

figures have been secured and are of no particular interest until correlated with other data now unattainable.

These few fragmentary facts have been set down here for the dual purpose of preserving them for future general reference and with the hope of encouraging others similarly to collect and preserve their findings. What a wonderful opportunity is here presented for some fundamental and valuable "boon-doggling" for the "white-collar unemployed!"—GEORGE H. DUNCAN.

## The California Campaign

THE fight of a decade is on today in California. Let no one mistake this. Those who most thoroughly realize it are the great landed interests of California—controlling so largely the social, economic and political conditions which prevail here; naming governors, members of the legislature and local boards of supervisors and assessing officials. These are almost unanimously united in resisting the passage of our Constitutional Amendment; which abolishes the sales tax, and progressively gets rid of all taxes on improvements and personal property, transferring the same to land values.

Already privilege is beginning to show its fangs, and attempts are being made to persuade the people to believe that if this measure goes through the State of California will be driven to the wolves; that its credit will be destroyed; that the land values will be insufficient to meet the charges upon them.

The great real estate values of the State have gained in a tremendous measure through the building up of the educational system in the State; and now, owners of these values, pocketing their gains, insist the school teachers shall support the sales tax levy, which throws the cost of maintenance of the schools upon those least able to bear it; while the recipients of the swag seek to remain untouched.

Privilege, as I have said, is showing its fangs; and Privilege is to the last degree, alarmed.

I have just returned to Los Angeles from a three-day stay in San Diego, where I spoke before five large audiences; one of which was presided over by a leading realtor who declared to those who listened to him that the Governor of the State and the State's Finance Director, whom he had recently seen in Sacramento, were alarmed lest our amendment should receive endorsement of the people; and in the present condition of the minds of a majority of the people of the State, they feared such adoption.

In a few days a convention is to be held in Sacramento, by members chosen from the select, self-constituted, real rulers of the State, which the Governor will solicit to find some way of furnishing an escape from the abolition of the sales tax, and from the substitution of what he terms the Single Tax. He will ask them to consider the most

extreme measures to this end, including creation of a transaction tax. Of course this is in itself the worst form of sales tax the State can perpetrate. By this change of front, involving the abolition of the existing sales tax, he hopes to take the wind out of our sails. That he can succeed, I think, is improbable. It is not an easy task, as military men tell us, to change front in the face of the enemy. The measure, if taken, will be obviously one of desperation, and the procedure will tend to work its own defeat.

Will we succeed or not? I do not profess to know, but if I am to judge by the actions of our opponents, I am bound to believe that with work on our part, success will be assured.

My reception the past few days in San Diego has been very gratifying, as well as the reception in Los Angeles earlier, and I am sure the same will be true as to my present return.

Among the more significant of important recent developments have been these: The State Executive Board of the American Federation of Labor has recently issued instructions to every one of the 700 subordinate Unions to appoint committees to see that every member of the organization is registered, for the express purpose of voting for our amendment. It is made the duty of such committee to inform the membership of the merits of the measure and the arguments supporting it. This, together with the determined support of some twenty labor papers, indicates the mass feeling of labor toward our measure. I may add that favorable resolutions were passed only a few days ago by the Executive Board of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, which will go out immediately to the thousands of members of that organization. Last week a convention of what is known as the EPIC Democrats has been held in Los Angeles, at which were representatives from nineteen or twenty congressional districts of the State, and upon the unanimous report of its resolution committee, the 600 delegates unanimously resolved to support the measure in every possible way. This goes a long way toward success.

I am glad to see that those upon whom we rely for work in every part of the State are becoming more and more interested, determined and confident. Among those whom I have had the pleasure of meeting the past few days in San Diego, and this enumeration must be regarded as incomplete, are very effective workers in the persons of E. M. Stangland, George S. Siebert, City Councilman; Paul Richie, Epic Assemblyman; Judge Andrews, lately retired from the Supreme Court Bench; S. S. Taber, and particularly efficient among the real business men of San Diego, Henry R. Cramer. Others of equal capacity and devotion, I feel I have overlooked.

It is beyond question that our friends in Los Angeles

are presenting a more and more united front toward our common enemy, and the same is true in San Francisco.

I cannot close without urging upon friends everywhere that the crucial fight is here in California; that if we win here our movement will progress with tremendous rapidity in every State of the Union, and its reverberations will be heard in many lands. We are not fighting the battle for California alone. We are fighting the battle of Progress, the results of which will be of indefinite extension. With perfect assurance therefore we call upon our friends everywhere to come forward without any hesitation and help us. Our opponents are active, wealthy, and feel that they are engaged, so far as the State is concerned, in a last ditch conflict, and accordingly are ready to spend as many thousands as may be necessary in order to mislead the California public.—JACKSON H. RALSTON.

## Anna George in California

ANNA GEORGE DE MILLE came, she saw, and we are simply overwhelmed—and we like it. We have asked her to return again to us soon.

During her stay here the name and mission of Henry George was brought to public notice in a favorable manner as it has not been for a number of years, possibly since the erecting of the plaque commemorating the writing of "Progress and Poverty" on its Fiftieth Anniversary.

On Wednesday of her visit, Judge Jackson H. Ralston, whose house guest she had been the previous evening, rushed her to San Francisco to fill an engagement at the San Francisco Girls High School. At noon she met the San Francisco "Stirring Committee" of the Sales Tax Repeal Association. Following that she was rushed to Oakland for a talk to the Economics section of Mills College.

On Thursday, Mrs. de Mille spoke over KYA, the Hearst Radio Station of San Francisco, and in the evening lectured on "The Life of My Father" at the Jewish Community Center, the organization which is the direct descendant of the Young Men's Hebrew Association where Henry George gave his original lecture on Moses.

On Friday morning the San Francisco Teachers College was visited and in the evening Mrs. de Mille lectured at the Emanu-El Sisterhood Residence Club on "The Prophet of San Francisco."

On Saturday evening the Henry George Club of San Francisco entertained at Milligans, famous Single Tax eating place, with a dinner. Mr. Milligan said this was the finest Single Tax meeting he had observed in San Francisco in years. Mr. Joseph S. Thompson, State Treasurer of the Sales Tax Repeal Association and civic leader of San Francisco, also added his voice.

Mrs. de Mille again spoke most interestingly on "The Prophet of San Francisco," and her intimate and friendly talk was vastly appreciated. An interesting incident on

this occasion was the attendance of some ten members of the San Francisco Section of the Extension Division of the Henry George School of Social Science.

The very practical proposals of Henry George are on the way up. There has been nothing done since the writing of "Progress and Poverty" that compares to the establishment of the Henry George School of Social Science and the gathering together of those who are with such idealism and such sacrifice carrying on. America will some day hail Oscar Geiger as a great mile-stone in the never-ending onward march of the work and spirit of Henry George.—N. D. ALPER.

## International Conference, 1936

A CABLEGRAM has been received by Charles O'Connor Hennessy from Arthur Madsen of London announcing that the Executive Committee of the Union for Free Trade and Land Value Taxation has decided to call an international gathering of the Georgeists of the world in London in the first week of September of this year. Further details will follow:

Mr. Hennessy who is president of the International Union writes:

"The Executive Committee of the union, with which I have been in touch, has been discussing the subject and have felt that this year would be an appropriate one for the holding of the Conference, which will deal particularly with the fundamental causes of war and the futility of the efforts that international statesmen and peace societies are proposing for ending war. The foolishness of continuing agitation for the disarmament of nations as a way toward peace while doing nothing at all toward ending the persistent *economic* wars between practically all nations, would seem to speak for the complete bankruptcy or hypocrisy of international diplomacy, as now carried on.

"So far as we can see, the Georgeists of the world are the only group of people who can see clearly and speak bravely about the causes of the wars of the past, the war of the present, and the inevitable wars of the future, which will occur until international economic freedom in the production and exchange of wealth is attained by the peoples of the world."

BUT to those who think as I do, the ethical is the more important side. Not only do we not wish to evade the question of private property in land, but to us it seems that the beneficent and far-reaching revolution we aim at is too great a thing to be accomplished by "intelligent self-interest," and can be carried by nothing less than the religious conscience.—"The Condition of Labor."

THE ideal social state is not that in which each gets an equal amount of wealth, but in which each gets in proportion to his contribution to the general stock.—"Social Problems."