

# The Georgist Movement in History



The 17th North American Conference  
of the Council of Georgist Organizations

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*Celebrating our first century...*



## “America’s Most Original Economic Thinker”

Henry George was born in Philadelphia on September 2, 1839. As a journalist in San Francisco, he wrote his magnum opus, *Progress and Poverty* (1879). In the next decade he became a prominent New Yorker, outspoken in the struggle against poverty and social injustice, inspiring the fight against the prevailing view that poverty was ordained by God or nature. Drafted by a labor coalition to run as a reform candidate for mayor of the City in 1886, he came in second to Abram S. Hewett, outpolling Theodore Roosevelt. Among his most ardent supporters were New York’s large Irish population, led by the charismatic Roman Catholic priest and pastor of St. Stephen’s Church, Dr. Edward McGlynn. George’s second bid for the mayoralty in 1897 ended a few days before the election with his untimely death on October 29th at his campaign headquarters at Union Square.