

Mr. Heman Chase was kind enough to accede to our request that he go to the meeting, and address the club on the subject of Single Tax.

One of the large Foundations asked us the other day for special information to be sent to Washington to one of the departments where an investigation was to be made of Single Tax Colonies, with a view to adopting, if practicable, the theory and operation of the existing colonies in an effort to spread the general work of resettlement and homesteading.

Among the colleges and schools that have responded to recent material which we have sent out are the following:

Girls High School, City of Boston; Mount Vernon Junior College, Mount Vernon, Washington; New Jersey College for Women, Political Science Department, New Brunswick, New Jersey; Univeristy of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri; University of Buffalo, Buffalo, New York; Iowa Pupils Reading Circle, Des Moines, Iowa; College of the Ozarks, Clarksville, Arkansas; Catawba College, Sailsbury, North Carolina; Wayland College, Plainview, Texas.

From Clayton C. Kohl, State University, Bowling Green, Ohio, where, by the way, Mr. Monroe made interesting contacts in the earlier part of the year, we received the following letter:

"I am giving a course in "Progress and Poverty" this semester at the University here and I want all of my students, twelve in number, to read the book, which I feel is one of the really great books of history in its field. My students come in from twenty to thirty miles on Saturdays only. Kindly send twelve copies."

We sent Professor Kohl the twelve books ordered, a Teacher's Manual and a sheaf of all of the pamphlets we publish, that might be of interest to a teacher who is grooming his pupils for possible debate, etc.

One of the busiest phases of our work this fall has been the supplying of books and information to the Extension Classes which have started in various cities. Elsewhere, Mr. Monroe lists the teachers who are conducting classes this season, and it will suffice to say that considerable correspondence has been held with each of these teachers at the time of organization of the classes. A total of 800 books shipped from September 1, comprised forty-seven separate orders each involving, correspondence and arrangements for prompt and careful shipping.

ANTOINETTE KAUFMANN, Secretary.

**W**HATEVER improves the condition of the lowest and broadest social stratum must promote the true interests of all. Where the wages of common labor are high and remunerative employment is easy to obtain, prosperity will be general. Where wages are highest, there will be the largest production and the most distribution of wealth. There will invention be most active and the brain best guide the hand.—"PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE."

GET your friends to subscribe to LAND AND FREEDOM.

## The Beginning of the Henry George Fellowship

**A** SHORT paragraph that I found on page 165 of the last issue of LAND AND FREEDOM sent me to look for a few precious written pages which were enclosed a year and a half ago, in an envelope marked "The Henry George Fellowship—early beginnings." This envelope lies beside me now, that a few words may, later, be quoted from its contents, so that there shall be no misunderstanding about so significant an event as the launching of the Henry George Fellowship.

First, however, it should be explained that in Oct. 1933, driven by the great poverty and human need that I found in my work in a large public school, I set out to seek the true explanation of the fact that men with tools, who knew their trade, who had families for whom they were eager and willing to work, *could find no work.*

I therefore entered the Henry George School of Social Science as a student seeking to find an answer to the problem that confronted me, and was told simply and gravely by the Director, Oscar H. Geiger, that I should come to know it, in these words—"You will know."

Thus encouraged, I continued to attend the course and found that he was right. There was a solution, and he knew it. And it was because he knew it, and knew also how men and women needed to know it, that Oscar Geiger was devoting his life to teaching seventy students in his day-time, evenings, and correspondence classes. To this end he had invested all that he had. To this end he gladly devoted his great teaching gifts, shared his wide knowledge and exact information. Never can we who personally knew him be grateful enough for the 'quality' of life we saw in him, consecrated as it was to the great ideal of causing men to recognize that there is a Natural Law in the Economic World which *must* be obeyed, if men are ever to become truly free and equal. To him there was no other way.

We his students came to recognize this too, and at last, to have rise within us the question—"What are we going to do about it?"—just as he had been affected years before (we learned) when as a young man, he finished reading in a single night the copy of "Progress and Poverty" which Dr. James Ferrier had lent him. We saw that his own answer to the question must have been "Teach the truth!"—and that he was living up to this conviction. It was to find a part of my answer to this same question that I went to his home one evening, where I learned more fully of the School's needs and of his faith in his work as part of the Intent in Nature, due to be brought to fruition as truly as seed sown in the earth will grow, if sown according to nature's laws.

To the idea that there must be forming amongst the students of the various groups a desire to be of service to him in his work he listened with deep attention.

The suggestion that the very experience of learning such vital truths through his guidance should be arousing already a feeling of comradeship amongst his students—even though some were entirely unknown to the others—he accepted as in line with his own hope and thought.

The belief expressed that it would be inspiring to all to personally know, for instance, the two students who had brought so large a number of others to the classes, found him warmly interested.

Then he quietly and with deep feeling uttered these momentous words, "It has always been a dream of mine that there might be a Henry George Fellowship."

This caused the whole thing to crystallize, as it were, into the next question, "May I visit the classes next week to bring these things before them?" The answer was "yes."

And so on the days and evenings of the following week, beginning with April 9, 1934 this message was given to the classes:

"Fellow students of the Henry George School:—Greeting!

"Has it yet occurred to any of you that it would be a pleasant and worthwhile thing for the groups of students in this school, studying vital truths in a unique period of the world's history, to meet together for purposes of fellowship and cooperation for the good of the cause and the good of the school? . . . . .

"One of the chief objects of this meeting is the hope that we may through it feel ourselves in sympathy with a deep desire of our leader, Mr. Geiger, that there be formed a Fellowship, to be known as "The Henry George Fellowship." . . . . .

The students met on April 19, and listened to the following opening words I felt moved to make to them.

"This is possibly a historic date for the Henry George movement for we have come together as students and friends of this school to unite in an even closer bond of union to be known as the Henry George Fellowship. . . . Intuition perhaps, friendship perhaps, God I feel sure, led me to seek the realities under the effort I observed being made in this school . . . without thought of personal reward, a true "seeking first the Kingdom of Heaven, a true trusting of the promise that all things needful would be added." . . . . .

Then was read a paper we now know as "The Message," and the students were asked to send in their written opinions of the school and its work, to add to it, in order that it might be sent out as a student-message to all the friends of the Henry George movement throughout the nation, announcing the formation of the Henry George Fellowship, and inviting their cooperation in sending students and supplying scholarships.

That evening the students voted to establish the Fellowship. The following week in flowed their written opinions, and the printed message went out May 28, 1934.

Thus we have seen the Henry George Fellowship in its earliest beginnings, arising as an idea in the mind and soul of Oscar Geiger, and coming into being through the interest and effort of the student-group whom he had led into "paths where they no longer grope."

The Henry George Fellowship is his living memorial and its watch-word is—"Let Us Move Forward Together."

As it is developing, the Henry George Fellowship is not an organized body; it is the growing body of alumni of the Henry George School of Social Science wherever classes are formed, a free society, freely entered into for the advancement of a common ideal.

By the new year there should be over one thousand members, and it is proposed to proceed along these lines until the roster is one hundred thousand strong!

HELEN D. DENBIGH.

## Arthur Madsen at International Night Henry George Congress

MR. A. W. MADSEN related the difficulties that his colleague Mr. F. C. R. Douglas (the author of the "Memorandum"), and he met with at Geneva in endeavoring to get the views of the International Union officially accepted by some Government or other, but without success. Yet the document was placed in the hands of every one of the delegates and it had since been translated and circulated in fourteen languages, so that it had far wider notice and certainly very many more readers than anything the Conference itself produced. Since Geneva, with its futile resolution that tariffs had been raised high enough and should not be increased, more and more trade barriers had been erected. Added to the fiscal weapon of customs tariffs they now had the actual physical stoppage of goods by quotas, exchange restrictions and prohibitions. It was the mentality of war and was bringing the world to another Armageddon. As long as tariffs produced revenues, free trade would have the bitter opposition of the financial interests and the occupiers of the "house of have," who consider themselves secure under systems of indirect taxation. Free Traders fought a losing battle who did not see this connection and imagined that protectionist manufacturers were the only interests concerned, whereas the tariff issue was the "blanket code" for loading the burden of taxation upon the shoulders of the working people as a whole. The Governments of the United States Canada and Australia, not to speak of other countries, had contributed savagely to this process of taxing their own citizens to enrich privilege within their own boundaries. But the trade interferences led to reprisals taking the form, such is the madness of it all, of taxes and tribute imposed by other Governments on their own nationals. In Great Britain before the 1931 panic, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, then Labor Prime Minister, had supported the urgent demand for another World Conference to seek the return to sanity. The pretences and insincerities of that time were shown in the result. The new Government in 1931 deliberately surrendered British Free Trade. The protectionists led by Mr. Neville Chamberlain had to get their way. The tariff was imposed, followed by the Ottawa Agreements which were the greatest blunder and greatest crime any Government, of whatever nation, have committed. The world was faced by an accomplished fact. The Economic Conference was repeatedly postponed and when it was held, in 1933, it became a farce which