

NEXT CLASSES
START WEEK OF
JAN. 11th, TELL
YOUR FRIENDS

OUR GOAL FOR
1937 IS 1,000
MEMBERS

Henry George FELLOWSHIP NEWS

NO. 2

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HILLMAN ELECTED NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF FELLOWSHIP

200 ATTEND GRADUATION DINNER OF FALL CLASSES

Continuing its surprising growth, the Chicago extension of the Henry George School of Social Science, granted certificates to ninety-one graduates, at the splendid dinner given in honor of the Fall graduating classes, at Henrici's on December 2nd. The affair was ably sponsored by the Henry George Fellowship. Over 200 people were present to witness the ceremonies, of the seven classes, participating.

Toastmaster Arthur Schreiber, introduced, Edwin Spohn, graduate of the public speaking class, as the first speaker. Mr. Spohn made a very able talk, and was followed in rapid succession by the class speakers: Victor Lindholm, Charles Pratt, Mr. Weist, Jean Barry, Mr. Klebinan, Dr. Fred Glenn, Mr. Cameron Bestor, Mr. W. Love. All of the class speakers showed intellectual ability that augured well for the movement.

Diplomas were then presented by the pedagogues; Henry L. Tideman, Maurice Welty, George Tideman, Willis Shipley, C.J. Ewing, and Myron Goldenberg. A short talk was then made by J. Edward Jones, Chairman of the Propaganda Committee, urging the graduates to participate in the Committee's work.

A skit written especially for the occasion by Samuel Levin, was presented, lampooning the teachers. Too much credit cannot be given to Mr. Levin, Miss Esther Davis, the director, and the members of the cast for the wonderful and clever show they put on. The cast included, Betty Feldbein, Mrs. Raymond Gwin, Helen Cunningham, George Moyland, Raymond Gwin, Edward Vance, Roland Wellington, with Miss Helen Miranda as pianist.

Our president Nathan Hillman, asked the new graduates to co-operate in the important work that lies ahead.

Professor Hiram B. Loomis, president of the new board of trustees of the Henry George School of Social Science in Chicago, the principal speaker, closed the dinner with a scholarly address, showing how we are gradually shedding the vestiges of feudalism, and predicted a bright future for the principals of Henry George.

PLANS MADE FOR STRONG FELLOWSHIP AT CINCINNATI

A new and important chapter was written into the history of the Georgeist movement, at the convention of the Henry George Foundation on November 13th in Cincinnati.

In the quiet of the evening, after a strenuous day of convention sessions, a determined group of Fellowship leaders met and laid the foundation for a strong national Georgist movement, by agreeing on a plan of action that will unite the local chapters of the Fellowship throughout the country. It was decided to call the national body the **FEDERATED CHAPTERS OF THE HENRY GEORGE FELLOWSHIP**.

After adopting a Constitution and By-Laws, national officers were chosen for one year. Chicago was honored by the selection of its president, Nathan Hillman to act as National President, and J. Edward Jones, one of the recent graduates to serve as corresponding secretary.

Other officers elected were: Edward G. Lang, president of the Pittsburg chapter, as 1st vice-president; Noah D. Alper of San Francisco, 2nd vice-president; Harry Kuck, president of the Cincinnati chapter, as treasurer; Harold W. Becker of Omaha, Nebraska, financial secretary. Joseph Carroll, Norfolk, Connecticut, James Fuller of Kansas City, Missouri, and Edward White of Kansas City, were chosen members of the executive committee.

Mr. Hillman, who has shown wonderful organizing ability in the creation of the Chicago chapter, the first organized chapter in the country, in an interview given to the News on his return from Cincinnati, stated;

"We have a difficult and important task in front of us. At the end of this year there will be over 5,000 graduates of the School, eligible for membership in the Fellowship. Most of the cities having graduates, have not yet organized local chapters, and unfortunately, a great many of the Chapters organized have not functioned as effectively as we know they are capable of doing.

"Our first job is to help the organizing of Chapters in those cities not having them, and to help strengthen those already organized. After we have a strong chapter in each city, it

will then be our task of co-ordinating the work of the various Chapters throughout the country, in such a way so that we can attain our common goal, the establishment of the Georgeist principles of justice as the law of the land. By the Local Chapters co-operating with each other, our ultimate success will be assured, because we will then have the force of intelligence numbers, and financial ability to carry out our program.

"As our membership can only grow as the Henry George School of Social Science grows, we must not let a stone unturned, to help the forward movement of the school.

"Although our task is enormous, knowing the fine caliber of the officers chosen, and the above average intelligence of the membership, we feel confident that important strides can be made in the next year, to give a real impetus to our movement.

"We hope to obtain the cooperation of each Chapter, in setting aside sufficient funds to send at least two delegates from each city to our next convention, so that we can have a truly representative gathering, at our next Congress.

"With the earnest cooperation of all the members, we will try to do everything possible to make the Fellowship a force to be reckoned with in our country."

LAND AND FREEDOM MAKES SPECIAL OFFER TO STUDENTS AND ALUMNI OF HGSSS

NEW YORK CITY (HGNS) - Land and Freedom, an "International Record of Single Tax Progress" is being offered to students and alumni in the United States at a special subscription rate of \$1.00 instead of the regular price of \$2.00 a year, announces its editor, Joseph Dana Miller. Mr. Miller's editorials are recognized as among the most brilliant expositions of the principles of Henry George in relation to current problems. The magazine carries articles by the leading Georgeists and news notes about the movement from all parts of the world. Address is 150 Nassau St. New York.

GEORGEIST ELECTED TO STATE ASSEMBLY

NEWARK, N.J. (HGNS) - James F. Bayer just elected a Member of the State Assembly from Newark carried prominently displayed on all his election publicity material the announcement that he had recently completed a course in Fundamental Economics and Social Philosophy at the Henry George School of Social Science in New York, according to the statement of his campaign manager.

CINCINNATI HOST TO NATION'S GEORGEISTS

CINCINNATI, Nov. 14 (HGNS) - The eleventh annual Henry George Congress closed tonight as Georgeist leaders from all parts of the United States and Canada ended their three day deliberations with an enthusiasm and confidence in the future unequalled in many years.

Progress in the fields of education, organization and legislation were acclaimed in session after session while committee meetings laid specific plans for advancing the movement along all fronts in the coming year.

Outstanding in the realm of education were reports of the achievements of the Henry George School of Social Science in 102 cities of the United States and Canada, as well as in five other countries. Many cities were represented not only by the School's instructors and extension secretaries but by graduates.

Chapters of the Henry George Fellowship, alumni body of the School, were represented by delegates who formed a national organization which promises to become of increasing importance as the alumni grow in numbers.

A strong delegation from Pittsburgh discussed legislative progress and plans for their city, in which there is already a recognition of the Georgeist principles on the statute books.

N. D. Alper, secretary of the Sales Tax Repeal Association for Northern California, pleaded for support of the State constitutional amendment drawn up by Hon. Jackson H. Ralston.

J. B. Ellert told of the successful application of Georgeist principles in Milk River, Alberta, known as the test-tube of the Single Tax movement.

Hon. Herbert S. Bigelow, Congressman-elect from Cincinnati, outlined the strategy which he believes will make Cincinnati the first Single Tax city in the United States and open the way for the adoption of land value taxation in all Ohio municipalities.

Billy Radcliffe, of Cleveland, 86, was honored as the oldest delegate.

Mayor Russell Wilson of Cincinnati stressed the need for world free trade in his address of welcome.

Exhibits at the Congress were provided by the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, publishers of the writings of Henry George; the Henry George School of Social Science, and the Publications and Research Committees of the New York Chapter of the Henry George Fellowship.

Mayor James Couzens of Detroit wired the Congress extending an invitation for it to meet in his city next year. Acceptance of this invitation was urged by A. Laurence Smith, Detroit.

Rabbi Michael Aaronson was heartily commended, for his efficient work as Chairman on arrangements.

WILL LISSNER DESCRIBES SCHOOL'S GROWTH IN MOLDERS JOURNAL

CINCINNATI, OHIO, Oct. 1. (HGNS) - An article by Will Lissner, of the editorial staff of the New York Times, instructor and Vice-President of the New York Chapter of the Henry George Fellowship, on the "Henry George School Now Has World-Wide Reputation" appeared in the current issue of the International Molders Journal.

In it he traced the development of the school from a single unit with a total of eighty-four students three years ago to 176 classes with a total enrollment of 3624, and credited its

Henry George

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growth not alone to the veterans of the Henry George movement but also to the liberal and progressive groups who have been strong factors in establishing classes in many localities.

CHICAGO BROADCASTS ATTRACT LARGER AUDIENCES

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS Oct. 15, (HGNS) - As the broadcasts of the Henry George School of the Air sponsored by the Chicago Chapter of the Henry George Fellowship continue, a larger audience is being gained each Saturday. More responses are coming into the Station WCFB, a great many of them inquiries about the school. Every Saturday at 6:00 P.M.

The broadcasts take the form of classroom discussions. The script is prepared weekly by Samuel Levin, graduate of the class of Henry H. Harding.

MONEY AND LAND

The following thrilling incident from Canadian history was found floating about the world and is from "Progress" of Melbourne: "The story is told that on one occasion white men spread a lot of one dollar bills on the ground and said:

"This is what the white man trades with, this is his buffalo robe. Just as you trade with skins, we trade with these pieces of paper." When the white chief had laid all his money on the ground and shown how much he would give if the Indians would sign a treaty, the Red man took a handful of clay and made a ball of it, put it on the fire and cooked it; it did not crack. Then he said to the white man: "Now put your money on the fire and see if it will last as long as the clay." Then the white chief said: "No, my money will burn because it is made of paper." Then, with an amused gleam in his piercing gray eyes the old chief said, "Oh, your money is not as good as our land, is it? The wind will blow it away; fire will burn it;

water will rot it; nothing can destroy our land. You don't make very good trade." Then, with a smile the dignified chief of the Blackfoot picked up a handful of sand from the bank of the Milk River; this he handed to the white man and said: "You count the grains of sand in that while I count the money you offer for my land." The white chief poured the sand into the palm of his hand and said. "I would not live long enough to count this, but you can count that money in a few minutes." "Very well," said the wise Crowfoot, "our land is more valuable than your money. It will last forever. It will not perish as long as the sun shines and the water flows, and through all the years it will give life to men and beasts. We cannot sell the lives of men and animals, and therefore, we can not sell the land. It was put here by the Great Spirit and we can not sell it because it does not really belong to us. You can count your money and burn it with the nod of a buffalo's head, but only the Great Spirit can count the grains of sand and the blades of grass on these plains. As a present to you we will give you anything we have that you can take with you, but the land we can not give." From "Blackfoot Trails." by E. A. Corbett, M.A., University of Alberta, Canada.

GEORGE'S EARLIEST ANTICIPATOR SKETCHED

NEW YORK, (HGNS) - Paul F. Berdanier, conductor of the cartoon feature, "How It Began", widely distributed to newspapers by the United Feature Service, reminded his readers that Henry George was anticipated 5,000 years ago by Mencius, Chinese philosopher.

Accompanying a sketch of the eastern thinker, Mr. Berdanier wrote: "Single Tax: This form of taxation, popularized by Henry George was first advanced by Mencius, a great Chinese philosopher, of the third century, B.C., who advocated taxation of the ground itself rather than of what is done upon it."

CLASSES STARTED BY BRITISH SECTION OF THE HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

London, October 5th, (HGNS)---The newly established British Section of the Henry George School of Social Science announces a program to open extension classes in all the leading cities in Great Britain.

Through the cooperation of the National Headquarters in New York City in furnishing classroom aids, teachers manuals and incidental material it was possible to anticipate the opening date by several months and classes that were planned for January 1937 have already been started.

The Messrs. H. A. Berens, F. C. R. Douglas, Frank Fox, Wilfred Harrison, Leon MacLaren and R. R. Stokes of London and William Reid of Glasgow constitute a temporary organization committee pending the election of a board of governors. Miss Frances R. Levy of Raveloe, Effingham Surrey, is honorary secretary.

WILL NOT THE LAND HOLDER SHIFT THE TAX?

By George Tideman

The world has learned at last that taxes on products raises the price of products. With every gas station attendant in the land and every clerk in every store computing a tax to be paid by the retail purchaser at every sale there is abundant knowledge of this fact.

It is quite natural therefore for the average citizen to raise the question (to those who seek to abolish land speculation and its attendant evils by taxing land rent into the public treasury) as to why, if we did tax land values for this purpose, why then would not the land value tax be added to the selling price on the one hand and added to the tenant's rent bill on the other hand. It is being done on commodity taxes, why would it not also be done on land rent taxes? This is a plausible conclusion, but have not the most plausible conclusions been the greatest barriers to mankind's progress?

The fact is that in Cook County Illinois today land values are taxed about 2%. There is this: Merchants and manufacturers are notably tolerant of taxes on their business and goods, they know they can pass them on. Land holders on the other hand are notably stubborn about taxes on their lands, they know they stick where they are put. They are reminded of it every time they make a sale and every time they pay a tax bill. The following table will exhibit this inexorable fact.

Gross Ground Rent	Tax	Net Ground Rent	Selling Value	Tax Rate	Current rate of Interest
\$ 1,050	\$ 0,000	\$ 1,050	\$21,000	0%	5%
1,050	300	750	15,000	2%	5%
1,050	700	350	7,000	10%	5%
1,050	1,000	50	1,000	100%	5%
\$19,000	\$18,050	\$ 950	\$19,000	100%	5%

From this table it may readily be perceived that no person would pay \$21,000 for a lot which would net him less than \$1050 per annum (assuming 5% to be the current rate of interest, we multiply the ground rent by 20, to get the selling price.) The land holder may add the taxes on his lot to the asking price but where will he find a buyer? Next January perhaps as the novice collector thought when his employer's debtor told him it would be a long cold day when he'd pay a certain bill!

How about the poor tenant where no sale is contemplated. If the tax on the land value is increased will not the land holder raise the rent to the tenant just as the gas station operator raises the price of gas to his customers? Here too let us consider a concrete case; we are interested in the process of operation, never mind spun theories!

Here is a cigar store operating in a high rent district where thousands of people pass every day. This example is used because of the comparative simplicity of the case, but any particular business will upon examination yield the same results and anyone is free to make his own

inquiry. This cigar store sells 5,000,000 cigars a year. To be sure there are cigarettes tobaccos etc. etc. but let us say it averages out to the equivalent of 5,000,000 cigars a year. They vary in price from 2¢ to 50¢ each but for our convenience say the average price is ten cents and that the margin of profit over the actual wholesale cost is \$0.005 each. That is half a cent on a ten cent cigar or 5% gross profit, low enough!

Gross profit on 5,000,000 cigars
at 1/2¢ \$25,000.00
5% Interest on Capital of
\$5,000 \$250.00
Salaries for clerks and
supervision. 5750.00
Total wages and interest. . . \$6000.00

\$25,000 Gross minus \$6,000 as above equals
\$19,000 Ground rent.

Now, suppose a land value tax of 100% on the value of this site. Referring to the last item on the above table we get a tax of \$18,050.00 per annum. Suppose the land holder proceeds to add the tax to the rent bill. This is how it would work out:

Previous rent when there were no land
value taxes. \$19,000
Land value tax. 18,050
Total bill to tenant. \$37,050

But the gross profit of the tenant was and still is only \$25,000. Even if the capitalist gave up all his interest and the clerks, supervisors and janitors gave up all their salaries there would still be a shortage of \$12,050 to meet this bill!

In other words the ground rent absorbs all the income but the actual cost of labor and capital. To increase the ground rent beyond this point is merely to drive labor and capital off and this is precisely what does happen to a very high degree, periodically the world over with the rise in rents that always attends prosperity and again with inexorable certainty brings on the stagnation of industry which we call depression.

This is certain: If the tax on land rent could be shifted there would be no appreciable opposition to it.

ELECTION NOTICE

As provided for, under our constitution, the election of officers for 1937, will be held at our first regular meeting in January 1937, on Tuesday January 12th, at our regular meeting place the Washington Cafeteria, at 167 W. Washington.

Every member is urged to attend as many meetings as possible before the election, so as to get better acquainted with the respective abilities of their fellow members. It is important to the future of the Fellowship that a wise selection of officers be made.

Any member not more than one year in arrears with his dues is eligible to vote and hold office.