Summer Sadness

POR a little while there is a tendency in summer to move aside from the accustomed paths. Then at summer's end there is a homecoming and a looking back, and sometimes a heartache.

Not until two weeks after the annual conference in St. Louis did the bitter news reach us that Ivan R. Dailey and his wife Betty, of Lakewood, Ohio, started to the conference in their car and were killed in an accident. The events and details surrounding the tragedy are missing—but the void remains.

Ivan, who cherished a lifelong interest in George's philosophy, was the director of the Ohio extension. It was his pleasure for years to hold classes in fundamental economics for friends and neighbors, in connection with the Lakewood school system.

He was a quiet one—and so kind. Just before the conference he took the trouble to send us copies of the February HGN in answer to our plea, as did many other considerate readers. He was the one who, because he wanted his students to have HGN, always sent in a year's subscription for each graduate. And he was the one who could be depended on to send the news clippings which have kept our readers informed of the growing civic interest in assessment reform in Ohio.

The surviving sons and daughter, students and friends, have our profound sympathy. In this tragic loss all words fail. His fellow directors are stunned and will miss Ivan Dailey's "strong moderate manner and faith."

Cleveland has known other great Georgists, but now it has lost one of its kindest. It is all very well to hope that "the ranks will close around him," but there will always be a tearful spot where he and his dear wife went down. Here was quality in quietness, activity in repose, and a worker whose worth was rare. We need to remember those who, like him, have enriched our movement with an endowment of eternal worth.

And then we heard that Ann Ross had slipped away too during the summer. Ann Ross! To many of us she was the soul of Arden (Delaware) where she made her home. She knew it from its early days, and because she thoroughly understood Henry George's teaching, she knew the extent to which this one-time Georgist enclave adhered to his philosophy and increasingly, the changes which drew it away from its chartered hopes. She saw, but was unable to speak forcibly of, the departures from the historical beginnings of this pleasant spot, as it grew more and more into one of the most desirable suburbs of Wilmington. Newcomers enjoyed Arden's advantages without taking the trouble to find out what fiscal enlightenment had preserved its attractiveness.

Ann and her sister-in-law, Katherine Ross, also a splendid Georgist, often entertained friends and students of Henry George in Arden, especially during the early fall. Ann also worked very earnestly for human legislation and prevention of cruelty to animals. Her life fell into silence in the later years—as a summer fades away.

Word comes shockingly from Nairobi, Kenya, that the father of Kul Bhushan Sharma died suddenly, the victim of a heart attack. He was at the head of the school where Kul, an enthusiastic young man, was busy teaching, writing and enjoying an active life. The solemn duty of taking up the educational and literary work begun by his father now falls on young shoulders that all too soon feel the weight of responsibility for two families.