

School Notes: Long Island

High schools in five school districts in Long Island have been chosen to offer classes in Fundamental Economics as part of the Adult Education program for this semester, according to Stan Rubenstein, Director of the Long Island Extension of the HGS.

The newly revised course, which is designed by Mr. Rubenstein and Fryda L. Ossias, is being used by the five teachers in the towns of Levittown, Bellmore-Merrick, Oceanside, Rockville Centre and Lynbrook. The current version incorporates more contemporary information by applying Georgist materials to the changing world while maintaining the spirit and dynamics of the old approach.

An advanced course, entitled *The Critics of Henry George* is being offered to students, who have had other advanced classes in Contemporary Issues, Science of Political Economy and Democracy vs. Socialism.

Albert Fink spoke to the Alumni Association at the Plainview Public Library on the essence of the Pittsburgh Graded Tax, beginning the semester's schedule of special programs for current students and alumni. Mr. Fink stressed that the success that Georgists have had in implementing land tax reform in Pittsburgh has come as the result of sound reform, teamwork, and dedication over a number of years.

Toronto Affiliate Delineates Values

The school of Economic Science has published two more reports in its continuing series of objective property tax studies.

Farm Values and Taxation in Rural Communities: Aldborough Township: S.W. Ontario by John Fischer and Tim Fielding is a study of property sales and their market value variations, the potential causes of those variations, the characteristics of assessment and property tax variations in relation to land and property characteristics and market values from 1978-1980.

The second report, *Changing Property Values and Taxation Levels in Developing Urban Areas: Yonge Street, North York, Toronto, 1910-1979*, by Tim Fielding and Laire Teich, attempts to trace and explain wherever possible the interaction of changing land use, property values and property tax rates for properties located along the rapidly changing and developing suburban strip of Yonge Street. It monitors the wide variations in effective tax rates and property values during stages of development and change, and indicates areas of difficulty for proposed tax reforms.

Copies of these reports may be obtained by writing to the School of Economic Science, 344 Willard Street, Toronto, Ontario, M6S 3R2 Canada.

Georgists Respond to White House Plan

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presenting the Government's global models. All three volumes are available from the U.S. Government Printing Office in Washington D.C.

The major findings of the report point to a more crowded, more polluted, less ecologically stable and more vulnerable to disruption world in the year 2000 than the one in 1980. Population growth figure indicate that the number of people on the earth will surpass 6.35 billion, a growth of 50% from the 4 billion figure in 1975. Agriculturally cultivated land will increase only by 4% in twenty years, so that most of the increased output of food will have to come from higher yields.

In its conclusion the report states that "the United States must improve its ability to identify emerging

problems and assess alternative responses." It was also stated that formulation of prompt and vigorous changes in public policy around the world are needed to avoid or minimize problems before they become unmanageable.

In his response to the questions posed by the report, Scrofani felt that the most critical problem emerging from the report "is our failure to be just and worthy stewards of the land." A comprehensive list of actions the President's Task Force could take is outlined in this compilation, along with quotes from Henry George, Robert S. McNamara, President of the World Bank, Philip Finkelstein, Director of the HGS in New York, and Ms. Hartzok. Copies of this report are available by writing to HGS in San Francisco.