

Seventh International Conference to Promote Land Value Taxation and Free Trade  
Swanwick, Derbyshire, England : August 14th to 21st, 1949

## RECORD OF CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

### Sunday, August 14th

*From*  
4.0 p.m. Reception of Members. At 8.0 p.m., Business Meeting of the International Union. The Conference convened and Programme confirmed. Appointment of Conference Committees. Formation of Sectional Groups.

### Monday, August 15th

*Morning.* Informal social gatherings. Sittings of the Conference Committees and Sectional Groups.  
2.30 p.m. Presiding: The President, HON. BUE BJÖRNER. Civic welcome by the Vice-Chairman of the Derbyshire County Council, Mrs. G. BUXTON, C.C., deputising for the Chairman, Alderman C. F. WHITE, M.P.  
Presidential Address: "Can International Trade Problems be Solved Internationally?" Hon. BUE BJÖRNER.  
Message from the Hon. K. K. STEINCKE, Chairman of the Danish Upper House of Parliament. "A Social Democrat's Tribute to Henry George."  
Greetings from E. J. CRAIGIE, ex-M.P., South Australia, (past) President of the International Union, and from other absent members.  
Free Trade in its Fulness. Discussion of the Presidential Address.  
8.0 p.m. Chairman and Deputy Chairman: A. POULSEN, Denmark, and AUSTIN H. PEAKE.  
"Practical Statesmanship for Great Britain." Paper by FRANK DUPUIS. The duties of the next British Government.

### Tuesday, August 16th

9.30 a.m. Chairman and Deputy Chairman: DR. ROLLAND O'REGAN, New Zealand, and ANDREW D. HAXTON.  
"Land Value Taxation in Denmark: Present Position and Further Prospects." Paper by K. J. KRISTENSEN, Chief of the Danish Land Valuation Department.  
"The History of Land-Taxation in Denmark." Paper by the Hon. VIGGO STARCKE, Leader of the Justice Party in the Danish Parliament.  
2.30 p.m. Chairman and Deputy Chairman: Mrs. GUDRUN BJÖRNER and Miss BETTY NOBLE.  
"Land Reclamation and Land Tenure in California." Paper by J. RUPERT MASON.  
"The Future of the Georgeist Movement in France and Belgium." Paper by A. DAUDE-BANCEL and MARCEL CORTVRIEND.  
"A Lonely Campaigner in Tangier." Paper by LOUIS HIRSCHFELD.  
"The Work of the New South Wales Land Values and Free Trade League." By A. G. HUIE (*in absento*). As reported in the *Standard*, of which (a limited number of) copies were provided for the Conference.  
News reports from various other countries.  
8.0 p.m. Chairman and Deputy Chairman: H. H. HOLLINS, Canada, and CHARLES H. BATTY.  
"Capitalism: Its Conception, Origin and Basis." Paper by BALDOMERO ARGENTE, Madrid (*in absento*).  
"The Status and Progress of the Land Values Movement in New Zealand." Address by DR. ROLLAND O'REGAN.

### Wednesday, August 17th

9.30 a.m. Chairman and Deputy Chairman: Mrs. ANN ROSS, U.S.A., and E. G. POPPLEWELL.  
"The Henry George School of Social Science." Paper by ROBERT CLANCY, New York.  
Discussion, led by Mrs. CAROLINE BJÖRNER, (for Denmark) and V. H. BLUNDELL (for Great Britain). School methods and results. Textbooks and their uses. After-school activities of graduates.  
*Afternoon.* Coach tour to Matlock, Rowsley, Chatsworth, Bakewell and Haddon Hall; Cricket and Tennis.  
8.0 p.m. Chairman and Deputy Chairman: OLE WANG, Norway, and Mrs. F. G. SUMNER.  
"The Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, New York." Publications and Educational Activities. Paper by Miss V. G. PETERSON.  
Discussion on publishing agencies in several countries, including the U.S.A., Great Britain (the United Committee and the Land & Liberty Press), Denmark (Henry George Forlaget), Australia (Henry George Foundation). Journals of the Movement and uses of the newspaper Press.  
10.0 p.m. Social Evening, Music, etc.

### Thursday, August 18th

9.30 a.m. Chairman and Deputy Chairman: ARGE KRAPPER, Denmark, and GEORGE MUSSON.  
"The Moral Implications of the Henry George Social Philosophy; the Free versus the 'Planned' Economy."  
Discussion introduced with Address by the Hon. VIGGO STARCKE: "Our Daily Bread."  
*Afternoon.* Meetings of the Conference Committees and Sectional Groups.  
5.0 p.m. Miss B. NOBLE in the Chair. "Starting Anew in Germany: Formation of the Land and Liberty Union." Paper by RUDOLF SCHMIDT. Supplementary matter on France and on Tangier by A. DAUDE-BANCEL and L. HIRSCHFELD.  
8.0 p.m. Chairman and Deputy Chairman: Mrs. B. LUNDSTRÖM, Sweden, and ARTHUR H. WELLER.  
"The Need for Co-ordination and Dissemination of Information on a World Scale." Paper by Miss MARGARET E. BATEMAN. Followed by display of educational film strips, "Millions of Jobs" and "Foreign Trade—It's Good Business."

**Friday, August 19th**

- 9.30 a.m. Presiding: The President, Hon. BUE BJÖRNER.  
Reports received from Conference Committees and Sectional Groups. Recommendations considered. Adoption of Declaration of Principle and Policy and Resolution on Individual and Common Rights in Land, and other Resolutions.
- Afternoon. Coach tour to Alfreton, Newstead, Southwell, Ollerton and Edwinstone; Rambles in Derbyshire countryside; Cricket and Tennis.
- 8.0 p.m. Chairman and Deputy Chairman: DAN BJÖRNER, Denmark, and C. E. COLLIER.  
Answering questions not fully dealt with at previous sessions, particularly as to valuation methods and procedure in the light of Danish experience.
- 9.30 p.m. The Henry George School in Action. Classroom Demonstration by ROBERT CLANCY and V. H. BLUNDELL.

**Saturday, August 20th**

- 9.30 a.m. Presiding: The President, Hon. BUE BJÖRNER.  
General meeting of members of the International Union. Administrative reports; Statement by the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. ASHLEY MITCHELL on the need for increased funds; endorsement of the Union's Constitution; election of Officers and Executive Committee for the ensuing period.  
Induction of the new President of the Union: Mr. J. RUPERT MASON (U.S.A.).  
"False Land Reforms in Eastern Europe and in Italy." Paper by ROBERT MAJOR, Rome.
- 2.30 p.m. Chairman: ASHLEY MITCHELL.  
Public Session organised by the United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values. Local Authorities and Land Value Rating; the British municipal demand; lessons gained from successful operation in other countries.  
Speakers: A. W. MADSEN, Dr. ROLLAND O'REGAN, K. J. KRISTENSEN, J. RUPERT MASON.  
Papers presented: Memoranda of Evidence submitted by the United Committee and the Edinburgh League to the British Government's Enquiry Committee on Site-Value Rating.  
(The Conference was joined by specially invited Members of County Borough and District Councils in Derby and adjoining counties and members of professions concerned with housing, town planning, valuation, land development and the law and practice of local taxation.)
- 8.0 p.m. Chairman and Deputy Chairman: MARCEL CORTVRIEND, Belgium, and H. R. LEE.  
Impromptu Session. Short addresses on varied topics.  
Valedictory by FRANK DUPUIS: "The Georgeists, are they Human?"
- 10.0 p.m. Social Evening, Music, etc.

**Sunday, August 21st**

- 10.0 a.m. Chairman and Deputy Chairman: J. RUPERT MASON, President of the International Union, and LEN STEVENSON.  
Survey of the work of the Conference; the advancement of its objects by necessary co-operative efforts in all countries; fixation of place and of next International Conference—Denmark, 1951.

**INTERNATIONAL UNION—GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS**

On August 20, 1949, a General Meeting of Members of the International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade met to receive administrative reports, to endorse the Constitution of the Union, and to elect Officers and Executive Committee for the ensuing period.

The Constitution (copies of which may be had on application) was confirmed with three amendments; namely, to change the provision as to the election of one Vice-President for each country represented on the list of membership, this to read: "Vice-Presidents" without such qualification; to give the Executive Committee power to co-opt on its membership "six" instead of "three" members; and to alter the provision relating to deputies of Executive Committee members, to read: "a member of the Executive Committee unable to attend any meeting of the Committee may appoint a deputy, who shall be a member of the Union to attend in his place, and who may vote on his behalf."

**ELECTION OF THE OFFICERS**

President: J. Rupert Mason (United States of America).  
Treasurer: Ashley Mitchell (Great Britain).  
Secretary: A. W. Madsen (Great Britain).  
Assistant Secretary: Frank Dupuis (Great Britain).

**Vice-Presidents.**

America, U.S.A.: Miss Margaret E. Bateman, H. Gunnison Brown, G. W. Esty, J. R. Fuchs, W. Harrison, John C. Lincoln, Lawson Purdy, Mrs. Ann Ross, H. L. T. Tideman. Argentina: Felix Vitale. Australia: E. J. Craigie, J. R. Firth, S. W. Hart, A. G. Huie, A. R. Hutchinson, H. G. Pearce. Austria: Pavlos Giannelias (and for Greece). Belgium: Marcel Cortvriend, Mrs. G. de Wispelaere. Brazil: R. do Amaral, O. Alves de Lima, Americo Werneck. Canada: G. R. Donovan, H. H. Hollins, A. W. Roebuck, Miss Strehel Walton, E. S. Woodward. Cuba: R. Casas Cadilla. Denmark: Bue Björner, K. J. Kristensen,

P. C. Pedersen, A. Poulsen, Viggo Starcke. France: A. Daudé-Bancel, J. A. Simonet. Germany: Rudolf Schmidt, Arnold Schwarz. Great Britain: C. H. Batty, C. E. Clarke, Mrs. C. E. Crompton, E. A. Davies, Andrew D. Haxton, T. S. James, Mrs. John Paul, Austin H. Peake, M. J. Stewart, E. Wilson. Greece: A. Paspati (and P. Giannelias). Holland: P. Prins, A. Sevenster. Hungary: Ferd. Merö, J. J. Pikler. Israel: Bernard Ascher. Jamaica: Mrs. D. Simmons. Kenya: Mrs. M. Layzell. Mexico: M. N. Robles. New Zealand: Rolland O'Regan, A. Parlane, R. G. Varlow. Norway: Halfdan Hansen, Ole Wang. Rome: Robert Major. South Africa: E. J. Evans, F. A. W. Lucas, Mather Smith. Spain: J. Anglada, Baldomero Argente, E. Lemos Ortega, Santiago Serra. Sweden: Johan Hansson, Mrs. B. Lundström. Switzerland: Mrs. E. J. McD. Verzar. Tangier: L. Hirschfeld. West Africa: E. A. Shanu.

**Executive Committee.**

The foregoing officers and—America, U.S.A.: R. Clancy, John Gray, John L. Monroe, Miss V. G. Peterson, Allan J. Wilson. Australia: F. Halkyard, V. J. White. Canada: H. T. Owens. Denmark: Mrs. Caroline Björner, Dan Björner, Svend E. Hansen. France: Max Toubeau. Great Britain: W. E. Bland, V. H. Blundell, Mrs. D. Duplock, W. E. Fox, R. W. Frost, A. R. Lee, Stephen Martin, E. G. Popplewell, Leonard Stevenson, R. D. Young. Israel: Isaac Bernstein. New Zealand: G. M. Fowlds.

The Executive Committee met immediately after the General Meeting electing Mr. Austin H. Peake their Chairman. A Finance Sub-Committee was appointed, consisting of Mr. Ashley Mitchell, Treasurer, and Messrs. Batty, Bland, Blundell, Dupuis, Frost, Lee, Madsen, Martin, Peake, Popplewell, Stewart and Young. The Finance Sub-Committee met at 4 Great Smith Street, London, S.W.1, on September 8, and reviewed the accounts of the Union, with special reference to the Conference income and expenditure.