

Henry George Foundation Lecture Work

THE lecture activities of the Henry George Foundation have been carried on with renewed vigor during the past two months, both Secretary P. R. Williams and William N. McNair, President of the Pittsburgh Club, making tours through Pennsylvania. Mr. Williams addressed the summer conference of the League for Industrial Democracy at Forest Park, Pa., on June 27th. The three day conference was largely devoted to the problems of municipal government and Pittsburgh's experience with special taxation of land values and its economic significance as related to the Single Tax programme was presented by Secretary Williams. Quite a keen interest in this subject was displayed by the conference and throughout the session repeated references were made to the land question and its importance in dealing with the housing problem and other phases of the general economic problem.

Mr. Williams also addressed the Pottsville Rotary Club and McKeesport Kiwanis Club on this trip and held conferences with city officials in Wilkes-Barre and Lancaster, Pa., with regard to proposed tax legislation for the third class cities of Pennsylvania, receiving assurance of strong support from public officials in those cities.

Mr. McNair has been quite active of late on the lecture platform and has filled a number of engagements during the past several weeks including appearances before the following clubs and educational institutions: Elwood City Kiwanis Club, Carnegie Institute of Technology, Wilkesburg Kiwanis Club, University of Pittsburgh, Wilkesburg Lions Club, St. James Lutheran Church and Donora Rotary Club.

An Old Friend of the Movement

FROM Mr. Alexander Veitch, an old Leith resident in Kansas, I have received for perusal a pamphlet entitled "Peace and Freedom," which sets forth the "very real and practical ends which may be obtained by a free people using political democracy as a means to secure economic democracy—to democratise the land—which, together with human labor, is the basis of all wealth. This is Single Tax and social justice." In his covering letter Mr. Veitch writes, "I was back in Leith a few years ago and found conditions worse than ever. Nothing less than the applied science of taxation will do Britain any good. Edinburgh was chosen for a convention by Single Taxers of the world this summer." Mr. Veitch concludes with the interesting information that "Your office in Tolbooth Wynd is on the site of my old playing ground when I was a drummer in port of Leith Flute Band fifty-five years ago."

Edinburgh and Leith (Scotland) *Observer*.

Annie C. George Prize Essay Contest

WINNING ESSAY BY STUDENT OF
BEREA COLLEGE

THE Annie C. George Prize Fund was recently established by a gift, to be administered by the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, and in honor of Annie C. George, the wife of Henry George. Last year, the Annie C. George Prize Essay Committee offered prizes of \$100, \$50 and five Honorable Mention prizes of \$10 each, making a total of \$200, to those students of Berea College, Kentucky, who would submit the best essays on the subject "Taxation of Land Values" based on the teachings of Henry George, as found in his writings.

The economics department library of Berea College was presented with 120 copies of "Significant Paragraphs from Progress and Poverty," and other books related to this subject were also given by the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation to facilitate the reference reading of the competing students.

The contest began early in January 1929, and terminated in April. Through its appointed judges, the Annie C. George Prize Essay Committee made a careful selection of prize winning essays from the 101 essays submitted by the Berea students. Most of these essays were well planned and all showed that thought and care had been given to the work.

Robert Collins won the first prize of \$100. He is a native of Livia, Kentucky. He reached his twenty-first birthday last February and will begin his Senior year at Berea this Fall.

The second prize-winner—Annis Smith—is twenty years of age. Her home is at Horse Cave, Kentucky. She will enter her Junior year at Berea next Fall. Besides winning the \$50 award made by the Annie C. George Committee, she received a two year labor award from the College for her unusual services as a librarian.

The judges felt that Mr. Collins' essay was unusual in many respects and they have requested us to reprint it in full.

THE WINNING ESSAY, TAXATION OF LAND VALUES

Wherever governments exist, there is always a need for a supply of money for their up-keep. This supply, down through the ages, has been fed by the revenue obtained from taxation. The problem of determining the best method of taxation has existed in civilized countries for many centuries. In accordance with our system, we have assessed an amount of money to be paid by each and every owner of property. This amount has been distributed over the factors of production, land, labor, and capital. But our system has not worked satisfactorily.