

ANNUAL REPORT

HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

July 1, 1974 - June 30, 1975

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 7/1/74-6/30/75



(Seated 1-r) Robert Tideman, Lu Helmly-Secretary, Carl Niederer-Treasurer, Polly Roberts-President, Edward Wachsman, Catherine Covell, Executive Secretary.  
(Standing) Clay Berling, Maxine Nitz, Leonard Nitz, Bernard Cohn, Tom Brazell, Marvin Otto, Alfred Haldeen, Robert Roelofsen, Carl Frech, Ann Reeves.  
Absent from picture: Leo Becker, Murray Davis, Robert O'Donnell, Mary Raphael.

## INTRODUCTION

The Henry George School of Northern California continued its work of education for economic justice this year, and made important innovations in the areas of classwork, seminars, and graduate meetings.

Perhaps most significant, the year saw the beginning of School efforts to reach out to the community directly, in addition to our traditional classes and seminars.

## CLASSWORK

33 classes in Progress and Poverty were held, with 426 students enrolled and 146 graduates. New lesson sheets for the (Madsen) abridged Progress and Poverty were used in our classes for the first time.

13 advanced courses were offered, with 90 students enrolled and 48 graduates. In addition to the established courses (World Trade & Social Problems; Fundamentals of Money; Democracy Vs. Socialism; Critics of Henry George), some new advanced courses were added to the curriculum. They were: Current Events and The Nature and Philosophy of Taxation. New course material was also added to the Critics course.

A Teachers Institute was held in San Francisco September 7, 1974, and the faculty met in smaller groups throughout the year.

## SEMINARS AND LECTURES FOR THE PUBLIC

School-sponsored seminars for the public concentrated on today's environmental concern. They were: "Inflation, the Environment, and Land Use" (Sacramento, 11/23/74) and "Georgism and the Environmental Movement" (S.F. 3/22/75).

Also, School staff and faculty were invited to join public panels or to speak to the public during the year. These occasions were:

- \* State of California Employment Development Department panel on community job-related programs; "Henry George and Unemployment" (Cathy Covell, Richard Pensack; S.F. 2/5/75)
- \* Public Radio Network interview: "Land Monopoly the Cause of Economic Depressions and the Single Tax the Remedy" (Pensack, S.F. 2/75)
- \* California Democratic Council panel on tax reform; "The Economic Implications of the Single Tax" (Covell, Fresno 3/8/75)
- \* Marin Jewish Community Center; "The Unkept Commandment: 'The Land Shall Not Be Sold Forever'..." (Pensack, Marin 4/3/75)
- \* Zero Population Growth Annual Conference; "Local Growth Control?" (Polly Roberts, S.F. 4/12/75)
- \* University of California Economics Department; "Land Value Taxation and the Redistribution of Income" (Covell, Pensack, Roberts; Berkeley 4/18/75)
- \* Commonwealth Club Business and Economics Section; "Monetary Reform" (Robert DeFremery, S.F. 5/13/75)

## MEETINGS FOR GRADUATES

Continuing education and discussion among our graduates was the purpose of several meetings and events during the year. They included:

- \* Dr. William Filante on the economics of the State Water Project; Spring Term Graduation at his home (Marin 7/21/74)
- \* An open discussion of the School's work; Henry George Birthday Picnic, Golden Gate Park (S.F. 9/2/74)
- \* Dr. Filante on the political aspects of the Henry George movement; Fall Term Graduation (Sacramento 12/5/74)
- \* Bryan Stevens, President, California Teachers Association, on the financing of public schools, Annual Banquet (S.F. 12/18/74)
- \* Joseph Trento, investigative reporter formerly with Jack Anderson and the Washington Post, on fact-finding and investigative reporting in the Henry George School; Winter Term Graduation (Berkeley 4/13/75)
- \* Hon. Knud Tholstrup, member of Denmark's Justice Party, on Denmark's experiences with land value taxation 1957-60; Lecture at School office (S.F. 5/16/75)
- \* Lu Helmly, S.F. Branch President, on Henry George's relevance for today's problems; Angel Island Picnic (S.F. 6/8/75).

## PUBLICATIONS

The School continued to publish the ANALYST on a bi-monthly basis with Richard Pensack as editor July 1974 - March 1975. ANALYST articles were reprinted in national magazines THE PROGRESSIVE and AREAS OF CONCERN as well as in many Georgist publications. ANALYST circulation increased to about 1100, as many more public-interest organizations were added to our list. Cathy Covell continued to edit the bi-monthly Newsletter with a circulation of around 600.

## RUPERT MASON MEDAL JOURNALISM CONTEST

The 1974 award for "journalism in the Henry George spirit" was made in New York City to Jerome S. Medowar of Long Island for his 1973 newspaper series on the property tax.

Our Board of Directors voted to limit the 1974-75 contest to California, to allow for more thorough work in publicizing and running the contest. A new California jury was chosen, with Past President E. Robert Scrofani as Chairman. Also named to the jury were: Hon. Willie Brown, Jr., member of the California Assembly; Dr. M. Mason Gaffney, economist and Executive Director of the British Columbia Institute for Economic Policy Analysis; Trevor Thomas, journalist, TV newsmen, and recipient of the Columbia School of Journalism Award for his documentary: "The Great California Land Grab"; and Harlan Trott, journalist, author and former Washington correspondent for the Christian Science Monitor.

The contest's bronze medal and \$500 cash prize are made possible by the continuing generosity of Mrs. J. Rupert Mason.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership subscriptions for the year totalled \$8,579.15 from 316 members. Over-all renewal rate was 65%, and there were 43 new members. As in past years, the membership subscriptions were supplemented by a grant from the Henry George School of New York, this year in the amount of \$22,750. A complete financial report follows.

## CONCLUSION: REACHING OUT

Many of those who complete the Progress and Poverty course become energetic activists! They're impressed with the strength of George's analysis and the peaceful practicality of his remedy. What more natural than that these graduates should want to tell others?

This year, the School began to organize such outreach activities. There were several evenings and Saturdays at suburban shopping centers distributing class announcements and engaging shoppers in conversation. We manned a literature table at the Corte Madera Co-Op Market every weekend in November. And there were many days of distributing leaflets at San Francisco's Union Square, where literally thousands of people pass each day.

Will such informational leafletting damage the School's reputation for openmindedness? Or might these activities bring us new intellectual vigor, as we encounter the living opinions of today's citizens? May we not be motivated to sharpen our presentation and search out even better facts to communicate effectively with the people?

Further, does the Henry George School want to imitate the so-called "objectivity" of so many universities, where poverty has been lamented and its statistics compiled for decades, but where no far-reaching remedies are yet proposed for its abolition? Any society that requires of its social scientists an "objectivity" that ignores ethical questions makes way for the state that in Henry George's day was called autocratic and today is called totalitarian.

Let the Henry George School lead rather than follow. Let us set an example of truly human social science. Our scholars will advocate as their consciences call. At the same time, we will jealously guard our tradition of free speech as we rededicate ourselves to the challenging work that lies ahead.

Catherine Covell  
Executive Secretary



Mary-Frances Smith & Joe Husar distributing literature at S.F.'s Union Square

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 7/1/74-6/30/75

BEGINNING BALANCE

\$ 779.80

RECEIPTS

Special Gifts	\$1,000.00
Subscriptions	8,579.15
Book & Pamphlet Sales	1,031.51
From National Headquarters	22,750.00
Interest	214.63
Sale of printing press & eqpmt.	877.00
Fees	17.00
Miscellaneous	1,338.98

TOTAL RECEIPTS

\$35,808.27

TOTAL RECEIPTS AND BEGINNING BALANCE

\$36,588.07

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries (2 full-time; 1 part-time)	\$16,281.87
Rent	2,280.00
Telephone	826.67
Printing	3,855.93
Postage	2,706.52
Travel	576.28
Books and pamphlets	1,013.31
Supplies	1,024.68
Equipment	70.46
Meals	218.62
Mason Medal Prize	500.00
Newspaper Advertising	30.33
Miscellaneous	1,345.10
Taxes	1,144.22

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

\$31,873.99

END BALANCE

\$ 4,714.08

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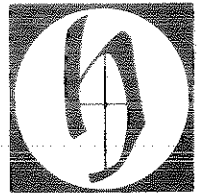
STAFF

Catherine Covell	Executive Secretary
Evelyn Friend	Sacramento Secretary
Richard Pensack	Administrative Assistant (8/15/74 - 4/30/75)
Dorothy Bader	Secretary (5/15/75 - 8/31/75)

Thanks to Harry Rosenbluth of San Francisco for the cover photo.

# Henry George School of Social Science

INCORPORATED NOT FOR PROFIT  
833 MARKET STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94103  
(415) 362-7944



December, 1975

Dear Friend:

This letter and enclosed materials will reach you either amidst the Christmas bustle or during the lovely slow-down time reaching into early 1976.

First, please accept our warmest wishes for peace and happiness this Christmas and in the New Year.

Second, accept our thanks for your wonderful support during 1975. We've been extremely gratified by your expressions of deep commitment to the School's work -- expressions in the form of letters, phone calls, visits to the office, attendance at meetings, teaching, volunteer work, and, of course, dollars. You have proved that the movement for education in economic justice is indeed "alive and well" in 1975!

Third, we ask that you help get the School off to a good start in 1976 by sending an end-of-the-year check. We hope the enclosed material speaks for itself, and impresses you with the fact that we are trying harder than ever to interest and educate the public, using methods that are as up-to-date and exciting as possible.

It is clear that 1976 will bring major changes -- in the Georgist work here in Northern California, in the United States during its turbulent Bicentennial, and in the racing course of world events that so dramatically influence our lives. It is clear to us that, small as our work may seem against the vast forces of privilege, this work is good, it is effective, it must go on, and it must expand.

We count on your help. Your dollars cannot be better spent. Along with your check, please send us your ideas on how we can be even more effective next year.

On behalf of the School's Board of Directors and its President, Clay Berling; and from the rest of our staff: Terry Agnew, Evelyn Friend, and Lucy Kostrikin; and most especially from myself,

THANK YOU AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Sincerely,

Cathy Covell