

## DENMARK

It is gratifying to have received (by a circuitous route over which we hope but have no means of telling that copies of *Land & Liberty* are reaching Danish friends) the April, 1941, issue of *Grundskyld* the "Nordic Journal for Economic Freedom and Justice" and organ of the Danish Henry George Union. Formerly a monthly publication, and now in its eighteenth year, it appears at present to be published in quarterly numbers, this being the second issue that has come to us in the past six months. There is only a passing reference to the "Strangers among us," otherwise one would think nothing had happened to interfere with the steady propagation of the ideas that the Henry George movement in Denmark upholds. The contents of these twenty-four pages are interesting and instructive, and certainly encouraging—that the word can be so preached "even in prison" as it were and there is hope even of enlightening the jailors. There is evidently unabated activity at the house from which the Journal is issued, the house also of the Henry George Publications Department which advertises the numerous books and pamphlets, including incidentally translations of Mr Lester's *Unemployment and the Land* and his *True Free Trade and Laissez Faire*. Our friends are well. Gratefully we read the contributions by F. Folke (on the Land Question in Finland) by J. L. Björner (on Mercantilism Down to Our Times) by Jakob E. Lange (on the 1919 Small Holdings Act, reprinted from the *Funen Housemen*) by Niels Fredericksen (on the Land Laws of 1899 and 1919) and by Halfdan Hansen of Bergen (on the Answer of the Political Economists, reprinted from the *Bergen Times* of 3rd March). Other contents include reprint of the full text of the 1902 "Köge Resolution" when the small peasant proprietors declared for full free trade and land value taxation; the description of the subdivision, under the 1919 Act, of the estate at Great Restrup into small holdings and the beneficial result; a call to the land users in the towns, the working people, to emulate the "Köge men" in their demands; extract from the writings of Sophus Berthelsen; the story of the broken window-pane as told in Bastiat's *Things Seen and Things Unseen*; Grundtvig's poem, *The Dane*, with its inspiring words; resolution against tariffs adopted by the Merchants' Society; and the declarations of Grundtvig and Tscherning against the old restrictive leasehold system.

### SUCCESS TO THE CLASS TEACHING

This is all good reading but the most impressive feature of the Journal is the report it gives of the work and progress of the Ecotechnical School, showing a wonderful activity. The School held its fifth session during the past winter, enrolling no fewer than 600 students in 51 classes. Twenty-five of these classes went through, as text book, Jakob E. Lange's *Social Economy* of which a new edition has been produced, the School also furnishing a *Teacher's Manual* for this book. Moreover the School has been able to present a copy of the book to each of 1,000 public libraries throughout the country. Six study classes with total membership of 70 went through *Progress and Poverty* and a number of classes had Henry George's *Protection or Free Trade* for their text-book.

It is well said that "considering the present circumstances the School can congratulate itself upon these results." Sincerely we add our congratulations and good wishes, knowing that the results are the fruits of the labours that Mr and Mrs Bue Björner have given to the School ever since its inception. The next immediate activity was announced in a Summer Con-

ference to be held in Odense on 27th, 28th and 29th June, when all concerned are bidden to "hold holiday" at the People's High School of the Funen Housemen, where Jakob E. Lange, now retired, was so long the Principal, famed for the great work it has done as an agricultural and social institution, the hospitable meeting place where so often Henry George adherents from outside Denmark have also foregathered. How soon may these contacts and this fellowship be renewed?

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

*The Farmer*, perhaps the leading, most widely-read country newspaper in South Australia, pays this tribute to Mr E. J. Craigie in its issue of 11th April:—

"The sitting member, E. J. Craigie (Independent), was displaced by a new Liberal, Rex Pearson. This voting can only be called distressing. If ever there was a worthy, conscientious member of Parliament it was Mr Craigie. Parliamentary business was too serious a matter for him to spend hours in the Parliamentary billiard room. He followed closely every question before the House and made himself conversant with most of the Bills, and could discuss them intelligently. He was able to make out such a strong case against the Government's intention to dispose of pine thinnings in some of the State forests in the South-East that he induced the House to support him, and the Government consented to enquire into the points he raised, with the result that the undertaking with the company was not concluded. It will never be known what Mr Craigie saved the State in this one instance. Attention to duty was a factor he considered he owed his electors, but they decided on a change. His successor might be a good man, but when a member fulfils so completely the functions that electors generally complain are so frequently lacking in representatives, it might have been thought that the services of such a man would have been further retained. The same amount of political honour is not looked for in parties as in electors, and both the Liberals and Labour advised their followers to place Craigie last in their preference vote, as they knew he was most to be feared."

## SOUTH AMERICA

MR ABELARDO J. COIMIL has translated into Spanish and published in Buenos Aires as a pamphlet for general circulation, Mr W. R. Lester's *Natural Law in Social Life*. In a letter to the author Mr Coimil says the work of translating has given him unusual pleasure and he believes it has been done in a manner worthy of his own admiration, and that of his friends, of Mr Lester as "one of the most eloquent and brilliant expounders of the Henry George doctrine." He is glad this little thesis is now available in their language as a light in the dark and terrible sky of our days and he adds a greeting of hope and friendship to the people of this country. Mr Lester has written, happy that his contribution has been put to such good use, hoping that it will circulate widely, and appreciating the great compliment that has been paid.

*Natural Law in Social Life* was the paper Mr Lester presented at the International Conference in Copenhagen, 1926. It was reprinted as a threepenny pamphlet and we hope it may be printed again, since the stocks we had of it were among the things lost when our offices in the City were destroyed by enemy action. Meanwhile let us strongly recommend another of Mr Lester's statements, his *Unemployment and the Land*, a pamphlet (price 2d.) that is among the most popular in our series and has gone through several editions.