

SAN FRANCISCO

Henry George School Conference, July 8-10

WITH a capital of about one thousand dollars and with no patrons or backers, he rented a country shed for ten dollars a month and established what is today a million dollar manufacturing plant ranking among the first four of its class in the country.

This is Joseph S. Thompson, one of the delightful hosts to be met at the San Francisco Conference of the Henry George School. His sister, Kathleen Norris, wrote of him as follows:

"I think it is important for you to know that the man who herewith invites your attention to the Henry George plan is one who, through poverty, hard work and responsibility has become a Fellow of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and was for four years a director of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. He is a devoted husband and father, the proprietor of a country home in the hills of California; an honorary life member and one time president of San Francisco's greatest club; prominent in musical circles in the West, and one of his own native city's favorite toastmasters and speakers.

"The man who has taken this new world plan so seriously to heart is no biased fanatic, but a well-rounded character who loves life and people and has thoroughly enjoyed his more than sixty years of crowded living. That this practical man can see the need for applying the principles of Henry George so clearly, should interest all those who man the great structure of American industry, business and professions."

More Progress—Less Poverty

Joseph S. Thompson wrote a book which is held in great esteem by business executives who have read it, many of whom have previously expressed no interest in the philosophy of Henry George. The book is *More Progress and Less Poverty*. It was published by the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, New York. In a preface to that volume the author wrote:

"For twenty-five years I have been advising my business friends to read *Progress and Poverty*, whenever they have complained to me about the unequal competition they have to struggle against, the labor troubles that plague them, the red tape that ties them into knots and the increasing burden of taxation.

"But it is a large order for most busy men to undertake a five hundred and sixty-five page book on another man's say-so. Yet, if they only knew it, the ideas contained in *Progress and Poverty* are as important to them as their list of customers. For, in this book by Henry George, is contained a correction of age-old abuses which have throttled business energies, and the simple basic economic principles which must be followed if our wealth-producing agencies (business) are to retain their business freedom and make their fullest contribution to our national life.

"After years of thoughtful consideration, during which I have gone back time and again, to Henry George, I am convinced that he offers a sane and comfortable path between those two extremes so often suggested as inevitable yet so inimical to the American way of life—communism and Fascism.

Where It All Began

The Tenth Annual Conference of the Henry George School of Social Science will be in the nature of a pilgrimage. Most students of Henry George know by this time that seventy-five years ago, in San Francisco, he wrote the book which has come to mean so much to so many. Maybe we will all come to have a better understanding of the book if we look into it again in the city where it was born.

The conference will be held in Bellevue Hotel, San Francisco, July 8-10 and there will be a pleasing blend of serious meetings and recreational excursions. Among people you may expect to meet are: Joseph S. Thompson, Wallace Kibbee, Glenn E. Hoover, J. Rupert Mason, Fred Workman of Pacific Grove and directors of the San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego extensions.

Bert Smith will speak on the popular subject of the California Irrigation Districts on Friday, and at the closing banquet on Saturday, Professor Hoover and Eric Hoffer will be speakers.

If you haven't made reservations yet, don't delay. Robert Tideman, 46 Kearny Street, San Francisco 8, will be glad to hear from you as to hotel accommodations needed.