

absent, for the Conference was all out one afternoon on a delightful excursion, their host at Dejbjerg, landowner P. Møllers, seating 150 of them at the "coffee table." We like the injunction to those with cameras who took many snapshots, that prints should be sent to the organisers for them to publish or preserve in a memorial album. It is a hint to remember for all our own next occasions.

TRANSSVAAL

Mr. F. A. W. Lucas, K.C., the leading campaigner for land value taxation in the Transvaal, has reached the age of 70 and now retires from the judicial bench to which he was appointed some three years ago. He contemplates visiting England next year. As Leader of the Labour Party in the Transvaal Provincial Council he pressed for and achieved the passage of the Transvaal Rating Ordinance, 1916. His public work as Chairman of various Government Commissions, such as on Native Land Tenure and relevant subjects, has been of exceptional importance. For many years, till he became a Justice, he was joint editor with Mather Smith of the *Free People*. Let us hope, now he is back in private life, that that journal will be revived. He has written much in contribution to the country's press and periodicals and is author of the illuminating book *South Africa as it should be*, an incomparable statement of the case for Land Value Taxation. Copies can be ordered (at 1s. 6d. post free—special terms to our readers) for despatch from South Africa.

In letters recently published in four South African newspapers, Mr. Mather Smith, of Johannesburg, maintains his industrious advocacy of the land value policy. In the *Sunday Times*, April 29, he shows how subsidies to farmers and the devaluation of currency force up land prices. He asks, "Why should not rural landowners pay something towards the salvation of our soil from erosion? Such a payment would reduce the prices asked for rural land—thus reducing the cost of producing food and resulting in cheaper food—and it would help to raise the £100 million which the Director of Soil Conservation thinks will be required to save the soil." In *Forward*, May 18, he recalls that the Transvaal Site Value Rating Ordinance was introduced when Mr. Justice Lucas was the Leader of the Labour Party with a majority of only one. What has happened that Labour Party candidates have lately declared that if elected to the Council they would vote for a reduction in the rates? Mr. Smith points out that the city must raise its revenue somehow; if not on site values then by rates on buildings, higher bus fares, higher rates for water and electricity, etc., all of which would increase the cost of living.

Referring to the advice given by the Minister of Land, Mr. Strydom, to young farmers not to buy farms at present prices, Mr. Mather Smith, in the *Farmers' Weekly*, asks: "What are young farmers' sons to do? Crowd into our towns where living conditions are unsuited to them so that many turn into hooligans and criminals?" Later he remarks: "Writer after writer, in your paper, including myself, has advised farmers and would-be farmers to make some study of the works of Henry George, as so many of the farmers of Denmark have done with good results."

CAPTAIN F. SAW

With regret we report the death of Capt. F. Saw, member of the United Committee and of the Welsh League for the Taxation of Land Values. He died on August 1, at his home, 19 Heathwood Road, Cardiff. He was in his 86th year. His was a sea-faring career which he took upon leaving school, obtaining his first mate's certificate in the days of the old wind-jammers, and later obtaining his captaincy, he served with various steamship companies. Retiring from the sea in 1918, he finally settled in Cardiff. There he identified himself with the Labour movement and was a member of the Trades and Labour Council, but his political campaigning was consistently for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade. In the many meetings he addressed in the South Wales area, in the press publicity he conducted in his Chairmanship of the Executive Committee, he rendered the Welsh League a long and most able service. Among those attending the funeral were Messrs. Eustace Davies and Edward Buck, representing the Welsh League, and Alderman James Griffiths, former Lord Mayor of Cardiff. To Mrs. Saw and her daughter, Miss Saw, we convey our sincere sympathy in their bereavement.

HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL

The Autumn Session of classes at Westminster will begin on Tuesday and Thursday, September 25 and 27. Three courses have been arranged as follows: Basic Course; International Trade; The Science of Political Economy. Two well-attended lecture-discussions completed the Summer Term. These were "Capital and Interest" (Mr. V. H. Blundell) and "The Town and Country Planning Act" (Mr. Arthur Batty). For these lectures students from the three Basic Courses joined forces.

Attendance has been well maintained throughout the Term and appreciation of the School's service has been shown by donations and by voluntary clerical and other assistance. Battling with much skill and patience against current misconceptions and prejudices, the tutors feel well rewarded by the ultimate acceptance of George's basic principles by a high proportion of their students.

The Adult School, Croydon, has been booked for a class on the Basic Course, which will be conducted by Mr. C. Nelms, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. O'Leary. Opening date is Wednesday, September 26. Students of the School have given much assistance in the preparation for the autumn classes by way of leaflet distribution, poster display and personal recommendation.

Portsmouth. A class for the Basic Course begins on Tuesday, September 25, at 7.30 p.m., at Foresters Hall, 226 Fratton Road. It will be conducted by Messrs. H. R. Lee and H. Stoakes.

MANCHESTER GEORGEISTS

The purpose and work of the United Nations Economic and Social Council will be the subject of the September meeting of the Manchester Georgeists. The speaker will be Miss Marion Longworth, who has just returned from Geneva. The meeting will be held Wednesday, September 12, at 7.45 p.m., at 55 Daisy Bank Road, Victoria.

Wednesday, October 10, at 7.45 p.m., Mr. H. Kevin-Armitage will speak on "Proportional Representation." The meeting will be held at 92 Dudley Road, Whalley Range, Withington. Members and their friends are invited to both meetings.

OUR READERS WRITE

TO TIME AND TIDE

"Mr. John Connell, in his review of C. V. Wedgwood's book in your issue of June 23, is appreciative of everything concerning Josiah Wedgwood except his 'preposterous opinions,' meaning no doubt his advocacy of the philosophy of Henry George.

"Wedgwood believed that what a man produced by his labour should be his own property, but that natural resources, produced by no man's activity, should belong to all of us. He therefore strongly preferred taxes on land values rather than on earnings, savings, houses and goods, and he believed that a substantial change in this direction would have far-reaching beneficial results.

"Such views may be unusual, but why preposterous? Would Mr. Connell kindly tell us?

"As Dorothy Thompson says, in the realm of ideas Georgeists are among the foremost anti-Communists.

"Tolstoi said: 'People do not argue against the teachings of Henry George, they simply do not know them. To understand them is to accept them. George's principles and his practical proposals are both thoroughly Christian.'"—A. H. PEAKE.

TO NALGO NEWS

With taxation continually rising various methods of avoiding it come into action. If we look at any form of taxation we can see that it has two effects: (1) it slows down production, and (2) it gives rise to deceit and cheating to avoid it. One is forced to the conclusion that taxation is a very bad thing indeed on these grounds alone. Suggest to the ordinary man the abolition of taxes and he will smile and say taxation is a necessary evil because a Government must have revenue—and this is of course true. The next line of thought might well be: is there any form of taxation which does *not* fall upon production or make criminals of people who try to get round the tax? This is where the essential difference between labour and natural elements lies. A tax on land values cannot interfere with production because land is not produced, and if the tax falls upon the land, whether used