

We Are Stewards of the Land Only

Much as the founder, Henry George, spoke against the land barons, may I speak out against the tract developers? Good fertile farm land is disappearing. As I have traveled this land, this I have seen.

We develop our cities on flat level land while men try to farm and graze cattle and sheep on rocky slopes. On the flat low land floods take away what man has built and rebuilt, only to have it swept away again. He is without protection from hurricanes and other disasters. On the hills and rocks the scene seldom changes except by earth-

quake. Why not build our cities between this protection and leave the flat land to farming? A project in Pittsburgh called "Panther Hollow" in which a university research project will be built is my example.

The American Indians preserved this fertile land and we find only a few arrowheads or broken pottery to mark their trail. We will leave ribbons of concrete and arid land. We must develop conservation before it is too late and before the last tree has fallen.

— WILLIAM V. WEYER

One of the official hosts of the annual conference in Montreal last month, Laurie S. Mannell, director of the Toronto HGS, was featured in an Oakville newspaper as an ardent advocate of municipal government reform, and a formidable opponent when speaking on this subject. "He can quote statistics, and he has a vast amount of information at his fingertips." He also writes articles and at one time wrote 27 letters to one newspaper. All were published.

"I like studying history," said Mr. Mannell in the interview. "You find that history repeats itself. Civilizations don't fall to the barbarians from without. They crumble from corruption from within."