

## The Spirit of Henry George

—PRISCILLA DUNWIDDY—

A man—like his houses and lands, which are the extensions of his body—takes up space, even when he is dead. Space, therefore, is one of his inalienable rights.

### *Standing Room Only*

Now and then some event creates so much popular interest that accommodations for spectators are taxed to capacity and the familiar SRO sign is displayed. People accept such space limitations good naturedly and are willing to undergo inconvenience for the sake of satisfying their desires and going along with the popular trend.

Two elements are present in such a situation. First, something good has been produced that merits interest; second, the value of the attraction is implemented by the fact that crowds of people respond. The latter fact soon becomes the largest factor contributing to the further success of the production. Without the popular response, the production, no matter how good, would soon be forgotten.

This imposed crowding becomes more serious and pertinent to our thought when we transfer it to areas where vested interests control and limit economic freedom, and with it the mental and spiritual outreach. There are many places within our body politic where thousands have standing room only, and almost not that. They seem to be bound and blocked with little understanding or possibility of doing anything about it. For "the producers" in our system have been concerned more with the success of the production than with those who give meaning and value to it—the people in attendance.

### *"Lebensraum"*

All people—while they are inhabitants of the earth—have a right to enough of it to allow for their unfolding. It is this emphasis upon persons and their intrinsic and ultimate value in the earth, that will bring us to insights capable of resolving the conflicts and fears within and between nations. If we could free the millions now spent for defence and release them into channels of creativeness, the whole world would be transformed in less than a decade.

It is a sobering fact that people are responsible for their own destiny. Therefore every thought and plan that follows with sacrificial or sincere interest the welfare of human beings, actually helps to create the good world of which we dream.