

"Nostalgic Memories"

by HARRY C. MAGUIRE

ROBERT CLANCY'S article, "The Day the Henry George School Was Founded," (January HGN) awakened nostalgic memories in my mind. I remember the enthusiasm of Leonard Recker—without his driving energy and financing, the School would not have had its own home.

Shortly before Oscar Geiger died, Walter Fairchild had his annual single tax conference at Suffern, New York, and I drove over with my wife. Oscar was in a very serene happy mood as I drove him back to his home and told him a story about my small son's garden. I had told my son that an outsider on the block might come in and pick his beans, and that he would have just as much right to them. The boy indignantly replied that the beans were his, as he had worked for them,

and he would "do things" to said outsider. Oscar agreed that even a child understands the rightful basis of property.

One evening after Geiger's death, when the School was on 79th Street, we went to dinner in a shabby old hotel on Amsterdam Avenue. Anna de Mille, Otto Dorn and a few others were there, including a tall, lanky man, plainly dressed, who was introduced as "Mr. Lincoln." He listened attentively and while we were sipping coffee, he asked if the School could use some money. Of course the answer was "yes." He pulled out a check book and wrote a check for \$5,000, handing it to Anna. She gasped, "I didn't think there was so much money in the world."

BETTER EDUCATION THROUGH TAX RELIEF

Most Henry George enthusiasts can remember when it was almost an oddity, and certainly a surprise, to find any mention of this "old-fashioned" philosophy in any newspaper or magazine. Now such mentions have become so common that, in the absence of a clipping service, there are undoubtedly hundreds of references that we miss.

Occasionally, however, a thoughtful reader sends a clipping from a local newspaper or national magazine. Dr. Robert Andelson, director of the San Diego extension, noticed this item in The Valley News of December 3rd, published at El Cajon, California, with a report from La Mesa concerning charges brought by the assistant superintendent of a high school against "illogical, costly, overlapping" state, county and local governments currently administering public education."

Dr. John T. Warburton, a member of a panel in a parent-teacher congress, spoke out emphatically for "better tax equalization throughout state and county; a levy of taxes on services as suggested, historically, by Henry George; and the deduction from federal income taxes of \$1 for every dollar spent locally on education." He said these were "three avenues of escape from debilitating property-tax support of education."

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