

poverished mass to the holders of idle and valuable land.

From time to time we are favored with a glimpse behind the scenes furnished by the opposition. For instance, I have just received copy of a letter sent out generally in Monterey County, in which after saying that the Single Tax Repeal—Single Tax proposal—must be defeated, the writers aver that it would eat up the entire income derived from land. They add: "Make no mistake, with the sales tax repeal included as a part of the measure, we are in for a battle. . . . Newspapers, radio and other means of publicity must be used to reach the voters. The effort calls for money." The suggestion is made that the contribution should be between \$50 and \$100.

There can be little doubt that at least a half-million will be raised to defeat the measure. Against this we have to present a barren treasury. Our money was exhausted in the effort to get the matter before the people for voting. It must be the duty and pleasure of others to help from now on. We may say that our part has cost us many thousands of dollars, and we must limit our sacrifices although not our work.

If this were a matter of matching dollars our position would be indeed hopeless. However, as one who is not a friend, the State Senator from Santa Rosa, remarked in a recent newspaper article, the contest is not "one-sided." He was evidently doubtful of the result.

In connection with the money question it is interesting to note that the statement is constantly being made at Rotary, Kiwanis and other meetings by the opposition that we are backed by the mythical millions of the Fels Fund. Inasmuch as this fund, in fact, never had an existence and the only excuse for such a statement perished with the passing away of Mr. Fels twenty-four years ago, the allegation is distressingly inaccurate.

Almost exactly seven years ago in a long article in LAND AND FREEDOM, I pointed out that the states most open for reform in taxation were first, Michigan and Massachusetts and then California. This article met with no response, of which I am aware, from Michigan, and a negative one from the few Massachusetts men who gave it any attention. Some time later the institution of the sales tax in California seemed to suggest to us that now was the time for California to step to the fore and we assumed a tremendous burden. Our present outlook is that the State where our doctrines first received widest recognition will be the first, with your assistance, to show real results. Will we have this assistance or will you

"Politely turn aside

When your faith is crucified?"

as Frank Stephens long ago put the question, and if you do "Can you call it your millennium when it comes?"

LATER

Have just received word that Fresno County reports

1,613 good names. This puts us on the ballot with 1,100 names above and around 1,000 more to come.

Please make a suitable correction in the letter sent yesterday or use this as an addendum.

This, save for the possibility of court interference ends a six and more months' phase of the struggle and is a great relief.

Palo Alto, Calif.

JACKSON H. RALSTON.

National Conference of the Federated Chapters of the Henry George Fellowship

NEW YORK CITY, JULY 3 AND 4, 1938

THE conference made up of delegates from twelve cities and meeting to coordinate the work of all the chapters to provide a clearing house of ideas, was opened by President Nathan Hillman, Hartford, Conn., with a brief commentary on its aims and purposes. Mrs. Ann George deMille greeted the delegates with her customary inspirational words of hope and encouragement, and delegates were welcomed in behalf of the New York Chapter as host by Mr. Morris Forkosch, president of the chapter.

Mr. Hillman's report of his activities as president during the year was especially gratifying, showing the growth of the Fellowship from no formal organization to twelve chapters in ten states.

Class organization with special emphasis on advertising and financing classes was discussed by Mr. William Newcomb of Rochester, N. Y., whose article, "Showmanship in Education," appeared in LAND AND FREEDOM. Contributions to this subject were made also by Mr. Mark Leonardi of Boston, Mass.; Mr. Samuel Levitt of Chicago, Ill., and Mr. Morris Forkosch of New York City. It is interesting to note also, that every delegate present offered suggestions, showing the intense interest of all chapters. It was brought out that the opening of classes may be advertised through the use of posters and pamphlets displayed in public places, but many equally valuable suggestions were offered.

Articles in newspapers and periodicals, with letters to the editors accompanied if possible by photographs of teachers, and preceded by personal contacts with the editors to facilitate publication, are of inestimable value. Radio broadcasts, plays, and discussions are excellent means. Triple postcards are especially useful in many cases. Commencement dinners for graduates were recommended. The importance of keeping graduates interested and employed, not only as teachers but also in various capacities was stressed, and ideas for teas, luncheons and social functions were offered. Graduates may participate in local groups for the purpose of presenting the Henry George Philosophy, and distribute pamphlets, prepar-

letters, radio scripts, address cards, make posters, and serve the local chapter in many ways.

A special School fund, separate from the regular Fellowship fund, and made up of contributions of members and friends should be created for financing classes, and it has been found that a direct appeal to graduates at commencement dinners, as well as social evenings and lectures with paid admissions are very helpful.

Mr. John Lawrence Monroe, Field Director, sent greetings and offers of assistance in organizing classes to the conference. Miss McCarthy, Secretary of the New York School, acted as his emissary.

Although reports of delegates showed a fine spirit of cooperation between School and Fellowship, a controversy arose showing the spirit to be lacking in New York City, a condition deplored by all delegates, who instructed that a committee for conciliation be appointed later to mediate between the New York School and the New York Fellowship.

Mr. Hillman stated very emphatically that the greatest need at present is for education, urging more classes, and proposing a quota based on one class for every 25,000 of population for each chapter.

The use of charts, samples of which were exhibited, teaching of the Margin of Cultivation and the Law of Rent, using the questionnaire sent with lesson sheets to insure participation of students in the first classes and to stimulate interest, giving examinations to check on work of teachers and pupils involving no grades or publicity and taken only if the pupil so desires, and having Henry George School after the name of at least one member in each chapter in the telephone directory as a means of contact for members from other cities, were all presented as suggestions to the delegates for improving the School and course.

A motion was passed that some indication of proficiency for those passing examinations be added to or incorporated in the usual certificate given for attendance at classes.

The idea of altering, abridging, or supplementing the Teachers Manual for "Progress and Poverty," for the benefit of those students pressed for time or encountering language difficulties, was not approved by the congress. Mr. Hillman stated that education for these groups was at present secondary, our need now is for leaders.

Announcements were made that courses in "Protection or Free Trade?" and the "Science of Political Economy," are being conducted, and it was urged that all chapters which have not already done so organize teacher-training classes. Many suggestions for judging good teachers were offered.

The following delegates responded to a roll call with a summary of the work done by the various groups and chapters which they represented; Miss Jansen, Dayton, Ohio; Mr. Leonardi, Boston, Mass.; Miss Walton, Montreal, Canada; Mr. Newcomb, Rochester, New York; Dr. Bowen, Newark, N. J.; Mr. Snyder, Hudson, N. Y.;

Mr. Bond, Springfield and Greenfield, Mass.; Mr. Carroll, Norfolk, Conn.; Mr. Levin, Chicago, Ill., and Mrs. Chamberlain, Hartford, Conn.

Among the many ideas not already mentioned, the roll call brought out the following:

Inviting students to become members of the Fellowship at the ninth lesson of classes, and appointing secretaries to take all applications for membership, and telling students how classes are made possible.

Studying and showing interest in local affairs, organizing home study and discussion groups, and a strong publicity committee in each chapter.

Conducting social functions, plays and talks being more valuable than those purely social.

Having a radio series, a Fellowship news, distributing announcements of classes outside meetings, and conducting regular commencement dinners for graduates.

Enlistment of W.P.A., Y's, churches, schools, clubs, community centers, etc., and getting access to special lists for enrollments.

Importance of holding regular monthly meetings with regular dues, and economy in having work done.

Presenting Georgeist views to legislative committees.

Do not depend on "Angels" for finances.

After the roll call, the constitution was amended permitting each chapter to determine who is eligible for membership in each local chapter, with the provision that only graduates of the course be counted in determining the number of delegates each chapter is entitled to send to the National Conference.

At the morning session, July 4, a set of resolutions presented by the delegates was read:

1. A resolution that the Congressional Monopoly Committee investigate land monopolies. Approved.

2. A resolution against taxes on labor and industry and for a tax on land values. Approved.

3. A resolution to admit representatives of the New York Fellowship to the last classes of the New York School for the purpose of obtaining members. Unanimously approved.

A committee was appointed to prepare these resolutions for publication. This committee was also empowered to send a telegram to the Constitutional Convention in Albany advocating the Single Tax.

It was voted that a publicity committee be appointed in each chapter. Mr. Hillman repeated the need for more classes, more members, and expanding the school and educational system. Mr. Levin advocated that publicity also be utilized to disperse the philosophy of Henry George beyond the School and the Fellowship.

The New York and Chicago chapters, whose memberships have grown so large that the problem of keeping graduates interested and occupied is arising, have volunteered to experiment, and report the results at the next convention.

After some discussion it was voted that yearly dues