

# s Underneath Everything" — JOSEPH STOCKMAN

The St. Louis extension held its fall term exercises at the Young Men's Hebrew Association where 67 graduates received their certificates of attendance. Joseph W. Forshaw, Olympic athlete (Marathon Run, Athens 1906, London 1908, and Stockholm 1912) spoke on the topic "A St. Louis Business Man Views the Henry George Movement Through the Years."

As a student of the first St. Louis high school, Mr. Forshaw debated affirmatively for the "single tax" in 1897 before an audience of 1700, and the affirmative side won. His talk was rich in examples of local speculation in land. The speaker's father was one of the original Georgists of St. Louis who was active in the group that gave Missouri its Initiative and Referendum.

A feature of the program was music by Roland and Spencer Parnas, nephews of David Parnas, a St. Louis instructor. Richard, violinist, a current graduate, is eighteen. Spencer, who accompanied him on the piano, is fifteen. These young men, two of four children of rare musical talent, will bear watching.

Class representatives were: Mrs. Inez Boyd, Alfred R. Koch and George C. Clark. Two first-time class instructors were Julius Kahre and C. C. Case. The latter started with eight students, in the Wellston High School class, and ended with eight students—and had 100 per cent attendance at all class sessions. Mrs. Ross H. Schachner, of the Richmond Heights class, started with four students and also had 100 per cent records, though a husband and wife team that started later was forced to drop out because of illness. A. B. C. Dexter of University City acted as chairman of the graduation exercises.

## Los Angeles

One hundred and nineteen graduates of the fall classes in Fundamental Economics received their certificates at the commencement celebration on December 13th, and their enthusiasm made this commencement one of the most stimulating meetings that has been held in the Los Angeles area.

The program included a "Quiz the Experts" session. The "experts" consisted of three faculty members who answered questions from the graduates on particularly tough points in the course. Also included on the program was a talk by Director Bill Truehart on "Current Economic Problem and Georgist Progress." He

## rested in Henry George

ge in print when my father received te that had been franked through the n and other. That was in 1892 and I nature to read what I afterwards read brother attacked the tariff vigorously hour he was asked by the high school

ras preparing a pupil to write an essay per bound edition of *Social Problems*. or of one of the high school boys had t too I borrowed. A few years later a cloth-bound copy of *Progress* and s I am.

D. W. McINTIRE,  
Argyle, Michigan.

1st Entry)

touched on housing, inflation, and the spread of communism.

Adolph E. Hartmann was Master of Ceremonies, and George E. Lee presided at the presentation of certificates. The panel of experts consisted of William Hoffman, George E. Lee and Erik Miller. Short talks were also given by three graduates: Sydney Shaffer, Mrs. Louise Marie Mendoza and Donald O. Hawks.

Unbeknownst to William Truehart (who fell asleep not long ago and dreamed he visited heaven) we received a most complimentary letter from his next-door neighbor. "To say that they are one of the best young couples in the world," he writes, "is putting it in a mild form." This "good neighbor" also lived next door to Miss Norma Cooley, who, he writes, "was an angel on earth." [Georgists are such nice people!]

## Ohio

Charles W. Davis, Jr., Ph.D., director of the Toledo extension of the Henry George School which meets regularly in the Main Library, held a dinner meeting at the Elks Club in November for the awarding of certificates to those who completed the course in Fundamental Economics. Gilbert M. Tucker of Albany, guest speaker, discussed *The Self-Supporting City*—he being the author of the celebrated book by that title.

Those who received certificates were: Donald Calvert, Joseph C. Jordan, Ida Grace Gilbert, Robert Witt, H. B. Godbey, Hal Anders, Charles W. Davis, Sr., John Pickett, Stephen Vollmayer, James Rafferty, Bruce Elmore, John Hart, David Van Strein, John Stedney, George Bowe, W. H. Hartung and John Symonds. Among the guests were: Robert D. Franklin, Assistant Librarian of Toledo Public Libraries; Mrs. Charles Davis and Verlin Gordon.

## Chicago

Miss Cecil Cowherd, former publicity secretary, now class promotion director of the school, is beating down on organization of classes for the winter term opening the week of January 24. Of a possible 50 basic and 10 advanced classes, Miss Cowherd reports arrangements so far completed for 30.

A number of first-time instructors will be eager students of the teachers review class, which will meet in the Loop on Mondays for a last-minute refresher on the lesson of the week. Attilio Forte will lead the review.

"The thought and system of Henry George," a new course offered for the first time this fall, will again be conducted by Gustave Carus.

A number of basic classes in firms throughout the city are also in prospect.

Frank Chodorov of New York editor of *analysis*, will present a series of three lectures under auspices of the school Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, January 12, 13 and 14 in the LaSalle hotel. His subjects are "Society, Government and the State," "The Neo-Malthusianism," and "Inflation—Depression in Disguise." Chairmen will be Thomas G. Deering, Arthur D. Foyer, and Miss Myrtle Cash. Fee: \$5 for the series, \$7 per couple, \$2 per lecture.

## Ottawa

"The truth is, and from this truth there can be no escape, that there is and can be no just title to an exclusive possession of the soil, and that private property in land is a bold, bare, enormous wrong, like that of chattel slavery."

"The majority of men in civilized communi-

ties do not recognize this, simply because the majority of men do not think. . . ."

This idea is foremost in the minds of the Ottawa Henry George Society members as they recommence their studies in the New Year; and they know fully that if the minority work towards the proper goal, the majority will finally come into the sunshine of enlightenment. A very small proportion of heaven is required for the loaf.

## Montreal

Miss Strehel Walton has had as her guest recently the "knapsack traveler," Miss Elizabeth Riley, who, after two years abroad is returning to Vancouver to teach economics in the evening classes. "I shall use Henry George's *Progress and Poverty* for my textbook," she says, "because I believe his ideas are basic in understanding the economic problems of our times."

Miss Riley spent a year in Copenhagen looking after the house and family of Dr. V. Starcke, leader of Denmark's Justice Party. Then she hitchhiked through Norway and Sweden and saw Switzerland, France, Holland and Belgium by bicycle. She has been interested in economics since she was twelve, and everywhere she went she talked to others about this subject which, she says "is the study of natural laws," and found they were as interested as she.

## Pittsburgh

Richard Howe writes that three classes will start there in January—one at headquarters (former office of the beloved ex-mayor, William McNair), one in Crafton, a suburb; and one in Turtle Creek for union members.

Mario L. Bove, the Pittsburgh Treasurer received a request for two correspondence courses from Portugal. One was from a monarch in exile and the other was from one of his aides. Truly, logic knows no station!

## New York

The fall term came to a close at headquarters with 260 graduates of Fundamental Economics and 185 who completed the advanced courses. Graduates of classes outside headquarters are expected to total 100.

Completion exercises for fall term students were held at the school where the large audience overflowed into the hall and onto the staircase. Students offered short talks in varied moods—there was wit, seriousness, poetry, philosophy and enthusiasm. The speakers included: Herbert Pearson, Ethel Kwalbrun, Ed Woodhead, Randall Forsythe, Eugene Sturman, Annette Ebin, Harry Christian, Samuel Shavitz, James Pusey, Robert Huggins, Philip Hulitar, Hazel Smith, Louis Friedman, Tony Marrella and George Maran. A quartette of choral singers entertained with Christmas carols.

Winter classes in Fundamental Economics begin at headquarters the week of January 17 and advanced classes the week of January 10. Besides International Trade-Social Problems and the Science of Political Economy the advanced classes include: Review of Fundamental Economics, Bernard Goldstein, instructor; Public Speaking, Joseph B. Rose; Current Events, Sydney Mayers; Law of Property, Arnold Weinstein; Art Workshop, John Frew.

With increasing class and extra-curricular activity, the school building is being used to capacity and accordingly, Arthur Lea, new Regional Secretary, has organized 12 outside classes in the metropolitan area for the winter term. These include classes in the three adult education centers of the Board of Education—the Taft High School, Bronx; the Jefferson

(Continued on Page Eight)

# Is This True About Business?

By JEROME JOACHIM

**"THE PRESENT** inflationary spiral is primarily due to the business man's selfish desire to grab all he can".

The above mis-statement constitutes the basis of communism in all parts of the world. Spoken glibly—and accepted as a major premise by millions without question—it makes an excellent starting point for arguments favoring controlled economy.

To begin with, it is *not* the business man today whose so-called selfishness has caused high prices. The business man today is no more selfish than he was in the depths of the depression when these same "controlled economists" said that low prices were wrecking the country. The cause of high prices today is the result of the fact that there is more buying power than there is goods and in a free or comparatively free economy, this invariably results in an increase in price. An increase in price, when accompanied by increased wages does not necessarily mean that an hour's labor buys less commodities—in fact it may mean an increase in buying power.

But it is the so-called selfishness of *all* of our population that has brought about a decrease in real price. The average American—can buy an automobile in America if he wants to work hard and forego the purchase of other things instead. Millions of Russians, where the "selfish" business man has been eliminated, could not own an automobile no matter how hard they worked.

It was because Henry Ford was "selfish" and wanted a lot of money and power, that he created a situation which brought the price of cars down from \$2000 to \$500, while at the same time he caused to be created a vast empire of tools and machines which enabled men to produce millions of automobiles at these low prices.

It was the "selfishness" of hundreds of our industrialists that caused this country to have forty corporations, each with physical assets in excess of a billion dollars. What nation on earth would not welcome these billions of dollars worth of tools and factories which contribute so greatly to the common welfare?

What great deed in history has ever been accomplished by altruists? Who can name a single act that contributed to the well being of so many people as did the building of the American railroads by our "robber barons" who functioned purely from the most selfish of motives? What nation on earth has ever made so many cars available for so many people as has that nation which operated purely from selfish motives? America has no natural advantages over other countries. Her resources, without the work of free people, were absolutely valueless in the beginning. Manhattan Island sold for \$24. The billions of dollars worth of tangible wealth which now exists on that island were all created through the labor of free men, all working for their own selfish interests. The iron range in Minnesota, which has meant so much to the development of this country, wasn't worth anything until thousands of people—working for a selfish interest—had built steamships, railroads and billions of dollars worth of other tools with which to make this ore of use to mankind.

China probably has far greater resources than America has ever had and so has India. But they are relatively valueless, because government in those countries has taken so much from all who made any effort that few have the will to work. A thousand of our most ruthless capitalists, given free rein in China for a generation without interference from government, would make it a rich nation. All the government controls and regulations in the world will never make China great. Only the right to keep what one produces will ever do that!

I have often pointed out that the function of government is to prevent one man from stealing what another man produces. Today, in America to some degree and in Europe to a much greater degree, government's principle function is to take from the best producers and distribute to those who are either incompetent or unwilling to work. To the extent that this is done by government, will our civilization become more and more decadent. In the early days of government, those in power could keep that power by dividing what they stole in taxes with a few of the lords and barons who were in key places. By so doing, government made it unnecessary for the most capable people to work at all.

Later—as the democratic idea broadened, it was necessary to divide the "loot" with an increasingly larger group. Today, in America we have the spectacle of a government which steals from the people for the benefit of organized groups numbering into the millions. While the theft in the beginning kept only the lords and barons idle, present day government aims seem to be to give millions the impression that their welfare lies not in greater effort but in looking to government to help them steal from their fellow man. All of Europe is convinced that their salvation lies in that direction. Apparently a majority of Americans are convinced of the same thing!

**ONE OF THE** last American films shown inside Russia was "Grapes of Wrath", and it was distributed in an attempt to depict the U. S. as a decadent nation on the brink of economic collapse. But the Russian theatergoers were impressed chiefly by the fact that the "Oakies" and "Arkies" traveled around the country freely and in their own automobiles. The Unimaginative commissars never anticipated such a response.

"One of the last news reels exhibited in Russia had shots of Detroit police breaking up strike riots during the administration of Justice Frank Murphy, then governor. They were supposed to convince Soviet audiences of the brutality of American capitalists. But the comrades' comments were: "Look! In the America they don't shoot the workers; they just knock them down. And look at the fine shoes and clothing even the strikers are wearing."

The showing of "How Green Is My Valley", the story of a strike in Wales, caused a curious reaction in Russia. Stalin's subjugated folk were astonished that workers could strike in such a capitalistic country as England and even more astounded that such a subject could be made into a movie for general distribution.

From "National Whirligig," Chicago Journal of Commerce, Nov. 6, 1948.

## Friday Evenings at Eight



The Rt. Rev. Msgr. L. G. Ligutti, our candidate for "Catholic Man of the Hour" has promised to speak at the Henry George School soon, on the subject, "Resettlement in America."

As we go to press we cannot get a confirmation on this because the Monsignor's recent appointment

as Official Observer of the Holy See at the U. N. Food and Agriculture Organization meetings keeps him flying from Washington to Des Moines; where he still edits The Christian Farmer for the National Catholic Rural Life Conference, and shepherds the cause of displaced persons for which he has done most enlightened work the past two years. Father Ligutti writes: "hold the date anyway, you can always pick up someone better, and a wiser Georgist." Such provoking modesty!

A prominent New York lawyer and nephew of Dr. McGlynn, Joseph Whelan, will tell delightful stories of the "Rebel, Priest and Prophet" on January 21. On January 28, Philip Cornick, Member of the Research Staff of the Institute of Public Administration, will discuss "Present Trends in Taxation." Should Monsignor Ligutti fail to arrive, Mr. Cornick will, if possible, substitute for him.

The first speaker in February will be Charles Johnson Post, who will tell "How to Cure the Housing Shortage." On February 11, the Eve of Lincoln's Birthday, Herman L. Barbary will give "Selected Readings from Henry George." This will be a biography of George as taken from his own writings and indicating the development of his fine literary style.

### New York

(Continued from Page Five)

High School, Brooklyn; and the Bryant High School, Queens—as well as in libraries and "Y's" in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens and Mount Vernon. This increasing regional work is in line with the current campaign of the New York Adult Education Council (of which the Henry George School is a member) to bring more education to the communities.

The New York School for Social Research, New York's leading adult education institute outside of the regular colleges—is offering a course in *Progress and Poverty* to begin February 12, with an instructor from the Henry George School—George Royal, one of its best and most popular teachers, who will use the school's manual and lesson sheets. The tuition fee will be \$12.50.

The Henry George School is on the air over a new station in Newark—WVNJ. The schools in New York and Newark are sponsoring a 5-minute news broadcast at 10:30 P.M. every day, with Bob Harris as newscaster.

### Don't Miss

#### GOVERNMENT TAKE ALL

By JEROME JOACHIM

Publisher, The Berwyn Beacon,  
Berwyn, Illinois

In the February Issue