

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL

During the twelve months ended March 31, 1954, the number of people who contacted the School as a result of advertisements in libraries, public vehicles, local newspapers and weekly journals was 355. There were 288 enrolments for classes and 188 completed their course of study. The number of tutors engaged during the year was 16. They were Messrs. C. A. E. Aitken, V. H. Blundell, R. R. Blundell, E. Baush, W. J. Cadman, K. Critchlow, O. French, L. J. Hubbard, H. R. Lee, P. O'Leary, R. Johne, A. L. Roberts, V. G. Saldji, L. A. Stevenson, A. H. Stoakes and R. A. Ward. Four more tutors have been added to the tutors panel.

Classes have been held in Birmingham, Croydon, Enfield, Hornsey, Ilford, Westminster and Welling. Courses have been the *Basic Course* ("Progress and Poverty"); *International Trade* ("Protection or Free Trade" and four special reading assignments); *The Science of Political Economy* ("The Science of Political Economy" by Henry George and supplementary material); *Tutors Instruction Course* (based on "Progress and Poverty"); *Current Economic Theories* (reading assignments from Land and Liberty Press and other publications).

The year under review has brought a number of new volunteer workers, some of whom attend twice weekly. The library of some 350 books has been reorganized and catalogued by Mr. S. Dawe and a research department has been established by Mr. John Bathe.

The School Magazine edited by a panel of tutors and produced by a special group of helpers has for its primary purpose the establishment of a link between ex-students and the School so that their interest may be maintained and education continued. The School acknowledges the efforts of those who contribute so much to its production. The duplication of lesson sheets, typing of correspondence, circularizing of students, filing and the maintenance of records are among the varied tasks undertaken by voluntary helpers on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Rambles, socials and other activities have been organized throughout the year so that students could meet informally and thus learn more of the work of the School and its purpose.

The Speakers' Panel of the School provided speakers to address various outside organizations and there has been an interchange of tutors among branches where talks on special subjects have been given.

Current and Future Meetings

At the special request of some of this term's students at Westminster, weekly informal meetings will be held for a few weeks after the ending of the term which is on July 6. Mr. V. H. Blundell, Director of Studies is visiting the branches of the School in the greater London area to summarize the Basic Course and to discuss with students the background of the School and to indicate ways in which they can promote its philosophy and the practical proposals it advocates.

AUTUMN WEEK-END SCHOOL

At Dorking, October 2-3

A Week-end School is to be held at the Beatrice Webb House, Dorking, October 2 to 3. The inclusive charge from Saturday tea to Sunday tea is 30s. 0d. Sessions will include papers submitted by students and tutors which will be read and discussed, and addresses (with discussion) on the ethical and economic considerations of trade unionism, the meaning of liberty, trade barriers operating within Britain and a special session where a "Brains Trust" ask the audience the questions. An informal social gathering will close the Saturday programme. Further details will be issued shortly, but in the meantime readers of LAND & LIBERTY to whom an invitation to attend is cordially extended, are advised to make reservation now. A deposit of 5s. 0d. should be sent to the Organizing Secretary, Mrs. Joan O'Leary, Dorking Week-end School, Henry George School, 4 Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

PETROL TAX PROTEST

It seems a pity that so many English motorists should be denied the possibility of more comfortable and more efficient motoring by the wholly artificial impact of taxation. The little "sevens" and "eights" that have played so big a part in English motoring were brought into being by the absurd horse-power tax which dominated English motor-car design for so long. Many people hoped that the abolition of this method of assessing tax would leave designers free to provide cars with greater power for the work they have to do. Unhappily, the enormous tax on petrol is having much the same restrictive effect on engine design as the pre-war horse-power tax. Five extra miles to the gallon are so necessary to so many motorists that other kinds of performance have to be sacrificed.

Engine-power is an important safety factor. Overtaking is far less dangerous if the overtaking vehicle has power to accelerate quickly, and this is particularly important when heavy traffic compels slow speeds . . . Fatigue is a contributory cause of many accidents, and a rather more powerful engine than the "eight" takes much of the strain from driving. It seems a pity (and short-sighted national policy) that English motoring should be so restricted by the incidence of a penal petrol tax. We can at least be thankful that our English "eights" are the gallant little friends they are.—By "A Motoring Correspondent" in the *Manchester Guardian*, March 8.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

The United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values, Ltd. (proprietors of LAND & LIBERTY, postal subscription 10s. or 52 from U.S.A. and Canada), the International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade, and the Leagues listed below are maintained by the voluntary support of those who believe in and would seek to advance the principle and policy which the Committee, the Union and the Leagues advocate: Land Value Taxation and Free Trade in its fulness, with removal of the tax burden on industry and abolition of all monopolies and special privileges that interfere with the production of wealth and prevent its just distribution. Cheques, etc., may be made payable to R. W. Frost (United Committee), Ashley Mitchell (International Union) or to W. E. Fox (The Land-Value Taxation League), 4 Great Smith Street, S.W.1.

Transatlantic Readers

Friends in the U.S.A. and Canada can contribute through the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, 48-50, East 69th Street, New York, in which case they should name LAND & LIBERTY and make cheques, etc., payable to the Foundation.

ADDRESSES

At 4, Great Smith Street, London, S.W.1. Telephone: Abbey 6665; *United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values, Ltd.*, Richard William Frost (Hon. Treasurer); A. W. Madsen (Secretary); *International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade*, Ashley Mitchell (Hon. Treasurer); *The Land-Value Taxation League*, S. Martin (Hon. Secretary); *Henry George School of Social Science*, V. H. Blundell (Director of Studies), with Branches at Birmingham, Blackburn, Liverpool, Manchester, Portsmouth, various London suburbs, and Glasgow.

Branches of the Land-Value Taxation League: *Derbyshire*, G. Musson (Hon. Secretary), 29, Denby Lane, Codnor. *Manchester*, Mrs. D. J. J. Owen (Hon. Secretary), 12, Hillside Rd., Offerton, Stockport. *Merseyside*, Miss K. Hand (Hon. Secretary), 14, Bentley Road, Liverpool, 8. *Portsmouth*, H. R. Lee (Hon. Secretary), 13, Lawrence Road, Southsea. *Yorkshire and Northern*, Howard Binns (Hon. Secretary), 3, Westfield Road, Riddlesden, Keighley. *Midland*, Dirom Young (Hon. Secretary *pro tem*), 15, Boulton Road, Wylde Green, Sutton Coldfield.

Scottish League for Land Value Taxation, R. J. Rennie (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer), 220, Mill Street, Rutherglen, Glasgow. *Edinburgh League*. At a general meeting of its members on March 12, the Edinburgh League was by resolution merged in the Scottish League. *Welsh League*, Dr. Fredk. Jones (Hon. Secretary), 53 Amesbury Road, Penylan, Cardiff. *Crosby Henry George Fellowship*, C. C. Paton (Hon. Secretary), 11, Tudor Road, Liverpool, 23.

Office of the President of the International Union:
Mr. J. Rupert Mason, 1920 Lake Street, San Francisco, 21.