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Policy: FREE LAND, FREE TRADE, and PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION

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Visit of Mr. Anders Vedel

Mr. Anders Vedel, Principal of the Folk High School at Krabbesholm, Denmark, and a keen supporter of Henry George principles, who visited Adelaide in connection with the New Educational Fellowship Conference, was tendered a dinner on September 8 by Mr. E. J. Craigie, M.P., Australian Vice-President of the International Union, so that workers here might have an opportunity of meeting this distinguished visitor. Speeches of welcome were made by Mr. Craigie, Mr. M. H. McDonough (president of the Henry George League), and Mr. A. S. Bayly (leader of the Henry George Study Class).

In responding Mr. Vedel thanked members for their hearty welcome. He was pleased to be among people who were doing great work on Henry George lines. He regretted that so far as Denmark was concerned, owing to the difficult times experienced, they were not able to go forward as they would like. The people there believed in the principle, and good work was being done. To go back to the beginning of the work in Denmark, Mr. Vedel stated that the man who created the Henry George movement in that country was still alive. That was Mr. Jakob Lange, who was a great man and a fine scholar. He was connected with an agricultural residential day school, and he tried to give agricultural and cultural education to the sons and daughters of the small holders. In 1864 he first read "Progress and Poverty," and was so interested he finished the book in one night. He was an ardent spirit and keen man in politics, and translated the book.

Mr. Vedel referred to the bad conditions of many Danish farmers. Many were forced to sell their land as they could not pay the mortgage about the year 1890, and this gave the movement a temporary setback. In 1900 there was a revival due to the great work of a Danish solicitor, Mr. Bertholsson. He organised the small holders, those who owned from 8 to 25 acres of land. They belonged to the Agricultural Union, but desired to start one of their own as co-operators, as the other Union was run by the big holders. There were 100,000 small holders, nearly all in the movement, and embracing the cultural programme of Henry George. Lange and Bertholsson were responsible for creating the interest, and other responsible men gave the movement support. The small holders do not believe in special privilege in any form, but stand for equal opportunities for all, the abolition of taxation from industry, repeal of customs duties, &c., and the collection of land rent for public purposes. They desired to get rid of the land monopolists so that farmers could hold their own block of land. These became the backbone of the Radical Left in politics, and have been the driving power for the Henry George Leagues in Denmark. The Social Democrats also understood the principles. The first thing they had to do was to get a valuation of all the land in Denmark. They had a system of Henry George taxation. All country land was valued according to its ability to produce corn, rye, wheat and barley, not in money value, but according to produce. Taxes were levied on country property according to this value. This did not appeal to the towns. In 1908 there was a tax on fixed property, which was very low, from one-half to three-quarters of the rates being taken from property. An agitation set in to take it off buildings and put it on land values. In 1922 there was imposed a State tax on land values, a small one of 1½ kroner value per 1,000. Later in 1926 a good deal of the tax on fixed property in the urban areas was moved to land values, some local districts taking 20 in the 1,000, others as high as 35 per 1,000. In Copenhagen it was 7½ per 1,000. In addition during the last few years there was a law which said when land was coming up in value, 20 per 1,000 of that extra value should be taken into the Treasury. They had a splendid system of valuation, which was a great step forward.

There was still speculation in land values, owing to the depression following the war and the mortgages, which had been necessary as a result of the fall in price of agricultural pro-

ducts. The Small Holders and the Social Democrats were getting better understood, and he looked forward with greater interest in Henry George principles. Mr. Vedel dealt in an interesting manner with the present European economic situation, and in a very interesting and illustrating manner showed the ramifications of trade between the various countries, and the evil effect of tariffs and quotas to the detriment of all parties concerned. He stressed the fact that it was useless working for peace whilst we were erecting trade barriers and thus creating a bad feeling between the peoples of the earth. He showed how the desire to create work in one country had the effect of causing unemployment in another. Economists all over the world were saying that economic nationalism was all wrong, yet Europe was tariff-barrier ridden to-day.

Mr. Vedel stressed the fact that it was very important that all who see the truth should not conceal it, but go out and preach it. It might be difficult to carry it through, but the time was coming when Henry George's ideas would be accepted. He was impressed when travelling through the United States with the wonderful work being done by the Henry George Schools of Social Science. Never was there so great an agitation or a better understanding of his principles than at present. Those who gripped this doctrine would have a real understanding of the philosophy, and although they might be only a minority, they would be the forward looking people, and the rest of the people would follow them as they do not see anything else for them. The truth will be preached in a democratic State. He congratulated South Australian workers on their fight for economic freedom, and said if they did not see results immediately not to lose courage, as the truth must ultimately prevail. He thanked them for their good wishes, and conveyed greetings on behalf of the movement in Denmark by Mr. Bue Björner, who was president for and highly appreciated the work being done in Australia for Henry George principles. He paid a fine tribute to the work done in Denmark by Mr. Bue Björner, who was president of the International Union.

Mr. W. A. Wickham, in a graceful speech, thanked Mr. Vedel for his interesting and illuminating address, and expressed good wishes for his future welfare.

Members were pleased to have the opportunity of securing first hand information regarding the position in Denmark, and were delighted with our visitor's charming personality and wonderful enthusiasm for Georgian principles. Mr. Vedel left on September 11 for Perth, and carries with him the best wishes of co-workers here and greetings to the workers in Denmark.

Educational Literature

To the Editor,

Sir—The more our literature is read the finer and better the results will be. The "People's Advocate" is welcomed in many homes, its sound economic teachings, and the good sense of its political utterances being greatly appreciated. The news of the movement is interesting, and its columns are always fresh, nothing dull appearing. The books and pamphlets advertised in its pages, being by authors of repute, are to be commended as well written and instructive, and the more we can get them into the hands of the people the greater will be the social progress attained. If we can pass these on to our neighbors with friendly advice, we shall enlist at least some of them in the great army of goodwill, intent on overcoming the apathy, indifference and ignorance which are the worst foes we have to contend against.

But while there are so many of our useful publications to recommend, may I courteously direct attention to one which, while it has educational value of a high order, is surprisingly cheap. I refer to "The True National Dividend" (3d., postage 1d.) which, fairly criticising that very unsound doctrine, Douglas Social Credit, is most constructive in its findings, not merely showing what is wrong, but pointing clearly to the real remedy for social ills. My own two copies have been lent to others with good results, and, if we are to have a false ideal replaced with the truth the sooner we get such pamphlets as these into the hands of those who have but small knowledge of economic principles the finer will be our success. May I urge on all the dissemination of such reliable teaching as this and other material obtainable at our depots?

I am, Sir, etc.,

VERITAS.

THE FEDERAL BUDGET

Mr. Casey (Federal Treasurer) delivered his pre-election budget in the House of Representatives on August 27. As usual the greater portion of the revenue for the coming year will be collected by means of indirect taxation. The following are the estimates for the year 1937-38:—

Indirect Taxation:—	
Customs and Excise	£44,500,000
Sales Tax	7,700,000
Total Indirect	52,200,000
Direct Taxation:—	
Income Tax	9,000,000
Land Tax	1,600,000
Estate Duty	1,650,000
Wool Levy	75,000
Total Direct	12,325,000
Total Taxation	64,525,000

The total taxation actually collected for the financial year ended June 30, 1937, was £62,845,257.

We have frequently directed attention to the fact that the figures relating to taxation do not indicate the total sum taken from the pockets of the people. A double profit is made on Customs duties before they reach the consumers in increased prices. Profit is also made upon sales tax. Local manufacturers take advantage of the restrictions imposed by our tariff policy and artificially inflate local prices. It has been estimated by competent authorities that for every £1 which goes into the Public Treasury, £4 comes out of the people's pockets. When this fact is realised it is seen why we have a high cost of living and a big number of the people living close to the poverty line.

It is surprising that this system of collecting revenue receives the support of the Labor Party. How can those members expect the people they claim to represent to reach a decent standard of living while they are called upon to pay heavy taxes on their food, clothing, building material, tools of production, and the general necessities of life? Why does the party show such tender consideration for the landed interests of the Commonwealth? Surely the members know that land value is due to the collective presence and energy of the people! Why, then, do they allow a privileged few to reap where they have not sown by appropriating the natural revenue, which should be taken to defray the cost of government? The Australian Labor Party is the only one that believes in a policy of protection, and thus is not legislating in the interests of the wealth producers of the Commonwealth. In the early days of the Labor movement it stood for a free breakfast table and the collection of land values for public purposes, but it has departed from its original sound ideals. Until its policy is framed in accord with economic law it will not have a sound alternative policy to that supported by the U.A.P. As a matter of fact, a careful study of the policies presented by the two big parties shows that on fundamentals they are practically identical. Both favor a policy of land monopoly. Both offer tariff privileges to a special few. Neither of them have a practical policy in regard to unemployment, and on the important question of collecting public revenue both parties stand for the taxing of industry. Is it any wonder that many workers have become apathetic and distrust all political parties? The sooner Labor stands for the untaxing of industry and the collection of the rent of land for public purposes, the sooner will it be true to name, and regain the confidence of those who have deserted it.

The budget shows that expenditure is increasing at an alarming rate, the total estimated expenditure for the financial year being £85,16,000, which is about £4,000,000 in excess of last year. It is proposed to increase the old age and invalid pensions, and the expenditure on this line alone will take £15,900,000. Maternity allowances will absorb £380,000, and it does seem inconsistent on the part of any Government to give a grant to assist maternity cases, while at the same time imposing taxation on everything needed by the child when it is born into the world.

The cost of administration of the Primary Producers' Debts Acts (approximately £16,000 per annum) is met from revenue, and represents a further substantial contribution by the State to the satisfactory adjustment of primary producers' debts. These facts will prove of interest to our farmer readers. It is likely there will be a slowing down of settlement in regard to other cases under the Act, owing to the fact that the Commonwealth Government has intimated that £2,500,000 is the maximum sum it can make available in 1937-38 for all Governments for adjustment of primary producers' debts. It is to be hoped that those who have received benefit from the Act will be in a position to make good in the future. With a continuation of the present economic policy, if the price of wheat does not remain at a fairly high level, it will not be long before producers find themselves in a parlous financial position again. Palliative legislation of this kind can only give temporary relief. The real remedy is to reduce the cost of production by the abolition of taxation, and to collect the rent of land for governmental expenses.

HENRY GEORGE COMMEMORATION DINNER

The dinner to commemorate the birthday of Henry George was a great success, more than one hundred attending at the Covent Garden Cafe on Thursday, September 2. The president of the Henry George League (Mr. M. H. McDonough) presided. Mesdames Ellis and Harvey (of the Kimba Branch), and Mr. H. S. Denman (secretary of the Berri Branch) were present. After the loyal toast, Mr. A. S. Bayly delivered the Commemoration Address.

Mr. Bayly said we have gathered to commemorate the birthday of the world's greatest economist and social philosopher. Henry George was born at Philadelphia 98 years ago on September 2, 1839. He had a public and high school education, and had ideas of making a way in the world so that he could relieve the family purse. He started as an office boy, but following the traditions of the sea he embarked on the "Hindoo," which went to Australia and Calcutta. On his return to Philadelphia he learnt the printing trade, but soon experienced the first taste of unemployment and the difficulty of finding work. He hated idleness, so he went to sea again, going to Oregon, worked his way to San Francisco, and was then attracted by the gold rush to British Columbia. He later married in San Francisco, and it was there the family was born and his real life work began. Although George suffered galling poverty at times he was greatly helped by his wonderful wife, who was a constant source of comfort, who always helped him in anything he considered his duty. This was a great factor in his life. George's poverty was not due to idleness, he was a real hard worker, but was unable to find remunerative employment. He spent his time in hard reading and writing on serious subjects. In 1866 he secured employment on the "San Francisco Times," in the composing room setting type, but his literary ability was soon recognised, and in six months he rose through stages to managing editor—a very meteoric rise. The work was a great help to Henry George in his public affairs. His work on the newspaper took him to New York to fight against the great press and telegraph monopoly. This was his real start in life, as it was there he realised the great disparity between extreme poverty and wealth, and this caused him to register a vow to discover the cause of the maladjustment, and the remedy for same. He was true to the vow then made, and did not consider himself but went on with the one great purpose in mind.

The cause of the maladjustment eluded him for some time, but came to him owing to the chance words of a teamster he met in the country. Like a flash there came to him the reason why wealth was unjustly distributed. He saw that as population grew, so land increased in value, and men must pay more for the privilege of using land. He devoted the remainder of his life to the development of his political economy and philosophy, and to the introduction of his teachings into practical politics. In 1871 he wrote "Our Land and Land Policy," and later re-wrote the work, amplified it and gave to the world "Progress and Poverty." Other works from his pen followed, and he took the platform in support of his ideals. "Progress and Poverty" has always been considered, and is, his masterpiece. The thought all round him in press, pulpit and parliament ran counter to the views he held, but that did not worry him. He set out to ask why it was with increase in productive power people still had only a bare living. The answer in current political economy was that wages depended on the number of laborers, and the ratio of capital devoted to their employment. Many still think that capital employs labor. His first task was to show that this was untrue. He made it clear that capital did not pay labor, but that labor produced the wages with which it was paid. He showed there were two essential factors in production. Land as the passive factor, and Labor the active factor. The grand division was primarily between Rent for land and Wages for labor. Henry George turned his attention to the economic laws regarding the distribution of wealth. He found current treatment incorrect, and set out to make a true statement. All labor could claim for wages was the product at the margin without payment of rent. All above went to land as rent. The effect of progress, the introduction of superphosphates, and labor saving machinery was to make land more productive in response to the labor of human beings, thus increasing the demand for land. This material progress was expressed in rent. As society increased step by step, rent continually increased, and if

rent increased then wages must decrease, as a proportion of the wealth produced. This was the reason why we had poverty with increased production—those who had only labor to sell found an increasing share of their product going as payment for the right to toil.

Henry George saw that the basis of civilization was the simple principle of co-operation. This operated in two ways—(1) By the multiplication of labor where greater numbers could do more than a smaller. (2) The other form of co-operation which many failed to realise was by the division of labor—the specialisation in industry. Instead of each one attempting to make all his requirements, concentration on one line enabled a greater skill to be developed, but the benefits from this could only be secured when we agreed to exchange labor products. Exchange was therefore an essential, and in reality an unconscious form of co-operation, bringing increased production, yet some people desire barriers erected in the way of exchange which brings greater comforts. That form of association had really given civilised communities their power of increased production. If every one tried to do everything we never could have accumulated the knowledge to invent machinery, harness steam and electricity, and massed production would not have been possible. Co-operation accounted for the progress of mankind. The concentration of individual effort as a social affair cannot be carried on successfully unless people engage in exchange. This is the source of the material progress of mankind, and thus rent is brought into existence. Thus rent belongs to society and not to individuals. To-day the rent of land flows into the pockets of people called landlords. Because of this, the effects of the progress of society are reflected in the fortunes given to a class which neither toils nor spins. The reason why the masses have no happiness and why the great majority are forced further down the social scale is that we have allowed social values to flow into private pockets. This has led to speculation in future expected progress, and has been monopolised, those engaged in production have been forced further aside, the margin has been forced down, and wages have come to a minimum which gives the laborer a mere existence.

Henry George suggested as a remedy for that ever increasing poverty which came with each advance in progress that the rental value which attached to land by reason of the progress of society should be taken to meet the expenses of government and taxes on industry be entirely abolished. Doing this every individual would be placed on an equality so far as opportunity was concerned. As progress went on and rent took an increasing quantity, as society advanced, there was a greater fund for the community, thus progress would bring about a greater equality. In 1881 Henry George removed to New York to take part in practical politics. Later he visited England, Scotland, Ireland and Australia. His last great fight was his second attempt for the majority of New York. He entered the contest against medical advice, but the strain was too great, and on October 28, 1897, four days before the election he passed away. So this great man laid down his life for his friends. Tributes poured in from all quarters, even from his opponents. He was accorded a most remarkable funeral, more than 100,000 people passing his bier, and a similar number being unable to gain admission. On his stone is carved those immortal words:—

"The truth that I have tried to make clear will not find easy acceptance. If that could be, it would have been accepted long ago. If that could be, it would never have been obscured. But it will find friends—those who will toil for it; suffer for it; if need be, die for it. This is the power of Truth."

Mr. W. J. L. Kelly proposed the toast: "The Henry George League of South Australia." He said it was forty years since he joined the league, and there had been great changes in the world since then. Knowledge was the sovereign thing, and without it privilege would triumph every time. If everyone would think for themselves we would soon bring the Kingdom of God into the world. Taxation affected the living of the masses. Politicians to-day were mostly schemers who taxed everything needed by the people. They fixed artificial means of regulating wages, and thus worked a confidence trick upon those who toil. The men behind the tariff movement were responsible for reducing the purchasing power of money with every increase they made in the tariff duties. Over 300,000 males in Australia do not get £1 per week. Some thought the more you

keep goods out of a country the better it would be for those who labor. This was nonsense. It meant a keener struggle to get inferior articles at a higher price. Single taxers say that goods of the world should be at the feet of the world, and that prices go up and conditions go down when goods are kept out of any country. With increased prices there were less goods, less food, and less houses, and the physical condition of the people deteriorated. The nation should be well fed and well clothed. Heavy taxation was responsible for a reduced birth rate, high rents and a low standard of living. We had too many laws, and these only caused confusion. He had consistently put up a fight against protection, because there was an increased demand for protection as the industries secured greater power. Single taxers were the only group fighting to remove the burdens from the people. He paid a tribute to the fine work done in the early days of the movement by such men as Henry Taylor, David Williams, Cornelius Proudt, William Tomlinson and many others, and to the secretary who was carrying on the work at the present time. He thanked the secretary and the executive of the league for the fine work they were doing in the cause of freedom, and wished the league every success in the future.

In supporting the toast, Mr. J. A. Hodgson said the Henry George League and its gospel had been a great inspiration to him. It had given him a confidence that nothing else in life had. He felt on solid ground when discussing social problems. He considered the churches had failed in their duty to the people as regards preaching morality. It had failed to emphasise the importance of the eighth commandment: "Thou shalt not steal." Henry George had explained how the kingdom of righteousness could be established on earth.

Mr. Madden said he had the doctrine of Henry George brought under his notice by Mr. Ernest LeMessurier, who did excellent work for the cause by the distribution of literature. He was pleased that classes had been started for the study of political economy, and paid a tribute to Mr. A. S. Bayly, the leader, for his splendid work in that regard. Railway men were studying the works of Henry George more to-day than ever before. Tariffs had got hold of the people in both parties, and it was through education that justice would be established.

Mr. T. Montgomery said it was Mr. Kelly who brought the doctrine under his notice when he was working at Islington. He referred to the early debates on the subject of protection. Although it was claimed that a tariff was only for the infant stage of an industry, the fact was we always had around our necks the imbecile protection. He thought economics should be taught in the schools instead of many things in the present curriculum.

Mr. Burton said he was an infant member, but he thought all should be publicity agents for such great principles. The whole scheme of reform depended upon the individual efforts of members. It was no good keeping the great secret locked up and not discussing it at every opportunity. We should go out and tell everybody. Many had not heard the name of Henry George, and we could go out and tell them, and persuade them to read the "People's Advocate." We should give all the time possible to further the Henry George idea.

Mr. Taverner thought we should not hide our light, but that we ought to declare for what we believe. If we did this our principles would be better understood, and progress would be more rapid.

Mr. F. P. Drymalik said many kept the philosophy locked within their breasts. Mr. Burton was doing fine work, and many were doing academic work in the study circles. The Henry George idea would outlive all other ideals, and principles so great and noble would promote the material and spiritual progress of society, and would be carried on until man's liberty would reach the topmost branches in heaven.

Mr. A. Morgan said he was a great believer in the Labor Party at one time, but he had got past that stage as he had seen the fallacies of its policy. We need more members to back up the work for our principles, and he was confident that success would ultimately crown our efforts for economic freedom.

In responding to the toast, Mr. M. H. McDonough said Henry George had lighted a torch that would never go out. The Henry George League was born to support the principles of truth, justice and righteousness, and had branches in all parts of the world. We had unemployment in Australia, but no par-

ticalism was needed to eradicate poverty. All that was necessary was to recognise natural laws, and the equal rights of all men as laid down by Henry George. The league stood for free land, free trade, free people, and proportional representation. There had been a suggestion that the gospel was not propagated as it should be, but he was confident that no member who saw the truth of the great principles for which the league stood failed to preach them at every opportunity. Some were not able to do as much as they would like, but the movement was making great progress. The eradication of poverty was an individual question, everyone could help in that great work, and he knew that all present would forward the movement at every opportunity.

Mr. E. J. Craigie, M.P., in moving the toast of "Kindred Societies," said there was a mistaken idea in the minds of some people that the Henry George movement was a small affair, and only supported by a few cranks. The facts were that it was a great world-wide organisation. No less than five Henry George Foundations had been established to assist the work in various parts of the world. The Australian Foundation was founded by reason of the generous gift of Dr. E. W. Culley, and had rendered valued assistance to the leagues in all States of the Commonwealth. The Foundation in England had been established by the late Mr. L. P. Jacobs, who was an influential supporter of our doctrines in Australia before taking up his residence in Great Britain. Wonderful work had been done in the way of producing literature at a low price and circulating it very extensively throughout the world. In the United States there were the Robert Schalkenbach and Henry George Foundations, both doing splendid work by means of the distribution of literature and by maintaining lecturers in the field. The latest Foundation to be established was the Henry George Foundation in Canada, and these fine institutions will very materially assist the movement in their respective centres. The headquarters of the International Union is in London, and at intervals international conferences are held. The fact that over 200 delegates from 30 countries attend the conference is an indication of the widespread interest shown in Georgian principles. The United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values and Free Trade functions in London, and with its leagues throughout Great Britain are ably assisted. Mr. A. W. Hadden is the secretary, and with his staff render valuable services to the movement. Henry George Leagues are in existence in all States of the Commonwealth, and splendid work is done by the officers and members. The latest development has been the establishment of the Henry George Schools of Social Science. Started in New York they have spread throughout the world, and have been the means of bringing a knowledge of political economy to thousands who previously had not given that subject attention. The literature of the movement was extending, and translations of the more important works had been made in practically every language. The official journals of the movement kept members in touch with the work of the movement in all parts of the world.

Mr. Craigie then expressed pleasure that there was present that night Mr. Henry S. Denman, secretary of the Berri Branch of the league, and who was the candidate for Chaffey district at the State election. Mr. Denman, in conjunction with Mr. F. H. Sharley and other members of the Berri Branch, had rendered excellent service to the cause in connection with the recent Marketing Referendum campaign and in spreading the truths of the gospel of Henry George.

With them in the room that night they had the pleasure of the company of Mesdames Ellis and Harvey of the Kimba League. Mrs. Ellis had been president and secretary of the Kimba Branch, and both ladies had assisted in the work for economic freedom by successful meetings held in the Kimba district.

Although some might think the movement was not progressing fast enough, he had no hesitation in saying there was no other movement throughout the world that could have had such successful international conferences, or that was making such worldwide headway as the Henry George movement.

Mr. Denman thanked members for the kind reception, and extended greetings on behalf of the Berri Branch. He appreciated the opportunity to be present in such genial company and to be with those who had such loving faith in the principles which they knew to be right. He paid a tribute to the great work done by the president of his branch, Mr. F. H. Sharley.

Many could see the writing on the wall, and that the faulty foundations upon which industry rested were crumbling. He was pleased to have been in the recent referendum fight, and many growers were beginning to realise there was a danger of the preferences being abolished, and that such action would materially affect their position. A greater number of electors were asking why it was the things we wanted were so heavily taxed, and realised that party politics had proved a curse. Under the present control policy Australians paid a higher price for inferior fruit than was paid by overseas consumers for fruit of the best quality. Many are prepared to admit that the present system is wrong, but they are afraid to declare for the principles of freedom. The tariff taxes on implements and general requirements materially affected the cost of producing, and relief was not possible until these taxes were removed from industry. Under the present system the materials for homes are taxed, any improvements made are taxed, the wages of labor are taxed, and it is pleasing to note that an increasing number are realising the evils of such a system. Although it was hoped that the folly of 1914-18 would have shown the futility of war it appeared as if another struggle was at hand, and our sons who are getting near the fighting age might be called upon. War scares were engendered because of hatred which was the result of a faulty economic system, and armament makers made huge profits at the expense of the people. All should be evangelists to spread the doctrines of Henry George so that peace and goodwill might be established on earth.

Mrs. Ellis said she was very happy to be present. She had been brought into the fold by what was then known as the Flinders Land Reform League. The Kimba branch would this year hold its annual celebration at Balumbah, so as to give the people in that part of the district an opportunity to be present. They had come as pilgrims to worship at the shrine of Henry George, whose principles were the only bright spot in the economic world. We have not lost our freedom although we are economically bound under the present system. Our doctrines had the support of Biblical authority, and we must remain firm in our principles. Mrs. Ellis stated she was pleased to see so many young men associated with the movement. Although there was war and rumors of war, the more taxation and the greater the burden placed upon the people the quicker the reform would come. We were the only people who had a policy that would make for social justice.

Mrs. Harvey said it was the first opportunity she had for attending a Commemoration in Adelaide, and it afforded her great pleasure to be present that night and note the enthusiasm manifested for Henry George principles. They were doing their best in the Kimba district to assist in the fight for economic freedom, and on her return she would be pleased to advise them of the fine gathering held in Adelaide to do justice to the memory and work of Henry George.

The president thanked all present for their attendance, and expressed the hope they would continue to spread the doctrines which alone would make for the betterment of mankind.

The function was a great success in every way, a considerable amount of enthusiasm was manifested by all present, and the general opinion expressed was that this Commemoration was one of the most successful ever held.

KIMBA ANNUAL SOCIAL

With a view to taking the gospel further afield and giving farmers in the outback areas an opportunity of attending a Henry George Commemoration Social, the Kimba Branch decided to hold its annual commemoration at Balumbah this year. The function was held on September 1, and notwithstanding the very inclement weather there was a fine attendance. The commemorative address was in the capable hands of Mr. J. P. Moore, the president of the Kimba League. In a very interesting and instructive manner he dealt with the main features in the life and work of Henry George, and the speech was very much appreciated by all present. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded him on a motion by Mr. C. Venning, seconded by Mr. A. E. Hutchens, and supported by Messrs. W. Ferry and A. Schubert. Dancing was indulged in, Messrs. Bert Stevens and H. Wohling acting as M.C.s, and Mrs. W. Bach was at the piano. Supper was served by the ladies. All present were delighted with the success of the gathering.

Obituary

It is with very sincere regret we record the death of Mr. Ernest Le Messurier, of Park Terrace, Gilberton, who passed away on September 7. For a great number of years Mr. Le Messurier was connected with shipping interests at Port Adelaide, and was highly respected by all who knew him. Since the visit of Henry George to South Australia he has been a member of the Henry George League, and has been a splendid financial supporter of the movement. Although he did not take any part in public speaking he distributed a great quantity of literature, and availed himself of every opportunity for spreading the gospel of freedom. He had a charming disposition, and was one of Nature's noblemen, ever ready to do all in his power to help place society on a sound economic basis. For some time our late co-worker has not enjoyed good health, but he still continued to interest himself in our principles, and was responsible for the distribution of a considerable quantity of literature during the recent Marketing Referendum. The funeral was largely attended, and bore eloquent testimony to the high esteem in which our late friend was held. To Mrs. LeMessurier and the family we tender expressions of sincere sympathy in the hour of their sad bereavement.

HENRY GEORGE LEAGUE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The monthly meeting of members of the above league was held at George Parade on Tuesday, August 31. The president (Mr. M. H. McDonough) occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of members. There was a very interesting budget of correspondence from various parts of the world, as well as from interstate co-workers. A letter was received seeking financial support in connection with the forthcoming State elections, and after discussion it was resolved that the writer be informed: "That this league cannot commit itself to the running of political candidates, but is of the opinion that in connection with forthcoming elections the same procedure be followed as in the past, namely, that a special appeal for financial assistance to candidates be permitted through the columns of the 'People's Advocate.' The secretary's report dealt with press controversies in West Coast, Moota and Renmark papers, recent address at the German Club, and matters dealt with in Parliament. Mr. A. S. Bayly reported that the Study Circle was engaged in a course of study of 'Progress and Poverty,' the new English Manual being used. Meetings at the Botanic Park were being held and a fair amount of interest shown. It was resolved that 100 copies of the new leaflet, 'The Cause of Business Depression,' be sent, with a covering letter, to selected business men with a view to directing their attention to the reason why slumps in business occurred. Matters of general interest were discussed.

Next Meeting, Tuesday, September 28, at 8 p.m.

NEW ENGLISH MANUAL

We acknowledge receipt of the "Social Science Manual," by Mr. F. C. R. Douglas, M.A. (Assistant Secretary of the United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values, London). This little work is designed to assist students who attend the classes of the Henry George School of Social Science, but is also of great value to any individual student. It takes the students through "Progress and Poverty" in a course of ten lessons, therefore, the book is divided into ten parts. Questions are submitted to the reader, and the pages in the text book are given to indicate the portion that should be read to find the answers. Answers are also given, but naturally the student will make better progress by a course of reading to ascertain the answers for himself.

The basic idea of the Manual originated with the New York Henry George School, and that work has passed through several editions. The new manual is for use with the English edition of "Progress and Poverty," as the page numbers in that edition vary from the American book. This manual should be of great assistance, not only to new students, but to all who desire to gain a further knowledge of the principles expounded in Henry George's masterpiece. The English price is 1/- net. We congratulate Mr. Douglas on the very fine work he has done in connection with the production of the manual.

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