

tracts from it reproduced in papers which have been translated.

I am unsound enough in my land economics to like Mr. Peace and his *Commonweal*, which denounces the phrase "Taxation of Land Values" as misleading and vicious, and insists that taxation ought to be abolished and that the earth is the birthright of all mankind, and the rent of the land belongs to the people, and the first duty of Government is to collect it and abolish all taxation.

So the Commonwealth Land Party, and its organ *The Commonweal*, demand that on an appointed date, the land shall be declared to have been restored to the people, and thereafter its economic rent shall be collected by and for the people.

I tell Mr. Peace that I am against him as to his methods, but I am with him as to his fundamentals, and I believe he is carrying on an educational work which might not inappropriately be compared to the work done in Anti-Slavery days by William Lloyd Garrison and Wendell Phillips.

I have expressed to Mr. Peace a wish that there might be a better cooperation between him and his journal, and John Paul and *Land and Liberty*. Mr. Peace says he wishes so too, but any fusion must be without any compromise on his part of essentials.

So much in recognition of Mr. Peace and the work he is doing. But the most effective and sensible work which is being done to bring about the practical application of the economic principles of Henry George is undoubtedly being done by the United committees for the Taxation of Land Values and Free Trade. Their publication is *Land and Liberty*, edited by John Paul. How firm a foundation it has, is indicated by the fact that it is now in the 35th year of its publication, and on Monday, July 23rd, there will be held at St. Ermins Restaurant, a dinner in celebration of the 21st Anniversary of the establishment of the United Committee for the Taxation of Land Value.

Charles O'Connor Hennessy, President of the International Union for Land Value Taxation, is expected to arrive in London in a few days to be present at this anniversary dinner, and to also take charge of the meeting of the Committee of the International Conference to Promote Land Value Taxation and Free Trade which is to be held at Edinburgh in the summer of 1929.

There has been a large circulation in Great Britain of a speech by Philip Snowden, formerly Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Labor Government of 1924 in which he presents the land value taxation doctrine mostly clearly and vigorously.

He is expected to be at this anniversary dinner and so of course will be present Andrew MacLaren and other members of parliament. It promises to be a notable occasion, and to put some pep into some of the Land Tax

advocates in parliament who are very lazy in their advocacy.

The Land Taxation Movement in Great Britain needs somebody to do for it what Mrs. Pankhurst did for the Women's Suffrage Cause. Members of Parliament were then convinced, but they would not act. Members of Parliament today are convinced, but they will not act. Where is the leader that will do for the Taxation of Land Value what Mrs. Pankhurst did for Suffrage?

—CHESTER C. PLATT

## Henry George Congress to Meet in Chicago

EARLY reservations for the third annual Henry George Congress give assurance that a larger number of states will be represented this year than at either of the previous national conferences held under the auspices of the Henry George Foundation. Not only will all the states of the Middle West send delegates, but also the East, the South and the Pacific Coast. And the enthusiastic support of the Chicago Single Tax Club assures a strong attendance upon the part of Georgists in that city, which has always been a leading center of Single Tax activities.

Many notable figures in the Single Tax movement will appear on the Congress programme which is now rapidly shaping itself, and all elements will be represented. This year the economic problems of the farmer will occupy a prominent place in the discussion, and most appropriately, since the farm question is very much to the front in connection with the political campaign now in progress, and the Congress will meet in Chicago, right in the heart of the farm belt, where the situation is keenly felt.

At the invitation of Chairman Clayton J. Ewing, of the Convention Committee, the American Farm Bureau Federation will assign one of its most able spokesmen to present the facts relating to the present farm situation, so as to give the delegates a clear picture of the actual conditions confronting the agriculturists. Following this address, a prominent Single Tax economist will undertake to analyze the economic elements of the situation and present the true remedy. Prof. Harry Gunnison Brown, of the Department of Economics of the University of Missouri, who has attained special prominence of late through the publication of his "Significant Paragraphs from Progress and Poverty," and who has accepted an invitation to address the Congress, will probably undertake to present the Single Tax view of the farmer's situation. This address will be supplemented by another discussion of the problem of farm relief by the Rev. Charles E. Snyder of Sioux City, Iowa, who at one time was President of the Single Tax Club of Pittsburgh, and who has made a special study of the farm problem and its relation to the land question.

Among other prominent speakers whom the committee is prepared to announce at this time are Hon. Charles O'Connor Hennessy, President of the Schalkenbach Foundation and also President of the International Union, now on a European tour, Hon. Warren Worth Bailey, veteran editor of the *Johnstown Democrat*, former Congressman and first President of the Chicago Single Tax Club, Mrs. Anna George de Mille, daughter of Henry George and Honorary Vice President of the Henry George Foundation, John Z. White, veteran lecturer of the Henry George Lecture Association, Joseph Dana Miller, editor of *LAND AND FREEDOM* and Vice President of the Henry George Foundation, Dr. Preston Bradley, popular pastor of the Peoples Church of Chicago, Ernest B. Gaston, editor of the *Fairhope Courier*, Rev. Herbert S. Bigelow, noted leader of Ohio campaigns, L. V. La Taste, Director of the Texas School Guild, Carl D. Thompson, Secretary of the Public Ownership League of America, Will Atkinson, the indefatigable propagandist, Prof. Aage Moller of the Nysted (Danish) People's College, Emil O. Jorgensen, Secretary of the Manufacturers and Merchants Federal Tax League, Charles LeBaron Goeller, the young economist whose entrance into the lecture field is announced elsewhere in this issue, Miss Grace Isabel Colbron, the well known writer and lecturer, Fiske Warren, of Single Tax enclave fame, Hon. John J. Murphy, former Tenement House Commissioner of New York, Henry H. Hardinge, active Chicago leader, and Dr. T. J. Kelley, an outstanding Single Taxer of Iowa. The young peoples section of the Chicago Single Tax Club will be ably represented by Florence Goedde and Marien Tideman.

Reports of the national organization's activities will be presented by the officers of the Henry George Foundation, President George E. Evans, Secretary Percy R. Williams, and Assistant Secretary Francis W. Maguire.

With evidences of greater activity in the movement throughout the United States than at any time since the opening of the great war, reports of progress are expected to be one of the most interesting features of the Congress. Questions of policy and method are also scheduled for earnest consideration and will be dealt with by several of the speakers on the programme, in recognition of the growing interest on the part of Single Taxers in the effort to develop new and better methods of organization and popularization.

A liturgy dedicated to Henry George and his philosophy has been especially prepared for this Congress by Rev. A. W. Littlefield, of Middleborough, Mass., who took a prominent part in last year's Congress at New York. This will be an attractive feature of the Congress, which, while not held on the actual birthday of Henry George because of that date not being a convenient one for convention purposes, is nevertheless intended to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of the world's great philosopher and economist.

As heretofore, the Dominion of Canada will be represented at the Congress and, while no definite announcement is possible at this time, the committee is hoping to have representatives of some other nations present. In any event, the very latest news from abroad will be conveyed to the Congress by the President of the International Union for the Taxation of Land Values, former Senator Hennessy, who will return to the United States early in September, and among other things will tell us of the plans for the international convention at Edinburgh, Scotland, to be held in July, 1929.

Invitations have been mailed to several thousand persons and the committee is planning for a larger attendance than was had at either of the very successful conferences that were held at Philadelphia and New York. Very appropriately, all sessions of the Henry George Congress will be held at the Congress Hotel and the hotel management is providing most admirable accommodations and is giving its hearty cooperation.

The annual banquet will be one of the red letter events and there will be a luncheon meeting each day during the Congress, including a special luncheon for the members of the Board of Trustees and Advisory Commission of the Henry George Foundation. A public meeting is planned for the opening night of the convention. Hon. Wiley W. Mills, prominent Chicago Single Taxer and member of the City Council, will deliver the address of welcome.

The official programme will be available about the middle of August and will probably contain the names of other prominent speakers, as well as those assigned to preside at the various sessions, and the topics to be discussed. The committee has received letters of regret from a number of prominent persons including Hon. Clarence C. Dill, of Washington, Hon. George W. Norris, of Nebraska, Orville Wright, Norman Thomas, Socialist nominee for President, Hon. Josephus Daniels, Hon. Newton D. Baker, Jackson H. Ralston, Lawson Purdy, Frank Stephens, Prof. John R. Commons, Hon. George H. Duncan, Frederic C. Howe, Hon. John J. Lentz, Arthur W. Roebeck, Hon. Peter Witt and Dr. Frank Crane.

Chairman C. J. Ewing has his Convention Committee thoroughly organized to take care of the various phases of the work and is ably assisted by capable sub-committee chairmen, including such active workers as Otto Cullman, Henry Tideman, Andrew P. Canning, Leo Heller and John Lawrence Monroe; George M. Strachan serving as Vice Chairman, Convention publicity is under the direction of Mr. Heller who is leaving no stone unturned to bring the Henry George Congress prominently before the public.

Those having either questions or suggestions with reference to the Congress, or desiring reservations, are invited to communicate with Secretary P. R. Williams at the national headquarters, 1306 Berger Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.

All indications point to a highly interesting and profitable Congress and a cordial invitation to attend is extended not only to Single Taxers of all shades of opinion, but to all persons interested in economic and social problems and their solution. Make your plans early so that you will not miss this notable gathering.

## Foundation Active With Summer Lecture Tours

**D**URING the past two months William N. McNair, the well-known Pittsburgh Single Tax speaker, has been unusually active and has filled many engagements throughout Pennsylvania before various clubs and other organizations. As the Democratic nominee for the office of United States Senator, Mr. McNair's public appearances attract special attention, but his engagements thus far have been with non-partisan groups and have been directed to the presentation of the Single Tax as a remedy for unemployment and a means for stimulating business and promoting general prosperity.

On his recent Pennsylvania lecture tour, Mr. McNair covered the following engagements: June 5, Springdale Chamber of Commerce and Homestead Kiwanis Club; June 6, Tarentum Kiwanis and New Kensington Lions Club; June 11, New Castle and Woodlawn Rotary Clubs; June 12, Zelenople Lutheran Brotherhood; June 13, Wilmerding Rotary; June 14, Ellwood City Kiwanis; June 19, Irwin Kiwanis; June 20, St. James Lutheran Church; June 26, McKeesport Kiwanis; June 27, Wilksburg Lions; July 5, Johnstown Rotary; July 9, Erie Lions; July 26, Washington and Mt. Pleasant Kiwanis Clubs; July 31, Steelton Kiwanis; August 1, Harrisburg Optimist Club.

Mr. McNair reports a general interest in taxation and economic problems and has a very encouraging response to his lectures in the form of questions and comments.

Secretary Percy R. Williams has been very busily engaged on arrangements for the Henry George Congress during the past month or two, but has continued to make occasional speeches as opportunities were afforded. His recent engagements included lectures before the Rotary Clubs of Braddock and Homestead, Pa., and the Kiwanis Club of Girard, Ohio.

President George E. Evans, of the Henry George Foundation, spent a short vacation at Fred Howe's School of Opinion on Nantucket Island during July, where he reports having a very interesting time discussing philosophy with Mr. Howe, Will Durant and other lecturers appearing on the summer programme there. Mr. Evans has also been active from time to time as a speaker for the Foundation. Recently he appeared before the Lions Club of McKeesport, Pa., and the Kiwanis Club of New Kensington, Pa., speaking with particular reference to the

Pittsburgh tax plan as an example of a scientific tax principle in actual application.

For the first time during its four years of constant activity, the Henry George Club of Pittsburgh has suspended its formal speaking programme for the summer months of July and August. Informal round table discussions, however, have been provided for and members, not absent from the city, are meeting as usual for luncheon every Friday at the Chamber of Commerce. The regular speaking programme will be resumed in September.

## Palestine, the Jewish Agency Commission and the Mandate

**W**E go back to February of this year when Mr. W. W. Norwalk published in *The Jewish Forum* his notable article entitled "A Simple Interpretation of Judaism," the appearance of which was briefly noted in May-June issue of LAND AND FREEDOM, in which notice we promised to print in later issue extracts from the article itself.

We confine ourselves in the quotations that follow to that part of Mr. Norwalk's article dealing with the land legislation of Judaism. He tells us:

"To have the earth yield its best continuously, all the fields had to lie fallow every seventh year and wild animals were allowed to pasture thereon. Together with the prohibition against the use of fruit of the young trees the first three years, this was best for the fertilization of the land. Every seventh year a moratorium was to be declared and all debts were wiped out. No one was humiliated by being compelled to go through the procedure of bankruptcy. Every one's credit was reestablished and one could start over again. Therefore after Shemita, the Torah says, "There will be no poor among you." But if this did not help and one sold out all of his possessions during forty-nine years, then came the fiftieth year, the year of the Jubilee. Let me quote, "And you shall proclaim economic freedom to all the inhabitants, and every one shall return unto his estate." So, having been freed from all debts by Shemita and coming back into his unencumbered estate, everyone would become an economically free man and would be able comfortably to take care of his family—and the whole nation will realize the blessing. "And I will instill peace in the land, and you will dwell securely in the land." The Talmud tells us that it was because the Jews did not obey the laws concerning the Jubilee and Shemita that they were driven from the land."

Mr. Norwalk goes on to say that these laws were for an agricultural country where each family possessed land, and that to accomplish the same purpose modern methods must be adopted for Palestine. He reasons as follows:

"Now as the selling price of the land depends on its rent and the rent is taken annually by the government, it would become unprofitable to pay rent on natural resources with-