

Edited by LAURA BREST

North Jersey Extension Holds Record Commencement 140 Graduated at December Dinner

NEWARK, N. J.—A couple of important nails were hit squarely on the head when New Jersey Georgists convened for the Graduation Dinner held December 5th at the Hamilton Restaurant in Newark. The record-making group of 170 responded enthusiastically to the forcefully worded expression by Mr. Andrew P. Christianson, of the New York faculty, of the need for expanded propaganda work to aid and publicize the progress of the School.

Georgists with special abilities, Mr. Christianson urged, should use their talents to sell their principles in books, plays, pictures, through newspapers, and on the radio. "You've all heard the Town Hall of the Air," Mr. Christianson said. "Why not, at some future time, the Henry George School of the Air?"

Douglas Badgley, who broke the ice for his fellow-student speakers, did it with such humorous tact and care that he didn't get around to giving his own reaction to the course. (Miss McCarthy, however, has received a supplementary note from Mr. Badgley, expressing deep appreciation for his instructor's time and effort.) Fredrick Zimmerman, who followed Mr. Badgley, and Miss Myra Manchester and Miss Catherine Washburn, later speakers, showed an alert interest in the School's work and a desire to continue in the advanced courses.

Notable among the two-minute student talks was that of Dr. Geoffrey W. Esty of Westfield, describing how his interest in tangled human relations had led him inevitably to the realization that if people are to be psychologically improved, they must first be economically improved. "You can't talk good will, understanding, and consideration to people who have to work twelve or fifteen hours just to keep themselves alive," Dr. Esty reminded his audience. "You can't make any prog-

ress with hungry people."

Among the other student speakers were (as Chairman H. Kermit Schnetter put it, "of all things") a title examiner and a tax assessor. Both V. Edward Allen and A. E. Weller, however, seemed to feel that they were in perfectly safe company. They were completely unabashed as they discussed their understanding of the principles of George.

George L. Rusby, who for many years has acted as a George School Extension on wheels, explained with diagrams the shortcut method which he has devised to capture the attention of promising acquaintances. His record of successful captures is so high that present and prospective instructors would do well to apply to Mr. Rusby for further details.

The Jersey School's achievements called forth an expression of encouragement and pride from Dr. Elizabeth E. Bowen as she presented the 140 diplomas. Having taught the first lonely classes here in 1935, Dr. Bowen can well appreciate the opening of thirty widely scattered groups scheduled for the semester of February, 1942. Certainly the Jersey school is at least large enough now to contain exponents of many ways of life—from the rural extreme of the Bill Halls, with their as yet unsubstantiated claims of several chickens and a cow (or have they sold the cow?) to the urbanism of Jessie Matson of Westwood, who when last heard from was asking determinedly for the table "Where the other people from New York were sitting."

And now we hear that the enthusiastic response to James de Roode's appeal, which came with the dessert, amounted to more than \$200, with more contributions arriving daily.

The book display at the dinner was the work of Miss V. G. Peterson, of the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation.