

HENRY GEORGE NEWSLETTER

Volume 50, Number 1

January 1986

WEDNESDAY FILM SERIES DURING JANUARY AT NEW YORK SCHOOL

"Land in Film" is the theme uniting a series of free films to be shown on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 during January at the New York Henry George School.

According to Director Stan Rubenstein, the series is intended to "break up the drab between-semester period and to bring our graduates together in an enjoyable and thought-provoking atmosphere."

The series kicks off on January 8th with Jessica Lange's sterling performance in the 1984 film, "Country."

Perhaps the greatest treatment on film of the ties that bind Americans to their land is John Ford's masterpiece, "The Grapes of Wrath." This landmark treatment of Steinbeck's novel, starring Henry Fonda, will be shown at the school on January 15th.

Another Nobel Prize-winning novelist, Pearl S. Buck, is represented during the January movie series. "The Good Earth," based on her novel of the same name and starring Paul Muni, will be featured on January 22nd.

The series concludes with Sally Field's Oscar-winning performance in the Robert Benton film, "Places in the Heart." She portrays a young widow struggling to hold her family and farm together in a small Texas town in the 1930s. This film will be shown on January 29th.

Each evening will conclude with refreshments in the basement lounge and a brief discussion of the film's handling of the social questions raised.

Because of their length, the movies will start promptly at 5:30 PM. Please make every effort to arrive on time.

DEBUT OF NEW GEORGIST CABLE PROGRAM

"Issues and Alternatives," the new television series based on Henry George's books Social Problems and Protection or Free Trade, premiered on December 5th. It can be seen on the first Thursday of every month on New Medford Cablevision, Channel 27, at 5:30 PM.

"Below the Line: Poverty in our Time" was the topic of the debut. The next installment, "Of Mills and Men -- The Protection Dilemma," will be shown on Thursday, January 2nd.

Henry George Newsletter
published by
Henry George School
of Social Science

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EDITORIAL

VISIT TO CALIFORNIA

The phrase "from sea to shining sea" conjures patriotic images for most Americans, and it holds special meaning for Georgists. After all, our schools have been in operation on both coasts since the 1930s. Recently I visited California to get a taste of Georgist activities, western style. Although each organization has its own methods of promoting the philosophy, they all share common traits: dedication and enthusiasm.

San Francisco was highlighted by an all-day session with the school's Board of Trustees at Director Bob Scrofani's home. Programs here have their inception at this level, and there is considerable input from members. Then it is up to Bob and educational consultant Dionne Marx to implement them. Because new members are most welcome, there appears a steady flow of fresh ideas.

The Sacramento school, located in the state's capitol, is directed by Evelyn Friend. After meeting with a group of professional teachers, the Sacramento HGS Board discussed the relationship between their school and New York. Evelyn agreed to add to her duties the coordination of our high school program, cable programming and public relations.

An important meeting took place with Dr. Brooks, social studies coordinator of the State Board of Education. Dr. Brooks, Bob Scrofani and I discussed HGS input concerning the newly mandated economic education for high school students, due to take effect in two years.

Gathered at Mason Gaffney's home for a pot-luck dinner, the Los Angeles HGS Board held their monthly meeting. Coordinating programs and utilizing limited resources were major topics. Several subsequent evenings were spent observing sessions of Director Harry Pollard's "Classical Analysis." This course, five years in the making, is capable of being self-supporting and attracting new teachers, according to Harry.

Although San Diego doesn't have a Henry George School, Basic Economic Education President Floyd Morrow actively promotes our goals through weekly afternoon luncheons, development of computer programs teaching Georgist philosophy, audio-visual materials and a long-range program to offer our courses in an international university.

Programs differ from city to city but the camaraderie among Georgists in California is at a high level.

Stan Rubenstein

SCHOOL NOTES

NEW YORK

Two conferences are on tap for this month. On Saturday, January 11th, teachers Dave Norflus and Barry Smith will make a presentation entitled "The Land Question" at the Greater New York Social Studies Conference to be held at the Sheraton Center.

Later that month Dave Norflus and Stan Rubenstein will take an historical approach to the land question during Social Studies Staff Development Day on Thursday, January 30th. The day has been set aside for over 2,000 New York City social studies teachers, who will have some 200 programs to choose from. It will take place at Murray Bergtraum High School.

A graduation ceremony was held at the NY school on Monday, December 2nd.

New York has launched a program encouraging friends throughout the country to write letters to their local newspapers on topics of Georgist interest. A sample letter on protectionism was recently mailed to 60 especially active Georgists. These can conceivably be ghost-written in New York for local use. Readers interested in taking part in this venture are invited to contact the New York school.

LONG ISLAND

The popular two-hour seminar, "You and the Property Tax," will be offered in the following areas:

Bethpage -- Plainedge Community Center, Monday, January 27th, 8-10 PM.

Bellemore/Merrick -- Calhoun High School, Tuesday, January 28th, 8-10 PM.

Huntington -- Huntington High School, Monday, February 24th, 8-10 PM.

Plainview -- Plainview High School, mid-February date yet to be determined. Call 516 937-6329 for more information.

NORTH CAROLINA

A four-week seminar on economic issues was recently conducted by Jerry Schleicher in Raleigh. Topics included poverty, taxation, national debt and protectionism.

Each session took place at the Faculty Club of North Carolina State University and was two hours in length. Rather than deal superficially with the topics, Jerry integrated basic economic concepts such as the factors of production into each session.

North Carolina HGS coordinator Stuart George secured free public service advertising for the mini-course in six local newspapers.

SCHOOL NOTES

PHILADELPHIA SCHOOL CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The Philadelphia extension and the Henry George Alumni Association are sponsoring a 50th Anniversary Banquet on Saturday, December 14th.

The affair will also feature the presentation of this semester's graduation awards.

It will be held at The Twelve Caesars, 4200 City Line Avenue in Philadelphia. Tickets are \$20 and must be purchased in advance from the Henry George School, 413 South 10th Street, Philadelphia, 19147.

SAN FRANCISCO

Alanna Hartzok recently was part of a panel on "The United Nations -- Can We Abolish War?" in Santa Rosa. Other panelists included the presidents of the Campaign for U.N. Reform and the Northern California United Nations Association, the education chairman of the World Federalists and Congressman Doug Bosco.

In her remarks before the gathering of 250 people, Alanna linked public finance policy to the "common heritage" principle, calling it an important world order task.

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