

### Chicago, Ill.

The largest group of graduates in the history of the Chicago Extension of the Henry George School of Social Science held its Commencement exercises on December 14th in the Grand Ballroom of the Skyline Athletic Club. Two hundred and seventy students received certificates on this occasion, an increase of 35 over the previous high of 235 in the winter of 1941, at which time the school had a larger enrollment than it had this Fall.

Robert Tideman, former New Jersey instructor, was chairman of the evening and opened the exercises by introducing Mr. Hiram B. Loomis, President of the Board of Trustees, who gave a brief address of welcome. Five of the new students responded to the welcome: Mr. Anton Psyke, Mrs. Ruth A. Smith, Mr. L. C. Risberg, Mr. John D. Stillwell, and Mr. A. J. Kucera.

Dean Henry L. T. Tideman presented the certificates to the 50 instructors who were present, who in turn distributed the certificates to their own graduates.

The winners of the Francis Neilson Letter Contest for the previous term were announced. The first prize of \$25 went to Mrs. Edith Belle Matts; second prize of \$10 to Mr. Ben Jackson, and three third prizes of \$5 each were awarded Miss Lucy Duncan Hall, Miss Eva Longley and Miss Lulu K. Melzer.

The final feature of the evening, "On the Campus," presented five earlier graduates who reported what they had been doing in various directions to further the class

work. Miss Phyllis Evans recommended advanced study. Mr. Lloyd Shawgo told of his experiences in getting a class under way in a new neighborhood. Miss Esther E. Keller suggested ways of getting publicity. Mr. Jerome Joachim of Berwyn, told what one town can do. (Berwyn will have a class each night of the week in January.) Mr. Edwin Phelps closed the evening with a challenging allegory about the village of Rutville, which lay in the Valley of What's-the-Use. At the end of the evening it was discovered that 97 of the new graduates had contributed \$405 toward defraying the expense of postage for the winter term, besides volunteering their services for addressing and other help to headquarters.

Mrs. George Olcott, on behalf of the Henry George Woman's Club, invited the graduates to adjourn for refreshments. Serving on the Commencement Committee were Mrs. Otto Siebenmann, Chairman, Irving W. Fisher, Alexander Pechar, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Shawgo, Mrs. Benelda C. Smith, Mrs. Lucy Wilson and Mr. Thomas Young-husband. Over 300 people were in attendance.

The Chicago Extension will sponsor a course of six lectures by the Hon. Francis Neilson beginning January 28th and continuing on alternate Fridays until April 7th. "The Historical Lineage of the Philosophy of Henry George," will be his subject. The lectures will be held at the Bismarck Hotel at 7:30 P. M. Enrollments will be limited to 100 and reservations have already been made for more than 50. An extensive bibliography has been prepared by Mr. Neilson for the registrants.

Leonard K. Nitz, former instructor in Chicago, but residing in Denver for the past year, has returned to Chicago where he expects to resume his work.

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Community House class, was elected on August 18th to a three-year term as trustee of the Buick Aviation U. A. W. of the C. I. O., Local 6.

The School now has classes in 16 of the 109 separate "communities" within the City of Chicago itself, and 16 in the 39 suburbs of over 10,000 population.

### Movies

Postwar classes may hold lessons with movies, round-table discussions and bus tours, judging from the success which greeted an experiment conducted by Dr. Ernest Oberlander, instructor at Chicago Extension headquarters. He stimulated interest in the study and vividly brought out the problems under consideration by showing movies, supplementing lesson six in "Progress and Poverty." One reel defended the machine age by showing how invention has employed a greater number of people than were employed under more primitive working conditions. The class commented that the movie failed to show how rent swallows up the gain and that wages and interest therefore cannot rise proportionately. "March of Time" and "Consumer Cooperative" films were used. A group of Co-operators and Georgists made the Cooperative film, receiving a subsidy from the Carnegie Foundation. William W. Newcomb, former editor of "Land and Freedom," former student of the Henry George school, and a student of Rochdale (Consumer Cooperative) Institute at present, participated in its production.

Dr. Oberlander conceived the movie idea to replace the bus tours of housing conditions, ruled out by the gas shortage. It is planned to exhibit movies once each term and to invite all neighborhood classes.