

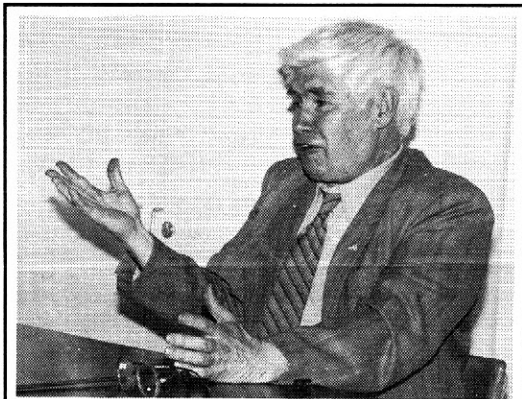
## PROFESSOR YURI BOCHAROV: *The Chaos of Urban Planning in the USSR*

Cities in the Soviet Union grew in size and character according to the needs of industry, not in response to the needs of people. So said Professor Yuri Bocharov at a specially scheduled slide lecture at the New York school on Monday, April 29th. Prof. Bocharov is an expert in the theory and practice of urban planning in the Soviet Union, holding the positions of Research Director of the Central Research and Design Institute for Town Planning, and Secretary of the Board of the USSR Union of Architects.

The professor's slide presentation focused on the over-riding goal of industrialization in Soviet society. All the cities, he said, are built around industries. About 30% of the land in the country is devoted to industry; so, the cities are very densely built. Thousands of prefabricated, high-rise apartment dwellings were built; this was seen as the most efficient use of building materials -- but, the cities became extremely crowded. Bocharov reported that as of last year, some twenty-eight million households have inadequate living conditions, officially defined as less than nine square meters of apartment space per person. Urban overcrowding has led to the widespread phenomenon of second dwellings, separate small houses outside of the cities where families may spend weekends or vacations. Some twenty million of these second dwellings have been built, and another ten million are planned in the next ten years. Although the supplying of country houses is a potent medicine for worker unrest, it is doubted that the Soviet economy in its current state will be able to finance such an ambitious project.

Many other aspects of the Soviet urban landscape show the effects of central planning. Architectural styles reflect the different ideological thrusts of various periods of Soviet history. Under Stalin, for example, over ten thousand churches were destroyed across the country. Later, some of those left partially standing, or which had

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Prof. Yuri Bocharov

## TEACHING HENRY GEORGE IN ONE DAY -- *the Alanna Hartzok Way*

Alanna Hartzok conducted a one-day seminar for thirty-four people on Saturday, March 2nd, at the New York HGS. *Economic Justice and Land Rights*, the title of the seminar, uses a mix of video, lecture and slide presentations. Land ownership and the struggle to survive was explored in the contexts of Latin America, Appalachia, Japan and New York City. The perspective of women, often not presented, in the struggle for land rights was movingly depicted in a videotape about Guatemala.

While the morning session dealt with the problem, the afternoon session looked at solutions. Once the participants had grasped the Law of Rent, community land trusts, community heritage funds, and land value taxation were explained and compared, and their relative strengths and weaknesses discussed.

*Economic Justice and Land Rights* has been developed by Alanna in recent years, in response to difficulties in getting people, particularly social/ecology activists, to sit through a ten-week course in economic principles. Alanna has presented the seminar in the San Francisco Bay Area, where she lived for many years. Alanna now lives in Scotland, PA, close enough for a weekend trip to New York City. In addition to her work for the Henry George School, Alanna has been active in the community land trust movement, the Peoples' Assembly for the United Nations, and humanistic/transpersonal psychology.

Building on Alanna's work, Wendell Fitzgerald will present a variation of the one-day seminar on June 15th at the Annual North American Georgist Conference at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania. His presentation will include text and presentational materials which will be distributed to groups who wish to present the seminar. Wendell is Alanna's successor as Education Director of the Northern California HGS.

## SCROFANIFEST

E. Robert Scrofani celebrated more than 30 years (32 to be exact) as a high school teacher on Sunday, May 5th, in Freestone, California (about an hour north of Golden Gate Bridge). The party was held at the home of Carol Khadjenouri, a longtime friend and colleague. The celebration included a barbecue, walks, swimming and sunning. Music was provided by Linn Nelson, sax player, and a trio of strolling musicians. Formal words from colleagues were presented as part of the festivities.

Here are two opinions from Bob's teaching colleagues: "Bob is absolutely committed to expanding his knowledge and enriching his classroom. This leads to a lively up-to-date classroom where students are exposed to world events and their links to the historical past. We in the department shake our heads in awe of him, but we inevitably benefit from his curiosity, generosity and his willingness to share" (Sue Groves). "Bob's commitment to excellence and to identifying and stimulating the unique talents of a wide range of students



Bob at the 1989 Phila. Conference

has made him an invaluable asset to BHS, but most significant are the innumerable ways he has touched the lives of teachers and students to truly make a positive difference in their lives" (Steve Teel).

Of his 32 years teaching, Bob, or Manny (as he's also known to his friends), has spent 25 of them at Berkeley High

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## MUMIA ABU-JAMAL: A POSSIBILITY OF HOPE

"Why HGI?" wrote Mumia Abu-Jamal, in response to instructor Lindy Davies's query, "To keep my mind alive, and to learn." At that point in July, 1990, Jamal was midway through the second course of the Henry George Institute's *Principles of Political Economy*, and the Institute had just learned of his notoriety. Until 1981, Mumia Abu-Jamal was a widely published newspaper columnist, and a Philadelphia radio personality, known as "The Voice of the Voiceless". Since then, convicted of a 1981 shooting of a Philadelphia police officer, Jamal has been on death row in Huntingdon (PA) state prison. In early 1990 he first contacted the Institute, and he finished all three courses in less than a year. In his remarks upon completion, which appeared in the fall 1990 *Georgist Journal*, Jamal wrote:

*It would be tempting to damn the incumbents now in power but misleading to do so, for, George notes, and I agree, that the problem is systemic.... To call for stability when the boot of poverty crushes so many, is to call for a stasis of a false status quo -- a deceptive stability. It is a recipe for disaster. George, at least, raises a possibility of hope. His theory deserves application in the real world, to see if theory, applied to practice, survives the test.*

The case against Jamal, as reported in *The Nation* and elsewhere in the "alternative press", is highly suspicious. Witnesses made conflicting statements and, themselves under arrest for prostitution, were offered special leniency for their cooperation. Some said they saw a second assailant; this man was never found. Police admitted that they did not know

whether Jamal's gun fired the fatal shots. Jamal was denied his right to carry out his own defense, and denied his right to review and challenge the jury selection process. He was cross-examined by the district attorney while attempting to make a closing statement at the trial. His previous connections with the Black Panthers were repeatedly stressed to the jury, though they had no bearing on the case. Finally, the DA urged the jury to sentence him to death, because he would have "appeal after appeal". It might seem that sufficient irregularities existed for the decision to be successfully appealed, but the Supreme Courts of Pennsylvania and the United States could see nothing improper about the verdict.

Jamal has continued to write from death row, where, because of his refusal to cut his dreadlocks, he remains in solitary confinement. His columns have been published in *The Philadelphia Tribune*, *The Atlanta Inquirer*, and *The Nation*, among others. A campaign on his behalf has been organized by the New York-based Partisan Defense Committee, which has sponsored rallies in New York, Philadelphia, and Chicago. The one person now, however, who can change the course of Jamal's fate is the governor of Pennsylvania. His address is: The Governor of Pennsylvania, Robert Casey, Main Capital Building, Room 225, Harrisburg, PA 17120.

--Lindy Davies



*Jamal and son, in happier times*

## ON TEACHING GEORGIST IDEAS -- An Opinion

Becoming aware of oppression and acting against it to secure personal and political freedom has become a widespread social phenomenon in our time. Whether women, blacks, the Third World poor, homosexuals, students, the homeless, or native Americans are involved, the diverse political movements of each include a personal growth in the awareness and understanding of the pertinent issues. The voyage by these groups into fuller consciousness changes individual lives. It must, if it has any reality at all, but what is learned and what changes lie outside the methods of formal education.

Has Georgism as a formally taught discipline changed a significant number of lives recently? Has it changed enough of them to make a significant social or political difference?

A good starting point in trying to answer the question centers around gaining an understanding of the difference between consciousness-raising and formal education. It is only a starting point, for consciousness can be raised to far greater heights than to an awareness of personal oppression, and can include being borne to high levels of spirituality. For the present, however, let us limit our view to the basic difference.

People whose lives are changed by dealing with their own oppression must, of course, begin by being able to see it as it relates to them *personally*. Understanding their social condition adequately and acquiring the ability to deal with it follows, but neither come quickly or easily. These significant learning processes, which involve personal moral and psychological growth, always require a certain amount of suffering. (Continued on page six)

## HGS HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM MARCHES ON

*New York City's Current Fiscal Crisis* was the timely topic of the twenty-second annual High School Urban Workshop held at the New York HGS on April 23rd. Fifty students from high schools all over the city listened to presentations on NYC's struggle to pay its bills and how they might be affected. Jesse Benjamin, Deputy Regional Director of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, discussed the entry-level labor market in a shrinking economy. Then, in a panel discussion, two experts discussed the ways in which priorities are determined in a city's deficit budgeting. They were Lowell Harriss, Professor Emeritus of Economics at Columbia University, and Rae Rosen, Vice President of the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York. Unfortunately, M.T.A. Budget Director Gary Caplan was also scheduled to appear, but he couldn't make it.

After they were served lunch, the students returned to a thoughtful discussion on the ways in which the fiscal crisis would affect their lives. Responses from students and their teachers were appreciative.

**Results are in** from the High School Program's Economic Essay contest. As reported in the Jan.-Feb. *Newsletter*, the contest explored the most fundamental question of *Progress and Poverty*: the cause of poverty, and the remedy for it. Students were invited to write a one-to-two thousand word essay, comparing Henry George's views on the question of poverty with those of one of four other economists: Adam Smith, Karl Marx, J.M. Keynes, or Milton Friedman. Fifty-five entries were received from students across the country. Essays were judged by High School Program Director Stan Rubenstein, HGS Trustee Connie Weinstein, and HGS Assistant Director Lindy Davies.

Eric Shaeb, of Randolph H.S., Randolph, New Jersey, won the first prize, a \$750 U.S. savings bond, for his essay on George and Keynes. Second prize, a \$500 savings bond, went to David Schauer, from Rio Americano H.S. in Sacramento, California. The three writers whose papers were chosen for honorable mention, who each received a six-volume boxed set of George's works, were Jason Kamras, also of Rio Americano, Brenda Larsen, from Blackfoot H.S. in Blackfoot, Idaho, and Deven Patel, from Seton Hall Prep, in West Orange, NJ.

Prize money for this contest was provided by the Arnold Weinstein fund, which was set up by Connie Weinstein in memory of her late husband, the former HGS Presi-

## EDITOR'S NOTES

**Vandana Chak**, HGS part-time faculty member, received notice on May 1st that she passed the New York Bar exam at the high grade level, giving her an automatic entry on the Washington DC Bar. Vandana previously practiced law in India. She represented the HGS at the recent U.N.D.P. forum on Global Development Challenges. Congratulations!

***What They Won't Tell You About Your Taxes*** is the title of a fascinating 25-page booklet of Pulitzer Prize-winning editorials originally published in *The Birmingham News*. The essays describe the deplorable state of public financing in Alabama, as well as a historical overview of how things have turned out this way. The pieces are about Alabama -- but they detail processes and forces that are at work, more or less, in all fifty states. Although the proposals for reform are "mainstream" in nature, the state's inequitable property tax system is a major focus. Copies can be obtained by writing: Ron Casey, *Birmingham News*, P.O.B. 2553, Birmingham, AL 35202-2553.

***Earth Ethics*** is a very attractive journal that promotes "Evolving Values for an Earth Community." Its Fall 1990 issue has an article and a forum on sustainable development, an essay by Mikhail Gorbachev on "The Ecological Imperative," and one by John Haught on "Cosmic Homelessness: Some Environmental Implications."

I found Haught's article especially



dent and Director. One of her husband's main concerns, Connie said, was "to expose and introduce Henry George's philosophy of economic justice to young people." She was quite pleased with the level of response, and said that other essay contests would be held in the future.

***This fall, the Land and Freedom Series*** of high school teaching materials will be extended by the introduction of a new sixteen-page booklet on the history of the United States under the articles of Confederation. The unit, five lessons in length, pays particular attention to economic factors that led to the adoption of the U.S. constitution. The disposition of public lands, of course, played a big part in this process, as did the economic interests of the framers of the Constitution. Each lesson includes a background reading selection, with illustrations and study questions, and a number of class activities. For further information on this new booklet, and all the *Land and Freedom* materials, contact the New York HGS.

interesting, treating the way many religious traditions emphasize our ultimate homelessness in the universe (both Jesus and Gautama led their disciples in a life of wandering, and the Jews were told that they are sojourners, not landowners.) "How can we hold together a feeling of fully belonging to nature, while at the same time embracing the insecurity of a genuine religious movement into mystery?... The key to such a synthesis lies in the notion that the universe is itself an adventure. The idea of a cosmic adventure is able to integrate the biblical and other religious ideals of homeless searching with the environmental need to feel totally at home in nature."

Back copies of *Earth Ethics* cost \$2.50, and may be ordered from Public Resource Foundation, 1915 H Street, NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20006.

***The Georgist Journal*** this Spring gives an excellent report on the recent 19th International Conference on Land Value Taxation and Free Trade, held in London on March 21-27. David Richards's report occupies nine pages in the *Journal*. Other pieces in this issue include a review of Godfrey Dunkley's new book, *That All May Live*, and an essay on "Henry George & Free Will" by Ian Lambert. The *GJ* is edited by Robert Clancy and published by the Henry George Institute, 121 East 30th St., New York, NY 10016. Membership in the Institute is \$10/year and includes four issues of the *Journal*. It's well worth it!

***The Geonomist*** rides again with its Spring issue (Vol. 2, No. 1). It includes a wealth of news about new and old Geonomists, progress on various public dialogue/action fronts: the Greens, Eastern Europe, Denmark, Australia, and Pennsylvania. Also included is a two-page outline on "What is Geonomics, Briefly?" The four basic imperatives are: "I. Share Earth by *sharing her economic value*; II. Sharing Earth makes confiscation of wealth unnecessary as it is immoral -- let producers *keep earnings*; III. Sharing Earth requires us to protect and collect her value -- users must pay rent, *degraders must pay extra*; and IV. Sharing Earth reduces need for government and diffuses control over government -- to fund social services, put the *budget on the ballot* and let voters decide." Amen!

***The Geonomist*** is published by the Institute for Geonomic Transformation, headed by Jeff Smith and Gary Flo, at PO Box 157, Santa Barbara, CA 93102 (805-969-7024). They are now soliciting membership, and offer several different grades, based on different amounts of dues. Basic membership is \$15, which includes *The Geonomist* and a slogan button.

## NEW YORK REAL ESTATE WOES

Noting that the title of his seminar had been chosen for him, realtor Louis Smadbeck struck a tone of cautious optimism in his talk at the New York School on March 22nd. "None of the things that you ought to be doing are related to panic or speed," he said. Mr. Smadbeck, co-chairman of William A. White/Tishman East Co., also hosts a weekly real estate commentary on WNCN radio. He presented an illustrative nuts-and-bolts survey of the ways in which New York's real estate market has responded to general economic conditions.

"The key to real estate prosperity is the banks," he declared, and during the eighties there was a widespread bandwagon effect. "Everybody got caught up in the whirl of lending and building, lending and building...and then the recession trigger was pulled." The city was left with a large inventory of unrented office space. This was exacerbated by a spate of mergers, consolidations, and out-of-state moves in the financial industry. Thus, the climate for new construction is bearish indeed (see box).

Mr. Smadbeck noted, however, that New York is still "the cultural and financial center of the world" and that many companies admitted having made a mistake by moving away. Despite all its problems, Smadbeck sees immense vitality in the city, and said it will come out of its current problems because "the people who live and work here aren't going to see us go down the drain."

Let's assume that a developer wants to build a building of half a million square feet. The cost to buy the land, hire the architect, build the building, pay the brokers for getting the tenants, putting the tenants in, is \$150 million, or \$300 a square foot. Today the banks would make him put up \$25 million of his own money....That's \$50 a square foot....Now the bank will give this developer a long-term loan for the remaining \$125 million at, say, 12%...or \$30 a square foot from each of the tenants that go into the building. That's just for debt service. Taxes are going to run you about \$10 a foot and operating costs about \$8 a foot....Now, we're up to \$48 a foot before we have any return on your \$25 million dollars. I think you'd certainly want more than 10% on your \$25 million. You've put a lot of money up at risk and I think you ought to get 20% -- that's another \$10 a square foot, so now we're up to \$58....That's not going to rent your building up, and this is what has me worried. Look at all the vacant buildings around town that have to be absorbed before any new construction will take place. So what will happen? The banks will take over the property and do one of two things with it. They'll either resell to an outside investor at a big discount, or they'll bite the bullet themselves...and hold on to the property for investment hoping that in the distant future [it] will come back to be a wonderful investment on their books.

--Louis Smadbeck

## Rubenstein & Lazaar Named to HGS Board

Two new members have been added to the Board of Trustees of the Henry George School: Stan Rubenstein and Herman Lazaar. Mr. Lazaar is a former physicist, and a self-employed optometrist who lives in Metuchen, NJ. He has been an active Georgist for decades, serving as the president of the New Jersey HGS.

Mr. Rubenstein was director of the New York school from 1983-89. He has also served as Director of the Long Island extension since its founding in 1967. He retired from his career as a high school teacher in 1983, having served at Oceanside H.S. for twenty years. He currently directs the School's High School Program.

## SCROFANIFEST

(Continued from first page)

School, while he began his career in the Bronx, New York. Himself a graduate of Cardinal Hayes High School in 1949 and Fordham University in 1953, Bob was inspired to take up teaching when he heard a talk by Fr. James Keller, author of *You Can Change the World*. During his three-decade career in changing the world, Bob has been awarded several Fulbright fellowships which have taken him to Yugoslavia in 1970, Italy in '79, and Korea in '85. As a member of Educators for Social Responsibility, Bob also met with teachers in the Soviet Union in 1987.

In 1985 Bob was named an Outstanding Social Studies Teacher, and was given a special award for service by the East Bay Council of Teachers. During the past year, Bob has spoken at both the National and California Conference of Social Studies Teachers. Also in 1985 both Berkeley and San Francisco proclaimed E. Robert Scrofani Days. "He has committed his life to bringing forth the best in young people by demonstrating moral and intellectual leadership," said the Mayor of Berkeley.

To the many plaques and letters of commendation from many public figures marking Bob's 25th anniversary, in 1985, are now added those marking his 30th, including one from Willie Brown, Speaker of the Assembly in California's state government.

Bob's latest achievements include writing a chapter in *Now the Synthesis*, a new Georgist book just off the press in England, and being named Economic Fellow at Stanford University. He will be presenting a paper on California water and irrigation districts at this year's first Henry George Conference sponsored by Lafayette College on June 13-14. Bob's paper is based on historical research which won him the California Historical Society's award for "innovative teaching and writing about California history." Bob's focus is the Wright Act which broke the hold of landed interests on vast tracts of California land. His work in this area has been praised for its "insightful joining of a historical and contemporary problems" and for its application of constitutional principles to describe a peaceful transfer of power under law. In addition to all this, Bob also pursues his world-changing vocation as Executive Director of the Northern California Henry George School. A frequent participant in American and International Georgist Conferences, he is well known for his banquet wit as well as his seminar wisdom.



## YURI BOCHAROV

(Continued from first page)

been converted to other uses, were restored -- reflecting an official change of emphasis. "It is possible to restore churches," Yuri Bocharov said, "But it is impossible to restore souls."

The architecture of the 30s and 40s reflected an ideology of world leadership: grand, imposing, classically styled buildings. There tends to be a rigid homogeneity in certain districts if their buildings came from the same period, because "architects would be paid less for original designs. Following planned design is re-

warded." Later, the influence on Soviet leaders of Armand Hammer and others was reflected in a new wave of futuristic designs.

Prof. Bocharov showed a number of slides on the area of the Ukraine surrounding the Chernobyl power plant, the scene, he said, of "the greatest disaster in the history of man." It affected twelve million people, and resettlement is still needed for some 800,000 refugees and 400,000 soldiers. Central building planners, and other decision-makers in a command economy, must respond to accidents and disasters, as well as industrial growth projections.

## LIZZIE MAGIE PHILLIPS: The Proof of the Game is in the Playing

Pat McFarland, graphic artist, historian and writer from Averill Park, New York, continues at full steam on her research into the life and work of Elizabeth Magie Phillips. [See the Jan.-Feb. '91 Newsletter.] Although no flood of information has come in from HGN readers, Pat has found documents, photos, journals, and game rules enough to be sure she is dealing with not only a brilliant and fascinating woman, but also a dyed-in-the-wool teacher of the Georgist philosophy. That is what the game that became *Monopoly* is for. I know, now: I've played it.

Ms. McFarland told me in many conversations that her project has more than just historical interest -- that Georgist teachers should reclaim this game as a powerful educational tool. While I agreed it was a fine idea, I must confess that I didn't catch Pat's enthusiasm. Nevertheless, she said she intended to travel to New York to pore over the School's archives, and to play the game with a couple of Georgists. Admittedly new to economics in general and *Progress and Poverty* in particular, she wished to hear some political-economic commentary on the game as it progressed. So on Saturday May 18th, Pat and Nancy Boyea, her co-author and co-ordinator, came to New York to play the original 1904 *Landlord's Game*. Philadelphia HGS Director Mike Curtis, who has also supported Pat's efforts, was also in town for the occasion.

Undoubtedly this game was designed by a Single Taxer. Each "title deed" card (for such properties as George Street and Maguire Flats...) bore a quote from Henry George or some other sympathetic philosopher. And, undoubtedly, this was the game of which Parker Brothers would later sell one hundred million copies under the name of *Monopoly*.

Now, we've all played *Monopoly*. We know how competitive it can get; we know how gleefully we can sublimate our violent, greedy tendencies in this harmlessly bloodthirsty real estate spiral around the kitchen table. Well, that happened here too. The first stage of play in *The Landlord's Game* is the game we know as *Monopoly*: the goal, as Lizzie Magie put it, is to become the "Monarch of the World." Here, however, we had a four-some of people who deeply believe in everyone's right to share the Earth. Might they be expected to play the game with a bit more serenity, a bit less zealous greed? Forget it. We had the gentle Pat McFarland, who in real life is inspired to near-bankruptcy by this Magie woman and her ideals, landing on a space and hissing, "I own it!" We had Mike Curtis, his pockets having been emptied to beggars on the way over, growling, "No credit, buddy -- pay up!" Apparently the private control of land rent has some interesting psychological effects.

After a few hours of indulging our vilest impulses, we sent out for pizza. After lunch we would switch to the Single Tax rules. What happens under the new rules is easy to describe in economic terms; it's all there in Books Seven and Eight of *Progress and Poverty*.

What happens in the minds of the players, though, is the interesting part -- and perhaps we shouldn't be surprised that it was such a surprise. After all, there has never yet been, alas, a Single

Tax society -- and the game designed to simulate such a thing is still being disinterred. How could we have known?

When the Single Tax rules went into effect, *everyone suddenly felt better*. With money for public services (railroads, utilities, etc.) coming from publicly created land values, houses could be built (untaxed) on *any* unimproved property. Since there was a frontier, now, nobody was in danger of being starved to death by a rapacious landlord. Wages increased every few laps around the board. Investment opportunity was now in new houses, so cozy little bungalows started popping up all over town.

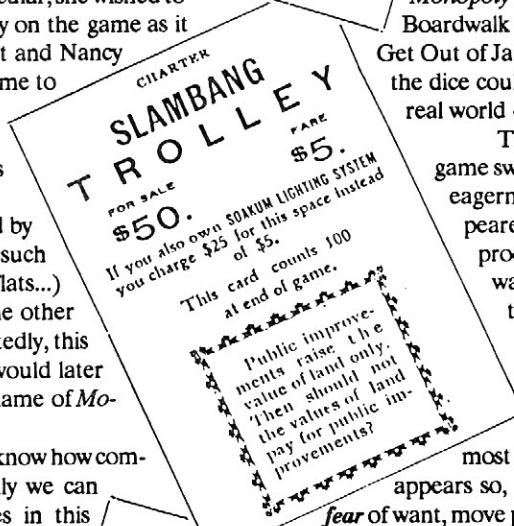
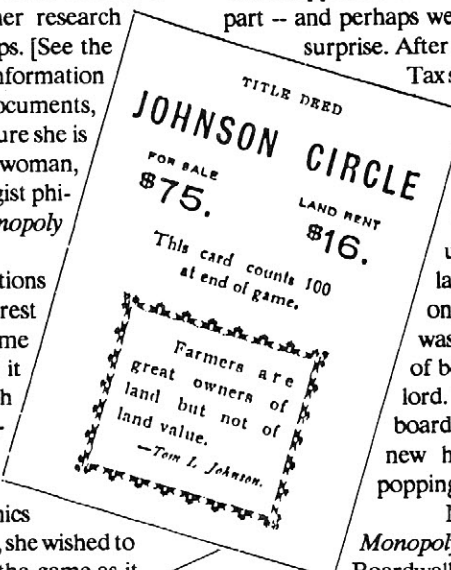
Now, think back to how it feels to be playing *Monopoly* and losing. The tension of knowing that Boardwalk rents for \$2000, that you have \$14 and one Get Out of Jail Free card to your name, and each roll of the dice could be your last. Yes, of course, it's not the real world -- but it is real tension.

That nervous energy evaporated when the game switched to the Single Tax rules. That vicious eagerness for your buddy's utter ruin -- disappeared. What did not disappear, though, was the production of wealth. The whole experience was remarkable -- not to be missed! It got me thinking about a point that Henry George made in *Progress and Poverty* that Lizzie Magie must have deeply understood.

George said that self-interest (call it greed if you like) only *appears* to be the most pervasive motivator of human actions. It appears so, because want, and more importantly the fear of want, move people to frenetically and neurotically store up wealth for themselves. At a genteel dinner party, where there is plenty of food and plenty of time, nobody would think of grabbing extra portions. At a soup kitchen, with a long line before closing time, people would grab.

*The Landlord's Game* turns Henry George's principles of production and distribution into an amiable, enjoyable simulation game -- but we knew that. The surprise was that the game also provided a psychological lesson -- and that, says Patrice McFarland, was Elizabeth Magie Phillips's great genius.

--Lindy Davies



**NOTE:** If you have any information, documents, photos, or reminiscences of Elizabeth Magie Phillips, or *The Landlord's Game*, or the Washington, DC Henry George School, or the Washington Women's Single Tax Club -- it would be much appreciated if you'd contact Patrice McFarland at P.O. Box 161, Averill Park, NY 12018!

## ON TEACHING GEORGIST IDEAS (Continued from second page)

Through personal pain and the struggle to overcome it people grow in moral perception and depth. They are changed *from within* by this process, and the knowledge gained as a result is uniquely their own.

This kind of awareness lets a woman see the oppressive aspects of her socially assigned role, a prospective draftee the injustice of a particular war, or an ignorant peon the violation of his rights and freedom. When groups of such similar people gather, their common experience forms the ground upon which ever greater mutual learning and deeper awareness take place, and their association forms a potential springboard for social change and political action.

In formal education, however, knowledge is presented as an object outside both teacher and student. A personal relation between teacher and taught may aid the learning process, but is considered nonessential. A body of material to be learned, that is, incorporated into the intellects and memories of the learners, is presented. The students are required to retain it and return it to the teacher at exam time, and it may or may not have any particular personal meaning, nor need it be related to the concerns of anybody's life. This knowledge is given *from without* and usually remains in the mind as ballast, as unrelated and largely undigested chunks of information which may with luck take on an internalized meaning in the lives of the pupils. This learning process is amoral in the sense that no inner response except a mechanical one is expected or wanted. Morality is not considered germane to the process.

With this brief description of the difference between the two ways of learning and knowing, it might now be possible to see the problems involved in imparting an understanding of Georgist ideas.

Given our present educational framework and traditional methods, and with the need to avoid rabble-rousing, social hatred, and violent denunciation, so eschewed by Henry George himself, it seems safe to say that most Georgists are aware of the dangers of excessive subjectivism in teaching the message. Most know that arousing negative emotions without the tempering effect of solid intellectual content and a balanced point of view can produce only irrational reactions: anything from vacuous enthusiasm through flighty bombast to mindless and violent protest.

If Georgist teaching is presented with too much emphasis on its objective content, on the other hand, it will lie flat and inert without the fire of the moral vision so

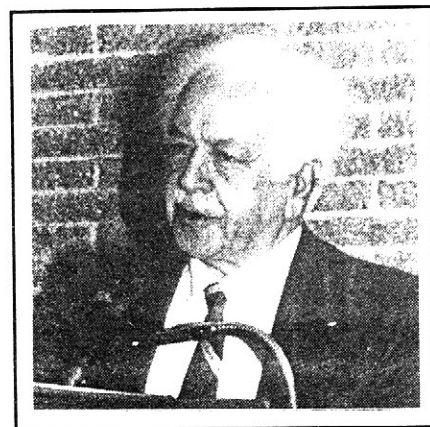
essential to it. If it comes across, even at best, as interesting and curious intellectual history, or at worst as a bunch of dead facts and dead axioms, it will have no power to provide a spark of light to anybody for a change to anything.

What seems to be needed is an inculcation of the awareness of our present state of socio-economic maladjustment as a *personal* evil, which affects everyone personally and vitally, which limits and harms personal life-styles and options. When Socrates taught his pupils, he asked them their definitions of concepts in order to lead them to an awareness of issues; no formal presentations were made without this individual "processing." His disruption of an uncritical acceptance of social concepts lead to his death, which at least proves his methods were effective.

Presenting Georgism in this way would mean that anxieties about loss of control would have to be faced and dealt with in the learning situation. Such nonformal questioning, "digging up," and discussion would not be sequential or strictly logical as an external intellectual exercise. Learning, furthermore, would not come exclusively from the formal teacher, but from group interchange and enrichment. Perhaps most problematic of all, the making of the unconscious conscious in this way would necessitate a heightened state of consciousness and a good level of moral and psychological growth in the person directing the activity, and a knowledge on her/his part of the social results of the activity. Once such a process were begun, however, it would tend of its own dynamism to spread and to present those involved with endless possibilities for further activity, including possible political activity. Stagnation would cease to exist or at least become far less of an inherent problem.

The example of Henry George himself lends itself to a serious consideration of this teaching method. He had a dim view of the insights of his contemporary, formally trained intellectual adversaries and was a nonacademic autodidact who learned of economic and social evils primarily through the bearing of suffering. His consequent moral growth and continuing moral insight grew out of a personal life situation and a consciousness refined by the struggle to relieve the suffering caused by the evils around him. Although he succeeded in spreading his vision to an extent given to few other mortals, the route he followed was essentially the same as the lowliest of the world at any time in history.

--Robert R. Hawes



## ANOTHER YEAR IN THE LIFE OF JACK SCHWARTZMAN

1991 is shaping up as a busy year for Professor Jack Schwartzman. It began with an address at George Washington University on January 5th, at a meeting of the University Professors for Academic Order. In his talk entitled "Natural Law and the Campus: Revisited," Jack took up a theme he presented as far back as 1951 in the pages of *The Freeman*. Jack's faith in "eternal verities" and critique of subjectivism remain as strong today as 40 years ago. Other speakers on the program included William H. Peterson speaking on the "praxeology" of Ludwig von Mises, and Berdj Kenadjian speaking on "creative economics." Jack's paper was accepted for publication by the journal of the Council for Social and Economic Studies. Jack spoke on the subject once again at a symposium at the home of H. Jan Ritscher (known for his interest in Rudolf Steiner and Henry George).

March 22, 1991 was proclaimed Dr. Jack Schwartzman Day by Thomas S. Gullotta, Executive of Nassau County (in Long Island), New York. The proclamation, honors Jack not only for his 79th birthday, but for his "vast knowledge, wisdom and devotion to causes and ideals which uphold the principles of human decency and compassion" and "deep rooted concern for (his) students, family, friends and the community..."

Nassau Community College, where Jack teaches, has also honored him by naming a scholarship after him: the Dr. Jack Schwartzman Learning Disabled Award. This year's Award went to Martin Sullivan of North Merrick, New York.

This summer will find Jack speaking at the Lafayette College First Henry George Conference (June 13-14) on "Henry George and Natural Law." And on Sunday June 16, Jack will speak at the 11th Confer-

## LA. LAW AND (or?) THE GOOD SOCIETY!

"LA Law" was the theme of the April Final Friday Dinner sponsored by the Southern California Henry George School. Featured speaker was Joe Hicks, Assistant Communications Director for the Los Angeles American Civil Liberties Union. He's currently working on a book that studies the relationship between crime and poverty.

Although the School tried very hard to get a speaker from the L.A.P.D., in the end, no one showed up to represent the Police Department.

One of the points covered is that the work of the police is today misdirected toward a war on victimless crimes, such as gambling, non-prescription drug consumption, and majority-disapproved sexual activities. Another point is that, in LA, thanks to inefficient land-use (the result of our systems of taxation and land tenure) has led to a spread-out community. Urban sprawl turns police officers into faceless occupants of motor vehicles. We do not get to know those charged to "protect and serve." This breakdown of police/community interaction is another factor which leads to police alienation and brutality.

### SCHWARTZMAN (continued)

ence of the Council of Georgist Organizations, also at Lafayette College, on "Henry George, Emma Lazarus, and Liberty." August 11 of this year will find Jack at Creighton University in Nebraska for the Sixth World Congress of Social Economists. His topic? "Henry George and Rerum Novarum." This paper will mark the centenary of Pope Leo XIII's significant encyclical, and George's response, *The Condition of Labor*.

Jack is Editor-in-Chief of *Fragments*, an individualist review inspired by such luminaries as Henry David Thoreau, Leo Tolstoy and Albert Jay Nock. And it would not be inaccurate to say Jack Schwartzman is not only distinguished (he would say "extinguished", verifying his status as an endangered species, one of the remnant of individualists) but even unique. He exemplifies the view, propounded by his mentor Frank Chodorov and writers such as Max Stirner, that only the individual exists. "L'unique, c'est moi!"

To summarize the moral and economic philosophy of Henry George: Ethics is not merely a polite injunction of behavior, such as etiquette; or a rigid commandment of obedience, such as a statute. It is the Golden Rule itself! Without adherence to the eternal principles of proper economic distribution; without conformity to the time-honored precepts of justice and natural rights, the Georgist philosophy becomes meaningless. "Single tax," "land value taxation," "communal collection of rent" - these are merely methodological phrases; they are but the means to the end itself; and that end is - justice. -- Jack Schwartzman, "Henry George and the Ethics of Economics", *The American Journal of Economics and Sociology*, Vol. 45, No. 1, January 1986, pg. 112

We need police officers willing to risk life and limb by charging into danger. But we don't want macho "cowboys" or racists who are too willing to use unnecessary violence on those they apprehend. Of course, one of the roots of our police/crime/racism problem is the poverty that is destroying inner city life.

Final Friday on May 31st asks the questions: "Why Do Free Goods cost So Much? Air and Water: Who Own Them?" California has everything except clean air and water. "How come we can't take for granted things we should be able to take for granted?" The problem is, if no one owns these resources, they will be abused. How can we avoid "the tragedy of the commons" (the overuse and depletion of common resources)? Can a market in polluted air actually be part of the solution?

Taking on these tough questions is Dorothy Green, an environmentalist and former editor of *Water*, a publication which monitored the activities of the Metropolitan Water District. She is a Member of the Board of the L.A. Department of Water and Power. Second speaker is economist Jane Hall, Ph.D., who teaches at California State University in Fullerton. Prof. Hall is former California Assistant Secretary of Natural Resources. Third speaker, well known to our readers, is Prof. Mason Gaffney. Prof. Gaffney's *Economics of Water* is being highlighted as part of "18 Fallacies" in the June '91 issue of *The Good Society!*, published by the L.A. School.

Other features of the June issue of *The Good Society!* include a front-page article on abolishing welfare, pointing out that the credibility of President Johnson's War on Poverty shrivelled when *Time* revealed that those below the poverty line paid more in income taxes than the budget for the War. Even today, the poor pay a higher proportion of their income in taxes than those better off, and they pay in other more insidious ways. The Federal Bank of New York estimated that tariff protection of textile and similar industries adds a 65%

surcharge to the taxes of the poor in higher prices. To get rid of welfare, we must get rid of these and other causes of poverty.

Also in this issue is the first in a series on public education: "Partners without Parents: Just Kids and the Teacher," by Bret Barker, a teacher at Schurr High School in Montebello. Barker writes: "Nearly ten years of inter-city high school teaching has convinced me that we are facing a crisis and perhaps an impending catastrophe." More teachers and parents are reacting to student apathy with their own apathy. As one teacher put it: "Students just don't care... If they don't care, why should I?" Parental role models of success -- or failure -- are crucial to the attitude of children and teenagers. And all too often "working parents are often unable, or simply too tired, to take the necessary time to monitor their children's progress." One strategy to inspire participation and excellence in students is the Inter-Student program developed by Harry Pollard to teach not only economic principles, but cooperative learning, freedom, and responsibility.

For a copy of *The Good Society!*, write to the Henry George School in Tujunga, California.

## LATIN AMERICAN DIVISION TOASTS A JOB WELL DONE

Students and teachers of Spanish-speaking HGS courses gathered on Friday, May 17th, for an open house, or "cafe cordial" at the New York school. About sixty students and friends were in attendance, donating food and drink, and good cheer, to a very enjoyable event. Guitarist and singer Eduardo Martinez regaled the gathering with music, and his performance was recorded on video.

The Latin American Division finishes a very successful year of courses and seminars. Classes have been well-attended, and enthusiasm among the students has been high. Mr. Nibaldo Aguilera had completed his first full year of teaching *Progreso y Miseria*. Director Manuel Felix, who has been teaching at least two courses per term, also taught a successful series of courses during the winter in Paterson, NJ.

Student activity has gone beyond the classroom as well. The Spanish-language newsletter *El Georgista* has been revived; its Spring '91 issue appears this month. Articles from the HGN and elsewhere have been translated by volunteers Cyla Gurewicz and Myra Quinones. Word processing and layout work is being done by Alejandrina Alba.

# P. S. W. (The Party to Save the World)

I guess I must have always knew  
that it'd be people saying it wasn't true  
and how I couldn't P. to S. the W.  
I mean it sounds like fun  
but that's just number one on the list  
of reasons why it can't be done  
yet still I can't to sing "Hit the road, Jack"  
because you simply do not know  
the facts about the single tax,  
Hey, Whoa, relax, because I think I hear it  
coming up the very next track,  
it's just the party to save the world,  
party to save the world

Crime, poverty, homelessness,  
war and pollution  
and all of those things have one solution  
This is economic freedom, no political flap,  
Jack, and once you taste the single tax rap  
you're gonna eat it up,  
you're gonna gobble it down  
because there is no other scene in town,  
between truth and false  
there is no middle ground  
so if you're in the neighborhood  
you might come around  
to check the party to save the world,  
the party to save the world,  
it's kind of like the Boston Tea Party  
except that ours is just the party  
to save the world

Now, if you're skeptical,  
I got no problem with that because  
once upon a time that's where  
I was at -- a single tax on the land  
you must be out of your mind,  
from all the politics  
I've long since declined  
I said give me just three minutes  
and I'll tell you why  
it's just another disaster plan  
but then three weeks later,  
I guess I was amazed  
because it blew my mind  
right into a brand new age.

Now, everyone that knows  
knows the single tax is  
what is gonna get the government  
off our backs  
and so the Single Tax Band  
is gonna lend a hand  
'cause everyone should have  
an equal chance to use the land  
so everyone that we know  
and all the things that we've planned  
are gonna culminate  
and we're gonna make a stand  
and when history is unfurled  
they'll say it was the party  
that saved the world.

© 1990 by Adam J. Monroe, Jr.



You see the cat;  
the cat sees you...

(This rap was sung by Adam  
J. in 1990 at Santa Fe. If we  
ask him nicely, it's a pretty  
safe bet he'll sing it again at  
Lafayette!)

See you there!

## 1991 NORTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL OF GEORGIST ORGANIZATIONS -- LAFAYETTE COLLEGE -- EASTON, PENNSYLVANIA All programs at the William Simon Center, except where noted

### FRIDAY, JUNE 14

7 to 11 PM -- Reception at the Sheraton  
Easton Inn. Welcome: Prof. Jerome  
Heavey, Lafayette College

### SATURDAY, JUNE 15

7:30-8:30 AM -- Breakfast

9:00-11:45 -- Panel Discussion

Opening the conference, with present-  
ers and discussants from Lafayette's  
program of June 12-13; Stan  
Rubenstein, Chair.

12 noon-1 PM -- Lunch

1:30-3:30 -- Course Demonstration  
"Teaching Henry George in One Day"  
with Wendell Fitzgerald (see article,  
page 1)

3:45-5:15 -- A Debate

Dr. Mason Gaffney and Dr. Steven  
Cord discuss the Capital Gains Tax.

5:30-6:30 -- Dinner

7:30-9:30 -- Members meeting of the  
Council of Georgist Organizations.  
Sam Venturella, Chair.

### SUNDAY, JUNE 15

7:30-9:30 AM -- Breakfast

8:30-9:30 -- Ecumenical service

Dr. James Dawsey, Auburn University

9:45-11:45 -- Georgist Philosophy:

Dr. Jack Schwartzman: "Henry  
George, Emma Lazarus, and Liberty";  
Ian Lambert, Esq.: "Where Georgists,  
Greens, and Indians Meet"

12 noon-1 PM -- Lunch

1:30-2:30 -- Henry George Institute

Open meeting. Robert Clancy, Chair.

2:45-5:15 -- Panel Presentation: "From  
1991 to 2001: The Closing Decade of a  
Millennium". Roundtable discussion on  
the direction of the Georgist move-  
ment. Ed Dodson, Chair.

5:30-6:30 -- Dinner

7:30-9:30 -- Local Tax Reform:

Mayor Salvatore Panto, Jr., Easton;  
Councilmember Joseph Bendel, Jr.,  
McKeesport; Councilmember Benjamin  
Howells, Jr., Allentown; Dr. Steven  
Cord, Chair.

### MONDAY, JUNE 16

7:30-8:30 AM -- Breakfast

8:45-11:45 -- Reports from Georgist  
Organizations: Special reports by  
George Collins, HGS Director, on his  
trip to the Soviet Union, and Richard  
Noyes, President, International Union  
for Land Value Taxation and Free  
Trade, on the London International  
Conference.

12 noon-1 PM -- Lunch

1:30-2:30 -- Henry George Foundation  
of America meeting

2:45-4:15 -- Joint Presentation: "Down-  
turn, Recession, or What?"

Jacob Himmelstein: "Urban Fiscal  
Crises"; Harry Pollard: "Banks & the  
Business Cycle"; Richard Noyes, Chair.

4:30-5:30 -- Open Mike

Donald Hurford, Chair.

7 to 11 -- Banquet at Sheraton Easton Inn.

Prof. Jerome Heavey, Speaker. Mike  
Curtis, Chair. Dr. Steven Cord, Awards  
Presentation. Clay Berling for C.G.O.

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