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Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Henry George's Masterwork "Progress and Poverty"

1879 – 1979

Sponsored by Georgist Groups and Members

> Mr. V.H. Blundell International Union 177 Vauxhall Bridge Road London, SWIV 1EB, England

12 SEP 1978
Reply to:

Agnes de Mille, Honorary Chairman

Terry Newland, Chrmn Centennial Celebration Committee 3098 California St #26 San Francisco, CA 94115

September 5, 1978

Dear Mr. Blundell.

Harry Pollard phoned me from Los Angeles just yesterday telling me of his visit with you recently; today your letter came. Harry asked that I inform you of our Centennial plans. It is still early to give you many details; we havn't made up a program yet as we are waiting to hear from our national and international Georgists as to their preferences and priorities

We have made some progress, however. The Jack Tarr Hotel. Van Ness and Geary Avenues. in San Francisco will be the site of the '79 Convention. The gathering will run between August 20 thru 25, 1979. We have reserved 100 rooms for the 20-22, and 150 rooms between Aug. 22 and 25th. Rates are as follows:

Singles: \$37.00 Doubles; \$44 (\$10 extra for roll-away in room)

One of our first concerns was to find a location that was centrally located and yet inexpensive. The Jack Tarr was only \$2 per nite more expensive that the cheapest well located Hotel, and it has very adaquate meeting and convention facilities; all in all we got a good price I think. I think you and other IULVTFT members will find it an excellent site.

As you may have gathered from my letter to our contributing organizations. we have formed an on-site Centennial Celebration Committee which shall be responsible not only for the August '79 San Francisco Georgist Convention, but also for coordination of a whole series of PandP Centennial activities throughout 1979.

We are planning a series of presentations at the San Francisco Library. a rally at Union Square, one breakfast and one lunch banquet, and a large dinner banquet of the evening of August 25th (Saturday). We are trying to round un as much funding as possible so that we might have the best speakers, seminars, and workshops; the Henry George Schools, LEAF, Schalkenbach, the HG Institute and the HG Foundation are all contributing something; as soon as our stationary is back from printing we plan a mail out to all our U.S. and Canadian Georgists asking for suggestions and contributions towards the conference. We do not plan to ask foreign Georgists or members of IULVTFT for financial help, but would appreciate hearing their suggestions. If you can include a request for suggestions in your up-comming communications with your membership, it would be much appreciated. They can mail their ideas as soon as possible to the Centennial Celebration Committee, Terry Newland, Chrmn, 3098 California St. #26, San Francisco, CA 94115 USA.

Any ideas you may have with regards to the Centennial Convention will be much appreciated. Some questions that come to mind now include:

How many people from IULVTFT do you think will attend? Will this be the 14th international convention for IULVTFT?

What kind of activities would you like to see at the convention?
We do not plan on doing a mail-out to individual IULVTFT members, unless they live in the U.S. or Canada and are members of a national Georgist organization; we hope you and Bob Clancy can keep them informed of our progress.

I would also appreciate a list of possible speakers from the IULVTFT and what the subject of their presentations will be. Of course we will not be able to accomodate all who want to offer talks/workshops, but we will have five days at the convention and so should be able to have very many interesting workshops and seminars.

We are also compiling a list of names to add to our mast-head Advisory Council. If you have some names of people you think wouldn't mind having thier names used please let us know soon (we need them for our stationary).

When the attendees of the '78 Georgist Conference at Bryn Mawr elected me Committee Chairman they set foreward some priorities for me to follow:

The Convention should emphasize the historical relation between PandP. Henry George, and San Francisco. We are not to focus too much on the LVT concept but the entire Georgist philosophy i.e., privilege, equality, and the Land Question. We are also to bring as many non-Georgists as possible and get a good "mix" of ideas. We will emphasize good times for all; it is important that attendees really enjoy themselves, I was also directed to make the centennial celebration a focal point for the present tax revolt going on in the U.S. The Theme of the convention will be "100 years of Progress and Poverty, emphasizing not only the historical important of PandP, but the unsolved dilemma of poverty amidst plenty.

If there are others in the international Georgist community whom you think should receive our Committee's mailings, include their names in your next letter to me; I will have them put on the mailing list.

It would be good if some <u>PandP</u> Centennial activities were planned in other countries, especially Denmark, England, New Zealand, and Australia. Do you know if any plans like this are being made?

I am looking foreward to hearing from you soon and to meeting you in San Francisco next year.

Cordially yours

Terry Newland