

## INTERNATIONAL NOTES AND NEWS

### DENMARK

The minority Government of Social Democrats which Mr. Hedtoft formed after the General Election on August 8 collapsed as soon as Parliament reassembled, and before it had the chance to submit its proposals for rectifying the serious state of the country's finances. Defeated on a minor matter, the continuation of the butter rationing, the Prime Minister resigned leaving others to deal with the serious financial crisis in which the previous Socialist administration and its predecessors had landed the country. A repeated General Election was foretold but that has been postponed by Mr. Erik Eriksen, leader of the Moderate Liberals, taking office to form a coalition of Moderate Liberals and Conservatives—also a minority government, for their combined strength of 59 members is precisely the same as that of the Social Democratic Party. The rest of the House is made up of 12 Justice Party, 12 Radical Liberals, 7 Communists and 2 from the Faroe Islands. The Finance Minister, Mr. Thorkil Kristensen, has received the consent of the House for his financial and economic proposals which with their huge burden of additional direct and indirect taxes are far more drastic and catastrophic to trade and industry than those the Social Democrats submitted when they were forced on August 8 to appeal to the country.

The Justice Party alone are in violent opposition to what they assert to be a policy of stark madness and in the nation-wide debate on the fundamental cause of the financial crisis and the true remedy for it they are making their voices heard more effectively than ever before. The country has reached, they say, the nemesis of the so-called "planned economy" with its necessary restrictions, controls, subsidies, inflation and its deliberate safeguarding of the special privileges that rob the people through land monopoly and tariff protection. The matter is put to the extreme test. In Denmark to-day the forces of progress and the forces of reaction are truly face to face, the Justice Party *under the banner of Land Value Taxation and Free Trade* providing the true answer to the planners and pointing the right and only way to the prosperity and happiness of the people.

### A WORLD-WIDE CIRCULATION

As reported in our previous issue, the Union's Declaration of Principle and Policy was circulated in Esperanto to 5,800 addresses in 70 different countries. Letters and postcards acknowledging receipt of the document have come from Paris, Le Havre and other towns in France; from Rome, Turin, Florence, Milan and Parma in Italy; from three places in Austria and two places in Belgium; from two places in Denmark; from Holland, Norway, Finland, Yugoslavia and Poland—not to speak of Great Britain itself. The Dutch communicant was the I.K.S. Clubpost in Holland which sent names and addresses of its members in all parts of the world, indicating which of the names would be more particularly interested in the Declaration. Among the letters from Italy was one from the Esperanto Federation requiring 120 copies in Esperanto, Italian and French; and another from Radio Roma bearing an invitation to provide a broadcast in Esperanto—in an address by a competent person (speaking on his own behalf) which would occupy some 18 minutes in one of their monthly broadcasts which are devoted to international

affairs. This address has been prepared by Mr. Frank Jones, of Liverpool, in a well-stated summary of the Henry George principle and policy. As soon as we know that the broadcast has taken place we will print the English version in this journal. It was of particular interest to get the letters from Finland, Yugoslavia and Poland, showing that at least something can percolate through the so-called "iron-curtain." Another gratifying feature of this Esperanto adventure on the part of the International Union is having made contact with the Esperanto Association in Japan who are now being offered copies of the Declaration for distribution through their agency.

### SPAIN

Senor Jose Anglada-Prior, of Barcelona, has welcomed the Esperanto edition of the International Union's Declaration and has asked for further large supplies of that text as well as of the Spanish. We are obliged to him for a list of 45 Esperantist journals in many countries, including all European countries and the U.S.A., Brazil, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and Iceland. To the editors of these journals, review copies of the Esperanto edition have been sent. On the other hand we have been able to give Senor Anglada names and addresses of several individual Esperantists in Spain who received the Esperanto text with approval and have asked for further copies.

Senor Santiago Serra, writing from Barcelona, gives the good news that translations of all Henry George's works are obtainable at the Library Beltran in Madrid which published them some years ago. This is quite a discovery, for the books have been thought to be out of print. As a fact they are now being read by various friends in Barcelona, Gerona, Manresa, etc. Mr. Serra goes on to say that in Catalonia there is a good nucleus of intelligent men well acquainted with the Georgeist view, some of them University teachers with whom it will be possible to form a group which in conjunction with friends in Madrid, Seville, Valencia, etc., can make the foundation for reorganising the Georgeist movement in the Iberian peninsula as soon as opportunity affords.

### FRANCE

To our readers who understand French we warmly commend the quarterly journal *Terre et Liberté*, edited by M. Daudé Bancel. The annual subscription, 80 francs, may be sent to Andre Fevrier, Rue de l'Association, Mesnil-Esnard, Seine Inf.; or, it may be sent in sterling (2s. 6d.) to the International Union at 4 Great Smith Street, London, S.W.1. The latest issue, for January-March, 1951, contains many informative articles, reports, reprints and reviews. Max Toubeau explains the significance of the progress in Denmark. He writes of the Physiocrats who advocated the *Impôt Unique* in the 18th century and he gives a to-day survey of activities in various countries. The "Virtues of Free Trade" and "Toward the United States of Europe," occupying a page, are taken from the writings of F. Van Vlassingen and Prof. Nicholas Murray Butler. "Louis Yankari" writes on Life and Living in Tangier, and a striking article on Nationalisation by P. R. Wolf in *Paris-Normandie* is reproduced. P. Giannelias proves Solon, the sage of ancient Athens, to have been a precursor of Henry George. In another article, and in the same sense,