

Signs of Progress

Georgeist Activities Throughout the World

Robert Schalkenbach Foundation

REPORT OF V. G. PETERSON, SECRETARY

A new chapter in our work with the colleges was opened in February with the publication of a "Guide for Studying the Principles of International Trade," based on "Protection or Free Trade," by Henry George. This Guide is arranged in question-and-answer form as was the one for "Progress and Poverty" published last Summer. Lawson Purdy, one-time President of the Department of Taxes and Assessments in New York, and present head of the Foundation, wrote an excellent foreword. "Barriers to trade are fruitful causes for war," Mr. Purdy says, and who, viewing history, can say that he is wrong?

The International Trade Guide was popularized by a series of announcements made to three thousand professors in colleges all over the country. More than a hundred of them responded with requests for copies, making a total of 860 professors who have been interested in our two Guides. The International Trade Course, which consists of six lessons, will doubtless be given in a number of colleges this autumn.

As I have mentioned in previous reports dealing with this phase of the Foundation's work, Mr. Walter Fairchild, member of our Board of Trustees (in fact, appointed to that office by Robert Schalkenbach himself), has been the guiding—as well as the driving—force in this college work. In letters explaining this mission, he has invited friends of Henry George to contribute to the cost of carrying it along. It has been inspiring to witness the enthusiasm with which our friends have responded to this appeal. Through issues of a single-sheet publication entitled *The Henry George College News*, "published every once in a while," Mr. Fairchild kept our contributors advised on developments and, when a certain figure had been successfully passed, a Victory Luncheon was held at the Town Hall Club in New York City. About thirty of us attended. We knew one another, so conversation flowed easily. It reminded me of accounts I have read of the luncheon meetings of Chicago Georgists of years ago who, headed by Louis F. Post, met daily to discuss problems of mutual interest and to "convert" friends who might accompany the regular diners. A copy of "Progress and Poverty," which all of us signed, was presented in absentia to Mrs. Fanny Mendelson Jones, sister of the late Dr. Mendelson, personal physician to Henry George. Mrs. Jones had the good fortune to send in the contribution which put our fund over the two thousand dollar mark.

May good fortune guard the passage of a certain ship which left New York some weeks ago carrying in its hold a large wooden crate of five hundred of our books consigned to the Henry George Foundation of Great Britain. One hundred and twenty-five of these books were the new edition of "The Theory of Human Progression," by Patrick Edward Dove. This little book, which sells at thirty-five cents a copy, is growing in popularity, its fame spreading as each reader discovers for himself what a treasury of wisdom it really is.

I have spoken before about "Why The German Republic Fell" (price seventy-five cents), and now that a second large shipment of this title has crossed the seas to us, it seems appropriate to mention it again. Readers who have undertaken the book have returned to speak of it in high praise. I had occasion recently to review "Why The German Republic Fell" for *The American Journal of Economics and Sociology*, and the editors of that magazine have given me some copies of that review. If you would like to know more about "Why The German Republic Fell," I will send you a copy of the review with my compliments. Your name and address on a penny postcard will be sufficient. (Write to me care of the Foundation, 32 East 29th Street, New York, N. Y.)

Gosta Larsson, author and lecturer, inspired by Henry George, has written a book entitled, "Revolt in Arcadia." While intended for youngsters from nine up, it is recorded that many oldsters are being discovered reading it from cover to cover. "Revolt in Arcadia" might be the answer to the question of what to give that nephew of yours, or the child next door who has a birthday very soon. The book, bound in cloth and illustrated, is two dollars a copy.