

## ENGLISH LEAGUE FOR THE TAXATION OF LAND VALUES

On October 4 a general meeting of the League was held at 4 Great Smith Street; Mr. C. W. Loveridge presided. A statement of accounts for the two years ended March, 1950, was presented and passed. The Hon. Secretary made report of the activities of the United Committee, Henry George School and the Georgeists and explained how the work of the English League was being carried on if not in name then in spirit by the combined activities of the associated groups at 4 Great Smith Street. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President and Treasurer: Mr. C. W. Loveridge. Hon. Secretary: Mr. V. H. Blundell. Hon. Auditor: L. Stevenson. Executive: Mrs. M. Whitehouse, Miss Florence Verinder and Messrs. G. H. Batty, A. N. Batty, E. Baush, W. E. Bland, W. E. Fox, A. W. Madsen, M. J. Stewart and R. D. Young.

## LIBERAL LIBERTY LEAGUE

The annual general meeting of the Liberal Liberty League was held at Church House, Westminster, on October 13, Mr. Ashley Mitchell presiding. The adoption of the secretarial and financial reports was followed by the election of the officers and executive committee, the officers for the ensuing year being: Mr. Ashley Mitchell, Chairman; Mr. Stephen Martin, Hon. Secretary-Treasurer; Mr. C. H. Batty and F. Dupuis, Hon. Associate Secretaries; Mr. W. E. Bland, Hon. Auditor.

At the public meeting which followed, warm approval was given to the League's latest publication *The True Programme for Freedom*, the printed pamphlet which had already been distributed to all members. Mr. Stephen Martin, in an address, explained its contents and purpose. "This eleven-point charter for liberty, justice and prosperity," he said, "sets forth in broad outlines the application of the economic principles of Land Value Taxation and Free Trade to all the problems which confront society to-day. We show that much of the existing confusion of thought is caused by the failure to submit social and political complications to the acid test of equal freedom. If all the technological and scientific progress achieved during the last fifty years had developed in a society where men had equal and free opportunity, the increase in production would have been immensely greater and would have ridiculed any attempts to impose overhead direction and control of the individual." It had become abundantly clear that in the so-called backward countries, destitution had as its bottom cause rapacious land monopoly. He wished that the United Nations would look to that cause and its removal instead of attempting to mend the situation by schemes like colonial development, "Point Four" projects and the rest, for in the last analysis where did that money go except into the pockets of the rent collectors? In concluding, he asked those present to get as wide a circulation as possible of the *True Programme for Freedom*, copies being obtainable from the address of the League at 4 Great Smith Street, S.W.1. An appeal was made for helpful funds to meet the expenses of the League necessarily incurred in this connection.

The Secretary has received a letter from a member of the League in Essex enclosing a copy of a letter he has addressed to the Southend West Liberal Association:

"Briefly, my position is this: although I am a Liberal I cannot support the economic policy at present officially advocated by the Liberal Party. In my opinion our social ills spring fundamentally from the injustice implied in the private monopoly of land. I think all occupiers and users of the latter should pay full economic rent to the community, this being collected in the form of a tax on land values. Taxes on improvements, and on the rewards of industry should be decreased until they are finally abolished.

"When this policy has been fully implemented it is my belief that there will be no need for compulsory co-ownership, or any socialistic schemes involving bureaucratic interference and regimentation. Free Trade and the return of land values to the community will provide a great stimulus to production on the one hand, and prevent exploitation of labour on the other. Moreover, that great fund created by the presence of the community, and

repaid to the community, will be ample to provide those social services and amenities required by modern civilisation. If and when this policy becomes the keystone of the Liberal Party programme, I shall be an enthusiastic member of the party. Till then I can only remain on the fringe. On general grounds I will join the local Liberal Association and send my subscription to your Treasurer, but I cannot identify myself more prominently with the present programme of the party."

Arthur McDougal, the well-known farmer of Blythe, Lauder, in Berwickshire, and a competent agricultural authority, has been appointed Deputy Lieutenant for the County. He is a constant reader of *LAND & LIBERTY* and in a recent letter he wrote: "In a world, politically unanchored to any sound policy, I turn always with relief to you people, securely moored to the unanswerable truths of Free Trade and Land Values as expounded by Henry George."

## SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

The United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values Ltd. (proprietors of *LAND & LIBERTY*, postal subscription 5s. or \$ from U.S.A. and Canada), the International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade, and the Leagues listed below are maintained by the voluntary support of those who believe in and would seek to advance the principle and policy which the Committee, the Union and the Leagues advocate: Land Value Taxation and Free Trade in its fulness, with removal of the tax burdens on industry and abolition of all monopolies and special privileges that interfere with the production of wealth and prevent its just distribution.

We press upon our supporters the need for funds to advance the movement in every field of endeavour. Cheques, etc., may be made payable to R. W. Frost (United Committee) or to Ashley Mitchell (International Union), 4 Great Smith Street, London, S.W.1. The office can receive and will transmit contributions on behalf of any of the allied Associations named below.

## ADDRESSES

At 4, Great Smith Street, London, S.W.1. Telephone: Abbey 6665; *United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values, Ltd.*, Richard William Frost (Hon. Treasurer); A. W. Madsen (Secretary); *International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade*, Ashley Mitchell (Treasurer); *English League*, C. W. Loveridge (Treasurer); *Henry George School of Social Science*, V. H. Blundell (Director of Studies), with Branches at Manchester, Glasgow, Liverpool, Blackburn, Portsmouth; *The Georgeists (London)*, P. R. Stubbings (Hon. Secretary).

*Scottish League for Land Value Taxation*, R. J. Rennie (Hon. Sec. and Treas.), 220 Mill Street, Rutherglen, Glasgow. *Yorks. and Northern League*, Howard Binns (Hon. Secretary), 3, Westfield Road, Riddlesden, Keighley. *Manchester League*, A. H. Weller (Secretary), The Firs, Wensley Drive, Hazel Grove, Manchester; Clitheroe Branch, Mrs. F. G. Sumner (Hon. Secretary), Oakside, Mitton Road, Whalley, Lancs. *The Georgeists (Manchester)*, John Wise (Hon. Secretary), 62 Cemetery Road, Audenshaw. *Welsh League*, Eustace A. Davies (Hon. Secretary), 206 Newport Road, Cardiff. *Midland League*, Miss N. McGovern (Acting Hon. Secretary), 11 Arthur Road, Birmingham, 16. *Liverpool League*, H. T. Boothby (Hon. Secretary), 15 Ashdale Road, Liverpool, 7. *Crosby Henry George Fellowship*, C. C. Paton (Hon. Secretary), 11 Tudor Road, Liverpool, 23. *Portsmouth League*, H. R. Lee (Hon. Secretary), 13 Lawrence Road, Southsea. *Derbyshire League*, G. Musson (Hon. Secretary), 29 Denby Lane, Codnor. *Edinburgh League*, W. N. Alexander (Hon. Secretary), 63 Baronscourt Terrace, Edinburgh, 8.

**Progress and Poverty.** By Henry George. An inquiry into the causes of industrial depressions and of increase of want with increase of wealth—the remedy. Pocket-size edition 3s. 6d. Large-type library edition 8s.

**The Science of Political Economy.** By Henry George. The meaning of Political Economy; The Nature of Wealth; The Laws of the Production and Distribution of Wealth; Money and its Functions. 7s. 6d.