

country, inviting them to help form the organization. A National Convention is being planned, at which programs for action will be taken up.

This group is convinced that the educational method is the most effective. "Truth is mighty and will prevail," they tell us, but continue with the admonition, "but only if those who know the Truth do something about it. Through this militant organization, let us boldly, eagerly and effectively give the World our message."

This suggests a mass education scheme, and it is. The work is to be done through pamphlets, petitions and political action, as well as through the more thorough forms of education that reach only a small number of people.

It would be logical for this group to cooperate with the League for Freedom, and already steps have been taken towards this. For those who may be interested, the address is: National Prosperity Committee, 5307 Ravenswood Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Alaska

The first issue of *Frontier* (mentioned in the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation report in the last number of LAND AND FREEDOM) has reached us. This latest Georgeist publication is edited and published by Jim Busey. It appears to be even more ambitious than we thought. Instead of being a bi-monthly, as was originally intended, the first issue, dated February, 1940, is announced as a monthly, to be "devoted to Alaska, to Alaska's problems, and to the freedom for which Alaska stands."

Frontier has thirty-two pages chock full of informative articles and vital Alaskan affairs of the day. Among the articles is Donald MacDonald's "Stagnation of Alaska", in which he exposes the land grabs of that territory which robbed the workers of free access to the mines and other resources. Another article is "Scandinavia and Alaska", by Mr. Busey, which is an interesting comparative survey, geographic and economic.

Why the name "Frontier" for this publication? Mr. Busey explains in his editorial:

"The word 'frontier' stands for more than simply a new pioneering country. A frontier means freedom. It is a place where free men, working on their own free land with their own hands, mould for themselves their own future, according to their own ambitions.

"Thus, a frontier is a place where there is no limit to the imagination, the hopes, the ambitions and the possibilities of a man. The frontier stands as the eternal emblem of progress, liberty, and equality.

"That is why we chose the name FRONTIER."

Jim Busey is a man with vision. We consider the venture worthwhile and deserving of support. The subscription rate of *Frontier* is \$2.00 a year, and the present address is Anchorage, Alaska.

Argentine

A Georgeist paper is published at Buenos Aires, by Juan Bellagamba. It is called *Nueva Argentina*, and is a four-page bi-weekly, in the format of a newspaper. Articles on the Georgeist philosophy are presented newspaper-like, with headlines, in a form likely to attract public attention. One of the articles recently printed was a Spanish translation of Oscar H. Geiger's "Sex Problem", under the heading, "El sexo no es un problema".

Another very interesting article in a recent issue of *Nueva Argentina* was by Dr. Ignacio E. Ferrer on the fiscal system of Cordoba, a province in Argentine. Cordoba's governor, Amadeo Sabattini, maintains the reform introduced by his predecessor Carcano, a high tax on land values and low taxes on buildings, labor and industry. Of course, the great landowners denounce it as a "demagogic and pernicious confiscation", but in his article, Dr. Ferrer brilliantly answers the arguments of the opposition.

One of the editors of *Nueva Argentina* is Dr. Felix Vitale, noted author. Last year, Dr. Vitale wrote an article on the land values taxation movement in South America. This was intended for presentation at the Henry George Centenary, held at New York last September, but unfortunately it did not arrive in time.

Canada

THE SCHOOL SCENE—The Canadian Henry George Schools at Toronto and Montreal are keeping abreast of the School in the United States. Montreal has opened a Speakers Bureau similar to the one in New York City. In the classes, not only the Fundamental Economics course is offered, but advanced courses as well. And now correspondence courses are being offered. There is one feature about this that is ahead of the New York School. While only the "Progress and Poverty" course is given to correspondence students in the United States, in Toronto correspondence courses are also extended to "Protection or Free Trade", "Social Problems", "The Science of Political Economy", and "Democracy Versus Socialism".

ONTARIO WAKING UP—The January-February issue of *The Square Deal*, Toronto Georgeist bi-monthly, carries an interesting article reporting the steps which the Ontario legislature has taken to deal with the unemployment problem. We quote from this article:

"Owners of unused land in Ontario will be required to forego the privilege of keeping their land idle from now on, for legislation has been passed empowering the Director of Unemployment Relief to put garden plots at the disposition of unemployed families on relief beginning from this spring. Nor are the relievees the only ones entitled to cultivate idle land, for municipalities

are also authorized to declare such unused land as they may designate available for cultivation and anyone may make application, upon payment of a fee, not to exceed one dollar, to cultivate a garden plot.

"One feature of the legislation is that a landowner who cannot prove to the satisfaction of the authorities that he is going to make his land productive either by erecting a building on it within the year, or by other use, must allow his land to be used, and cannot claim any compensation for its use. At the same time he has to pay the taxes assessed upon the land, even though he gets no revenue from what may be grown on his land. For the cultivators are to be entitled to everything that they grow.

"In the case of those on relief, it is mandatory that they shall apply for a plot and cultivate it, but there is to be no reduction in the amount of their vouchers because of such additional income. The idea is that their labor shall supplement public relief and that any increase in the cost of living, entailing shrinkage in the purchasing power of vouchers, will be thereby compensated. The public authority will provide seed, fertilizer, small tools and shanties for storing them, supervision and caretaking of the plots, and will do the first ploughing and breaking up of virgin soil."

Great Britain

A MISCONCEPTION CORRECTED—The Editors of *Land and Liberty* wish to correct a notion prevalent among Americans with respect to the British Government's war-time power to confiscate all property except land. The Emergency Powers Act reads: "Defence Regulations may . . . authorize (i) the taking of possession or control, on behalf of His Majesty, of any property or undertaking; (ii) the acquisition, on behalf of His Majesty, of any property other than land."

Land and Liberty explains this provision as follows:

"The Regulation means that the Government may take possession or control of any property including land; but that in taking power *to acquire*, that is to purchase, any property, land is excepted. This is a wise precaution because it will obviate any large scale land purchases at the monopoly prices which the Government would be bound to pay. It prevents what might have been a huge land racket, if owners had been able to demand payment of the market price by the Government. Where it is a question of taking possession of land for defence purposes, the only compensation the Government need pay is the rent which the owners are now deriving from it. When the land is no longer required for defence purposes it will revert to the owner, and nothing will have happened to prevent the operation of land value

taxation, when that does take effect, applying to land holdings everywhere."

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES—The Henry George Foundation of Great Britain has recently printed two new pamphlets: "The Real Meaning of Free Trade" and "The Future is to the Gangster—Unless", which latter contains Henry George's "Rights of Man". These are offered at a special rate in quantities to those who can effectively use them in select groups and organizations.

Spring classes of the Henry George Schools have gotten under way at Glasgow, Yorkshire and Liverpool, as well as at London. Mr. W. E. Fox, School leader at Battersea, is also Minister in the local Battersea "Parliament", where he introduced a Bill for the Taxation of Land Values on February 29.

Australia

GEORGEIST BOOK CLUB—The Australian proponent of the Liberty Readers' Book Club (to which considerable attention was given in the last issue of *LAND AND FREEDOM*), under the pen-name of "Libertas", has recently circularized Georgeist publications throughout the world to give the matter earnest and urgent attention. "The Book Club", he says, "when established, will furnish yet another pillar of the Georgan edifice in the realm of practical application of the Georgan method." The *Standard*, of Sydney, which was the first to call the proposal to the attention of Georgeists, in its February 15 issue made another appeal for the formation of the Club. It warned Georgeists that the movement "has allowed such organizations as the Left Book Club to hold the field without putting forward a sufficient stream of counter-availing literature to offset the flood of false and harmful theory the people so eagerly read in the absence of the truth. That is the cause for the Liberty Readers' Book Club."

NATIONAL CONFERENCE—An Australian National Conference, convened by the New South Wales School of Social Science, was held at Newport, N. S. W., January 19 to 22. Many delegates were present from nearly all the Australian States. Different aspects of the Georgeist philosophy were discussed, and plans for action were considered. As a supplement to the information supplied in the speeches at this Conference, the Editor of the *People's Advocate* presented a world-wide survey of the progress made towards land value taxation in various countries. This paper required much research and is an important contribution, since much of the information is not ordinarily available.

The School of Social Science, with a greatly increased impetus arising out of the Conference, commenced new courses. The Australian School now also offers correspondence courses, and is the latest country to do so.