

Wales Miners' Federation Conference held at Cardiff on Thursday, 2nd June, and a similar distribution was effected at a public meeting held under the auspices of the Local Labour Party at the Hippodrome, Cardiff, on Sunday, 5th June.

Mr. F. C. Potter, of Cardiff, is taking a great interest in our movement, and at his own expense is sending literature with which we have supplied him to many of the political leaders.

HIGHLAND LEAGUE: I. Mackenzie, Hon. Secretary, The Arcade, Inverness.

The League organized a meeting on 21st May to discuss "Rating and the Land Question" with farmers and crofters who had recently purchased their holdings in Rosolis, Ross-shire.

Mr. R. B. Langlands, of Poyntzfield, the Chairman, paid a high tribute to the various leagues and organizations throughout the world, who against great odds were endeavouring to free the land from the grasp of the monopolist. There was, he said, an inspiration and a ring of freedom in their slogan "Free Trade, Free Land and Free People," which meant in the largest sense freedom in the production of wealth as well as its free exchange between nations. Mr. William Cameron, school teacher, Dalcross, said there must be a change in our present system of taxation which unjustly puts burdens on the producer. Councillor Jas. Macdonald urged them to form a reading circle and make a thorough study of Henry George's works, which would show how freedom could be obtained. If the cultivator of the soil put up a barn, a stable or a house he received a visit from the assessor, who, so to speak, fined him annually for being guilty of making improvements. A more idiotic taxing system could not be devised outside of Bedlam.

The following resolution was passed unanimously :—

"That this meeting calls upon the Municipalities and other Local Rating Authorities to apply for the Parliamentary power to rate Land Values and, in order that this reform may be instituted without delay, to demand that Government shall cause the Land Valuation to be completed, revised, and made available to the public.

"This meeting also affirms that the essential first step to the Rating of Land Values is to procure for each town and district the records of the valuations already made, and urges the Authorities to demand from the Government the facts and figures relative to their respective areas."

The meeting concluded with the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Reports of the meeting were published in most of the papers in the Highlands, particularly in the ABERDEEN FREE PRESS, a daily paper with a big circulation over the North.

FALMOUTH

Councillor M. J. Stewart (Deputy Mayor of Falmouth) presided at a public meeting in the Town Hall on 30th May, addressed by Mr. Cyril F. James, of the Free Trade and Land Values League of Victoria.

Mr. James spoke on the "Land Question: Its Relation to Unemployment," and had a cordial reception. A two-column report of his address and of the discussion that followed appeared in the CORNISH ECHO of 3rd June.

The Bradford South Division Liberal Council has unanimously adopted Mr. H. H. Spencer, of Bradford, as prospective Liberal candidate at the next Parliamentary election. When a young man Mr. Spencer visited Australia, where in Melbourne he met the late Max Hirsch, and he close personal friendship he formed 30 years ago lasted till Mr. Hirsch's death.

BURSLEM AND TUNSTALL

Mr. Andrew MacLaren, Labour Candidate

Mr. Andrew MacLaren is to be congratulated on having been adopted, by a decisive vote, as the Labour candidate for the Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, constituency at the next General Election. Mr. MacLaren, who has been prospective candidate for Wimbledon, allowed his name to go forward in Burslem at the invitation of a large number of friends in that constituency, and as the nominee of the local branch of the I.L.P. The Labour Party met on the 2nd June, and in addition to Mr. MacLaren had the following nominees before them: Mr. F. J. Hancock, N. Staffordshire Miners' Federation; Mr. J. J. Mallon (of Toynbee Hall), Burslem Assurance Agents; and Mr. J. H. Greenwood, Pittshill Miners.

Mr. Greenwood withdrew, having been already adopted by the Labour Party in West Leicester. The voting resulted in the adoption of Mr. MacLaren, who received 77 votes, as against 49 cast for Mr. Hancock and 13 for Mr. Mallon.

Mr. MacLaren, as a well-known advocate of the Taxation of Land Values, enters into a good heritage in his new constituency. It is a part of the country where the question has been thoroughly canvassed, and where public sentiment is strongly in its favour. Burslem and Tunstall formerly belonged in part to Hanley and in part to Newcastle-under-Lyme, and before the General Election of 1918 its separate parts were strongholds respectively for Mr. R. L. Outhwaite and Mr. Josiah C. Wedgwood.

The sitting member for Burslem and Tunstall is Mr. S. Finney, who has intimated his intention to retire at the next General Election.

Recent meetings addressed by Mr. MacLaren have been as follows: May Day Demonstration at Hanley, 2nd May; May Day Demonstration at Bridgwater, 7th May; Limehouse I.L.P., 10th May; Letchworth Labour Party, 4th June; Hitchin, 5th June; Toynbee Settlement, 16th June; and three meetings, 11th and 12th June, at Plymouth. Mr. MacLaren attended as Labour Candidate at the Annual Conference of the Labour Party in Brighton, 21st to 24th June, and took part in the discussions.

JOHN ELLIOTSON SYMES

I deeply regret to record the death, at Palermo, on 31st March, of the Rev. Professor Symes, at the age of 73 years. Mr. Symes was, I think, one of the group of friends who met in the winter of 1882-3 to study PROGRESS AND POVERTY, and who afterwards founded the Land Reform Union (now the English League for the Taxation of Land Values). At any rate, he was one of the first to join the new Society. He remained a member of the League till his death, and has been for many years one of its Vice-Presidents. Mr. Symes frequently contributed articles on Land Values to Mr. Headlam's monthly, THE CHURCH REFORMER (1884-96).

Prof. Symes's life-work was education. He was a Master at Lancing College from 1872 to '75, and a Cambridge University Extension Lecturer for the next six years. After a year at the Royal Grammar School, Newcastle-on-Tyne, he was appointed Professor of Literature at University College, Nottingham, of which he became Principal in 1891. On his resignation in 1912 he was made Emeritus Professor. His published writings include A COMPANION TO SCHOOL HISTORIES OF ENGLAND; THE FRENCH REVOLUTION (in the University Extension Series, which he edited); THE PRELUDE TO MODERN HISTORY (3rd to 9th centuries); and an excellent SHORT TEXT BOOK OF POLITICAL ECONOMY (1888; 11th edition in 1913). R.I.P.—F.V.

[We regret that owing to pressure on our space the above notice was held over from last month's issue.—EDITOR, L. & L.]