

ness and the harmonious intercourse of the people of the different sections of the Soviet Union. Many years ago an English writer said, that the income tax laws of Great Britain had made of the British people a nation of liars. Unfortunately, Russia has both a tariff tax and an income tax law, but they will be easier repealed in Russia than elsewhere, because the revenue derived from the rent of the land makes them less necessary.

In regard to education, the present Russian Government is doing more for the education of the people than any other government in the history of the world has ever done. Education is free, from the primary grades to, and including, the universities. Not only is education free, but hospital service, medical service, including the service of dentists, oculists, etc., are also free. The workers in the industries are given one month's vacation with full pay each year, and, in addition, the railway workers and some others are giving a free pass on any railway in the Soviet Union. On the northern shores of the Black Sea there are many sanatoriums and pleasure resorts that were once the playgrounds of the Russian nobility. The workers now have access to these resorts for a limited time during their vacation. Old age pensions and unemployment benefits are provided also. The industries of Russia at the present time are generally carried on at a loss, and the deficits are paid from the rent of the land. Every one living in Russia has an interest in the vast resources of the country, and this interest is of a very substantial nature, as is shown by these free services.

The rent of the land is assessed in a clumsy and inefficient manner, but this only lessens in some degree the benefits of common ownership.

The Russian Government is at present carrying out an ambitious programme of internal improvements. These improvements include railways, highways, river improvements, hydro-electric plants, metallurgical works, city improvements, great irrigation works and many others. These improvements are being made without negotiating any loans either foreign or domestic.

One of the results of the common ownership of the land seems to be, that one can travel from one end of Russia to the other without seeing a single house with a red light in the window, or be accosted by a street-walker. This is the more remarkable, as before the Revolution Russia was notorious in this respect. The result is seldom if ever denied, but some attribute it to police surveillance. This cannot be the reason, for in other countries where police activities are as rigorous as they are here, this result does not obtain. Land reform has opened up new avenues of employment for women, and the free services mentioned have greatly lessened the pressing need for a money income. The result might have been and really was predicted. "Land reform once achieved' all other reforms will be made easier."

Ambitious young women are taking university courses in preparation for careers in the professions. This preliminary education is in most cases possible only because it is free, and it is free only because it is paid for from the rent of the land. This much can be said with certainty: That the extreme promiscuity, with its attendant evils, that existed in Russia before the Revolution has been greatly curtailed; and that the only plausible reason that can be given for this curtailment is the common ownership of the land.

Lenin and his coadjutors must have foreseen the results or they would not have made land reform the keystone of their political and economic structure.

The lesson of Russia to the world is, that the common ownership of land will have definite results, regardless of the methods used to obtain it; and that a revolution is not too high a price to pay, if it can be obtained in no other way.

The contentions of Henry George established a truth by deductions that are a monument to the triumph of human reason; and these deductions are now corroborated by inductions, the validity of which cannot be successfully denied.

Katakstan, Russia.

W. A. WARREN.

NEWS NOTES AND PERSONAL

THE Baldwin County (Alabama) *News* is full these days of news from Fairhope by A. E. Schalkenbach, E. B. Gaston, E. Yancey and others.

THE *Irish Weekly and Ulster Examiner* reproduced the address of John J. Murphy of this city given at the Edinburgh Conference Fifty Years of Single Tax Progress.

O. E. TOEPFERT, of Cincinnati, and L. V. La Taste, of Dallas, are sending letters in the *Christian Science Monitor*.

HAROLD SUDELL has a letter in the *Philadelphia Record* telling that the tax burden may be lightened on the home owner, and the headline reads it "Constructive Suggestions from a Contributor who has given much thought to the matter."

THE Paterson *Press Guardian* gives nearly a two column report of a lecture delivered before the Rotary Club of that city by James Brown, President of the Manhattan Single Tax Club.

HON. P. J. O'REGAN, of Wellington, New Zealand, writes us in his recent letter: "Doubtless you are aware of the fact that we succeeded in placing all the rates (local direct taxes) in Wellington upon the improved value at a poll of the ratepayers in April 1927, but I have seen no mention of the fact in your publication. Wellington occupies 23 sq. miles of territory which is about the same area as Manhattan Island, and the rate revenue this year exceeds £500,000, the whole of which is placed where it ought to be without exemption or graduation. The local taxation on the unimproved value of land in this country is in strict accordance with Henry George's principle that it is a flat tax with no exemption and no graduation."

THE oil portrait of Henry George by Harry Thurston See, of which in colors can be had of the Schalkenbach Foundation, 111 West 11th Place, this city, is one of the finest portraits ever painted and a striking likeness of the Prophet. Mr. See knew Mr. George intimately and admired him greatly. Besides the portrait of Henry George, he has painted life-sized portraits of General Fred Dent Grant, Lord Russell and General Francis V. Greene, the last of which can be seen in the Seventy-first Regiment Armory of this city.

THE *Christian Science Monitor*, of Sept. 24th, contained a complete story of the Henry George Congress. In November the *Monitor* ran a series of articles on the Single Tax continuing through four issues of that admirable paper.

ALL of the Pittsburgh papers gave accounts of the Henry George Congress and several printed the picture of Anna George deMott.

E. J. HAYES, well known Single Taxer of Australia, left \$5,000 in his will to the cause. While living Mr. Hayes was a liberal supporter of the Australian movement.

POULTNEY BIGELOW, of Malden-on-the-Hudson, who has just celebrated his 74th birthday and celebrated the occasion by completing a book on which he has been engaged for a long time, wrote the *Henry George Foundation* in response to an invitation to address the conference, "My purse is light as was that of Henry George. We became friends in 1880 and my faith in him grows increasingly strong."

AMONG the excellent publicity secured by the Edinburgh Conference not the least were full column articles in *The Scotsman* of that giving summaries of many of the more important addresses at the Conference.

SPEAKING of Ramsay MacDonald the *New York Telegram* says: "When at 18, he made his way to London he had already joined those who thought the world stood in serious need of remodeling. He had had Henry George. He had heard of Robert Owen. Later he was read of Karl Marx, and, although he is not a Marxist in the Moscow sense, his economy is based upon the Socialist bible."

GEORGE LLOYD is still speaking over the Radio Station W. P. C. H. The time has been changed to Saturdays at 3 P. M. His subject is "Current Events."

PETER WITT, former member of the City Council of Cleveland speaking at the Henry George Congress of the outstanding significance of the recent British Labor victory, declared that the land question is becoming the vital issue in British politics. Mr. Witt has just returned from a tour of Europe at which time he studied the British election campaign at close range. He sees in the Labor Party victory not only an English Single Tax triumph but also a material advancement of the world-wide Henry George cause.

GEORGE LLOYD in a communication to the *Telegram* of this city writes: "Norman Thomas in a recent speech said 'We (Socialists) will not rest until we recover for society the land values that society creates.' That would abolish taxation, unemployment, landlordism, and speculation and slums and provide plenty of houses by forcing vacant land into use. It is the remedy for all economic ills that Henry George advocates in his wonderful book 'Progress and Poverty.'"

THE Library of Congress is in need of LAND AND FREEDOM for July-August, 1925 and Nov.-Dec. 1925.

W. L. SINTON, of San Francisco, who suffered in health a short time ago is recovering his strength. He informs Mr. Bolton Hall that he is contemplating the publication of his letters.

It was good to see Frederic C. Leubuscher at the Pittsburgh Conference. He did not attend the Edinburgh International Conference owing to the death of his wife, Aurelia Lange Leubuscher, on April 7 of this year, a bereavement of our old friend which we failed to chronicle. Mrs. Leubuscher had accompanied Fred to the Copenhagen conference, and when called on for a speech explained that she was not a speech maker, but said very happily that she was "a Single Taxer by marriage and later a Single Taxer by conviction." Mrs. Leubuscher was buried in Woodlawn, and the services were attended by a great number of friends associated with her husband in work for the cause.

AN old copy of the *Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser* of August 20, 1773, has been resurrected containing an advertisement in which George Washington offers for sale some 20,000 acres of land on the banks of the Ohio River.

THE *Newark Evening News* of recent date contains a communication from Frederic C. Leubuscher in regard to the investigation by Governor Roosevelt of the purchase of land in Westchester County for public purposes, on which the *News* had commented editorially. Mr. L. seizes upon the editorial to point a moral.

J. R. HERMANN, of Portland, Oregon, is going ahead to secure signers to the petition for the Single Tax measure in that state. He is having a real success in arousing labor organizations to the necessity

of the measure. Signatures to the petition now number about four thousand; twelve thousand are needed. Help and literature are needed at 271 Market Street, Portland.

MR. JOHN C. ROSE, who is booking speaking dates for William N. McNair, can be addressed at 1112 Forbes Street, Pittsburgh, Pa. Our friends can do the cause a service by cooperating with him.

THE *Examiner*, of Launceston, Tasmania, published a column editorial advocating the untaxing of improvements and transferring the burden of local revenue to land values.

THE *Keighley News*, of Yorkshire, England, contains a good report of the address of Rev. Herbert Bigelow in Temperance Hall, Keighley, at which meeting Ashley Mitchell presided.

LAURIE J. QUINBY, now of Los Angeles, has addressed the following letter to Hon. Edward Polak:

"I wish to express to you my great appreciation of the report of the Hussey Essay Contest in your schools. I thank you and those associated with you for this fine work. I can realize nothing in the form of propaganda for our great cause that can match the value of such work as this, for it reaches, as no other method will, the developing minds of youth. It gets them started right in their economic thinking."

At the plate of each diner at the banquet in Pittsburgh was found a beautifully printed card with a four stanza poem from J. H. Hensen, of Grand Rapids, Mich., "Dedicated to the Golden Anniversary of 'Progress and Poverty'":

THE names of the singers at the Pittsburgh banquet were Mrs. Vera Kaighan Nirella, William Zoffer and Frank Dursi. Danny Nirella's orchestra is popular in Pittsburgh.

MESSAGES conveying greetings and regrets were received at the Henry George Congress from Hon. C. C. Dill, Hon. Newton D. Baker, Hon. John J. Lentz, Hon. James H. Gray, Jakob C. Lange, of Copenhagen, M. Warriner, of London, J. O'Donnell Derrick, of Glasgow, A. W. Madsen, of London; John Paul of London; Prof. John Dewey, Norman Thomas, Poultney Bigelow, John Z. White, Lawson Purdy, Charles H. Ingersoll, Andrew P. Canning, L. V. LaTaste, Charles J. Ogle, Henry Ware Allen, George Foster Peabody, Mrs. Mary Fels, E. B. Gaston, C. R. Colbron, Vernon J. Rose, E. B. Swinney, Frederick J. Libby, Dr. S. Solis Cohen, John M. Moore, Hamlin Garland, Jackson H. Ralston, Frederick F. Ingram, George J. Shaffer, Chester C. Platt, J. R. Hermann, George H. Duncan, Dr. J. H. Dillard, Frederic C. Howe, Orville Wright, Oliver T. Erickson, James C. Fuller, John Emery McLean, James H. McGill, Henry B. Tawresey, Thomas Colegate, W. H. Maguire, Edward White, W. S. Wright and Erwin Kauffmann.

GEORGE A. BRIGGS, of Los Angeles, writing to Bolton Hall says: "I wonder if you know about the big work Prof. Roman is doing here. He has half a dozen forums, the biggest of which has a weekly attendance of some five hundred. It is called the Parliament of Man. Swinney is its Chancellor of the Exchequer. Last week Harry Gunnison Brown was here for two bully talks. In introducing Brown, and in trying to show the confusion of thought extant as to the term "rent," Roman said:

An ill-tempered man named Percentum
Who gnashed his false teeth till he bent 'em,
Refused any share
In the cost of repair;
Said he, 'I don't own 'em, I rent 'em.'"