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MADELEINE SWARTE, Editor

HENRY GEORGE FORUM ORGANIZED IN PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA, PA. (HGNS) - The Henry George Forum will hold its first meeting on Wednesday evening, January 6, in Room 1003 Social Service Building, 311 South Juniper Street and tentative plans are to hold regular meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of every month thereafter. Louis A. Kerwin, an old time Single Taxer from the Northwest will conduct the forums. He will also train students in debating and the art of public speaking.

At its meeting on December 8th, the Student Alumni Council created a special committee on Contacts and Enrollments to solicit funds for local support and to promote enrollment in the courses as well as attendance at the Henry George Forum, which will hold its first meeting on Wednesday evening, January 6, 1937.

PHILADELPHIA TO HOLD COMMENCEMENT DINNER

PHILADELPHIA, PA. (HGNS) - Class No. 10 conducted by Julian P. Hickok, Secretary of the Philadelphia Extension of the Henry George School of Social Science and Class No. 11, Germantown, with Ernest Schneider as instructor, completed the study of Progress and Poverty on December 10 and December 9 respectively.

The commencement dinner will be held at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon, January 24, at Whittier Hall, 15th and Race Streets. Francis J. Fee is arranging the program. One of the speakers will be Lancaster M. Greene, a member of the National Headquarters teaching staff.

Announcements of Mr. Hickok's classes appear regularly in the PRT Travelers Lecture List and among the "Events of the Day" in the Philadelphia Daily Inquirer.

EXTENSION CLASSES ESTABLISHED IN ELEVEN CITIES IN GREAT BRITAIN

LONDON (HGNS) - The British Section of the Henry George School of Social Science has been advancing by leaps and bounds since it was first launched here last September. Within three months classes have been established in eleven cities and the School is now accepted as an important part of the movement.

Four classes have completed the course and thirteen others are working away at the study of Progress and Poverty, with the prospects for additional classes in new districts after the New Year.

There are Henry George organizations in some nine centers in Great Britain. A number of these have helped the School nobly, says Miss Frances Levy, Honorary Secretary of the British Section, and others have pledged their help in January.

WHITLOCK'S LETTERS AND JOURNAL REVEALING, CRITIC HOLDS

New York, N.Y. (HGNS) - Brand Whitlock's correspondence and his journal, just published by D. Appleton-Century Company of New York under the title, "The Letters and Journal of Brand Whitlock", "fill out the fragmentary history of the progressive revolt and of the war in Belgium, and fill out, too, the portrait of Whitlock himself", Henry Steele Commager writes in The New York Times Book Review (6, xii.36).

"Here we have material for a case book in the history of municipal reform, and of the reform movement in general; illuminating glimpses of the struggle against smug respectability, against powerful vested interests, against special privilege, against corrupt politicians."

Mr. Steele says in conclusion: "It is true that he became disillusioned and cynical, that he came to doubt the validity of his early enthusiasm and faiths, that he became conservative and aloof, uprooted and frustrated. That was the price of his service in the war."

The material was chosen and edited by Allan Nevins, who contributes a biographical introduction, and is published in two volumes. Brand Whitlock, for eight years Mayor of Toledo, and Minister to Belgium during the war, is an important figure in the history of the Georgist movement of the United States. He traced the history of the progressive movement in his autobiography, "Forty Years of It", and in a series of novels.

----- AUSTRALIAN CHURCH MONTHLY ENDORSES SOCIALIZATION OF RENT

Sydney, N.S.W., Australia, (HGNS) - The Georgist proposal for social land value taxation in order to abolish the quasi-monopoly of all natural resources now existing has been endorsed by The Commonweal, a monthly issued by the Australian Church and published by the Rev. Dr. Strong of Melbourne.

The Commonweal is quoted by The Standard of Sydney as follows: "The land of the world should be made accessible to all persons who want to make use of it. There should be acknowledgement of the fact that the earth is provided for the children of men of all generations. How can this be done in any better way than that proposed by Henry George and others, viz., by each user paying rent to the public for the land he uses?"

----- SUPPORTERS SWELL FELS FUND IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Sydney, N.S.W., Australia, (HGNS) - Forty pounds, (roughly \$200) were contributed this year, the twenty-seventh, in amounts from one shilling upward to the Joseph Fels Fund, by means of which the Henry George League of New South Wales and its supporters perpetuate the name of Joseph Fels, the American who launched their work, it is announced in The Standard of Sydney.

With the aim of making two hundred pounds (\$1,000) extra available to the League for much needed propaganda work this year, S. Burnett, one of the leading supporters of the league, has offered a special contribution to its current funds, conditional upon others also making special contributions, it was announced at the Henry George anniversary dinner. Pledges and contributions toward this amount now total £111.

----- GERMANY TO END SUBSIDIES TO LARGE LANDOWNERS

BERLIN (HGNS) - The German Government has decided to bring to an end the Osthilfe (Help for the East) under which hundreds of millions of marks have been advanced to the landowners of East Prussia and other districts since 1927 on the pretext of helping agriculture. Prof. Hunke, the expert in agricultural economics of the National Socialist Party describes the Osthilfe as one of the most unnecessary and offensive chapters in German economic history and stigmatizes this as a grotesque and insane expenditure of public monies to help large landowners. He is quoted as saying that 412 large landowners possess more than 2,600,000 hectares*, which is as much as is held by one million peasants. It is significant that in Germany there are 3,000,000 small landowners, who hold and must live on an average of 3.2 hectares a piece while 1,722 large landowners have an average of 2,800 hectares. (*Hectare - 2.471 acres)

----- PRIZE WINNERS ANNOUNCED IN AUSTRALIAN ESSAY CONTEST

Sydney, N.S.W., Australia, (HGNS) - Prize winners were announced in the essay contest conducted by the Henry George League of New South Wales. First prize winner in the senior group was Neil McLean of the Intermediate High School in Queanbeyan, N.S.W., The Standard of Sydney reports. First prize winner in the junior group was Matthew D. Herps of Gladesville, N.S.W. Prize awards announced totaled £395.