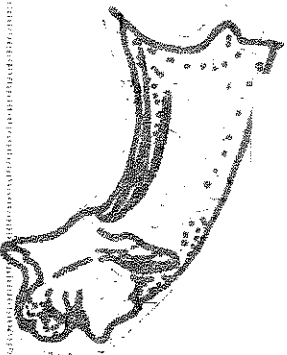


The Baroque



HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL OF NEW JERSEY

Issue #148

FEBRUARY 1971

"A throat, mouthpiece, spout." Opinions expressed herein are those of the writers and not necessarily endorsed by the Henry George School.

ALWOOD A. SHEPHERD

Member of the Faculty and Board of Trustees, Henry George School of N.J. died of a heart attack on January 12. A Memorial Service was held at the Morrow Memorial Church, Maplewood on Sunday afternoon January 17th. In lieu of flowers it was requested, if desired, donations in his memory be made to the Henry George School.

Another Trustee of the New Jersey school, J. Wendall Stegner suffered a heart attack on Dec. 26th. We are pleased to report he is recovering nicely. While he will remain out of circulation for a while we sincerely trust he will in due course be able to resume activities.

SAVE THE DATE
HELP PUBLICIZE

THURSDAY-MARCH 4th-2.3.HEADQUARTERS

Mr. Shepherd was born in Philadelphia and studied at the Henry George School in New York under Frank Choctrov. His wife, Marie, many will recall entertained at open house when the N.J. school headquarters moved to East Orange two years ago.

Mr. Shepherd was highly regarded and will be greatly missed.

FILM - "ONE WAY TO BETTER CITIES"
Open meeting - public invited -
Cities at the Crossroads -
What can be done to rescue our
Communities?

Come and bring your friends - 3 p.m.
No Charge - No Obligation

NOTES ON THE MONTH

"We seem to think that the more colleges we build and the more students we dragoon into them, the more educated our population will become. This is a fallacy.....We are sufficed with third-rate professionals; Teachers who are barely literate, business executives who are weak in economics, engineers who have trouble with a slide rule.....And while droves of ill-prepared and poorly motivated people are sporting baccalureate and even graduate degrees, it's next to impossible to find a competent mechanic or chef or electrician."

Dr. Robert V. Anderson, Auburn University
as quoted in ANPOWER, Dec. 1970

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In New York City, the police went on a wild-cat strike for six days. To everyone's surprise, the town did not fall apart. People went about their business the same as ever. All kinds of reasons were given to account for the fact that crime did not accelerate as far as could be determined. The cold weather was considered to be the principal deterrent. But probably the real reason is that people will have the kind of a society they want. If people generally tend to be dishonest crime will be quite prevalent. The number of police won't do much to prevent it. It is similar to the health of people in a society. It is not the physicians who keep a community healthy. It is the people themselves, by abiding by simple rules of health. If they do not, they will be sick no matter how many doctors there may be. So, now New Yorkers are quite likely to ask when requests are made to increase the police force: "Who needs them?"

Speaking of protection reminds one of the singer who had just finished his audition before a crusty impresario and asked: what should accompany him. To which the impresario replied "A body-guard."

The prime interest rate has just been cut to 6% and the Federal Reserve discount rate to 5%, which is making a lot of people happy. But why? History has demonstrated time after time that the pattern is quite clear. When the money supply is increased, as is now happening, interest rates decline for a while. But the increased availability of money stimulates borrowing. This increasing demand for credit reverses the downward trend of interest rates, so the rates begin to rise. Increase business results in increased prices. Borrowers looking to the future and expecting money to be of lower purchasing power than, borrow more than they really need. At the same time, lenders expecting depreciating money in the future, try to protect themselves by asking for higher interest rates than they would in the absence of this fear. So once interest rates turn around, it isn't long before they start to accelerate at an increasing pace. As everything speeds up, the monetary authorities are faced with the problem of exerting restraint and stopping the increasing supply of money. They did that shortly after the Nixon Administration took over. The result was, what history told it would be, but which no one seems to believe will happen, business declined, unemployment rose.

Now that the policy has been reversed, and monetary expansion has become the order of the day, interest rates may be bottoming out. If so, then the boom pattern should be repeated. To what end? Well, with luck, it may be timed so that in 1972

the boom will be at its height. This turning on and off of the monetary spigot may not be good economics, but possibly just possibly its good politics.

The way the dollar is losing its purchasing power and respect, it won't be long that to tell a woman that she looks like a million dollars may be an insult.

If you find a politician smiling at things go wrong, you can be sure he has in mind a politician from the other party on whom he can blame it all.

SALT OF THE EARTH

Definitions:

Executive: He's a man who is always annoying the hired help by asking them to do something.

Imagination: Something that sits up with a woman when her husband is late coming home.

Optimist: A man of eighty who marries and goes house-hunting in a good school district.

Courtesy: A quality that enables a person to stand quietly in line while a boor gets the best table.

Barber: One man who always goes to the top.

Wizzard: A man who can save money these days.

Mistress: So, your married life was unhappy? What was the trouble? Dec-ember married to May?

Maid: Oh, no ma'am, it was Labor Day wedded to the Day of Rest.

Customer: You don't seem quick at figures, my boy.

Newsboy: I', out of practice. Most people say, "Keep the change."

A farmer went to visit his doctor. "Doc", he said, "I wish you'd stop by to see my wife."

Doctor: "Is she sick?"

Farmer: "Well, not exactly. But something must be wrong. Yesterday morning she got up at the regular time, about four o'clock, milked the cows, got breakfast for the hands, did her housework, churned, and along about ten o'clock at night she said she felt a bit tired. I guess she needs a tonic or something."

Husband: I'm going to discharge our chauffeur. Four times today he almost killed me.

Wife: Darling please give him another chance.

Foreman: Hey, you! How come you're only carrying one sack? All the others are carrying two.

Worker: Gosh, boss, I guess the other guys are too lazy to make two trips.

THE RADICAL RIGHT

One of the more interesting social phenomena of the present is the rise of an anti-statist approach to the problems facing man. That this movement must be of considerable strength is evidenced by the fact that an article in considerable depth appeared in the Jan. 10, 1971 issue of The New York Times Magazine.

This group is attracting the interest of many of the young partly because of the obvious failure of the "liberal" doctrines of the past generation, and partly as a result of some of the successes of the "liberals".

The "liberals" have had as their central tenet the assumption that government, particularly centralized government, could solve man's problems especially such as poverty, urban blight, and the maldistribution of wealth. This has been actually a reversion to the old mercantilist philosophy which had received a death blow at the hands of Adam Smith in his masterpiece, "The Wealth of Nations". While the "liberals" were favoring this statist approach, at the same time they were in the forefront for individual rights, such as political rights for all regardless of race, creed or color, as well as for their opposition to conscription. Thus, on the one hand they were in the reactionary position of favoring the interference of the government in economic affairs while on the other hand they were in the liberal position of favoring non-interference of the government in political, civic and social affairs.

The present-day adherents of this philosophy are known as the New Left. This is a group, largely of the young, which has adopted the socialistic tenets of Marx, which require a powerful centralized State to implement the principles. But, on the other hand, this group attacks the State vigorously. It has fought conscription, has demonstrated for greater freedom in personal deportment, as evidenced by their favoring long hair, rock and roll, and has even fought the police. That they are adhering to principles which are contradictory does not appear to be recognized by them.

Opposed to the New Left has been another young group, the principal agency of which has been the Young Americans for Freedom. This group seems to have adopted also a contradictory position, but one diametrically opposed to the increasing interference of the Government in economic affairs, having taken a position similar to Herbert Spencer's, which was that the government should leave economic matters to the individual. But, possibly due to the Vietnam War and the fear of communism, this group

seemed to take a neutral position on such an obvious violation of individual freedom as conscription. The New Left apparently favored economic subservience to the State but individual freedom in civic, and political matters, whereas the conservative group seemed to take the opposite position.

The result has been that a third group has arisen, known as the Radical Right. This group is a libertarian movement which places the individual squarely in the center. It is the individual who counts, not such institutions as the State, or Organized Religion. It has even attacked such sacred taboos as taxation by the Government, calling it robbery.

Its economics appears to be that of the Austrian School, which recognizes that most of man's problems are due to the interference of government, particularly in the arena of economics.

The movement is really an anarchistic one, although its adherents may not recognize that such is the case, for it is doubtful if many have analyzed the full implications of the philosophy underlying it. But if the movement continues to gain strength, sooner or later this fact will be brought out, then the problem will be how will the land be allocated with justice to all if there is no collective entity to do it. When that time comes, it may be that some of these young people will become acquainted with Henry George. If they display the same courage and vigor they are now showing in espousing their opposition to the State in every field, it may well be that finally the Georgist philosophy will capture the imagination of the people. Let us hope so!

Oscar B. Johansson

A NEW PARABLE
By Robert Clancy

Off the coast of Iceland an upheaval takes place in the ocean. Great masses of water are spewed up from an underwater eruption. The mass starts forming an island, but the ocean batters it furiously. Large chunks slide back into the sea, and eventually the ocean swallows up the whole mass.

Another upheaval takes place and another island attempts to form. There is another battle with the sea. Some pieces fall away, but the island is assisted by additional masses that get thrown up. Though earth-matter is there to solidify before the ocean can dissolve it. The island has succeeded in staying in existence and it even becomes enlarged. The ocean

then begins to co-operate with it and its currents bring life to it. Shell-fish find a haven on its shores. This attracts birds who carry seeds with them and deposit them on the island with their droppings. The wind carries more seeds and plant life begins. The island has advanced to being an ecological entity and has earned a place in the world.

Yet another upheaval nearby churns up more matter, but it turns out to be another defeat by the ocean. No matter; there is still one island to show for all the struggles.

A comparison may be made with our efforts to establish a Henry George movement. The underwater eruption may be compared to the impetus to get the Georgist philosophy to emerge into the world. The earth-masses are the converts we make and the island in formation is our movement. The ocean is the influence of the world. Without sufficient matter and cohesiveness, the chunks slide into the sea; that is, the converts become absorbed by the world and its many concerns, and so the movement crumbles. With enough mass and strengeth, the movement is able to hold together, and the world begins to work with it instead of against it. Life is attracted to it and a diverse system can be built up.

Many efforts have gone into the Georgist movement. From its earliest days, an untold amount of thought, energy and money have been expended on disseminating the ideas and getting them adopted. Yet here we are still battling the ocean.

There is scarcely an idea or proposal that can be thought up that has not been tried at some time in the history of our movement. Nearly all the ideas have merit. But we need more "mass" and "cohesiveness." We somehow have to struggle to build up, to increase our converts and keep them attracted to the continuing effort.

Let us cultivate our island!

ENCLOSURES

From time to time there has been sent with THE GARGOYLE various reprints, particularly those from The Public Revenue Educational Council of which Noah D. Alper is President. There is one enclosed with this issue which we believe you will find of much interest. Perhaps you might like to drop a note to Noah and let him know if you find these reprints of value and interest.

A builder builded a temple,
He wrought it with grace and skill;
Pillar and groins and arches
All fashioned to work his will.
Men said, as they saw its beauty,
"It shall never know decay;
Great is thy skill, O builder!
Thy fame shall endure for aye."

A teacher builded a temple
With loving and infinite care,
Planning each arch wit patience,
Laying each stone with prayer.
None praised her unceasing efforts,
None knew of her wondrous plan.
For the temple the teacher builded
Was unseen by the eyes of man.

Gone is the builder's temple,
Crumpled into the dust;
Low lies each stately pillar,
Food for consuming rust.
But the temple the teacher builded
Will last while the ages roll,
For that beautiful unseen temple
Was a child's immortal soul.

Author Unknown

U.S. 'REPRESSION' By Rep.Jarl Landgrebe (R-Ind.)

Ask a Hungarian refugee if he agrees with the New Left that America is "repressive." He'll tell you what repression really is.

The very fact that there are elements in this country claiming that it is "repressive" and "undemocratic" is proof in itself that America is not repressive, but free.

If this were a repressive nation, no one would be allowed to say that it was. They would be sent to concentration camps, as dissenters are in Communist countries.

In America we not only have the political freedom to speak out when we disagree with our government, we also have economic freedom under the free enterprise system.

Even in democratic countries elsewhere economic freedom is not enjoyed to nearly so great an extent as it is here. The citizens of Great Britain or Sweden, for example, are politically free, but economically they have little free choice.

Under the Socialist systems of those countries, each workingman lives at just about the same mediocre economic level. In America, a worker can go as far as his own ability takes him. He is free to succeed or fail.

Human Events