

—PRISCILLA DUNWIDDY—

The fact of an activating principle is well understood by a mechanical engineer. Even in an intricate machine with a complexity of operations he understands what makes it go. This knowledge is, of course, not necessary to its use.

People who drive cars, for example, learn to control movements and to regard the instrument board. They do not always understand the activating principle.

In spite of nearly foolproof design such drivers often impair the life or efficiency of the car. Becoming dependent on the judgment of service station attendants. At best they follow formal driving rules.

The engineer, on the other hand, is a creator. He uses, but he improves what he uses. He extends and broadens the scope of the activating principle, giving a form and character to it which he finds inherent in it. From a single cylinder he moves to a jet, a rocket and who knows what next—all in accordance with advancing development.

What the engineer does corresponds with the progressive course of the Georgist. Henry George might be considered the activating principle of the movement which bears his name. In that case, anyone desiring to follow his principles would seek, as objectively as possible, to see things as he saw them, think as he thought and act as he acted. That is not nearly as simple as being merely conversant with his published works.

The superficial responder could be compared to the motorist who, having learned to stop, start and steer the car, never looked under the hood. By the same analogy, one could thus be considered a follower in a movement even if activating principles were never considered.

Yet the same creative force which moved Henry George—through insight to action—could be practised again. By accepting and trying to follow his creative insight now, all sorts of adjustments, new modes, and adventurous action could be possible. This would set off fresh enthusiasm which would lead to as many ways of gaining interest and attention as were possible during George's life.

These new ways must be found in the present hour if we are to apply the philosophy known to carry so much clear truth. *Basically high moral action tunes the Georgist in at once to the spirit of the founder.*