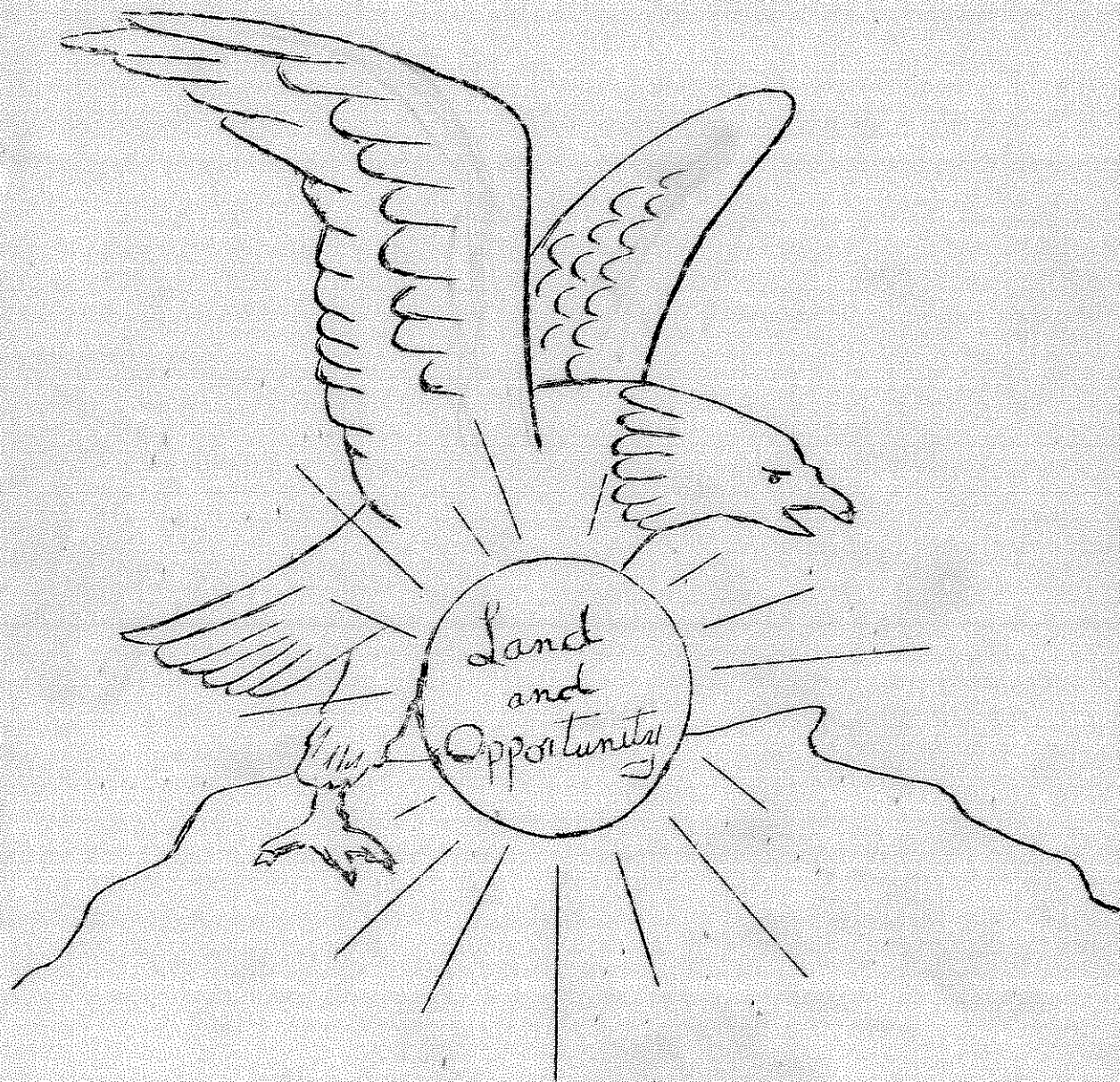

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SAGES PAGES

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VOLUME III

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1951

NUMBER 12

-
- Page 1 - The President's Message
- Page 2 - In - Memoriam
"There Is An Answer"
- Page 3 - "There Is An Answer" (Continued)
- Page 4 - As Far As I Can See
Sages Pages Bimonthly
- Page 5 - Letter Of Resignation Of Vivian Kiliaen-Rodney
As Editor of Sages Pages
- Page 6 - Elections
Call To S.A.G.E. (Poem)
- Page 7 - United Nations Commentary
- Page 8 - United Nations Commentary (Continued)
Some Hints To Teachers
-

C A L E N D A R

Sunday - December 9 - Election Meeting Of SAGE 3:30 P.M.

SAGE'S PAGES - Published bimonthly by the Society for the Advancement of the George Economy, Inc., 50 East 69th Street, New York 21, New York-
Publication committee: Sidney Blitz, Chairman; Mabel L. Rees, Constantin P. Lent, Edwin Cooney, David Goldstein and Robert Boenig. Vivian Kiliaen-Rodney, Editor; Mildred L. Allen, Anita Wener, Helen Blitz, Co-editors.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Georgists:

This month we celebrate days revered in the memory and rooted strong in our native tradition. The benefit of a generous nature is seen in the well-laden table, the convivial glass, the music and the merrymaking of the season. Happiness and joy hold sway. Yet, as the clock ticks its seconds away, how many of us realize that the time is short and the hour late?

We are approaching 1952 which I predict will be a crucial year for our organization. It will be the "Year of The Test".

Before us is the great work of organizing the National Society For The Advancement of The George Economy. It is an arduous and demanding prospect. We must also conduct our routine promotions on a much larger scale than hitherto. We must increase our social activities such as running dances, having our testimonial dinners and all the other things that will require Georgists to work like beavers for the good of the cause.

Sometimes the future appears to me to be filled with too many obstacles. But then I think of the man who had infinitely more obstacles to overcome and finally won out. He left us the great and glowing philosophy which now spurs the Henry George movement toward its ultimate and inevitable victory.

I wish that space would permit me to tell the things that are going on in Georgism. Here in New York we get the news from all over the Country and it is good news, heart warming and gratifying. We are growing and we are maturing. We are beginning to form a truly united group. These are the signs and portents. Victory will come but those who live then will not know the work of the pioneers like yourselves, who made the movement and kept it alive and kicking until it outgrew its' swaddling clothes and put on the vestments of a man.

One thing of which we should beware, however, is the good intention without the elbow grease to back it up. Good intentions are not enough. We must create by doing! We must build an active Georgism! We must unite as one unit and stand to arms as one man -- with financial help and hard work!

The program may sound difficult but you know, you get to like it after a while. If your experience is anything like mine has been, you will find it hard to leave.

Edwin J. Cooney

We wish to advise that many letters have been received with reference to articles written in the past papers. These letters have not been answered, nor have they been published.

However, we will publish these letters, as soon as space permits, and strongly urge members to write us. We especially want to hear from our associate members.

Editor

- 2 -
I N - M E M O R I A M

Nineteen-fifty one marks the fifty-fourth anniversary of the death of Henry George, who passed away on October 29th, 1897, in the Union Square Hotel on Fourteenth Street, in this City.

It was shortly after midnight of the 28th when he retired at the end of a prolonged and exhausting speaking tour, thus closing his second mayoralty campaign, and as it proved marking the end of George's eventful and distinguished career as well. This memorable evening is fully described by his son in his biography of his father - a book that furnishes a most interesting and revealing background for the study of the fundamental economic reforms embodied in George's masterpiece, "Progress & Poverty".

Typical of the eloquent tributes paid to Henry George by outstanding persons at the time of his death is the following excerpt from the speech of Rev. Dr. Edward McGlynn, who said;

"Henry George was unquestionably one of the greatest and most remarkable men that our country has produced. His lovable personality, his rare genius for political philosophy and economy, his indefatigable successful study and search for political and economic truth set him apart from all other Americans.

"I have no hesitation in saying that Henry George by his extraordinary gifts and career showed that he was marked out by the providence of God to be a foremost leader and teacher in the work of emancipation of men everywhere from an industrial slavery too often worse and more galling than mere chattel slavery, and to hasten the coming and perpetuate the duration, not merely of a larger and more perfect American Union of States but of the commonwealth or united states of the world."

M. L. Reese

"THERE IS AN ANSWER!"

"There is an answer and the George School has it!" - This remark, made by Dr. Monroe H. Berg, one of the graduates of the Summer term, at the exercises on September 5th, was probably the most encouraging of any spoken during the evening.

If space permitted many fine quotations could be made from the speeches of other graduates of P. & P. and Trade, some from classes conducted at Headquarters, while others were from classes held in other boroughs. Robert Clancy, Director, and David Goldstein, Regional Director, served as co-chairmen in introducing the students chosen to represent their respective classes, one and all of whom found some aspect of their Summer studies that shed a new light on the underlying reasons for the world's turmoil.

Continued next page

After Mr. Clancy gave a brief resume of the general progress of the George movement, both in this country and in Europe, he introduced Mr. Robert Major, a noted Economist from Budapest, who, after many cruel experiences, had managed to escape from behind the iron curtain, and is now devoting his efforts toward writing a book to help further the cause of land value taxation. Mr. Major made a short but very worth while speech.

While the total number of graduates - about 65 - was considerably smaller than that usually graduated from the Spring and Fall terms, nevertheless those present, filling the auditorium to capacity, evinced a heartening interest in the work of the school.

A complete list of student speakers and their teachers appears at the conclusion of this article, but only a few of the many helpful ideas expressed can be given here. Among them were a determination to continue with new courses; appreciation of the freedom of approach in teaching the subject and the appeal made by the instructor to the student's own reasoning powers with no effort to indoctrinate. Other students dwelt on the realization of the compatibility of the justice of George's beliefs with those of the Bible; the new conception of the comparative values of money, goods and land brought out in class discussions; the vital necessity of enlisting more young people in our movement, and, as a fitting climax, the satisfaction, as voiced by Dr. Berg, in discovering at the George School the answer he could not find, in either high school or university courses in economics, - namely, the solution to the devastating recurrences of want and war.

A report of the evening would be far from complete without mentioning the pertinent messages brought us by Miss V.G. Peterson, Secretary of the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, by Miss Alice Davis, Editor of the Henry George News, Mr. Irving Faust, in charge of poster distribution, and the attendance and remarks of one of our members of the armed forces, Robert Huff, a former instructor, now on leave from the army. To conclude the program, Miss Marjorie Dare, a Georgist and professional concert singer, entertained us with two lovely selections, after which she led the audience in joining her in her final popular number.

Just before adjournment, Mrs. Rose Raffkind, Chairman of the Hospitality Committee, announced that all graduates were eligible to join our alumni association, S.A.G.E., and that all present were invited to the school's coffee shop to partake of ice cream, receive literature and brochures about our organization, enjoy a social hour, meet SAGE members and extend their acquaintance with the faculty and directors of the school. On the programme for the evening were:

<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
Dr. Gross	Mr. Samuel Plumer, Bronx, New York
Mr. Gilmartin	Miss Bernice Varjick, New York, N.Y.
Mr. Jacobi	Miss Barbara Rubin, Bronx, N. Y.
Mr. Sinclair	Mr. Michael DeAngelis, Bergenfield, N.J.

REGIONAL CLASSES

Mr. Challis	Mr. Sam Rose, Far Rockaway, N.Y.
(Far Rockaway Class in Fundamental Economics)	
Miss Swirsky	Dr. A.M. Hutchinson, Forest Hills, L.I., N.Y.
	Dr. Monroe H. Berg, Far Rockaway, L.I., N.Y.
(Far Rockaway Class in Social Problems & International Trade)	

AS FAR AS I CAN SEE

The time of holidays is here and we again face the chill blast of Winter. This year the department is not overburdened with cheer. Events of the past twelve months have been gravely serious and leave problems for all of us to face and solve. However -- be a good Georgist and remain optimistic. We must do the best we can.

A survey by Northwestern Life Insurance of Minneapolis reveals happily that only 1 in 4 breadwinners desire a life of ease after retiring. 75% of those questioned said they merely expected to change to a lighter occupation after 65 -- a common sense attitude that rejects the idea of wasting years still productive.

To revert to a subject dear to Georgists hearts, Roswell Magill, president of the Tax Foundation, states that a family in the \$3500 a year class (certainly not much in these times) must contribute almost \$1000 a year for state and federal taxes, direct and indirect. In other words, the head of the house must work $13\frac{1}{2}$ weeks each year to pay taxes.

While we ponder on how long we must bear the cross, the Census Bureau gives us these views of the future.

1. A continuing increase in population--"waves of babies spaced a few years apart".
2. More of a trend toward a "woman's world".
3. More people living in suburbs and working in Cities.
4. Larger farms, fewer people on them.
5. Extinction of the "hayseed"--being eliminated by farm machinery, higher education, better rural communications.
6. An increase in schooling, extending the school years.
7. More old people and more children -- fewer middle aged.

If you want to change your job or build a new career, the department recommends the government's "Occupational Outlook Handbook" issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. From the facts presented, definite conclusions can be drawn regarding the most profitable lines of work to enter. For instance, we should consider that as productivity per man hour increases, fewer workers will be needed to produce basic necessities. More will create consumer goods and services. The book is obtainable from the superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C. for \$3.50 or from your library.

Edwin J. Cooney

Many SAGE members are probably wondering why they have not received the October SAGES PAGES.

Due to the many activities members of SAGE are now actively engaged in to promote Georgism and because of resulting lack of time, Sages Pages will be published every two months hereafter.

THREE YEARS.

With the combination Oct.-Nov. issue of Sages Pages three full years of publication have been completed and with it ends my editorship.

Having served as Editor for all three years, I feel that, since one has only a certain amount of time and strength to expend, I can now better serve other phases of Georgism.

Having always believed that Sages Pages should be the medium of expression for all Sagers, commensurate with the best interests of Georgism, may I express my thanks to co-workers, contributors and readers for their praise, comments and criticisms, all of which I hope served to strengthen the "fiber" of our publication.

With the Oct.-Nov. issue Sages Pages starts its 4th year under new Editorship and to your new Editors I extend my best wishes. May they receive your full cooperation and loyal support, so that Sages Pages may remain the true link between Georgian Alumni far and near.

Vivian Kiliaen-Rodney.

- 6 -
ELECTIONS

The slate of officers for 1952 submitted from the floor at the general membership meeting of November 11, 1951 are as follows:

President
Thomas Gilmartin
William Harlow

Vice President
Rose Raffkind
Constantin Lent

Treasurer
Peter Ignatowsky
Roma Bianca

Recording Sec'y.
Helen Lazaroff
Joan Downey

Corresponding Sec'y
Helen Kolinsky
Gloria Nance
Lucille Waldauer

A number of other nominations for the various offices were received from the floor but for various reasons, mostly personal ones, the persons nominated declined with thanks, of course!

Elections will be held on Sunday, December 9th, the second Sunday in December.

A large representation is desired, so that the choice of officers will really reflect the will of the greatest numbers of members. All members are aware of the calibre of the candidates via SAGE'S PAGES through the year, so come out and have a choice in the election of your officers, remembering that they represent YOU in their decisions of policy, management, etc., through the next twelve months.

CALL TO S. A. G. E.

Although we're all called S.A.G.E.
You'll find us of all ages,
Some of us are tall
And others are small
There's no one way to gauge us.

Why don't you join us S.A.G.E.S.
We've read the self-same pages
Of interest and capital
Of economic rent, et al
And diminishing of wages.

Rally round and join the S.A.G.E.S.
To fight the ills that plague us
Protection and monopoly
The curse of all society.
Arise! Go forth courageous!

Johanna Friedlander

UNITED NATIONS COMMENTARY

By: Myron Kessner

UNITED NATIONS MEDIATION IN KASHMIR

Our organization as members of the Association For the Advancement Of ~~The~~ United Nations, receives the Peoples Section Bulletin of the United Nations each month in which is propounded the "U. N. Question". This refers to the principle current problem of the month. The primary case before us this month is the dispute between India and Pakistan over the state of Kashmir.

Kashmir borders on both India to the south and Pakistan to the northwest. When English rule was abrogated in August, 1947, both the southern province or "India" and Pakistan wanted possession of the princely state of Kashmir. India, desiring to be a secular state, believed that incorporation of the predominantly Moslem area would prove to the world of Islam and other nations that its secularity was a true reality. Pakistan was distrustful of Hindu domination. Mass migration and panic began, and in October, 1947, Pakistan guerrillas began infiltrating the area. The move was immediately countered by a force of Indian troops. Although no real war has begun, fighting has been sporadic and fitful. However, the situation is an Asiatic powder keg.

The U. N. has sent several delegations to treat with the opposing parties. The United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan now conducts negotiations. Dr. Frank P. Graham of the United States is in charge. He inherits a disappointing portfolio of many conferences but no decisions. The principal part of this month's "Question" is: -

Should India and Pakistan refuse to accept a U. N. decision reached through mediation, arbitration or a plebisate under U. N. auspices, how far could the U. N. go to enforce its decision?

- (a) The U. N. could do little or nothing?
- (b) Economic or other sanctions?
- (c) Other means?

Our answer which we have sent to the association follows.

The dispute between India and Pakistan can be settled in two ways. (a) If one or the other of the conflicting parties seizes the area and is able to hold it by fighting for it, a reasonably lengthy tenure of possession may ensue. (b) A subtle method, and, in our opinion, the best way to solve this problem is to call on each of the claimants to declare a moratorium on the question entirely for a period of three years. During this time the administration of the local government should be placed in the hands of a neutral and impersonal United Nations Committee. This Committee should have the power to institute tax reform for three years in the following manner.

The committee must begin at once to collect the economic rent of land. How the assessment may be done rapidly can be described by Mr. Lawson Purdy of New York City, an expert in land value assessment and one who understands very well the subject of economic rent.

C o n t i n u e d

As this reform becomes effective, complete free trade should be established with no tariff barriers or similar restrictions whatever between Kashmir and the surrounding territory.

This should ensure to a considerable degree an economic "amalgamation" by the end of the term of U. N. administration. The inhabitants of the area experiencing, perhaps for the first time in their history, an administration of economic freedom would probably desire their status to remain as it was. It is quite possible, therefore, that a plebiscite would lead to a free trade buffer state instead of to an attachment to India or Pakistan. There would be advantages here for all concerned. It is worth taking a chance on in view of the seriousness of the present situation.

SOME HINTS TO TEACHERS OF "PROGRESS & POVERTY"

By: L. Leo Greenwald (Continued)

Of all classes held at the school, the first session of P&P is by far, the most important. The students come from varied surroundings, with varied backgrounds and pursuits. They have one thing in common - they are all curious. There are some people who say that, - "Man would rather die than think". And yet in our first session we call upon the students to THINK for themselves. Do something to make them think. Get them excited about something. Appeal to their better natures, or to their selfishness, but rile them up. Give them an outline of the promised land and show them how they can reach that land, if they really want to do so. Read the Story of the Savannah, or better yet, read the Ode to Liberty. Read it as it should be read, with all the fire and the fervor that the author put into it. If you cannot read well yourself, it might be well to plant a stooge in the class to read it for you.

The session can be started with a discussion of current affairs, and after getting the views of a few students, read from the book some of George's comments on similar subjects. A start could be made with questions such as -- "Is Legality synonymous with Justice?"; or "Is it possible to get something for nothing?", (the collector of the unearned increment gets something for nothing.); or "What is the function of Trade? Is it to pay taxes, or is it to permit of the satisfaction of an ever increasing number and variety of desires, with an ever decreasing amount of labor," (a combination of our two basic axioms). This would be a good time to impress upon the student that the Georgist Philosophy is not an agrarian movement, nor one of fiscal reform. JUSTICE is our objective. And also that we do not advocate "government ownership" of the land. Explain to the students that we are interested in Poverty, because it is the evidence of Injustice, and that it exists only because of privilege; that we propose to find the basic privilege on which all others rest; and that we will seek and find the Law of Human Progress. Explain the dual nature of the book. Explain that there are passages in it, which can be misconstrued, and are used by the Socialists for their own purposes and to confuse us. Explain to the students that they must have an open mind, - but not a sieve, - and that they must not try to fit our philosophy into their own preconceived ideas. Stress the fact that ours is the only Philosophy based upon the Freedom of the Individual, yet it is the only system which has never been completely tried.

(Continued in next issue.)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

SUN. DEC. 9, 1951 3:30 P.M.

SEE PAGE 6,

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