

twice as much as the general rate on other land in the area.

Opposition came from Mr. E. J. Craigie and the Land Values Rating Committee, of which he is the honorary secretary. The vigorous campaign conducted before the Bill came to the House of Assembly and the pamphlet written and widely circulated by Mr. Craigie have been described in our columns. Arguments then advanced were echoed by Labour speakers during the Assembly debates, speaker after speaker affirming his belief in the wisdom and justice of the rating of land values.

The following points from opposition speeches on the clause defining "urban farm land" during the committee stage, December 9, admirably summarise the underlying purpose of the land value clauses of the Bill, and make clear what their effects will be: "It is a camouflaged way of crippling the most fair method of rating"—Mr. Davis. "The main purpose is to defeat the land values system of rating. It grants a special privilege to a certain section and will assist those who purchase land for speculation . . . it will react to the detriment of councils and represents a retrograde and undesirable step."—Mr. Hutchens.

"It will force other citizens to pay heavier rates for the provision of services. It will force people to build dwelling houses further out of the metropolitan area and add greatly to the cost of providing water supplies and sewerage. I do not think that is economic"—Mr. Dunstan. "If we pass this Bill the land values system will be changed so materially that its effectiveness will to a large extent be destroyed. Urban farm land will eventually be subdivided into building blocks at greatly enhanced values. The owners should pay the same rating as those in the township around it. To say that those living near this

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

The sixteenth annual Summer School and Conference of the Australian School of Social Science (Director: W. A. Dowe, M.A., Box 666, GPO Sydney) was held at Newport, N.S.W., during the four days January 28 to 31. Among those who took a leading part by way of papers presented for discussion were Mr. E. B. Donohue, the Secretary of the School; Mr. Henry R. Nowoty, a well-known Queensland economist and writer; Mr. Brent H. Evans, who as Secretary of the Joint Commission for Tariff Revision, is doing a valuable work for the free trade cause in Australia; Mr. and Mrs. Don Young of the W.E.A.; Mr. Das Gupta from India, and Mr. Peter Leow from Malaya, both studying in Australia under the Colombo Plan; Mr. Maynard Davies, lately returned from his world tour; and Mr. W. A. Dowe. It was a comprehensive programme, the discussion on the various topics proving most helpful. Mr. Donohue on "Privilege or Progress?" exposed the amazing and far-reaching effects of privilege created by law, and the legal robbery that takes place under its cover. Mr. Davies's description of what he saw and learned in his travels was the more informative because it was accompanied by coloured pictures. Mr. Evans spoke instructively on G.A.T.T., trade balances and allied subjects. Mr. and Mrs. Young, Mr. Gupta and Mr. Leow explained the Colombo Plan revealing many important matters, not least with regard to the land question particularly in India and Malaya. Mr. Dowe's theme was "The Great Trap for Politicians and Economists"—the trap into which they fall unless they realise that legislation must never benefit one section of the community at the expense of another section. Most modern legislation does offend in that way and is inevitably anti-social and injurious; yet the temptation to yield to the pressure of vested interest seems to have become irresistible. Books drawn on to support the argument were *Economics in One Lesson*, by Hazlitt and *The Law*, by Bastiat.

The four days were well spent. The attendance was good, despite the very wet and unpleasant weather, and many were present who had come to this annual event for the first time.

land should pay more is ridiculous, for they are the people who have made the gardening land so valuable"—Mr. Quirke.

"The Government is trying to nullify the decision made at local government rating polls. Members opposite have said that owners of primary-production areas near the city might go bankrupt if a uniform system of rating were adopted. Under differential rating the value of such land would be vastly increased mainly as a result of the rates collected in other parts of the district"—Mr. Jennings. "This provision breaks down every principle underlying the land values rating system"—Mr. Frank Walsh, deputy leader of the Labour Party.

Ambitious Development in Barcelona

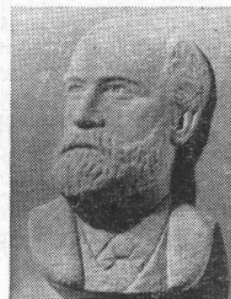
The unflagging devotion of a group of our readers in Spain is already well-known, and a report on the intense press campaign they are conducting appeared in our previous issue. We have since received from Mr. J. Paluzie-Borrell details of recent, current and planned activities by a number of them in Barcelona. He has himself recently addressed cultural, religious and co-operative societies in Barcelona. A most promising development is the formation of a Georgeist section of the Handweavers' Co-operative in that city which will conduct study courses and give lectures, convene conferences and publish literature on economics and social philosophy.

One study course is already well under way, having opened on January 14 with an enrolment of 23 students, of whom eight were women. Under the auspices of the section, Mr. Santiago Serra is to address the Handweavers in March on the economic enigma of civilisation. Directors of the section are Messrs. Anglada, Barcelo, Coll, Deltell, Serra, Soler-Corrales and Paluzie-Borrell. Arrangements are in hand for the recruitment of new members. Friendly contact has been established with three co-operative organisations, a cultural society, and a manufactory in Barcelona. A preliminary programme of lectures to be given before members and employees of these entities has been agreed and a series of economic study courses has been planned.

Gracing the rooms of the Handweavers' Co-operative and placed in a most prominent position is the bas-relief bust of Henry George as pictured above. It is the work of a young sculptor, Jaime Deltell, a member of the Co-operative who after studying George's works under the able tutelage of Mr. Paluzie-Borrell is now an enthusiastic advocate and a valuable colleague and, as reported above, a director of the Georgeist section of the co-operative. Engraved on a panel beneath the bust are the words—in Spanish—"Political economy is a science and must follow the rules of science and seek in natural law the causes of the phenomena which it investigates." They are taken from Henry George's *Science of Political Economy*, Book 1, chapter 8, concluding paragraph.

PROGRESS AND POVERTY IN FRENCH

Our readers who would like to obtain copies of the French Edition of *Progress and Poverty*, translation by P. L. Le Monnier, should communicate with *Terre et Liberté*, 3 bis, Rue Pasteur, Mesnil-Esnard, Seine Inf., France, making payment (by Money Order) of 12 shillings per book.



SCULPTOR—JAIME DELTELL