

digenous people, are being looked upon as a bit of a nuisance and a humbug, and should have been somewhere else away from this phosphate island. We submit that the island is being exploited primarily for the benefit of other countries and peoples and request that whenever clashes of interest occur ours be given first consideration."

The remonstrance evidently had some effect, for in 1965 the three administering governments provided for a Legislative Council with powers to enact ordinances subject to assent by higher authority in all matters except defense, external affairs and the phosphate industry. These were to be referred to the Governor General.

By 1967 a strong movement for independence was under way. Although Nauruans had been offered a much larger island off the coast of Queensland for resettlement, this was refused—they preferred to stay on their own island. Another alternative was considered but found impracticable. This consisted of replacing sub-soil and top-soil in the same proportions as phosphate bears to top-soil in the unmined areas. It would have meant fetching millions of tons of refill ballast and soil from afar. The question of restoring the island after exhaustion of deposits was a crucial one, although it was decided that cost should not be a consideration.

Agreement was reached in June of that year—the local government of

Nauru was to own the phosphate enterprise and assume complete control and management as of June 30, 1970. With assets provisionally estimated at \$22 million, the three partnership governments agreed to buy the entire output.

Accordingly, on January 31, 1968, Nauru became an independent republic with a president and council of ministers chosen by himself. The per capita income of the 3,000 native Nauruans is now the highest in the world. In many ways the "pleasant" island is a veritable paradise. Shops are full of merchandise from all parts of the world. There are already 1,000 motor cars, but considering the limited area these may be paradisaical or the contrary. The natives will be exempt from taxes—an advantage that will not be extended to some 400 Europeans, 1,200 Chinese and 1,500 contract laborers from other Pacific Islands.

What a chance these tax-free Nauruans could have of making their republic a great center of activity if they would only adopt a complete free trade agreement with the rest of the world. It was Kipling who said the first thing that must be done to further international peace and security was to remove trade barriers. This ideal always recedes further away, notwithstanding attempts at circumscribed arrangements which harm rather than benefit immediate prospects of peace, and carry within them the germ of future discord on a greater scale.

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Fifty adult educators in the New York area assembled at the Henry George School on March 25th for a meeting sponsored by the New York Adult Education Council. The theme was "Opening the First Session" of adult education classes, and demonstrations were provided by Norman Newmark and Robert Clancy.

Dr. Newmark, who teaches Group Dynamics in college, showed how she got new students to "warm up" by mixing in small groups, the participants continuously moving to other groups until each had met all the students. Mr. Clancy demonstrated part of a first session of Fundamental Economics as conducted at the Henry George School—the opening questionnaire. There was much interest in both demonstrations, with lively discussion.