

exhibited such interest in the lectures. Prof. Oak assisted with the lantern slides, and was himself so much interested that he forgot to put in the slides at the proper time. He is a native of India and the only non-negro in the community; he is a liberal and profoundly interested in social problems.

Denison University was visited October 28 and a lecture given that day. Mr. Goeller was then requested to stay over, and the next morning talked to classes and answered questions for three hours.

From there Mr. Goeller went to the Ohio State University at Columbus, speaking for an hour to a gathering of four hundred students and professors, and spending the evening with a group of professors. He also spoke at the Wittenberg (United Lutheran) College.

The Site-Value Tax In Politics

IN the recent election, William R. Emsley, of Merchantville, N. J., a Democrat, ran for election to a vacancy in the Township Committee in Pensauken township, Camden county, a Republican stronghold. Mr. Emsley made a vigorous lone-handed campaign, distributing 6,000 hand bills advocating site-value taxation and enactment of the bill in the state legislature to grant home-rule for adoption of site-value taxation in any taxing district. Although defeated, as was foreseen, he ran ahead of his ticket in all districts, in some districts receiving twice as many votes as did other democratic candidates on the ticket.

Mr. Emsley received considerable newspaper publicity from the newspapers, including the Camden dailies, all of which gave liberal extracts from his printed platform advocating site-value taxation. One such item was headed "Site-value tax plan issue in Pensauken." "Democratic candidate for committeeman pledges support to site-value tax measure."

Mr. Emsley has been requested to talk on tax relief at a non-partisan club in Camden, and says "I shall accept all invitations to talk on the subject as I want to keep the good work going."

Argentine

THE September issue of the *Tribuna Georgista* of Buenos Aires, completes the eighth year of publication of this interesting monthly, formerly entitled *Revista del Impuesto Unico* (Single Tax Review). It may be noted also, that it is now fifteen years since three or four disciples of Henry George started the Argentine Single Tax League, recently reorganized under the title of "Confederacion Georgista Argentina." The national headquarters are in Buenos Aires, where there is also an active local "Centro;" a local just organized in Martin Fierro brings the total up to nine centros in as many cities.

The *Tribuna Georgista* contains 16 pages, slightly smaller

than those of LAND AND FREEDOM, with cover. We abstract the following news from its columns.

September 1 an outdoor meeting was held in the Place Italia, Buenos Aires, commemorating the anniversary of the birth of Henry George (1839) and of the death of the first Argentine President, Bernardino Rivadavia (1845) both of which events occurred on a September 2nd, and likewise commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of "Progress and Poverty." An audience of a thousand persons showed great interest in the exposition of the doctrines of these two leaders as expounded by Senors Flores, Antonio Bellagamba, and deBurgos, of the local Georgist centro.

(American readers may need to be reminded that in 1826 President Rivadavia established a leasing system for the public lands of Argentine, forbidding their sale; he was overthrown two years later by a revolution engineered by landgrabbers, and his successors parcelled out most of the land to speculators.)

On the following Sundays in September, outdoor meetings were held in four different sections of the city. September 7 Senor Juan Bellagamba addressed an indoor meeting and conference of Georgists on methods of propaganda. September 11 Drs. B. C. Horne and Bernardo Niemes spoke at a well attended indoor meeting in the city of Concordia, and *La Democracia*, a daily paper of that city, printed a sympathetic report which covers more than a page of the *Tribuna Georgista*. The newly organized centro of Martin Fierro also held a good commemoration meeting September 1st.

A Buenos Aires newspaper, *Mundo Argentino*, ran a symposium in July on the question, "What problem in the national life do you consider as most urgently demanding solution?" In reply to this Dr. Alfredo L. Palacios, leader of the Socialist party in the Argentine, wrote that "The basic problem, 'par excellence,' is that of the land which we must solve, not only for our technical and material progress, but for our moral progress as well." After picturing graphically the disastrous consequences of the private ownership of land, he continued: "As Argentines let us not forget that, in the first years of our national political emancipation, Rivadavia, our first President, denounced the private ownership of land as the source of human inequality and that in line with his purpose that the new nation should not be constructed on the lines of old European models, he endeavored to preserve the land as a common patrimony of all Argentine, in order to build upon its collective ownership and its utilization by the renewable lease, conceived and formulated by him, a new type of organization for the new nation."

Approaching the same question, the National Deputy, Robert F. Giusti, also affirms that the most urgent national problem is that of the ownership and use of the land. He asserts that, "I accept as conclusive the Georgist Doctrine to its fullest extent, equivalent to

what formerly was the Rivadavian land system."

It is also interesting to note that Dr. Agosto Bunge, one of the most learned and eminent members of the Argentine congress, considers the land question as the most urgent. He says: "We must go to the root of the problem, methodically developing a policy tending toward the nationalization of the land. The most effective means for reaching that solution is the absorption of land rent by taxation according to the Georgist plan."

Continuing, he stated: "The almost total confiscation of land rent by means of a direct tax of 3% upwards would liberate the land and make possible its use by whoever wished to work it, because this method reduces more than any other the price of purchase."

"Land Nationalization is also the only way to solve completely our land problem in cities. Because only the confiscation of its rental value for public purposes makes possible the building of homes on a large scale (their scarcity and low quality being the outstanding Argentine evidence of poverty) and also the carrying out of the large development projects which are so badly needed in all our cities."

In July a literary journal of Valparaiso, Chili, *El Paladin*, published an article by don Urbano Castillo, entitled "The genesis of our false national protectionism," in which he expounded the ideas of Henry George on the tariff and land questions. Sr. Juan Bellagamba thereupon wrote him, suggesting that an effort be made to form an organization in Chili, and offering the cooperation of the Argentine "Confederacion Georgista." This letter was published by *El Paladin*, which added a sympathetic exposition of the Georgist philosophy, regretted that so little was known about it in Chili, and expressed the hope that this letter might prove the seed to start a movement which would grow to a mighty tree.

And so by diverse means our Argentine brethren are spreading the Georgist gospel throughout their own country, and beyond its borders.

Two Letters to the Henry George Congress

The following letters were sent to the Henry George Congress in Pittsburgh and are worth reproducing here.

Dr. Solomon Solis Cohen wrote:

"Although I see no hope for the establishment in any near time of right relations between man and earth, as it must wait upon the development of economic intelligence among the masses of voters—those who suffer most from present wrongs, and who have it in their power to change wrong into right if they but will to do so—I trust in the logic of Events to bring them at last into a realization of the source of the wrongs of which they complain—of the fundamental injustice which they must remedy.

Henry George pointed out, and reinforced the lesson by an eloquent passage from the writings of Mazzini, that so long as men seek only their own good, they will not find it. They will attain it only when they seek the good of others.

To this, "Progress and Poverty" and the life of its author were dedi-

cated. Let us take new inspiration from the celebration of its fifty years of truth telling."

Henry Ware Allen sent the following letter:

"For fifty years the philosophy given to us by Henry George and based upon the truths of natural law discovered by him, has constituted a revelation and an inspiration that has been to us little less than a religion. In striking contrast to the enormous strides made by all other sciences that of political economy has been laggard. This backwardness in schools, colleges, and in legislative halls has been largely due to the insidious influence of vested wrongs and special privilege, culminating brazenly in full flower in an institute connected with a Chicago university endowed for the explicit purpose of combating the economic truths that were given to the world by Henry George.

"Should those truths be adopted one effect would be to completely abolish the enormous robbery of the American people now being effected by tariff taxation, private ownership of public utilities, appropriation by individuals and corporations of natural resources and most important of all, the granting by government to individuals and corporations, by means of 99 year leases and other current forms of taxation, the sovereign power to tax. When these wrongs have been righted then, as Henry George demonstrated, all the ordinary forms of taxation now invoked may be abolished, thereby ushering in the one great reform in contrast to which all others are insignificant.

"While we must keep up the fight all along the line concentrated effort at this time should, it seems to me, be directed against the iniquity of tariff taxation under the slogan FREE TRADE FOR FREE MEN!"

BOOK NOTICES

"Pioneers of Progress" has an appreciative sketch of Henry George, in the manner but not in imitation of Elbert Hubbard. It is the best that has been done in three thousand words and would make an excellent and informative tract.

If Coleman had known the incident of George returning from hearing of his disastrous defeat as Candidate for Secretary of State, he would doubtless have included it as a fine instance of inspired courage. George was accustomed to say "It was the hand of God." On that return Louis Post said to him, "George, do you see the hand of God in this?"

"No," said George, "I don't see it—but it's there."

The book ought to be listed in our literature, since most of its subjects are in our line.

Altgeld is particularly vivid, and his 5,000 words on Jefferson is much more informing than ponderous lives that I have seen. Personally I was glad to see an etching, in words, of Frances Wright, of whom I knew nothing, wonderful as she was. Paine, Wendell Phillips and Debs are finely treated, and if Gompers and Mitchell are not strong, it is not so much of a loss.

Of course the 222 pages are written from the standpoint of a moderate Socialist, but they will find more open doors on that account, and are, therefore, the better material to present to those who are afraid of that dangerous doctrine, *the right to the use of the earth*, when presented in its native power.

BOLTON HALL.

("Pioneers of Progress", by McAllister Coleman, Vanguard Press, 1929, Price, \$2.50)

HOW TRUTH IS SUPPRESSED IN ALABAMA

This paper covered booklet of 149 pages, entitled "The Humbuggery of Alabama's Educational System," is a slashing attack upon the educators of the state and the methods pursued in teaching the important questions of political economy. We imagine that the authorities must wince under this arraignment, for Prof. Dinkins brings enough evidence to bear that the castigation, severe as it is, is not unmerited.

He cites Dr. Eliot's remark that "the actual problem is not what to teach but how to teach," and slashes at this in a very formidable way. But Dr. Eliot had in mind the derivative meaning of the word