shipped to the University of Princeton late in January, and fourteen went to Temple University more recently.

A full set of Henry George books has been purchased for presentation to the library of a new high school opening in North Arlington, New Jersey. The Foundation supplied a picture of Henry George, hoping that it might be possible to display it in the new library. Our congratulations to the far-seeing gentleman who made this presentation. This is excellent missionary work.

As a result of the efforts of our correspondent in British Honduras, we received the names of a number of persons prominent in government circles in the colony, and the way was paved for a favorable reception of our literature and books. "Progress and Poverty" and "Protection or Free Trade" were sent to the Governor of the colony as the gift of the Foundation, and donations of books went also to the libraries of the Catholic Mission and the Church of England Mission. Assortments of appropriate literature and letters inviting comment were sent to others in British Honduras whose names were given us.

From our correspondent in Mexico comes the following interesting information on the land problem down there:

"The people of Mexico have been oppressed so long by the ruling classes that they are struggling feverishly to throw off the intolerable burdens that have been pressing them into the mire of poverty and misery. They seek escape. Any sort of wild theory that the most blatant demagogue propounds for his personal advancement receives eager acceptance. They mill around like helpless swine in a trough of mingled pain and illiteracy. The light of Henry George has not burst upon them and they listen to siren calls of this ambitious leader and that greedy politician. Sometimes editorial writers make mention of "unearned increment" in a hopeless, muddled sort of way. They, too, are groping in the darkness.

"However, the people feel that something is wrong . . . they have reached the elementary state of thought . . . they are seizing the great estates and breaking them into pieces. These pieces are then distributed among the people by the local politicians with all the favoritism and corruption that such a process is certain to engender. Thus is created a large army of selfish peasant proprietors while the crux of the problem for the people as a whole is left unsolved. In fact, the ultimate solution is made more difficult by interesting a larger class in the maintenance of the present system of private ownership of land.

"While Mexico is a fertile field for advanced ideas, here, as elsewhere, the man who first propounds the ideas of Henry George must be prepared to suffer persecution and martyrdom. The people whom he most wants to help, being infected with the vices of communism, socialism, syndicalisn and other grosser "isms", will be the first to turn and rend him . . .

"The eternal verity expounded by Henry George will live and eventually prevail. Of that there is not the slightest doubt. But social movements, like all movements, flow in rhythmic waves. At the present moment the truth lies resting near the bottom of an ascending line. It is on the upbeat again, however, and I think the time is not far distant when it shall again resound as it did when our great leader gave voice to the beautiful harmonies of economic law which he saw clearly and distinctly. In his words of wisdom lies the key that will unlock the gates of iniquity and allow the people to go forth and enjoy their birthright—the right to the free and untrammeled use of what the Creator intended for their common use—the land."

V. G. PETERSON, Acting Secretary

Washington Letter

THE members of the Woman's Single Tax Club welcomed their president, Mrs. Helene H. McAvoy, who had that day returned from Canada.

During the business session, Miss Alice I. Siddall read the revised copy of her proposed Single Tax amendment to the Constitution, which, after some discussion, Honorable Charles R. Eckert of Pennsylvania, expressed his willingness to introduce in Congress.

A tin literature holder, with the inscription "Please Read Us," painted on it, and filled with Single Tax leaflets, clippings, etc., was presented to the club by the vice-president, with the suggestion that it be placed where it would do the most good, and that the members bring to the meetings any Single Tax literature which they have no better use for, and keep the holder filled. Mr. Walter I. Swanton, whose office is around the corner from the Y. M. C. A., offered to see if he could place it in the reading room of that organization.

The speaker of the evening, Congressman Charles R. Eckert, gave a talk on "Single Tax and Practical Politics" in which, after congratulating the club on having a headquarters for their meetings, expressed the hope of some day seeing a national headquarters at the Nation's Capital, the logical and strategic place for it. He would be glad, he said, to introduce the Constitutional amendment bill but explaining something of the difficulties in the way of getting legislation through that "close corporation known as Congress," and expressed doubt that our amendment would receive the support from the leaders in Congress or in the States, to which its merit entitled it, because they were not yet educated up to it. There would, however, be the advantage of getting the bill published at public expense and getting as many copies of it as we want for distribution. Then it also becomes a subject of discussion in the House and gets into circulation throughout the United States through publication in the Congressional Record. Mr. Eckert spoke as follows:

"President Roosevelt, in his speech on "Philosophy of Government" delivered in 1932, declared that "government includes the art of formulating a policy and using the technique of politics to enact as much of that policy as will receive public support—persuading, leading, educating always, for the greatest duty of the statesman is to educate." It does no good for Single Taxers to get together and explain the Single Tax to one another, the task before them is to educate those outside and make America a nation in which, in the words of Woodrow Wilson, "the strong could not force the weak to the wall nor prevent them from entering the race."

Thomas Jefferson recognized the duty of government to secure the rights of the individual, not only when he wrote the Declaration of Independence, but also after he became President, and his first Inaugural Address is sometimes referred to as bearing the same relation to government that the Sermon on the Mount bears to religion.

Just the other day a bill passed the House to appropriate several million dollars to aid the farmer in getting seed and food. When the bill reached the Senate, however, Senator Glass quoted from an old Congressional Record, Grover Cleveland's message on a bill to appropriate $10,000 for the purpose of helping the God-forsaken farmers in Texas, which he vetoed because he could find nothing in the Constitution authorizing it, adding, "The people support the government, the government should not support the people." Giving Federal aid tends to develop in the minds of the people the concept of paternal care, and undermines their character, which is what our legislation is doing today, but although it is regrettable, there seems to be an absolute necessity at this time, for doing so.

Woodrow Wilson said twenty years ago, "I do not want the help of the Government, either directly or through any of its agencies. Give me right and justice and I can take care of myself." This is of course good sound philosophy, to which any Single Taxer and Democrat can subscribe, but during the half century that has passed since Grover Cleveland penned that farmers' veto, the American people have failed to preserve and develop that America which Thomas Jefferson and his compeers established. We have sown the wind and are reaping the whirlwind.

It was Woodrow Wilson who said that all America needs is a new thought in politics, sincerely and boldly expressed by men who are sure of their ground, and it is our duty to express our philosophy boldly that those who are yet in the dark may receive the light.

The goal of the Single Taxers is a clear-cut as a die and we know the road, but I realize that it is imposisble for the leaders of government to remain on that road at all times. There are periods when it becomes necessary for them to detour, and I am hoping that the things the present Administration is doing are simply detours, and that in due time they will get back on the main highway that will lead to the goal of economic freedom.

It seems to me that unless there will come during the years that are ahead, a different view-point, we may depart from the foundations upon which this government was built and that our course will be in a different direction. In his annual message to the present Congress, the President said, as I recall his words, that the deeper purpose of democratic government is to assist as many of his citizens as possible, especially those who need it most, to improve their condition in life. Of course that is humanitarian, but after all, as Single Taxers and as Democrats, it does not express our philosophy. In fact, it is just the opposite of what Grover Cleveland said in that message fifty years ago, and it seems to me there is a great task ahead and a great responsibility upon those American citizens who have their feet on the ground and know their philosophy.

* * *

The subject for discussion at the People's Lobby luncheon held at the Cosmos Club on February 13, and attended by a number of Single Taxers, was, "The Right to Earn the American Standard of Living."

RADIO ADDRESS OF HERBERT S. BIGELOW BEFORE THE PEOPLE'S LOBBY FEB. 13, 1937

Our Problem is not to level down incomes and pass them around. Our problem is to free men and let them produce their own incomes. May I explain:

There are two opposing philosophies of statecraft. One is socialistic—the other individualistic. One makes in the direction of a managed and regimented society—the other seeks to limit government to essential function and leaving our commercial and industrial life to automatic action in a free and open field.

The socialistic philosophy now has the right of way. The philosophy of freedom is becoming a cry in the wilderness. Most persons would say that it is a lost cause. While despising the name, we are rapidly going the way of Communism.

It is undeniable that modern life must submit to controls that were not called for in a more primitive economy.

But much of our socialistic legislation is an attempt to correct evils which might better correct themselves. if we could first uproot monopoly privilege—the weeds with which our garden has become choked.

It seems a folly of statecraft that we should be trying to impose socialism on top of private monopoly. We should first destroy private monopoly and see how many, or how few, ailments then are left for which we need socialistic treatment. We have patent laws which foster monopoly. Anybody and everybody should have the right to produce and give the public the benefit of any patented commodity—subject to the condition of paying the patentee a reasonable royalty.

The private ownership of public utilities has developed into a gigantic monopoly. Private monopoly should never be tolerated. We cannot afford to leave natural monopolies in private hands.

There is no way of measuring the injury inflicted by patent monopoly. Mr. Morris Cooke estimates that the light and power monopolies alone are exacting from the public an excess toll of four hundred million dollars a year.

Down at the bottom of all other monopolies is the monopoly privilege that individuals have of appropriating to themselves ground rent. Owning ground rent is like owning black slaves. It is an economic fallacy which involves the power of some to appropriate the earnings of others.

What is somebody's cabbage patch in one generation will be in another generation a million-dollar lot in the center of a city. That ground rent value is a community value. We let that value slip into private pockets, although it is clearly a community product. And because our communities do not take these ground rents, which in all reason and right belong to them, they have to support themselves by making tax raids on private property. To shift taxation from tax-loaded commodities to ground rents, would reduce by billions the cost of things—and it would open and free for use half of the American continent which is still unused. Much of our trouble is due to the misuse of this power of taxation.

We cry for slum clearance. But, if anybody does build a decent habitation, he is penalized by taxes. If, instead of fining men with annual taxes for the crime of building