

## EDITORIAL:

The centennial celebrations are over, at least the big ones in San Francisco, Philadelphia, and New York. Each city lent its own distinction to the events, from the week-long festivities by the bay, to the historic sites in Philadelphia, to the excitement of a New York gala. Yet, in all their varied ways, the celebrations had much in common as well.

There was, alongside the festivity, a realistic appraisal of a world with little to celebrate. Many noted sadly that the century since publication of **Progress & Poverty** produced hardly any of the reforms George advocates. At the same time, the pervasive mood among Georgists everywhere was more hopeful than despairing. Perhaps that is simply a characteristic of followers of a positive and hopeful philosophy, rather than the tragic gloom that inspires so much radical despair. It could also be that there are genuine signs of greater receptivity to our ideas in the independent actions of individual citizens and groups as well as within the councils of the politically powerful.

Whatever the reason, it was clear that Georgists are ready to end their isolation, both from each other, and from everybody else. There was the desire, made explicit in the call for a unified organization, and a national headquarters: to find the broad common ground on which Georgists of different stripes might agree. There was a desire, implicit in the range of participants and their views, to reach out to the

wider world of thought and action, for amplification of our influence and relevance. We will no longer be content to talk to ourselves or listen to our own stars. We would also be happy to be identified with the author whose masterwork we celebrate. Call us Georgists, or as some would prefer, neo-Georgists, but we will not hide our views behind another banner.

It is on the basis of these strongly felt and fundamentally positive sentiments that we have determined to renew publications of our own organ under our own name. If the "Henry George News" has not been as distinguished a publication as we would like, we will try to make it so, but we won't change its name. The people and organizations who work with us desire and need this organ in which to report their activities, express their views, exchange information and news, and exercise all the vital functions of communication. There are significant developments at the local, state, national, and international levels, and we want to report on them. There are exciting personalities, both newcomers and veterans in our organizations, and we'd like you to meet them through our pages. There are new ideas as well as some old ones newly applied—ideas about how to get the message across in the classroom, in the media, in public policy areas, and in any other forum that counts.

The next hundred years begin now.

Philip Finkelstein