

there is no informed protest of sufficient force to dampen our profligacy, successive devaluations will take place. Savers are confronted with an insoluble problem—that of hedging against continuous deterioration of the purchasing

power of the dollar. Lenin may have been right when he said capitalism would destroy itself by debauching its currency, and if our government refuses to live within its means we will go the way of the Roman Empire.

Gilbert M. Tucker

GILBERT M. TUCKER, who was for many years, in his writings and lectures, a concise and well informed patron of Henry George, slipped away in his sleep on February 26th in Carmel, California. He was the author of *The Path to Prosperity, For the Good of All, Common Sense Economics, Your Money and What to Do with It* and numerous booklets. His best remembered book is probably *The Self-Supporting City*, which was revised in 1958. It is still in use, quoted, and circulated. Marshall Crane reviewed it for HGN in August, 1958, quoting this paragraph as characteristic of the author's prophetic views:

"By whatever agency our taxes are levied, we ourselves must keep filled the pork barrel from which we would grab, and by and large, the taxpayers lose more from subsidies than they gain. All such schemes are open to another grave objection: he who pays the piper calls the tune, and trying to shoulder off onto state or nation obligations which are ours means the loss of self-government and the destruction of our liberties. We clamor for subsidies for schools, roads, public improvements, housing, the relief of destitution, and for many a supposed benefit, and for this mess of pottage — and a mess it is! — we sell our freedom. Remember Franklin's warning: 'They who can give up essential liberty, to obtain a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety.'"

Mr. Tucker inherited *The Country Gentleman*, a magazine of renown published by his father. His lifetime roots

were in Albany, and he and Mrs. Tucker reluctantly closed their home there only a little more than a year ago, when they sought a warmer climate in California. There he lived as he always had, true to his inheritance, a gentleman in manner and appearance.

Few of those who stepped aboard the sumptuous Titanic on its ill-fated voyage with a socially prominent passenger list, survived the tragedy. Mr. Tucker did. Rescued on a lifeboat, he lived to tell the story, though he seldom mentioned it. What engaged his conversation much more was his strong belief in and clear understanding of tax reform.

He was associated with the HGS from the beginning and was a member of Oscar Geiger's committee of founders. Active as an officer in the Henry George Foundation, he later financed the Economic Education League and remained for years a contributor to the Pennsylvania efforts to establish a test LVT city. It was hoped for a time that Erie would choose that honor.

He provided generously for the Albany Academy for boys, which he attended before graduating from Cornell University. It will endure as a fitting and affectionate memorial. He will be sadly missed by his wife, Mildred, whom he adored, and affectionately remembered by many whom he befriended. He was gentle and considerate, and he loved his country. "I am certainly among those who will miss him," wrote Rhoda Hellman on hearing of his death. There are many who would say the same.