

THE SCHOOL AND ITS EXTENSION

The Henry George School of Social Science opened its autumn session on September 28th, and a gratifying expansion of its work can be safely assured, so many are the enrolments of new students.

On Tuesdays and Fridays (7 p.m.) the offices at 4 Great Smith Street, Westminster, are turned into a little university, with two or three of the rooms given over to the classes, all depending on the number of students attending. Discussion can go so much better forward if the classes are not over-large, but can be grouped in this way. The courses include Fundamental Economics, with *Progress and Poverty* as text book, and International Trade and Social Problems, with *Protection or Free Trade?* and *Social Problems* as the text books.

On Tuesdays also there is the class on Fundamental Economics at Balham, where suitable accommodation has been provided in the Ravenslea School, 10 Ravenslea Road, Balham.

The panel of tutors leading these classes include Mr. V. H. Blundell (Organiser of the School), Mrs. M. Whitehouse, Messrs. Ron. Blundell, D. Boothman, E. G. Popplewell, and P. O'Leary.

In this fine voluntary enterprise the tutors have the necessary assistance of class secretaries, who include Mrs. J. Boothman, Mrs. J. O'Leary, Miss B. Walden, and Messrs. B. E. Batty and P. O'Keefe.

The organisation of the classes was preceded by a vigorous campaign of publicity for the recruiting of students by distribution of handbills, placing of posters, and in other manner as described below. It was made a "self-imposed" task by those already named and by other members of the London Georgists' Discussion Club. The classes were also advertised in several weekly periodicals.

Manchester

The School's extension in Manchester, whose session also opens on September 28th, holds its classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays (7 p.m.) at the Houldsworth Hall, Deansgate—International Trade and Social Problems on Tuesdays and Fundamental Economics on Thursdays. The tutors are Miss Grace Levy and Miss Betty Noble. In Manchester also there has been the advertising by posters, handbills, etc., in which members of the Manchester League have given useful assistance.

Glasgow

Most promising developments in Glasgow are on foot, stimulated by the interest and support of the Bailie Burt Trustees, who regard the study classes as of the utmost importance. At a specially convened meeting of Georgist adherents, held on October 2nd (Messrs. A. W. Madsen and V. H. Blundell in attendance from London) the Henry George School of Social Science, Glasgow Centre, was inaugurated. Mr. Blundell's statement on the progress of the School in London was heard with much acceptance, as well as the assurance that headquarters could and would give all possible aid in the way of tutorial equipment. Mr. Charles McSwan has kindly undertaken the work of leading the School, whose first class on Fundamental Economics will open on November 17th, and be held in the Y.M.C.A. Halls, Bothwell Street.

Advertising the Classes

The London "campaign" above referred to started with an open-air demonstration class in Trafalgar Square, so that the public could see just how we conduct the teaching. On the plinth were the charts and diagrams, the blackboard, and other equipment. Mr. E. G. Popplewell, in an able introductory speech, explained the value of the study of Political Economy. The students being grouped around were asked their questions and made their replies while Mr. V. H. Blundell conducted the class and showed how fascinating the School's method was. Meanwhile a quantity of handbills was distributed among the attendant public.

Each night of the week was devoted to some kind of publicity and in all some 6,500 leaflets were distributed by our "squads" at Westminster, Victoria and Knightsbridge rail and bus stations, and in the Balham area.

In Balham the placing of the posters had to be seen to, and in that work Messrs. Popplewell and Boothman were on one occasion out of bed till 3 a.m. It is remarkable to see the enthusiasm in all these efforts, speaking for the desire that *others* must "come to School" also and have the benefit of the instruction that has been a real inspiration.

During the week two lectures, "Introduction to Political Economy" were given by Mr. V. H. Blundell, when the film, "Millions of Jobs" (projector and film kindly presented by Miss Elizabeth Riley) was displayed—one of these at 4 Great Smith Street, where the large general office was filled to capacity, and the other at Hope House, where the Discussion Club usually holds its monthly meetings.

INAUGURATING A CLUB ROOM

After the Open-air Demonstration Class in Trafalgar Square, members of the Discussion Club were called to a "house-warming" at 4 Great Smith Street, where the United Committee has kindly placed one of the rooms (one of those used for stocking literature) at the disposal of the Club, the room having been completely transformed by the help of Mr. Popplewell, so that the Club has not only its own home, but also the office has a comfortable room for any visitors to the office or persons engaged in research. Mrs. Joan O'Leary was the generous hostess, having prepared the large general office, where the considerable company sat down to tea and enjoyed the good things she had kindly provided.

Apart from the new Club and Visitors' Room, the Circulating Library should be mentioned. The books have all been classified and catalogued by volunteer members of the Club and consist in a fair range of general economic literature. In passing, we wish to say that the United Committee will welcome gladly the gift of any books from friends who can spare such from their own bookshelves—but there will need to be much help that way before the Library is equal to that which was destroyed at the Knight-rider Street offices, in the "blitz" of May 10th, 1941.

The September meeting of the Club (at Hope House) was given to a discussion upon topics and articles in the current issue of *LAND & LIBERTY*. The speakers, each taking his own subject, included Messrs. W. J. Cadman, E. G. Popplewell and W. E. Fox. The meeting was declared a decided success.

Coming meetings: October 13th, "Report on Denmark," by Messrs. V. H. Blundell and A. W. Madsen, at which it is hoped that Mr. J. Gwynn will say something of his impressions of his recent visit to Yugoslavia. Being arranged is a debate with Young Conservatives and a lecture on the Keynesian theory of unemployment by a post-graduate of the London School of Economics.

On September 17th, Mr. V. H. Blundell addressed the West Fulham Liberal Association, the subject being (by special request) the Town and Country Planning Act and its operation. On September 27th he addressed the Inventors' Association at Kingsway Hall, and in the course of his argument used, with much effect, the case presented by Mr. L. R. East, of Australia, in his paper, "The Faith of an Engineer," a large part of which appeared in *LAND & LIBERTY* of March, 1946.

There was a debate in Clapham on September 21st, between Young Liberals and Young Socialists, to which the public were invited, with opportunity for three-minute speeches. Advantage was taken of this by five members of the Discussion Club, Messrs. Popplewell, Gwynn, Dawson, Turner and Bateman, whose contribution as critics of modern policies and exposition of the true economics all should understand provided a quite exhilarating episode. Hopefully they have recruited some students for the School's classes.

1s. 6d. Set of LECTURES AND ADDRESSES, by Henry George. Single copies, 3d. each, viz.: THE CRIME OF POVERTY; MOSES; SCOTLAND AND SCOTSMEN; THOU SHALT NOT STEAL; THY KINGDOM COME. At 2d. each, viz.: JUSTICE THE OBJECT, TAXATION THE MEANS; LAND AND TAXATION; THE LAND FOR THE PEOPLE; THE STUDY OF POLITICAL ECONOMY.