

like his ideas about educational technique, has stood the best test, the test of experience, the test of practise under widely varying conditions.

From the first, those who have been identified with the school have looked upon its reason for being as that of democracy's best and possibly last bulwark. The bulwark has held so far against the tide of barbarism; the task of every lover of liberty and every friend of humanity is to throw his shoulder against it so that the bulwark will hold.

Norman C. B. Fowles

THE passing of Norman Fowles leaves us with many thoughts concerning him. Always a great teacher, well able—and willing—to explain the great truth which he saw and to which he devoted a large part of his life, there are many left behind to whom he passed on the torch of understanding, and who will be ever grateful to him for knowing something of the answer to our economic ills.

As one of his students at the Henry George School of Social Science, the writer learned much—not only of economics—but also a great deal about how man is affected by the economics of the environment he lives in. No student of Mr. Fowles could leave his class with the slightest trace of bitterness toward anyone. By way of illustration, in the case of a man who closed down his mill in a town where everybody depended upon that mill for a livelihood, or a man who held large tracts of valuable, needed land out of use, and who refused to sell it or improve it except for a prohibitive price, so that great numbers of people in the slum areas suffered from poor housing, according to Norman Fowles, no blame could attach to such a man. He was merely the product of his environment and knew no better. He did not understand what he was doing because he had never learned the truth. If men had clear understanding of these problems, said Mr. Fowles, they would be solved. Therefore, he urged us to educate, and keep educating, and never to become discouraged. He always felt that some day a leader would arise from those who had been enlightened. He also warned against a reform put through suddenly, before the people understood it enough to want it, as such a reform would not be lasting, and the people would throw it off. Mr. Fowles believed that the immediate answer to solving our economic ills was to teach to the masses the great truth to which Henry George gave voice.

When Oscar Geiger, founder of the Henry George School of Social Science, passed on in 1934, Mr. Fowles took over the directorship. In the spring before Mr. Geiger died, he had said to Mr. Fowles and to Will Lissner, "I want you two to carry on if anything happens to me." At that time neither Mr. Lissner nor Mr. Fowles thought that the founder was ill; but when he passed on, they remembered and respected this request.

Among Mr. Fowles' writings for the Henry George movement are the words for several rally songs; a scenario for a photoplay entitled, "The Common"; also a series of "Dialogues" in the style of the Socratic method, expounding the economics of the Movement. Nor shall we ever forget the oration on "Liberty" he delivered a few years ago in New York City.

I have said nothing about Mr. Fowles' bright humor in the classroom and in his conversation. As I write, I remember how many a time we sat in class, chuckling at one of his jokes on the incongruity of something or other—likely as not on something in our economic system. I also remember being wet-eyed on occasion from contemplating the ideas he transmitted concerning the ills of mankind.

It seems appropriate, in summing up the life and character of the dear one who has passed from our sight, to quote the following lines from the Bible as best expressing the essence of the man who was Norman Fowles: PHILIPPIANS 4:8. "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

ROMA B. HALPERN.

Another Glimpse

DR. HAROLD G. MOULTON, president of the Brookings Institute of Washington, in an address declared that "at the present time grave fears are entertained with respect to the future of the economic system in this country," and presented what he considered the fundamental requirements for sustained progress.

"In recent years," said Dr. Moulton, "the view has been widespread that we have had so much scientific and technological advancement that we are menaced with overproduction and that in consequence we must expect the rate of industrial progress to be severely curtailed.

"There must be constantly increasing efficiency in production on the part of both labor and capital. Only by everlastingly improving technical processes and lowering the costs of production can we obtain progressively higher standards of living. To try to accomplish this result in any other way means simply tugging in vain at our collective boot straps.

"As efficiency is increased, the benefits must be broadly disseminated among the masses by means of high wages, low prices, or a combination thereof."

Editor's note—So far, so good. But what about *land*, doctor?

PROTECTIONISTS do for us in time of *peace* what enemies *try* to do in time of war—block our ports.

HENRY GEORGE.