

The Georgist Journal

Number 19

Spring 1978

GUEST EDITORIAL

Our great need is for more members. A certain number of people can only do so much. Many are working hard and giving time, money and strength to the work and we appreciate them. But we urgently need more members. You may have ideas as to how we can improve our impact and enlarge our numbers.

There could be many ways to do this. I suggest there is one way which is always open to all of us. That is, the personal individual word of members in their ordinary contacts among their friends and the people they meet in the different areas of life. If every member made the utmost use of their day to day contacts don't you think it would give us a big surge forward? Money is needed for sure, but new members are the key.

We as reformers must walk a narrow line between the unreal optimism that fails to see the strength of the opposition, on the one hand, and despair on the other. We are in the seed sowing stage at present. Seed in a paddock takes time to germinate and so does seed in the minds of men. And there are many ready to pull that seed up again and destroy it if they can. But if we believe in a moral universe and the ultimate triumph of good over evil - we will sow the seed wherever we see a chance, and not be too over-anxious about immediate results.

I find it helps to take a long look back and a long look forward. Looking back through the corridors of time, we see a vast number of men and women who saw a vision of a better world, and gave time, money and personal strength to further that vision. They did not achieve it in their day in its fulness. Others, right up to today, including ourselves, continue to see it and join in the work for social justice. It may be it will not come in our time. No matter, we can look beyond this present day, as George did. If our idea is right it has the backing of the universe and it will come. It is our job to persevere in working for it and never to give up.

I like to think of the solidarity of the human race - as an ancient writer said, "We are all bound together in the bundle of life." That is why while there is one man in the world who is not free I am not really free. There is immense inspiration in the thought of this long line of people living and working throughout the years to help forward social justice and to feel oneself part of that line.

- Mary Hutchinson
From Progress, Melbourne, Australia