

## In Denmark, 28th July to 4th August, 1952 EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LAND VALUE TAXATION AND FREE TRADE



SCULPTOR—STÅHR NEILSEN

*Near the window by which I write, a great bull is tethered by a ring in his nose. Grazing round and round he has wound his rope about the stake until now he stands a close prisoner, tantalized by rich grass he cannot reach, unable even to toss his head to rid him of the flies that cluster on his shoulders. Now and again he struggles vainly, and then, after pitiful bellowings, relapses into silent misery. This bull, a very type of massive strength, who, because he has not wit enough to see how he might be free, suffers want in sight of plenty, and is helplessly preyed upon by weaker creatures, seems to me no unfit emblem of the working masses . . . I shall go out and drive the bull in the way that will untwist his rope. But who shall drive men into freedom? Till they use the reason with which they have been gifted, nothing can avail. For them there is no special providence.—Introductory to PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE, by Henry George.*

The picture represents the high-relief sculpture newly erected over the main entrance of the Folk High School and residential college near Odense. There the Eighth International Conference for Land Value Taxation will be held during the days July 28 to August 4 this year. The sculptor has brilliantly interpreted the sentiment that is conveyed; and to have it thus placed speaks for the spirit that pervades the school and its teaching with respect to the philosophy of social life. Other visual testimony to that spirit is the bust of Henry George that stands in the grounds (salved after the old building, used as headquarters of the German Gestapo, was destroyed during the war) and the hewn-granite rostrum dedicated to the former principal the late Jakob Lange, erected when the new building was inaugurated. The inscription, naming his talents and achievements, commemorates him as a leading champion of Henry George.

No place, by its associations could be better fitted for holding of the coming Conference. Apart from that, it is structurally ideal, being in itself a residence and college with large lecture hall that can be doubled in size by throwing in the big gymnasium. There are smaller lecture rooms, rest room and library, admirably adapted for group meetings and a spacious promenade hall set with seats and tables for the more intimate individual concourse that counts for everything at such gatherings. In addition to its grounds, the school has its own experimental farm.

The Conference is convened under the joint auspices of the International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade and the Danish Henry George Union. Organising committees of these bodies (Mrs. Caroline Bue Bjørner in charge of that in Denmark) are busy on the

preparations. At recent meetings Mr. Arnold Poulsen attended in London on behalf of the Danish Henry George Union, and in Copenhagen Mr. A. W. Madsen attended on behalf of the International Union. From Denmark itself there will certainly be a very large enrolment. And already from other countries (enrolments through the International Union) the first list of adherents, with names steadily arriving, numbers 150; namely, 82 in Great Britain, 28 in U.S.A. and Canada and the balance from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Israel, Tangier, France, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Spain. Of these at least 102 have declared the intention to be present; some are still indefinite, others again are adherents and supporters anxious to be associated although unfortunately unable to travel so far.

The duration of the Conference has been extended to include one more day than was originally announced. The actual dates are from Monday evening, July 28 (by which time all participating members should have arrived) till Monday morning, August 4.

We renew our invitation to all our readers that they, joining the membership of the International Union (minimum annual fee 5s. or \$1) subscribe also as members of the Conference the fee for which is £1 or \$3. The invitation is to them whether they can come or not, so that their names are put on a list that shall be as large and as representative of as many countries as possible. All enrolled members will receive the publications and reports of the Conference which promise to be a valuable addition to the literature of the movement; and their financial support will ease the burden on the funds of the organising bodies.

As already announced the terms for residence and meals at the School are extraordinarily moderate, namely, 12s. 6d. (or \$2) a day. Each bedroom accommodates two persons with separate beds; self-service and with washing facilities at ends of corridors—in keeping with the design and purpose for which all such student institutions are built. This accommodation is quickly filling up, so also the special *dormitory* accommodation for which the inclusive charge is only 8s. 6d. per day. (The prices are subject to any intervening alteration in the exchange value of Danish money).

Those who may prefer not to sleep at the School (though having their meals with the rest of the company at an agreed charge of less than 12s. 6d. per day) should give us immediate instructions to reserve for them hotel accommodation in Odense. They should be precise as to their requirements—single room, double room, with or



without bath, as the case may be. Provisional arrangements have been made for such reservation, under proviso that it be booked well in advance—the word that comes from every hotel management in view of the holiday season.

With regard to travel it is requested that each traveller will make his or her own arrangements (advisedly as early as possible). A special party travelling from

England is being formed for those wishing to spend a fortnight in Denmark. The booking is for the outward journey on July 27, and return from Denmark on August 11. As the accommodation is limited, applications to join this party, for the journey both ways, should be sent without delay saying whether first or third class is desired. Return fares (London-Odense) are first-class throughout £25; first on ship and third on rail £23 10s.; third-class throughout £16 10s.