

The Square Deal

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T H E S Q U A R E D E A L

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"UNACCUSTOMED AS I WAS TO CUSTOMS"

Margaret E. Bateman

.....But having received notice that a parcel had arrived from the H.G.S.S.S., and that I must come down to the Customs Office to claim it, I hied myself to that imposing 6-storey grey-stone building, which covers one whole block.

On the way to the third floor (express parcel department) I noticed the "army" of men behind the counters and wickets, whose duty it is to make it difficult for us to bring anything into Canada without paying a good stiff fine for the privilege.

I was directed from one official to another - and another - (paying a dime at one wicket to have the original notice stamped - signing some papers at another) and to my great relief the parcel was located at last - the School had duly filled our order for 25 copies of Progress and Poverty, which were now within my reach -- almost! They had shipped as well, a parcel of free literature, class helps, etc., that would be very useful to us.

But they had omitted to send the invoices! No Invoice? -- Oh! Oh! Then no parcel!

After considerable explanation and discussion, I found there was nothing to be done but write to New York for these invoices, and a rush letter to Mr. Chodorov brought the required three copies of the invoice, along with this comment: "the best way to teach "Protection or Free Trade" would be to have all students personally experience the "red-tape" and difficulty and expense of getting a package through customs."

Armed with the invoices three days later, another visit to the Customs Office was made. A strong objection was registered when I was asked to pay 27½% duty on the literature - plus 8%; and 10% duty on the books - plus 8%. I explained that this material was for educational purposes - part of it had been sent gratis - it could not be purchased in Canada - and we felt that it should come in without duty charges.

The Chief of the Department was finally brought into the discussion. He was most considerate - but absolutely firm - and we finally completed the deal when I handed over \$4.95 for customs duty and tax - 19.8 cents per book!

While the final papers were being signed and the goods again examined, the Chief and I talked about the weather - until he happened to notice on one of the book marks in my parcel, the word WAGES From that moment he showed a new interest and we were on common ground. He told me how

his wages were practically spent before he received them - that he had six children and just that week had paid \$22.00 for school books - and that he thought the multitude of taxes in this country were ruining all of us!

I suggested that he should attend our classes, and find out why he paid all these taxes, and promised to send him an invitation to the opening meeting. The parcel was finally obtained and we parted good friends. To fulfill my "gentleman's agreement," the invitation was sent, and on the night of our meeting, to our great surprise, my Customs friend appeared. He brought along a friend - a French-Canadian who had known Mr. John Anderson, our School President, twenty years ago. As is usual at all meetings of Georgists, there were some speeches, and then much talk, and the final result was that Mr. Customs Chief promised to collect ten or twelve of his friends and Mr. Anderson agreed to take them through the course.

As evidence of his interest, my friend the Customs Chief came into our next class and completed the course in Progress and Poverty. It was almost too much to expect, but he also showed keen interest in "Protection or Free Trade" - and since we are now an educational institution "Incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario" our books come in free of duty. If enough of them come in, my friend's "Wages" will some day adequately maintain him and his family because he will get for himself the full reward of his honest labour - while Customs employees will be rendering Service - not merely collecting fines. -- Miss Bateman is one of the directors of the Montreal School of Economic Science.

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With a slackening in the rate of population growth, speculation in land promises not to be the curse it has been in the past, but it will plague it from time to time. I, for one, should like to see the singletax idea of an assessment on site value, which would transfer the "unearned increment" to the community which created it, given an honest and comprehensive trial in this country. With the ending of an epoch, the proposal has a better opportunity to be put into practice than at any time since the Republic was founded. -- Stuart Chase: "A New Deal"

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Our taxes are too high, you admit. Well, the tariff is a tax. It is a very high tax which every consumer pays, and which goes largely to "support" a lot of uneconomic manufacturers. -- Lewis H. Haney (Professor of Economics, New York University) in "Economics in a Nutshell".

RECOVERY IN SASKATCHEWAN

Ernest J. Farmer

Saskatchewan is by nature the poorest of the Canadian Provinces. It lacks good forests and is almost without mineral resources. It is unfavorably situated for industrial development, and in fact has hardly any manufactures beyond the processing of its own agricultural products, on this account the Canadian tariff represents to it a severe burden for which there is no compensation. Its one great resource is a large area of land which, being prairie, is easily worked; but the season is short and rainfall scanty, so that per acre production is small. Most of its production has to be shipped great distances at heavy cost.

From an early time in its history, Saskatchewan adopted a policy of placing only light tax burdens on industry. Rural municipalities have for many years raised all revenues from land. The towns and cities as a rule tax buildings on only a percentage of the assessment. As a result the early development was extremely rapid, in spite of much land speculation, which the tax rates were not high enough to check. From 1915 to 1920 the war caused a great demand for wheat, which brought Saskatchewan an abnormal prosperity; in 1920 farm labor commanded a wage of \$1000 per annum, the highest in any Canadian Province in any year.

In subsequent years, several European countries placed excessive tariffs on wheat and limited imports severely by arbitrary quotas. To multitudes of their own people this meant downright starvation, but it also meant hardship to the people of Saskatchewan more than to those of the other Provinces. Between 1930 and 1937 the Province suffered severely from widespread drought, except in in one year in which rust proved equally destructive. Under stress some municipalities increased taxes on buildings - Saskatoon, for instance, increased the percentage taxable from 30 to 60. Regina, however, made no change. A very damaging provincial sales tax of two per cent was also imposed.

However, more than 85 per cent of the municipal revenues of the Province still come from land, and there is a small provincial tax on wild land which limits speculation. There has indeed been much less recession in this respect than in Alberta or British Columbia. The Province has shown amazing economic vitality. Early this summer, following one good crop in 1939, the whole Southern part, that most severely affected in previous years, looked remarkably well; the only sign of distress was that more buildings were in need of paint than nine or ten years previously. Incomes are better distributed than in any other Province, so that even though the average is less than in Ontario there is little

See map below (P. 7)

BUILDING OWNERS AND TAXATION

The American journal Time, of 1st July, reports the recent conference of 750 members of the National Association of Building Owners and Managers held in the Hotel Commodore, New York. Delegates had come from 70 United States cities. In its staccato manner of writing, the paper says "they were hornet-mad about a politico-economic national scandal" which is that "urban property taxes are so high that they drive population to suburbs so that city real estate and city governments face bankruptcy together." While almost everyone from President Roosevelt down has acknowledged that the Association's complaint is just "there was little agreement as to where money for municipal government was to come from if it was not taken out of real estate's well-plucked hide." The Association's panaceas had drawbacks, the paper said. And the strike-on-the-anvil journalist came down hard on one of them. These sparks in such a paper as Time were pleasing to see. Sound advice emerges:

"A heads-I-win-tails-you-lose proposal would base tax valuations on earning power of the property. Thus unimproved land having no annual income would pay no taxes. Sometimes called the British system, it would put up the value of vacant land, cause further urban decentralisation because it puts no penalty on speculators' withholding city land from use.

"Meanwhile many a builder and architect (but nary a N. A. B. O. M. er) wondered whether Pittsburgh and Scranton, Pa., did not have the right idea in taxing land at twice the rate of property improvements. This tax tends to depress price of vacant land, make it readily available to builders. Early this spring, Scranton had taken title to 6,000 unsaleable, tax-delinquent properties, hoped to make up for its tax losses by renting them itself. Stemming decentralisation by placing tough tax odds against speculation, the Pittsburgh-Scranton plan is an approach to Henry George's Single Tax. If followed to its logical conclusion (as is being done in certain California Irrigation Districts) owners of vacant land have to get busy and improve or sell their land. Via tax delinquencies the State becomes a landlord." -- Land & Liberty.

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Recovery in Saskatchewan continued from page 3.

extreme poverty. The infant death rate is the lowest in Canada. Saskatchewan is undoubtedly the best administered Province in Canada; in spite of natural disadvantages its population is one of the healthiest and happiest.

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EDITORIALSCanada's Present Need

According to the "American Magazine" the people of the United States are awakening to the danger of their system of taxation, which penalizes industry and is reducing their ability to provide for national defence. More than 1200 organizations are said to be actively at work on tax reform. This is good news as far as it goes, but unfortunately very few of these organizations really understand the basic wrong upon which our whole system of taxing industry is based. It is our governments making the natural resources of the country such as timber, mines, water power and town sites private property. These should be nationally owned and administered for the benefit of the whole people, and when so administered will supply adequate revenue for all the just needs of the government, and at the same time assure every one who wants it work at good wages. The value of these things are created by the presence of the people and are valuable just in proportion to the nearness of population, and the number of people who are dependent on them.

The ability to carry a tax burden is not measured by the amount of taxation collected but where it is placed. It is much easier to carry 50 lbs. on your back than ten separate pounds tied to each finger. Taxes can be so levied as to destroy industry or to en-

courage it and destroy monopoly and special privilege both of which are destructive to liberty and prosperity.

Taxation such as the Sales Tax and the Process Tax, which are levied on production and exchange, and which are in very truth a penalty levied by government on natural rights, something which government exists to preserve, are quite capable of reducing the total production of Canada by 75% and will if permitted to continue, destroy the prosperity of Canada and cripple her power to carry the war burdens.

Apparently the only organizations which understand the relation of taxation to production and prosperity are those teaching the philosophy of Henry George, which in very truth is applied Christianity.

For over fifty years the Single Tax Association, now known as the Henry George Society, has been the chief exponent of these truths in Canada, and as a consequence has been able to effect many important benefits to our country. Not the least of these was the blocking of the land grant of some 10,000,000 acres to the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, saving the country many hundreds of millions of dollars. The light burden of taxation on industry and on the USE of land which is enjoyed by our Western Provinces owe their origin to

the teaching and work of our members and associates.

The need for the teaching and work of the Association was never greater than today. The Association is supported entirely by voluntary contributions and during war times it is always more difficult to carry on, in spite of the fact that the truth about taxation is all the more important then.

We trust that our readers will remember this and make unusual efforts to support the work with adequate funds. Give now, and give liberally for we have the solution of all social problems and know how to raise public revenue without penalizing industry in a way that will enormously increase the total production of the country, without lowering the standard of living of our people. -- A. C. T.

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Impressions Made Travelling With War Guest Children

Strethel Walton

Travelling from Halifax to Winnipeg on a special train carrying a party of 175 war guest children from England, there was little time for meditation, since I was in charge of 50 of these children aged from 5 to 15 years. I was impressed, however, as the train sped along mile after mile by the wide open spaces of unused land, and I wondered whether the English system of land tenure will in the not too distant future create the same

conditions on this continent that have led to economic upheavals and war in Europe.

These war days are causing many of us to think more seriously about the cause and cure of war, and when we see these children torn from their home and parents, and facing life at such tender ages in a new country amongst strangers with strange customs, voices and ideas, one begins to face the realities of war. Most of these children had heard the screaming of sirens, explosion of bombs, and were glad to be out of reach of these awful things. They were little children with no experience of being away from home, and their worst trial, outside of trying to look after their own clothing and personal belongings which was of course done for them at home, was sheer homesickness, for their mothers and fathers, their playmates and the familiar childhood environment.

As a Georgeist I was more than ever convinced that we must work and work and work, to bring about a society where this kind of thing cannot happen again. -- Miss Walton is Secretary-Treasurer of the School of Economic Science, Montreal.

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We have no more right to consume happiness without producing it than to consume wealth without producing it. -- George Bernard Shaw.

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WHILE THE WAR WAGES REMEMBER IT WAS CAUSED BY POVERTYTherefore, We Must End Poverty

F. A. W. Lucas

The appalling disregard of the rights and lives of neutrals shown by the German invasion of Denmark, Norway, Holland, and Belgium, has stirred most South Africans deeply and made them realise the grave danger that is facing democratic institutions all over the world.

Although neither we nor any other people have ever tried real democracy we must defend with all our power the little we have of it and hope that, when the war is over and the challenge from the dictatorship of Nazism is defeated, we may be able to extend that little until we can enjoy real freedom, economic as well as political.

The present struggle, grave and awful as it is, is only a temporary phase. We have to endure it because we made no attempt to destroy the cause of Nazism and other forms of tyranny. That struggle must and can end in only one way. Sooner or later the military might of the Nazis must be destroyed and each one of us must to the best of his ability help to that end.

But when we have destroyed the Nazi armies we shall not have finished our job. Nazism is not a cause. It is an effect. It and its fellow tyrannies were conceived and born in poverty and unemployment and they derive their vigour from them. An English writer truly said recently: "As the numbers of the unemployed (in Germany) soared so did the Nazi vote; so did the numbers of Roehm's storm troops." The fear of want and insecurity gave Hitler his chance to organise his people for the course which led to the present war.

This war will not destroy poverty, it will greatly aggravate it. When the war is over we shall, therefore, still have with us the great factor which has produced Nazism, Fascism, Communism, and other forms of tyranny, and which has led us into two great wars in one generation.

It follows then, that if we really wish to end tyranny and prevent any more wars in the future, we shall have to end poverty. There is no other way. Peace and poverty cannot long live together.

While we must help bring this war to a successful conclusion in the interest of democracy we have to try to think clearly about the issues involved and how we can purge our country of poverty and tyranny and in so doing set an example to the world of what other peoples also will have to do.

Just as unemployment made Nazi control possible in Germany so here unemployment is making many turn to Nazism. Here there were before the invasion of Holland tens of thousands of our people praying that Hitler might win. Whether that invasion has reduced the number it is not easy as yet to know. But the reason they have felt that way is because, under our present administration, which is represented to them as British and Imperialist, their sufferings from poverty are so great that it is a simple thing for them to believe that things cannot be worse and might be much better if the Allies, who are confused in their minds with British or other Imperialists, are defeated.

That, too, is why "Fifth Columns" have been so readily raised up in every country invaded by Hitler's armies. People must have food, clothing, shelter, and an opportunity to use their natural abilities. They have not got them today and as things are they do not see how to get them. That is why a Hitler makes such a strong appeal to millions of people. Among a prosperous people a Hitler's proposals would make no headway.

That is why we urge our people to think over these things and, even in the midst of the dreadful events now happening in the world, to try to think clearly about the cause of poverty and tyranny and help us to be ready as soon as possible to establish justice and freedom, peace and plenty, in our land. -- The Free People, South Africa.

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The Bahamas have come to the public eye because of new Governor - The Duke of Windsor.

Ad in Toronto Star: "Buy property in the Bahamas. Large and small estates. No land tax."

"Life" Magazine: "The white population of the Bahamas received the new Governor rather coolly. The coloured population were jubilant....hoping he will raise their daily wages back to 50¢ a day." Sent in by Robert Wynne, Hamilton Extension Secretary.

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The property which every man has in his own labour, as it is the original foundation of all other property, so it is the most sacred and inviolable. The patrimony of a poor man lies in the strength and dexterity of his hands; and to hinder him from employing that strength and dexterity in what manner he thinks proper without injury to his neighbor, is a plain violation of that most sacred property. -- Adam Smith

Dear Reader:

Do you realize that your doings have news value?

"Don't talk nonsense!" you exclaim, "In a world distracted by war, what other topic can interest anyone?"

Dear Reader, it is the appalling destruction of this war which makes you, and all Georgeists, more worthy of headlines than ever before.

Whose activities are more important in the long run; those of a Hitler, who knows only how to smash and ruin, or those of the only group of men and women who know the real cause of war and are working intelligently to remove that cause before our civilization is utterly destroyed - whether by this war or by the worse one that will inevitably follow if the world continues on its present path?

You may think the doings of one person or group are not worth reporting, but strong ropes are made by combining a number of thin fibres. The Square Deal is trying to bind the Canadian strands more closely to each other. You can help by writing us the news from your locality in time for each issue. There are six issues each year.

If you are one of a group, choose a correspondent or apply for a page. The Hamilton folk originated this special-section idea and their page in the May-June Square Deal brought such favorable comment that we would like every issue to contain a section from each Georgeist centre in Canada.

If you work alone, tell us what you do. Something that seems commonplace to you may be a brilliant new idea to others. If you write to newspapers, it will encourage us to hear when you get something printed. If you correspond with Georgeists in other countries, our readers would enjoy sharing bits that possess general interest.

Your items may seem small, but they will help to bind our scattered strands into a life-line strong enough to pull civilization out of the deep hole into which it has fallen. Won't you send them?

Very earnestly yours,

The Square Deal.

DEC:TSD

P. S. All news should reach our office by November the 20th to appear in the November-December number.

(Please note that the date when material must be in has been changed from November 25th to November 20th. Ed.)

NEWS FROM HAMILTON

Donald Hamon

Fall Opening of Classes: On Friday evening, September 20th, the Hamilton Extension started their fall activities with a promising class in "Progress and Poverty". The opening address was given by Mr. E. Farmer, of Toronto, who, incidentally, was responsible for the Georgeist movement being revived in Hamilton several years ago. The classes are being held at the home of the secretary, Mr. R. Wynne, and the instructor will be the president of the Hamilton Group, Mr. J. Wilson.

A new approach to the public was tried with success this time. Instead of general advertising, the responsibility of getting students was directly set before the former graduates with satisfying results, including an increase in the number of lady students, who, incidentally, for the first time, have out-numbered the men. The newcomers showed a gratifying interest and to all appearances, this should prove a real asset to the movement.

The method of recruiting was to send an appeal to each graduate emphasizing the importance of the economic home front, in not only preserving liberty but in attaining fuller freedom. With each letter was enclosed notices of the opening session for the graduate to distribute to people he thought could be interested.

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The Georgeist Club of Hamilton, composed of graduates in Progress and Poverty, will get under way for a class in Protection or Free Trade on Monday, September 30th. The classes will be held at the home of the Club's secretary, Mr. F. Greensides. As this course has not been taken here before, it will be conducted as a mutual discussion group. It is intended by this method to provide a teacher in this course for the graduates in the present class of Progress and Poverty.

START A LIBRARY: The Georgeist Club are finding it expedient to have a handy reference of books on economics and kindred subjects to avoid misunderstanding and misstatements in controversies which often arise. In addition, it is felt it would be interesting to keep a record of letters to the press and articles by the members; also apposite book reviews, statistics and items from the general press, which call either for refutation or approval.

It is proposed to obtain books by subscription for that purpose from the Club funds and also by individual donations. And it will be the responsibility of individual members to turn over to the librarian any items of topical interest for

filing and indexing.

Mr. Wynne has generously offered accommodation in his home for the library. Mr. H. Stobbs has been named librarian and has made a start in filing the already accumulated material.

Open Controversy: The Hamilton Group keep active in writing letters "To The Editor" and the local paper receives the contributions fairly well. The desire is, of course, to arouse public interest in the necessity for a social reform. Whether the letters have fallen on deaf ears or if the ideas advanced have met the quiet approval of the readers is not known. We are always looking for approval or rebuttal, but have found none until recently when we finally hit a bull's eye. And a barrage is now under way.

Other centres! Aim for touchy local problems. And let the correspondents have both barrels--of truth. That's what the Hamilton Group is doing.

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MORE CANADIAN NEWS

HAMILTON: Miss Ethel M. Gilbert has kindly donated several pamphlets belonging to her Father, the late E. S. Gilbert, to our organization and has given several books and pamphlets to the Hamilton Club.

OTTAWA: From Ottawa comes the news that Mr. A. C. Campbell has recently acquired a great-grandchild. Long life and happiness to the new arrival. May he preach the Gospel of Plenty as valiantly as his proud progenitor and live to enjoy a world made peaceful and prosperous by that Gospel.

We are glad to welcome Mr. Owens. He is now with the Civilian Personnel Directorate of the R. C. A. F. His son Keith is at Regina training as a Pilot in the R.C.A.F. Good luck to you both.

Mr. Owens has been getting articles on Georgeist topics printed in the Ottawa papers.

ROSSEAU, Ontario. Miss Coate reports that she had a delightful visit from Miss Bateman of Montreal and Miss Smellie of Toronto and hopes that the Toronto group will see a lot of Miss Smellie in the future.

TORONTO: Congratulations to Paul Found. Paul won a special proficiency alumni scholarship valued at \$625 given by Victoria College. His Father, Dr. Norman Found, is a graduate of our School.

TORONTO: Miss Margaret Bateman, Vice President of the Henry George Society and a Director of the School of Economic Science, Montreal, paid a visit to our Headquarters on September 12th and spent a couple of hours chatting about the work. Before leaving she purchased several pamphlets and took a supply of free literature for distribution in Montreal. The following day she telephoned the office saying she had distributed the pamphlets and ordered two of George's books for "a good prospect."

On Friday, September 27th, a study group in Fundamental Economics will open at Headquarters. Mr. Ernest Farmer B.A., President of the School of Economic Science will be the leader.

MONTREAL, Quebec: A class in Democracy vs. Socialism opened here on the 24th of September. 16 students enrolled. Classes in Fundamental Economics will begin the week of October 7th.

Mr. A. C. Ross, President, Henry George Society, Toronto, recently paid our Headquarters a visit.

The School Library here is a busy place. Books are constantly on the move. Miss Bateman, when she returned from her visit to Toronto, brought seven or eight books that had been donated by The Henry George Society. These are welcome additions to our library.

AMERICAN NEWS

The Henry George School of Social Science is going ahead. New York has had to increase its class rooms. Chicago recently moved to larger headquarters. In New Jersey they expect to hold at least 30 classes in Fundamental Economics and International Trade and 5 advanced classes and plans are under way to establish permanent school headquarters in Newark. Boston has multiplied its efforts and hopes to double its spring registration. Philadelphia plans to have ten classes in Fundamental Economics and Principles of International Trade, as does Westchester, N. Y., in addition to a class in the Science of Political Economy and one in Democracy vs. Socialism. These are but a few of the classes planned in the United States.

ARDEN, Del.: The Trustees of Arden, Delaware, a Henry George Enclave, recently drafted Henry George III, Wilmington, grandson of the famous economic-philosopher whose name he bears, to fill a year-old vacancy on their three-member board. Arden's basic charter of government is a deed of trust, on Georgean lines, administered by a board of three trustees elected for life. Dr. George is president of the

Delaware State Osteopathic Society.

CHICAGO, Ill: "We, The Citizens," is now conducting a School of Citizenship and Economic Science. The July-August "Land & Freedom" reports "This School offers a short four-lesson course in economics, using Otto Cullman's "Twenty Million Dollars Every Day" as a text-book. An Expositor's Manual for this course has been prepared, as well as question papers for students. Mr. Cullman's book of 89 pages presents in a concise way, and in terminology likely to appeal to business men, a picture of our economic structure today, and a proposal for the basis upon which it should rest.

The School and its course have been well received. Classes are now either functioning or in process of organization in ten states. In addition, correspondence courses are being offered. Those interested may write to "We, The Citizens," 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill."

NEW YORK CITY: The fall semester, opening on September 23, will also mark the opening of 2 newly remodeled floors in the headquarters building at 30 East 29th Street. One floor provides an additional 8 classrooms and the other a meeting room accommodating 200 persons and added office space. With the added class rooms the School can conveniently provide facilities for 4,000 students weekly.

The meeting room was constructed to provide convenient facilities for lectures and forums. Under the direction of Sidney J. Abelson, assistant to Mr. Chodorov, an effort will be made to fill the room every evening. One of the purposes will be to attract outsiders; that is, persons not at the moment taking School courses or even interested in doing so. In this way contact will be established with many organizations with the hope of bearing fruit in the future.

YELLOW SPRINGS, Ohio: Antioch College has granted full academic credit to Neal Daniels for the course in Fundamental Economics he took last summer at the Henry George School. The credit granted was equal to that allowed for equivalent work (hours of study) in Antioch's social science department.

EMPIRE NEWS

AUSTRALIA: School of Social Science--Generally three nights a week are devoted to classes -- Tuesday to Thursday -- with two classes on some evenings. Never has such intensive work been done in the classes as during the past twelve months. A year ago we expressed the hope that classes would produce some fighting speakers who would go out and place our proposals before the general public. A start has been made in that way in the Domain, and we hope that it will develop and so extend our work.

The most colorful effort of the school was its Conference at Newport at the end of January. It was attended by Interstate delegates. A number of papers were read and discussed.These were later printed and made available to the public. The Conference concluded with a public meeting in the Teachers' Federation Hall in the city. -- From the Annual Report of the League contained in The Standard.

AUSTRALIA: One of the most popular items on the air is the commentary on current events by "The Watchman". He frequently deals with economic problems and his remarks are always in favor of freedom as against restriction. During June, in one of his evening addresses his subject was: "Going Back to School." He stressed the need for a greater measure of education, particularly in regard to all questions affecting democratic government. He dealt with a story which indicated the need for a better understanding of the teachings of Henry George. Here are his remarks:

"Another method is by forming discussion groups, especially in connection with radio courses of lectures and reading. This has become widely popular in Britain, and has been begun in Australia by the Broadcasting Commission.

"By the way, a story which recently came to me concerning one group in a country town not only indicates the method of these groups, but indirectly the need for such educational stimulus in the surrounding community.

"This group decided, in connection with their study of economics and social problems, to make a study of the works of Henry George, and had to visit them a leading exponent of George's principles to lecture to them, and after their course of study issued a bulletin on the subject.

"Now, I am not, myself, a recognized member of the Henry George organization, but no one is an educated or well-informed man in this field of study who does not know George's lucid and wide-ranging studies in sociology and economics, nor can fail to acknowledge the cogency and breadth of his arguments and conclusions.

"It was amusing (if it were not rather tragic) to learn, therefore, that this earnest study group was being vilified by so-called important people in the town because they declared the students were communists; they even had the police and other officials to investigate their activities, and have indulged in personal persecution by dismissing individuals from their employment on the ground that Henry George was a communist, and therefore they were communists also.

"Such ignorance makes one sometimes almost despair. For, in a community which makes the acquisition of money the

passport to importance, it is sometimes forgotten that the purely money-making brain is frequently one of the lowest grades of intellect.

"Any one who classes Henry George with the Marxian or Russian type of communist needs himself to join a study and discussion group, for he certainly could not have read him."
-- The People's Advocate, Adelaide, Australia.

SOUTH AFRICA: Johannesburg: A correspondent from Johannesburg writes of the political situation in South Africa: "There was very little racialism here until some of our disgruntled politicians started stirring it up about 10 years ago. Now the country is rotten with it, but I think the German invasion of Holland will do a lot to check it.

I have always held out great hopes of Canada and the Northern countries of Europe as the severe winters there prevent people rushing off to dog races, or the movies, every evening as they do here. They give themselves no time to think ... that is in the towns."

The Johannesburg "Free People" has temporarily suspended publication because of war-engendered financial difficulties. We hope for an early reappearance. The omission of even one issue of this small paper is a real loss to the Henry George movement.

INDIA: The Times of India, 29th January, reported that a new Government Bill, called the Punjab Thal (increase in value) Bill, which provides for the levy of a tax on lands whose value will be enhanced by irrigation from the Thal Canal has been published in an extraordinary issue of the Punjab Government Gazette.

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TO "LAND AND LIBERTY"

Our hats are off to the editors of "Land and Liberty;" may they be spared to survive the war and long carry on the work they do so well!

As we go to press, the September number has just arrived. It is perhaps a trifle slimmer than formerly, for news of European workers is noticeably lacking, but the articles are up to their usual high standard - dignified, logical, convincing. No word betrays that the paper was issued with the sword of Damocles hanging heavily over every head in England.
--D. E. C.

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FREE TRADED.E.C.

General Hugh Johnson, in his release of July the 16th, said in part: "While England has a sporting chance to defend herself, and her empire, there is going to be a new industrial situation in Europe. It may not be the dream of Napoleon (by force) or Briand (by agreement) - a United States of Europe on our model. But it will be a great industrial grouping no longer frozen into a honeycomb of water-tight trade compartments by tariff barriers. It will be a vast unitary market for its own products such as made mass production and mass distribution - and hence great efficiency and low cost - possible in our country.

It needs markets and it needs raw materials - especially such foodstuffs as South America and this country produce in vast surplus."

The Stockton "No Taxes" of July 29th, under the heading "Free Trade Sweeps Europe" says: "Remember! The tariff barriers are kicked down whenever the Axis powers cross a frontier.

Whatever else must be said, it has to be admitted that the victorious sweep of the Swastika in Europe has made Europe one big market place; there are no longer any border tariffs to hinder trade.

We'll have to have some cartel to out-weigh that fact.

Americans have always pitied Europeans because their trade was so hampered by border tariffs; and Americans have swelled with pride at the thought that our forty-eight states trade with each other without having to hurdle border tariffs.

Over here we have been building up border tariffs to hinder interstate trade; but in Europe the march of totalitarianism has levelled the border tariff walls and made Europe one great market place."

By force, Germany has established free trade in Europe. The British Empire and the United States of America may be forced to form another free-trade group to combat Germany.

Will all the destruction of this war only result in dividing mankind into fewer groups, who will raise higher tariff walls and eventually bring on a bloodier war than this, or is there a chance that suffering will teach us to lessen the chances of future wars by establishing world-wide free trade as soon as peace is restored?

BOOK REVIEWSSOME GLIMPSES AT GERMANY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA

H. T. Owens

One of the most worth while books of the present era that one can read is Nora Waln's "Reaching for the Stars." It is the narrative of a sojourn in Germany from 1934 to 1938, with side trips into Austria and Czechoslovakia. The author tells the pros and cons of Nazi-ism as she saw it at close range. In Chapter VI -- A Nation at Work -- she tells of the economic program of Nazi-Socialism. "A National Socialist state was defined as a state organized against poverty, discouragement and enemy blockade," she relates. With this must go "overhead planning and a complete control of economic activities," -- the logical outcome, it may be interpolated, of any type of Marxian Socialism. But in the Nazi state, "none shall be denied the right to work," and no one who can work is "allowed to be lazy." Not the individual, but the government must find tasks for everybody. So some years ago they had the equivalent of our own recent National Registration, and soon possessed a file of 25,000,000 people. These were some of the tasks of the find-work policy.

"The bureau of overhead administration needed thousands. Hundreds who knew languages were wanted for censorship work as every tenth letter in the ordinary post must be examined and all the mail of people on the suspect list opened."

This censorship was not in war time but in the Nazi-inspired Pax Germanica. Then there were thousands needed in the rearmament industries. Hitler had his "bread and circuses" in his scheme for national rejuvenation -- "Berlin redone on a magnificent scale, Nurnberg made a fitting place for rallies, assembly halls in every city, a swimming bath for every village, a house and garden for every worker, boulevards joining every part of the Reich." In these ways, and others more psychological than economic, Hitler sold himself to the masses of the Germans, with the results that we see today.

The relation of the land to the Nazi program is not detailed in the book, but there is a revealing paragraph on this subject in Chapter XIII dealing with Czechoslovakia. We are told that, in Ruthenia, "all the land, apart from some state parks, was given to the peasants." As for Czechoslovakia proper, it is said that the Republic "was established in country that had been feudal right up to the end of the war. Nearly all the land was held by nobles, many of whom had thousands and thousands of acres worked by people called free who were actually very little freer than serfs. An uncomfortable part of the establishment of the

democracy was a redistribution of land. Castled people were not entirely stripped, but they had to give up a percentage to peasant ownership. In some instances this made bitter feeling. In others, nobles felt that they did hold more than was right, and gave up what they must without friction."

Of course, Georgists know that mere redistribution of land is only a partial alleviation. But it shows a juster attitude of mind. Every reader of The Square Deal should read Miss Waln's informative book and share her conviction that the now deluded people of Germany will some day rise to greater heights in the family of nations of which past pages of their history gave glorious promise.

THIS STRUGGLE - THERE MUST BE A CAUSE

This is a book of 96 pages by Edgar W. Culley, Melbourne, Australia. The author does not deal with the war of armaments, but with the universal struggle of man towards a better social order. He holds that the human race is at the parting of the ways and that the tremendous existing struggle is due to our ceaseless effort to adjust ourselves to the persistent violation of not only the social but nearly all natural law. With knowledge and obedience to the infinite laws this struggle can be eliminated and replaced by joyful effort and happy accomplishment.

Apart from the main theme, the book consists largely of a symposium of presentations of the philosophy of Henry George and his principles of Social Reform; but the author is equally concerned with man's spiritual and physical well-being. He holds that application of Henry George principles is necessary in order to produce conditions and environment that will make possible the attainment of moral and physical excellence.

"This Struggle" was not published for sale. It is being issued accompanied by a 16 page booklet - "Mankind's Guide, Philosopher and Friend" - a collection of appreciations of Henry George by noted people in various countries, and a number of extracts from his writings. Upon written application, accompanied by 3d. to cover cost of mailing, both will be sent to any address in the British Empire; to places outside the Empire for 6d. If it is desired to send copies to friends, enclose their names and addresses, with amount to cover mailing and publications will be posted to them direct. Write to: P. J. Markham, 678 Whitehorse, Road, Mitcham, Victoria, Australia.

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"Bow to the inevitable and pay your taxes with a smile."
"I'd like to do that, but they insist on cash."