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EDITORIAL

As we move into 1972 we are one year closer to the 100th anniversary of Henry George's Progress and Poverty which appeared in 1879 and from which we may date the beginning of our movement. By 1979 it may be time to review and assess the advances and setbacks of our movement.

Meanwhile we may seek, on the last lap of our first century, to look toward building the foundations of an enduring movement. The Georgist movement has been illumined by brilliant flashes from outstanding individuals. There have also been organizations that have worked steadily. But we have never had a unified and many-sided effort with participation by all adherents of the Georgist philosophy.

It may be much to hope that the Henry George Institute can undertake such a task - but it can surely make a contribution in that direction.

There have been strong forces ranged against our philosophy - the power of vested interests, the inertia of most people in accepting whatever is thrust upon them, the growth of big government, the application of false remedies.

Within our movement, too, there have been negative currents - the difficulty experienced by sincere adepts to devote effort to our cause in the midst of a busy life, the variations of interpretation which keep diverse groups apart, the many other obstacles in the way of cooperation and progress.

Yet the possibility must exist - and if the right start could be made our effectiveness and influence would be greatly enhanced.

The job of working together democratically is a skill which must be learned and practiced.