

## West Coast Reader Writes

**A**FTER I received my copy of California Homeowner for September, published at 1466½ West Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, it occurred to me that the staff of that magazine did a splendid job in presenting land value taxation through the various articles and letters.

The editor, Michele Hamilton Greenhill, has completed our courses and continues to be active in boosting the school and our principles. The editorial board (Sidney Evans, Harry Pollard and John Nagy) is fostering these principles. Pollard, as director of the Henry George School in Los Angeles, serves nobly in keeping the others completely updated in matters of land value taxation, trade and the Science of Political Economy. He works hard at spreading the word via radio and television, and by speaking to various groups in this area. Mr. Nagy ran for tax assessor in San Diego County and now many more people know about land value taxation. By this time readers of HGN have heard of Dr. Irene Hickman's election as tax assessor of Sacramento County. She picked up the challenge made by the judge presiding over a case in which she was active as a protesting taxpayer. "If the taxpayers don't like the way they are being treated they can always elect a new assessor," he said. And they did.\*

If any one man is more responsible than others in having awakened the homeowners of California it is Sidney Evans of San Diego. To meet him is to brush with greatness. He backs his beliefs with his purse. An outstanding contribution some months ago was his purchase of full-page advertisements in California newspapers for the purpose of promoting LVT legislation.

The lead article in the September

issue was by Paul Burkhart, who will run for state senator from the San Fernando Valley's 22nd district. A pharmaceutical executive, and concerned seriously about economic problems in the Valley, he wrote knowingly about the taxing of land values and the untaxing of other property. He will, I know, reach many people with his messages, because he writes understandingly and avoids cliches. I wish him well and would like to vote for him, but I live in another district.

Later on in this issue we find a letter from Congressman Thomas M. Rees who was California state senator from Los Angeles before being elected to Congress. He asks the editors to keep him informed of the thinking of readers on these issues. We have exchanged views by correspondence and there is no doubt that he understands LVT to be a fair and just tax.

A representative of General Electric wrote of an article in their company publication, *Going Places*, telling how publicly-paid transportation system increase values tremendously — also a valuable contribution.

Frank J. Brickwedel told how he tried to hold on to reappraisals of land values set higher by him in conscientiously doing his job as tax assessor of Del Norte County. "We attempted to re-appraise all the land and succeeded until we arrived at the large landowners," he stated. "Because of their political pull with the Board of Supervisors they all received 40 percent reductions . . . it is very difficult for assessors in California to carry out their constitutional responsibilities when that type of favoritism is prevalent."

—W. E. Pereira

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\*See September HGN, page 5.