

Henry George School Begun By Former Bodenreformers

League for Land and Freedom Is Name of New Berlin Group

BERLIN, GERMANY. Welcome news about a German renewal of Georgist activities was contained in a letter just received requesting ten copies of "Progress and Poverty," as well as lesson sheets. Also enclosed were the minutes of a preliminary meeting of German

Georgists, and the proposed program for a "Liga Fuer Land und Freiheit" (League for Land and Freedom) organized by Dr. Kurt Schmidt, his son Rudolf Schmidt and Dr. Arnold Schwarz.

From the minutes of this meeting held in Berlin on March 16th, interesting observations can be gathered. Several former members of the Bund Deutscher Bodenreformer (League of German Land Reformers), students of Henry George and the German land reformer Adolf Damaschke, appealed to the Allied Command as early as autumn 1945, for a permit to re-establish the organization, but no answer was received.

In order to be able to carry on at least in the British sector, states the report, a separate request was made to the British authorities, and a favorable reply was received shortly afterward. British authorities gave their permission on condition that no objection be raised by the German authorities, and further recommended a change in name from "Land Reform" because of certain political connotations.

German authorities are said to have promised their permission. As for the change of name, this had already been considered, and "League for Land and Freedom" was proposed. Among the reasons advanced for this new name was the fact that it could not be confused with "political measures of so-called 'Land Reform' in a cer-

fused with "political measures of so-called 'Land Reform' in a certain part of Germany." Also stressed was the cordial relation existing between the former Land Reform group and related movements in other countries, which according to the report were continued with Mr. Madsen of "Land and Liberty" in London even during the first years of war. Connections were established again as far back as June 1945, soon after hostilities ceased. It was stressed that the very name "Land and Freedom" would make easier the re-establishment of connections with other groups in foreign countries, an aim held essential for a successful German movement.

Furthermore, states the report, such a name embodies a welcome extension of the program, although the primary aim will be land reform and collection of the economic rent for the community.

The meeting further worked on a proposed constitution for the new league and formulated a limited series of activities to begin as soon as the official permit was received. (The lessons are on the way.)