

Report of Robert Schalkenbach Foundation

THIS month we would like to report a number of services that the Foundation office renders in its day-to-day correspondence, and we are picking certain letters from our files for illustration.

On Jan. 22, Congressman Charles Eckert of the 26th District of Pennsylvania, asked us to send him Mr. Hennessy's classic treatise on the economic causes of war and industrial depression, which was submitted to the League of Nations, May, 1927. We sent this booklet, together with other pamphlets on the subject of war and peace related to the "land question," and received Mr. Eckert's thanks for this material, which, it seems, was just the right thing for the Conference which was being held in Washington on the cause and cure of war.

Mr. Francis Neilson, author of "Sociocratic Escapades," recently asked us for a list of people who would be interested in his book. We sent him a list of about eighty names, and we understand that each one of these people received a free copy of this vastly interesting work.

Mr. James G. Blauvelt, who has been active in organizing the Ridgewood Henry George group, arranged for a donation of a complete set of George's writings and allied books for the Ridgewood Pease Memorial Library. The Henry George League of New Jersey is planning later to place books in other libraries.

The League is also endorsing a Single Tax measure which is being presented to the Legislature in New Jersey.

Mr. Henry Ware Allen of Wichita, Kan., presented to the Foundation his diary of birthday names of Single Taxers. Some of the readers of LAND AND FREEDOM will remember that Mr. Allen placed the names of Single Taxers for each day in the year in his little booklet of Henry George quotations. If you would like to have your name added to the Roster, please send your name and birthday date, and it will be placed in the diary against the time of a new printing of the Henry George calendar.

We received from Mr. Eduardo F. Belaustegui, of San Isidro, Argentine, a most attractive book entitled "Social Economic Reforms," written in Spanish, dealing with the "Land Question" from the Georgist viewpoint. It is being added to our library.

We have at hand an excellent pamphlet entitled "Unemployment and Business Depression" from Mr. David Gibson of 1370 Ontario Street, Cleveland, O. Additional copies may be had for fifteen cents in stamps, if addressed to Mr. Gibson.

On Jan. 24, we received a request from one of the teachers in the University of Chicago for sample copies of our publications, so that he could call them to the attention of his students. To those who have claimed that it is useless to do any work with college groups,

this might be an interesting item. We sent a group of books which we knew would be most interesting and helpful, and received the following letter in acknowledgment:

"I want to thank you for your courtesy in sending me the publications of your Foundation. There has been considerable interest among the students in the work of your Foundation as well as in the writings and philosophy of Henry George. I have made these conveniently available to them, and have distributed the literature which you sent me. I am sure that many of the students will follow through the interest that has been indicated thus far."

On Feb. 13, Mr. Herman B. Walker wrote to us stating that there would be a debate on a network of twenty-four stations between Westfield, N. J. High School and the East Orange High School on the question, "Resolved: That real estate taxes should be relieved by sales taxes," and we were asked to send helpful material to the Westfield High School for the negative side. We wrote to the librarian, rounded up sales tax literature from various sources, presented to the Library Prof. Brown's book "The Economic Basis of Tax Reform," which wrestles with the stock objections to taxation on land values, and sent other pamphlets with the Georgist philosophy.

A very interesting request came from one of President Roosevelt's cabinet officers, asking us to send appropriate material on Henry George and the Single Tax to his son, who is at college in Ohio. We prepared special material, wrote a letter of explanation, and donated one or two books that would be particularly needed if the young man studied the subject for his thesis. We received extremely cordial responses from both the cabinet officer's secretary and the young gentleman himself.

HENRY GEORGE CLASSES

As explained in previous issues of LAND AND FREEDOM, we are co-operating with John Lawrence Monroe and the Henry George School of Social Science in getting extension classes formed for the study of "Progress and Poverty." We mentioned the people with whom we had been in touch in the last issue. Since then the following have sent in for books and have arranged to teach classes in their respective communities: Mr. Oswald Marquardt of New York; Mr. Julian Hickok, Philadelphia, who is teaching a class of over twenty pupils; Mr. E. G. Freyer-muth of South Bend, Ind.; Mr. E. H. Boeck of St. Louis, class of twenty; Mr. Otto Dorn, who has started a class of twenty-five in Mount Vernon; Mr. L. B. Schwartz, who has enlarged his class since we last reported; Mr. L. M. Green of New York; Messrs. Tomfohr and Ellert of Milk River, Alberta, who are organizing a branch of the School in Alberta, and who sent in for large quantities of books and literature. Mr. Kaufman in St. Louis has had good success with adult groups and has sent in large lists of enrollment names. A number of books are being used by Mr. Luxton of Brooklyn, who has just started

a class. Mr. Rose of Pittsburgh has also been supplied for a class of eighteen.

We learn from Mrs. Bessie Beach Trueheart of Houston, Texas, that she is maintaining a local lending library of Henry George books. She finds that the "Story of My Dictatorship" is a popular booklet, and we are ordering for her and for others who are asking for it, a larger quantity of this very attractive new British edition which we expect will be on hand shortly. The price of the booklet, to include postage, will be thirty cents a copy, and four for \$1.00.

Mr. Tideman of Chicago is starting his second class in the "Science of Political Economy" and has ten pupils to date. Mr. Willis Malone of St. Louis has been active in distributing the new edition of the "Condition of Labor," which retails at fifty cents containing considerable additional material—especially the letter to members of his diocese, of Bishop Nulty, of Meath, Ireland. Due, no doubt, to the activity of our friends in Mississippi, we received an order from a Supreme Court Judge in Jackson, Miss., for fifty copies of the lecture "Moses" by Henry George.

From a professor of economics in the University of Illinois we received an additional order for sixteen copies of "Progress and Poverty." This gentleman orders on an average of 150 copies a year for his classes.

Prof. Darwin Smith, President of the California College of Commerce, is teaching "Progress and Poverty" to a class of twenty in his regular school work. He is contemplating another class of evening meetings, and we hope to have more to report on this at a later date. Prof. Smith has been a constant correspondent, and it will be a valuable addition to our movement in California, if Prof. Smith undertakes the work of teaching evening classes in "Progress and Poverty."

Prof. Smith writes:

"I am thinking seriously of organizing a class to study 'Progress and Poverty.' I have sent for a copy of the Teacher's Manual. The twenty copies you sent me were taken immediately by an adult discussion group connected with the Congregational Church here. I think a class for the study of this book will be worth while because so many people, who just read it, don't seem to get the idea Mr. George has to present."

Members of the East High School at Rochester, N. Y., have ordered many copies of Henry George's books. There seems to be a center of interest in that city.

Princeton University has sent its regular order for fifty copies of "Progress and Poverty."

From Prof. R. F. Wood, Department of History, Central Missouri State Teachers College, we received the following letter:

"I have enjoyed very much 'The Philosophy of Henry George' by Dr. George R. Geiger. I have been a reader of the principles of Henry George for the past twenty-five years and want to say that he has never been answered."

Through the courtesy of Mr. Fiske Warren, an adver-

tisement will appear in the magazine "Motion Pictures of the World and Its Peoples," advertising the Enclaves of Economic Rent, and incidentally, Mr. Warren has included an advertisement of "Progress and Poverty," and a special offer for a free copy of his book "Enclaves of Economic Rent," with every copy of "Progress and Poverty" that is purchased. He also calls attention to the Henry George School.

Summing up the volume of books and pamphlets that have gone out of the office since the last inventory date, May 9, 1934, to March 9, 1935, we find that 4,640 books have been distributed, 30,504 pamphlets, and an unestimated number of advertising leaflets. To those who think that "Progress and Poverty" is too long to read and that people do not want it, may we call attention to the fact that this book has always been the leader of the Henry George books, and of the 4,640 books sold and mentioned above, 2,206 represent copies of "Progress and Poverty." The next best seller is "Social Problems," of which 830 copies were distributed. Our records show a sale of 666 books to bookstore dealers during the ten months, of which 482 copies were "Progress and Poverty" unabridged, and 184 other titles, showing that the general public calls for "Progress and Poverty" oftener. We note, however, that since we launched the new edition of "Social Problems" in 1934, a demand has grown up for that book as well.

The correspondence in the office has been heavy, and we estimate that anywhere from ten to fifteen letters a day are received and answered.

ANTOINETTE KAUFMANN, Secretary.

Activities of the Manhattan Single Tax Club

1. That most effective instrument of publicity, the Radio, will be employed even more extensively during 1935 than it was in 1934.

This year President Ingersoll will broadcast more than 800 Single Tax messages, many of them over chain systems consisting of from 20 to 50 stations each. These messages will be heard by many millions of listeners.

In addition to this regular Radio campaign, the very interesting and important series of Radio interviews featured under the title "His Honor the Mayor," will be continued until every city east of Chicago will have the opportunity to "air" its taxation problems. Nearly all of the Mayors eagerly seize the chance to get on the air to talk about their beloved cities.

We get our Radio time free of charge because of the feature value of our broadcasts; nevertheless our Radio campaign entails a heavy expense. It is the modest increase in our income in recent months that has enabled us largely to expand our Radio propaganda.