

West Coast Portal of Hope

THE LOS ANGELES extension of the Henry George School has behind it a record of six years of continuous progress. The work was started, as it was in many other cities, by volunteers like George Briggs, whose article "Georgism and Popular Government" appears in this issue, Harry Ferrell, Hollis Joy, and Cary Colburn, who organized and taught classes in Fundamental Economics. In the fall of 1942 William B. Truehart was appointed Director.

The original "home" of the Los Angeles extension was a small one-room office, which served as a classroom as well.

One of the outstanding things accomplished by the school in its early days was a 15-minute weekly radio program entitled "Facing Post-war Problems," which ran for eight weeks during the fall of 1944 over Station KPAS in Pasadena. Mr. Truehart and members of the faculty participated in lively panel discussions about the causes of war and the solution of postwar problems.

In June of 1945 Miss Norma Cooley, for many years editor of the monthly Georgist journal, *Tax Facts*, passed away, leaving her home to the Henry George School for use as an office. Says George Cartwright, whose column "Our Groundhog World" appears in labor papers throughout California, "In my opinion that's the most practical and admirable monument any of our people can erect for them-

joined the staff as Associate Director, and took over the duties of class promotion and publicity. Dave hails from New Jersey, having taken the first two courses by correspondence, and Political Economy at New York headquarters before leaving for the "land of sunshine."

A forward step was made this past year in the organization of informal community groups, where graduates can meet for discussion, class promotion, fund raising, etc. These groups give the graduates a chance to participate in the activities of the school, as transportation is a real problem in Los Angeles, which has an area about as large as New York and Philadelphia put together.

As in most other extensions, a large amount of the work is carried on by volunteers. Besides the instructors, and those who address folders and place posters each term, there are a few who help out from time to time in the office. Deserving of special mention is Milton Shuman, who has been faithfully donating two or three full days each week for the past year and a half. There's a real Georgist!

Appreciating the all-important need for funds, a number of graduates have made regular monthly or quarterly pledges. For the past fiscal year they have contributed over \$5,000.

With a record of achievement behind them, those who make up the Los Angeles Henry George School look to the future with confidence.



The Henry George School of Social Science, 333 North Madison Avenue, Los Angeles. This was formerly the home of Norma Cooley, whose bequest made possible the school's present headquarters. Mrs. Bessie Beach Truehart (left) is director of the Henry George School in San Diego; David Simmons is the new Assistant Director in Los Angeles; Mr. and Mrs. William B. Truehart direct the destinies of the expanding Los Angeles Henry George School; and George Cartwright is an old-time and loyal friend. Salvador Jiron of Los Angeles was the photographer.

selves in any place, and I hope others will be inspired to do the same."

William Truehart and Marcile Chapman, a graduate of the school, were married in August, 1945, and since that time Marcile has been a full-time "volunteer" in the office. That's one way to get an employee!

In the fall of 1945 a Board of Directors was named, and the Los Angeles extension was incorporated under the laws of California as a non-profit organization, which of course it always was!

No one seems to know exactly what happened during the next few years, except that the number of classes kept multiplying until today the total number of graduates in the Los Angeles area is about 1500.

In February of this year David Simmons

St. Louis

Former Mayor William N. McNair will be guest speaker in St. Louis at a dinner meeting in celebration of Henry George's 109th Birthday Anniversary, on Thursday evening, September 9th. His subject will be, "Some Fallacies We Must Overcome." The second Commerce and Finance Luncheon will be held at the Mark Twain Hotel, also on September 9th, at which time Mayor McNair will discuss "The Pittsburgh Plan."

Certificates will be presented to summer term graduates at the evening meeting. The two summer classes convened at the school's headquarters downtown on Wednesday mornings and Thursday evenings respectively.

The "Gas House Gang" has recently been organized in St. Louis, taking its cue from Chicago and Los Angeles. You will hear from them at the New York Conference next year. They are a very well-mannered and friendly "gang" however, as we discovered one sultry night in July. Here are their names: B. M. Nevins, Chairman; Irwin Kauffmann, William C. Howard, Oscar Doetsch, Mrs. Ross Schachner, David Parnas, Joseph Widmer, Bertram H. Mann, Walter McNichols, Cyril Iffrig, R. B. Hanson, Mrs. Oliver Taylor, H. J. Johnson, James Kerr, Samuel G. Tucker, William White and William Copeland. In other words this is the so-called Steering Committee, and though Elizabeth Angell's name is not included you can bet that she is right in there steering too—or maybe she's a back seat driver. Anyhow, "Watch Angell!"

Philadelphia

On August 5th an interested group got together at a dinner meeting at Bain's, 1617 Chestnut Street, to hear a report on the Chicago Conference by Joseph A. Stockman, director and delegate.

The Philadelphia extension wishes to express its sincere thanks and appreciation to all who contributed so generously to the Conference Fund. The response to the request was heartwarming and gratifying, and to the many anonymous contributors to whom a personal word was impossible, the Philadelphia staff wishes to say, through this medium, *Thank You*.

More school news on Page eight, col. three.



Standing, from left to right: George Cartwright and David Simmons; seated: Mrs. Bessie Beach Truehart, William B. Truehart and Mrs. William B. Truehart.