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**Greetings of the Season**

At the winter solstice — when the sun gives us its scantiest light and the ancients feared it might depart from us — it is customary to take stock of the preceeding twelve months and resolve to do better in the twelve to come.

For the nation and the economy, the past year has produced a climacteric of conscience and a burden of maladjustment. These troubles would appear to present opportunity to those who would foster change. It would seem that our resolution to do better in the furtherance

of justice should find greater receptivity.

It is in such a mood that the School is diligently searching new pathways and examining new vehicles. The goal striven for has never been in question. If the route to be taken and the mode of transport has sometimes been in dispute, it is to be hoped that some comfortable manner of travel will be devised.

It is toward the fulfillment of such desires that the School's faculty, staff and trustees wish our readers the happiest and most successful New Year. □

November–December 1974

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**The Securities and Exchange Commission at bay**

"Many thousands of American citizens are clearly 'fed up' with what is going on in the United States. The Government bureaucracy is widely distrusted for reasons that have become all too obvious." This opinion was offered recently by E.C. Harwood, director emeritus of the American Institute for Economic Research and a member of the School's board of trustees, in commenting on the Securities and Exchange Commission investigation of the Institute.

Although no official complaint was made, SEC investigators questioned (maybe "grilled" would be a better word), Institute employees. The affair was touched off by a former employee who was disgruntled because she was denied unemployment compensation by the Massachusetts review board. She turned to the SEC in the avowed hope that she could close down the Institute's operation.

Only through the clumsiness of the investigating agency did the true nature of the matter come to light. A letter addressed to the former employee was mailed to

the Institute in Great Barrington. "It consisted," according to Col. Harwood, "of a long statement reciting a few facts correctly and numerous false and misleading assertions. It had been drafted by an employee of the SEC who specifically requested her (the former employee) to review it but *not* to sign it and *not* to acknowledge it. In other words, it evidently was prepared to be an anonymous complaint in the SEC files."

In a letter to Congressman Silvio Conte explaining this affair, Col. Harwood asks whether the Commission's staffer was not "entering into a conspiracy with a former employee" and whether the action of keeping the complaint anonymous and even unacknowledged was a deliberate attempt by the SEC to deprive the Institute of its rights under the Sixth Amendment of the Constitution to confront its accuser.

There seems ample justification for the colonel's observation that the SEC tactics may be better suited to the Gestapo than for the administration of justice in the

United States.

The Commission's actions are made even more suspect in light of an Institute study of the SEC's record begun some time before the investigations. In an Investment Bulletin of August 5, 1974, the Institute was at pains to point out that the SEC does not approve or recommend any security by virtue of its having been registered with the Commission. Nevertheless, the Commission was set up in 1933 presumably to protect investors.

A representative sample of the roughly 8,000 new corporate stocks registered with the SEC in the past 5 years had, by the end of 1972 declined 87% from their peak prices; by mid 1974, current quotations could be found for less than 10% of these issues. The Bulletin asks whether the SEC may not have served unwittingly as a "Swindlers' Entrapment Commission"?

Circularizing this material has evoked an "astonishing volume of replies" offering support for the Institute's position, Col. Harwood reports. □

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**Medowar given first Mason journalism award**

A Long Island attorney, Jerome S. Medowar, was awarded the first J. Rupert Mason journalism citation for 19 articles he wrote for "Merrick Life" on property taxes. Sponsored by the Henry George School of Northern California, the award has been funded by Eugenia Mason in memory of her late husband who was a founding director of the School in San Francisco.

The bronze medalion and a check for \$500 was presented to Mr. Medowar by

Glenn E. Weeks, a member of our board of trustees and a former president of the San Francisco School, at a dinner meeting of the Henry George Institute in October.

Mr. Medowar, who is associated with the Long Island branch of the School, developed the thesis of full-value assessment and separation of the property tax into its two components. His newspaper series attacked real estate tax exemptions and recommended subsidies for worthy organizations to replace the hidden ex-

emptions; it delineated the community improvements that support land values, and it went so far as to suggest that the land tax would end speculation in this area and thereby aid the fight against inflation.

Mr. Weeks, representing his former colleagues in the Bay Area, said the award was being given to recognize and thereby promote excellence in journalistic efforts related to the reforms Henry George advocated. □

## De Mille troupe glorifies American dance

Agnes de Mille (Henry George's granddaughter and a trustee of the New York School) is busily engaged in a theatrical enterprise that is both demanding and full of great promise. Recently her Agnes de Mille Heritage Dance Theater made its Washington debut to considerable acclaim and later played on Long Island.

A troupe of 26 dancers, a country fiddler and two singers have been brought together by Miss de Mille to do for America's popular dances what such performers as the Moiseyev company have accomplished for Russian traditions.

Although Miss de Mille had long contemplated formation of such a group here, her company was formed only two years ago and introduced in Winston Salem in the spring of 1973. It has since toured the South, Southwest and Midwest.

"I've wanted to do it for years," she said in an interview, "but there was never enough money. People in this country don't realize what it takes. It's not like Russia, where the entire resources of the Soviet Union are at the disposal of dance. They've got schools all over the place, big schools, bushleague schools, and every time a new ballet plays in a province every piece of embroidery and local color for 500 miles descends on them."

Here, Miss de Mille has had to enlist the support of the Rockefeller Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts and other sources.

The repertoire runs from Indian dances of pre-Colonial America through folk, regional, popular, social and theatrical dances and goes as far as the rock craze.

Putting all this together was a difficult task. "Fortunately," Miss de Mille ex-

plained, "I've always kept my notes, even from my student days. But a lot more research is needed; so much has been bowlderized over the years. If I had the time and the money, I'd really scour the country for original materials."

Along with folk and historical dances arranged by Miss de Mille and the American theme ballets she has developed, the troupe also does numbers by Katherine Dunham and Anna Sokolow. With additional funding, Miss de Mille says she would like to commission more work by other choreographers. This approach is in line with her longer-range goal. While she is using her name and renown to promote the company in its early appearances, she says, "I want to drop my name from it as soon as I can, as soon as it's possible. I'd really like to see it called the American Heritage Dance Theater." □

## Book: Government should guarantee self-expression

*Imputed Rights: An Essay in Christian Social Theory.* by Robert V. Andelson. University of Georgia Press, Athens, Georgia. 1971.

Could freedom be "an end in itself?" No, cogently argues Professor Robert V. Andelson in a thoroughly-reasoned, well-written book on human rights. "Personal fulfillment requires that freedom be directed toward an object that transcends the self," namely, God. Without such direction, freedom has no meaning.

Does man, *qua* man, possess rights automatically, as argued by many humanists? No, answers Andelson. However, "in spite of man's total depravity he still possesses rights by virtue of the image of God." Thus preaches Calvin, and Andelson accepts the thesis. Furthermore, although "strictly speaking, only the elect may be said to possess rights 'de jure' . . . rights accrue 'de facto' also to the non-elect. This is because there is no absolute, objective human means of determining who are elect and who are not. Hence, rights must be attributed to all who accept their correlative obligations . . ." Thus the title: "Imputed Rights." (Apart from God, emphasizes the noted Russian philosopher Berdyaev, rights are meaningless, and Andelson agrees, although he disputes Berdyaev's claim that religious rights should be zealously safeguarded while "other rights" could be encroached upon by the state.)

Is the Henry George philosophy obsolete? No, replies the author. "This 'simple and sovereign remedy' is not a pipe dream. While it has nowhere been applied in toto, it has had sufficient application to confound the dire predictions of its adversaries and to vindicate the commendations of its firends."

Is the United Nations, as it is envisioned by liberals, the answer to the world's ills? No, declares Professor Andelson. "Only a Hobbesian would be willing to exchange the anarchy of competing national sovereignties for the leviathan of world sovereignty . . . Not until the covenant is *internally* embraced can it become the basis of an authentic world community . . ."

Are freedom and order antithetical? Again, no. It is a "false analysis" to consider the two contradictory.

Does the end justify the means? There are times, indicates our author, when "reciprocal freedom is an end which hallows any means required for its defense —" although he urges (for each circumstance where this may appear necessary) a "prayerful and diligent contextual study and consideration."

The book itself, as was stated in the beginning of this review, is a thoroughly — reasoned text. It is scholarly, serious, well-meaning, timely, and extremely fascinating to students of political, economic, and religious philosophies. Even

though the reviewer disagrees with several of the author's contentions, the book is a much-needed analysis.

Those who are familiar with the Georgist teachings are aware of George's stress on the theory of human rights. How foreign it is to the average college student (or teacher) who today accepts the thesis that rights are privileges "conferred" upon the populace by an all-powerful state!

It is Andelson's contention that the function of government is to guarantee the right of self-expression. All other rights are dependent upon such basic, primary, right. Andelson is emphatic in his philosophy: "The only legitimate goal of any nation as a political unit is that of insuring the reciprocal freedom of its citizens to pursue goals of their own choosing." (Freedom is, of course, necessary, according to the author, so that each person may worship God and recognize the reciprocal freedoms of his fellow-citizens.)

The Calvinist view, even though it is as pessimistic about man as is the Lutheran view, does not stress blind obedience to the state but, on the contrary, *limits* the power of the state. "And when the expanding state, forgetful of its proper task of guaranteeing rights, engulfs whole spheres of service it is extending the bor-

(continued on following page)

## Politics or public relations

Closer and closer comes the 100th anniversary of the publication of Henry George's *Progress and Poverty*, and all we have to show for it are three Single Tax Enclaves... So after millions of dollars spent jointly by Joe Fels, Robert Schalkenbach, John Lincoln and Sydney Evans and other men and women in small donations, what do we have to show for it?

... We have had 40 years of Henry George Schools, and according to Bob Clancy at the Miami Beach Conference in 1967, we had then graduated about 100,000. But no alumni association was created. And in the 1973 Report of the second most successful Henry George School, that of San Francisco, 3,900 people in 25 years had graduated...

Common Cause... has about 350,000 members... Common Cause started in 1970, gets not one penny of foundation money, has today a budget over \$6 million. (Ralph) Nader's rise developed from his book, *Unsafe at Any Speed*, published in 1965, has a stable of researchers, Capitol Hill lobbyists and a good nucleus of lawyers — all of whom work at less than prevailing rates because it is good training for later employment in Wall Street offices.

While the above organizations are growing and getting results, our Henry George Schools have declined, our publications have poor circulation, our voice means little in the media...

While we Georgists have been sitting on our middle-class asses (sic), the forces of both the right and the left are damning the property tax. As the cost of local government has risen, so has the property tax — based upon the fabulous prices the

home-owners are getting in the resale of their homes...

Now Perry Prentice has lectured before prestigious groups... explaining that the property tax is two taxes, and many (others) say the same thing. But if there is ever-increasing erosion of the property tax — as bad as the present tax is — imagine the difficulty of marketing the thesis of land value tax if we don't do something quickly to stem this tide toward state and city income taxes, sales taxes, and a multitude of nuisance taxes...

But our biggest problem has been getting Georgists into a national organization. In the conservative movement there is "Human Events" with an 82,000 circulation; "National Review" with 117,000; "The Freeman" with 43,000. The Liberty Lobby has reported a membership of 250,000. On the left side of the spectrum is the Americans for Democratic Action with a large reputed membership.

We have "Equal Rights," "The Henry George News," "The Georgist Journal," "California Homeowner," "The Gargoyle" — and I won't embarrass anybody by guessing the circulation of these publications...

So — after almost 100 years since *Progress and Poverty*'s first publication why don't we prosper: *in numbers, in money to work with, in impact on the people and government?*

... While 40 years spent in education by the Henry George Schools has been eminently worthwhile, it is an interesting corollary that with the schools weaker in number and student body, the university community and, yes, some of the pol-

itical community, are ready to do business...

I believe that after 49 years of the Robert Schalkenbach's work; 42 years of the Henry George Schools; 41 years of the Henry George Foundation; 37 years of funding by the John C. Lincoln Foundation; a decade of work by TRED; and the research and findings by the Tax Foundation; the National Tax Association; the Congressional Research Service; the National Commission on Urban Problems; the President's Committee on Urban Housing and the many panels conducted by the Urban Institute; Nation's Cities and countless other groups, the time has come for:

"A visible national spokesman who will command attention in the mass media like Gardener of Common Cause, Nader for the Consumer Movement, Buckley for the Conservative Viewpoint, and Gloria Steinem for Women's Liberation."

I have quoted that paragraph because it was stated by a person knowledgeable in foundation circles who believes financial resources are available for such a national movement with the right leader... Should that person be drawn from education, business, foundations or government? Could you make a recommendation?

These remarks are excerpted from a paper prepared last spring by William A. Newcomb.

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### Book (continued from preceding page)

ders of the Realm of Caesar at the expense of the territory of the Realm of Spirit." ("For the use of coercion," says Andelson elsewhere, "other than to guarantee rights, is an infringement upon rights,..." Thus, drunkenness, gluttony, sex abuse, perversion, and other moral violations are not, "in themselves," grounds for state interference.)

The second half of the book deals with the specific "rights" (although, our author informs us, basically all rights are "one"). Such rights, all to be "protected" by the government, are the rights to 1)

physical integrity, 2) freedom of expression, 3) freedom to pursue an occupation of one's choice (but *not* the "right to work"), 4) ownership of labor products (but *not* private ownership of land and natural resources. "They were not created by human labor... And regardless of how innocently bought and sold, how toilsomely acquired, or how ancient its pedigree, every existing land title will be found to be spurious if traced to its origin.")

Government exists to protect individual rights, not to perpetuate privilege,

dispense welfare, cause wars, or regulate morals. This is the theme of the second half of the book.

The reviewer recommends perusal of Professor Andelson's definitive volume on human rights. No follower of Henry George should be unacquainted with this additional advocacy of human dignity and the rights of man. For to read Andelson's book is to appreciate George the more.

Jack Schwartzman

## Economics in the jeweler's eye

Tiffany & Co. is known, perhaps the world over, as an elegant jewelry emporium that occupies one of the more expensive sites on New York's Fifth Avenue, but in a recent advertisement it produced something less than a gem.

The jeweler took a six-inch on two-columns ad in the New York Times to publicize its views on current economics. We reprint the copy here:

### IS INFLATION THE REAL PROBLEM?

No, it is not. Inflation is simply the inevitable, final result of our follies. What, then are the real causes of this national calamity?

### HERE THEY ARE:

1. Spending exorbitant sums of taxpayer's money unwisely by our government.
2. Inhibiting the initiatives of the people with frustrating bureaucratic regulations.
3. Taxing savings and capital formation to death.
4. Government programs which have created critical shortages of essential materials and energy.
5. Giving away billions of dollars to foreign governments.
6. Wasting untold money in foreign wars.
7. Tinkering with the economic machinery with unsound panaceas.
8. Forsaking our religious heritage, not only in our schools, but everywhere; thus, accentuating crime, immorality, greed and selfishness.

As this is advertising, hence permitted special license with language, it might be inappropriate to criticize vocabulary or punctuation. This lapidary, however, does suffer the fault of having mixed a few pearls among coals. Many more of these points are effects rather than cause. And there is, of course, a glaring omission: No mention is made of the land problem and the pernicious effects that might be had from land speculation as a contributory cause of inflation.

The first point made is a value judgment difficult to apply. While point three is well taken, two and four may be said to result from it in large part; seven almost entirely, and four as well. Five and six are endlessly debatable, and eight is perhaps the philosopher's chicken-egg question of all time.

It is heartening to see entrepreneurs so interested in economic problems that they will use expensive advertising space to explore them, but it is disappointing to see that they won't take the time to investigate them fully.

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