

month as heretofore. The popularity of the Forum last season prompted the more frequent gatherings this year. Judging by the caliber of the speakers and their topics, and the lively interest shown by the audiences, this change was fully warranted. The Forum is again conducted by Herman Ellenoff, to whom a great deal of credit is due for its success.

The Speaker's Bureau continues to furnish lecturers to a diversified list of clubs, leagues and societies. Miss Dorothy Sara, its indefatigable secretary, is constantly on the alert to contact heads of groups to arrange for speakers to address them. Many of the teachers at the Headquarters School are pressed into this service when not on duty in their class rooms. Miss Sara succeeded in booking 19 engagements during the month of October. There are 21 lectures already arranged for December, and there will be many more which are still in process of arrangement. To obtain the services of a lecturer it is only necessary to notify Miss Sara that 50 or more people want to listen and learn. She will gladly submit a list of titles, some of which may appeal especially to certain groups. Among the organizations booked are Kiwanis, Lions and Rotary Clubs, Young Men's and Women's Christian and Hebrew Associations, College and Business Clubs, University and Public School Forums, and Church Organizations. To say the least, this constitutes a formidable array of listeners. For the time being, Miss Sara's "sphere of influence" extends only within a radius of 100 miles from New York City. However, the value of this activity is so keenly felt in many other centers, that news is already at hand of similar work being done in this direction, notably in California.

The Extension Classes of the school (those having teaching courses away from Headquarters) are continually growing in all sections of the country. Boston reports an increase of 50 per cent in enrollments over last year; in this sector, John S. Codman is dean of the Faculty. In Middletown, N. Y., Mr. Z. K. Greene has started a 12-weeks course in Fundamental Economics. In Canada, new classes have been started in Toronto and St. Catharines, Ontario, both being under the direction of Herbert T. Owens. From Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, comes an interesting report, that the first course in "Progress and Poverty" has been started there on November 7 by Ashley Crowell, by introducing it into the curriculum of the Milton Social Study Club.

THE sort of courage and intrepidity of mind, which distinguishes itself in dangers, is vicious and faulty, if it be void of all regard for justice, and support a man only in the pursuit of his own interest.—CICERO.

HAPPY is he who is skilled in tracing effects up to their causes.—VIRGIL.

Robert Schalkenbach Foundation Report

OUR mail bag yields several interesting items with which to start off this report of the Foundation's activities.

From far-off Alaska comes a letter addressed to us by one Jim Busey. Here, in part, is Mr. Busey's enthusiastic missive:

"I am pleased to announce that Alaska's first magazine devoted to the philosophy of freedom will make its appearance by the middle of January. Its sole aim will be to present Henry George's thought in a way that will be so palatable that Alaska will not only favor it, but demand it in short order.

"Thus, I am urging you to send me all the literature, propaganda and news items you can manage to get together. I want editorial letters by folks who know Alaska's problems in the light of Henry George's philosophy. I want news items on this subject from all over the world. If, after the first issue, I can get subscriptions from folks interested in supporting this cause, I will, of course, be glad to receive these, too.

"The main thing, however, is news and editorial material. I cannot pay for it, as the magazine will barely pay for itself. Anything you can do along this line will be of tremendous benefit in moving Alaska in the right direction. Due to the small population, there should not be as much of a struggle as is found in larger centers."

We were able to send Mr. Busey considerable data and to make some suggestions which we hope will help him. May we hear from Georgeists who have material suitable for Mr. Busey's magazine?

Another of our busy correspondents, Mr. Albert Colby, writes us: "I have just been elected the first mayor of Greenhills, Ohio." Mr. Colby, in his "leisure" moments, conducts classes in "Progress and Poverty," sends out literature and checks up on his local library.

Those who attended the Centenary celebration will remember our Australian friend, Mrs. Ivy Akeroyd. A letter just received from London tells us that Mrs. Akeroyd has completed the first stage of her journey back to the other side of the globe. "The voyage across the Atlantic was pleasant," she writes, "and at no time were we in actual danger. Every precaution was taken for our safety. We could leave our lipsticks where we pleased, but, never for one moment, could we be separated from our gas masks and life belts. They accompanied us to the dining salon and were dumped beside us at the orchestral concerts. They made the place look so untidy!"

All through the autumn letters and circulars have been going out, thousands at a time. As a result several hundred copies of "Progress and Poverty" have been sold to new people. Particularly encouraging is the fact that a number of these converts have already sent in orders for other books.

For years the Foundation has encouraged its friends

to give Georgeist books as Christmas presents. The merit of this type of work has been proved many times over and, for hundreds of persons, the gift of a book by Henry George has marked the beginning of a deep interest in our economics. We have made our appeal this year to ten thousand people all over the United States and Canada, and it is our earnest hope that our effort will meet the same enthusiastic reception that has greeted other Christmas campaigns. Many new books are offered and special prices have been worked out.

An added attraction this year is a beautiful wall calendar featuring a handsome colored picture of Henry George and a date pad with quotations from "Progress and Poverty." The picture is a replica of the famous oil painting made by Harry Thurston See and reproduces the rich, deep tones of the original portrait. The quotations were chosen carefully, with a view to conveying a few of the most important points of our philosophy. Because of the expense of producing these calendars, only eight hundred and fifty were made up, and already half of them have been "spoken for." We are selling them at twenty-five cents each.

The excellent speech which Judge Samuel Seabury made about Henry George at the World's Fair on September 2, has been printed in pamphlet form and is now available at five cents each.

A new edition of "Duty to Civilization" by Francis Neilson, is ready for distribution. Through the generous cooperation of Mr. Neilson we are able to offer this one hundred and four-page booklet at ten cents each. Going behind the scenes of the last great war, the author examines the effects of so-called "secret diplomacy" in urging us into battle. In light of present conditions, "Duty to Civilization" is particularly significant.

Our President and our Board of Directors join me in thanking each and every one for the cooperation you have given us during the past year and in their behalf, as well as for myself, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

V. G. PETERSON, Executive Secretary.

Correspondence

EDITORS LAND AND FREEDOM:

Arguing the "Rent in Price" question, one of our fundamental economists wisely states that economic rent being a payment for "value received" could not increase price, lower wages, or cause poverty. The rent went into cost but was absorbed in increased production before the price stage was reached. Then came the question: "What is the mission of the Georgeian movement if other kinds of rent also do not play the exploitive role?" And then came confusion, due to suppression of this question.

Having discovered that economic rent does not exploit, as our editors and manuals seem to teach, we must not wait but must make it perfectly clear *what does exploit*. Or else the answer to the question must be that our mission is accomplished. Our teachers and

editors do not literally teach that *economic* rent takes all wages save a bare existence, but they do teach that *rent does* this, and they do not tell of any other kind of rent than economic. So the whole routine must go together in every statement of the Ricardian law, of the Georgeian philosophy, or of the economics of democracy: (1) *Private appropriation* of economic rent causes—(a) monopoly of land and monopoly of rent; (b) a consumer tax system. Monopoly of land closes it to labor, reducing wages. Taxes on consumption may double prices, halve consumption and production, creating millions of unemployed, business depression and poverty. Failure to make any element here stated perfectly clear will do irreparable injury to progress in teaching. Excess monopoly or speculative rent is what our movement is built around, and because George did not make this clear until twelve years after "Progress and Poverty" does not discredit him. But it does discredit a teaching system that teaches such ridiculous error, even by implication.

East Orange, N. J.

CHAS. H. INGERSOLL.

EDITORS LAND AND FREEDOM:

When a brave spirit like Joe Miller goes out of this world—we hope he has found the meaning of it all and that he is in communion out there with all the other benefactors of the human race—there is a void, but the written legacy he has left for us will ever keep us on tiptoe, striving to emulate him.

"Lost—The Individual" was a gem. Carry on!
Lake Ronkonkoma, N. Y.

CHRIS KINSELLA.

NOTE: Our correspondent refers to the posthumous Comment and Reflection which was published in the May-June number of LAND AND FREEDOM.—ED.

EDITORS LAND AND FREEDOM:

Have you ever taken a trip by auto going west from Easton through the State of Pennsylvania? No? Well I did! And I'd like to tell you what I saw. It is not necessary to be a farmer to perceive the land traversed to be tremendously rich in its production of food-stuffs. One need not be a geologist to realize the greatness of its wealth in the natural resource of extremely high-grade crude oil and perhaps the best anthracite coal deposits to be found anywhere. And even more, nature's gift of gorgeous scenery of mountains, hills, dales and valleys. And amid all this I saw the most abject and direst poverty. The ramshackles, the hovels in which the people are compelled to "live" who are engaged in extracting from mother earth the great wealth which is there and should be theirs can only make one feel that it just doesn't all "add up." It's all wrong. I realize there is nothing new in this thought, it's simply an added observation.
New York, N. Y.

J. H. McMIx.

THE CALIFORNIA CAMPAIGN

EDITORS LAND AND FREEDOM:

To me it seems extraordinary and inexplicable that the recent campaign in California should have met with so little sympathy and support, at any rate from sympathizers in the American Union. It is evident that the forces of untaxed privilege were under no illusions about its potentialities inasmuch as they spared no effort to insure our defeat. Had the effort succeeded a great initial step would have been taken and an object-lesson given the world, and, as Henry George once wrote, "anything done anywhere helps the movement everywhere." However, the work achieved has not been in vain, and I have pleasure in offering through your columns my congratulations to Jackson H. Ralston and his co-workers.

Time was in the history of California, in the days of the gold discoveries, when the wages of cooks in San Francisco restaurants rose to 500 dollars per month, and ships were left in the harbor without crews, unless wages were increased. As Henry George points out