

## HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

The enrolment for the Winter Term of Economic Discussion Classes in the London and Greater London areas was 120. In spite of the recent spell of cold weather, attendances are being well maintained. An analysis of the various methods of advertising for students, again showed that the advertisements on the London Transport buses were the most effective. A number of enrolments were secured by posters and leaflets which were accepted by the Public Libraries for display and distribution. Door to door leaflet distribution and press advertising also made contributions to the enrolment.

**Westminster.** The two Basic Courses now in session are being conducted by Mr. K. Critchlow, who is taking his first class, and by Mr. A. L. Roberts, who is taking his second. So keen is the discussion in these classes that they run well over time. On Thursdays, advanced students meet for a course based upon Henry George's *Science of Political Economy*. Opportunity is taken to widen the scope of the discussions so as to include part of modern economic theory and topical economic problems. It is from this course that tutors are recruited. The class is conducted by Mr. V. H. Blundell. Fifteen students have enrolled.

**Enfield.** Mr. W. J. Cadman who is conducting the classes in this area was successful in getting publicity in the local press describing the progress of the School. Enrolment this term was 18, and the classes are being held at the George Spicer School, Southbury Road. Once a month students of previous courses meet for further instruction which takes the form of an examination of current problems relating them to the fundamental principles of the School's teaching.

**Hornsey.** Among the students who attended at the Muswell Hill Public Library on the opening night for the new Basic Course was a reporter from the *Hornsey Journal* who stayed for the whole evening listening with keen attention to the introductory lesson. His report, published January 29, read: "Twenty-four seekers after economic truth gathered at Muswell Hill public library on Wednesday last week to hear the first of a free course of lectures on political economics by lecturers from the Henry George School of Economics. The students included two Africans and a Friern Barnet Labour councillor.

"The object of the course is to encourage discussion on economic problems in the light of some of the accepted theories of economics. The first lecture was devoted to defining some of the terms used in the study of economics. The lectures take place on Wednesday nights at the library." Mr. Ron. Blundell is the tutor. Enrolment was 22. In the next room the first of a series of lectures began for advanced students. Mr. V. H. Blundell (Director of Studies) spoke on "The History of Land Value Taxation in Parliament." Mr. E. Baush is chairman for the session, and subjects included in this series are as follows:—

*The Welfare State versus a State of Welfare*—Mr. H. Pollard.  
*News of the Week*—Mr. P. R. Stubbings.  
*Backward Policies in Backward Areas*—Mr. L. J. Hubbard.  
*Henry George and his predecessors*—Mr. V. H. Blundell.  
*Monopolies, the Fruit of Tariff Policy*—Mr. C. A. E. Aitken.  
*The Property Market*—Mr. W. E. Fox.

The two classes are held on Wednesdays, from 8 to 10 p.m.

**Welling.** Although the enrolment for the Basic Course this term was not as high as it was last term (only 9 new students attending) it was encouraging to note the re-enrolment for the second course on International Trade of 11 previous students. Both classes are being held at the Welling Branch Library. The Basic Course is conducted by Mr. V. G. Saldji and the class on International Trade by Dr. R. John.

**Croydon.** Mr. Pat O'Leary conducts the new Basic Course class which is being held at Elmwood Road School every Thursday. Monthly meetings of former students continue to be held and every term these enthusiasts embark on a door to door leaflet distribution campaign to enrol new students.

**Iford.** The new Course in this area is being conducted by Mr. C. A. E. Aitken and is being held at the Seven Kings

Branch Library on Wednesdays. Mr. Aitken has a class of 10 which includes Mr. R. J. Webster, a student of the previous class. Mr. Webster, to whom economics is no new subject, is taking the course a second time and is attending as a potential tutor for the School.

**Birmingham.** The first class to be held in the Birmingham area for some years opened on Friday, January 29, at the University of Birmingham Buildings, Birmingham University, Edmund Street, Birmingham, 3, where a room has been engaged. The class has been organized by Mr. R. A. Ward, who before moving to Birmingham some years ago was a student at Westminster. Valuable assistance and moral support is being given by Mr. C. F. Parker who for a number of years has been associated with the movement. Though only a small class (it started with 7 and increased to 10) it is having much success. It is the first class to be conducted by Mr. Ward.

### ONE DAY SCHOOL FOR UNIVERSITY LIBERALS

At the request of the Union of University Liberal Societies a One-Day School on Land Value Taxation was held on Saturday, February 6, at Church House, Westminster, from 11 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. The attendance from the Universities was disappointing, many being kept away by unfavourable weather. As, however, the meeting was advertised among Liberals in the London area the meeting room was almost completely filled and a lively discussion took place at all sessions. The programme was as follows:—

*Current Economic Problems and Land Value Taxation*—  
 Mr. Charles Aitken.  
*Land Value Taxation versus Present Day Taxation*—  
 Mr. V. H. Bundell.  
*The Policy Applied*—Mr. A. W. Madsen.  
*Any Questions*—Mr. V. G. Saldji, Mr. Charles Aitken,  
 Mr. V. H. Blundell, Mr. A. W. Madsen.  
 Mr. Ashley Mitchell presided.

### AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE SUMMER SCHOOL, 1954

Over sixty people participated in the Annual Summer School and Conference of the Australian School of Social Science held at the W. E. A. House, Newport Beach, N.S.W., from January 29 to February 1.

In an excellent session Mr. J. J. Maloney, M.L.C., and the Rev. Ralph Ogden spoke in a Forum on "Human Rights and Compulsory Unionism." Their arguments and questions were keen, sincere, telling and well marshalled, and the discussion from the floor brought out many more important points on basic human rights.

Another visitor was Professor Leslie Wilkinson, whose entertaining address on "Town Planning" was full of information and brilliant ideas. One important point he pressed was that the present land-tenure system is a major obstacle to all plans for improvement, and his proposal to substitute leasehold titles to land provoked a keen discussion.

Mr. H. G. Firth's paper on "Principles of Peace" was an appeal to work for the things that make for peace, and an indictment of the forces that make war, chiefly selfishness, apathy and vested interests. Liberty is the panacea for all social ills, and a liberation of trade between all countries would of itself do a great deal to remove the danger of war. Australian and all other tariff policies are an invitation to war, as well as an injury to ourselves and other countries. Instead of professing to want peace while actually adopting policies which produce war we should play our part in co-operating with other countries and promoting the general welfare. The subsequent discussion thoroughly supported Mr. Firth's views.

Other sessions were "An Essential Contribution to the New Elizabethan Age," by Mrs. I. A. Akeroyd, "Voting Systems," by W. A. Dowe, "Discussion of Criticisms" and "Question Box."