

Proclamation

WHEREAS The Birth of one man, Henry George, is celebrated the world over by men of all faiths, races and creeds, and

WHEREAS Henry George was an American, a native of Pennsylvania, born in Philadelphia, September 2, 1839, a man who started in life as an unknown printer and whose books today are an inspiration to the highest ideals in every country in the world, whose proclamation of the inalienable right of all men to the bounties of the Creator, to all God-given natural opportunities, goes on conquering throughout the world wherever honesty, eloquence and self-sacrificing devotion to humanity move the hearts of men, and

WHEREAS There are now assembled in New York City prominent representatives of the Henry George movement from various parts of the world to celebrate the centenary of the founder of this movement, and

WHEREAS Prominent educators, statesmen and philosophers, such as John Dewey, Nicholas Murray Butler, Woodrow Wilson, Theodore Roosevelt, David Lloyd George, Louis D. Brandies, Leo Tolstoy, George Foster Peabody, Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Newton D. Baker, Louis F. Post, Philip Snowden, John W. Davis, Sun Yat Sen, and a host of others honor the name of Henry George and have followed his precepts and accepted his principles of political economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CORNELIUS D. SCULLY, Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in recognition of the fact that Henry George was a native of Pennsylvania and that Pittsburgh is the one large American city that has embodied in its tax system a partial application of the principle of taxing community-created values rather than improvements, do hereby proclaim that Saturday, September 2, 1939, shall be known and observed as Henry George Day in commemoration of the centenary of the birth of that distinguished American social philosopher.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the City of Pittsburgh this 30th day of August, 1939.

CORNELIUS D. SCULLY,
Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh.

IT is a position not to be controverted that the earth in its natural uncultivated state was, and ever should have continued to be the common property of the human race. In that sense every man would have been born to property. He would have been joint life-proprietor with the rest in the property of the soil and in all natural productions. It is the value of the improvement and not the earth itself that is individual property.

THOMAS PAINE.

Notice

OUR 1st issue of LAND AND FREEDOM met with an unusual demand for duplicate copies including as many as 75 copies for one subscriber. If duplicates of the current September-October issue are wanted, orders should be received not later than ten days from receipt of your copy.

Activities of The Manhattan Single Tax Club

PRESIDENT INGERSOLL'S attention has recently been centered principally on refining and extending his broadcasting to produce more and more simplicity of stating economics. He thinks that this work, if handled rightly can be extended to a majority of the existing 846 radio stations in the country.

The weekly publication of the Ingersoll Economic Broadcasts is an important recent development; the third issue is now in the mails; an addressing equipment is being installed and the second-class mailing privilege is being applied for.

This mimeograph sheet will not only advise Mr. Ingersoll's friends of his weekly activities, but will become the basis of a publicity plan which will include the printing of an "Ingersoll column" in weekly and daily papers. But its main purpose will be the promotion of the radio plan referred to. The next step in this will be to secure one or more persons at each radio point who are ambitious to become economic broadcasters and who will take instructions in the technic of securing time and using the time to the best advantage of Georgeian economics.

Mr. Ingersoll has passed the 4,000th mark in the six years of his broadcasting on over 30 stations of the East in addition to his network talks. This has involved more than 150,000 miles of travel by automobile, bus and train. He counts this as a great asset to our movement, and he is determined to have it extended throughout the country as a part of the Manhattan Single Tax Club organization activity. Particularly does he wish to cooperate with all H.G.S.S.S. extensions in offering this as a practical outlet for students and graduates in putting their academic education to the practical test. His weekly current events are, with slight changes, suitable for use anywhere, and will be available by airmail even before fully delivered here.

An "Economic Radio School of the Air" is one of president Ingersoll's ambitions regarding which he invites correspondence. The conducting of radio classes in economics is one of the possibilities of this project. This might be done independently or through the H.G.S.S.S. extensions, using their name or otherwise, as they prefer. The success of such classes would depend largely on ingenious script or scenarios to produce the required dilution of "The Dismal Science" with elements of drama and entertainment, to make these lessons acceptable to programme directors. Many of Mr. Ingersoll's close friends have not understood that he has never, in his broadcasting experience paid for any of his time; he believes that with a cause such as ours radio time and space in every type of publication should be generally available without cost and that any payment for time or space should not be considered.

The following is a reprint of about half of one of Charles H. Ingersoll's current broadcasts:

IS THIS WAR AS SWIFT AND DESTRUCTIVE AS THE ONE OF 25 YEARS AGO? Some say not; but to me this seems to indicate either shortage of reliable news or impossible long-range comparison. Only recently have we been told of the English boys getting in. Is Germany less able to stand fast fighting and the siege than in the last war?

Another vital question, where the difference of opinion is vast and undoubtedly prejudiced—Can a nation successfully devote itself to war—as a business? If not, Germany will fail, and without a long fight, because that is what she has done for 25 years.

War is still too much like a contest between opposing exploiters to make it one-sided enough to be short. We have "the right," of course, but our per cent is not high enough.

The overwhelming question now is the economic one. When will a nation deliver the only effective answer; that of putting its own house in order so that all its resources will be available if trouble comes—financial, human, and moral; but first, so these resources will place that nation out of the zone of trouble. If England or France had been for 25 years paying wealth producers—labor and capital—all the product, instead of half; if either nation had freed its masses from impoverishing taxes by putting these taxes on the basic privileges . . . that nation could help spread this system, instead of fighting. Or, if fighting were forced on it, the millions would be fighting for their own homes instead of their boarding houses.

EX-JUDGE SAMUEL SEABURY GAVE A CLASSIC ADDRESS AT THE HENRY GEORGE CENTENARY—Famous Economist, born on S. 10th St., Philadelphia, September 2, 1839—which would be ideal as the keynote speech of a Presidential nominee for 1940. This is my way of putting the Judge in nomination. The field covered by the George philosophy is the whole field—the American landscape—the world situation of both politics and economics. And this profound address comprehensively covered that whole field. Other candidates may cover sectors of the field. Dewey is a master of crime punishment; McNutt—well, let someone more capable describe him—and not forget the smile. Hull, in my opinion, has distinction as the only statesman in the present cabinet—and so on. But Seabury boxes the compass of politics and economics; or of the only kind of politics (statesmanship) that includes economics, without which they are null and void. These are the main points Judge Seabury presented: (1) Our democracy had achieved slavery abolition; but left wage slavery to be disposed of. (2) Our fundamental monopoly stood at the base of this slavery, taking a lion's share of wages of both labor and capital. (3) Our consumer-taxes are the collectors of monopoly tribute; they must be transformed into rent-collecting taxes.

HISTORY IS REPEATING. May we safely—before we get closer to that time when thinking, talking and writing are suspended—ask what use have the Allies made of this quarter century—say in making the world safe for democracy; or even for the great democracies, which, with us, the lies are popularly classed. First, did they start out as magnanimous victors? Anything to show the influence of our great leader-in-tragedy, Woodrow Wilson, who demanded "peace without victory." Second, did they do anything to restore trade relations? Third, did they examine into basic causes of war—the economic causes of war? Did they examine the claims of "have" an "have-not" nations? Fourth, did they patch up their domestic fences to insure social justice at home? Such questioning is not only unkind but futile, except as a means of learning the lessons—mainly of economics—which are just as far in arrears in every other country, including our own, as in England.

SOME BRITISH STATESMEN—EVEN SOME NOW LIVING—HAVE SAID THINGS THAT AT THIS JUNCTURE SHOULD BE SAID OVER—as a possible defence to the waste of another generation, before England actually becomes the power for civilization, culture and freedom in the universe, that she claims to be. Lloyd George said twenty years ago, in arguing for the taxing of their most sacred privilege, that "the landlords had made the people of England trespassers on their own soil." Sir Samuel Hoare, in calling a naval parley three years ago, asserted that the unequal distribution of natural resources

was the first cause of wars; and demanded that the parley consider their redistribution. Another minister explained limitations of political rights as being wise—in fact necessary—in view of patent economic inequalities. So the riddle of war and poverty cannot be called insoluble or unsolved, any more in England than here.

The field of economic discussion, writing and teaching, is a seething mass of different viewpoints; and to me it is a healthy sign, the suppression of which would result in putting off the day—or the century—when *economic truth shall make us free*. We have papers being eagerly read for their novel viewpoints, many of which have only novelty to recommend them. We have schools and colleges teaching as "economics," fallacies without the scientific basis economics must have, but which conventional educators have not yet learned. We have economic schools that—due to their inexperience and lack of properly built textbooks—are teaching in reverse of their own stated doctrines, and so placing themselves at the same tragic disadvantage they charge against our "common schools and colleges." And finally, we have all kinds of laborers in the economic vineyard, criticising, denouncing and patching the codes, manuals, charts, pamphlets, editorials and statements. And it seems to me that if this process can be kept up by extending its facilities, we shall soon find the northwest passage to *success in economics!* Can our civil liberties be given us—and held onto—in the economic field?

BOOK REVIEWS

HENRY GEORGE

BY ALBERT J. NOCK

Cloth, 224 pages. \$2.50. Wm. Morrow & Co., N.Y.

The Georgeian movement is highly favored by Albert J. Nock's contribution of a memorial book, "Henry George," to the Centenary Celebration of the birth of the greatest philosopher and economist. Nock's fitness for this important responsibility lies in the fact that he is almost the only writer of note and of fundamental democratic acquirements who has access to the book-press. His position as biographer of Thomas Jefferson further qualifies him; and his extreme individualism gives unusual point to his review of George's life and work.

I am bound to say also that in spite of his outstanding qualifications, he is almost equally disqualified to do justice to the apostle of true individualism, democracy, conservatism, and of every phase of true collectivism, and of true optimism, by reason of a bias he (Nock) possesses against propaganda, organization, politics and government itself.

As imperfect as is his picture of the only writer who has even attempted a synthetic solution of the complexes of sociology and economics, we must accept it as embodying honesty, unusual in friendly reviewers, candid criticism—much of it truthful and exceedingly helpful—in straightening the present devious path of *promotion* of the Georgeian economic doctrine. It is a refreshing contrast to the fulsome flattery, blind adherence and lip service, of many would-be friends of George.

Nock's outstanding weakness—to follow his negative example—is in his failure to interpret both Jefferson and George *affirmatively*. Instead of concentrating all his incisive strength on developing Jefferson's outline of a simple government he left us suspended in mid-air as to what 150 years of modern industry had done to interpret Jeffersonian democracy in this respect. And this weakness of the author merges with his adverse criticism of George. Instead of making George the complement of Jefferson in supplying the missing element of economics to Jefferson's perfected formula of politics, Nock gives "Our Enemy the State" as his best result of Jefferson's democracy; and quite consistently he joins the pessimists in declaring little or no progress in basic economics; and goes further than most of them in