

# GEORGE ADHERENTS DEMAND SINGLE TAX

**Followers of Philosopher and  
Economist Convene Here  
to Spread Tenets.**

**CLASSES IN 42 CITIES**

**Delegates Report Interest Is  
Growing in Movement to Levy  
on Nothing but the Land.**

The followers of Henry George gathered yesterday in their tenth annual convention at the Hotel New Yorker, made plans for spreading the tenets of the economist-philosopher, which, they believe, will solve the economic ills of the nation, and received reports of progress already made.

These reports indicated that, thirty-eight years after the death of George, during many of which his name was but a class room echo, the people of his country have once more found an awakening interest in his economic beliefs.

John Lawrence Monroe of Chicago, the field director of the Henry George School of Social Science, told of the increasing number of schools throughout the country. Three years ago there were none. The first was founded in New York in 1933 by Oscar H. Geiger. The following year extension classes began to be set up in other cities. At the present time there are classes in forty-two cities, where thousands annually are learning economics with George's greatest work, "Progress and Poverty," as the text-book. Mr. Monroe predicted that the number of cities in which classes had been established would be increased to 100 before the end of next year.

#### **Seek Bloc of 100,000.**

It is the aim of the Henry George Foundation of America, the sponsor of the convention, as explained by Edmund P. Donovan, chairman of the convention, and Otto K. Dorn, business manager of the school, to use this educational method in building an organization which they hope will reach 100,000 persons or more.

Henry George's belief was that a tax should be levied upon land alone. In his mind he saw a nation in which all the valuable land was socialized. Industries, business and individuals using it paid a single tax, a ground rent commensurate with the value. There was to be no tax on improvements, on the products of the industry using the ground, or on any of the other multitude of things now taxed.

George also envisioned that the growth of giant industries would create the necessity for their regulation. While he lived, he adopted the political method of getting his beliefs before the public. He campaigned many times, was never elected, but attracted many followers. Samuel Seabury in his younger political days campaigned for and with him.

#### **Taxes More in Public Mind.**

The reports of a recent and rapid growth of popular interest in the single tax was ascribed, by those attending the convention, to the fact that in recent years the basis of taxation has been shifting. The tremendous growth of corporate income, processing taxes on industry, sales tax on the consumers, are given credit for the renaissance of Georgeism.

The principal speech of yesterday was given by Rabbi Michael Aaronsohn of Cincinnati, who lost his sight in the Argonne.

"Pre-eminently we should concentrate," he said, "with almost fanatic zeal upon the fundamental need—the radical abolition of all forms of taxation, together with the gradual inauguration of the scientifically and morally sound system of the socialization of ground rent.

"Socialism, communism, fascism and new dealism are naught but modern reproductions of ancient despotisms. The only sure foundations for political, social and economic progress is the so-called single-tax program of Henry George."

A story of how a sales tax program was defeated in Tennessee, with 15,000 citizens who opposed it camped upon the slopes of Capitol Hill in Nashville, was told by Abe D. Waldauer of Memphis, Assistant City Attorney there. In the fight against the sales tax, Mr. Waldauer said, pamphlets containing the arguments of George were used.

Mrs. Marietta Johnson, founder of the Organic School, a progressive education enterprise in Fairhope, Ala., the first and largest single tax community in the country, caused a general discussion by citing George in support of the Townsend pension plan.

There were delegates from Denmark and England at the sessions.