

Hispanic Progress

In SPAIN a new Spanish edition of Henry George's Progress and Poverty (Progreso y Miseria) has been published by the Department of Agriculture. This is one of a series of "agrarian classics" published by the Department. It is based on the translation by Baldomero Argente, the best of the available translations. Especially noteworthy about this edition is an introduction of over 100 pages by Prof. Ana Maria Martin Uriz giving information about Henry George, the book, and a history of the Georgist movement in Spain.

There was a significant movement in Spain from the time of Henry George up to the Spanish Civil War. Virtually all the works of George were translated and circulated in Spain, and there were works by Spanish authors. There was a Spanish Single Tax League (Liga Española para el Impuesto Unico) which published the periodical El Impuesto Unico. The first international Georgist Conference was held in Ronda in 1913 (with help from the American Joseph Fels) with delegates from all parts of Spain, also Britain, Germany, France, the Scandinavian countries, Argentina and Uruguay. Leaders of the movement included Antonio Albendín, Julio Senador Gomez, Blas Infante, Baldomero Argente, and Emilio Lemos Ortega who is still active.

This new edition of Progreso y Miseria is priced at 2000 pesetas (US \$15) and is obtainable from the Instituto de Estudios Agrarios, Pesqueros y Alimentarios, Ministerio de Agricultura, Madrid, Spain.

Another recent publication from Spain of great interest is Artículos: el Camino hacia la Libertad (Articles: the Road to Liberty) by Emilio Lemos Ortega, published by the Fundación Blas Infante. This book consists of a number of brief and penetrating essays from a Georgist--physiocratic point of view, including liberalism, capitalism, socialism, communism, Christianity, the fiscal crisis, inflation and other vital topics. The price is 600 pesetas (US \$4.50) and is obtainable from the Fundación Blas Infante, Donnell na. 25, 41001 Seville, Spain.

In Barcelona, the Centre d'Estudis d'Economia Política Natural (Center for the Study of Natural Political Economy) is working to disseminate the Georgist philosophy. Classes and correspondence courses are being offered. The Secretary, Carlos Deltell de la Fuente, has translated the Henry George Institute lessons for Progress and Poverty for this purpose. Address of the Centre is Apartado 9108, 08080 Barcelona, Spain.

Another country with a strong Georgist-physiocratic background is ARGENTINA. There was an influence dating from colonial days, and the first Argentine President, Bernadino Rivadavia, introduced a land tax - which unfortunately did not last long. Rivadavia is honored with a portrait on the present unit of Argentine currency, the austral, replacing the peso.

In Argentina from the late 19th century there has been a continuous Georgist movement, with translations of George's books, works by Argentine Georgists, organizations and periodicals. Currently, Juan Carlos Zuccotti, Héctor Raúl Sandler and Manuel Molinari are leading the movement with the Instituto de Capacitación Económica which has initiated classes in the Georgist philosophy (in which HGI materials are used). Two periodicals are Re-Vista ICE and Prédica. It is felt that the Georgist message has a good chance of being heard now that current policies are failing.