

*California
High Schools
Teach George*

Young people are getting better educated all the time.

In California, Harry Pollard is making a monumental contribution to this trend. Mr. Pollard, President of the Los Angeles Henry George School, has devised and implemented a high school program for teaching the classical analysis of Henry George.

According to the project's mid-term report, 2,501 students and nearly 200 social science teachers have completed the "Mini-Courses" prepared by the School. By June, total completions will be about 4,000.

Originally in the first few months of the program, students took the Mini-Courses in conjunction with compulsory economics classes. But student quality—and interest—has picked up with the momentum of the proverbial rolling stone. Honor students have been selected for the courses, which are taught with the "Trivium" method. Trivium is modelled on the medieval teaching philosophy and results in formal classroom debate that is both stimulating and susceptible to grading.

Concept teaching is the essence of the program—and its success. Mini-Course One, for example, introduces concepts such as induction and deduction, the scientific hypothesis, reason and choice, voluntary and involuntary cooperation.

The Socratic method, encouraging students to learn how to think instead of what to think, has earned Mr. Pollard great praise from high school administrators and teachers. One letter of apprecia-

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tion describes how summer school students invited Mr. Pollard to speak at additional, unscheduled meetings—and brought their parents. "Family conversations had been so stimulated by the repetition of classroom and afternoon discussions that students arranged for their parents to join us one evening. Judging by the parting comments of both parents and students, this meeting was extremely successful and sets an educational precedent in that such a demonstration of positive interest in academic activities has never before been exhibited in such a manner." This teacher concludes his remarks with this statement: "the Henry George School is indeed providing a valuable service both to the students and to the community . . ."