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Handwriting of Oscar H. Geiger

Outstanding in the writing is the gregarious, paternal person; he loved social life, was happy when on a platform before a group. He became a leader not because he has innate qualities to make him one, but only because of his love for people and his desire to lead them onto the right path.

The man had good taste in living; he would have been happy with great wealth, with the things money could buy to provide comfort and pleasure -- to others as well as to himself. (The fact that he lived modestly and found a full life doing so, is much to his credit, as it was against his fundamental character and he had to "come to terms" with himself on that score.)

Oscar Geiger was fortunate that with such a warm, emotional, pleasure-loving nature, he also had just a sufficient amount of practicality and keen powers of observation, so that he was able to separate himself into two distinct beings -- one was the emotional man -- the other the man with the brain and the practicality. Neither personality intruded upon the other; they found a meeting place; he did not suffer from inner conflict, as the writing shows calmness which was based on having made the necessary compromises and having accepted his part in life without regrets.

His mind was critical, although not too scientific. His acceptance of the philosophy of Henry George was undoubtedly first from an emotional viewpoint, then from the philosophical, and lastly the fiscal reform. Having gained control of his emotions, having disciplined himself, he was able to then accept Henry George in all its phases and work them out logically and practically.

While he was not a stubborn man in the accepted sense of the word, he did possess a tenacity, an ability to stick to a purpose and a goal. At first he would procrastinate; he did not have the go-getter sort of aggressiveness one might imagine -- in fact, there was undoubtedly a good deal of hesitancy before he would accept or start anything new. However, once his logic told him (and his caution permitted him) to go ahead, he would then start on his path and never think of turning back. His mind worked on a "one purpose" path -- he could do many things, and perhaps he did put into force the versatility he possessed -- but emotionally

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he could do only one thing at a time and retain his calmness. Thus, when he accepted Henry George, he just followed that path of reasoning and working. He was not a complex personality, and so he didn't crowd his life or his mind with more things at one time than he could handle -- and he was therefore able to devote the singleness of purpose to Henry George.

I did not know Mr. Geiger; I do not know just what his other interests were -- but if he had them, he never permitted them to overlap, and he did "first things first" and devoted his mind and energies along the one line which he would choose at the one time.

He had a sense of humor, he liked people and he wanted them to like him. He wasn't too happy if he felt that he did not win the affection of those around him. No work, no hobby, meant anything to Oscar Geiger unless he could share it with someone else; he was not a man who could find solitude a blessing in any degree. Despite the maturity of his mind, he always retained a very young spirit emotionally and he got along with people of all ages. Young people especially were instinctively drawn to him.

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