

The Henry George School in the News

LOS ANGELES, in granting its director William B. Truehart a much deserved sabbatical leave, is benefiting in the interim by the experience of Harry Pollard who has introduced some of the innovations tried out in Ontario, where he is director of the Henry George School. The course now consists of 18 sessions which take the student through *Progress and Poverty* plus the *Science of Political Economy*. For the 28 weekly sessions a fee of \$29 is charged which includes three necessary textbooks, lesson sheets and other class material. An advanced science course is being offered to graduates at the basic course consisting of 16 sessions at \$7.50.

An alumni association similar to the Ontario group is in process of being formed. This will eventually perform many of the duties of the school. Mr. Pollard has returned to Ontario via Pittsburgh.

SAN DIEGO sends word that one of its popular members, John Nagy, Jr. of Chula Vista, announced on February 15th that he will be a candidate for the Assembly, or California lower house in the Democratic primary. He will campaign on a program of attracting industry to California by allowing communities to untax improvements and personal property if they wish, a privilege now denied under California law. Under this plan home owners will get a tax reduction, he claims.

FAIRHOPE, Alabama students have profited greatly from the instruction given by Bruce Evans, Jr., cashier and assistant secretary of the Fairhope Single Tax Corporation. After completing the studies in *Progress and Poverty* his students, all girls, entered an essay contest. (See Sept., 1961 HGN.)

Karen Horne, the winner, is now enrolled at Grinnell College in Iowa. She has received an award of \$100 and will receive three more in the same amount if she continues her education. Second and third awards, \$100 each, went to Lynn Gooden, now at the University of Alabama; and Milly Handy now at the Alabama State College for Women. The fourth award, \$50, went to Gigi Hoffman, who received a one-year scholarship at Memphis State University, offered to the first three winners but declined; the fifth award, also \$50, was won by Sandra Brown now enrolled at Baylor University, Waco, Texas.

NEW JERSEY reports good results from the showing of "Land—and Space to Grow," the documentary film produced by the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, and presented as a means of introducing a tax seminar at Newark headquarters. Among those enrolled in the seminar at present are representatives from taxpayers' associations in five north Jersey communities. A second seminar is scheduled to open in Hackensack, New Jersey, and plans for two others are under way.

All students and friends of the New Jersey Henry George School are being urged to try to interest civic groups, service clubs, lodges and church groups as well as taxpayers' associations in including this film in their program plans. The school furnishes projector, operator, screen and commentator. One-half hour of program time is requested, but longer presentations are gladly furnished. If other schools are using this film extensively it would be helpful if they would report their results.

BOSTON has four basic classes in session located in suburban libraries and high schools. They find the suburban classes more effective in reaching students than downtown courses at headquarters. The formation of a Land Value Taxation Committee last year to promote interest in local political activities, has proved very successful in alerting beginning economists to civic problems and their solution.

NEW YORK director, Robert Clancy recently appeared at a meeting of the Independent Political Citizens at the Harvard Club, together with James D. Farrell, assistant di-

rector of the Budget for the City of New York. There was a lively discussion of land values as the sole base for taxation to meet New York's budget needs. The speakers' bureau has filled a number of other important engagements.

Friday-Evenings-at-Eight will offer on March 2nd, a program to encourage better speech. On the 16th Mitchell S. Lurio of Boston will speak on "Money," and on the 30th, Arnold Weinstein, member of the board of trustees and the faculty at New York headquarters, will speak on the "Law of Inheritance." Programs on March 9th and 23rd will present interesting color films.

Noah D. Alper's Brief Cases

THE RESULT AND THE REMEDY

"Urban sprawl" is not the growth of cities," according to statements from Life Magazine and House & Home. "Instead the cities are 'disintegrating and spreading the pieces over miles and miles of countryside.' It is an affront to aesthetics, to human relations, and to nature. It will take far more use of the infant art of 'environmental planning' to correct this misuse of land. The new art is hampered by its lack of community support (and frustrated by our old practice of encouraging unproductive speculation by undertaxing unused land."

Not only "unused" land, but all land of value, is undertaxed. Price depends on how much of the value of land, or rent, is taken for public use. This is one of the most unrecognized "believe it or not" concepts in America today. Though taught in most economics courses, it is not taught comprehensively. Quality, not quantity, is indicated here.

"THE ELITE UNDER CAPITALISM"

"In the feudal society the economic situation of every individual was determined by the share allotted to him by the powers that be," wrote Ludwig von Mises in The Freeman (January, 1962). "The poor man was poor because little land or no land at all had been given him. He could with good reason think—to say it openly would have been too dangerous—I am poor because other people have more than a fair share. But in the frame of a capitalistic society the accumulation of additional capital by those who succeeded in utilizing their funds for the best possible provision of the consumers enriches not only the owners but all of the people."

But private property in land can enrich limited groups of people in the moving generations of men with no thought of the utilization of capital or consumer cooperation. While an almost irrefutable case can be made for the control of production and rewards by consumers through the free market mechanism and for the best use of land, the fact of sharing in distribution without contribution by mere title holding of land cannot be so refuted.