

ROBERT CLANCY

The beauty of the Henry George School's home at 50 East 69th Street, has often been commented on by visitors. The neighborhood, is rather remarkable too.

Our neighborhood used to be a community of millionaires—but most of them have moved on or passed on, and various institutions have taken over. Our home used to be the town house of Otto Dommerich, a wool factor (mentioned in Roy Foulke's recent booklet, "The Story of Factors").

It must have been serene here in those days, and even now, though business is pushing uptown, a certain serenity still lingers.

Across the street is the palace (no other word will do) of the late Arthur Curtis James, the railroad king—it's now the James Foundation. Nearby is a gorgeous building now occupied by Sherman Billingsley, owner of the Stork Club.

On both sides of us are residences still privately owned by people we seldom see. Next door but one, is the manorial corner house on Park Avenue which has been taken over by the Italian Consulate. On the other side of us, next door but one, is a cathedral-like building, a former residence, which has been vacant ever since we've been here. The asking price is probably too high. A number of other Consular offices surround us, and the fabulous Frick Museum is in the environs.

Across Park Avenue stands the modern structure of Hunter College, and, on the other corner the exclusive Union Club.

Two Philosophies

But our neighborhood is not all "imperialist-capitalist." The house at the corner of Park Avenue and 68th Street is maintained by the Soviet Union as a town house for their U.N. delegates, and let me tell you, there's nothing proletarian about it! The house next door to that is against our back yard—and it is now the residence of Andrei Vishinsky. A recent visitor remarked, "Isn't it interesting that the two philosophies have come face to face?" (Or is it back to back?)

Luther Gulick's Institute for Public Administration (in which a well known Georgist, Philip Cornick, has long been active) is nearby. There are many other noteworthy things to be seen in and around 50 East 69th Street so if you haven't visited us, you should.