

experience available to the Henry George Foundation in Pennsylvania.

The urgent need for lucidity and simplification of economics is still evident throughout academic texts. Small

wonder that students who were economic majors at college express surprise and pleasure when they discover the logic of Henry George's approach clearly expounded in ten lessons.



The Long Arm of Dr. Plummer

John Gould, writing in *The Christian Science Monitor* of February 27th, recalls a well-known Georgist, Dr. Plummer — referring to him as a "Latimer Day Georgic," of Lisbon Falls, Maine. He remembers Dr. Plummer's single pointed emphasis on land value taxation, and seems to imply that something of what he was trying to say has been curiously clarified, but also challenged, in a transaction involving a large grant of unused (worthless?) land from a paper pulp company to the State of Maine for a park on Moosehead Lake.

The Park Department was delighted, and as improvement proceeded the Commissioner found that a few more acres were needed for an access road. The price paid for the few acres was \$75,000. This startled the populace for a time, and put a new value on all the land. According to Dr. Plummer, should the tax assessor now assess all the vast woodland tracts at the same value? The message of the "Georgic" which amused his generation may be less mirthful to the next, as more land speculators invade the woods. The old freedom will be nibbled away by a beaucroatic state and by one penetrating question — what are you doing with your land, farmer?

But for the present, precarious and evanescent though it be, Maine farm-

ers are still laconically cordial to campers in their brief flight from "civilization" and they will continue to enjoy quiet evenings and sweet syrup from their maples — for a while.

Dr. Albert W. Plummer died in 1959 at the age of 90 after 65 years spent in the practice of medicine and support of economic justice. He served in the Maine legislature for three terms and was affectionately known as the "elder statesman" of the Democratic party.

In June, 1958 he demonstrated his spirited interest in *The Henry George News* by offering the following statement of purpose for use on the masthead:

"The earth may be regarded as an estate entailed through successive generations in the use and enjoyment of which all men have equal share and right. . . . To secure to everyone his rightful share in the heritage, government should collect from the holders of the superior parcels the value of such superiority, the ground rent."

We'd like to tell Dr. Plummer that five years after his passing his message was recalled in an important daily newspaper. Many a campaigner for justice has been honored more in death than in life. Truth, like poetry, glows in retrospect.

AN IRISH TOAST

"Health and long life to you / The women of your choice to you: / Children without end to you, / Land without rent to you, / And death in Ireland."