

J. B. Ellert

Many among us will remember the first time "Milk River" was held up to us as an example of Georgist accomplishment. For older Georgists especially, Milk River (Alberta, Canada) was synonymous with J. B. Ellert, and they will be saddened by the news of his death on February 15, which reached us belatedly through a brother, Henry Ellert.

In 1907 J. B. Ellert went to Canada as a pioneer and bought a section of land from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company at \$7 an acre, at a railway stop called Milk River. There he built the first house, which is still standing.

In 1934, according to a news report, "he with other leaders of Milk River, studied the Henry George plan of political economy and so governed the town several years through the single tax system, thereby defeating the Canadian Pacific Railroad in the tax system."

Mr. Ellert was a speaker at the annual school conference in Chicago in 1948. For many years he taught the philosophy of Henry George in evening classes in Milk River.