

# A Word With You

THE TIMES are crying for the philosophy of Henry George.

It is gratifying to see how many of our friends are endeavoring to spread this philosophy in so many ways. In New York, where the fiscal crisis is intense, the Mayor has received numerous letters advocating land value taxation. In other states—in Michigan and California, in Florida and Montana—a great variety of work is going on to bring Georgist ideas to the attention of the public.

But there are many who do not speak up—chiefly for one of two reasons. Either they feel they do not know enough about the Georgist philosophy to explain it coherently, or, if they do know enough, they are afraid there will be unpleasant repercussions.

I would like to encourage our friends on both counts. If you feel you do not know enough, there is still *something* that can be said—even if nothing more than a reference to the fact that a certain Henry George offered a solution to the problems of taxation, housing, wages—or whatever the pertinent topic may be. You do not need to feel responsible for answering every question and objection. The literature—and the Henry George School—can serve as references on the subject. A good purpose is served just by letting people know of the existence of this philosophy—and the fact

that a growing number of people subscribe to it.

To those who are not prepared for the consequences of speaking up, I would say this: To be sure, it is not meet that we should always be throwing out our philosophy to uninterested people; but neither should we keep it to ourselves when a suitable occasion arises.

Consider it a bit and you will see that the raised eyebrow is probably the thing you most dread when you mention the Georgist philosophy. But that's really not so very formidable, is it? Consider further that you need not feel responsible for the opinions of others but only your own—you need not feel that once you mention "Henry George" or "land value taxation" you have to make a convert. You are at least opening the subject and are letting it be known—and it *may* lead to a conversion by and by.

You're on firm ground with the Georgist philosophy. After all, what are the objections to it?

If you keep quiet, you may also miss the joy of meeting a fellow Georgist—and there are more and more of them around.

The Henry George philosophy is once more on the march. Never was the world so much in need of it. This is not a time to keep quiet about it.

—Robert Clancy

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The Henry George News, published monthly by the Henry George School of Social Science, 50 E. 69th Street, New York 21, N.Y., supports the following principle:

The community, by its presence and activity, gives value to land, therefore the income from land values (rent of land) belongs to the community and not to the landowners. Labor and capital, by their combined efforts, produce the goods of the community—known as wealth. This wealth belongs to the producers. Justice requires that the government, representing the community, collect the rent of land for community purposes and abolish the taxation of wealth.

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