

who is official interpreter of the Encyclical for New Zealand. This correspondence is so important, revealing as it does a new attitude on the part of a distinguished priest toward our philosophy, that it must be dealt with in a manner befitting its significance. It may have such far-reaching results that what has already occurred must be laid before our readers in detail, supported by other developments which in the next few months may be forthcoming.

The Henry George Congress

THE Ninth Henry George Congress has met and adjourned. It is time to take stock and ask ourselves if anything really worth while is accomplished by these annual events.

It is delightful of course to meet the old friends. Personally it was a marvelous experience to meet Chas. B. Rogers of Fort Atkinson, Wis., and James C. Fuller of Kansas City, with whom we have corresponded for many years; Mayor McNair, with his breezy personality and his politically inventive mind; John Z. White, splendid veteran of the movement, untouched by the years, eloquent and vigorous as ever; Claude Watson, with his splendid enthusiasm; A. W. Falvey, whose plans of organization (somewhat too elaborate and complex we thought), which had entailed much self-sacrifice in study and deliberation and for which he deserves our thanks.

We have to note, too, the clear rational thinking contributed by Henry Hardinge to the proceedings; the constructive suggestions of Mr. Evans, the radio talks and addresses by Mrs. de Mille, Mr. Hennessy and Clayton J. Ewing at a number of Chicago churches.

These are to be listed on one side of the ledger—how about the other side? The total amount of money paid out by those attending the convention must be close in the neighborhood of \$10,000—perhaps more. What could be done with this money? Say one thousand free scholarships in the Henry George School of Social Science, or a contribution to John Lawrence Monroe, whose work in the formation of local clubs is one of the most valuable of our activities.

What we say is in no sense a criticism of Secretary Williams nor of those responsible for the programme of the conventions. We have to try things. They have done what they thought best under the circumstances. But may be it is now time to retrace our steps, or at least to bring the history of these annual gatherings for the last nine years to a critical examination of their value.

We do not think that the real pleasure experienced in meeting the old friends a sufficient return to justify these annual conferences. What we have to consider is the effect upon the movement, whether the result of the money and effort expended is to advance the cause as a whole. Frankly we are in doubt. We might timidly

advance a counter programme for which we would like consideration, which is the appointment of a Henry George Day and the celebration by local meetings in every city in the United States with appropriate exercise under the auspices of the Henry George Foundation and the Henry George Fellowship. Such nation-wide celebration would, it seems to us, attract attention which would arouse both local and national interest. The day selected for such celebrations might be Labor Day which is near enough to the birthday of Henry George.

We might list as liabilities of the recent annual conference the speech of Clarence Darrow in its possible effect upon strangers who might have attended, the strange pleas for income and inheritance taxes, and other lapses from the true faith and sound economics which could not but have amazed some of the men and women unacquainted with the vagaries of our good friends. At other times we have been compelled to listen to speeches on public ownership, proportional representation, the money question, or what will you have. It seems all so futile and unrelated to the movement for the collection of economic rent and the abolition of taxation. And though there was somewhat less of this than at previous gatherings, less of such side-tracking of the essential truth, we have now grown more conscious of it and less patient with it.

Do we get any appreciable amount of publicity to compensate for the effort and money expended? We do not. The Chicago papers gave us only an item or two. In Memphis we did better because the editors, especially the gracious editor of the *Memphis Press Scimitar*, are liberal and friendly. But John Lawrence Monroe gets more space for a single lecture or interview. Is it not time that we pause and consider?

THE PROCEEDINGS

MORNING, Oct. 8.—George E. Evans, president of the Henry George Foundation, presiding. Invocation by Rev. Peter Tkash, orthodox Greek pastor from Pittsburgh. Mr. Evans read the chapter on Liberty from "Progress and Poverty" and quoted from Patrick Edward Dove. He reviewed some of the happenings of the year, the work of Single Tax clubs, and the labors of Mayor McNair of Pittsburgh. He paid a tribute to Oscar H. Geiger and Sir. George Fowlds who have passed away. Mr. Clayton J. Ewing spoke on "The Psychology of Success," and Hon. Fred Pease, Mayor of Milk River, a Single Tax town of Alberta, Canada, spoke of events in Western Canada. The appointment of a committee on resolutions followed. Mrs. Anna George de Mille delivered a short talk on Ways and Means. Her address will appear later. Mr. Evans spoke feelingly of Francis W. Maguire who was in the hospital and who has since gone to his reward. Mr. Maguire's work during his illness was carried on with great effectiveness by John C. Rose.

MONDAY, NOON, OCT. 8.—Hon. Peter Witt of Cleveland delivered an eloquent address full of his usual fire.

MONDAY, OCT. 8, 2:15 P. M.—Otto Culman presiding. Mr. Hardinge, of Chicago, read a paper, and Mr. W. B. Foster of Pittsburgh, in the absence of Mayor McNair, who had been called home on official business, told of the progress in that city. A letter of welcome was read from the Mayor of Chicago and Mr. Maurice Welty spoke, his subject being, "A Message for American Youth." Mr. Harold S. Buttenheim, editor of *The American City*, spoke, his subject being, "If Henry George Were Writing Today." Mr. Schwartz of Minneapolis was also heard at this session which concluded with the reading by Victor A. Rule of a paper by Benjamin W. Burger on "The Single Tax in Perspective," Mr. Burger being unable to attend.

MONDAY, OCT. 8, 8 P. M.—Public meeting, Joseph Dana Miller presiding. Speakers, Clarence Darrow, Hon. Peter Witt, Victor A. Rule, and Hon. Abe D. Waldauer.

TUESDAY, MORNING, OCT. 9.—Henry L. T. Tideman residing. Miss Antoinette Kaufmann talked on the work of the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation. To this Hon. Chas. O'Connor Hennessy added a few words. Miss Kaufmann's report of these activities will be found elsewhere in this issue. Dr. Millikin of Hamilton, O., was heard, his subject being "A Biologist Looks at the Single Tax."

TUESDAY, OCT. 9, 1:30 P. M.—A meeting to consider the report of A. J. Falvey, he being chairman of committee on organization. The sense of those present seemed to be that a loose form of organization was best adapted to our requirements.

TUESDAY, OCT. 9, 2:15 P. M.—Chairman Ewing presiding. Speakers were Frank Chodorov who spoke on the Henry George School and Walter Fairchild who read of Land Values of New York in Application to the City Budget. The committee on resolutions met at five o'clock to consider their presentation to the main body on the following day.

TUESDAY, OCT. 9, 8 P. M.—Banquet. The dinner was well attended, George E. Evans presiding. Rev. Chas. F. Kegley of Chicago made the invocation and Miss Annette Thorn, soloist of the St. James Episcopal Church, gave vocal selections. Speakers were Walter E. Demmler, Pittsburgh, Hon. Chas. O'Connor Hennessy, Hon. Marvin C. Harrison, State Senator from Cleveland, and Andrew P. Canning of Chicago. Mr. Hennessy spoke of conditions in Great Britain and made a plea for the Henry George School and the proposed Henry George Fellowship. Mr. George M. Strachan paid a feeling tribute to the late Oscar H. Geiger and Sir George Fowlds.

OCT. 10, MORNING.—August Willeges, presiding. Dr. Chas. J. Lavery, of Aberdeen, S. D., read the paper which appears elsewhere in this issue. Claude Watson, Edward Jones, Wiley Mills, and Fiske Warren spoke at this session.

OCT. 10, NOON, LUNCHEON.—The time was occupied by a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Henry George Foundation. Secretary Williams reported on receipts and disbursements. Resignation of F. C. Leubuscher was received and accepted with regrets. Mr. Foster of Pittsburgh and Mr. Fiske Warren were elected trustees. Messrs. Rule, Schwartz, Fuller and Copeland were elected members of the Advisory Board. At the conclusion the present officers of the Foundation were reelected.

OCT. 10, 2:15 P. M.—Clayton J. Ewing presiding. George M. Strachan spoke, his subject being "Worshipping False Gods." Homer Hoyt, author of "One Hundred Years of Land Values in Chicago," reviewed by Chas. O'Connor Hennessy in September-October number of LAND AND FREEDOM, gave a short but interesting address and exhibited maps illustrative of the growth of Chicago. He also answered questions. That great veteran of the movement John Z. White talked for nearly an hour, speaking with a full resonant voice and apparently in as fine a physical condition as he has ever been. Dr. Freyermuth of South Bend, Ind., read a letter from Senator Borah of Idaho, in which the Senator voiced his beliefs in the principles of Henry George.

OCT. 10, 8 P. M.—Claude Watson presiding. This, the final session of the conference, heard Mr. Moir of the Milk River delegation, Mrs. Squires, J. Edward Jones, H. L. Tideman. Mr. Macauley read a letter from Jackson H. Ralston on the California situation. With a final eloquent farewell message from Claude Watson, chairman, the Ninth Annual Convention of the Henry George Congress came to an end.

The rest of the evening was spent in social interchange with those who remained. The accident to John Lawrence Monroe was commented on with keen regret. The presence of J. C. Lincoln on the last day gave us an opportunity of meeting this devoted friend of the movement. Mrs. Christine Ross Barker, whom many New Yorkers will remember, came from Toronto accompanied by her daughter Mary.

Henry George Day was the occasion on Thursday of a meeting at the World's Fair of a small audience at which Mrs. Anna George de Mille and Andrew P. Canning were among the speakers.

SOONER or later we are going to learn that no nation can borrow itself rich, nor can it TAX itself into prosperity.—Los Angeles *Post Record*.

THE streamline train has arrived, following the streamline airplanes, automobiles and vessels.

But the Ship of State is still planned after the manner of the box car, the ox cart and the jinriksha, as evidenced by our antiquated revenue laws, vicious penal laws and inadequate relief measures.

JOHN EGAN in *World Telegram*.