

INTERNATIONAL UNION

Membership of the International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade is open to all persons who (paying a minimum annual subscription equivalent to five shillings sterling) give adherence to the Objects of the Union, which are:—

"To stimulate in all countries a public opinion favourable to permanent peace and prosperity for all peoples, through the progressive removal of the basic economic causes of poverty and war, as these causes are demonstrated in the writings of Henry George. Specifically, towards the realization of these objects, the Union favours the raising of public revenues by taxes and rates upon the value of land apart from improvements in order to secure the economic rent for the community and the abolition of taxes, tariffs, or imposts of every sort that interferes with the free production and exchange of wealth." Subscriptions, and donations in aid of the work of the Union, may be made payable to Ashley Mitchell, Hon. Treasurer, 4 Great Smith Street, London, S.W.1.

Joining the Union you are earnestly invited to enrol also for the forthcoming Seventh International Conference, whether as an attending or as an affiliate member, being entitled to the printed papers, reports and other publications relating thereto. Announcement of the Conference is on page 198.

On Monday, December 6th, at the Planning Centre, 28 King Street, Covent Garden, the International Union, the International Friendship League and the Peace Pledge Union join in a Brains Trust on "War—its Cause and Cure." Representing the International Union on the panel of three will be Mr. Stephen Martin. Other members of the Brains Trust will be Mr. Stuart Morris (P.P.U.) and Miss Gertrude Semadine (I.F.L.). Mr. Gendall Hawkins will be Question-Master.

At Hope House, Westminster, on October 20th, Senator Arthur Roebuck, of Canada, was entertained at a reception given in his honour by the Union. The room was full to capacity. Mr. Ashley Mitchell, who presided, spoke of the high place the Senator held in Canadian public life, after long years of faithful endeavour, and in particular of the radical stand he had taken as defender of the community's right to its natural resources. In his talk, Senator Roebuck gave an intensely interesting description of what he had seen and learned and heard other people discuss during his visit to Europe as member of the Empire Parliamentary Association. It was an impressionist picture of a world which should not be and need not be, and like an artist he painted it anew with all its ugliness removed. The brush of the free trader, the land reformer, the lover of social justice was used to good purpose, although some colours he did add of paternalistic hue met with critical eyes. Under the sun of righteousness they would fade out. Such discussion as there was on family allowances and other social services to "take from and give to" as a means of subsidising money wages did not detract from the pleasure and profit of the evening. With *bon voyage* to him, Senator Roebuck was charged with greetings to colleagues and co-workers in his part of the vineyard.

HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL

The classes being held at 4 Great Smith Street, Westminster, and at the Ravenslea School in Balham are now well under way and a good average attendance is being maintained. Additional equipment acquired recently includes two blackboards and easels, which are in constant use throughout the session. In the International Trade class, use is made of the projector and diagrammatic film illustrating the various arguments in favour of free trade. It provides an excellent adjunct to the reading of the text book.

A new class for the study of *Progress and Poverty*, organised by Mr. W. E. Fox, opened on November 10th at Mysore Road, in Battersea. Students will attend each Wednesday for a ten-week session.

The Glasgow Centre reports the successful opening on November 17th of the new class for the study of the Basic Course, which is being held at the Christian Institute, Bothwell Street, and is conducted by Mr. Charles MacSwan. It was well attended, the result of the successful publicity by way of handbills, circulars, posters and newspaper advertising, which, with headquarters' assistance, Mr. MacSwan himself organised.

Satisfactory progress is being made at the classes held in the Houldsworth Hall, Manchester and conducted by Miss Betty Noble and Miss Grace Levy. The present session concludes with an address by Mr. Ashley Mitchell on December 14th to the students of the International Trade class, and on December 16th by Mr. V. H. Blundell to the students of the Basic Course.

LONDON GEORGEISTS' DISCUSSION CLUB

The First Annual General Meeting of the Club will be held at 4 Great Smith Street, S.W.1, on Saturday, January 8th, anniversary date of the foundation of the Club, in celebration of which a dinner will be held the same evening.

The monthly meetings of the Club are proving a decided success, not only by the numbers attending but also by the lively and informing discussion which takes place. This was particularly marked on November 10th, when we had as our guests three representatives of the Reigate Division Young Conservatives at a joint Brains Trust with three representatives of the Club. Mr. J. F. Eggleston, who has twice been guest speaker at Club meetings, was Question-Master. The argument was "Social Problems, their Cause and Cure," Mrs. M. Whitehouse and Messrs. D. Boothman and E. Popplewell so upholding the Henry George principle and policy that their Conservative opposite numbers had to grant much in its favour. The variety and number of questions gave zest to the proceedings, and there, as well as in the subsequent general discussion, it was demonstrated, we think, that we were not just indulging in a "delightful Utopian dream."

At the December and January meetings (Hope House, Great Peter Street, S.W.1, 7 p.m.) we again have guest speakers: Mr. H. E. Szentuch, post graduate of the London School of Economics, who will speak on "The Keynesian Theory of Unemployment," and Mr. C. H. Hartwell, representing the Trades Union Congress, who will discuss with us "The Case for Trades Unionism."

The Club has established a Speakers' Bureau, providing lecturers and debaters for or with other bodies. A good start has been made under arrangement with the International Friendship League, who have invited speakers for their Kensington, Putney and Southgate Branches and for their London Centre. At the Kensington I.F.L. on October 20th, Mr. V. H. Blundell spoke to an audience of 60 people, a large proportion of whom were students from other countries belonging to a variety of races. "Economics and Social Problems," being the subject, opportunity was afforded to give what was in effect the first lesson in the Basic Course. Questions came in a flow. The Chairman urged all present to avail themselves of the facilities of the Henry George School, and the Chairman's table was emptied of the copies of the School Prospectus and the booklet, *The Study of Political Economy*, which had been placed on display.

"If the whole world were animated with a reasonable soul (as Plato had thought it were) and that it had wit and understanding to mark and perceive all things, Lord God how the ground on which a Prince buildeth his palace would loud laugh his lord to scorn when he saw him proud of his possession and heard him boast himself that he and his blood are for ever the very lords and owners of the land. For then would the ground think the while in himself, 'Ali, thou silly poor soul, that thinketh thou wert half a God, and art amid thy glory but a man in a gay gown, I that am the ground here over which thou art so proud, have had an hundred such owners of me as thou callest thyself, more than ever thou hast heard the names of. And some of them that proudly went over mine head lie now low in my belly and my side lyeth over them. And many a one shall as thou doest now, call himself mine owner after thee that neither shall be kin to thy blood nor any word hear of thy name.'"—From the "Dialogue of Comfort" by Sir Thomas More.

The Sunday Chronicle of November 21st had an amusing cartoon by its artist, A. E. Beard. An irate farmer is distributing guns to three of his men who are out for a shooting. The caption is, "Got that now, boys?—George protects the turkeys, Albert guards the pig-sties and Henry watches out for the Town and Country Planners."