is leading the fight for advancement toward our goal. It will be unforgivable stupidity if, at this time, we Single Taxers, all over the world, do not give mental and financial help for a great educational propaganda in Great Britain, so that when he launches his campaign there may be a vast army that will get an impetus from Philip Snowden and will carry on!

—ANNA GEORGE DEMILLE.

How Progress and Poverty was Received on its Appearance

IT is interesting to recall what the reviewers said of this great work when it was first published, not the reviewers of radical newspapers, but of the highly conservative journals of the time.

The *New York Tribune* greeted it as follows:

"The received principles of political economy are here submitted to a fresh examination by a courageous thinker who though familiar with the learning of the books, follows the conclusions of his own reasoning rather than the instructions of eminent teachers."

The *New York Herald*: "Progress and Poverty is not merely the most original, the most striking and important contribution which political economy has yet received from America, but it is not too much to say that in these respects it has had no equal since the publication of Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations*, a century ago * * * A more aggressive, not to say audacious, book was never written."

The *New York Sun*: "Let us say, at the outset, that this is not a work to be brushed aside with lofty indifference or cool disdain. It is not the production of a visionary or a sciolist, of a meagrely equipped or ill-regulated mind. The writer has brought to his undertaking a comprehensive knowledge of the data and principles of science, and his skill in exposition and illustration attests a broad acquaintance with history and literature. His book must be accounted the first adequate presentation in the English language of the new economy which has found powerful champions in the German universities, and which aims at a radical transformation of the science formulated by Adam Smith, Ricardo and J. S. Mill. Few books have in recent years, proceeded from any American pen which have so plainly borne the marks of wide learning and strenuous thought, or which have brought to the expounding of a serious theme a happier faculty of elucidation."

The *New York Evening Mail*: "A book that can

neither be ignored, sneered down nor laughed down."

The *New York Era*: "We announce clearly and distinctly that, to our view, no book has appeared in the century which has exerted so marked an influence as will Progress and Poverty."

The *Albany Journal*: "A discussion of wide range and of great vigor and power which closes with a suggestion of the future life couched in language like that of a rapt and inspired seer."

The *Philadelphia Evening Star*: "Mr. George has written a book which is not only a bold and exhaustive examination of our modern civilization, but which charms us as from a style which rivals the genius of Newman and Macauley."

The *Louisville Courier-Journal*: "Mr. George is earnest, honest and forcible; radical to the root, bold, sweeping, and dogmatic. He writes earnestly, clearly, nervously, and states his theories and arguments in a way to make them worthy the attention of the most dignified political economist, against whom he makes some spirited tilts. Whatever may be the ultimate effect of the book, it will not fail to excite discussion."

The *Brooklyn Times*: "A very remarkable book—its style always clear, often eloquent, never dull. The time-honored doctrines of political economy have never received a severer assault, and whatever we may think of its conclusions Progress and Poverty, beyond any book of our time, deserves careful study."

The *Sacramento Bee*: "We believe this book marks an epoch in the discussion of political and social questions. We hail it as the skirmishers on an advanced line might hail the coming up of the heavy battalions. For here is the philosophy of the great reform movement which is now beginning to agitate men's minds. We cannot too strongly commend this book. It ought to be read by every workingman in the land, and, if it were, it would work a revolution."

The *San Francisco Examiner*: "A work of wonderful interest and power. Startling as its conclusions may seem, they are urged with such logic, force and earnestness that they cannot fail to impress every reader. Progress and Poverty must in time produce deep effects, and give to the most important discussion a new turn. I cannot long be ignored by those who regard its doctrine as dangerous."

The *Sacramento Record-Union*: "A book which will make converts, and which is, in fact, a really splendid series of logical triumphs. In the sweep of the argument nothing seems to have been forgotten."

The *Brooklyn Eagle*: "The most solid literary success of the year is undoubtedly Progress and Poverty."

The *Stockton (Calif.) Independent*: "A book to be studied not merely to be read—a book which grapples with questions so great, and announces doctrines so novel, that the reader is surprised on every page. No one can finish it without receiving light on some of the most interesting problems of human existence, and being convinced that Mr. George is one of the most profound and advanced thinkers of the day."

AN English writer says that indirect taxation is a legacy of the corrupt times of Charles II. It marked the dawn of our system of indirect taxation and the emancipation from special burdens on lands thus accomplished helped to alter the whole current of our late fiscal history—RICHARD T. ELY, in "Problems of Today," an early work