

Henry George's Anniversary

By Henry Ware Allen / published 28 August, 1943

To the Editor of The New York Times:

On Sept. 2 the followers of Henry George in every civilized country will celebrate his birthday. His masterpiece, "Progress and Poverty," was published in 1879. In this book he prophesied the disastrous condition in world affairs which actually exists today, unless the remedy he proposed, based upon a great natural law discovered by him, should be acted upon.

In reality the philosophy of Henry George is the epitome of simplicity. All that is actually required is conformity to natural law and to make absolute justice the unvarying rule in all legislation and every mandate of government.

While there has been phenomenal progress in all the other arts and sciences during these intervening years, the science of political economy as perfected by Henry George has generally been rejected and repudiated in favor of what is termed "economics," the latter being responsible for the bedlam of confusion which prevails in Washington today and which has been administered by college professors loaned to the Government.

The proposition to take all of economic rent, determined by a single tax upon the value of land, as public revenue is in perfect harmony with the democracy of Thomas Jefferson and is the antithesis of the socialism of Karl Marx, which has already ruined Germany and Italy and which now threatens, our own country under the name of Social Security.