

perhaps to edit the sports, or the drama, or even the financial page. He most certainly should not have been dismissed; his power of analysis is by far too valuable; and a *good* newspaper can ill afford to dispense with the services of good writers and sound thinkers.

H. G. S. S. S. Activities

THE second public forum was held at the School Headquarters at 30 E. 29th Street, New York City, on Sunday afternoon, March 5, 1939. Mr. H. Elenoff again presided and the room was filled to capacity, over 150 being present despite the inclement weather.

The principal speaker was Mr. Robert E. Bauer, who is connected with the legal department of the Institute of Distribution, Inc., of New York City. Mr. Bauer is a member of the New York bar, and co-author of "Retailers Manual of Taxes and Regulations." His address to the Forum dealt with the effects of taxes on business. He pointed out there were 104 separate indirect taxes now being levied on all the ingredients and component parts, including tools, machinery, equipment, lands, buildings, etc., etc., requisite in the manufacture and sale of a 15 cent cake of soap! He also pointed out that there are 127 cunningly concealed taxes in a pound of beef bought by a housewife at the butcher's counter. He was roundly applauded at the conclusion of his address and consented to reply to the rather numerous questions from those in attendance.

It is most gratifying to note how vastly improved is the teaching staff at the Headquarters School. Many of the instructors are attending the advanced courses mainly under the personal instruction of the Director, Mr. Frank Chodorov. The teachers are advised to do a great deal of added reading, aside from their textbooks, and to inject their own experiences into their work. Ten new teachers have been appointed this term, all of whom have had at least forty weeks of study before assignment.

The Spring classes are expected to have about 1,100 students. It is interesting to note that the intellectual standard of the students seems to be higher than heretofore, many indicating collegiate training. It is observed that there is now a larger percentage of men than women, and that they both seem to have a keen intellectual curiosity.

The Speakers' Bureau, under the direction of one of the graduates, Miss Dorothy Sara, has succeeded in obtaining numerous requests from clubs, societies, etc., for speakers to address them. Aside from the general educational value of the lectures, such audiences always have great potential possibilities for enrollment as students.

It also is very valuable experience for the newer adherents in the movement in their training as public speakers.

The correspondence course continues to attract enrollments, due very largely to the generosity of a "Friend," who arranges and pays for the insertion of advertisements in various publications. He has also furnished a list of names which have been productive of enrollments.

LONG ISLAND GROUP

A most encouraging review of the educational work being done in Queens and thereabouts was given on Friday evening, March 31, at the third "Graduation Dinner-talk Fest" at the Diplomat Restaurant in Jamaica, L. I. There was an attendance of two hundred at the dinner, and thirty-three graduates of the ten-weeks course of the Queens Extension of the Henry George School of Social Science received their diplomas from the hand of Mrs. Anna George deMille.

The Society of Long Island Georgeists was co-sponsor of the affair and the Acting Chairman of that Association, Mr. Benn V. Blum, was first speaker. He explained that the Society was not an organization, but was formed to further the Georgeist educational movement on Long Island, and—in his own words:

"to acquaint the public through class and lecture work with the message that the principles expounded by Henry George offer the only true basis of economic freedom and social justice, and that their application will abolish involuntary poverty, promote industrial and international peace, and make all other reforms easier of accomplishment."

Then Mr. Blum turned the meeting over to Dr. S. A. Schneidman of Bellaire, to whose energy and ability the promising spread of the movement in Queens is very largely due. Dr. Schneidman having attended the courses at the Henry George School in New York, is now teaching in Jamaica, and acting as secretary of the Queens extension classes.

There are three new classes in "Fundamental Economics and Social Philosophy" to be started in Queens, besides the regular Tuesday evening class at Public School 109, 92d Avenue and 213th St., Queens Village. The new classes will be held Tuesday evenings, beginning April 11, at the Jamaica Y. M. C. A.; Wednesday evenings, commencing April 19, at the Community Center of Andrew Jackson High School, St. Albans; and Thursday evenings, commencing April 20, at the Community Center of Public School 109, Queens Village.

Dr. Schneidman has also succeeded in interesting the Queens Forum Community Center as well as other organizations, in taking up the study of Henry George. The fact that it is possible to hold classes in rooms of public schools, is a matter of importance. We may soon, perhaps, be able to catch up with Denmark in having the philosophy of Fundamental Economics and Social Justice

as taught by Henry George, made a part of the curriculum of our High Schools!

Several of the graduates spoke at the dinner. Rather important were the remarks made by one of these graduates, Mr. Vincent McLean, who is Vice-President of the Central Queens Allied Civic Council, and President of the Central Civic Association of Hollis. Mr. McLean is also Chairman of the Committee on Taxes and Assessments of the Council, and said that he felt to it be his duty to his associates to investigate this Extension Course when it was brought to his notice. The result, he stated, was that he widened his own understanding of matters that had been obscure to him in the past, and that he would most earnestly recommend the course of study to all who would be effective civic workers.

Another graduate, John M. Michael of Lynbrook, Long Island, claimed that the knowledge gained in the class had helped him greatly in his insurance business. All the graduates who spoke praised Dr. Schneidman's work. And all spoke of the gain in their better understanding of social problems, both in its practical application to every day life, and in the hopefulness of a natural solution for the economic and social disorder with which we are now confronted.

Guest speakers of the evening were; Mrs. Anna George deMille, Stephen Bell, Lancaster M. Greene, Grace Isabel Colbron, Councilman Charles Belous of Queens, Walter Fairchild, Charles H. Ingersoll, Otto Dorn and Morris Van Veen.

It was a most successful and enjoyable evening, and a splendid tribute to the work done by our Queens adherents.

Perhaps the most successful monthly Forum, thus far, was held at the School Headquarters Building on Sunday afternoon, April 2. About 200 attended. Mr. H. Ellenoff presided as usual and introduced Mr. Louis Wallis, whose topic was "Democracy at the Crossroads." Mr. Wallis is widely known as an economist and biblical scholar; at one time he was an instructor of economics and sociology at Ohio State University. He is the author of numerous books, among the best known being, "An Examination of Society" (1901), "Sociological Study of the Bible" (1912), "A Study of Ancient Israel" (1931), "God and the Social Process" (1935), "Burning Question" (1937). His latest book entitled "State of War Permanent Unless—" was brought out in 1938. Most all of these works have been reviewed in LAND AND FREEDOM.

Mr. Wallis is an effective speaker on the lecture platform. Though he insists that he is not an orator, his wide knowledge of economics and history, plus his manner of delivery, produces a most convincing and pleasing address. Mr. Wallis opened his subject by first asking his audience for definitions of democracy and whether we have a democracy in this country. This method had the effect of "turning the tables" by heckling his

audience first. Among the many answers, all good, came, perhaps, the most all-inclusive one from Mrs. Amalia DuBois who said "We cannot have democracy without a free economy."

The principal stress in Mr. Wallis' talk was laid on the great burden which must be borne as a result of what he termed "the development of an aristocratic lop-sided taxation." He also pointed out that the importance of placing the burden of taxation on sources which would benefit wages the most, may be best illustrated by the ease with which a 10-pound weight can be carried on the shoulder as against the silly method of dragging it along by being tied to one's foot.

Mr. Wallis, very effectively traced the history of the formation of European Empires and the causes of wars, which, in all instances, have turned around the seizure of land. He further developed his speech by pointing out that Abraham Lincoln said that "we cannot go on half slave and half free." Neither can a democracy co-exist with the pressure of aristocratic taxation to the great discrimination of industry. Mr. Wallis spoke extemporaneously throughout and upon completion of his address the Forum was thrown open to questions, which came forward fast and some furiously; but they were all admirably handled by the speaker and to the great satisfaction of the audience.

The next Public Forum is scheduled to be held on Sunday afternoon, May 7, at the Headquarters of the Henry George School of Social Science, 30 E. 29th St., New York City. The Forum starts at 4 P. M., but the doors are open at 3.30. Admission is free. The suggestion to bring a friend not yet interested in our philosophy and to come early to get acquainted, is most appropriate.

NEW ENGLAND GROUP

Hon. George H. Duncan, a former member of the New Hampshire Legislature, was guest speaker at a Commencement Dinner of the Henry George School of Social Science, at the Twentieth Century Club rooms, Boston, Mass., on April 14. He has a class of legislators in Concord, N. H., teaching them the principles of Progress and Poverty. The foregoing item was given us by W. L. Crosman.

TO remove want and the fear of want, to give to all classes leisure, and comfort, and independence, the decencies and refinements of life, the opportunities of mental and moral development, would be like turning water into a desert.—PROGRESS AND POVERTY.

THE real and lasting victories are those of peace and not of war.—RALPH WALDO EMERSON.

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