

Henry George NEWS

Mr. Robert C. Bowers, 729 Blakewell Bldg., Pittsburg, Pa.

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Sunday Forums

The guests who attended the first of the three lectures which took place on January 30, February 6 and 13, were welcomed to the lecture and school by Miss Margaret Bateman, director of the school.

Mr. Otto Dorn, a trustee of the school, presided as chairman for Dr. Maurice Williams, author of "The Social Interpretation of History." Dr. Williams spoke on "Sun Yat-Sen, the Misunderstood."

Dr. Li-Yuying, president of the World Confederation of Intellectual Groups, former president of the University of Peking, and representative of China at the League of Nations, who was president, was introduced to the audience.

Dr. Wou-Sheong, another member of the audience, spoke about Dr. Sun Yat-Sen's Three Principles and Dr. Li-Yuying's World Encyclopedia of which there will be a volume about Henry George.

The Henry George NEWS of October published Dr. Sun's own statement that "I intend to devote my future to the promotion of the welfare of the Chinese people as a people. The teachings of your single later, Henry George, will be the basis of our program of reform."

Courtesy Alexandra Tolstoy and Anna George de Mille spoke about the description of their famous fathers on February 6. Mr. Lawrence M. Greene, a trustee of the school, presided, and Miss Bateman told of the classes in the school.

Mrs. de Mille, author of a life of her father, "Citizen of the World," and a trustee of the Henry George School, was the first speaker. She said that although Count Tolstoy and Henry George had never had the good fortune to meet personally, theirs was a mental and spiritual meeting. Mrs. de Mille spoke of her father's early life, and told the audience that he always had to strike directly at the wrong he saw. He told people he met that each one of us is responsible for the civilization in which we live. The observance of this principle led him to write on political economy.

Henry George, Jr., wanted to meet Tolstoy, and, after his father's death, made the trip to Tolstoy's home. Tolstoy was then 81. He asked Henry George, Jr., if he wanted him to carry a message to his father, and Henry George's son replied, "Yes, tell him we are carrying out the work of freedom."

Count Tolstoy quoted Henry George in a few of his books, and Henry George published "Tolstoy, the Fool," by Tolstoy in his paper. Countess Tolstoy, who came to America in 1931 and established in memory of her father, the Tolstoy Foundation for Russian Welfare and Culture for the aid of Russian emigres all over the world, said that Henry George was close to her father's heart. Although Tolstoy was an aristocrat by birth, he loved the land and the people on it and wrote much about the land problem.

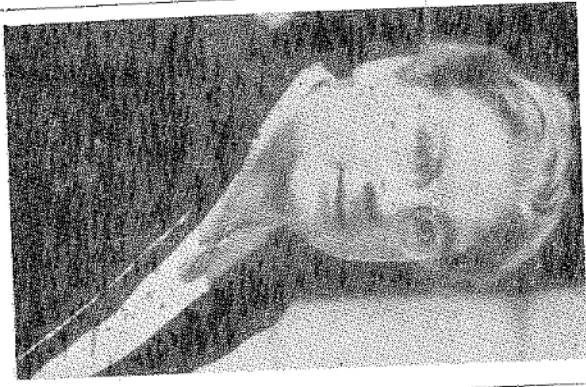
The Countess said that it was a great joy to the Count to have discovered Henry George and his amazingly simple solution of the land problem.

From then on Tolstoy consistently advocated the public collection of the annual value of land in Russia and remarked that the revolution could have been avoided

if George's advice had been heeded. He was against violence, and was for the improvement of the people through religion and economic education. He did not believe in socialism.

Miss Mary Kelsey, a Quaker, told about having seen Henry George's picture in Tolstoy's study above his desk when she went to his home. Miss Kelsey's father was also an admirer of Henry George. Dr. Louis Auspacher, dramatist, poet and philosopher, was introduced by Mr. George Castanis, instructor at the school, on February 13. His topic was "The Drama as a Social Force in a Democracy."

Countess Tolstoy



Talks at Henry George School

Over two hundred people attended each lecture and there were standees at the second lecture. Twenty-five members of the Air Service Club served refreshments after the lectures. Miss Anne F. Hodgkins, director of the club, and Miss Dorothy McEwan were hostesses, and Mr. Anthony Tomlin took photographs. Mrs. Grace Norton, a student, brought a Russian samovar for the second tea.

Report

College professors in Kansas, Alabama, Indiana, Texas, Michigan and Massachusetts sent for further information on Henry George. This was the result of a circular mailed to their respective colleges by the foundation. Students in these colleges will study Henry George during the current semester.

A congressman whose name is well known to newspaper readers, acknowledged some material which the foundation sent him recently: "I certainly agree with you that new principles of taxation are necessary to economic health in the post-war period, and I also agree that land value taxation is one of the things that is of basic importance in this connection."

Plans are being made by the foundation to translate "Progress and Poverty" into basic English, making the book one of the first major works to appear in that field. Proposals made to bring out editions of "Progress and Poverty" in Esperanto and Simplified Spelling have been found impracticable.

A book entitled, "For the Good of All," by Gilbert Tucker, author of "The Path to Prosperity," has just come from the press (Fleming Revere, New York). Mr. Tucker discusses the place of the State and of man-made law in its bearing on limitations which must be placed on political action if true democracy and freedom are to be preserved. His major argument is that the function of the State is to guarantee and enforce justice to all men, doing away with privilege and ending a centralization of power which will strangle local self government and invade the rights of individual life. Present tax policies, Mr. Tucker says, are

Agnes de Mille

"Just look at Agnes" is a feature in Collier's February 26 issue. Miss Agnes de Mille, a Georgian, has achieved international recognition as a dancer and for her choreography in "Oklahoma," "One Touch of Venus," and other productions.

When Agnes de Mille began dancing, her family, Hollywood, and Broadway looked the other way. "For the first ten years of my career I was, you might say, unemployed," says Agnes. Now she's the biggest news in ballet business. She has been given credit for killing the proverbial swan of ballet. Her new creations are full of fire—satire and swaness. She has removed the stuffed-shirt, culture-for-culture's-sake stigma from ballet and transformed it into something as understandable as hot dogs.

Early in her career, Miss de Mille was "unmanned" by her Uncle, Cecil B. de Mille, the producer. She was known as a stubborn person and says so herself. She had to be stubborn "to hold her own in her family, with famous theatrical people on one side and on the other, a famous economist."

Henry George, for a grandfather. The theater side of her family furnished her with piano lessons and literary encouragement while the economic side inspired her to stand on street corners at the age of eight and distribute economic tracts. At ten Agnes could explain what initiative and referendum meant. "I did explain it," she said, "and it didn't make me popular with the kids at school."

Recently it has been suggested by another Georgian that Agnes de Mille create a ballet that will make the philosophy of Henry George as well known to the American public as her other successes.

Poet Buys Whole Village

J. Donald Hughes, poet and artist, recently bought the entire village of Blaise, four miles from Bristol England, for the grand sum of \$2,925. This picturesque Gloucestershire village was formerly owned by Sir Arthur Harford, in whose family it had been for 180 years. It has ten stone cottages erected around a central green. After the sale, Mr. Hughes said that he would be willing to resell the hamlet to Bristol.

Tariffs

The following quotation from a recent letter of William Allen White to a fellow Republican was published in the Daily Star of Hudson, New York: "I am glad to note that you feel that the solution of our tax problem is to brush away tariff barriers and get our income instead on ground rent for federal purposes. Sooner or late the question of taxing ground rent must face the American people. We have postponed it too long. We are going to have to do something to raise our revenues besides imposing tariff duties." A statement from Mr. White, similar to this one, was read at the Henry George birthday dinner last September.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Hon. William N. McNair, instructor at the Pittsburgh extension, says that "his last 2 classes gave him an agreeable surprise. None of his students had read the book when they first came to the school, but they all agreed that economics was an exact science and that wages were paid out of production and not out of capital. On the latter point they referred to the statements of Wendell Willkie for authority."

Keep Five Cent Fare

"Higher Fares and Bigger Deficits," said Citizens Union in opposing the rise from five to ten cents on New York's subway system sought by realty interests. "It is commonly assumed that a higher fare will automatically increase revenues by 75 million a year," continued their report, adding that this is a fallacy, as shown by the experience of other cities, such as Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, etc., none of whom could meet their deficits by raising fares. The short-haul traffic dropped off sharply and nullified the hoped for increase in revenues when the ten cent fare was imposed.

Proponents of the ten cent fare suggest New York could reduce real estate assessments by about three billion dollars, of which two billion would benefit Manhattan's overburdened building owners. But Citizens Union says that the present five cent fare creates higher real estate values in the outlying boroughs, as it offers easy and cheap access to the center of the city. If the fare is increased these real estate values will drop and the ultimate result will be that what Manhattan gains in lowered taxes the outlying boroughs will lose in decreased real estate values.

Irish Land Tenure

At the Henry George annual banquet held on January 14th in Los Angeles, Anthony Pratt, chairman of the sponsoring committee of the Los Angeles extension quoted the gist of Article II of the Constitution of The Irish Free State: "All the lands and waters, mines and minerals within the territory of the Irish Free State, and also the national resources of the same territory, (including the air and also all royalties and franchises within that territory, shall, from and after the date of the coming into operation of this Constitution, belong to the Irish Free State."

but the same shall not, nor shall any part thereof be alienated, but may in the public interest be from time to time granted by way of lease or license to be worked or enjoyed under the authority and subject to the control of the Oireachtas (the Parliament). Provided that no such lease or license may be made for a term exceeding 99 years, beginning from the date thereof, and no such lease or license may be renewable by the terms thereof."

Washington, D. C.

The Woman's Single Tax Club was informally represented at an all-day conference on February 12, by Mrs. Gertrude Mackenzie and Mrs. McEvoy. The topic discussed was, "Shall It Be Century of the Common Man, or Century of Capital Controls?" Bishop Francis J. McConnell, president of the People's Lobby, Inc., was chairman of the conference.

Supply Restricted

Taxicab licenses obtained from the District of Columbia for \$25 a year are being sold by the holders for \$300 to \$400 in a rapidly rising market as a result of the Office of Defense Transportation's order freezing the number of cabs at the September 1, 1942, figure.

Chicago, Ill.

New members of the faculty are: Elmer C. Alt, Jr., Haldane K. Brown, the Rev. Levi Franklin Byron, George F. Carphone, Sr., Mrs. Susan Emery, Miss Phyllis Evans, C. F. Gumbert, Herbert B. Jones, William H. Kreicket, Dr. I. R. Margolash and Stanley J. Ryba. One man who attended the first of a series of six lectures given by the Hon. Francis Nelson on "The Historical Lineage of the Philosophy of Henry George," remarked that he had just enjoyed "the greatest evening of 'his life.'" Mr. William W. Newcomb, formerly managing editor of "Land and Freedom", and co-author with Robert Chaney of the popular Georgist booklet, "You and America's Future," has been appointed to the editorial staff of "Progress and Poverty," the national publication which is running the Henry George School of Social Science course in their current issues.

Boston, Mass.

Three classes in fundamental economics were started the week of January 23, with a total of 25 students. The Sunday class is being taught by Mr. Sanford Farakas, the Monday class by Mr. Mitchell S. Lurio, and the Thursday class by Mr. S. Warren Sturgis.

Letters to the Henry George News

These columns are set aside for relevant expressions of opinion, comments, etc., by sustaining subscribers of the Henry George News or by supporters of international headquarters of the Henry George School of Social Science, or by faculty members at headquarters and the extensions, who contribute \$2.00 or more annually to its work.

Letters are limited to 350 words maximum; shorter ones are preferable and longer ones subject to editing. The individual writer takes sole responsibility for the views expressed; the editors merely regulate the traffic.

Tolstoy-George Talks

SIRS: Many thanks for the information and pleasure you afforded others and myself on February 6 at international headquarters by making it possible for us to get a first-hand glimpse of our own Henry George and his friend, Tolstoy. And that, by no means other than the daughters of these men.

In her short talk, Anna George de Mille answered all my questions and confirmed all my opinions about the character of the man, Henry George, and from Miss Tolstoy I recognize the spiritual bond between these two, George and Tolstoy.

If we are satisfied that the philosophy of George is based on justice and guided by Truth and would become one with it, then let us by all means keep it alive in its entirety. This, I believe, is the aim and purpose of the School, i. e., an ever available knowledge of the economic theory of Henry George offered free.

Thanks for the information I have gathered so far, and please accept my small gift of \$5.00 towards the furtherance of "The Great Work."

CECIL MCCONNEY.
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Chicago, Ill.

SIRS: May I suggest the printing in each issue of the Henry George NEWS a complete list of addresses throughout the nation where Henry George Schools are situated or where classes are held. Strangers picking up a copy of the NEWS on a street car will want to know the local source of supply.

The most interesting things in the NEWS to me have been Miss Bateman's column, which is buried, and your reproduced cartoons. I'd like to see more of them (although I know it would be costly) as even an ardent Georgist likes a little "cheeseecake" now and then.

I was highly amused and interested in Miss Bateman's item about teaching 12-year-olds, and their research into the mentality of grown-ups. This seemed to me important enough to merit being blown up into an article with its own headline.

Let us pray that we can soon restore the "Freeman" and get some informative reading matter. Couldn't you plug in the new paper for support for the restoration of the "Freeman?"

ROBERT A. KING.
Chicago, Illinois.

Idle Mines, Empty Bins

SIRS: I had a dream after reading of the empty coal bins and freezing citizens in Pennsylvania, which is practically one large coal mine with cities built over it. I dreamed that the legislatures of Pennsylvania passed the following law:

"Whereas the resources of Pennsylvania belong to the people of Pennsylvania, and whereas there is a serious shortage of coal to the great distress of the public, be it enacted: That the coal mines

of Pennsylvania be leased to the highest bidders."

Before I awoke from my dream every coal bin in Pennsylvania was filled, and long trains of loaded coal cars were on their way to the freezing eastern cities.

What an awakening! In my morning paper I read that the legislators had passed laws with heavy penalties for "independents" who should mine coal except under certain conditions, the first condition being the payment of heavy royalties or rents or what have you, to the men to whom the "Commonwealth" had turned over the common resources, to be used by them or rented to users or just to be held idle.

The American people must love to shiver and freeze, since they take the most effective way to stop coal production.

HENRY J. FOLEY.
New York, N. Y.

Laws of Nature

SIRS: Anatole France's story of "Penguin Island" showed the social mistakes of mankind through the experiences of imaginary birds. We may visualize what can happen to human beings through depending on governments to do their thinking, by studying over the experiences of real birds, the pelicans of Monterey, described by W. P. Fuller in the Pulpit Digest as follows:

"For many years Monterey, a picturesque California coast town, was a pelican's paradise. As the fishermen cleaned their fish, they flung the offal to the pelicans standing expectantly by, and the birds grew fat, lazy and contented. Now, however, the offal is utilized and there are no tidbits for the pelicans. When the change came the pelicans made no effort to fish for themselves, they waited hopelessly around, grew gaunt and thin, and slowly starved to death. They had forgotten how to fish for themselves. The problem was solved by importing some strange pelicans from down the coast—birds accustomed to foraging for themselves. They were placed among their starving brothers, and the newcomers immediately began the job of catching fish. Before very long, every hungry pelican in port followed suit, and the famine of Monterey was ended."

LANCASTER M. GREENE.
New York, N. Y.

Sydney, Australia

SIRS: Since we started we have had a great number of classes, and many hundreds of students have taken at least one course. Before the call for war service, which reached its peak about a year ago, we had some very promising branches, and a total attendance at all our classes in New South Wales of over 100 students at our best period. At present not more than about 30 students are attending the regular classes, but we are putting in a lot of preparatory work, and hope to resume our interrupted growth.

We are bringing out some new textbooks for classes, and will let you have copies from time to time.

W. A. DOWE.
Sydney, Australia.

Selma University

SIRS: I have been a student of Henry George since 1924 at which time I received a copy of "Plain Talk on Taxation," by James F. Brown of the Manhattan Single Tax Club. After reading the pamphlet about once a month for 18 months, I asked Mr. Brown to send me several books and articles on Henry George.

I contributed two paragraphs to Dr. Harry Gunnison Brown's book, "Significant Paragraphs from

"Progress and Poverty," in 1927, and I taught a class under the Henry George School in 1935-1936, and began another one the beginning of December, 1943. When I was in New York attending Teachers College, Columbia University, 1927-28, I took the Caroline Phelps Stock Prize at Commencement for an essay on the subjects, "The Constitutional Right and Desirability of New York State to Develop and Operate its Water Power Resources." This paper was worked out from the point of view of the Single Tax.

I have visited Fairhope, Ala., to observe their way of doing things and I am projecting on some acreage belonging to this institution, Selma University—a use which will include some Henry George principles.

WILLIAM H. DINKINS,
A. M., LL. D.
Selma, Alabama.

Teaches Economics

SIRS: Progress Guide Magazine is becoming more of a militant Georgist publication all the time. Dean Henry L. J. Tideman of Chicago, is on the Advisory Board, and now William Newcomb, former editor of Land and Freedom, is on the editorial staff. Mr. Newcomb informs us that in addition to the monthly course and article, based on the school's ten lessons, there will be a monthly article dealing with the fiscal application of George's proposal.

"Progress Guide" is useful for all students of Henry George at \$3 a year. The address is 642 S. Dearborn St., Chicago, 5, Illinois.

WILLIAM B. TRUEHART.
Los Angeles, Calif.

Farm Problems

SIRS: "Roots in the Earth," by Waring and Teller, published by Harpers, (\$2.50) with a foreword by Bromfield, gives a fine, clear break for the application of ground rent for public revenue and no taxation on improvements, applying to farm lands. I have a dozen friends stirred up from one angle or another, "to get that book."

I am interesting groups who have a definite local tax problem—such as Boston, now decadent because of excessive taxation on improvements. The cancer spreads to surrounding towns including my own.

I suggest readers get the Churchill speeches on the solution of the land problem at 10c from the school.

THEODORE T. WHITNEY, Jr.
Milton, Mass.

Inglewood, Cal.

SIRS: My father, Charles E. Mansur, read "Progress and Poverty" in the early eighties when I was a schoolboy, but I remember how enthusiastic he was about the solution of social and economic problems. Like other young folks, I didn't take such matters seriously until I had been out in the world for myself and received a few hard knocks. I read Mr. George's book in 1894, and have had a different slant on life ever since. I joined the Brooklyn Single Tax Club about 1905. I voted for Henry George, Jr., for Mayor of Greater New York in 1897, when he replaced his deceased father on the ballot. I was a subscriber to the "Public," the "Single Tax Review," "Land and Freedom" and the "Freeman." I knew the late Joseph Dana Miller for many years and he introduced me to the late Oscar Geiger, founder of the Henry George School.

Years ago when men like Louis F. Post, Thomas L. Johnson, Newton D. Baker, Henry George, Jr., and other men of prominence, were

carrying our cause to the nation, it seemed as if we would have a partial application of the Single Tax long before this time. It appears that because of the pressure of the big selfish interests and the inclination of otherwise intelligent people to follow "the calf path," these obstacles have proven too great to be overcome.

The one bright spot in the land taxation movement is the Henry George School of Social Science, which is doing wonderful work. The fact that so many of the graduates are volunteering to teach the subject shows that there is something deeper in our philosophy than a mere fiscal reform.

Mr. Truehart, in charge of the Los Angeles Extension, is working like a "Trojan" and is doing remarkably well. I will gladly help him in any way I can.

When the war is over, we will have an immense public debt, and the entire world will have to be rehabilitated. This nation may have to choose between Communism, National Socialism, or true Democracy. I hope that we will be able to attract national leaders to our cause to bring about the latter alternative.

It is indeed gratifying to see that Progress Research Corporation is publicizing our course in Progress Guide.

RAYMOND P. MANSUR.
Inglewood, Calif.

Friant Kern Canal

SIRS: I have written to Hon. E. H. Wiecking, Land Use Coordinator, Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., as follows:

"No doubt you are aware of the vigorous campaign to get WPB to rescind its order refusing permission to construct the Friant Kern Canal. The economic bloc displeased at the WPB order has gotten resolutions passed by many counties, cities and conventions in the hope of building a fire under WPB by making it appear there is a bona fide public demand for the immediate construction of this canal.

"Those controlling the land which the Friant Canal will make valuable, have no intention at all to allow their land to be included in districts with the power to levy and collect taxes annually on the value of the land, as the power of districts was construed in Fullbrook v Bradley, 164 U. S. 112, and Roberts v Richardson, 164 U. S. 71, at least not if they are allowed the least hope that this canal may be built. In advance of such inclusion of the land in one or more irrigation districts, and an election the same as when the same districts borrow money in the usual way, to finance the cost of canals and dams to benefit land in the district."

J. RUPERT MASON.
San Francisco, Calif.

Seeks New Students

SIRS: The March issue of "Progress Guide" features the Henry George article on the top reverse plates of the outside cover. We sent a mailing to all of the wholesale news dealers throughout America, calling their attention to the Henry George article and urging them to give the issue a full cover display, and at the same time to tell their newsstand buyers about the article. We hope this will result in new students for the Henry George School of Social Science.

J. P. MULKERN, Sec'y.
Progress Guide.
Chicago, Ill.

Asks Examples

SIRS: Thanks for sending me the Henry George NEWS. I like it very much and hope there will be no trouble in keeping it rolling. I feel that this type of publication will meet with a wider response than

The Freeman, which I thought, had too "rich and rich" articles. I do believe that real "samples" of land values exist and their causes and result like Land and Liberty because uses illustrations, allowing reader to come to a certain conclusion.

I have been attending the Tarian Church in Charleston, 7 have a discussion group on War plans and I am able to find, in this small group of a ten, one certain George man, another just about certain, latter chap said he heard a George at Camp Upton for first time, and the first one of George for years. There is a Government man, an agricultural experimenter, who seems sympathetic, and a minister indicates knowledge and sympathy as well. He asked me could give a talk on George's time, and you can imagine answer!

SGT. NOAH D. ALPHEI
(Ed. note: Factual article-letters up to 300 words are vited.)

Four Freedoms

SIRS: The St. Louis Post patch recently published the loving letter by me:

"Mr. Fulton Lewis, Jr., has doted a most valuable public service by his analysis in a re-broadcast of the Atlantic C. C. ter's Four Freedoms. With clear vision than that of other men has perceived the incongruity combining the freedom of work and free speech with free from fear and want. These two freedoms say to the government, 'hands off!' The second say, 'hands on!' The first two are essentially democratic, the second two are essentially socialist. The first two are fundamental rights, the second two are merely comfortable conditions. The first freedoms are the heritage of Americans; the other two are heritages for a mass of portage.

"Freedom is indivisible and no more be quartered like a pot of butter than can any other man right. The Four Freedoms cannot be handed out by the glo-American Alliance as a pwar gratuity. Freedom is extension from illegitimate restraint. Tyranny. Incidentally, the pressing need in the nation to its freedom from the New Deal.

HENRY WARE ALLE
Wichita, Kansas.

Letter to Henry George News

SIRS: A postcard showing the early ship "Henry George" came me from a friend in New York. Please send me 250 of them the enclosed check for \$10.

J. RUPERT MASON
San Francisco, Calif.

The Henry George News

Containing The Freeman

Published monthly by the Henry George School of Social Science (located by the University of the State of New York) at 30 East 29th St. New York 16, N. Y., continuing Freeman, the title of which is retained in the United States Patent Office; all rights in this title reserved. Publication Committee, Lancaster Greene, Otto K. Dorn, William O'Connor.

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Change of entry pending at the Office at New York City, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 8, 1909, General Subscription, one dollar a year; sustaining, subscription \$2.00 a year. A subscription is included in the price of the News, in each of the 12 issues, in each of the 12 international headquarters of the Henry George School of Social Science

Balavia, N. Y.

SIRS: We are completing the second class to be held in the Presbyterian Church of Balavia. A group of twenty people have attended faithfully and as the course has advanced, a much clearer apprehension has been gained by the students. The presence of the president of the local Bar Association has made the sessions particularly stimulating.

A group of "High-Y" boys requested that we teach them fundamental economics. Thinking it would be of great benefit to the boys in giving them a foundation for future study in economics, we are starting a course with them on Thursday evening. The group will consist of about fifteen boys.

REV. WYLLIE YOUNG.
Balavia, N. Y.

Benefits Not Received

SIRS: The New York Herald Tribune on November 14th printed a letter of mine as follows:

"After reading your editorial, 'Are the Means Good?' it seems as if the common man is slated for a bad time after the war. Being a Republican, a ten-hour-a-day war worker and a sufferer of the depression of 1929, I feel that we should not be blamed for expecting some clear and definite program that might prevent depressions and unemployment from our party. Not by the socialistic methods of the New Deal, but by the automatic operation of natural laws, which have been set aside for a hundred and fifty years by the failure of our law-making bodies to learn what the laws of nature are and to apply them to affairs of the government.

"Our failure to offer a workable plan may make it easier for the advocates of Socialism or Communism to get a hearing from the common man" whose numbers, when aroused by the feeling that those he has been trusting have failed him, will be dangerous.

"I have had several years' experience as a tax official seeing the bad effects of our tax laws on the rights of private property. Private property is the cornerstone of civilization. This right is based on the right of every human to own his individual person. This right of self-ownership cannot be passed to any other individual or group of individuals—not even to government. The entire product of individual effort is therefore the private property of the producer—

his, until he voluntarily parts with it. It covers every kind of labor product, mental as well as manual. Our tax laws infringe that right, hence, it seems to me, cause most if not all of our financial and industrial troubles.

"The taxpayer receives no equivalent from government for the taxes he pays on such labor products as buildings, machinery, goods in stores, his car, his household furniture, etc. Both the United States Constitution and the constitution of New Jersey say: 'Private property shall not be taken for public purposes without just compensation.'

"What compensation, measured in the same kind of money used to pay the tax, does he receive for the tax on his house or his furniture, on his tools if a mechanic, or on his stock if a storekeeper?"

DR. FRANK MOLDERS.
Rutherford, N. J.

Sun, Climate, and Land

SIRS: I have a radio in my library which I listen to when I want to hear classical music and the children singing in Sunday morning's High Mass. I turn it off at the start of war news. I hate wars, which are instruments for looting, destruction and ruin. History teaches us that "war originated for conquering land. Although the earth contains 92 elements like the sun, the sun and climate are classified as free economic goods. The land should have been classified similarly, and all the wars could have been avoided."

My library, though small, contains books by Bacon, Johnson, Milton, Shakespeare, Spenser, Wordsworth, Defoe, Swift, a prayer book from which I derive the most comfort and two books by Henry George, called "Progress and Poverty," and "Protection or Free Trade."

GABRIELE GIORDANO.
New York, N. Y.

Research

SIRS: I have been planning a memorandum answering the arguments of the famous English nationalist and comparative anatomist, Thomas Henry Huxley (1825-1895), against the theories of "Progress and Poverty" by Henry George. The arguments in question were presented by Mr. Huxley in a work called "Collected Essays" (9 vols. 1893-94). Vol. 1, Essay VIII, entitled, "Natural

Rights and Political Rights

(1380), pages 386-392.

Some reader of the "Henry George News" may know whether Henry George or some one among his students answered Mr. Huxley's arguments, and if so, whether the place and date of publication of such answer could be furnished.

MORTIMER A. LEISTER.
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Woodrow Wilson

SIRS: I sent the following letter to the Denver Post which they published on November 28:

Speaking in the light of experience, Woodrow Wilson remarked: "I have undertaken the work of teaching for a great many years and have found that the human mind has great resources for resisting the introduction of knowledge." The hardest thing in the world to recognize is the obvious, obscured as it is by conditions to which we have grown accustomed. This accounts for the absurd notions that production is an evil and that we should pension people for keeping land out of production or punish them for using it. It explains the extraordinary persistence of the idea that labor-saving machinery is a curse and that federal and local restrictions on commerce and trade are necessary to the welfare of the human race.

If what men work for and get is the labor of other people and the product of their labor, how is it that people should ever come to think there can be too many laborers? The doing of one sort of labor makes it possible for another sort of labor to be profitably done. Idle men create no market. Then why should we strive so earnestly to prevent people from working in order to make more work?

JOHN B. MCGURAN.
Denver, Colo.

Bombard Study Groups

SIRS: The folder which so cleverly draws attention to the terrible pace of the Social Sciences as compared to progress in invention is excellent! I want you to know that the Henry George NEWS is a source of inspiration and encouragement to those interested in this movement. More power to this splendid publication!

I wish to suggest that Georgists everywhere compile lists of future open forums, study clubs and other discussion groups where the post-war world is to be discussed, and shoot at them with letters and literature galore! Why not appoint a committee to concentrate on just this task alone for possibly a month or two? In almost every newspaper we can read daily of such prospects.

VERLIN D. GORDON.
Lima, Ohio.

Charity Housing

SIRS: For an eight block site, 15 acres, in an outlying slum section New York City will pay \$2,298,180; 6% above assessed valuation. On this site there will be erected by the New York City Housing Authority in the postwar period, 27 buildings to house 1,335 families.

New York City has 1,728,000 families and the Citizens Housing Council of New York City recently pointed out that to make a dent in New York City's slum clearance there would have to be spent "conservatively... one billion dollars of which 60% is land value and 40% improvement value."

Mayor La Guardia, speaking to the Herald Tribune Forum in 1939, told them where the money collected from citizens goes to, and said that "Protection of life and property in New York City today takes 17% of the city's expense budget; utilities and public services, 11%; education and recreation, 22%; health and welfare, ex-

cluding home relief, 10.7%. Debt service amounts to 26%."

There is no Santa Claus in nature. In 1920, a rent law was passed in New York City whereby a tenant could compel the landlord to come to court if the rent was raised to prove the justice of the increase.

Former Governor Alfred E. Smith, in a 1937 speech, told of a landlord brought to court. The judge asked the total income of the building and asked what it cost to operate it, and what the taxes amounted to. Former Governor Smith said, "The landlord told the judge what the taxes were whereupon the tenant said that he shouldn't be charged for them but that the landlord should pay the taxes. The landlord looked at him and said, 'Is that so? Just forget that, because you pay the taxes'."

"It is true that the landlord remits the check to the compromiser but when that check is presented there must be money to pay it and that money is your money."

H. ELLENOFF.
New York, N. Y.

Land Boom

SIRS: An article entitled "Land Boom Ahead" appeared in the December issue of Coronet magazine. It states that Joseph P. Kennedy, former Ambassador to Great Britain, had recently purchased three million dollars' worth of land. The Rockefeller's are buying land. Charles F. Noyes, famous New York real estate man, has come out of retirement to invest several millions in properties. James W. Gerard, former Ambassador to Germany, has bought 97 thousand acres of western land. Vincent Astor is increasing his already enormous holdings.

The article says that land all over the country seems to be arousing interest. Corn-hog farms in the mid-West, ranches in New Mexico and lots in the suburbs appear to be in demand. The "big fellows" (millionaires or men with money on the loose) have initiated much of the land boom.

Joseph P. Day, America's outstanding real estate man, is quoted as saying: "What is the United States in the last analysis but real estate?" The article continues to say that another land boom is riding high and it may leave in its wake unpleasant memories and foreclosed mortgages.

JEAN LACKEY.
New York, N. Y.

Philadelphia, Pa.

SIRS: Philadelphia needs many things—purer water, cleaner streets, improved traffic facilities, better homes, etc. But its paramount need is for a better taxing system which, while enabling us to raise more revenue, will put no burden on industry and business and which will do away with our present foolish and harmful system of fining by increased taxation any who do the desirable thing of improving their property. This is to be found in the taxation of the city's land values. By this method a collectively produced value, made by the people as a whole, is taken for public use and industry and enterprise are freed entirely from tax.

Since its effect is to sharply lower the selling price of land building sites, the first requisite in the erection of a building would be greatly cheapened. With low-cost sites and untaxed buildings, we would have more and larger manufacturing plants, finer stores and better homes. The slums which now disgrace many parts of our city would disappear.

Business would flourish, our city would grow in size and beauty, and the additional revenue furnished would enable us to go

ahead with these other improvements which we cannot now undertake. HAROLD SUDELL.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Boston Carpenter

SIRS: One of the teachers reported in a class recently: "Among my students are many successful business men, including a vice-president of a bank. After attending ten lessons, during which he failed to discuss any point, I suspected that the fault was mine, being merely a carpenter, teaching such successful people."

Another teacher in the rear of the room retorted that he knew a carpenter who was born 1944 years ago was a Teacher and a very successful one.

SANFORD PARKAS.

Postscript

"Esprit de corps" is important in the Henry George School of Social Science. The recent film epidemic highlighted this fact. When a secretary shows herself willing to bind up the wounds of a leaking pipe until the plumber arrives and a bookkeeper demonstrates her ability to stoke the furnace, I feel confident that the work of the School will continue to go forward. Efficiency of the Correspondence School was demonstrated recently when a student from Canada, a pilot officer in the R.C.A.F., arrived at the School to explain his failure to send in the fourth lesson! January enrollments show a 50 percent increase over last year.

Another Correspondence student has written as follows: "Things are gradually clearing up for me. At first I thought George was such a ponderous thinker, I never understand him. Suddenly I realized that I was doing the involved ponderous thinking—George was so simple that I had confused myself. Such statements as 'there cannot be over-production or over-consumption when people are in want and willing to exchange their labor for the labor of others,' are astounding in their simplicity. And when the thought occurred to me that if land had been brought into use as it was needed and there had been no speculation, the United States' Western boundary would at this point be the Mississippi, I was literally stunned. And we'd still have millions and millions of acres of unexploited reserves left for the future practically untouched—and California gold might not have been discovered until 2043 and no one would have been any poorer for that."

A student from Columbia University visited the School to obtain information concerning Joseph Fels and his association with Henry George. She will write a paper on this subject.

A member of the faculty in New York is now teaching three classes a week. One at his home, one at his church, and another at the Master Institute of Arts.

The Nation magazine carried a full page advertisement of Progress and Poverty and the School's free courses in their special February book number. In a new edition of the post-war booklet, we have listed six new cities where extension classes are now being held.

We are proud to be associated with the Australian School, where members of the faculty carried off five of the twelve prizes in a letter contest devoted to the solution of post-war problems.

On three successive Sundays in February over 700 visitors heard about Henry George in the school auditorium. I wish every "old timer" could have heard Countess Alexandra Tolstoy tell of her father's joy on his 80th birthday, when he received a message of congratulation from a group of Georgists in Cincinnati, U.S.A. "This," said the Countess, "was the highlight of Leo Tolstoy's birthday jubilee!"

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HENRY GEORGE NEWS

ge Four

New York, N. Y.

shot Officer Ted McPhee, of Ontario, Canada, stationed at the headquarters of the League of Nations in New York on February 6, while in New York on a tour. He is taking a correspondence course in fundamental economics.

Mr. C. O. Steele addressed the classes of the Church of the Holy Spirit in Freeport, L. I., on February 15. His subject was "The Future of the World."

Classes in fundamental economics have been started at the International Headquarters in Freeport, L. I., on February 15. The following teachers: Miss Anne Hodgkins, Mr. Howard, January 24; Mr. Josephine Billington, January 27; Mr. William O'Connor, February 8; Mr. H. D. Butler, February 28; Mr. Charles Kee, March 8.

A course in the science of political economy was started by Mr. George Royal, on February 24. Other courses in fundamental economics were started by the following teachers: Mr. Charles Kee at St. Martin's Episcopal Church on January 14 (arranged by Miss Josephine Holland); Mr. Dominic Della Voipe at the Church of the Transfiguration, Freeport, L. I., on March 10; Mr. Andrew Christianson at his home on January 26; Mr. Leon Caminez at the Harlem Y.M.C.A., February 28.

Dr. Eugene Friedberg started a class in international trade on March 1 at International Headquarters and Mr. Ira Weiss will start a course at the Mayfair House in Freeport, March 22. Mr. Andrew Christianson began a course, February 15, in international trade at the Master Institute.

Miss Josephine Billington addressed the Parents' Association of the Andrew Jackson High School, St. Albans, Long Island, on March 8, on "Women in the Postwar World."

Mr. Lancaster M. Greene and Dr. Eugene Friedberg will take the affirmative in a debate on: "Resolved: That the United States Shall Adopt a Free Trade Policy After the War," against the New York University Debating Society on March 21.

Corporal Thomas J. Lewis, a former teacher at International Headquarters, writes from the European area that he has a copy of "Progress and Poverty" with him and has induced some of the men to read it. Corporal Lewis states that he has been in the Mediterranean area and has seen enough of Africa to last a lifetime.

Miss Nannie McGovern, of 74 Osmaison Road, Prenton, Birkenhead, England, secretary of the Liverpool Land Values League, has written to International Headquarters asking for the material for a course in the Science of Political Economy, and a copy of the novel, "Henny George, Jr., 'The Romance of John Balmbridge,'" which is out of print.

Pvt. Everett J. Seeley, of Coquille, Oregon, visited International Headquarters on his first leave in this area and heard the Contess Alexandra Tolstoy and Mrs. Anna George de Mille speak on February 6. He reports that Dr. James Richmond, now seventy years of age and a Henry George adherent for forty years, is teaching classes in Coquille. Dr. Richmond found the opportunity to interest Pvt. Seeley in Henry George when an infected arm placed him under the doctor's care in 1932.

Mr. Gilbert Tucker, who has taught fundamental economics classes in Albany, New York, visited International Headquarters and autographed copies of his book, "Path to Prosperity," for teachers who were present. He has two new books in preparation at present.

Radio Engineer Bill Leon, of the U. S. Navy, former instructor at International Headquarters, wrote from England, and then visited the School on February 23.

Joseph Shinn, of the U.S.M.S., a former teacher at International Headquarters, who has spent many months overseas, visited International Headquarters in February, upon his return to New York.

Mr. C. O. Steele and Mr. Ezra Cohen participated in a lecture series and group discussion at the Prospect Park Y. M. C. A. in Brooklyn on March 2 and 9. Mr. Steele spoke on March 2 on "A Better Post War World" and Mr. Cohen's topic, on March 9 was "International Trade After the War."

Mr. Dominic Della Voipe will start a class in fundamental economics on March 7 at the International Institute for Universal Democracy at 86 Riverside Drive.

Mrs. Anna George de Mille addressed the New York Alumni Chapter of Alpha Omicron Pi at Beekman Towers, on February 8. Her subject was "What You Can Do About Postwar Problems."

Reverend Wylie Young, an instructor in the Batavia extension, visited International Headquarters on February 21.

Mr. Sanford Farkas, a teacher in the Boston extension, visited International Headquarters and spent an evening working on the Henry George NEWS.

The coffee shop will be open every evening between 8 and 10. Members of the Arrow Service Club will serve coffee to the students.

Dr. Janet Aiken Dies
Dr. Janet Rankin Aiken, writer and educator, former member of the teaching staffs of Columbia University and Brooklyn College, died Thursday, February 3, at the home of her daughter, Miss Joan Aiken, in Washington.

Dr. Aiken was fifty-two years old. She was born in Superior, Wisconsin, and was the daughter of Albin W. and Jean Sherwood Rankin. Her mother was a well-known novelist, and Dr. Aiken inherited a love of grammar and a talent for writing from her. She entered Smith College at sixteen, but left after three years to attend the University of Minnesota where she received her bachelor's degree in 1912.

Consistently an admirer of Henry George, Dr. Aiken taught English and writing at the Henry George School of Social Science in New York, wrote for the Freeman, and lectured and wrote on the Henry George philosophy of freedom. She had a varied career after leaving college. She taught English, then engaged in the manufacture of toys, and was associated with the real estate business for a while. She later did government surveys.

Dr. Aiken taught in the English department of Brooklyn College for twelve years. She joined the English extension department at Columbia in 1930. She was a member of the Modern Language Association, and Chairman of the Present Day English section for the last two years. She left Columbia last April.

Dr. Aiken regarded "Basic English" as ungrammatical and impracticable. She believed a better solution was what she termed "Lit-Lit English" which classified words according to their functions, and discarded the "formal parts" of speech. This was the outcome of a grant for research given her in 1934 by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, after a conference of grammarians on the simplification of English for world use. She planned that "Lit-Lit English" should be a means of bringing the peoples of the world together on a peaceful, co-operative basis and that "Progress and Poverty" should be published in this medium.

Her works included "English, Present and Past," published in 1930; "New Plan of English Grammar," 1933; "Psychology of English," 1940; "Surely Goodness," 1942; and "Common Sense Religion," 1943. At the time of her death she was completing a three-volume work on Shakespeare.

Dr. Aiken had recently returned from a tour. She spoke at a monthly meeting of the Friends Service Committee in Pasadena, her theme being that Henry George has made taxation obsolete in principle. She also gave a talk to the Civilian Public Service Camp at Glendora, Calif., and to a gathering of Georgists in Pasadena.

Dr. Aiken's daughter, Miss Joan Aikens, son, Ensign John Aiken, U. S. N. R., and an adopted son, Donald Aiken, survive.

Los Angeles, Calif.

The twenty scheduled classes were started, with several in-structors reporting enrollments of twenty or more students during the first session. Classes meet in high schools, Y.M.C.A.'s and homes.

Two more classes are immediate possibilities, and correspondence course enrollments are "pouring in."

Archie Matteson, a former instructor at International Headquarters, visited the school recently. He is now in the service, stationed in the desert at present. He is married to Jessie Matteson, secretary to John Monroe, and registrar of the Chicago School.

Mr. Charles Winter, formerly a teacher at the New York School, stationed at a camp here, visits the school frequently.

Mr. J. Rupert Mason, of San Francisco, visited the school during the Christmas holidays, and spoke to a mid-Christmas week assembly of Georgists on a practical way to legislatively realize Henry George's tax proposal by utilizing the existing machinery contained in California's Irrigation District of 1909. Mr. Mason stated this does not require a constitutional amendment in California, but a simple legislative addition to the 1909 statute.

Mr. John C. Lincoln, trustee and vice-president of the Henry George School, visited the extension and conferred with the faculty.

Hudson, N. Y.
Mr. Willis A. Snyder started a class in economics simplified on February 10. Each student who is present 7 out of the 10 evenings, will receive a copy of the 25c paper abridgment of Progress and Poverty instead of a diploma.

Mr. Snyder sent us a letter he had received from Kate S. Loomis which he had found highly gratifying. Thank you for mailing me the book. I found it intensely interesting and revelled in Henry George's beautiful prose. I also enjoyed the NEWS Sheet. (Mr. Snyder had wrapped the book in the Henry George NEWS.) I'd like to keep three or four on hand in case I can interest others. The friend for whom I ordered the copy is very pleased with it."

Philadelphia, Pa.

Miss Cora Williams started a second class in fundamental economics at the home of Mrs. Mabel Warwick, on March 8.

Mr. Joseph A. Stockman, Extension Director, represented the School at the Civic Education Conference of the Public Education and Child Labor Association of Pennsylvania, held on March 2.

Miss Olive Moore and Miss Lucia M. Cipolloni represented the School at a conference of the Philadelphia School of Social Science and Art held on February 28.

Nine classes in fundamental economics were started on January 31-February 7. Mr. Euron N. Jones is instructor of a fundamental economics course at the Central Y.M.C.A.

Newark, N. J.

A class in fundamental economics will start on March 15 in Dover, under the instruction of Mr. Paul Tweed.

Mr. Thomas D. Duddar will start a class in the science of political economy on March 15, in Dover.

Mr. William Finkenbach will teach a class in quantitative political economy on April 3, at 1 Clinton Street, Newark.

The next term will start on March 6. The goal for the extended New Jersey area is five hundred students for the Spring term.

Cincinnati, Ohio

Mr. Carl Strack, who has taught classes at the Y.M.C.A. in Norwood, Ohio, has started a class at the Samuel W. Bell Home for the Blind, in Cincinnati.

Rabbi Michael Aaronson spoke on George at his home on February 17.

Montreal, Canada

A meeting was held on January 27 with an attendance of 75 in the Stevensen Hall of Emmanuel Church. Mrs. Helen Russell was chairman and there were two speakers, Mr. Louie Thomas, a former student of the school and Mr. Patrick Haddon.

Mr. Haddon agreed with the philosophy of George but expressed doubt that it would be possible to put it into practice. His doubts were dispelled in a lively discussion with the audience.

A panel discussion followed. This was led by Mrs. Norman Markland, Miss Strehel Walton, Mr. Philip Blackwell and Mr. Alec Mathieson.

A course in the Science of Political Economy started on February 29.

Toronto, Canada

The "Square Deal," published by the Henry George Society in Toronto, Canada, quotes Mathus: "A man who is born into a world already possessed, if he cannot get subsistence from his parents, on whom he has a just demand, and if the society does not want his labor, has no claim or right to the smallest portion of food, and, in fact, no business to be where he is. At nature's mighty feast there is no vacant cover for him. She tells him to begone."

Economics Simplified?



Courtesy of Fred Neher and the New York Sun

William Allen White

Emporia, Kansas, lost one of its first citizens and the world lost one of its greatest journalists in the passing of William Allen White at the age of 76 on January 29.

For 48 years he was editor of the famous Emporia Gazette. Noted as a writer of sketches, novels and biographies, he influenced city, state and even international events. White constantly wrote in the interest of all mankind. In his foreword on "Lincoln and the Land Question" he tells of the great impression Henry George made on him in stirring up people to the sense of injustice that rises out of the system of land ownership. "I believe Henry George started more men to thinking seriously and competently about public problems, and particularly problems of taxation, than any other American in one hundred years."

Louisville, Kentucky

Mr. Morris Rosenthal wrote to International Headquarters and asked about an extension in Louisville, "as he was very anxious to take a course this semester."

The suggestion was made that Mr. Rosenthal take the correspondence course, or interest a number of other people in the subject, and then start a discussion group to which he sent the following reply:

"I am somewhat elated and inspired because it will give me a great deal of personal satisfaction if I can be instrumental in starting an extension course from your school."

Sydney, Australia

Five prizes awarded by the Daily Telegraph of Sydney, for letters on postwar plans for Australia, were won by Mr. B. Donohue, Mr. W. A. Dove, Mr. W. Davies, Mr. G. H. McCordie, and Mr. Ivy A. Akeroyd.

Teachers in the Henry George Australian School of Social Science. The winners received five War Saving Certificates.

Ed. Note: Copies of these five letters may be had for 5c by writing to the Henry George School of Social Science, 30 East 29th Street, New York City.

Washington, D. C.
Mrs. Lella Holt, former student of the New York school visited the Woman's Single Tax Club, and plans to work with the Washington extension of the Henry George School.