

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## DENMARK

Mrs Caroline Björner, hon. secretary, has sent out a most stimulating report on the progress of the School of Social Science which in Denmark has been given the style and title of the "Ecotechnical High School" for the study of the fundamental laws of social economy. It will be observed that the term "High School" has not the English connotation, but is the now famous term applied to those "People's High Schools" which play such an important part in popular adult education in Denmark.

Interesting is the explanation given for the choice of the name. It is that in Denmark they already have four institutions with which the name of Henry George is connected and which are well known to the Danish public; namely, the Henry George League, the Henry George Publishing Co., the Henry George Foundation and the Henry George (annual) Congress. Another Henry George institution bearing the name of H. G. would lead the public into confusion and by the majority of Danes would be identified only as the Henry George movement which comprises all the above mentioned institutions. As the result of half a century's strenuous work of Danish Georgeists the name of Henry George is known to 100 per cent. of Danish adult men and women, just as, e.g. the name of Karl Marx is known elsewhere. In other countries, the desire to build up a strong public opinion around Henry George's teachings under the name of H. G. is natural; but in Denmark, where people are already politically prejudiced when they hear the name of H. G., the problem is different. "A joke which is common property in Denmark will explain our problem better than many words. 'What is Georgiesm?' The reply: 'A theory which separates the public in two parts—those who do not understand it, and those who are unable to explain it.'" The aim is to get students to meet Henry George, if possible, with a politically unbiased mind, to come to the classes, and not give them an easy excuse for staying away by stating beforehand that this is another Henry George institution. Therefore, a neutral name, a new name, has been chosen.

In her communication, Mrs Caroline Björner gives grateful recognition to the inspiration they have received in Denmark from the Henry George School of Social Science in America, and the lead they got also from the International Conference in London. A Danish "Manual" for teachers and "lesson assignments" already in draft are being prepared, the latter having been used and developed after the practical experience gained. The first class started in Copenhagen with 20 students, conducted as a teachers' training class. As the outcome of a circular since mailed to a couple of hundred Georgeists, the new School is now starting 11 classes in nine towns with 132 students enrolled: a remarkable result from the purely preliminary work, so far. Requests have come for sending teachers to classes in the country, one old-timer in the island of Lolland having suggested that he would gather four classes each of 20 students for a five weeks' course with twice-weekly sessions and would pay a travelling teacher his expenses plus a reasonable fee.

The textbook is, of course, *Progress and Poverty*, Mr Lange's translation, fourth edition, 1922. For the use of the School, there has also been published the lecture *The Study of Political Economy*, 2,500 copies, translated by Mrs Signe Björner and making one of those elegant little pamphlets which the Danes know so well how to produce.

Communications relating to the "Ecotechnical High School" should be addressed to the secretary, Mrs Caroline Björner, Hulgardsvej, 20, Copenhagen F.

Two other recent publications from Denmark are heartily welcome: One, with a new year greeting from the author, Mrs Signe Björner, and dealing with the "Exchange Control," the abolition of which, for its price-raising effects, should be demanded by every Danish house-wife. The other is a larger book entitled *The Great Land Reforms and the Period of Free Trade*, which has four authors, each contributing his share: Dr Viggo Starcke, Mr N. Bredkaer, Mr Abel Brink and Mr J. L. Björner. These two publications are delightfully illustrated.

## UNITED STATES

## Henry George School of Social Science

The School which has its headquarters at 211 West 79th Street, New York, announces publication of the revised (third) edition of its Teacher's Manual, which is used by the School's staff of over 200 instructors in more than 100 cities. The new Manual is the result of many months of painstaking work and was not considered complete until it had been tried out in eighteen classes and amended on the basis of that experience. The price of the revised Manual is \$1 with order. (We have received a quantity of these new Manuals for free issue to the tutors of the British School who desire to use it, but the page numbering needs to be altered by hand to apply to the British H. G. Foundation edition of *Progress and Poverty*.)

At the Leeds Restaurant on 8th January, the fifth annual "commencement dinner" of the School was held, under auspices of the New York Chapter of the Henry George Fellowship. It was the occasion to "present the graduates" which Mr O. K. Dorn, acting director of the School did; and about 250 students were represented by nine student speakers who spoke on their behalf. Other speakers were Mr A. H. Vetterman, Mrs de Mille, Messrs Lancaster M. Greene, Joseph Dara Miller, Walter Fairchild, Harry Weinberger, Norman C. B. Fowles (former director of the School who had to retire through illness) and Will Lissner.

A similar function was held in Chicago on 2nd December when "certificates were granted to 91 graduates" and over 200 persons were present to witness the ceremonies. For the Chicago extension of the School, a Board of Trustees has been formed of which Professor Hiram B. Loomis is the president. The new term in Chicago starts with eleven classes altogether, but two conducted by past students.

A notable outgrowth of the School in America is the Henry George Fellowship, formed of past students, to promote and develop further the work of the School. The fellowship now has "chapters" in many cities and at the recent Congress in Cincinnati, a national body was brought into existence called the Federated Chapters of the Henry George Fellowship, with officers as follows: Nathan Hillman of Chicago, president; Harry Kuck, of Cincinnati, treasurer; J. Edward Jones, of Chicago, correspondence secretary; H. W. Becker, of Omaha, financial secretary; vice presidents: E. G. Lang, of Pittsburg and N. D. Alper, of San Francisco; other executive members: Joseph Carroll of Norfolk, Conn., James Fuller of Kansas City and Edward White of Kansas City.

Various items in the "Henry George News Service" issued weekly from 211 West 79th Street, N. Y. C., are:

Ten thousand circulars announcing a correspondence course of study, following the same technique as is used in class room, were to be mailed during January to a selected list all over the country, and thousands more will follow as fast as funds to carry on this work become available. (Correspondence courses are also a feature of the British School, and enquiry in regard to this should be addressed to the office at 94 Petty France, S.W.1.)

Charles R. Eckert, of Beaver, Pa., has been re-elected to Congress on the Democratic ticket to represent the 26th district of Pennsylvania. He is a life-long adherent of the Henry George Doctrine (and for many years a faithful reader of *Land & Liberty*).

James F. Bayer has been elected member of the State Assembly from Newark, New Jersey. In his election material he claimed support in the fact that he had recently completed a course in economics and social philosophy at the School in New York.

At the New York Times National Book Fair, books selected for a representative home library were displayed, including *Progress and Poverty* and other Georgeist literature.

A Radio Essay Contest on the programme and achievements of the School has been organized. The best essay will be broadcast over Station W B B C (Brooklyn) on 13th March at 8.15 p.m.