

# There's More to This Than Meets the Eye . . .

## Newark



This is John T. Tetley, newly appointed director of the Henry George School of Social Science in Newark (Tel. Bigelow 8-3742). He was born on the Red Bank (that's in New Jersey) but he is clearly not a Red, because most of his business life has been spent in a large New

York bank, during which time he studied all courses offered by the Henry George School, then on 79th Street. He taught in New York and later conducted extension classes in a number of New Jersey cities, becoming a trustee of the school in New Jersey. He succeeds Miss Marjorie Sweet who resigned.

Mr. Tetley states, "In assuming the directorship of the Henry George School of Social Science, I feel that I have undertaken a tremendous responsibility. At the present time the activities of the school are limited to a small number of students in a few cities around Newark. It is my hope that with the cooperation of the many people in New Jersey now familiar with the teachings of Henry George, the school may be greatly expanded."

Among plans for the immediate future is a conference of Georgists to advise means of expansion. "First Friday Faculty" is the slogan, as the monthly dinner meetings held on the first Friday of each month gain in popularity. At seven the group repairs to the school for an hour of academic discussion and at eight the business session is opened.

A. M. Goldfinger, Dean of the school, addressed the entire student body of the Carteret High School and was complimented by the principal, faculty members and students. Copies of *Progress and Poverty* and *Economics Simplified* were presented to the librarian of the high school.

## Los Angeles

The citizens of the San Fernando Valley upon tuning in the "Valley Town Meeting of the Air" over KGIL recently, heard that "...if the tax rate on the value of land was increased to the point where it would be unprofitable for speculators to hold it out of use, then the sales and rental price for lots and acreage would come down to the point where veterans and others in moderate income groups could easily afford to buy or rent a location for a home, business, or farm. If this were done in the Valley many new people would be attracted here, new businesses would be started, and new homes would be built." The speaker, Mr. Truehart, was a member of a panel discussing "Who Needs a Tax Cut to Make the Valley Grow?"

Another member of the panel, after 25 years of studying the problem, had reached the conclusion that taxes were higher now than they used to be. Another put forth the idea that federal corporations were causing all the trouble, and proposed an amendment to the Constitution abolishing them. The other speaker, representing labor, recognized that sales taxes, income taxes, etc. were unjust. He felt that big business should bear the burden of taxation, as they required the most fire protection, police protection, sewage disposal facilities, and other city services.

A large electric clock, which "gave up the ghost" has been placed in the front window, facing the street, at Newark headquarters. Over the clock appears this sign — "This clock does not show Correct Time. Like the world, it is out of order. NOW is the Correct Time to study economics. Come in and ask about the free course."

It's always encouraging to hear about an enthusiastic new worker. Just such a person is Mrs. Stanborough, who has invited about 25 friends and acquaintances to attend a class in Fundamental Economics at her home this term. Mrs. Stanborough's former instructor, George Lee, will teach the class. [Aren't they lucky?]

## Chicago

Members of the graduating class of winter '48 will observe firsthand how the law of rent operates in their own city when on Sunday, April 4, they take Chicago's well known conducted tour of the Loop and South Side. The newly arrived "site-seers" for the first time will appraise the most valuable land in Chicago where 90,100 pedestrians pass in a day; they will gaze at a 160-acre share-croppers' transportation farm, a "million-dollar hole," a \$12-per-month apartment where not long ago lived ten families without running water.

The bus tour, the monthly school luncheon, and community-area activities were events announced at the meeting of current class representatives recently at the Central Y.M.C.A. The meeting was arranged to acquaint students with the school's over-all program, and to present an outline of promotional work and support in which they can participate. There was open house at headquarters following the meeting.

Graduates of former terms and friends of the school, were honored guests at two receptions presided over by the trustees and the staff. On February 29th the occasion was in recognition of the aid given by headquarters volunteers in the servicing of the winter term. Guarantors of the school were received at an open house on March 14th. During the afternoon Dean Henry L. T. Tideman read an article by the Hon. Francis Neilson, from *The American Journal of Economics and Sociology*.

Friends of the school were saddened to learn of the death of James Gillespie Guiles on March 8th. He was an instructor and "all-around good fellow" in supporting the school's work. Because of Mr. Guiles' keen interest in the school, Dean Tideman was asked to speak at services held for him.

Graduate interest in the two monthly luncheons has grown. It has been expressed in the reservations marked "For me and a friend." Last month graduates and their friends at the Commerce and Industry Luncheon heard William N. McNair of Pittsburgh speak on "Freedom from Taxation—for Your Community and You." In the address he recounted his experiences as mayor in administering the Graded Tax Plan, and he found that he had to conduct classes in Fundamental Economics so those who were directly connected with the administration would be informed. Myron T. Monsen, Jr., vice president of Monsen-Chicago, Inc., typogra-

phers, a 1934 graduate, was chairman, Charles B. Tuttle, a founder of the Junior Achievement movement, presided at the Weld Carter Luncheon.

After the opening of the spring term on April 19, the school will direct its attention toward the promotion of a great Chicagoland Conference next month.

## Ohio

Robert D. Benton, who put us on the news-stands in Zanesville, claims the distinction of having taught the youngest student of economics of all time. She is Penny Mitchell, the 8-months-old daughter of parents who wanted to attend class and couldn't find a baby-sitter. Her instructor writes that she displayed intelligent interest.

Mr. Benton also tells of a college student who said he'd have to quit coming to class or his grades with his Communistic professor might be affected, and after all, "he was after grades." And to the question, "What is the tendency of production when interest is high as compared to wages?" a visiting national union representative answered, "They strike."

Albert Edward Payne, Springfield industrialist, sends word that he is reading *More Progress and Less Poverty* by Joseph Thompson, and is finding in it a wealth of good thoughts and knowledge. Charles W. Davis, Jr. of Toledo, is conducting a class in Fundamental Economics in his home at 2200 Scottwood Avenue. (A recent article in *The Saturday Evening Post* stated that "Scottwood Avenue is one of the most beautiful streets in the entire nation." Verlin D. Gordon of Lima, has been invited to address a group of ministers and lay workers in Toledo.

Carl Strack is making the trip once a week from Cincinnati to Hamilton to teach the class which opened recently in the Y.M.C.A. Sponsors and volunteers behind the effort in this city of 50,000 are: Harry G. Helwig, Program Secretary of the Y.M.C.A.; Cyrus J. Fitton, an attorney; and C. A. Brennan, a former instructor. Walter J. H. Schutz of Dayton is seeking to interest the local Great Books discussion group in *Progress and Poverty*. Future leaders are in the making at the Sidney public library. This class consists entirely of young men, some just out of high school.

## Philadelphia

The Hungry Club of Philadelphia held its opening meeting at Ewart's Cafeteria, 15th and Chestnut Streets. It was the first real get-together in several months and like all reunions, it was a heart-warming and joyous occasion. From now on, every Friday evening from 6 to 8 o'clock, the alumni and friends of the school are invited to join in the festivities. Good food and good fellowship will be constants on the menu and we can think of no nicer habit to develop than the Friday evening habit of dropping in at Ewart's.

The Philadelphia extension began its spring term with nine classes in Fundamental Economics, seven at headquarters in the Harrison Building, the others at the North Branch Y.M.C.A. and the Y.M.H.A. Classes in Social Problems and Principles of International Trade will be conducted at the school, the Christian Street Y.M.C.A. and the Main Line Y.M.C.A.

In Chester the response to the elementary

course last year was so great, that the extension set up for this term advanced classes in Social Problems and International Trade at the Y.M.C.A. in Lamokin Village. In addition to these, the Science of Political Economy will be given at the school headquarters.

#### St. Louis

Dr. Harry Gunnison Brown, acting Dean of the School of Business and Public Administration, and head of the Department of Economics of the University of Missouri, was the guest speaker at the commencement exercises held in St. Louis at the First Unitarian Church. His subject was, "Why Communism Threatens."

#### Ottawa

In completing the study of *Protection or Free Trade* the Ottawa society made many inquiries, one member asking, "Would the world be in such a state of retrogression today if this philosophy were practised? I do not believe it would."

The director gave two quotations from Henry George's book: "Man is primarily an individual..." and followed it with, "Brute strength will avail little unless guided by intelligence."

#### Hartford

"A 2 per cent 'unearned increment tax on the land value of the state' was proposed today in a bill submitted in the special session by Senator Rocco D. Pallotti as a 'substitute' for the sales tax," reports the Hartford Times.

Nathan Hillman writes that while they do not expect favorable action on this bill, it will be supported as part of an educational build-up in the State Legislature, from which they expect eventually to achieve results.

#### New York

Want to learn how to write? Join the class "Practical Writing" to be conducted by Sydney Mayers, whose regular feature in the News, "Views of the News," has been quoted widely from Australia to Canada.

Romola Robb is that pretty blonde in the front office, and because she has had experience with volunteers in Red Cross work, she is determined to make New York's spring campaign a big success. Mrs. Ilse Day is the enthusiastic new Correspondence Course Secretary, and Mrs. Esta Cordes is being firm with those neglected name files.

The latest addition to the Henry George School library is a copy of the Author's Edition of *Progress and Poverty* printed by Wm. M. Hinton & Co., San Francisco, in 1879. This antedates the D. Appleton first edition and is "rara avis," only 500 copies having been printed. Mr. Hinton was a friend of Henry George and had enough confidence in him to undertake the typesetting of the book.

Another important acquisition is the library of the late Henry S. Ford of Camden. This includes many books on economics and has helped us fill several gaps. A first-rate economics reference collection is being built up which visitors are cordially invited to use.

This collection has been formed almost entirely from voluntary donations and these are most welcome. Several duplicate copies have been acquired and these will be gladly sent upon request to extensions with libraries.

The last thing to go in the paper and the first to be dropped is the New York news. It isn't secrecy—just modesty. There's some excellent information available, however, in a pamphlet prepared by Robert Clancy, called, "The School in '47 and Prospects for '48." Why not send for a copy?

## It Set Me a-Thinking By NOAH D. ALPER

"GATHER AROUND, children," said Grandpop, "and I'll tell you a story."

After the children were as snug as a bug in the traditional rug before the fireplace's roaring blaze, Grandpop began.

"In a certain county in Missouri a young couple bought a run-down farm, of which there were many to select from. They were right progressive folks—read good journals and talked to the County Farm Agents a right smart. They culled out of the many farm practices they had learned those most scientific and best adapted to the area in which they lived. In a few years they had the old farm a-lumming and the neighbors talking of their success."

"During the winter this young couple read books and articles, especially articles on co-operatives. The glowing accounts of these community projects aroused their keen interest. They read that get-togethers of folks in the community were essential to their success; that dancing, parties and the like were necessary to successful cooperative activities. All this developed neighborly understanding and a desire to work together. Of course there were the more practical aspects of the 'co-op,' the savings of

buying and selling together and the harvest of 'patronage dividends.'

"They could stand it no longer. They must tell their neighbors the story of 'co-ops.' And they did! Every day, by conversation, on the party-telephone lines, by letters, items placed in the local newspaper, at meetings, they repeated and repeated the story. They repeated and repeated the story until they heard what they had hoped for; neighbors saying, 'Let's quit talking. Let's do something about it.'"

"And they did. A committee was set up to secure a location for the 'Co-op' store in town. Soon it was selling gasoline and farm machinery; buying feed in car lots; hardware, groceries, dry goods, clothing and shoes. Volunteer workers helped on busy nights—mostly Saturday nights. A few merchants who had served the community for years liquidated their business and retired."

"Well, children," said Grandpop, "this little 'Co-op' grew and it grew. The young folks who started it had seen their idea unfold into an institution whose business ran into millions of dollars a year. Many 'social aspects' had been developed along with it. Schools had been improved due to the fine community spirit in this 'Co-op' area. People came from all over the United States, and from foreign countries too, to see this remarkable community that co-operation had built. Many thought it was the finest 'co-op' for its size in the world."

"But in the thirty years that had passed the original 'co-operators' had aged. Some had died. Children who inherited the land in many cases had other occupations and professions. They did not want to work the land, nor could they live in the community. Many of the land title-holders had retired to their homes in town. Younger men and women had to work the farms. So great was the prestige of the community that there was a large waiting list to buy or rent farms from the 'Co-op' renting agency. People from Arkansas, Kansas, Illinois and Missouri had always shown such a great interest in this community."

"But something had gone wrong, children," said Grandpop. "There was a sort of deadness, a lack of zip compared to that which had existed when your mother and father were growing up. The farms were mostly run by tenants, and owners complained the farms weren't kept up. Some tenant farmers complained it was hard to get a living. The 'patronage dividends' did not seem to help these tenant farmers as they had the owners in years gone by. Some of the old-timers said these newcomers were a lazy bunch and that's why they didn't get along."

"I forgot to tell you the names of the young couple that were the main nurrods in this co-operative," said Grandpop. "It was Smith. I was a-visiting Mrs. Smith the other day when Jim, her husband, came home."

"'Fannie,' I heard him say, 'I just rented out that 160 acres—the old Jones place. I'm getting the highest rent for the 160 in the all-time history of Missouri.'"

"It set me a-thinking," said Grandpop. "I remember hearing Henry George say owners of land tended to absorb the benefits of progress. I can see that until land rent is publicly collected 'co-ops' are a tenant-making device. And I recall that I once heard a man say co-operatives were 'a stunt, not a social remedy.'"

## Publications Abroad

Land & Liberty, monthly journal edited in London by A. W. Madsen, is a favorite with American Georgists. Copies still available on request.

The Free Trader is published bi-monthly in London by The Free Trade Union. Deryck Abel, Secretary; E. G. Bruner, Director.

Commonweal, another British publication, is the official journal of the Common Land Party, and The Porcupine represents The Manchester Land Values League.

The Free People, printed both in English and Dutch, is a quarterly which has been published in Johannesburg for ten years.

Australia has three monthly publications: The Standard, edited by A. G. Huie, in Sydney; The People's Advocate of Adelaide, representing the Henry George League of South Australia; and Progress, of Melbourne, which represents the Henry George League of Victoria.

The Liberal Leader takes the place of the former Commonweal, of New Zealand. It is a bi-monthly edited by T. E. McMillan at Matamata.

Denmark's Georgists have two publications: Grundskyld (Ground Debt), a quarterly edited by F. Folke; and Vejen Frem, issued weekly.

Terre et Liberte (Land and Liberty) has been revived in France by A. Daude Bancel. This is also a two-language paper with a Flemish edition being published in Belgium by M. Cortvriend.

Ons Erfdel (Our Heritage) is published monthly in Holland by A. Sevenster, having also been suspended during the war.

The Square Deal edited by Ernest J. Farmer in Toronto, is the bi-monthly organ of the Henry George Society in that city.

The League for Land and Liberty in Berlin, under the leadership of Rudolf Schmidt, is putting up a brave battle for existence. When conditions permit they hope to publish not only a magazine, but Henry George's books.