

## A Good Beginning

\* The new governor of New York State got off to an excellent start in his inaugural address on the first of January, unmarred by the three "p's" so often blighting such occasions—personalities, partisanship and pettiness. He dealt with great major issues and not with trivialities.

Very properly he opened with a presentation of our all-supreme problem of pressing the war to an early and victorious conclusion, but this we pass over for, in these matters, no right-thinking person can dissent. What will appeal to the readers of THE FREEMAN with peculiar force is what he said regarding our great social and economic needs. He urged precisely what we have long fought for and many of his phrases ring familiarly in our ears: "We want a society which combines political and economic freedom with an ever greater measure of security"; "Our society must provide full employment through full production"; "We must achieve . . . (these ends) by methods which do not destroy but rather strengthen the ideal of political, religious, civil and economic freedom." Speaking of problems which shall confront us when millions are demobilized, he says: "These young men and women are entitled to expect something better than the hopeless period of government-made work and relief. They are entitled to a fruitful, productive place in a free economic society, dependent on the favor of no man or political party for their livelihood or for their security." Are not these the very objectives at which we aim, and has not Henry George blazed a path to their accomplishment—a path that is sound, practicable and above all just?

We do not know how familiar Governor Dewey is with our philosophy but we only hope that he will give thought to programs, clearly marked and definite, accepted by many of the world's foremost thinkers. Partisanship has no place in these columns and we care little what label the new governor wears but we hope much from the brilliant young man whose career as district attorney of our greatest metropolis was marked by such courage, integrity and ability. Let us hope that his record as governor of our greatest state will be characterized by the same sincerity and well-directed zeal.

The governor's whole address was a splendid document in clear and forcible style, which may well be read in its entirety. We cannot forego quoting his closing paragraph, both for its diction and for its soundness:

"To the cause of human freedom we again dedicate ourselves today. It is not for any man to say that any single freedom is our principal objective or that some freedoms may be permanently sacrificed to preserve others. No man can be part slave and part free. Freedom is indivisible. Americans are fighting for our whole free system, and it is our high duty as Americans to preserve and build meanwhile every part of that system for the present and for the future. As we approach our tasks, let us humbly and with the help of God dedicate ourselves unreservedly to that end."

—GILBERT M. TUCKER

*If there is any one principle more important than any other principle in the economic affairs of men, it is that the Earth is the birthright of all mankind, and that all have an equal right to its use; and if there is any one violation of Natural Law that is more devastating in its consequences than the violation of any other Natural Law, it is the private ownership of land.*

—OSCAR H. GEIGER

## ★ The Freeman ★

A Monthly Critical Journal of Social and Economic Affairs

Published monthly at 10th and Scull Streets, Lebanon, Pennsylvania, by The Freeman Corporation, a non-profit corporation, at 30 East 29th Street, New York, N. Y. Officers and Directors: Lancaster M. Greene, Chairman; Anna George de Mille, President; Otto K. Dorn, Secretary-Treasurer; William H. Quasha, Counsel; Ezra Cohen, John C. Lincoln, Leonard T. Recker.

C. O. STEELE, Editor  
Assistant Editors

MARGARET HARKINS

GEORGE B. BRINGMANN

The Freeman Corporation does not necessarily endorse opinions expressed in editorials, signed or initialed contributions, or statements in news reports, assuring the widest freedom of expression to its writers. Contributions consistent with the policy of THE FREEMAN are welcomed; no payment is made, for the writers contribute their services as a living endowment to the cause for which THE FREEMAN stands.

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Lebanon, Pennsylvania, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1897. Single subscription, one dollar a year; five or more, eighty cents each. Title registered U. S. Patent Office.

No  
Memor