

# of time and space

by DONALD BOOKAL

**T**IME and space are mental concepts of measurements. Due to their very essence, they may either advance or retard our awareness of the universe, and our knowledge of reality.

In *The Science of Political Economy*, Henry George clarified these conceptions by showing that time and space are relationships; and, moreover, that they are related to each other. In doing so, George, by a number of years, anticipated Albert Einstein, who mathematically worked out the concept of "relativity." Einstein's view of the universe discards the absolutism of time and space, and substitutes for it a mental reaction to these phenomena which varies as to each observer. He demonstrates that the position of the observer influences the measurements applied. This influence is quite small when the events measured are nearby and the velocity low; but as distance and speed increase, distortions appear. What was a frame of reference in one case no longer serves in the other.

The relationships of time and space influence each other, and are parts of one continuum (or frame of reference) not two separate quantities. In short, time and space are not absolute measurements, but are determined relative-

ly. Through an understanding of this revealing concept, many surprising situations may be discovered.

Henry George brings the relativity of time and space into the field of political economy because both time and space are necessary elements in production. Thus George's concept is similar to that of Einstein, for the production of wealth is a continuous and dynamic flow, a process taking place within the time-space continuum. It is a constantly changing and constantly adjusting series of events and relationships, which, however, are always subject to and affected by basic natural laws.

George further demonstrates the validity of the inter-related continuum theory by recognizing production and distribution as two mentally distinguishable aspects of the same process. His revelation of the element of time and space in economic activity was a remarkable forecast of Einstein's like discovery in the realm of physical mathematics.

**In a Public Speaking class taught by Sydney Mayers at New York headquarters, this was one of the student addresses. Mr. Mayers thought readers of The Henry George News might find it a novel approach.**

The next voices you hear from this news medium will reflect the 23rd annual HGS conference in Montreal, July 26-30. The excitement mounts as travelers return to tell of this latest and best of the world's fairs.

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