

The Henry George News
published by
Henry George School
of Social Science

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Subscription \$5 per year
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EDITORIAL

NEW BUILDING/RENEWED SPIRIT

There are any number of standards by which to evaluate a conference, from a measure of real accomplishment to some expressions of the participants that they had a good time. The scale from attainment to entertainment may not be so wide after all. People in good spirits can indeed get more done, and so it seemed at the 1980 conference which opened the new headquarters in New York.

Many conferees expressed satisfaction with the new building and its handsome facilities. While not as opulent as the old mansion uptown, the modern auditorium reception area and bookstore offer new opportunities to reach the public in a location at the heart of everything. A few friends were disappointed at not seeing the rest of the building, especially the library which is still being completed but will add an important dimension to our communications and research capability.

One tangible expression of this prevailing good spirit was the quick and unanimous agreement among all those present on the founding of a Council of Georgist Organizations and the designation of its leadership for the coming year, including the arrangements it will make for next year's conference. The structure, agenda, functions and operations of the Council remain to be resolved but its existence is assured at this time and it will have headquarters at the new Henry George building, where three of the organizations are already established. This may be the first crucial step in getting our Georgist act together. When it's ready, and we plan to make it soon, we won't have to "see how it plays in Peoria" or have an out-of-town tryout. The world of ideas and public policy, of communication and action, will get a firsthand look at our message and its application to the needs of today.