

## *The Henry George School in the News*

**TORONTO** friends gathered at the home of Kay and Laurie Mannell on August 25th for a social evening "to meet the nicest people in the world, your fellow Georgists." Beginning the first Friday in October and each first Friday thereafter until May, the Friday at Seven dinner meetings will be held at the Commercial Travellers Club at 17 Dundonald Street, with guest speakers. Fall classes started in September at the YMCA with one class at 6 p.m. and another at 8:15. Classes will also be held in Oakville, where the Mannells live. These are 10-week courses, which may be extended for 10 weeks more if students desire. Alumni members are being asked to look for their retired books, and if there is a copy of *Progress and Poverty* on the shelves it should be put to use. Another member of the family using this copy may enroll at half price.

Laurie Mannell's newsletter reports that he lost 10 pounds acting as host at the Montreal conference 350 miles from home.

**ROYAL OAK** (Michigan), in its Daily Tribune of September 13th, featured director Robert D. Benton holding a copy of *Progress and Poverty*. There was an extensive interview relating to the teachings of the HGS. The second term in Fundamental Economics has begun in the South Oakland area with classes in two high schools.

**PHILADELPHIA** basic classes started in late September in three Pennsylvania locations and one in Camden, New Jersey. A class in Economic Science is also in progress at the Henry George Birthplace. A group studying during the summer has just concluded.

The Central Library honored Henry George for two weeks surrounding his birth date, September 2nd, with a display entitled "The Man and his Philosophy." Also in the Business, Science and Industry section there was a glimpse of him as a boy, with references to some of his ideas.

**NEW JERSEY** has evening basic classes at Newark and Springfield. At the headquarters in Newark discussions and films are held on Tuesday afternoons, and the public is invited. In a recent Gargoyle, John T. Tetley recommended as reading material for students of Henry George: *The Roots of Capitalism* by John Chamberlain, and *Economics of the Property Tax* by Dick Netzer.

**NASSAU, L. I.** is the scene of the new extension under direction of Stanley Rubenstein, who held a preliminary meeting of local school faculty members by way of launching his first term. Five classes in Fundamental Economics have already been started in various high schools and libraries. These groups will undoubtedly become inoculated with the public spirited enthusiasm of Dr. Samuel Scheck and Gerald Schleicher (Sept. HGN, p. 9).

**NEW YORK** basic classes have begun at headquarters in Spanish and English, also three classes in Applied Economics, in both languages. Advanced titles include Agrarian Reform, in Spanish; and in English; George and the New Economics, Law for the Layman, Henry George and his Critics, Science vs. Superstition, and the Russian Language.

Weekly programs start on October 6th with entertaining films each Fri-

day Evening at 8, at 50 East 69th Street, under direction of William D. Buhr.

C. Matthew Ossias, head of the correspondence course division, which combines foreign and English activities, is teaching a training class for correspondence teachers this term. He is also translating questions and answers related to Henry George's *Open Letter to the Pope*. These will become part of the Applied Economics Course in French.

In the conference report (Sept. HGN p. 12) it was stated that 1200 correspondence inquiries were received. Of this number some 200 were from the small island of Haiti, and the rest were from all over the world. Mr. Ossias says the school does not advertise in Haiti because good results are obtained through recommendations from other students. They use a leaflet called "Widening the Circle" to list names and addresses of friends who may be interested.



## "Protest With a Difference"

This astonishing news story appeared in the New York Post of August 15th. We quote it verbatim:

### TAXPAYER'S PROTEST WITH A DIFFERENCE

Santa Cruz, Calif. (AP) — Stand back, Diogenes, Santa Cruz County Tax Assessor John Seidlinger has found your man.

His name is Donald V. Black and he lives in Malibu, and owns a parcel of land on Empire Grade Rd.

He has awed county authorities by asking, in effect, to have his taxes raised. Black filed an official protest asking to have his property assessment tripled.

"I feel I have not been taxed as heavily as others," Black told open-mouthed reporters.

Seidlinger explained to Black that his 1½-acre parcel had not been reappraised last year, but Black stood firm. He doesn't even want to wait a year for a reappraisal.

"A lot of people, particularly the small property-owners, are bearing a heavier tax burden than they should because this vacant land and large parcels have received tax breaks," he said.

"I want everybody to pay his fair share."

The County Board of Equalization will consider Black's request to have his land appraisal raised from \$2,600 to \$8,000. Judging by prevailing tax rates, this could raise his taxes from just under \$250 to just over \$750 per year.

"I wish we had a few more like him," sighed Seidlinger.

Benjamin F. Smith of 1801 Breton Road, S.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49506, has prepared two four-page leaflets entitled "The Shame of Grand Rapids." They are concerned primarily with what he calls "white land power." Reminiscent of Tom Paine's *The Crisis*, which ended with Number XV, he has subtitled these *The Crisis XVI* and *XVII*, and he sells them for 30 cents each.