
ERICH ZINCKE

THE popular condensed version of *Progress and Poverty* edited by Arthur W. Madsen of London, was translated into German very ably by Erich Zincke of Hanover, who also helped with the translation of questions and answers pertaining to the Fundamental Economics course. With sorrow, and with sympathy for his family, we received word of his death in August.

Mr. and Mrs. Zincke were delightful visitors at the school in New York in 1960 and also at the annual conference in Detroit. At that time Mr. Zincke reported little interest in land value taxation though he said not one in his country spoke against free trade. A few had begun to see the necessity of abolishing land speculation and there had been an attempt to freeze land at the 1936 price, resulting in a black market rate. But when he tried to gather a group of people interested in LVT there were very few who would help. "Unless you find people who do not fear the devil," he said, "you cannot get the ones who will go on."

Speaking on German "Single Track" Economics (HGN Sept. 1960) he said German economics technicians were evaluating land and wages totally in terms of figures, curves and equations. They regarded Henry George's views as touching on political or social problems in which, from a professional point of view, they were not interested since they were concerned only with efficient management of the economy.

He referred to such students as "one-track" economists and predicted that universities might sink to the rank of special schools for the education of specialists—a reproach no university would like to hear. Regarding the treatment of land he predicted a growing acceptance of the fact that land cannot, like other commercial goods, be subjected to the laws of supply and demand, but said that "on the contrary land ownership implies a duty toward society." He felt that the study of economics would undergo a fundamental reform and that classical authors, including Henry George, would be read again.