

Henry George Schools Train Leaders

By J. R. FUCHS

THE FOLLOWERS of Henry George constitute one big family. They may criticize each other, and sometimes severely, in the use of words and in their methods of approach. However when an outsider should "jump on" one of the members of the family, all the rest will come to the support of the one attacked. For instance, if someone should take issue with the fundamentals as expressed by Mr. W. A. Dowe or Mr. Gilbert M. Tucker (April issue, *Henry George News*), I know that I would immediately come to their defense; not that they would need my help.

We should have more such discussions as the one between Dowe and Tucker. I am sure that we have all been groping for the best methods of approach. Perhaps we have not yet found the best method of attack on the "monopoly of all monopolies." And then again too much unity in the plan of attack may not even be desirable. Different groups of people have to be handled according to their peculiar predilections.

Both Mr. Dowe and Mr. Tucker use some terms and phrases that I might find fault with. Probably I would be hypercritical. For instance, Mr. Dowe says, "where the private appropriation of rent is abolished land value will disappear." Land will always have a value as long as people exist. All we want to abolish is the land's value as an article of commerce. It

should not be traded with, like the articles created by labor. Land should have value only to the user and not to the speculators.

And Mr. Tucker speaks of the danger of making enemies. We will never get anywhere if we are afraid of making enemies. I hope the day will come that we can make it so hot for our enemies that they will come out in the open. Not until then will we make any real headway. I am always glad if in a discussion someone takes sharp issue. It gives us the best opportunity to explain and fortify our positions.

The Henry George Schools are wonderful in training leaders. More power to them. But I am sure that we all realize that we cannot win over the people by these methods alone. A leader needs to understand all the laws of political economy. We need them. But we cannot educate the people generally by the same methods that the leaders are educated. In our movement we need the Garrisons and the Phillipses, but we also need the Lincolns.

In reaching the people, we need most of all homespun illustrations, and we need not bother so much about the exact use of economic terms; however important they are in a textbook. No two men ever present the problem in the same manner. The best methods of approach may not be found until we get strong enough to invoke real opposition. Open and public opposition would be a great blessing for our cause.