

Report of the Schalkenbach Work

LAST month it was explained that letters to Single Taxers were sent from this office, asking for help in putting before the newspapers of the country word of the new edition of "Social Problems." Among the many people who were kind enough to cooperate in this way were Mr. Henry Ware Allen who had letters published in several important papers, Mr. McGowan, whose letters were published in the Youngstown, (O.) *Telegram*, J. H. Kauffman of Columbus, O., Z. K. Greene, Middletown, N. Y.; Zetta Smith, Lindsay, Calif.; Stephen Bell, N. Y. City; Mathew Cowden, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Mr. Bailey, Del Rey, Calif.; and A. D. Scougal, Shell Rock, Iowa.

From the prepared material sent out from this office, editorials and book reviews on "Social Problems" were printed in the following newspapers: *Passaic Herald News*, *Columbus Dispatch*, *Boston Transcript*, *Christian Century*, *America* and *Johnstown Democrat*. Harry Elmer Barnes in his syndicated articles gave special notice to "Social Problems" as a result of a letter written from this office.

Three hundred and forty-four copies of the new edition of "Social Problems" have been sold and distributed since April.

Mrs. Anna George de Mille obtained much favorable publicity for the cause on the occasion of a recent lecture trip to Coshocton, Youngstown, and Niles, Ohio.

Special articles have appeared with greater frequency in the public prints on the subject of Henry George. One of the most interesting was a long and important article in the *Milwaukee Journal*, with full size picture of Henry George, and complete story of his life. Fred C. Kelly who writes for *Today* has mentioned Henry George's "Progress and Poverty" in several feature articles. Harlan Eugene Read and the famous "Bob Davis" are two celebrities who have recently spoken at length about Henry George and his books. William Lyon Phelps wrote at length of "Progress and Poverty" in a syndicated article. A copy of "Moses" and "The Philosophy of Henry George" have been sent to him by our President, Mr. Hennessy, with the compliments of the trustees of the Foundation.

In the American Library Association magazine called *The Booklist*, we have been running notices of pamphlets that are obtainable by librarians for the price of postage.

Harry Gunnison Brown's "Talk About Taxes, etc.," Henry George's "Single Tax, What it is and Why We Urge It," and Mr. John B. Sharpe's "New Political Economy," are all advertised and are being sent to librarians everywhere who are writing for copies.

In the last report we spoke about advertising in the *Annalist* where we placed a half page, back cover advertisement. One of the results of this was to procure an

interesting letter and order from a professor in far-off Durban, South Africa, (Natal University College.)

From the numerous letters that have been received by the Foundation, subsequent to the printing of the new edition of "Social Problems," the following may be considered an example of the kind of interest aroused throughout the country by our methods of correspondence, advertising and publicity:

"Gentlemen:

Is there any definite Single Tax organization in Michigan? If so, I am anxious to know its identity. Michigan is fast travelling in the opposite direction to Single Tax philosophy, and we seem to be very much in a minority. Some real constructive work should be done very soon.

W. J. PALMER."

We put Mr. Palmer in touch with several of the Detroit leaders and workers, and sent him considerable literature from which he could choose the pieces most suited to the work he intended to do. Now this is typical of the way in which group leaders come to the Foundation for aid, not only in literature, but for news and plans. Thinking about this led us to the conclusion that it might be well to send to about one hundred of the known leaders and workers in our movement, a special letter asking for their plans for the coming year. This we have done, and have also sent sample pieces of about fourteen leaflets and pamphlets prepared by the Foundation. We have asked each leader to let us know, after examination, which pieces are most acceptable, and most practical in supplying the needs of his community.

Twenty-three thousand copies of "Steps to Economic Recovery" have been printed and distributed in the past. We announce the further printing this week of ten thousand additional copies available at five cents a piece, or fifty for \$1. Ten thousand new booklists are also being prepared.

Perhaps the best news is the announcement of the printing of six thousand copies of an article by Paul Blanshard entitled "The Great Land Racket."

This article originally appeared in the *New Freeman*, and it is one of the best short arguments against the inequity of our present land system that can be found. A sample copy will be sent to anyone who will send a three cent postage stamp. The price is one cent a copy or one hundred for \$1.

Through the kindness of Mr. John Lawrence Monroe who sent us several hundred names of people whom he had interested during his lecture tours, we were able to send free literature and information about Henry George's writings to this new group. A great deal of work has been done during the past month with new lists of names.

Among the interesting donations of books made by the Foundation during the past month were gifts to the New York Public Library of additional copies of "Progress and Poverty," gifts of many copies of George books to the Dayton Public Library which reported a strong demand

for them; gifts to the Oregon State Library; and to the Oklahoma Penitentiary, whose Chaplain requested books of worth and good content for the man in his charge.

Our president, Mr. Hennessy, is gathering material for articles on the NRA, and on the Homestead subsistence project. We will be able to report more about this in a future issue.—ANTOINETTE KAUFMANN, Secretary.

Manhattan Single Tax Club

THE New Jersey gubernatorial campaign is underway, and while the actual campaigning is not yet begun, the preliminary set-up and organization are being planned so that Mr. Ingersoll and his committees may have a definite plan of procedure. Meantime, Mr. Ingersoll our president and candidate for governor has had the following meetings:

New Jersey Taxpayers Association, May 23.—This was the first public meeting of the campaign; 400 present. The three leading candidates were invited to speak; this is a sort of federation of 100 or more "locals" throughout the state aggregating a huge number of members; it has so far stuck closely to its programme of "reducing cost of government" and has repeatedly refused to even hear our plea for going to new sources. Mr. Ingersoll made his keynote speech and indicated the situation of their refusal in his opening: "This opportunity I have for years sought and little dreamed I would have to be nominated for governor to gain the coveted privilege of addressing you!"

Mr. Ingersoll overran his time but was generously applauded. He was preceded by Judge Dill, the Democratic candidate, and followed by Harold Hoffman, Republican. This was a very successful start.

To those doubting Thomases who think a political campaign does not advance our cause we commend a reading of passages from Mr. Ingersoll's stirring and studied talk! It was transmitted to 400 that most needed it, and is an entering wedge to a hundred thousand that may be reached by it during the campaign.

"But! we must go a step farther, beyond that question of weight and bulk of tax burden; without respect to the *amount* of taxes, there is something more vital, and that is the source of taxation.

"It should not be forgotten that a tax levied on any product of labor is added to the cost and price of that product, thereby making it dearer; on the other hand, if we collect our land values and all social values in lieu of taxation, for public expenses, we make land cheap, by encouraging the owner of land to put it into use; and please don't forget, my friends, that land is the source of every job; it is the source of all our subsistence, it is the source of all our employment of capital and labor.

"The crux of all our present taxation is its crushing force on the mass-buying power; it practically doubles the cost of everything bought and therefore cuts in half

the volume of buying and so makes half the business depression and unemployment.

"This is no class plea; the blighting effect of taxing wealth, capital and income is felt perpendicularly from the humblest worker, farmer, home owner, consumer—and through them—up to the greatest industrial corporation; it starts with 50 million laborers and farmers, but does not stop until, in explosions like that of 1929, it prostrates all business and industry.

"Here lies the road to tax economy—one tax in place of 100; and simple, easy to apply and collect; when we come to the point of collecting only social values instead of 'taxing everything,' we will have arrived at the minimum cost of government; first, by the obvious savings involved in having one simple tax in place of 100 complicated ones, second, having an honest basis of finance. Graft and inefficiency will be discouraged and eventually disappear."

Lakewood Kiwanis and Civic Club, May 29.—6:30 dinner; 60 present. Talked 35 minutes and had a very fine quiz lasting about two hours. Mr. Charles Hech was present and invited Mr. Ingersoll to spend the night at his Manhattan Hotel.

Mayor McNair of Pittsburgh was with us on May 31.—Mayor McNair appeared with Mr. Ingersoll at a special luncheon of representative women from the various clubs called by Mrs. Manning of the *Jersey Journal* staff at the Y. W. C. A., Jersey City; 25 present. Mr. McNair talked of the Pittsburgh Plan for 10 minutes and Mr. Ingersoll followed in a 5-minute talk on the importance of taxation to women whom Mr. Ingersoll called the greatest taxpayers. A good story appeared in the *Jersey Journal* the party including Mr. Bouton and Mr. Allen, then went to call on Mayor Ellenstein of Newark at the City Hall. Mayor Ellenstein being in Washington, Mr. McNair and Mr. Ingersoll talked with Deputy Kelly and reporters and a photograph was taken which appeared with a nice story in the *Newark Ledger*. A meeting was arranged with the Traffic Manager Association but because the Mayor had to return to Pittsburgh it was cancelled.

The Mayor and Mr. Ingersoll, however, went on the invitation of Mr. A. Edward Williamson, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, to the Community House meeting at West Orange where the Mayor spoke briefly to a limited but very fine audience.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Club, East Orange, June 7.—Invitation of Bourke O'Brien; mixed crowd of 50 men and women. Regular political club in a strong Republican town. Mr. Ingersoll spoke 40 minutes, working in much local information. Found them intensely interested, and asking questions before the meeting but very few after the talk. Promised a large meeting in September which will be very important.

Mr. Ingersoll has established a world's record, we are advised, by broadcasting 283 times this year. The broadcasts are distributed as follows: WABC, 1; WBN, 77; WDAS, 63; WOV, 7; WAAM, 3; WLTH, 22; WHOM