

The School in the News

SACRAMENTO, "Intellectual birthplace of Henry George," received a re-introduction to George's ideas through an exhibit at the California State Fair in August and September. It was the first time the story of the Henry George School had been presented directly to the people in that way. A teasing questionnaire was a feature of the exhibit booth and a tabulation of the replies (true—false—uncertain) are an indication of the public's need for more economic study.

About 200 questionnaires were filled in and as a sample of the trend, the item, heavy taxation of land values does not increase costs, was said to be true by 15 and false by 70. On the question as to whether reduction of real estate taxes would increase wages, 68 voted false, 16 true, and 16 didn't answer.

Three locations for Sacramento classes were listed with an invitation to join—this resulted in 30 enrollments and 40 requests for the correspondence course. Classes throughout California were also noted in detail.

LOS ANGELES has done it again, with an excellent production of the Henry George Herald by Stanley and Marion Sapiro. The page-one news is the announcement of a weekly 15-minute radio broadcast entitled "Economics—by George" on Tuesdays at 8:35 P.M. It is estimated that this simple elucidation of Henry George's principles will reach 60,000 listeners—and a great deal of credit is due to those who made this radio feature possible. Effectiveness of the broadcast will be enormously heightened by the fact that listener clubs are forming and many homes will be the scene of wholesome social

activity and good conversation on Tuesday evenings. The program material coincides with the discussions which will be held in the eleven round-table classes in Fundamental Economics now in progress in Los Angeles and environs.

CHICAGO's 86th Commerce and Industry luncheon guests heard H. Bruce Palmer, president of The Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company speak on "The Businessman in Politics" at the Wedgwood Room, Marshall Field and Company.

DETROIT friends met at the Wayne State University on October 16th to hear N. J. Biddle who discussed "The Justification of Legislative and/or Political Action." Elliott F. Oakwood was chairman. The address was preceded by a presentation of the "Law of Rent."

CLEVELAND's nationally known columnist, John W. Love, who was business editor of the Cleveland Press, died suddenly on September 21st in an automobile accident. He had many friends among Georgists and was much beloved in Ohio where students eagerly clipped his columns which often held the most cogent economic reasoning, both humorous and serious—for he had a special gift for making complicated subjects understandable to readers.

ST. LOUIS has launched 8 classes in Fundamental Economics and one advanced course in Applied Economics for the first term of its 20th year. A seminar based on a book by Leonard E. Read, president of the Foundation for Economic Education, *Why Not Try Freedom* is meeting the first and third Sunday afternoons of each

month for discussion of liberty and property.

The Henry George alumni has elected new officers consisting of William Vahey, president; William Learn, Sr., vice president; and Nancy Cooley, secretary-treasurer, who, with A. B. C. Dexter and Noah D. Alper, director of the extension, make up the executive board.

NEW JERSEY is already planning its 1959 conference at Rutgers University and the program looks new. Entertainment will include a visit to

the New Jersey shore, Asbury Park. Oscar Johannsen is making a plea for humor here and there in the conference program. Let's give him lots of encouragement.

NEW YORK is glad one Georgist at least decided to "go east." Arleigh Chute formerly of San Francisco is now assistant to the director of the Henry George School in New York. This young man comes at a time when he is very much needed. Notice the book review on page 10 done willingly and with dispatch.

Reference Material for Seekers

Equitable Land Tenure Essential to Peace, Prosperity and Freedom—the 20-page booklet by Klaus L. Hansen, a consulting engineer, comprises excellent historical material bearing upon inflation from an international point of view. For a limited time the author, Mr. Hansen, will send one free copy upon request. Write to him at 2916 North Prospect Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

An attractively bound 729-page Concordance to Progress and Poverty, representing years of patient labor on the part of its compiler, Helena Mitchell McEvoy, is now available at \$5.25 from Progress and Poverty Concordance Commission, 307 North Belmont Avenue, Arlington Heights, Illinois, or from the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, 50 East 69th Street, New York 11, New York. In this monumental work all key words are listed between their adjoining two words to provide easy reference.

Chain-Store Farming

Farm land prices have risen 5 per cent to a record high this year, and the cause can be traced to a squeeze which is making farm ownership increasingly difficult for the oncoming generation of farmers. Unless a farmer's son inherits his dad's farm he will place himself under a very heavy indebtedness if he tries to buy a farm and all the necessary implements.

Reporting on this inflation the Department of Agriculture states that farm land prices, which advanced 2 per cent between March and June this year, were three and a half times higher than the 1933 low and 50 per cent above the post-World War I peak of 1920.

Ownership of farm land entitles a person to whatever funds are offered by the farm produce support program. Farm owners try to cut down on the number of laborers needed to operate their farms and therefore they try to increase their acreage. This, according to the report, accounts for 40 per cent of the purchases. The supply of unimproved land being limited, these owner-operators, comprising the dominant class of buyers, have been forced to buy complete farms in extending their holdings.