

“LIGHT ON THE LAND QUESTION”

Appreciations of the New Pamphlet

A large correspondence has resulted from the issue of the new pamphlet published by the United Committee: *Light on the Land Question—A Frank Inquiry into the Land Value Policy by a Man in the Street*. In one month over 7,000 copies have been circulated. The pamphlet has been excellently well received. Here are a few of many appreciations:—

J. L. H., Clitheroe: “Even a quick glance through shows me it is as you say—the ideal pamphlet.”

A. P., Leicester: “This booklet appeals to me as a masterly exposition of the case designed to meet the need for stating the position briefly—for persons who do not understand standard works.”

A. M., Manchester: “A remarkable document and outlines in a very fine manner the great ideal for which you stand.”

A. R., Everton: “It is indeed the ‘Story of an Idea’ which, if we are to regain prosperity, must be realized.”

A. D. H., Leven, Fife: “I hasten to write to congratulate the U.C. on the best bit of pamphlet writing that has been done for a long time. The pamphlet should do good. It is clever, arresting and carries on the interest which it calls out.”

T. A. R., London, S.W.1: “*Light on the Land Question* is indeed ‘Light,’ and is all you claim for it in your circular letter.”

Dr W. B. J., Cardiff: “It is well written and ought to appeal to a large number who take no interest in our movement.”

W. W., Edinburgh: “I think it is really splendid and should be very helpful, especially to induce people who were favourable before but had lapsed to re-study again, and still more important, to get others who have not studied to start.”

K. S., Berlin: “It is without any doubt a masterpiece of exposition, style and, above all, psychology. Its very hesitations will hasten the reader and push him to the goal the booklet is written for. . . . *Light on the Land Question* is an excellent pamphlet.”

E. B., London, N.W.6: “I find it most excellent. It puts the case in a most attractive way.”

Rev. W. D.: “It is one of the best things I have read and the author is either a genuine Man in the Street or an artist.”

G. H., Kansas, U.S.A.: “Now I have your very last enclosing *Light on the Land Question*. This, it seems to me, compels and answers. Surely this Man in the Street is a master. I congratulate the ‘Cathedral’ in obtaining such an author. My humble opinion is that this pamphlet will bring men of the street into our communion.”

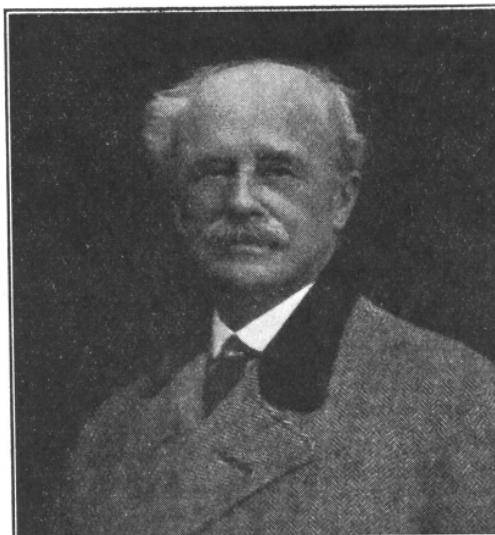
J. D., Ireland: “I have read it and consider it very good. It meets the arguments so often heard from the ‘Man in the Street’ and should be a very useful addition to our literature.”

Mrs A. T. P., Washington, U.S.A.: “This, it seems to me, is one of the best things since Mr George himself wrote. One hardly knows whether to admire more the compactness and cogency of thought, or the power of the style, pounding forward like thundering hoof-beats.”

A. C., Glasgow: “This pamphlet is undoubtedly a new approach to the Man in the Street. It is altogether a splendid piece of work, clear, convincing, and keeps the interest up from beginning to end.”

W. R. W., Cobourg, Ontario: “I don’t think I have ever seen anything better done in that line. Kindly mail one each to the addresses written on the form herewith enclosed and find money order to pay for them.”

A PIONEER OF LAND REFORM



STEPHEN W. CHALLEN

We have very much pleasure in introducing our readers to a veteran advocate of land reform. In his 89th year, he still maintains his interest in public affairs.

An engineer by profession, he served an apprenticeship of seven years as a premium pupil at Birmingham, and after some years’ experience in Canada, became in 1875 the senior partner of his old firm, then named Taylor & Challen.

Mr Challen thinks highly of our new pamphlet, *Light on the Land Question*, although he adds with some humour, “I have become by degrees to be an owner of several acres.” In this comment he seems to be making effective answer to those who glibly say that land reformers would talk differently if they owned any land! Than Mr Challen there is no more consistent supporter of the need for a change in our system of land tenure. He is fully convinced that this is the fundamental change necessary to stimulate industry and bring prosperity. He believes that Land Value Taxation is the most approved instrument to hand for the freeing of industry from the fetters of monopoly! It is this belief that has made him an agitator for the Land Value Policy. He sends New Year greetings to *Land & Liberty*.

We speak for very many in wishing our dear old friend a good New Year. May it bring him and the many others so honourably retired from the fighting line new hope in the long-overdue land value legislation.

Many estate agents are going out of their way to put politics into their annual reports of business done. They are making propaganda against the Land Valuation Bill. “A Highgate Resident for Thirty Years” has a useful letter in the *Muswell Hill Record* of 16th January, answering a number of absurd contentions in one of these typically tendentious statements. “Land value,” he writes, “is not value derived from production. It arises entirely from obligation—from land being limited in extent, a value derived from the obligation on the part of the land purchaser or the tenant to pay for its use or go without.”

Our “Highgate Resident” is himself an estate agent who freely and without prejudice speaks for his profession—that no one would be more benefited by the economic effects of land value taxation than the estate agents themselves.