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EDITORIAL

VISIT TO CALIFORNIA

The phrase "from sea to shining sea" conjures patriotic images for most Americans, and it holds special meaning for Georgists. After all, our schools have been in operation on both coasts since the 1930s. Recently I visited California to get a taste of Georgist activities, western style. Although each organization has its own methods of promoting the philosophy, they all share common traits: dedication and enthusiasm.

San Francisco was highlighted by an all-day session with the school's Board of Trustees at Director Bob Scrofani's home. Programs here have their inception at this level, and there is considerable input from members. Then it is up to Bob and educational consultant Dionne Marx to implement them. Because new members are most welcome, there appears a steady flow of fresh ideas.

The Sacramento school, located in the state's capitol, is directed by Evelyn Friend. After meeting with a group of professional teachers, the Sacramento HGS Board discussed the relationship between their school and New York. Evelyn agreed to add to her duties the coordination of our high school program, cable programming and public relations.

An important meeting took place with Dr. Brooks, social studies coordinator of the State Board of Education. Dr. Brooks, Bob Scrofani and I discussed HGS input concerning the newly mandated economic education for high school students, due to take effect in two years.

Gathered at Mason Gaffney's home for a pot-luck dinner, the Los Angeles HGS Board held their monthly meeting. Coordinating programs and utilizing limited resources were major topics. Several subsequent evenings were spent observing sessions of Director Harry Pollard's "Classical Analysis." This course, five years in the making, is capable of being self-supporting and attracting new teachers, according to Harry.

Although San Diego doesn't have a Henry George School, Basic Economic Education President Floyd Morrow actively promotes our goals through weekly afternoon luncheons, development of computer programs teaching Georgist philosophy, audio-visual materials and a long-range program to offer our courses in an international university.

Programs differ from city to city but the camaraderie among Georgists in California is at a high level.

Stan Rubenstein