

## Robert Schalkenbach Foundation Report

CERTAIN reviewers have developed a more than professional interest in the books of Henry George, partly through correspondence with the Foundation. They have not only written good reviews, but have given that fresh, enthusiastic touch to the writing thereof, which means so much in leading the reading public to investigate.

Mr. Andrew Bock of the editorial staff of *The Financial World* says, in the December 14th issue:

"As in many of the famous author's former writings, this one ('Social Problems') contains references to political, economic and social conditions remarkably similar to those which face us today."

Mr. Michael B. Scheler, after correspondence with the Foundation office, and receipt of "Progress and Poverty," "The Science of Political Economy" and "Social Problems," wrote in delightful vein as follows:

"Another social thinker of the 19th century who is now receiving wide attention, is Henry George. As the depression, world-wide in extent, shows no signs of abatement, after nine years of havoc, the Single Tax, one of the prime pillars in the structure of Henry George's system of economics and philosophy, is once more brought forward as the solution for the ills of capitalism. Whether one agrees with Henry George or not, one certainly cannot claim the distinction of being a fully cultured person, without a fair acquaintance with George's teachings. . . . And expense can no longer serve as an excuse to anyone for not availing himself of the writings of Henry George. The Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, 11 Park Place, New York, was organized and subsidized by interested and lofty individuals, for the specific purpose of re-issuing George's works, and works about his writings, at prices as low as a movie-house seat."

There followed in *Dynamic America* (December), Mr. Scheler's reviews of the above-mentioned three books. He requested "The Philosophy of Henry George" and "Rebel, Priest and Prophet," mention of which will appear at some later date, in a symposium that he plans on the subject of Henry George and his influence.

Oscar Baradinsky, literary editor of the Westchester Features Syndicate serving newspapers in the Westchester area, has been generous with space for reviews that have appeared in a chain of his newspapers. The latest reviews were those of "The Land Question" and of "Protection or Free Trade."

From the editor of *Industry*, Calcutta, India, comes a request for review copies. This magazine reviewed very adequately the Anniversary edition of "Progress and Poverty" when the Foundation launched its first printing in 1929, and we look forward to good reviews from

this source during the next few months for the later titles.

The editor of a mid-western newspaper has written a splendid editorial "Born 100 Years Ago—A Great American." The story of Henry George is told, and accompanying this boxed editorial, in the same issue of the newspaper, there is printed the complete text of our pamphlet "Steps to Economic Recovery," by Professor John Dewey.

With this editor's permission we will release copy of the editorial, slightly adapted, to a number of newspapers and trade papers, accompanying each release with a pamphlet that can be used by the editor in one or two issues.

Anyone who is desirous of having his home town newspaper receive material of this kind should apply to the Foundation, sending the name and address of the editors and the newspapers.

Mr. Bolton Hall, an honored senior director of the Foundation, is mourned by the many friends on the Board, and by all who knew this brilliant man. He passed away at Thomasville, Georgia, on December 10, 1938, at the age of eighty-four years. He was the author of seventeen books. In the accounts of his life which appeared in the *New York Times* and *New York Herald-Tribune*, unusual prominence was given to Mr. Hall's life-long activity in the Henry George movement, and to his establishment of a Single Tax colony at Scotch Plains, New Jersey.

### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

A steady stream of letters from all parts of the world has come to the Foundation desk ever since the first request for news was made, last July. Many and varied are the messages that come. Particularly sad are those from Germany, Austria, and the bordering countries. They bespeak in restrained way, of the dangerous times. Mr. Ferdinand Mero of Budapest, sends a Christmas greeting as follows:

"May the Henry George anniversary year bring the realization of his principles at least in such countries as yours; in my country, on the contrary, the sad German principles will be realized."

And from Santiago de Chile, Mr. Jorge Gustavo Silva writes:

Dear Madam:

I am in receipt of your communication regarding the "Christmas Offer and the Book Catalogue '38," all concerning the work and doctrine of Henry George

I feel very pleased being in contact with said organization about which I would like to get more information as I am very much interested in same. Also please furnish me with some of your pamphlets and any other valuable data you have on hand.

In your "book catalogue" there are some publications which I am personally interested in and which I

have in mind to send for. Some of them I intend to translate into Spanish.

I have founded a League in the name of Henry George whom I admire for his writings and good literature.

Very respectfully,

Jorge Gustavo Silva.

Mr. Markham, center of a most active group of George-ists in Australia, is in constant touch with the Foundation office. His letter making suggestions as to the opportunities that exist for George men and women to make 1939 an outstanding Centennial Year, are of special interest. He suggests issuing a photograph of Henry George—having a competitive oration, the winner to deliver the oration at a Henry George night to be organized in each city.

We are glad to announce that a beautiful color portrait of Henry George has been produced by the Foundation, that there are about 1,000 copies available, for use by Henry George clubs and societies and individuals, and that the photographs come in a handsome grey folder, ready for framing.

A sample copy of this portrait is being sent to various extension leaders throughout the United States, so that it can be shown to the pupils and graduates of the local Henry George Schools.

From Mr. Huie and Mr. Wilson of Bathurst, New South Wales, we received word of the work done in that district. A copy of a new printing of Mr. Huie's well-liked pamphlet "Natural Rights" was included. Mr. Huie tells us that Alderman Firth printed 20,000 as a gift to the New South Wales League.

Although the Christmas season has passed, requests for the books offered in the Foundation's Christmas letter still come in daily.

Of the 11,000 people circularized from the Foundation's own list of names, and the 3,000 names given to it by the School of recent graduates, a tremendous response was obtained in terms of books and pamphlet demand, and consequent nation-wide circulation and distribution.

Approximately 600 books were wrapped and packed as gifts, and given to that many people, with the compliments of a Henry George friend! All of these new contacts were added to our list for future mailings of pamphlets and literature. More than 2,000 pamphlets were distributed in special directions.

Often this kind of distribution suggests to some one the advantages of getting a group of people to read a particular pamphlet. Thus Mr. Van Ness of Mountain View, New Jersey, made it possible to send 200 of the pamphlet "Why Penalize Building?" to the New Jersey Lumberman's Association, in time for a meeting that organization held in January at Newark.

A lieutenant commander at the Naval Supply Depot at Norfolk, Virginia, ordered one of each of George's books for some friends in his Naval Supply colony.

A Miss Turner in Colorado sent the unabridged "Progress

and Poverty" to a County Commissioner, a City-County Attorney, and the president of the local lumber company.

Mr. Karl Fisher, Land and Tax Commissioner of Chicago, sent one copy of "Progress and Poverty" to the Chairman of the State Tax Commission of Denver; the Chairman of the Board of Assessment and Review, Des Moines; to the Chairman of the Illinois Tax Commission; the Chairman of the Jefferson City State Tax Commission; the Chairman of the State Board of Equalization, Helena, Montana; of the State Tax Commission, Wisconsin, and to the Director of Taxation at Pierre, South Dakota.

From our circularization of foreign friends, Mr. Axel Roulund of Denmark sent us an order for twelve copies of "Significant Paragraphs" to be sent to twelve of his friends in the United States. Likewise, a lady in England sent for ten copies of the same book to go to her friends in this country and in Westmoreland and Cumberland, England.

A Wesleyan university professor sent for pamphlets; Professor King of the University of Pittsburgh sent for 100 "Causes of Business Depression"; and Merle Conti of Teachers College, New York, sent for 30 "Significant Paragraphs" to be used in his class readings.

Mr. Boon of Durham, California, sent ten friends a copy of the Bengough "Up-to-Date Primer," which continues to amuse and instruct. We have printed 1,000 copies and very nearly that many have been sent out since the pamphlet or booklet first appeared.

Originally delivered by Mr. Buttenheim as a speech to the Toronto Conference, last September, the article "Unwise Taxation as a Burden on Housing" was published by the *Yale Law Journal* (December, 1938). Reprints are now available at 10 cents the copy (15 for \$1). The Foundation has 500 copies for distribution. Some of them will be sent as samples to extension leaders for their information and examination. The balance are on hand for general use.

Miss Bateman's "World Survey" or "Who Owns the Earth?" continues to be in demand. A sample copy has been sent to 400 teachers and pupils of the Henry George School and its extensions.

The Foundation makes grateful acknowledgment to its treasurer, Mr. Henry George Atkinson, for a file of rare pamphlets and material on economic subjects suitable for inclusion in the library.

ANTOINETTE WAMBOUGH,  
Executive Secretary.

That we should protect the rights of others as scrupulously as we would have our own rights respected, is not a mere counsel of perfection to individuals, but it is the law to which we must conform social institutions and national policy if we would secure the blessings of abundance and peace.

"Protection or Free Trade," by HENRY GEORGE.