The Henry George School in the News

DETROIT held its October meeting of school members and friends at Wayne State University, and listened to a report from Representative James Clarkson on the recent trip to Pittsburgh of the study committee set up by the Michigan Legislature. The committee was given an enthusiastic description of Pennsylvania's legislation to further land value taxation.

Mr. Clarkson said that while the ordinary citizen did not understand the Graded Tax plan, the officials did and seemed to support it. He noted few empty store buildings and very little evidence of speculation in the downtown area, and said practically all the new development there was being accomplished with private capital.

Members of the study committee now have a better picture of what a small amount of differential taxation can accomplish for urban renewal. Mr. Clarkson feels that the next session of the Michigan Legislature will certainly be inclined to take the initial steps toward some kind of land value taxation in the future.

SAN FRANCISCO is privileged to hear a second series of commentaries by Robert Tideman, Executive Secretary of the Northern California Extension. The first, on KPFA, was on October 6th at 7:45 P.M. and was rebroadcast the following day at 9:45 A.M. A previous series ran from February 1956 to November 1959 on this FM listener-subscription station. Listeners interested in this, the only commentator offering views with fundamental economic insight, should express their interest by becoming members. As such they will receive a fortnightly schedule of station offerings.

The fall term opened with classes in Fundamental Economics at six Bay Area locations in October. Advanced courses are being offered in the Fundamentals of Money and World Trade and Social Problems.

SAN DIEGO's director, Dr. Robert V. Andelson was referred to by the San Diego Evening Tribune as a controversial character, "between two schools of critical thought" — one calling the philosophy socialism, the other believing it a dodge to avoid income taxes. Dr. Andelson claimed both were wrong and observed that a reawakening of interest in the doctrines of Henry George's logical source of revenue was taking place.

In this article the site value method of taxation was clearly outlined and illustrated with a sample tax levy on a piece of property which, Dr. Andelson said, would be an amount equal to a full year's rent. The effect on land speculation and slum clearance was also mentioned.

The advanced classes have begun in the San Diego area: Science of Political Economy and Free Enter-

prise Versus Socialism.

NEW YORK headquarters are enjoying peace and quiet now that Mr. Khrushchev has left. A New York Times reporter visited the director, Robert Clancy, to glance out of his office windows which face the back windows of the Soviet mission. The director was quoted in the October 15 issue of the Times as taking exception to the attention paid Mr. Khrushchev during the recent visit, and regarding him as the "present custodian of a puerile economic theory that, though specious, has perhaps kept Henry George's views from enjoying the ascendancy they deserve.'