

October 13, 1936

Mr. Arthur Madsen
94 Petty France
London, S. W. 1, England

Dear Mr. Madsen:

There is a matter, which at your greater convenience, I would like to have you bring before the trustees of the Henry George Foundation. That is, whether the Foundation might be willing to advance some part (say, fifty pounds) toward the expense of procuring an adequate translation of "Progress and Poverty" in the Dutch language, and arranging for the publication thereof in good shape, and assuming that an amount at least equal to what would be subscribed by the Henry George Foundation, should be subscribed by the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation here, or some other American agency.

The reason I put this matter to you, is that during the Conference, Mr. Sevenster, and I think Mr. Kolthek intimated that they would like to undertake the organization of Extension Classes of the Henry George School of Social Science.

Their difficulty, as Mr. Sevenster stated it to me, was that there existed only a very poor translation of "Progress and Poverty", and that even that book was, practically speaking, unattainable in Holland because "out of print". What was needed, it was represented to me, was a new and adequate translation, which, if and when printed, could be made the basis of teaching through the classes with the incidental questionnaires tied up to the passages of the book.

The earnestness of our Dutch friends impressed me greatly, and I said that when I got back to the U. S. A., I would sound out some friends on the matter.

Now, it is possible that you know a great deal more about this situation than anyone else outside of Holland, and you will be able to offer counsel to the Foundation trustees on the subject.

Our Foundation here, because of circumstances which have been explained to you, is in a poor way financially, but it might be possible that I could raise some money for this project, if the Foundation would take the lead in the matter.

It ought to be, of course, the job of the International Union, but I fear that the treasury of that body is at present in such attenuated shape that it could offer no help.

At any rate, I would like to get your views on this subject after you have consulted your associates. It may help me to do something. I have not as yet undertaken to write to Mr. Kolthek or Mr. Sevenster.

Sincerely yours,

CHARLES O'CONNOR HENNESSY
President

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