

SAGES PAGES

ISSUED BY

Society for the Advancement of the George Economy, Inc.

50 EAST 69th STREET

NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

VOLUME II - THIRD ISSUE

JANUARY 1950

calendar

SUNDAY - JANUARY 8 - ANNUAL BANQUET AND
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS - 5:00 PM

SUNDAY - JANUARY 15 - REGULAR MEETING - 3:30 P.M.

FRIDAY - JANUARY 13 - MOTION PICTURE
"GRAND CANYON" -- 8:00 P.M.

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

Yes, as predicted, our dance of December 3rd was a huge success - socially and financially - it was our best dance to date; there were no "wall-flowers" - everyone was responding gaily to the spirited tempo of the Lighthouse Orchestra. Fun was the order of the evening! A profit of \$161.15 was realized, which gave our bank account a good "shot-in-the-arm"! We are also indebted to those members who, though they could not attend, supported the affair by paying for their tickets in advance. We feel the following letter is indeed worthy of publication, since it reflects fully the spirit and faith of a true Georgist and SAGER, which indicates a firm conviction in action:

"Dear Sir:

Enclosed find postpaid note for \$2.00 in payment for the tickets for the dance December 3rd.

As I consider myself one of the original George men, since the George campaign of 1886 for Mayor of this City, I have reached an age where I cannot take an active interest in the doings of the School. Nevertheless, am much interested in every effort to support the School in order to pass the truth along.

With best wishes,

Thomas F. Foy"

.....

Mr. Foy, we sincerely appreciate your continued active support of our efforts in spreading the George Philosophy; please know that we who have the strength of youth are carrying on, upholding that Faith and knowing that some day, through your efforts and ours, a new peaceful, joyous and prosperous world of free men will take time out periodically to honor a great man, HENRY GEORGE, who bore aloft the torch of economic truth!

We thank you, Mr. Foy, and all those others who continue to support spiritually, morally and financially the Cause to which we are all dedicated.

.....George J. Musolino, Chairman

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Returns from the mailing campaign are still coming in. Undoubtedly, when the general "busyness" and financial pressure on potential members eases up after the Holidays, many more will be heard from. New form letters have been drawn up, lists of the new graduates have been obtained from the School and its Extensions, and invitations to join with us will be extended to them directly after the Holidays, which will be about the time this report goes to press.

The new Membership Chairman and Committee will have an ambitious program to follow for the ensuing year. It will mean consistent attention to an all-out drive to unite more and more of the scattered Georgists. No possibility must be overlooked. The strength of numbers is essential to forceful influence in high places, as well as low places. At the Exercises on December 14th, Jos. B. Rose addressed the Graduates on behalf of SAGE. On December 13th, at the Extension Class Exercises the writer addressed the graduates. In each instance a brief history of SAGE was given, our aims were outlined and personal invitations were extended to the graduates.

MEMBERSHIP (Continued):

The following Georgists are welcomed into the organization, having joined during the past month:

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

Alfred L/ Baker ... Martha de Saepel ... Charles Grosslight

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Theodore Ahrens	Lyons, N.Y.	Edwin J. Bukachek	- Milwaukee, Wis.
Dorsey E/ Arwood	Knowville, Tenn.	Thomas Holmes	- Clearwater, Fla.
Arthur Ballard	Auburn, Wash.	Sam Kessel	- Everett, Mass.
John Blakely	Dunking, Neb.	Paul H/ Schmidt	- Prairie duChien, Wis.
Aline F/ Upshaw		- Chattanooga, Tenn.	

RADIO COMMITTEE (A Letter from the Chairman):

"Dear Member:"

The Year 1950 will be upon us directly. Your 1949 contribution to the "Dollar-A-Year-For-Radio Club" made it possible to make radio announcements of the free courses offered for public enlightenment at the Henry George School and its extensions. Results from WINS broadcasts were most gratifying and make it worthwhile to continue this medium of advertising. Your \$1.00 sent in now, in the enclosed envelope, will guarantee the continuance of our worthy Club for a most noble cause. New classes will be starting in mid-January and announcements must be contracted for at once. Your prompt remittance will be greatly appreciated".

The above letter was sent out to all those who contributed to the 1949 Fund and we thought we could do no better than to print the letter in toto for all to see. If you are not one of our regular "Dollar-A-Year" sponsors now, why not become one? Its very simple - just believe the letter was sent to you, then enclose a dollar bill (or as much more as you wish to give - we have no limitations!) in an envelope, together with a scrap of paper saying "For the Radio Fund" and your name and address, and presto! ... You have become a member of the "Dollar-A-Year" Club. We feel sure you will realize how much can be accomplished through this medium and will be eager to place your name on our rolls.

Irving Faust, Chairman

A STATEMENT FROM THE TREASURER

Recently a new, simplified and effective system of maintaining dues data was inaugurated. All old records were thoroughly examined and reviewed prior to sending out the statements together with the announcement and data on the Installation Dinner (performing two mailings with one stamp!). Upon reviewing the status charts there was considerable amazement in discovering that most of the old members are in arrears one or more quarters. They aren't healthy accounts, folks. Let's start off the New Year and the new administration with up-to-date records and accounts, which are in keeping with our 1950 aims of expansion and progress. To simplify matters, why not pay your yearly dues in one payment, now!

Val Hallgren, Treasurer

ALL ABOUT PARTIES!

The Staff Christmas Party held on Friday, December 23rd, was one of those rare occasions when all the gracious individuals who comprise the working wheels and gears of our Alma Mater get together for a merry time. Work is dropped, cares are given the go-by, and everyone "lets their hair down" in one festive afternoon! Of course, anyone who chances to drop in is immediately included and the fun continues! Our Sidney Meyers, Anita Vener, Mrs. Arthur Lee and daughter Carol enhanced the gathering. After the appetites were appeased, our vigorous and versatile Bennett Challis, accompanied on the piano by Mildred Allen, basso-baritone, a delightful group of old classics. This was followed by Christmas carol-singing and dancing. Would that there could be more such affairs!

Class End Parties At The School - This term end, more than any previous terms, has seen a number of classes utilizing the Coffee Shop facilities to hold class-end dinners. These unions clinch the bond of understanding that has developed between students and teachers and leave wholesome, lasting impressions that make for genuine feelings of good will.

One outstanding dinner party was that held on December 19th by Mr. Arthur Flemings class. After appetites were satisfied, Mr. Fleming put on his magic show, which was really intriguing and hilarious. To wind up the affair, Mr. Green (a student) put on an impressive dramatic skit which was followed by classic renditions on the grand piano in true concert style by another talented student (name not known to us). All work and no play makes Jack (and even Henry George!) a dull boy, you know, and we firmly believe that little get-togethers of Instructor and Students, at the end of a term, may mean more in true Georgist-Friendship in later times, than may be realized at the moment. Reports of any party of such nature will indeed be gladly "reported" in SAGE'S PAGES.

ADVERTISING & PUBLIC RELATIONS: - This Committee is beginning to take a concrete form. Now serving actively on the Committee is Vivian Kiliaen-Rodney, recently elected Vice President of S.A.G.E. and editor of SAGES PAGES; Mabel Rees, who wrote that fine verse in SAGES PAGES three issues ago, (and from whose facile pen we shall have more prose and poetry in future issues); and Henry Joel, a new member of SAGE, who is a Commercial Artist. Serving in an advisory capacity is Constantino P. Lent, who besides being a well known author in the fields of Rockets, Atoms, and Drafting, edits and publishes a magazine. The Committee has set up a tentative program, which is as follows:

1. - Improve the reading matter and physical appearance of SAGE'S PAGES.
2. - Design easy to read, easy to understand literature and posters on the George Economic Philosophy, that can be used by the Distribution Committee and Speakers Bureau in the following ways:
 - A - Given out by the Speakers Bureau to members of organizations where they have speaking engagements;
 - B - Given out by the Distribution Committee at conventions, rent rallies, and other mass gatherings where economic or social problems are the chief topics of discussion;
 - C - Given out by the Distribution Committee to put people in a more "economic frame of mind", in areas where the Henry George School sends out announcements of its courses in Fundamental Economics;

c o n t i n u e d

ADVERTISING & PUBLIC RELATIONS (Continued)

- D - Given out by the Distribution Committee to Legislators and other such persons whose prestige and status has a bearing on economic policies and legislation of the Municipal, State and Federal Governments.

This program is set up only as a guide. It will be altered to fit the talents of the Committee members and the financial limitations of S.A.G.E. If you feel that you have any suggestions for what the Committee can use, don't hesitate to write and tell us about them.

Samuel Slitz, Chairman

DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE:

We are enclosing with SAGE'S PAGES one copy of literature now being distributed. Please advise Chairman of the Distribution Committee if you desire copies of this pamphlet for distribution among your friends, relatives, place of business, subway, unemployment offices, schools and lectures you attend.

In any event, be sure to sign and send to Bernard Klee or Lehman the enclosed coupon at the end of the pamphlet.

Maline Wener, Chairman

EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL BELIEVERS IN FREE TRADE

U.S. Steel has once again raised its prices without justification; as a matter of fact, scrap iron from which the steel is made has come down in price. The increase in wages of the workers far from justified this increase and past increases. Only a monopoly could make such increases without losing customers to less expensive producers.

Here's What You Can Do -

Mail Mr. Lehman or Mr. Klee the cutout below, or write a letter or postcard urging them to lift tariff barriers.

Maline Wener, Chairman

Honorable Sir;

In view of the unjustified increase in steel prices, I urge you to pass legislation for the lifting of tariffs and duties that fall on imports of this product from other countries (and also materials used in its manufacture).

Competition will at once necessitate the dropping of the prices by U.S. Steel without Government interference, not only for the benefit of Mr. & Mrs. American Consumer, but also for a more balanced Economy, and the small business men who deal in these products dependent upon steel.

Respectfully

Name _____

Address _____

S.A.G.E. MEMBERS IN OTHER CITIES ... ATTENTION!!

Not only a "New Look" but "New Departments" are in the making for **SAGE'S PAGES**. With **SAGE** branches being established in other cities and the gathering of many Associate Members, the founding organization in New York feels that these should be represented in its publication and cordially invites them to send us reports of their proceedings; we also wish to receive letters and comments from the Associate members - these Georgist's who are graduates of the School's Correspondence Course, who live too far away to attend the S.A.G.E. meetings and thus become active members.

To establish increased bonds of fellowship between you who as alumnus in a distant city, or a newly organized S.A.G.E. branch, please write us. **SAGE'S PAGES** will welcome your news and views and any items of pertinent interest. Furthermore, if Associate members would like the names and addresses of any other members living near them, write us and we will get in touch with you and endeavor to establish such contacts.

This being the season of Christmas candles it is a good time to recall that it was Shakespeare who commented: "How far that little candle throws its beam" .. even a single one! Even a lone graduate, or a S.A.G.E. branch with only a few charter members may become a real inspiration toward the extension of the economic viewpoint that will lighten the way toward the cure of 'poverty amidst plenty' and the spread of peace.

Let S.A.G.E. become the connecting link to answer your questions of general interest and to carry your messages of how best to increase our influence. In order to start this Department in an early issue, why not write today? We will indeed be glad to hear from you!

M. Dees

SPECIAL NOTICE: - The Peoples Section of the U.E., to which S.A.G.E. as an organization belongs, has asked that a representative be allowed to attend one of our meetings and from all indications the meeting of **SUNDAY - JANUARY 15TH** will be the one attended; therefore, we would ask that all those members having the present "Question of the Month" read and ponder it carefully and **COME TO THE MEETING ON THE 15TH PREPARED TO TAKE PART IN THE GENERAL DISCUSSION!** We are particularly eager to have not only a large number of members present at that meeting, but also an informed membership - So, once again we would ask: if you have the "Question" this month, read and ponder it carefully, so you will be prepared to take part in such discussion, which is the first opportunity we have had to demonstrate before such a group's representative, the intelligent strength of those who believe in the only logical "cure" for the world's economic and social evils - **THE GEORGIST PHILOSOPHY.**

V. Rodney

For the first time in its short history, **SAGE'S PAGES** must announce the death of one of its charter members ... **JOHN LESTER HOWARD.**

Mr. Howard cast off his earthly robe on December 22nd, while peacefully sleeping. He was an ardent Georgist for many years and a most competent instructor in the Philosophy, having taught all the basic courses in either the School itself or in Extension Classes. He was Chairman of the Advertising & Public Relations Committee and at the present time was endeavoring to locate a publisher for a pocket-size edition of "Progress & Poverty".

Many will recall the attractive Christmas cards with the Georgist quotations (which were available through **SAGE**) all of which were personally selected, after much careful perusal of Henry George's works, by Mr. Howard himself.

He was ever a cheerful and hopeful person and felt sure, like the rest of us, that some day, no matter how far off, the Georgist Philosophy must become the guiding star of an ailing economic world. Georgists & non-Georgists will alike miss him.

And so, until that DAY when, untrammelled by the flesh, we Georgists meet once more Good Night, Mr. Howard.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH, 1949

Meeting called to order by Chairman, a quorum having been declared present. Minutes of previous meeting read and with a minor correction, approved.

Treasurer reported balance of \$227.58.

Chairman of Entertainment reported proceeds of our dance held December 3rd, to be \$161.15. Plans for concert still in the formative stage. Plans for a New Years Eve party still open.

Chairman of Membership announced 8 new Associate Memberships. Graduates of both the parent School and the Extensions will be contacted after the Graduation Exercises on December 13th and 14th. Correspondence Course Graduates handled each month as they finish.

Chairman of Music Committee announced money is still being collected for future radio programs.

Chairman of Speakers Bureau announced first meeting was held Sunday, November 27th. Future meetings will be held before the regular SAGE meetings at 2:00 P.M.

Chairman of the Distribution Committee reported on literature now being printed and announced a meeting of the City Housing Plans Commission which Georgists should be interested in attending.

OLD BUSINESS: The Chairman announced that a letter had been written to the Newark School regarding our donation of a piano, but so far no reply has been received.

NEW BUSINESS: Subject of a new gavel for SAGE was brought up and a Motion was made that we appropriate not more than \$25.00 for such a purpose. Accepted.

Motion made and accepted that we have a small advertisement inserted in various publications. With the approval of the Advertising & Public Relations Committee an ad for the publication "Show Business" (not to exceed \$3.50) was drawn up. Discussion as to whether each Committee Chairman should have certain monies appropriated for their constant use.

Chairman announced that the Course in "Salesmanship & Human Relations" left us proceeds of \$30.62, half of which goes to the School and half to us. No further course has been planned.

ELECTIONS: Votes were cast by paper ballot and the following officers elected: President: George J. Musalino - Vice-President: Vivian Kiliaen-Rodney - Recording Secretary: Sophie Turzen - Corresponding Secretary: Mildred L. Allen - Treasurer: Valdemar Hallgren.

Mr. Challis read a pamphlet written by J. Rupert Mason, copies of which will shortly be available to SAGE members, after which THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18TH, 1949

Meeting was called to order by the Chairman and Minutes of previous meeting read and approved. Treasurer reported balance of \$226.18.

Chairman of Entertainment announced plans for New Years Eve party must be decided upon or abandoned. Plans dropped. Concert plans still in formative stage. Annual Banquet and Installation of Officers to be held at 5:00 P.M. Sunday, January 8th, 1950, cost: \$1.50 per plate. To be held in Henry George School.

Chairman of Membership announced 11 new Associate and 6 new Regular Members. On Dec. 13th George Musalino addressed Extension Class Grads and on Dec. 14th Joseph Rose addressed Henry George School grads at Graduation Exercises held there.

Chairman of Speakers Bureau announced short meeting held directly before SAGE meeting and next one will be held after the date of the Banquet.

Chairman of Advertising & Public Relations spoke briefly on their short & long range plans.

Chairman of Distribution Committee reported on N.A.M. meeting attended.

Bob Huff reported on his experiences in conducting an experimental class using "Economics Simplified" or "P. & P.", concluding that "E.S." is not acceptable as a substitute for "P & P".

c o n t i n u e d

Motion made and carried that we continue to subscribe to the Congressional Record for the coming year.

Motion made and seconded that we accept Anita Wener's offer to pay half the cost of mimeographing certain literature; cost for 2,000 copies \$14.00. Accepted.

Chairman of Public Relations and Advertising made a Motion that we appropriate 75% from all yearly dues for the use of the Committee in publishing SAGE'S PAGES. After lively discussion pro and con, the motion was rejected.

A Motion was made that an appropriation be made for four months for the new cover for the paper and after discussion, it was accepted.

Mr. Challis read some excerpts from the book "Self Supporting City" and said he felt that certain points therein could very well be used when presenting Henry George's Philosophy to Chambers of Commerce, etc. Five members agreed to secure and read this book for further comment, after which the MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.

THINKING MEN AND WOMEN! THE CAUSE OF LOW WAGES AND UNEMPLOYMENT IS L A N D
M O N O P O L Y ! You are hanging Capitalism unjustly!

The Capitalist today has less power than ever and STILL there is unemployment - poverty and unbearable conditions. THE UNDERPRIVILEGED ARE STILL HERE EVEN IN THIS ATOMIC AGE BECAUSE YOU ARE ACCUSING AN INNOCENT MAN AND LETTING THE CRIMINAL GO FREE.

We must abolish the GREAT PRIMARY WRONG THAT ROBS MEN OF THEIR BIRTHRIGHT. What is this primary wrong? -- It is that MEN HAVE MADE LAND PRIVATE PROPERTY, and thus given into the exclusive ownership of the few the provision that a bountiful Father made for all.

The greatest fortunes were amassed by holding land for speculative purposes. The originals of the Astors and Wendells secured land when the population of the City was small - and THEY NEVER SOLD LAND -- THEY ONLY RENTED IT OUT. They and their successors have through this scheme, (acting as land leeches) sucked uncounted millions of dollars from the pockets of the people of New York. The enormous wealth of British dukes is due entirely to the comparative exemption of ground rents from taxation. The chief value of railways consists in exclusive and peculiar PRIVILEGES UPON LAND; and the greatest part of this value arises from its comparative exemption from taxation. Somebody once said "Give me all the money in the world and you may have all the land." And the answer came back - "The first thing I should do would be to order you to give me your money or GET OFF MY LAND."

We the people give the land its value -- if we would COLLECT LAND RENT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY this WOULD NOT GO UNFAIRLY INTO the pockets of private individuals who did nothing to make the land valuable. The rent would take the place of all present day taxes. THE ABOLITION OF LAND MONOPOLY WOULD MAKE THE MONOPOLY OF CAPITAL IMPOSSIBLE. Abolish taxes on wealth collect the rent on land values only!

Present conditions still exist because the right of the rich to plunder the poor is a vested right, sacred, even in the eyes of the POOR THEMSELVES, through long training in abject servility.

IT IS ABOUT TIME WE DID SOMETHING ABOUT THE STEALINGS GOING ON IN
FRONT OF OUR EYES.

SEND YOUR CONGRESSMAN THE NOTE BELOW! SEND IT TODAY - WE HAVE BEEN
DOWNTRODDEN LONG ENOUGH! (SEND THIS TO LEHMAN OR IVES.)

HONORABLE SIR:

As a citizen with rights to express my views I urge you to stop land speculation which is ruining the Economy of the Nation - You can stop land speculation by introducing legislation to provide for the collection of rent on land VALUES. (That is the value on the land itself - not on the improvement on the land.) This will bring sufficient revenue to the extent that ALL other imposed taxes now on the shoulders of the consumer, the laborer, the capitalist and which are retarding progress, would be entirely unnecessary.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

R E N T

In common speech rent means a payment made for the use of a house or other buildings. Its proper meaning is a payment made for the use of land, not buildings. When two or more people want the same piece of land it acquires a value and somebody may be willing to pay the owner for the use of it. This payment is rent. Payment for the use of a house or other product of labor is really interest, not rent.

The value of land is caused by the presence and activities of the whole community. Every child, every fresh arrival, tends to increase this value, because they draw at once on the products of land for food, clothing, and shelter and so increase the rent which the owner may demand. The rent of land is the only thing in the community that is made by everybody, man, woman and child, old and young.

No person or group of persons can say how much they have contributed toward making this value, and so no person can claim a private share in it. It must be taken by the whole community for public purposes. Rent is the natural revenue of the country because it is Public Property.

At the present time, and for generations past, this public-made rent has gone into private pockets of land monopolists, through government failure to collect it to defray public needs. As a result of this, governments have to take the people's PRIVATE WEALTH, in the SHAPE OF TAXES, to run the country. And so we see some people with much wealth which they have not earned, while others, who have been deprived of their earnings by unjust taxes remain poor.

Rent can never be done away with. It exists in every settled society, even where it is not paid by one person to another or to the government. This is due to a natural difference in the utility of sites. In big cities, ground rent is very high, because land is very valuable. In the suburbs it is less because the demand for land is less, and in the far outback rent may cease to exist, as there is no population and little or no demand for land. Calculations have shown that the ground rent of a country is sufficient to meet all normal revenue needs of the country after abolishing all forms of taxation.

F. Thomson

The Standard
Sydney, Australia