

beginning in 1834 to more than five billion dollars at the present day and that some land within the area is rated in value at \$20,000,000 per acre. The fact and its implications are among the extremely serious things that Dr. Millis and his staff of economists might immediately do some thinking about. They might also examine Henry George's remedy for the evil social conditions that in this book are so clearly revealed and tell a distressed world what is the matter with it.

"One Hundred Years of Land Values in Chicago," (519p.) by Homer Hoyt; The University of Chicago Press.

On the March With John Lawrence Monroe

SPEAKING APPOINTMENTS, JULY-AUGUST, 1934

(With the name of person by whom each appointment was secured, and the attendance).

Palo Alto, Calif.—Lions Club; 12; Robert D. Collyer; noon; July 3. Tax Relief Campaign Committee; 20; Jackson H. Ralston; noon; Sept. 3.

San Francisco, Calif.—Public Speaking Class; 8; A. J. Milligan; evening; July 17.

Seattle, Wash.—Religious Educational Workers Association; 40; C. Arlin Nave; noon; Aug. 1.

Victoria, B. C.—Rotary Club; 70; J. P. Watson; noon; Aug. 2.

Spokane, Wash.—Liberal Club; 30; William Mathews; noon; Aug. 18. Forum, Class in Political Economy; 30; William Mathews; afternoon; Aug. 19. Northwest Mining Association and Mining Division of Chamber of Commerce; 40; Joseph McCarthy; noon; Aug. 20.

Boise, Idaho.—Boise Business University; 30; Dow Dunning; morning; Aug. 24. Links School of Business; 30; Dow Dunning; noon; Aug. 24. Public Meeting; Idaho Single Tax League; 12; evening; Aug. 26.

Eagle, Idaho.—Linder Economics Class; 12; evening; Aug. 25.

To those who have followed these reports, one fact will stand out forcibly—Henry George people are on the job everywhere. Any one who was not accustomed to individuals exerting themselves except under the pressure of a directing organization would likely underestimate the strength of the Henry George movement in the United States and Canada. But in every State and province one may meet Single Taxers who never have met their fellow Single Taxers in other parts of the continent and yet who are talking the same language, preaching the same ideals, and fighting the same crusade for the truths that Henry George made clear.

Let us look into the Northwest:

OREGON

In Southwestern Oregon is an active Single Tax Club under the leadership of Mr. Seeley of Coquille and Mr. M. L. Kathan of Ophir.

At Eugene is veteran Georgist Prof. W. R. B. Willcox in the department of architecture at the University of Oregon; Mrs. Jean Sutherland, daughter of Alexander

Hamilton of British Columbia; and Mr. James D. Bryant, to mention the most active ones.

In Portland the movement has been given great impetus by the enlistment of Mr. Ellis F. Lawrence and his son, Abbot, architects, who are converts of Prof. Willcox. Mr. and Mrs. James J. Sayer are as ever doing their part.

Oregon is one State where the people have to be consulted before the "painless" sales tax can be imposed. Although newspapers and radio stations have proclaimed the virtues of the sales tax in three initiative campaigns during the past two years, the voters have each time rejected it. This spring it was defeated by approximately 70,000 to 25,000—almost three to one. The only active opposition to the sales tax came from the Oregon State Federation of Labor. Secretary Ben T. Osborne and Kelley Loe led the fight for the Federation.

WASHINGTON

"The frequent recurrence to fundamental principles is essential to the security of individual right and the perpetuity of free government." The Single Taxers of Washington regard this passage in the Constitution of their State (Article I. Section 32) as something more than a rhetorical flourish.

There are few cities that have such a large percentage of public leaders who know the Henry George philosophy as has Seattle and Spokane. Were it possible for these men to sit down across a table and submerge political differences, they could effect a programme that would make Washington a Henry George State in a very short time and so guarantee "the security of individual right and the perpetuity of free government."

County Commissioner Louis Nash of Seattle is an old guard Henry George man. In his weekly article in the Labor paper he frequently expounds the theories of land value taxation.

County Commissioner John C. Stevenson, of Seattle, candidate for the United States Senate to fill the place of retiring Senator C. C. Dill, is the most popular political radio speaker in the Northwest. He often quotes Henry George.

Commissioner Stevenson's leading opponent in the Senate race is Judge Charles H. Leavy of Spokane. Judge Leavy has the support of Senator Dill, also of Spokane. Both are members of the Henry George Lecture Association.

Senator Homer T. Bone, Democratic junior member from Washington, calls attention to Henry George and "Progress and Poverty" in speech after speech in his State. He quoted Henry George at a meeting in August for Postmaster General Farley.

Hon. Oliver T. Erickson, former president of the City Council of Seattle, is a devoted Henry George man of long years' standing.

Rt. Rev. S. Arthur Houston, Bishop of Olympia in the Episcopal Church, is an ardent believer in the philosophy

of Henry George. He is a convert of the late Bishop Williams of Detroit and is the son-in-law of a Detroit Single Taxer, Mr. Brotherton. Bishop Houston's son, Wilbur Brotherton Houston, attracted much public attention when he was chosen to be an understudy of Thomas A. Edison a few years ago.

Mr. Henry C. Pigott of Seattle, successful printer, is candidate for County Commissioner. His platform includes several planks based on the principles of Henry George.

It is the purpose of the newly formed Henry George Club of Seattle to bring together all those who will help make the movement stronger. Among its leaders are Mr. A. A. Booth, State Senator P. Frank Morrow and his son, John D. Morrow (both candidates for the State Senate this fall in neighboring districts), Mr. W. M. Fleming, Miss Josephine Nelson, Mr. George D. Lynn, Mr. Albert Freeland, Mr. Eugene Way, and Mr. C. Arlin Nave.

State Senator Morrow is publishing a bi-weekly campaign paper, *The American Arrow*, which is in effect a Single Tax journal. In fighting the sales tax, this paper has quoted dozens of merchants and influential citizens as opposed to the levy.

The formula of the usual campaign speech this season is: "I am for Roosevelt. I need a job. Vote for me." It is refreshing to the electorate of Seattle to hear youthful John D. Morrow use another formula: "I am for exempting labor products from taxation and taxing land values. I am opposed to the sales tax. I don't ask you to remember my name but I do ask you to remember the principles for which I stand."

William Mathews of Spokane has probably taught more classes in Political Economy a la Henry George than any other man. He has been conducting classes more or less constantly for over thirty years. One of his classes has held together even during the summer months, meeting every Sunday at 2:30 p. m. Mr. Mathews, in his lectures, develops the subject from the ground up. He sells many copies of "Progress and Poverty," being now on his second order of ten for the summer.

Mr. Mathews was the center of a militant Single Tax movement at the Normal College in Valparaiso, Ind., from 1895 to 1897. In a Henry George Club with him were, among others, the late Barney Haughey of Denver, Colo., and Mr. R. B. Wilson, now of Emmett, Idaho. It was while at this college that Mr. Mathews met the little lady who later became his wife. Mrs. Mathews didn't like Single Taxers in those days. She waited on the tables and the Single Tax students always took their time and talked after the meals—when Mrs. Mathews needed to clear the tables and get on to class! Single Taxers haven't changed much in thirty-six years, have they?

Henry George has many followers. There are few however, who have the creative ability to analyze current

problems independently and show the full relationship of the land and tax questions to them in a new light. One of these truly creative thinkers is Donald L. Thompson of Spokane. His articles exploding the fallacy of over-production and of the evils of the machine are among the finest. Mr. Thompson, a land appraiser by profession, is a candidate for the legislature this fall.

Among other active Henry George people in Spokane are Dr. J. M. Gunning, Mr. and Mrs. Norman W. Hart, Joseph McCarthy (with the new Home Loan Division of the Federal Government), Patrick J. McLean, and Dr. Robert A. Munroe. Both Dr. Gunning and Dr. Munroe have recently spoken on the Single Tax before outside groups.

The need for land value taxation is nowhere more clearly seen than in Washington where immense federal projects such as Coulee Dam are giving rise to the most inordinate land speculation. It is hard to believe that the federal officials are seriously concerned about the talked-of evils of land speculation when the remedy is so obvious and so close at hand. General George W. Goethals, builder of the Panama Canal, in his report on the development of the Columbia Basin Project recommended that it be paid for by collecting the increased land values due to it. His recommendation should be followed today.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Has the Single Tax failed in British Columbia? To look at the record of legislation in the past sixteen years one would judge that it has.

In 1918 there were thirty municipalities exempting buildings from taxation. This was the high spot. In 1929 there were only twenty. This year the number has dropped to ten.

In 1891 the provincial parliament made it compulsory for municipalities to exempt buildings to fifty per cent of their value but they could exempt buildings more if they wished up to 100 per cent. In 1932 the parliament lowered the compulsory exemption of buildings to twenty-five per cent, in other words permitting municipalities to tax buildings up to seventy-five per cent of their value.

Until 1891 the provincial government levied a wild land tax of two cents an acre. In that year parliament changed this to a two per cent tax on the assessed value of wild land. In 1910 this was increased to four per cent, in 1917 to five per cent. The Tory government in 1932 decreased this to three per cent.

Are these legislative setbacks due to the people's dissatisfaction with the exemption of buildings and the higher taxation of land values? Hardly! In plebiscite after plebiscite the people of the various municipalities have shown that they did not wish improvements burdened. Before Port Alberni (2,000 population) imposed a tax on buildings in 1933, over three-fourths of