

On the Way Back

By ROBERT CLANCY

AFTER the memorable San Francisco conference I took the opportunity to visit various Henry George School extensions.

First, of course, our host extension in San Francisco, ably handled by Robert Tideman, assisted by a fine corps of volunteers, and sponsored by a splendid board including such leaders as Joseph S. Thompson, J. Rupert Mason, Glenn Hoover and others. Then on to our two other California extensions—San Diego and Los Angeles. Those who went to Southern California will remember the excellent meetings arranged by both extensions. Some of us took the trip south of the border to gaudy Tijuana to watch the Jai Alai games. The challenge of a growing Los Angeles is being met by director William Truehart who is growing, too, in ability and knowledge.

It was pleasant to meet familiar Georgists from different parts of the country who now live in California—W. E. Lake from Pennsylvania, Thurlow Coon from Detroit, Martha Kohte from Chicago, and Arthur Linahan from South Dakota, among others.

My next stop was St. Louis where I was met right at the airline coach by director Noah D. Alper. A meeting of St. Louis school folks turned into an animated discussion on the school's future and possibilities, and revealed a strong feeling of responsibility on the part of these dedicated volunteers.

From St. Louis I proceeded to Chicago and was lucky enough to join an outing with the staff of the Chicago school and the buoyant family of director John Monroe. At the Indiana sand dunes on the south shore of Lake Michigan, Commerce and Industry discussions alternated with roast chicken and fun.

The last lap of my homeward trip was Cleveland, the city selected for next year's school conference, where I saw our president, John C. Lincoln. As I stepped off the bus into the city the first sight that greeted me was the statue of Tom Johnson decorated with flowers in honor of his 100th birthday (see the July Henry George News).

This tribute to Johnson is inscribed at the base of the statue:

Beyond his party and beyond his class,
This man forsook the few to serve the mass
He found us groping leaderless and blind;
He left a city with a civic mind.
He found us striving, each his selfish part;
He left a city with a civic heart—
And ever with his eye set on the goal,
The vision of a city with a soul!

Speaking of anniversaries, among the bits of information I picked up were more events that occurred in 1879, the year *Progress and Poverty* was written. They were:

Founding of the U. S. Geological Survey, the purpose of which is to map the entire U. S. with all its natural resources.

Death of George Caleb Grigham, American artist; and of Honore Daumier, French artist.

Purchase of a large tract of land in Pasadena dirt cheap in 1879, fabulously fashionable today, according to an article in the Realty section of the Pasadena (Calif.) Independent which begins with this statement:

"When William Allen bought his 500-acre ranch here in 1879, he paid \$7.50 an acre. Today, 75 years later, the last 6½ acres of that famed property to be subdivided are selling for \$22,000 an acre."