

immediately followed the building of these improvements. The City of New York does a lot for its people. In 1932 it spent 631 million dollars for services. Of this sum the State of New York furnished 50 million dollars and the City had to raise 581 millions. The annual land rent in New York City in 1932 was about 700 million dollars. If New York City had done more for its people, and as a result needed more money, the land rent of New York would have been at least that much higher. That's the nature of land rent. Of course, New York is not taking this land rent beyond its general tax rate, and more than two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the rent remains in the possession of the land owners and is capitalized into the selling price of land. So, New York, too has a problem, only smaller perhaps, in degree than that of Nebraska or other equally enlightened places, as New York takes a bigger proportion of its land values in taxes than do most other places.

Question 3. A third question which someone is almost sure to spring is this: Will not taxing land values exclusively not merely impair but completely destroy the assets of life insurance companies? What about them? If that question is not asked I certainly shall not suggest it, but if put to me now I could not handle it satisfactorily.

Answer: The collecting of land rent and the abolishing of taxes will probably not be done in full at one time, but in convenient stages, say by an increase of five per cent (5%) per year. Thus it will take fifteen or sixteen years to make the change. In this period industry will have an opportunity to adjust itself, and this it will begin to do immediately that the measure is enacted into law. No harm will, nor can come then to insurance, banking or other institutions that lend money on, or invest in, unimproved land, for it is assumed that that is what the question implies. Improved property, especially that which is fully or properly improved, can only benefit by the change.

Question 4. I dislike to bother you with my troubles. For many years I have written and talked Single Tax and I used to think I had a fair working knowledge of the philosophy, but the last few years have produced situations which were not among any conditions that I had anticipated. Just now I need help badly and surely shall be grateful if you can extend it.

Answer: Our very best advice to A. G. C., whether or not he intends to speak for the Single Tax, is to register at once for a correspondence course at the Henry George School of Social Science, 211 West 79th Street, New York City. The new sessions start in September. The course is free excepting for the cost of one book—"Progress and Poverty" by Henry George—which may be had for \$1 by writing to LAND AND FREEDOM, 150 Nassau Street, New York, N. Y.

HAS the depression touched bottom? By no means. Let us hope it never will. So long as some industry can still be carried on, so long as some are not totally destitute, so long have we avoided touching bottom. But let our statesmen keep on fooling with fake remedies and we'll get there.

The Editor Appeals For The School

ON this occasion we depart from a long settled policy to resist any temptation to appeal for help for any specific Single Tax activity. We do so now because we feel the imperative need of sustaining what appears to us the most important movement ever begun in the history of our cause. We refer of course to the Henry George School of Social Science.

The School, now in the second year of its existence has, as our readers are informed, a permanent headquarters. It has classes composed at present of about fifty young students, coming from high schools and colleges, who are getting an economic education. So much is needed to be done for the young that we, who are living on borrowed time, must realize the importance of passing on the torch which we must soon relinquish.

Those who have had the opportunity of witnessing the remarkable effect of the system of education carried on by our able Director, who have personally met and talked with these bright young students, many of whom are now definitely enrolled as ardent apostles of the new truth so vividly revealed to us by Henry George, see in the present achievements of the School, but more in its potentialities, what an institution under proper nourishment it may become.

Today many men and women are more and more dubious of the trend of civilization and governments. Socialism has failed in Russia; it failed in Italy, and under it Italy drifted into a dictatorship; it petered out in Germany, and is now being tried in the United States. The great industrialists, merchants and manufacturers with substantial payrolls, bending under tax burdens, fear they know not what. Among these the Henry George School for Social Science will find friends who in time will help to support it. Already a section of a public utility company, important and vast in its ramifications, has appealed to the School, wanting to know if there is room for its employees as pupils of the classes in the Henry George School of Social Science. A like request has been received from a denominational Ministers' Association of large membership. And others will come. The School is full of definite promise.

A word as to the Director, Oscar H. Geiger. At the Baltimore Henry George Congress our old friend, Dr Mark Milliken, of Hamilton, O., suggested the foundation of a Henry George University. The suggestion caused the ripple of a smile, the idea seemed so remote. But today one man's audacity and high courage has enabled us to visualize the possibility. For the School will grow and ere long may develop into what Dr. Milliken desires.

Our Director is equipped with knowledge, tact and

tenderness. He can be forceful, too, when roused. His students love him and that is half the battle. For because of this they are more easily persuaded of the truth. But he asks nothing of them save the exercise of their reason.

And he has surrounded himself with able men who will help him carry on the work, some young and others more mature, teachers like John Luxton and Max Berkowitz, economists like Raymond V. McNally, and younger and increasingly proficient men like Charles Joseph Smith, Bill Moore and others, whom to meet and hear is an inspiration.

Years ago in a discussion over a disputed point in political economy, Mr. Geiger, then a very young man, ventured an explanation. Mr. George said delightedly to Jerome O'Neill, "Here is the economist of our movement," and nodded his head in satisfaction. And when later Mr. Geiger started a dozen boys, members of his Round Table Club, on their careers, he had the satisfaction of knowing that every one of them, including his gifted son, Dr. George Raymond Geiger, was a proficient economist and a soldier of the truth as expounded in "Progress and Poverty." "A born teacher," as others, not we, have termed him.

And he has given himself to this work unreservedly. He has cast behind him all hope for preferment in other fields. This is now his life work. It is big with promise and possibilities for the cause. There is nothing more important. Those who believe with him that the truth as expounded by Henry George is the only hope of the world should stand squarely behind the School. We must justify the faith that inspires him and give what is necessary even if it hurts.—EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM.

Henry George School Commencement

(REPORTED BY BEATRICE COHEN)

THE Henry George School of Social Science marked the close of its first complete year of work with commencement exercises at the Mahwah River Yacht Club, Suffern, N. Y., on Saturday, June 24, 1933.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Walter Fairchild, Commodore of the Mahwah River Yacht Club, provision was made for the conveying of guests to the club grounds.

At 10:30 a. m. the American flag was raised to the strains of the Star Spangled Banner. The grounds were then at the disposal of the guests for boating, swimming, tennis, hiking and the like, and at 12:30 noon, the guests partook of a campfire luncheon.

At 2:00 p. m., Host Fairchild opened the commencement exercises, introducing Admiral Henry Potter McKinney, who officially welcomed the guests, some one hundred in number.

Mr. O. K. Dorn, chairman of the conference, explained the object of the meeting, namely, the commencement exercises, or the conclusion of the first term of the Henry George School of Social Science. Mr. Dorn explained that the Henry George School was perhaps the best medium to assist Single Taxers in bringing their friends to understand the real economics of the Single Tax. The purpose of the School is to reach the young folks—the men and women of tomorrow.

Mr. Oscar H. Geiger, Director of the School, said in part: "Over thirty-seven years ago I first thought of a school in which the economics and philosophy of Henry George might be taught to students every day, all day. Just about thirty-seven years ago I started a class (we called it a club—The Progress Club of Harlem), which grew until we had about one hundred fifty-five members, all working men. . . . I dreamed of a school then quite different from the one we actually have. Today we are marking the end of our first complete year—this School was started eighteen months ago. We ended our season with a class on Monday and a class on Thursday at Pythian Temple, a class on Wednesday in Brooklyn, a class on Sunday in the Bronx. We have started a class in North Arlington, N. J., every alternate Tuesday, and if the summer season had not intervened, there would have been a class every other alternate Tuesday in Ridgewood, N. J. In addition we had a forum every Friday evening at Pythian Temple. Our classes numbered a minimum of one hundred students a week, so that the message was brought by way of actual classes to not less than one hundred students each week."

Mr. Geiger explained that the Henry George School of Social Science is chartered by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York, which is the Education Department of the State of New York. This gives the School the fortunate advantage that the certificates issued by the School are recognized by the Board of Education as "certificates of alertness." These certificates are required by the Board of Education on the part of teachers in the New York City School System, to give proof that these teachers are qualifying themselves for higher work, and it is one of the requirements of the Board of Education that teachers show such certificates of alertness if they desire higher salaries or advances in position. In the Fall the School expects to send an announcement to some twenty-five thousand school teachers offering to them certificates of alertness free of charge in return for a thirty-hour course in the Henry George School of Social Science. It is estimated that not less than one per cent of those circularized will attend, or some two hundred-fifty school teachers will enroll as students in the Henry George School. This year the School will start in September and the first semester, which will be an under-graduate course, will end in February. The second semester of the post-graduate course will end in June. The Board of Education will give a two raise credit to a teacher who has completed a sixty-hour course, taken in the same year or consecutively.

Rev. Dr. Mather of Christ Church, Brooklyn, is preparing to organize the Christ Church Institute, in which he is going to teach the higher reaches of theology, and for which he will issue degrees that are desired by young ministers all over the city. He believes that not only theology, but a wider range of subjects should be taught. To this end he has offered to Mr. Geiger as Director of the Henry George School of Social Science, the entire management of the social science courses in Christ Church Institute. Mr. Geiger will be expected to deliver a lecture or two each week in that Institute. Besides this, and perhaps of greater importance, Dr. Mather will circularize among the ministers, advising that attendance on their part at the Henry George School of Social Science will entitle them to the degree they desire, and enrollment of some fifty to one hundred ministers is expected from this source.

The Henry George School of Social Science now has its own headquarters at 211 West 79th Street, New York City, where it is going to have classes from eleven in the morning until eleven in the evening, every day of the week. One of the tasks of the School is to make its own teachers and already some half-dozen have offered themselves for this position.

Dr. George Raymond Geiger, son of Director Geiger, Professor of Philosophy in the University of North Dakota and author of "The Philosophy of Henry George," in a light vein expressed his surprise at the unique setting of these commencement exercises. He drew attention to the attire of the audience, (bathing suits, pajamas, shorts, sweaters, sports costumes, etc.) in place of the customary cap and gown, and the unusual setting, the banks of the Mahwah River in-