

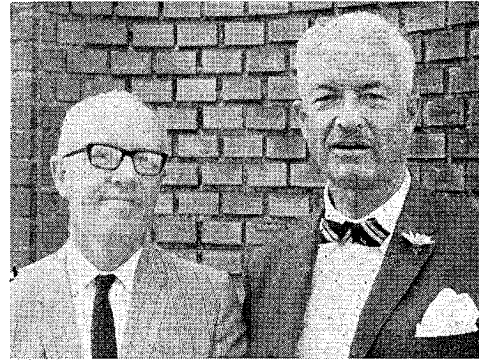
the Henry George News

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Against the Wall — 25 Years Later

THE first issue of The Henry George News in September, 1943 introduced William Lyman Hall as a trustee of the HGS in Newark, New Jersey. It is a pleasure on this 25th anniversary to welcome him as assistant to the new president of the school, Arnold A. Weinstein, in New York. Mr. Hall modestly traces his ancestry to Dr. Lyman Hall, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and governor of Georgia in 1783. He is a graduate of Princeton University and has recently been teaching economics at Franklin Pierce College in Rindge, New Hampshire. Lancaster M. Greene, the school's vice president, was also active 25 years ago as teacher, lecturer and trustee.

One of the pleasant surprises revealed by plunging back a quarter-century is the number of workers who were strong advocates then and still are. Most people go through periods devoted to certain enthusiasms which are in time supplanted by others. This is less common in our movement where we constantly hear of persons who have been strongly influenced by their study of Henry George's philosophy, and because the logic of this is borne out more and more in their experience, it naturally remains with them.



William L. Hall and Lancaster M. Greene

On this anniversary when the HGN is looking back, the school is looking ahead. Spurred by the social challenge it may undergo a significant change. Recent studies, especially in the field of anthropology, give further insights into the fundamental theories of Henry George.

The first issue of HGN recalled a number of well attended public meetings and classes. Mr. Hall, Mr. Greene and Miss V. G. Peterson had planned a memorial in Newark for Dr. Elizabeth Bowen, dean of the New Jersey HGS and co-author with her husband, George L. Rusby, of *Economics Simplified*. Mr. Rusby was the strong persuader who imbued Messrs. Hall and Greene and many others with a lifelong conviction.

Also recorded was news of a dinner at the Town Hall Club in New York
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— 25 Years Later

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sponsored by the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation in celebration of Henry George's birthday. (He was born in Philadelphia on September 2, 1839). Lawson Purdy, president of RSF, introduced Anna George de Mille, president of the HGS and daughter of Henry George, who discussed the common goal sought by her father and Leo Tolstoy. A year later, after the school had moved from 29th Street to 50 East 69th Street, Mrs. de Mille presided at a meeting where she introduced Countess Alexandra Tolstoy who spoke of her father's devotion to Henry George.

At a meeting sponsored by the School of Living, attended by Margaret Bateman, HGS director, and Lancaster M. Greene—Pearl S. Buck as guest speaker advised against union with the "presently constituted" British Empire. Ralph Borsodi, another speaker, warned of post-war inflation. The chairman, William W. Newcomb, emphasized that none of the organizations represented in the audience of 600 favored regimentation or a dole from the state.

Chicagoland

The same initial 1943 issue reported a meeting at Chicago's Civic Theater on September 2—Henry George Day. The program consisted of a debate by two university students on whether a world-wide lasting peace could be achieved through the philosophy of Henry George as expressed in *Progress and Poverty*. They were coached by John Z. White, then a vigorous man of 89. He had been chairman of Henry George's first public lecture in Chicago in 1885. The Hon. Francis Neilson summarized the debate and Jerome Joachim, a newspaper publisher, presided. John Lawrence Monroe was the extension director, and the Chicago movement over the years in-

cluded other faithful members of the Tideman family: Henry, Selim, George, Lillian and Robert who is the director of the San Francisco extension. Mrs. Monroe's maiden name was Tideman.

The Henry George Woman's Club was functioning as a corollary of the Chicago HGS and it has since become affiliated with the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Georgist women of other cities are being invited to join this club which is about to "go national." Mrs. Gonzales Chavez is president, Mina (Mrs. Carlton) Olson is membership chairman. Mrs. Otto Siebenmann was the founding president in 1939. In the 1940's there was also a women's group in Washington, D.C. known as the Single Tax Club.

Festivals at Arden

Henry George Birthday celebrations were being held annually the first Sunday in September at Arden, Delaware—the enclave started by Frank Stephens who is buried in the open air theater where the gatherings were held. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stirlith were active, as were Katherine and Ann Ross and Dr. Henry George III. Dr. George's oldest son, Henry IV, a teacher of social studies in a Wilmington high school, is pursuing the philosophy of his famous ancestor.

Joseph Stockman had organized an extension in Philadelphia and many of the members visited nearby Arden for the September festivals. Included among 30 persons on his advisory board were three who were present at the recent annual conference of the HGS in Florida: Lucia Cipolloni, Olive Moore, now Mrs. Dyckman, and Julian P. Hickok.

In 1944 a Liberty Ship was named in honor of Henry George and inscribed with his words: "Liberty calls to us again. We must follow her further. We must trust her fully. Either we must wholly accept her or she will not stay."

Granddaughter

Agnes de Mille, now a trustee of the school, was an exciting new star internationally acclaimed for her choreography of "Oklahoma!" and "One Touch of Venus." Dorothy Thompson was influencing public opinion with her newspaper columns which referred favorably on several occasions to Henry George's views. Margaret Bateman had published a book, *Whose World?* Josephine Billington, now Mrs. Hansen, was on the editorial staff of HGN and the speaker's bureau and she is still one of the popular teachers and speakers. This report includes only those whose names were mentioned in early issues of The Henry George News, but many other women were participating in the movement.

Formal debating, now a neglected art, was popular 25 years ago. It called for superb reasoning and courteous delivery. On one occasion, Lancaster M. Greene and Dr. Eugene Friedberg took the affirmative position and won against members of the New York University Society on a resolution that the U.S. should adopt a free trade policy after the war.

Dr. Sun Yat-Sen, who was a friend while in the U.S. of Representative Henry George, Jr., cabled from China on his return there that he intended to make the teachings of Henry George the basis of a reform program. A guest lecturer at the school on several occasions was Dr. Maurice William who wrote a book about Sun Yat-Sen's endorsement of Henry George and his hopes for the New China.

In California, Bessie Truehart was a leading influence. William, her son, as director, had begun a series of radio discussions, and the West Coast is still using radio and television extensively to urge tax reform. J. Rupert Mason of San Francisco was a forceful spokesman for bringing to public attention "a practical Georgist object lesson in the California irrigation districts." Jack Ad-

dington, a California minister who recently conducted services in New York's Church of the Truth at Philharmonic Hall, was one of many teachers who has remained a friend and supporter of the Henry George philosophy to the present.

Many loyal workers were in military service. Major Geoffrey Esty was stationed overseas. Noah D. Alper, director emeritus of the St. Louis extension and contributor to Brief Cases in HGN, was a corporal in the army. Robert Clancy, while on a furlough in Seattle started an extension class in the public library. Lieutenant Sydney Mayers published his first "Views of the News" in the September 1946 HGN.

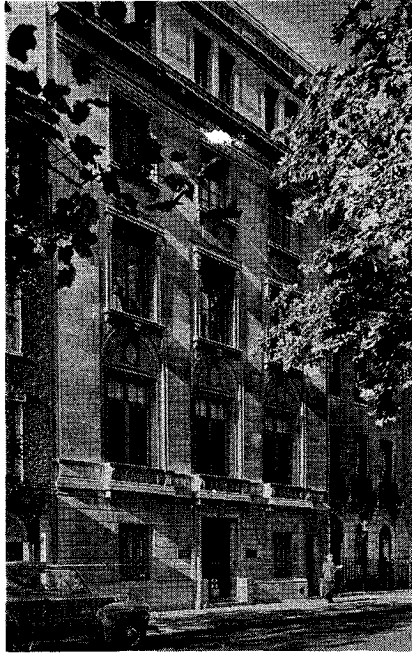
Memoirs of a Superfluous Man was published more than twenty years ago by Albert Jay Nock. Roger Babson, Franz Oppenheimer, Francis Neilson, Gilbert M. Tucker, Alfred Chandler, Salom Rizk and others had written books favorable to Henry George, as had Lord Wedgewood in England. The Progress Guide was a popular magazine in this field.

Increased Interest

Henry George was not without recognition in the press, but there was nothing resembling the favorable newspaper reports that follow important round tables and articles relating to land value taxation for which Perry Prentice has been responsible. Today, as reflected elsewhere in this issue, numerous columnists and distinguished speakers support this urgently needed tax reform.

In succeeding years the HGN was honored by having represented in its pages men and women from several continents and many fields of interest. News writers and editors in the U.S. alone included Will Lissner of The New York Times, Perry Prentice of Time, Inc. (first HGN appearance in 1956), Harlan Trott and Richard L. Strout of The Christian Science Moni-

tor, Roy L. Foulke and A. M. Sullivan of Dun's Review, Harold S. Bottenheim of American City, Colonel E. C. Harwood of the American Institute for Economic Research, Richard Noyes, publisher of four New Hampshire newspapers, Walt Rybeck, Washington correspondent for the Dayton Daily News, and Stanley Sinclair, New York financial writer.



Among the faithful were such authors as Charles Johnson Post, Joseph S. Thompson who recently retired as the school's president and William W. Clement, also professors Glenn E. Hoover, Charles A. Barker, Harry Gunnison Brown, Pinkney Walker, Mason Gaffney, Steven Cord and Robert Andelson. In 1957 the format was changed to include sixteen pages instead of eight, and many new friends have contributed generously and have our undying gratitude.

We are now realizing the woeful accuracy of the predictions made by the Prophet of San Francisco a century ago and should not be surprised at the present distress. By virtue of having had prior warning we should, of all people, be most ready to propose help and hope. From Henry George's life and work we have inherited a high standard of moral courage. Behind us is a wall of confidence in the truth that ultimately must prevail.

In the 1940's there were brave little flowering trees in front of our school on East 69th Street and not much carbon monoxide in the air. This summer the last lonely tree was fed into a monstrous machine and loudly ground into sawdust.

However, the interior of the building is being beautified so that all seven floors will be redecorated for the opening of the fall term.

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