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Lancaster M. Greene

Chairman
Publications Committee

Stanley Rubenstein Director

Laura Smith

Assistant Director

Subscription: \$5 yr. For change of address 5 E. 44th St. New York, NY 10017 (212-697-9880)

AFFILIATES

LONG ISLAND

P.O. Box 553 Cutchogue, NY 11935-0010

PHILADELPHIA

413 S. 10th St. Phila., PA 19147

NEW ENGLAND

114 Ames St. Sharon, Mass 02067

CALIFORNIA

Box 655 Tujunga, CA 91042

63 Chattanooga St. San Francisco 94114

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Isabel La Catolica #212 AP #758, Santo Domingo

CANADA

School of Economic Science 2267 Westman Rd. Mississüaga, Ont. L5K 1M7

3017 25 St. SW Calgary, Alberta T3E 1Y2

School Notes

TEACHER TRAINING SEMINAR

During the first two weeks in December, Education Director Don Hurford conducted a four-session teacher training seminar at the New York School.

The seminar, based on the course "How to Teach Grown-Ups," provided participating school instructors with workbooks and audiotapes and explored topics such as the difference between "learning" and "schooling," techniques for making a lecture more participative, and creating a learning environment through discussion.

Don believes the seminar to have been worthwhile because "It was practical. It offered new insights and tips on how to improve the methods in actual use at the School, especially the prevailing lecture method."

Course materials will be placed in the library for use by instructors on a self-study basis.

TAX LAW CHANGES

"Tax Law Changes – 1986-87" was the topic for the first monthly Critical Issues Forum held at the School on Thursday, January 8th. Panelists were Charles Dana, East Side District Manager of H&R Block, and Jacob B. Himmelstein, CPA, Norristown, Pennsylvania.

The next in the series of forums is "Homelessness" to be held on February 12, 6-8 p.m. Participants will include Beth Garrie, Associate Director, Coalition for the Homeless, Tim Lambert, Volunteer, The Catholic Worker, and a representative from the New York City Office of Family Affairs. Representative Henry Gonzalez, at a recent hearing on this problem, said "The homeless are the ultimate throwaway of a throwaway society. . . . Even if there is no official American Gulag, the land of non-people, there is an unofficial and equally terrifying exile, and that is the exile of the street people."