

# Signs of Progress

## Georgeist Activities Throughout the World

### Robert Schalkenbach Foundation

REPORT OF V. G. PETERSON, SECRETARY

Our campaign to increase the study of Henry George's books in college classrooms rolls merrily along. You will rejoice to know that our Guide for Teaching the Principles of Political Economy, based on the text of "Progress and Poverty," by Henry George, continues to be effective as an opening wedge. Seven hundred and fifty professors have requested this guide; 250 of them have asked for desk copies of "Progress and Poverty," and 10 colleges have sent for lesson sheets. These colleges are:

University of Seattle, Wash.....	25	students
St. Joseph's College, Brooklyn, N. Y.....	50	"
St. Benedict's College, Atchison, Kans.....	5	"
Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio.....	10	"
Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, N. Y....	24	"
University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla.....	50	"
Whitworth College, Brookhaven, Miss.....	45	"
St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn.....	20	"
Eureka College, Eureka, Ill.....	19	"
Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pa.....	8	"

St. Olaf ordered 29 copies of "Progress and Poverty"; Eureka ordered 19, and Bucknell ordered 8. Other colleges state they have sufficient library copies for the class to use.

An interesting sidelight on this work is a letter we received from a professor on the Agriculture Campus of Cornell University, to whom books had been given by our friends who made the test trip to colleges in Upper New York State. The letter reads:

"The other day I told my seminar in taxation about the books you gave me. They seemed interested. The group—all graduate students—includes a brilliant Turk who is here on a government fellowship and is destined, if the Germans keep out of Turkey, to work in the office of the Prime Minister of Turkey, and three economics students who will hold teaching positions in colleges before long. In fact, they are now teaching elementary economics in Cornell. If you care to send me four copies of 'Progress and Poverty,' and four copies of the abridgement, I will give them to the seminar. I was very glad to have had the visit with Mr. Fairchild and Mr. Hansen."

The 1942 calendar, which is ready now, is the third one published by the Foundation. This year we are featuring quotations, not only from Henry George, as in the past, but from two other American patriots as well—Abraham Lincoln

and Thomas Jefferson. The pictures of the three men, in an attractive design of furled flags, ornament the calendar and recommend it for a conspicuous place in the best room in the house. The calendars are selling, as usual, and in spite of increased prices, at twenty-five cents each, five for one dollar. We have printed only a thousand and urge that orders be placed as soon as possible.

Henry George's books as Christmas presents have long been recognized as an effective way to introduce others to our philosophy. Each year the Foundation encourages its friends to join in this Yuletide effort by lowering the price of its literature to a point below the cost figure at which it is usually priced. The other books we carry, selected because they develop some particular phase of the George economy, are offered in combination with George titles at extremely attractive prices. These combinations of books make it possible for you to enlarge your own library and pass along to a friend the George book which you may already have. Please write for our Christmas circular—a postcard will bring it to you by return mail.

The year now closing has been an active one; in many ways it has been an extremely successful one. We thank those friends who have helped and encouraged our efforts. And now, as befits the Christmas Season, on behalf of our President, our Directors, the office staff and myself—Merry Christmas, Everybody!

### American Alliance to Advance Freedom

REPORT OF SIDNEY J. ABELSON, CHAIRMAN

After functioning for more than six months from desk room provided by a member, the American Alliance has acquired permanent headquarters at 160 Fifth Avenue, New York. These new quarters provide office facilities, library space, a meeting place and a classroom.

Mrs. Celia Chancas is in charge of the library and research material and will welcome contributions of Georgeist books and pamphlets, as well as other literature on economics and sociology.

The program originally outlined for the Alliance will now go forward at an accelerated pace. Current Events Discussion Groups are being held regularly on Thursday evenings. These serve to clarify the events of the day in the light of Georgeist doctrines. Newcomers to these groups—particularly newly-made Georgeists—find the topical discussions

revelatory of George's practical grasp of world affairs and gain an increasing understanding of the power of the Single Tax proposal.

In addition to such groups, the Alliance is forming classes in Georgean economics. The first class, using "Progress and Poverty" as its text, will hold its opening session at the Alliance headquarters on Tuesday, January 6, 1942, at 8:00 P.M. The instructor will be Miles Shefferman, former instructor at the Henry George School of Social Science.

The Speakers' Bureau, under the direction of Miss Sara Wald, is organizing an intensive campaign to arrange appointments for Alliance speakers in various organizations.

Copies of the Alliance's "Proposal for Georgeist Action Now" and "Functional Chart" are still available without charge upon request. For these, and for any information about the Alliance, address Elbert E. Josefson, Secretary, American Alliance to Advance Freedom, 160 Fifth Avenue, New York.

## Henry George Schools

From the Chicago School's little paper, *On the Campus*, we glean the following news: Chicago has been aiming for an enrollment of 500. This Fall, the enrollment far surpassed that mark, the number of students being 682. This encouraging figure is twice that of last term, and nearly 50 per cent. higher than the 1940 Fall enrollment. The School is now thinking of its 1942 Spring term, and is aiming at the thousand mark. The financing of the School is undertaken largely by the Alumni Finance Committee, which has already received pledges amounting to \$3,000 from friends and graduates toward the School's \$5,000 yearly budget. The progress of the campaign indicates that the goal is within sight.

The Henry George Fellowship of Chicago conducts a weekly Fellowship Forum at the School's headquarters (64 W. Randolph Street, Chicago), under the leadership of Edwin Hamilton. Among the speakers at the Forum was Paul H. Douglas, Alderman of the Fifth Ward, who addressed the group on November 6.

*The Square Deal*, Canada's Georgeist paper, yields this information about the Canadian School: At a recent meeting of the Directors of the Montreal School it was decided henceforth to operate under the name "Henry George School." (The School has hitherto been known as "The School of Economic Science.") In Ottawa, graduates of Henry George study groups met on September 18, at the home of Mr. H. G. Barber, and organized as the Henry George Society of Ottawa. This organization will cooperate with the study groups, which are being held at Mr. Barber's home. Mr. R. C. Berkinshaw, active in the Toronto movement, has been appointed Chairman of the Wartime Industries Control Board, thus becoming controller-general of the wartime controllers. More and more, important positions in Canadian national life are coming to be occupied by Georgeists or sympathizers.

Advanced courses, leading to a fuller understanding of the Georgeist philosophy, are on the increase in the various Henry George Schools. Hartford, Conn., is preparing a "Democracy Versus Socialism" course. The New Jersey School has its own Teachers' Training class. Imposing is the list of advanced courses in the Chicago School.

Everywhere the signs are that the Georgeist educational movement is going forward. In addition to those mentioned above, permanent Henry George Schools are in operation in the following cities: Los Angeles, San Diego and Berkeley, Calif.; Boston, Mass. (with its own building at 90 Beacon Street); Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, Pa.; Alstead, N. H.; Sioux Falls, S. D., and Hudson, N. Y.; and Valdez, Alaska (under the direction of Jim Busey, editor of *Alaska Frontier*). The encouraging thing is that the progress of all the foregoing schools is made possible through the interest and the organized and independent action of newly-made converts.

## Henry George School of Great Britain

REPORT OF LEON MACLAREN

[In a long letter to Mrs. Anna George de Mille, dated September 24, Mr. MacLaren related the very interesting history of the British Henry George School of Economics and Henry George Fellowship. Through the kindness of Mrs. de Mille, we present portions of Mr. MacLaren's account herewith.—Ed.]

The Henry George School of Economics was started in 1937 by Messrs. Stokes, Fox, Berens, Gardener, Mawson, Hildreth and myself. Preliminary preparations were undertaken in the Summer at a meeting held in a committee room of the House of Commons. For the first term, held in the Fall, we secured 170 students. By the end of our first year we had enrolled over 450 students in "Progress and Poverty" classes. Advanced courses were also given. In September, 1938, we obtained 350 students, despite the critical moment—that was the time of Munich, you remember.

In January, 1938, we formed the Henry George Fellowship and enrolled about 60 of our students. Dues were a minimum of a dollar a year. The objects of the Fellowship were to spread the work of the School and to undertake political activities in an effort to bring about a change in the laws of the land to accord with the economic principles the School was teaching. In the Spring of 1939 we found the Fellowship declining and the finances of the Fellowship and the School in a bad way. We therefore spent the Summer of 1939 putting the whole matter on a sounder footing. The Fellowship took over the entire responsibility for the School, and the Fellowship Committee took over the control of the School's activities, the self-appointed School Committee (consisting of the gentlemen named at the beginning of this letter) resigning. A strong Committee was elected at the Fellowship Annual General Meeting, and certain principles were laid down, chief among which was sound financing. It was decided to charge