

The Henry George School in the News

LOS ANGELES has a letter writing group which meets every Sunday evening at headquarters (577 N. Vermont Avenue), and in the first month fifteen of their letters appeared in local newspapers. They write to editors, legislators and "opinion makers," but before they write they take suggestions and criticisms from such veteran letter writers as Morgan Harris, Ursa Parkhurst and John Phillip Kent. Letters which have already been accepted and published serve as guides to future efforts. Los Angeles also has an active speakers bureau.

Class membership has noticeably multiplied as a result of the change of radio time for "Economics by George," and Georgists across the nation salute the success of this endeavor. Contributions are still needed for the radio fund—the station has to be paid each week!

EAST BAY news comes from Berkeley, California and tells of interesting panel discussions presided over by Glenn E. Hoover, Oakland City Councilman. The participants are usually drawn from local universities and from city governments. "Spotlight on the State Budget" was under discussion on April 10th, and such appropriate questions as the following were carefully analyzed: "Can the budget be balanced without raising taxes? Should the offshore oil revenue be used for the Feather River Project or for tax relief? Should water projects be paid for by water users, by the holders of benefited land, or by the general

taxpayers of the state? How do state subventions to school districts alter the distribution of the tax burden between school district property taxpayers and the sales and income taxpayers who support the state?

DETROIT's director reports that a citizens group after studying bill #50 (providing for the separate listing of land and buildings on tax statements), made the comment "you have a right to know." This bill has been tabled temporarily but will probably be passed later.

S. James Clarkson, new Michigan legislator, formerly active in the Detroit extension, remains true to his election promise to fight the Michigan state income tax. In the words of Robert Benton, Detroit director, "his constituency loves him, but he needs our moral support at this time."

NEW YORK's first teenage class is having a ball. More than 30 enthusiastic students between the ages of 13 and 16 are studying *The Wonderful Wealth Machine* under tutelage of the author, Phil Grant. The success of this class may lead to further work with young people. Other spring classes in New York's basic and advanced program are also well attended.

Phil Grant, in addition to the above Saturday afternoon class, is teaching an advanced class at New York headquarters on Fridays and a basic class at the New Jersey Henry George School in Newark on Tuesdays.

Reservations are being taken now at headquarters (RHineland 4-8700) for the annual banquet to be held on May 13 at the Governor Clinton Hotel, Seventh Avenue and 31st Street, New York. Dinner, at 7 p.m. will be \$5, but don't miss the social hour at 6 p.m.

Speakers will be Milton Bergerman, Chairman of the Citizens Union; Richard W. Hill, Director, Research Bureau, New York State Division of Housing; and Philip Cornick, Municipal Consultant. George H. Royal, dean of the school, will preside.