

## Tenth Anniversary of PREC

THE Public Revenue Education Council was started in St. Louis by Noah D. Alper, former HGS director. The Council and its president have just celebrated their tenth birthday with a progress report that merits enthusiastic support.

The PREC was established to educate in various ways regarding the collection and expenditure of public revenue; the elimination of artificial barriers to the production and distribution of wealth; and the unblocking of natural incentives to maximum production. The film "Better Cities" has been a valuable addition to the program.

A long tabulation at the end of the decade lists 95,814 copies of articles, reprints and related material that have been distributed to local newspapers, television and radio studios, and to colleges, HG extensions and individuals from coast to coast. Not included are hundreds of unrecorded mailings, and more than 9000 letters.

The Council has introduced 40 universities in Missouri and Illinois to Progress, an Australian magazine which affords convincing evidence of the benefits of LVT. In Australia only the property owners are permitted to sign petitions and subsequently to vote on a change-over from taxation of land and improvements to a tax on land value alone. The number of communities operating under this LTV system increases as more property owners see the benefit in lower taxes and take the trouble to press for reform. Wherever the owners are free to improve their buildings without a tax penalty the deterioration of neighborhoods does not occur—proof that LVT is the answer to slum clearance.

Among the many educational innovations originating in St. Louis is a reading course in the "Economic Science of Public Revenue," which has been distributed to several hundred persons on request. This is a popular feature which will be expanded in the future.

The PREC has made its way modestly with an alert staff of officers and directors. Appreciation is extended by them to the loyal supporters who have made its continuation possible and who will be glad to know their welcome checks are tax deductible. The Council was declared a public foundation in 1969.