

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## U.S.A.

## Progress of the Henry George School

Writing from Pittsburgh, Pa., Mr Richard E. Howe, who attended the Henry George Congress in New York lately, reports that in his city they have 97 enrolled students of the Henry George School Extension Class, with many belated applications coming in. In addition, there are seven towns and boroughs within an hour's drive of Pittsburgh asking that schools be established there. A stumbling block is that they do not have enough teachers for these classes. Meanwhile, there are 14 taking the teachers' training course and most of them should be available by the beginning of the New Year.

## To the President

In an open letter to President Roosevelt the Henry George Association of Youngstown take note of his (the President's) request to clergymen to suggest any proposal for the betterment of the nation and write that while they are not clergymen they feel free to put forward most relevant recommendations. If a proposal is worth attention it does not matter what the source is. Accordingly, a very powerful plea was made to abolish all taxation on industry and have the government obtain all its revenue by collecting the economic rent of land. The President was reminded of *Progress and Poverty* in the belief that the contents of that book were not new to him.

True enough, the contents of the *Progress and Poverty* are not new to Mr Roosevelt because, as we reported in our September, 1933, issue, the President has publicly declared: "I believe that Henry George was one of the really great thinkers produced by our country. I do not go all the way with him, but I wish that his writings were better known and more clearly understood, for certainly they contain much that would be helpful to-day." This is all very well, but what is Mr Roosevelt doing about it? Here is a handle we offer to our co-workers, W. O. Blase, John F. Conroy, and Chas. G. McGowan, in Youngstown.

## CANADA

The Annual Meeting of the Single Tax Association of Canada was held on 15th October at the Lora Martha Tea Rooms, 90 King Street West, Toronto.

Mr A. W. Madsen of London, England, was the principal speaker. His visit to Toronto has been a considerable inspiration to the Georgeists inasmuch as the activities of the group had been curtailed by shortage of funds during the period of the depression. One matter of regret was that the Hon Arthur W. Roebuck, Attorney-General of Ontario and Hon President of the Association was unable to be present on account of a Cabinet meeting being called for the same hour. Fifty-one members and friends sat down to dinner after which the Secretary's Annual report was read by Mr L. B. Walling, Treasurer's report by Mr Alan C. Thompson, and officers and executive committee for the coming year were elected. Mr J. H. L. Patterson, the President, called on Mr Alan C. Thompson to introduce the guest of the evening (Secretary Walling provides report of the address, but lack of space prevents reproduction; it was summarised in our last month's issue—EDITOR, *Land & Liberty*.)

Mr L. B. Walling stated that the last two years had been a period of comparative inactivity with the Association owing to the difficulty in securing funds, but that now as a result of the receipt of two legacies of modest amounts, the financial situation was somewhat improved.

Two important activities would soon be under way: One was the conducting of Extension Classes, in Toronto and other centres, in connection with the Henry George School of Social Science, of New York City; and the other, the circulation throughout the Province of Ontario of a Petition addressed to the Provincial Premier and his Cabinet, requesting them to institute a thorough and impartial investigation of the claims advanced in support of taking Land Rent for Public Revenue in lieu of Taxation

of the products of Private Industry: and, in the event of their correctness being established, to "enact Legislation providing for the raising of a progressively larger proportion of our Municipal and Provincial Revenues from the Unimproved Value of the Land, and a correspondingly reduced share from Improvements and other Labour Products."

A special feature of this Petition was that signing it was made conditional on each signee paying the small fee of ten cents. This would aid materially in meeting such expenses as the payment of canvassers, printing, postage, literature for free distribution, etc., and, incidentally, would add to the weight of the signatures somewhat, for, small as it was, the fee would tend to discourage indifferent and irresponsible signees. The educational value of the circulation of such a petition, and the distribution of literature in connection therewith, in the secretary's opinion was very important.

The Financial Report, read by the Treasurer, Mr Alan C. Thompson, showed the Association to be in a better financial condition than for several years back, due to the receipts this year of legacies from the estates of two deceased members, namely, from the late Professor John McGowan, somewhat over \$800 in cash and securities of perhaps double that amount at present valuation, and from the late Benjamin Kirk, \$500 cash, less succession duties which reduced it to \$437.50. Mr Thompson voiced the regret which the members felt that the Association's financial good fortune should be at the cost of the loss by death of two such devoted colleagues.

Mr Thos. Bengough, on being called on by the Chairman, paid a feeling tribute to the memory of his brother, the late J. W. Bengough, Canada's most famous cartoonist of an earlier day, whose *Primer of Political Economy* and *Whole Hog Book*, giving the Single Tax message in words of one syllable, had been most effective agents in spreading the light. Unfortunately, both these works were now out of print.

Mr Alan C. Thompson gave a brief report of the Tenth Annual Henry George Congress, which met in New York 26th-28th September. He had been impressed by the much larger proportion of young people present at that gathering than had been the case at any previous convention he had attended. He was fully convinced that the class method, as exemplified by the Henry George School of Social Science, was the most effective means of winning converts to the cause that had yet been tried. Western Canada had been again represented at the Congress by two of the stalwarts from Milk River, Alta.

Mr W. E. Barker, a former worker in the movement in New York City but a resident of Toronto for many years, made a stirring appeal to those present to subscribe for *Land & Liberty* with the result that quite a number did so at the close of the meeting.

Officers and Members of Executive Committee were elected as follows: *Hon President*: Hon Arthur W. Roebuck; *President*: J. H. L. Patterson; *Vice-Presidents*: Ernest J. Farmer, Dr Stanley T. Floyd, R. Hubbard; *Secretary*: L. B. Walling; *Treasurer*: Alan C. Thompson; *Executive Committee*: Mr and Mrs J. R. Cadwell, Mr and Mrs John J. Carroll, Richard F. Choate, Philip A. Chubb, Mrs C. B. Coate, Miss Dorothy E. Coate, Arthur B. Farmer, William Forrest, M. Leslie Hancock, Mrs Robert Hubbard, Walter I. Ingram, Frank Johnston, John A. Martin, Miss M. Q. Ollerhead, Herbert T. Owens, Mrs J. H. L. Patterson, Charles Phillips, Miss Janet Scott, Miss Margaret Scott, Sydenham Thompson, William R. Williams.

## SOUTH AFRICA

The journal *Forward* of Johannesburg "South Africa's Only Democratic Weekly" (established eleven years) has a number of interesting items in its issue of 18th October, relating to the "P.E.P." or "Put an End to Poverty" movement.

Mr Mather Smith reports: Advocate Lucas spoke at four meetings this week and will also speak in Pretoria and