

course last year was so great, that the extension set up for this term advanced classes in Social Problems and International Trade at the Y.M.C.A. in Lamokin Village. In addition to these, the Science of Political Economy will be given at the school headquarters.

St. Louis

Dr. Harry Gunnison Brown, acting Dean of the School of Business and Public Administration, and head of the Department of Economics of the University of Missouri, was the guest speaker at the commencement exercises held in St. Louis at the First Unitarian Church. His subject was, "Why Communism Threatens."

Ottawa

In completing the study of *Protection or Free Trade* the Ottawa society made many inquiries, one member asking, "Would the world be in such a state of retrogression today if this philosophy were practised? I do not believe it would."

The director gave two quotations from Henry George's book: "Man is primarily an individual..." and followed it with, "Brute strength will avail little unless guided by intelligence."

Hartford

"A 2 per cent 'unearned increment tax on the land value of the state' was proposed today in a bill submitted in the special session by Senator Rocco D. Pallotti as a 'substitute' for the sales tax," reports the Hartford Times.

Nathan Hillman writes that while they do not expect favorable action on this bill, it will be supported as part of an educational build-up in the State Legislature, from which they expect eventually to achieve results.

New York

Want to learn how to write? Join the class "Practical Writing" to be conducted by Sydney Mayers, whose regular feature in the News, "Views of the News," has been quoted widely from Australia to Canada.

Romola Robb is that pretty blonde in the front office, and because she has had experience with volunteers in Red Cross work, she is determined to make New York's spring campaign a big success. Mrs. Ilse Day is the enthusiastic new Correspondence Course Secretary, and Mrs. Esta Cordes is being firm with those neglected name files.

The latest addition to the Henry George School library is a copy of the Author's Edition of *Progress and Poverty* printed by Wm. M. Hinton & Co., San Francisco, in 1879. This antedates the D. Appleton first edition and is "rara avis," only 500 copies having been printed. Mr. Hinton was a friend of Henry George and had enough confidence in him to undertake the typesetting of the book.

Another important acquisition is the library of the late Henry S. Ford of Camden. This includes many books on economics and has helped us fill several gaps. A first-rate economics reference collection is being built up which visitors are cordially invited to use.

This collection has been formed almost entirely from voluntary donations and these are most welcome. Several duplicate copies have been acquired and these will be gladly sent upon request to extensions with libraries.

The last thing to go in the paper and the first to be dropped is the New York news. It isn't secrecy—just modesty. There's some excellent information available, however, in a pamphlet prepared by Robert Clancy, called, "The School in '47 and Prospects for '48." Why not send for a copy?

It Set Me a-Thinking By NOAH D. ALPER

"GATHER AROUND, children," said Grandpop, "and I'll tell you a story."

After the children were as snug as a bug in the traditional rug before the fireplace's roaring blaze, Grandpop began.

"In a certain county in Missouri a young couple bought a run-down farm, of which there were many to select from. They were right progressive folks—read good journals and talked to the County Farm Agents a right smart. They culled out of the many farm practices they had learned those most scientific and best adapted to the area in which they lived. In a few years they had the old farm a-lumming and the neighbors talking of their success."

"During the winter this young couple read books and articles, especially articles on co-operatives. The glowing accounts of these community projects aroused their keen interest. They read that get-togethers of folks in the community were essential to their success; that dancing, parties and the like were necessary to successful cooperative activities. All this developed neighborly understanding and a desire to work together. Of course there were the more practical aspects of the 'co-op,' the savings of

buying and selling together and the harvest of 'patronage dividends.'

"They could stand it no longer. They must tell their neighbors the story of 'co-ops.' And they did! Every day, by conversation, on the party-telephone lines, by letters, items placed in the local newspaper, at meetings, they repeated and repeated the story. They repeated and repeated the story until they heard what they had hoped for; neighbors saying, 'Let's quit talking. Let's do something about it.'"

"And they did. A committee was set up to secure a location for the 'Co-op' store in town. Soon it was selling gasoline and farm machinery; buying feed in car lots; hardware, groceries, dry goods, clothing and shoes. Volunteer workers helped on busy nights—mostly Saturday nights. A few merchants who had served the community for years liquidated their business and retired."

"Well, children," said Grandpop, "this little 'Co-op' grew and it grew. The young folks who started it had seen their idea unfold into an institution whose business ran into millions of dollars a year. Many 'social aspects' had been developed along with it. Schools had been improved due to the fine community spirit in this 'Co-op' area. People came from all over the United States, and from foreign countries too, to see this remarkable community that co-operation had built. Many thought it was the finest 'co-op' for its size in the world."

"But in the thirty years that had passed the original 'co-operators' had aged. Some had died. Children who inherited the land in many cases had other occupations and professions. They did not want to work the land, nor could they live in the community. Many of the land title-holders had retired to their homes in town. Younger men and women had to work the farms. So great was the prestige of the community that there was a large waiting list to buy or rent farms from the 'Co-op' renting agency. People from Arkansas, Kansas, Illinois and Missouri had always shown such a great interest in this community."

"But something had gone wrong, children," said Grandpop. "There was a sort of deadness, a lack of zip compared to that which had existed when your mother and father were growing up. The farms were mostly run by tenants, and owners complained the farms weren't kept up. Some tenant farmers complained it was hard to get a living. The 'patronage dividends' did not seem to help these tenant farmers as they had the owners in years gone by. Some of the old-timers said these newcomers were a lazy bunch and that's why they didn't get along."

"I forgot to tell you the names of the young couple that were the main nurrods in this co-operative," said Grandpop. "It was Smith. I was a-visiting Mrs. Smith the other day when Jim, her husband, came home."

"'Fannie,' I heard him say, 'I just rented out that 160 acres—the old Jones place. I'm getting the highest rent for the 160 in the all-time history of Missouri.'"

"It set me a-thinking," said Grandpop. "I remember hearing Henry George say owners of land tended to absorb the benefits of progress. I can see that until land rent is publicly collected 'co-ops' are a tenant-making device. And I recall that I once heard a man say co-operatives were 'a stunt, not a social remedy.'"

Publications Abroad

Land & Liberty, monthly journal edited in London by A. W. Madsen, is a favorite with American Georgists. Copies still available on request.

The Free Trader is published bi-monthly in London by The Free Trade Union. Deryck Abel, Secretary; E. G. Bruner, Director.

Commonweal, another British publication, is the official journal of the Common Land Party, and The Porcupine represents The Manchester Land Values League.

The Free People, printed both in English and Dutch, is a quarterly which has been published in Johannesburg for ten years.

Australia has three monthly publications: The Standard, edited by A. G. Huie, in Sydney; The People's Advocate of Adelaide, representing the Henry George League of South Australia; and Progress, of Melbourne, which represents the Henry George League of Victoria.

The Liberal Leader takes the place of the former Commonweal, of New Zealand. It is a bi-monthly edited by T. E. McMillan at Matamata.

Denmark's Georgists have two publications: Grundskyld (Ground Debt), a quarterly edited by F. Folke; and Vejen Frem, issued weekly.

Terre et Liberte (Land and Liberty) has been revived in France by A. Daude Bancel. This is also a two-language paper with a Flemish edition being published in Belgium by M. Cortvriend.

Ons Erfdel (Our Heritage) is published monthly in Holland by A. Sevenster, having also been suspended during the war.

The Square Deal edited by Ernest J. Farmer in Toronto, is the bi-monthly organ of the Henry George Society in that city.

The League for Land and Liberty in Berlin, under the leadership of Rudolf Schmidt, is putting up a brave battle for existence. When conditions permit they hope to publish not only a magazine, but Henry George's books.