

The Henry George League Of New Jersey Is Born

A GREAT dinner was held in Newark, N. J., on Nov. 19 at the Downtown Club in the Newark Bank Building. There were 132 persons present. The toastmaster was Royd Morrison, of Camden, and the principal speakers were Charles O'Connor Hennessy, of New York; Frank H. Sommer, dean of the Law School of the University of New York; Spaulding Frazer, former City Counsel of Newark, and George L. Record, former City Counsel of Jersey City. Judge James F. Minturn, who was to have spoken, was detained at home by illness.

In addition to the speakers scheduled to address the meeting following the dinner were a number of others—Mrs. Anna George deMille, John H. Allen, Gladwin Bouton, of Tenafly, and William R. Emsley, the two last named having been candidates for the New Jersey Legislature on a platform calling for site-value taxation and the collection of ground rent. Others who were heard were Harold Buttenheim, of Madison, former editor of the *American City*; Charles Hecht, of Lakewood; Charles Stoker, of Irvington, N. J., and Alfred N. Chandler, of Newark.

The speeches were of a high order. What was noticeable in the addresses of both Mr. Record and Mr. Chandler was the insistence that this movement was not solely nor chiefly a tax question but a movement for the restoration of the land to the people. This phase of the movement was eloquently presented by Mr. Record and echoed by Mr. Chandler, if not with eloquence in no less forceful terms. And the sentiment of the meeting was wholly responsive to this note: "We should insist upon the morality and ethics and justice of Henry George's ideals rather than merely fiscal reforms or tax relief"—uttered by Mr. Chandler.

Dean Sommer called the teachings of Henry George "the only practical, workable philosophy of liberty."

The following resolution was adopted:

"Whereas, intolerable distress, enormous business losses and widespread social unrest are now prevailing, and further difficulties and dangers are now impending from adverse farming conditions, loss of export trade, declining prices, profits and wages;

"Whereas, these conditions are mainly attributable to the extremely harmful practices of speculating in land, holding land vacant or underimproved, privately appropriating ground rents and also imposing oppressive taxes on homes, business properties and the machinery, tools and materials used in industry;

"Resolved, that legislation should be promptly enacted by the New Jersey Legislature to permit any municipality, by referendum vote therein, to reduce taxes on buildings and personal property and to balance the budget by increasing the tax on site value of all land."

A THOUGHTFUL PAMPHLET

"WHAT'S THE USE OF WORKING?"

Prof. Robert Bruce Brinsmade is a consulting engineer well known to Henry George men all over the world. He is the author of the eighteen-page pamphlet before us entitled "What's the Use of Working?" much of which appeared in *LAND AND FREEDOM* under the title of "Profits and the Vice of Saving," and is a reply to the book called "Profits" published by the Pollak Foundation of Newton, Mass.

The rapidity with which economic thought as well as loose thinking on economics is passing is illustrated by the fact that this work emanating from the Pollak Foundation is even now beginning to lapse into the limbo of forgotten things. So many weird remedies for the prevailing depression follow one another in swift succession that the Pollakians seem like ages away.

This does not make any less desirable and valuable this work of Prof. Brinsmade, for the errors it combats are constantly recurring. Our author advocates our reform not as a tax measure but as the abolition of all taxation and the socialization of ground rent for public use. The pamphlet has our enthusiastic endorsement as one needed in the present crisis.

There are portions devoted to proportional representation, of which Prof. Brinsmade has long been an ardent advocate, and a valuable list of references is given.

Single copies may be had for 10 cents, with reduced price in quantities. Prof. Brinsmade's address is Avenue Centenario 219, San Luis Potosi City, Mexico.

J. D. M.

CORRESPONDENCE

FROM A VETERAN AND OLD FRIEND OF HENRY GEORGE
EDITOR *LAND AND FREEDOM*:

I am ninety-one years young. I have spent much of my time and substance for the promotion of the great cause, and now have nothing but the glory of knowing that the victory is almost in sight.

The land-grabber has learned that he has killed the goose that laid the golden egg.

Houston, Tex.

F. J. TRAPP.

THANK YOU, JOHN F., FOR YOUR DOLLARS AND SENSE
EDITOR *LAND AND FREEDOM*:

Unable to forego the mental stimulus of reading your incisive and pertinent editorial comment on subjects of economic and social interest—not to overlook other interesting articles—I have finally dug up from somewhere the necessary \$2 to keep my name on the mailing list.

When I say "other interesting articles" I am not including certain types of orthodox Single Tax effusions, the likes of which I have been reading for the past twenty-five years or more, and which some writers persist in reproducing in literary and argumentative form. But little of such criticism can apply to the November-December issue, and particularly to be commended for its excellence is the paper of Mr. Benjamin W. Burger. It has a pungency in style and approach that is invigorating and in illustration and argument is strikingly significant of some new phases of the Single Tax philosophy which have developed since forty years ago. I have lived to be seventy-nine, and am not expecting the truth to be fossilized in orthodox formulas.

Indianapolis, Ind.

JOHN F. WHITE.

PARLIAMENTARY BATTLE WELL WORTH WHILE
EDITOR *LAND AND FREEDOM*:

Our election fight was well worth while. You will see what I have said this week in the *Commonweal* in reply to that Dutchman. No one