

"Happy Birthdays to You"

CANADIAN SENATOR, the Honorable Mr. A. W. Roebuck, a skilled orator well known to Georgists and to residents of Ontario, was heartily cheered and celebrated on his 88th birthday on February 28th. He continues actively in public life to acquaint his fellow senators and others with the good news of the Henry George tax reform.

Some advocates of the Georgist philosophy feel their efforts would be feeble and fruitless so they do nothing. Others teach, talk and write. Gaston Haxo of St. Petersburg, Florida belongs to the latter company who has been writing letters to editors for some 40 years and is continuing "as a matter of duty." While he is not too hopeful of early acceptance, he believes "if we don't curtail land speculation communism will come in."

Mr. Haxo, formerly of France, later a clerk for Wall Street brokerage firms and during that period a teacher at the Henry George School, is now retired. He will be 78 in March, and he was generously honored by the editor of the St. Petersburg Times on Sunday, November 28, 1965. This should be convincing evidence that newspaper

editors welcome well-written letters.

"I generally write in line with the Georgist philosophy when I see something in the paper that gives it more strength," said Mr. Haxo. "I believe the average American is ignorant of economics. Since I am dedicated to George's philosophy, I want to spread it around and reach thousands of people with it. I regard it as a form of teaching."

Never say you have no influence — but before trying to teach or to guide, try to be very clear about the principles.

Robert Ritchey, former extension director at Albany, now retired and living in Troy, New York, writes, "I'm not getting any younger, but I'm still cheating the undertaker." He will be ninety in March. Mr. Ritchey's letters to the editor and his circulation of various well selected reprints have done faithful duty through his state for many years.

Wonderment is often expressed at what seems to be the health, vigor and longevity of our sturdy Georgists. There are many of these whose names and birth dates we do not know, but we salute them all.

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