

## Who's Who in Georgism

DONALD MacDONALD



Donald MacDonald was born in Williamsport, Pa., April 18, 1880. After a brief career as a reporter on the Philadelphia Inquirer, Mr. MacDonald turned to engineering as a profession. By the time he was thirty-five he had worked in Mexico and nearly every State west of the Mississippi, constructing railroads and irrigation canals.

Mr. MacDonald soon became impressed with the way in which the efforts of the engineer were thwarted by economic forces entirely outside the field of applied engineering. To help him discover the flaw in the socio-economic set-up, he took a course in political economy at the University of Arizona. His attention was called to "Progress and Poverty" and in it he found the explanation he was seeking.

In 1912 Mr. MacDonald carried every ward and precinct of Everett, Wash., for land value taxation by a vote of five to three. But he is not proud of the victory. He is convinced that legislation before public understanding gives but the illusion of victory.

At that time, Mr. MacDonald was chief draftsman in the West for the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul R. R. In 1914 he moved to Alaska where he helped build the Alaska Railway. In 1923 he became exploratory engineer for the Alaska Road Commission.

While with this commission, Mr. MacDonald conceived the idea of the proposed United States-Canada-Alaska international highway which he is now promoting as a member of the Alaskan International Highway Commission appointed by President Roosevelt.

Married in 1907, Mr. MacDonald is the father of six children, all Georgists. His home is in Fairbanks.