

large part of our present-day troubles is due to too much and too fluent credit facilities during the speculative orgies of recent years, both in the real estate markets and on the Stock Exchange. Need I point to the billions of dollars that trustful investors were led, through high-pressure salesmanship, to place in certain real estate bonds, now badly deflated and discredited, and into other real estate securities that are now uncollectible for anything like their face values? In the South and West, where the failure of thousands of banks has spread loss and misery among hundreds of thousands of people, it has been revealed that too easy credit in support of unwarranted or illegitimate real estate speculations was, too often, the cause of disaster. Few of us like to face unpalatable truths, but honest men, to whom God may have given some vision, should in times of adversity seek to derive some measure of wisdom for the future out of the obvious errors of the past."

Oscar Geiger in Lecture Field

OSCAR H. GEIGER has now definitely entered the lecture field for the metropolitan area and is filling engagements under the auspices of the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation and the Manhattan Single Tax Club. He is also doing lecture work independently as he has always done.

In making the foregoing announcement LAND AND FREEDOM realizes that this is a most important step in the welfare of the movement, for we have in Mr. Geiger an outstanding figure in the knowledge of our philosophy, with the power to impress inquiring students.

He has had, as most of our readers know, a long platform experience. Besides, he knows the books, having a profound knowledge of the economics of the schools and able to refute errors with a keen power of analysis. He is essentially a teacher and knows how to approach different kinds of minds. This lesson he has learned in his divinity education from his early Hebrew and Catholic teachers, and we say boldly that in this regard at least he is the equal of any of our platform speakers.

His most recent addresses have been before the Social Science Club of the Brooklyn Technical High School; the Exchange Club of Lynbrook, L. I.; the Young Men's and Women's Hebrew Association of Paterson, N. J.; the Literary Social Circle of New York City; the Young Men's Hebrew Association at Lexington Avenue and 92d street, New York City, and the Open Forum of the Young Israel Synagogue, 229 East Broadway.

Mr. Geiger's talks include such topics as "The Philosophy of Henry George;" "Hard Times: Cause and Cure," "The Single Tax," "Taxation: What It Is and How It Should Be Applied;" "Charity or Justice, Which?" and discussions of the inadequacy of socialism and the failure of capitalism as it at present prevails.

Letters received from those who have heard Mr. Geiger speak convince us that he should be kept at this work. We are glad to say that arrangements are now being made that will make it possible for Mr. Geiger to continue and enlarge the work upon which he has entered.

We add a few extracts from letters of commendation received.

James G. Blauvelt, of Ridgewood, who presided at the Paterson meeting:

"Mr. Geiger's address was of a high order. He held the attention even in his explanation and analysis of wealth and distribution, which I regard as a feat. He talked only on the economic side, for he was limited as to time, and we think he has few equals. He is convincing, his sincerity appeals, and his intelligence may conquer."

Morris Van Veen, who heard Mr. Geiger, whom he calls "the schoolmaster of the Henry George philosophy," at the Jewish Community House before an audience of young people, writes enthusiastically:

"The simplicity, the logic, with which each thought was used to build upon higher foundations was really a delight. He held his audience to the very end and his listeners took in each statement. I am sure the Socialists and Communists were routed, for during the question period they seemed to lack the courage to attack him. I trust Mr. Geiger will have many opportunities in the near future to present our philosophy and that he will be kept in the field by those who know his splendid abilities."

From Sophie Roget Spanjaard, president of the Literary and Social Circle, came the following tribute:

"May I express the satisfaction we all had with the results of your debate with Mr. Vernon D. Reynolds on 'Single Tax versus Socialism' on Sunday, Dec. 27. It was truly instructive and made it clear, if that were necessary after the many talks on the Single Tax and the philosophy of Henry George you have given us, that there is no other solution but the Single Tax for our economic ills and the social evils arising out of them. We regret you will not be able to speak to us every Sunday evening as you have been doing, and hope your plans may include an occasional talk at which we will try to arrange an especially good attendance."

E. Yancey Cohen writes to Mr. Geiger:

"I note with interest your plan to take up lecture work for the cause, and certainly no one could do more acceptable work in this line than yourself. The fact that you made such a success of your son's economic training leads me to believe that you will teach your audiences the errors of their ways and point out to them the certain road to truth."

Land of No Importance

BANKERS and other business men unite in urging people to stop hoarding their money, to bring it out of hiding from banks or domestic seclusion, and put it to work employing labor. Is there anything in the shape of a pill or a hypodermic or a knock on the head that we can administer to these well-intentioned gentlemen that will make them recognize land as one of the essential factors in this unemployment problem? They talk about men and they talk about money, but land they mention never.—*Tax Facts*, Los Angeles, Calif.

THE fact of unemployment is now accepted by the party press, and writers therein refrain from comment. So far as politicians are concerned the out-of-workers have come to stay. This being so, it is for those who are idle against their will to take action. The C. L. P. point the way. Unemployment is the direct and inescapable consequence of idle land.—*London Commonwealth*.