

A Problem of Growth

A serious problem confronts the Henry George School of Social Science which must be faced without delay. It is that of providing space for the classes at national headquarters at 211 West 79th Street, New York. For several semesters the number of classrooms available has been seriously inadequate to meet the demand for the school's courses.

In part this over-supply of students has been met by the extension classes in the metropolitan area, of which there are now some two-score. In turning away students it has been the practise to refer them to the extension classes nearest their homes. But there are some students who prefer to study, if they study at all, at the headquarters building, so that they may make use of its valuable library and for other reasons. It would be regrettable if supporters of the School did not devise a plan which would make it unnecessary to turn any number of these away.

But a still more regrettable aspect of the situation is that advanced classes in fundamental economics and social philosophy must be held to the barest minimum, denying to many graduates of the School the opportunity to develop their interests in these fields. And experimental classes for improving teaching methods and techniques, vitally necessary for maintaining the efficiency of the school method, cannot be held at all. And even teachers training classes cannot be permitted to assume full growth. Offices of the various divisions of the School are cramped in three small rooms, one an attic, and a corner of the library. One room, indeed, must do double service, housing classes and reference library together.

It is true, of course, that it is a happy situation to have this problem. But not to face it at once is to cast aside opportunities that may mean the difference between success and failure for the ultimate aim of the School and the movement.