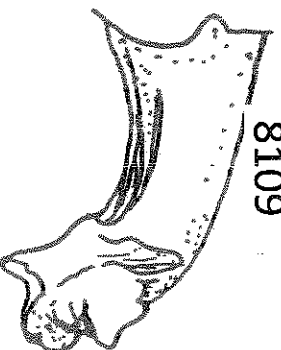


The

8109

Gargoyle



HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL OF NEW JERSEY

No. 44

S E P T E M B E R 1 9 6 0

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

C E L E B R A T I O N

Wednesday September 21st 8 PM - NEWARK
The World's Most Beautiful Roses on display - film "THE LAND IS YOURS" - Messrs. Gieffers and Tetley - "Highlights of the Detroit Conference" - and Dr. Robert V. Andelson, Director of the Henry George School, San Diego, Calif., an ordained Congregational minister, formerly Professor of Philosophy and Social Science, at Arlington College, will deliver an inspiring address, "Taxation, Speculation and the 11th Commandment."

All friends of the school, and their friends are invited. Come down to 78 Clinton Ave., where Washington meets Lincoln, to bring yourself up to date on what is going on and learn what's ahead. Please bring a guest, preferably a "prospect" or someone who might interest a prospect."

FALL 1960 STUDY GROUPS

FUNDAMENTALS - Newark Mondays at 6 p.m. starting Oct. 3rd; Wednesdays at 8 pm starting Oct. 5th Adams and Harvey Hackensack Inquire of school office - location and date; Metuchen - Y.M.C.A., Tuesdays at 8 p.m. starting Oct. 4th. Dr. Izaar Roselle Park - 825 Walnut St., Wednesday 8 p.m. starts Oct. 5th. O.B.Johannsen

\$50. Cash Award for best written summary of the basic course - do you know anyone who could use 50 bucks?

SECURITIES & INVESTING course will be given at Newark on Wednesdays at 7:30 starting Oct. 5th in cooperation with the Investors Information Program of the NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE - Fee \$5.00 for this course. Enrollment limited. M. Merlin, Chairman of meetings.

NEW JERSEY MOST POPULATED

If you do not know it by now - the 1960 census reveals that the Garden State is the most densely populated of the 50 states with 6,018,570 persons; the density is 800.2 per square mile.

THE LUNATIC FRINGE

Joseph S. Thompson, recently elected President of the Henry George School, New York, tells the story of the mama and papa goldfish. We assume the sex of the Gargoyles on headquarters building in Newark can be determined by the same method. We assumed they were male - but

"It is easy to believe that in a more favorable environment she might have developed superbly, becoming one of those great pioneer women whom the nation delights to honor, if instead she became a gargoyle, was it altogether her fault?", so writes Gerald W. Johnson in "The Lunatic Fringe" (J.R. Applecott Co., Phila. and New York 1957) who includes with Theodore Roosevelt, Thomas Paine and others, "Henry George - who hated the bitch goddess." This book provides fascinating reading. Your library probably has it.

SENSE AND NONSENSE

Did you know that the Iroquois Indians consider themselves a sovereign nation which happens to be living at peace with their "co-equals", the United States and the Dominion of Canada? Such is the information which comes from "Apologies to the Iroquois" by Edmund Wilson, who discovered interesting facts about these people.

That the Iroquois is years ahead of the white people is obvious when you realize that they insist on owning their land in common. They say "the earth is your mother, and you don't sell your mother". How unfortunate when the white man came to America he didn't try to understand their social setup. Had he done so and adopted some of their practices, such as holding land in common, truly a great civilization would have been built here.

Business is declining, so what do the economic seers do? Well, in June the Federal Reserve Board reduced the interest rate it charges member banks from 4% to 3½%, and on September 1st changes were made in reserve requirements making available \$600 million in reserves, which theoretically increases the lending power of banks by \$3.6 billion dollars. It's the same old story. When the going gets rough, solve the problems by floating the economy on a sea of paper money. Will we ever learn?

Your Check List

- ☐ Made financial contribution to school
- ☐ Sent in names of "Prospects"
- ☐ Made arrangements to take X to opening session class this fall.
- ☐ Invited X to go with me to the 25th Anniversary Celebration Sept. 21st

Can you score 100?

THE DEAN THINKS REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT

Some years ago, I was the attorney in an immigration case and sought a conference with a top-level representative of the State Department of the United States government. When I was not successful in obtaining the conference in usual channels, I conferred with the United States senator from New Jersey who quickly and satisfactorily arranged the conference I sought. But that is not what I want to relate here.

In the course of my conversation with the U.S. senator, whom I had known for a number of years, I asked about some pending legislation which would vest more power and control in the Federal government and curtail individual freedom of choice. The senator frankly told me that his personal convictions were opposed to such legislation, but that the overwhelming ratio of letters and telegrams from his constituents was in favor, so he would vote in favor on a roll-call.

This led us into a philosophical discussion as to the role of an elected representative, as to whether the duty of the representative was to voice the wishes of his constituents which the elected representative deemed harmful to all citizens or to vote in accordance with his own convictions as to what is best and right.

The senator confessed that this problem weighed heavily upon him, but that he conceived his duty to be the representation of his constituents under the form of government we embrace. He cited the New England Town Meeting precedent where all policy matters were determined by a majority of the voters assembled at the meeting. The senator then commented that with our large population, such Town Meetings are not possible but that our representative form of government imposed an obligation upon the elected representative to vote in accordance with the wishes of the majority of his constituents, even though, as an individual, he disagreed.

Knowing somewhat of constitutional law and the debates which preceded the adoption of our Federal Constitution, I argued with the senator that elected representatives are not supposed to act as vocal sounding boards for their constituents but are supposed to be the best men available to guide the destinies of our country in accordance with the Constitution, and to do so in accord with their best judgment as to right and wrong.

An interesting side light was shed by the senator who said that when mail from his constituents was heavy concerning any pending legislation, his office staff opened the letters and segregated the "vote yes" letters from the "vote no" letters, then weighed them on a scale and the ratio of pros and cons was determined by their respective weights. Facetiously, I told the senator I would advise all those who I knew were inclined to write to him to use heavy rather than light weight paper in so doing.

The senator, although philosophically inclined to agree with me as to the duty of an elected representative, nevertheless held to his position that our form of government precluded ignoring the consensus of opinion of the electorate whether or not such be in accord with that held by the elected representative. He also informed me that most of the senators and congressmen so interpreted their duties.

I asked whether such a policy would not lead to sectionalism, that is, the consideration of what might temporarily benefit one section of the country even though it might be harmful to all the rest of the nation. I asked whether the conception of a representative's duty is influenced by the fact that elected representatives wanted to be reelected and so were currying the favor with the majority of their constituents. I asked whether much questionable legislation was enacted due to the inclination of legislators to make "deals", I'll vote for your measure if you'll vote for mine.

The senator did not brush away my questions; he answered truthfully that all my questions required a "yes" answer, and these meant that inevitably the country as a whole suffered detriment, but the evils were a necessary price to pay for the liberty and freedom afforded by a representative form of government.

I left the senator, sorely troubled, wondering whether the passion, the prejudice, the emotional reaction of a minority, who, influenced by their desires are tempted to write to the representative and whose mail, by being weighed against the mail opposed to them, then are considered a majority, and so influence harmful legislation. I wondered whether a vocal minority who make their desires known may not legislate us into a dictatorship.

If we had statesmen instead of passive representatives in our legislative halls, then the worry of what a vocal minority can accomplish would be less. Statesmen such as former U.S. Solicitor General, James M. Beck had in mind in his book "The Constitution of the United States" wherein he says that the framers of the Constitution believed that a representative held a judicial position of the most sacred character and that he should vote as his judgment dictated without respect to the wishes of his constituents. Or such a statesman as was the giant among political thinkers Edmund Burke who, as a member of Parliament, informed his constituents. "Certainly, gentlemen, it ought to be the happiness and glory of a representative to live in the strictest union, the closest correspondence, and the most unreserved communication with his constituents. Their wishes ought to have great weight with him; their opinion, high respect; their business, unremitting attention. It is his duty to sacrifice his repose, his pleasures, his satisfactions, to theirs; and above all, ever, and in all cases, to prefer their interest to his own. But his unbiased opinion, his mature judgment, his enlightened conscience, he ought

not to sacrifice to you, to any man, or to any set of men living. These he does not derive from your pleasure; no, nor from the law and the constitution. They are a trust from Providence, for the abuse of which he is deeply answerable. Your representative owes you, not his industry only, but his judgment; and he betrays it instead of serving you, if he sacrifices it to your opinion.

"Parliament is not a congress of ambassadors from different and hostile interests each must maintain as an agent and advocate, against other agents and advocates; but parliament is a deliberative assembly of one nation, with one interest, that of the whole; where, not local purposes, not local prejudice ought to guide, but the general good resulting from the general reason of the whole. You choose a member, indeed; but when you have chosen him, he is not a member of Bristol, but he is a member of parliament. If the local constituent would have an interest, or should form a hasty opinion, evidently opposite to the real good of the rest of the community, the member (representative) for that place ought to be as far as any other from any endeavor to give it effect. Thus spoke Edmund Burke.

What, indeed, do we seek in the qualifications of a senator or representative? Wisdom, good judgment, knowledge, ability? If what we expect is that he will register in voting only the expressed majority opinion of his constituents, then we can install electrical computers in each congressional district, and request the voters to punch "yes" or "no" levers on the machine for their preference as to any pending legislation and have the result, certified, transmitted to a designated officer of the Congress who will then tabulate the results and announce the passage or defeat of any pending bill or resolution. This would be an extension of the Town Meeting principle and could save us millions of dollars now spent for the maintenance of our legislature.

What would we lose? Today, government like all other large institutions is complex and requires special knowledge, special skill and judgment. Our legislators, assigned as they are to committees which do most of the legislative work, become specialists in their fields and this specialized knowledge few, if any, local voters possess. This special knowledge, if

What we can do, without hoping for immediate results, is to review and refresh our own knowledge of how our Constitution was framed and adopted, what we really mean by representative government, how it should function, and then try to convey to others the understanding of these principles and the dangers of law by majority instead of law by constitutional limitations.

This will be a long and difficult task in the light of the current culture and the desire of so many for "something for nothing." But in the knowledge that the largest and brightest lights are rated by candlepower, each of us as a single candle can hope to light many tapers and cast a combined candlepower so great that our progeny will be illumined and live in light instead of the darkness of fear and insecurity.

Alexander M. Goldfinger

ATLAS SHRUGGED

"Get the hell out of my way" is the delightfully pungent demand which John Galt, the hero of Ann Rand's newest novel, "Atlas Shrugged" throws at the looters in control of the American government. As a result of their bureaucratic controls, the producers and inventors, of which John Galt is one, are finding it increasingly difficult to produce with the result that the nation's productive system is grinding to a halt, with the gradual breakdown of Taggart Transcontinental Railroad symbolic of the economy's disintegration. To beat the looters at their game, John Galt convinces the leading industrialists to leave their businesses and disappear into a Shangri-la he has established hidden in the mountains of Colorado. When the nation is in a shambles, they are to return to direct the resurrection of the nation based on a free economy and a government limited to protection of life and property and the sanctity of contract.

The book is a brilliant, fighting defense of the dignity of the individual and of private enterprise. Miss Rand, who has written other powerful novels attacking socialistic concepts, emphasizes in this book that above all a man must be a man and not a spineless, crying security seeker. That we need this

low human being in distress. With the exception of the paternal instinct, the lower animals are utterly indifferent to their fellow animals. If a dog is drowning, another dog will not rescue him. If a man sees another man drowning, he will make an attempt to save him, or at least feel he should. But this concept when carried too far can be corruptive instead of benevolent as when politicians and bureaucrats use it as an excuse to give themselves jobs administering relief throughout the world. That Miss Rand really believes men should help one another in the sense that Jesus of Nazareth did is evident as she has her hero saved by his friends, which they would not do if they acted the way she has them talk.

Unfortunately, Miss Rand suffers from the same misconception of the rulership of the world that Plato, the socialists and the libertarians have. All of them believe that the mass of people must be led by some ruling intelligentsia. Plato has his philosopher-kings; the socialists have their bureaucrats; the libertarians have their educable elite, while Miss Rand has her big industrialists. Now, men can live only under two types of economy--a directed one or a spontaneous one. A directed economy is like an army in which all orders are given from above and must be implicitly obeyed. Such is a socialistic economy. The other one, the voluntary or market economy is one in which the customer is king, and by buying or not buying votes for or against the production of goods and services. Both the libertarians and Miss Rand recognize and strongly advocate a free economy and private property, but they still do not adequately appreciate that the customer is the directing party and no geniuses are needed to lead them. Every man is a leader in his own sphere no matter how high or low.

As a matter of fact, the real hero of this novel is one of the mass. He is Eddie Willers who stays to the end trying to keep the railroad running thru thick and thin when those who consider themselves his leaders start their interminable wars and mess things up.

If only enough people will read her book maybe the next time the politicians and bureaucrats start interfering they too will say, "Get the hell out of my way."

Oscar B. Johannsen

SALT OF THE EARTH

An old-timer is a person who can remember when a job was the first thing you went steady with.

A modern man is one who drives a mortgaged car over a bond-financed highway on credit-card gas.

Then there's the man who claims an Old-timer is one who can remember when parents dared to make decisions without consulting their children.

About all some people can say at the end of the day is that it's done.

To be honest, the real reason it's so hard to bring up children right is that they insist on imitating their parents.

A bachelor is a man who believes only the brave deserve the fair, but is still glad he's a coward.

RECOGNITION IN NATIONAL MAGAZINE

"Real estate" - the old spelling of regal or royal - all land was public or "royal" property - belonged to the King.

In English law there is no such word as "landowner" - the word used is "landholder" (from whence comes "freeholder")

That's why we use the same word "title" to mean a title to land and a title of nobility.

Above from August 1960 issue HOUSE & HOME which devotes 83 pages to a Special Section on LAND - concluding in favor of land value taxation.

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Congradulations - Dr. Lazaar - written up in Evening News, Perth Amboy, N.J. with mention of Faculty Member, Henry George School.