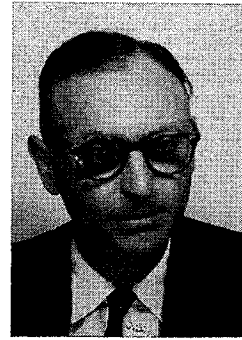


The World Is Our Oyster

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THE correspondence course in Fundamental Economics, offered free by the Henry George School, was available a few years ago in French and Spanish, as well as English. However, the available French and Spanish editions of the textbook, *Progress and Poverty*, became exhausted, so those courses had to be dropped.

Meanwhile, the correspondence course in English was thoroughly revised. Then the prospect arose of having new French, Spanish, Italian and German editions of *Progress and Poverty*, so it was decided that the study course, based on the latest revision, should be made available in all four languages.

Manfred Rochelson undertook the German translation. His manuscript was then sent to Erich Zincke in Germany, the translator of *Progress and Poverty*, who suggested certain revisions in an otherwise excellent work.

Some years ago I had translated the earlier course into French. In April 1960, I happened to meet the director, Robert Clancy, in the subway, and he asked if I would like to translate it into Italian. I did this, and Henry A. Gieffers, a trustee of the New Jersey Henry George School, made helpful corrections.

I took the fundamental course first in 1939, and have continued my interest in the Henry George movement and philosophy ever since. In June 1960, when an assignment as a French

teacher in high school terminated, my work at the Henry George School became a full-time position. I next retranslated the course into French, according to the latest revision, with Edgar Trier, James Murphy and Robert Clancy going over it to make suggestions. We thought it well to show the manuscript to more than one person, but sometimes it became a bit baffling when the experts disagreed among themselves! Nevertheless it was admirable to see the enthusiasm and ungrudging effort that so many of our good friends put into this work.

I also translated the course into Spanish; and Rafael Jacobsen, an ex-Cuban journalist and Georgist, consented to look it over—however, he did much more than that and produced virtually a new translation, which I gladly accepted.

The text, *Progress and Poverty*, is now available in all four of these languages. The French edition was recently republished by the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation when the original edition became exhausted as a result of the demands of our first French correspondence course. The Italian edition was also published by Schalkenbach from a very old one, after many adventures, in the course of which the original was lost, and photostats had to be made from a public library copy. After the Spanish edition, published in Madrid, was exhausted, a world-wide search turned

up another Spanish-language version, published by a firm in Argentina. We are indebted to Rogelio Casas Cadilla of Madrid and Alberto Alves de Lima of Buenos Aires for this discovery. The German edition is the newest, having been published two years ago. It is based on the British condensed version.

The texts in French, Spanish and Italian proved very helpful in translating the course. I found errors in the Argentine edition of the Spanish translations, and Messrs. J. Paluzie-Borrell and J. Anglada of Barcelona, Spain, found a very great many more. We therefore made up a list of editorial corrections and errata, which we place in each copy of the book.

The courses will all be mimeographed—at least in the beginning. When we are reasonably sure that no further errors will be reported, and when there is a sizeable demand, we may print them. Letters, lesson supplements and publicity materials also had to be translated. Various consulates have been helpful in checking the wording of these, and making suggestions as to improvement of translations. At the Colombian Consulate, one obliging young woman retyped the letters with her corrections, free of charge—and then bought a copy of *Progress and Poverty*.

The cultural service connected with the Italian Consulate, around the corner from the New York headquarters of the school, and the Austrian Consulate just across the street, were also

helpful. Other persons consulted were Henri Bellande, a Geogist from Haiti, who is engaged in writing to leading Latin American newspapers about the Geogist philosophy and our course; my wife, Fryda Ossias; a friend, Mrs. Suzie Pernitz, Miss Palmira Valentine, and others.

We have already placed our first advertisement in an Argentine Geogist magazine, *Reforma Agraria* (see page 7) as a "trial balloon." The eager replies from this and other sources, are very encouraging. We intend to advertise in various newspapers and magazines around the world.

Not satisfied with four languages (five, counting English), we're looking into Portuguese and have written to the Portuguese translator of *Progress and Poverty*, Dr. Americo Wernecke in Brazil, to see if he can find available copies. If so, we shall translate the correspondence course into Portuguese next.

Other possibilities open up. Henry George's other works were published in Spanish by the Madrid firm. We are trying to get these books so that we may offer advanced courses in Spanish. We hope we can also find other books by George in French, Italian and German—and if not, we plan to have them translated. Possibilities open up for other languages as well. (A new Korean edition was reported in the May HGN.) The world is our oyster! Or, to use a more dignified (and perhaps more apt) expression, the world is our campus.

Hy Gardner, whose columns appear in the New York Herald Tribune, evidently strolled by the New York Henry George School during the recent visitation by the Soviet Premier, at which time the bulletin board attracted his attention. In a recent column he wrote:

"Speaking of schooling, staffers at the Russian Embassy* at Park Avenue and 68th Street might be interested in taking advantage of a course offered by the Henry George School just around the corner on 69th Street. It's called 'A Free Course in Anti-Communism.'"

*Though it is often referred to as an embassy, this is the Soviet UN headquarters.