

VOL 7 NO 3

For men will gain in strength and grace,

For men will gain in strength and grace.
When, like unto a tree,
The gifts of nature are enjoyed
In true equality.

SUMMER 1955

7518

sage

SAGES PAGES

"Until there be correct thought, there cannot be right action; and when there is correct thought, right action will follow." H.G.

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OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN SAGE*S PAGES DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF SAGE INC.

BYLINE-U.K.

By Dale Breaden

(Dale Breaden, a SAGE member who took the basic courses by Correspondence, is now attending -- THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY)

WHY THE HECESSITY FOR THE WELFARE STATE

Engene V. Debbs once stated that in the growing conflict between Socialism and Capitalism—the victor would, by necessity, be socialism. In this contention he was most correct, for the Capitalism he knew was the monstrous exploitation of the 'late Victorian Age; and, indeed, thievery such as was displayed by the Capitalists of that era could not stand against the omnipresent pressures of social necessity. Man could not suffer forevever the Capitalism of the 1890's. Debbs saw that, in desperation, the working classes would grasp the "blood red banner of freedom" in order to save themselves from wage-slavery.

While the socialist party in America is today disintergrating—this in no wise proves Debbs incorrect.
The reason for such disintergration is found in the —
Modern American Welfare State. No longer do the social—
ists have a vital platform, no longer are their struggles
ists have a vital platform, no longer are their struggles
required, for their early pleas, have been heard and have
been acted upon. The 'welfare state' has indeed, become a
merlcan tradition. Whether it has crept to power or
galloped to power is unimportant—the fact is that Socialism, in large degree, has become American reality.

How, we might ask, could it be otherwise? Modern capitalism is identical in character to that of the 1890's, save for the cushioning affect of labor laws upon its exploitive methods. To defend its best interests labor has been required to form trade unions, tabor federations, and other protective or anizations. These have given labor the pover to demand social benefits of far reaching nature. The present standard of living of many laborers can be traced to the 'union movement'. The wage-earner has found that 'state welfare' is necessary to his existence, thus, to him the 'welfare state' must stand inviolate.

However, this socialistic condition is necessary only to the present situation. What many laborers do not realize is that the immediate economic system is not pure capitalism. It is, rather, a combination of capitalism and Landlordism. These two ingredients form a social poison which spreads quickly to the brain of the community and destroys its will to progress.

continued on the next page.

Labor would not require the methods of Socialism if our Capitalism existed without being associated with the carcinogen of 'private land ownership'. Consider for a moment if Socialism would be required by an enexploited society in which wild speculation had been crushed, in which men were free to enjoy the fruits of their labor, in which men were free to produce for their own benefit and not for the benefit of non-producers.

Is it not apparent that in this new environment the 'welfare state' would be unnecessary? Abolish unjust taxation, tax the value of the land only, and permit the free exchange of goods between nations, and Socialism will lose its hold on the mind of labor. No longer will the laborer need the governmental monster which is 'Welfarism', for he will no longer require charity.

Thus while we see readily the necessity of the 'welfare-state' in the present economic situation, we see more positively its absurdity in relation to the more advanced and beneficial Capitalism of the 'Single Tax, Free Trade' Society.

Only Socialism can triumph in the present struggle if the Free World refuses to accept the basic laws of nature which guarantee to every man his right to the free ase of the earth.

SAGE ACTIVITIES

DANCES

Rose Rafkind, Hostess, and Mr Robert Clancy, dance final number March Dance.



DISTRIBUTION

IRVING FAUST

IN ACTION



S.A.G.E. IN ACTION

An exemplary business meeting of the members of Sage was held on the second Sunday of April, when the cause of Georgism was advanced a few steps further according to the highest principles of orderly

democratic action and parliamentary procedure.

Correspondence was read from the School of Living, Oakhurst, California, as a result of which it was decided to make a vocal recording of Georgist principles on a tape to be provided by the School of Living. The possibility of producing long playing unbreakable discs is also to be studied. A letter from appreciative readers of Sage's Pages in India offered to publish 1,000 copies of each issue for \$40. More information is being sought from them. Los Angeles Sage wrote requesting a message from New York headquarters for the occasion of the L.A. Sage's fifth anniversary. A suitable congratulatory message was sent in reply. There was also a letter from the American Civil Liberties Union arranging for some of their speakers to entertain Sagers at a monthly meeting. It was reported that individual personalized letters had been sent to inactive Sagers.

The President announced the appointment of Sydney Blitz as executive secretary to both the Board of Directors and the executive board. The duties of this new position are to act as general manager of Sage, under the President, that is, to be responsible for carrying out the details of general policy of the Board of Directors, especially projects not assigned to others. George Kinnes was appointed resolutions chairman so that all members wishing to move resolutions may avail of his experience in the technicalities of wording and presentation according to parliamentary procedure. So that all business at meetings may move speedily and without complications, all resolutions will in future be placed through the resolutions chairman, except those of an urgent nature. James Kercheval was appointed chairman of a special discussion committee to develop Sagers' knowledge of Georgism in relation to current affairs.

The executive secretary's report announced that a television and Hollywood star, a lady civic leader and a real estate executive would address the May meeting and that a classical music trie would entertain Georgists, Sunday, June 12, at 50 East 69th Street, New York, about 4 p.m.. Sage is also arranging to send a speaker to the New

Jersey State Teachers' College in Upper Mountclair.

The recording secretary reported that, to make her minutes brief yet efficient and interesting to members, she is now including only what is done, not what is said, at meetings.

A special appeal was made for the services of tyrists. If you can spare an hours' typing now and then, leave your name at the Sage office (50 East 69th Street, New York) or phone RH 4-8701.

Sixteen new applicants were granted membership; and Roma Bianco was appointed to study the emotion of a memorial to the late Bennett Challis, late head of the correspondence depertment of the Henry George School. To contribute to the latter, contact Miss Bianco.

NORMAN S. CASSERLEY

"You cannot teach a man anything; you can only help him to find it within himself. - Galileo

BENNETT CHALLIS

IN MEMORIAN

With the passing of Mr. Bennet Challis, former head of the Correspondence Department of the Henry George School, a devoted staff and faculty member, another great Georgist has joined the company of the immortals like Tom L. Johnson, Louis F. Post, and many others all of whom we may hope, are now in a happier world than ours and associated with Henry George himself.

None who really knew Mr. Challis will ever forget him. A man of great courage, keen mind, indomitable will and whole-souled entusiasm for the philosophy of Henry George, he found no sacrifice too great, no effort too much to advance the cause in which he so heartily believed.

Not content with performing his many school duties, Mr Challis became a Charter Member of SAGE and no matter what the weather or the state of his health, if it was humanly possible to be present, Mr Challis was there at our meeting.

Whenever, in a small group or large, some principle of Georgism was challenged, Mr Challis never failed to point to the apt quotation in one of George's own works that

threw light on the disputed issue and showed its truth in its right relationship.

It was when the Henry George School was located in the Washington Square section of the City that Mr. Challis first became associated with the movement in about 1947. Up to this time he had not made a definite study of George but once having done so, the ideals so eloquently presented in Progress and Poverty became the dominating influence of his life.

As one of the most striking proof of his devotion, Mr Challis , al-though on crutches after his disastrous hip accid-ent, insisted, a year or so ago, in taking part in the Tree Ceremony, held on Henry George day in Central Park. Only by making the atmost exertion that unusually hot September Second did Mr. Challis finally succeed in reaching the Mall where exercises were being held for George's Birthday around the white oak bearing his nameplate.

A man of varied ability, Mr Challis' talents were not confined to Advocating Georgism. Tall and striking in appearance with iron-gray hair, keen blue eyes, and alert expression, often breaking into a kindly smile, he commanded attention in whatever gathering he appeared. He spoke in a clear forcefull manner, and listening to him, one had no doubt, of his saccess in his former, earlier career, as an opera singer, with fine baritone voice, in some of the formost European Opera Houses, --- among them La Scala, in Milan, Italy. Proficient in a number of languages, Er. B. Challis, in a could not only sing foreign tongue, but frequently translated economic works, chiefly as

served to throw more light on what the authors were trying to say about George.

While much more might be written about Mr. Challis, particularly of love of mature and enjoyment of canoeing hiking, it is with hope that enough has been said in this article serve as a means of commemorating his worth both as a man and as a Georgist and that not only in this way, but in others as well will his memory long kept green among us.

ML.REES

LARRY KOBAK Writes To "LOOK"

Your article on the Malthusian Theory, We're Getting Bigger Every Day, was a very good presentation of the facts. I would like to give my opinion as to the validity of the Malthusian

Theory .

I think that it is very wrong. The wealth of a nation increases faster than does its population. Poverty can not logically be attributed to increase in population as it is because of this increase of population that we are able to divide labor and thus produce more wealth per capita than we could individually. That ten men have more than tem times the productive power of one is and undisputed fact.

It is in a densely populated country like Belgium that we see people enjoying one of the highest standards of living in Europe.

The Malthusians point to countries such as India and China to show that overpopulation causes poverty but when facts are learned it is seen that only a small proportion of the arable land in these countries is cultivated. When the land is cultivated at all extremely primative methods are used. The poverty existing in India and China logically should be attributed to the social structure rather than overpopulation as the land is capable of supporting many more people than it now does.

The Malthusians have, in reality, not got a leg to stand on. For a more detailed disproof I suggest that you read Progress

and Poverty, Book II by Henry George.

"LOOK" Answers

... As you say, the Malthus Theory is a vast oversimplification that is generally looked on today as of little significance. LOOK did not cite Malthus as an economist, you will note when it stated that national impoverishment will ensue only "if we are foolish enough to assume that the future will take care of itself. "...

COMPLETION EXERCISES

New Graduates Give Their Views

Completion Exercises for the first 1955 Fundamental Economics classes drew a large and enthusiastic audience to the school on the evening of March 28th. Our Director, Mr Robert Clancy, opened the program with a Biblical reference to the observation made by one of the prophets regarding a cloud in the sky no bigger than a man's hand. If care is not taken, Mr. Clancy pointed out, to heed the storm warnings of the possible breakdown of our whole civilization by improving its economic foundations, the black clouds may spread until they obscure the blue.

As usual, the students who participated in the pro-Zram as their class representatives by giving their own individual reactions to their study of Progress and Poverty presented some unique opinions. One and all, however, agreed that there were so many valuable ideas in this one volume that the more it was read, the more worthwhile became its teachings, one young man declaring that he was now re-reading it for the fourth time.

Another student remarked that as we haven't yet found a way to eliminate war, but that Henry' George's method for providing each man with equality of opportunity for making a living gave "a sense of direction " toward that end, in effect, endorsed the slogan given by a different speaker namely, " By George let's try George!"

Excellent three-minute speeches quickly followed each other, one of them stressing the fact that for those not yet fully convinced of the efficiety of George's remedy for poverty to hold their judgement in suspence without prejudice while taking succeeding courses. "In the meantime," this speaker concluded, "you will find that having a worthwhile objective for which to live will you better company for yourselves."

Other features of the program were a short discription by Mr Irving Faust of the work of the "distribution committe" in securing new student enrollments for the spring term, and brief but cordial invitation to join our alumni association, SAGE, extedned by Mrs. Rose Rafkind who then concluded her remarks by announcing that present were welcome to enjoy refreshments and a social in the school's Coffee Shop.

M.L.Rees

STUDENTS' SPEECHES

Agnes Natelson

Instructor F Nicosia

It seems to me that worthwhile reforms usually begin with an idea or a dream in the mind of one man, who, by his integrity, sincerity and keen desire for justice, so influences a small group of people, that they in turn spread the idea to others; they, in turn, to others, until there is a movement, which eventually achieves fulfillment.

A man of this type who had an idea, once said: "If you WILL it, it is not a dream." This was Theodore Herzl, who had dreamed of the establishment of a Jewish Homeland in Palestine, and the dream, after his death, became a reality in the new little country of Isreal..

In the same way, Henry George, imbued with a burning desire for justice, not only for a limited group but for all mankind, a believer in association in Equality leading to Human Progress, inspired a small group of people to his way of thinking. He presonally disseminated this idea in lands throughout the world, and at present the Henry George School, its classes in various sections, its faculty, are continuing his life work. Each one present tonight, who has studied at the tensession course just terminated, learning the fundamentals of Henry George's philosophy, has no doubt caught the spark with which to inspire others in this great work.

In the year of 1950, I traveled to Israel, where I hoped to learn to speak modern Hebrew directly from the people who are using it in their every day conversations. However, I found that I had been mistaken about the opportunities of learning modern Hebrew from the natives of Israel, for I found that they wished to converse in English, brushing up their knowledge of English by conversing with an American tourist. In despiration I arranged to take private lessons in Hebrew conversation from a teacher living in Jerusalem. My lessons were based for the most part on news items appearing in the current Hebrew newspapers of Jerusalem. When we discussed these current events, I observed that my teacher, Mrs. X., was always tremendously interested in what I was saying, and her keen interest naturally stimulated my conversational flow. Finally, one day, after a number of lessons, she said to me, "You are not like an American." I was shocked at this remark, and offended, and I told her so. I thought there had been some misunderstanding, as I feel I am truly an American and deeply appreciate the fact; how, then, did she come to such a conclusion?

Mrs K. said, "Americans are materialists, and you are not at all materialistic."

I wish I had known then about Henry George, his Philosophy so firmly founded on Justice and Morality, the work he had done to spread his ideas all over the world; and I wish I had known then of the continuance of his work by the Henry George School, its faculty, and its students.

I am sure that I would have convinced her that all Americans are not materialistic.

Joseph Mone

Instructor Sonia Swirsky

I have been asked to speak to you on behalf of a portion of the graduation body. My primary purpose is an obwious one. It is to extend the warmest and sincerest appreciation for the time and talents of everyone responsible for this happy occasion, with a very special thank you for our instructor, Miss Sonia Swirsky.

With your continued approval, I shall endeavor to put into words the indellible impression effected through the findings of Henry George in his "Progress & Poverty".

In every human being there is a double law of gravitation- one force arging action by instinctive impulse. to fulfill a desire; the other a force which tends to restrain instictive behavior for consideration thus giving intellect to action. Man is both animal and human. We are separated from the remainder of the animal kingdom by virtue of intellect and reason. Our ultimate survival is almost completely dependent upon the power of reason and the progress which evolves from its application. By the mere fact that we do not go forward we go backward. We are either going uphill or coming down. Through profound wisdom of a noble mind we have come to recognize a root, from which spring the annatural and harmful impediments to human progress; Social, Economic and Moral Injustice by the Unequal distribution of wealth. A glance through the pages of history will consistantly divolge the evils to be such, with the resultant mis ry and suffering upon the human race. We have also been made cognizant of the Remedy. But to know is not enough. If we are to plan, provide and promote the welfare of tomorrow, we must begin today.

We must practice and teach these truths so that others enveloped in darkness may find the light. And Truth, as Truth must, shall prevail. To this end let each of us be .dedicated -- that Liberty, Equality, & Justice for all, shall become more than just words in our lifetime--but truly a way of life.

Instructor M Greenwald

James McCormick Korchevol

Mr. Kercheval chose "gratitude" as the keynote of his talk. He very graciously expressed his gratitude to Mrs Marie Greenwald, his instructor, to Mr Robert Clancy the school's director, and to Henry George for making the study of Fundamental Economics possible. Due to lack of space, we are only printing Mr Kercheval's tribute to Henry George.——And, last, we must acknowledge our largest debt of gratitude to the man who, in the final analysis, has made all of this possible:

Henry George, a man who, though his mind soared to heights wherein the Gods dwell, yet kept the common, touch with the Earth, wherein Man dwells.....a man who felt compassion for the suffering of Mankind!!!... Henry George; a Prometheus-like figure who exposed his heart to the vulture-like characteristics in men--who seek to devour and destroy that which they fear, and to anothematize that which they cannot comprehend..... Henry George: whose Cicero-like eradition had so many facets and who led us down so many paths to knowledge....Henry George: the Prophet...and here I use the word in the sense that a Prophet is a 'fore-seer' -and not in the sense that he was a vehicle for divine revelation.... Henry George: the Christ-like figure who took upon his own shoulders the 'Cross of Poverty' that he might relieve Mankind of its terrible borden..... Henry George: the man of sympathy and the man of reason; the man of incisive Intellect and of penetrating know-ledge; the visionary dreamer who saw 'A BRIGHT TOMORROW'where power and self-interest might, in a large measure, be turned to provide the means of progression. rather than the resisting back-lash of vested privilegeBut, is that such a 'wild-eyed dream', after all??did not our fathers revise the 'Law of Property' once, when they ended the 'Primogeniture Law' of English tradition?......Did not our fathers recognize the predatory instinct in Man, when they sought to cancelout Faction against Faction, and Privilege against Privilege?.....Did they not seek to install a 'System of Checks and Balances' in Government, in order that Monopolistic Power might not be concentrated in the hands of the relatively few?...Did they not esponse the 'Cause of Local Self-Government', on the theory that those in a Community closest to a given problem, would understand it most and solve it best? And, finally, did not Thomas Jefferson himself, ORIGINALLY, intend that we should all enjoy: "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Property -- the very Property which forms the hard core of Georgist Doctrine???.....

INTERNATIONAL PAGES Norman S. Casserley

THIS IS NEWS---Material for starting new class in Fundamental economics sent to Saudi Arabia.....University of Zagreb, Yugoslavia setting up permanent exhibition of Georgist Literature Georgists in Sapin active and well organized --- have made a sm cially sculptared bast of Henry George.....First correspondence lessons flowing into New York Headquarters from FormosaRequest from Philippines for 1,000 enrollment cards.....Official of Indian University anxions to start Georgist Club among his stadents........Gold Coast West Africa, bazzing with requests for correspondence courses, but delayed by difficulty of arranging me yment for text book--PROGRESS & POVERTY--have asked for 150 Georgist principles, publishes free large advertisement of our free correspondence courses.....Some of the places from which people are writing for these courses --Bombay, India; Alexandria, Egypt; Irapuato, Mexico; Surabaja, Java; Accra, West Africa; Rio De Janeiro, Brazil: Ántigua, Leeward Islands; Tolosa, Argentina.

SAGE PRESIDENT TO VISIT FOREIGN GEORGISTS

The coming world tour which Norman S. Casserley, President of SAGE, and International Secretary of the Henry George School of Social Science, plans to make from about July to November this year is being watched with interest by Georgists everywhere. The purpose of this venture is to increase goodwill and co-operation between non Georgists and Georgists in regions far removed from headquarters. In this way, not only will existing Georgist achievements abroad be condolidated but new opportunities for further development can be sought out and followed-up. The regions of first pricrity on the route are Europe and Asia. Starting immediately after the International Conference in Scotland the major countries of Europe will be covered, and then the Near East, the Middle East, and the Far East, including Israel, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Pakistan, India, Ceylon, Indo-China, the Philippines, Formosa, Japan, -- and there on, who knows!

CAMERA WANTED

If anyone would like to lown a movie camera for this trip to so many of the world's most adventurous places, please contact the editor of this magnishe at 50 East 69 Street, N.y. 21. N.Y. U.S.A.

A NEW BLOCKAPHY OF HENRY GEORGE

The annual Henry George School dinner was held in April this year to inaugurate the publication of an laportant new book on the life of Henry George by Clarles A.Barker, professor of history at Johns Hopkins Unversity. Coming from all parts of New York City and vicinity friends of the school filled the Dining room of the Hotel Warwick to capacity in order to hail this important event, presided over by Mr. Lancaster Greene, one of the trustees of the New York School.

Leading up to the main address by Prof. Barker there were preliminary remarks by several other distinguished guests, among them Raymond Moley of Columbia University, Prof., Broadus Mitchell of Rutgers University and a representive of the Oxford University Press, the firm publishing the new book. Immediatley preceding the speech by the author of the same, Miss Agnes De Mille, grand-daughter of Henry George and noted choreographer, told something of the experience of her sister and herself in living in a home atmosphere strongly influenced by Georgism.

"We were always told," she said, "that grandpa was right, and while we may have questioned it at the time, the surprising thing was that we grew up to find that it was true." In thanking Prof. Barker for his book she declared, in conclusion, that after all humanity was not left without hope in the cauldron of the atomic age while there was help to be found in the thinking and perceiving of great men.

Prof. Barker, in giving a summary of his study of George's life showed his great familiarity with the action-packed career of the author of that famous masterpiece, PROGRESS & POVERTY, and went on to show the way in which George became in his day, and still is, an undying if often an unacknowledged influence for continuing social reform movements.

After the dinner several ardent Georgists were overheard remarking to each other that while: beyond question much credit was due to George for his various liberal ideas like free trade, etc. there was no doubt that his paramount aim was to abolish monopoly of land by collecting its site value as an indispensable step toward economic Justice.

The equal right of all men to the use of land is as clear as their equal right to breath the air; It is a right proclaimed by the fact of their existence. For two cannot suppose that some men have right to be in this corld and others no right. H.G.

HENRY GEORGE in Puerto Rico

A striking illustration of how right Henry George was when he declared that removing taxes from production would be a great incentive toward new inventions and encouragement to free enterprise is found in a recent advertisement written with the hope of inducing more busness firms to locate in Puerto Rico.

There are not only numerous examples cited in this advertisement of a list of possible increased gains to be made through a proposal for ten year tax exemption, but furthermore Puerto Rico, it is stated, will not only build new firms a factory but it will secure for them long term financing on the same.

Can you imagine how much more taxes other residents of Puerto Rico will

be forced to pay for new community improvements. during the ten year tax free period for new concerns? Then ask yourselves how much greater must be the land values in the regions where new roads, new stores and new homes must soon be developed? and most important of all do not fail to consider how much, (or under existing circumstances, how little) of this community increasing value Will Puerto Rico collect for public revenue? at long last, let us hope,
it will see the light and collect for the people the value their demand land has created and thus be able to exempt, or at least greatly reduce, taxes on all, not only new production by new firms. M.L.Rees.

ADD: Now Puerto Rico offers 100% Tax exemption to new industry."

WAYWARDMESS

IN MEMORY OF HEMRY GEORGE

As May Day this year chanced to fall upon a Sunday and all of Greenwood Cemetary was abloom in its swring beauty of lillac, magnolia and cherry blossoms it was considered a fitting time by our director, Mr Robert Clancy, to hold commemorative exercises at the grave of Henry George. There, by the fine monument, erected soon after his death by public subscription, through one of the important newspapers of the period of George's second mayorality contests, a group believing in his proposals for social betterment, gathered to pay a tribute to his memory.

Mr. Clancy, the first speaker of the occasion, told of talking with a former Henry George School student who said that for him, the teachings of Henry George paved the way for the application of religion to life, in an effort to make this world more like the kingdom of heaven. Mrs Dora Ogle of Washington, D.C., was then introduced and laid a lovely wreath on George's grave.

Prof. Samuel Burkhard, who spoke next, read a beautiful tribute to the worth of a man and a leader like George, and was followed by the Direcotr of the Hartford Extension, Mr James Mc Nally, who, in turn, was followed by Mr. Joesoh Stockman, director of the Philadelphia Extension, each of whom made a few appropriate remarks. The ceremony at George's last resting place was concluded with some brief comments by Mrs. Mabel L. Rees when the party wended its way to the Brooklyn Public Library at the Plaza. There Mr. Robert Clancy, presented a copy of the latest book on George, a new Biography by Prof., Barker to the head librarian, Mr. Francis R. St John. This gift was accepted by Mr. St John before an interesting exhibit of books and pamphlets relating to Henry George on view in the lobby of the library. Later an inspection tour of the library was carried out with Mr St John as guide, when many of the new departments were visited for the first time and were much admired.

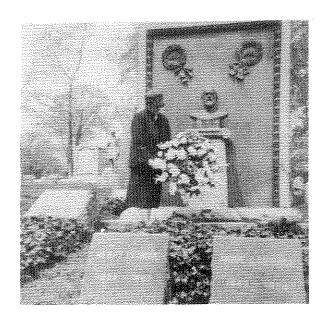
The program of the day was concluded with an appetizing dinner in a nearby restaurant, arranged by Mrs. Rose Rafkind.

TO EDITOR

"We welcomed the arrival of the March-April Issue of SAGE, as we welcomed Spring. All nature is awakening and putting forth many promises of a plentiful harvest; so it is with the issue---Nature seldom yields a full return, and so it is with our work. We know in the course of time that planting the seeds of fundamental truth will produce fruitful blossoms, and will eventually spread, the cause of justice and equality."

Mrs and Mrs Frank Stirlith-Wilmington, Delaware.

LAYING OF WREATH



* CEMETARY * *

by Mrs. Dora Ogle of Washington D.C., on the Grave of HENRY GEORGE, in Greenwood Cemetary, on May First 1955.

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