

de Mille, Honorary Vice President; Percy R. Williams, Executive Secretary; John Lawrence Monroe, Associate Secretary; and Francis W. Maguire, Assistant Secretary; are all expected to be active participants in the convention proceedings and one or more sessions will be devoted to important official business having to do with policies, plans and activities of the Henry George Foundation.

The members of the Baltimore Convention Committee include the following: Charles G. Baldwin, Chairman; John Salmon, Vice Chairman; Will Atkinson, H. J. Bailey, L. D. Beckwith, Andrew P. Canning, Alfred N. Chandler, Samuel Danziger, Charles R. Eckert, James B. Ellery, Clayton J. Ewing, Henry S. Ford, Allan Farquhar, Robert J. Boyd, J. C. Fuller, Ernest B. Gaston, Charles H. Ingersoll, Erwin Kauffman, Mrs. Rosa Kiefer, G. Frank Kelly, Fenton Lawson, J. C. Lincoln, Morton G. Loyd, Joseph Dana Miller, John B. McGauran, Dr. Mark Millikin, Charles F. Nesbit, Hon. Wm. J. Ogden, Harry W. Olney, Charles J. Ogle, Chester C. Platt, Miss Charlotte O. Schetter, Mrs. Roswell Skeel, Jr., Wm. H. Sikes, Frank T. Stirlith, Walter G. Stewart, George M. Strachan, Harold Sudell, Mrs. Lucy Swanton, Henry B. Tawresey, and August Williges.

The officers and members of the Maryland Tax Reform Association, a body which has been active for many years in behalf of land value taxation and has some achievements to its credit, are working hard for the success of the convention and are preparing to entertain good-sized delegations from the various sections, particularly the larger eastern cities within easy access of Baltimore. They will appreciate hearing early from all who plan to attend in order that hotel reservations and other details may be arranged. Communications should be addressed to the Foundation headquarters, Berger Building, Pittsburgh.

Tax Progress in Pittsburgh

A FURTHER step for Pittsburgh in the right direction has been secured through the enactment of a law at the present session of the Pennsylvania Legislature abolishing the county tax upon occupations and substituting therefor a nominal and uniform poll tax of only 50 cents. Through this measure sponsored by State Senator James J. Coyne, there has been stricken from the tax rolls of Allegheny County an assessed valuation of \$140,000,000. It is estimated that the actual "loss" in revenue is about \$400,000 per annum, representing more than one-fourth of a mill in the tax levy.

This action forecasts the complete elimination of the poll tax which has long been required by the constitution of Pennsylvania. The nominal tax of 50 cents is retained pending the amendment of the constitution because that instrument now permits only direct tax-

payers to vote. However, the Legislature has at the same time passed a resolution submitting a constitutional amendment to the voters providing for the elimination of the provision which makes the possession of a tax receipt a requisite for the exercise of the franchise. But since this question cannot be submitted before 1933, the Coyne bill was passed to afford an immediate remedy.

PITTSBURGH CONSIDERING PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION

During recent months there has developed a strong movement on behalf of a new city charter for Pittsburgh which would bring that city to an advanced position in its political administration as well as with respect to achievements in tax reform. The proposed changes in the charter would embody the election of the City Council by proportional representation and give the Council authority to choose a City Manager. A bill giving cities of the second and third classes the right to adopt such a plan of government was unanimously endorsed by the Henry George Club of Pittsburgh, the Taxpayers' League and several of the most prominent organizations in the city.

While, of course, unpopular with the political machine, the movement is making rapid headway and is being more vigorously advocated by all three of the daily newspapers. Fortunately, proportional representation is now recognized as the most important feature of the proposed municipal plan and if finally adopted, is likely to lead to the election of one or more active Single Taxers to the City Council of nine, as has happened in other cities employing this method so favorable to fair minority representation.

"The Philosophy of Henry George"

COPIES of the remarkable thesis of George Raymond Geiger, son of our treasurer Oscar H. Geiger, were mailed to a number of those to whom it was thought the book would appeal.

It will be of interest to our readers to note the character of the reception given to the book, and a few of the letters of commendation follow:

Mrs. Alice Thacher Post: "I can readily see that the author has made a very exhaustive study of the subject and a man is fortunate who takes for his thesis a subject which is so rewarding."

Hon. Edward Polak: "I hope to receive much benefit and enjoyment from the work. To you must be given credit for having raised a fine son who is such a devoted and intelligent exponent of our philosophy."

James F. Morton: "Even a cursory examination shows that George's thesis is an extraordinarily able and thorough presentation. And to put it over at Columbia of all universities! I am mighty glad to have it on hand for permanent