

Henry George Newsletter

VOLUME 51, Number 4

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NEW LAND AND FREEDOM SERIES

Issues in World History

The New York School has produced a new, 15-part set of high school lessons for the Land and Freedom Series, this time exploring issues in World History.

World History, the series written by Stan Rubenstein, Harvey Snitiker, Dave Norflus and others, developed in response to the increasing demand on the part of high schools for land-related materials. The first series, the 20-part American Studies lessons, have already been distributed to over 2,000 high school educators nationwide. Rubenstein says, "The first Land and Freedom series generated a lot of enthusiasm. We want to meet that enthusiasm with more land-related materials which are geared for a high school audience." By September of this year, the new World History series will be available as a part of the School's ongoing high school program.

The fifteen lessons of the World History series follow the same format as the previous series. Page one of the four-page lesson states the major and minor themes of the reading excerpt, lists new concepts covered, gives performance objectives for the students, and provides a bibliography on related topics.

Activities which follow the readings are designed to test the student's understanding of various themes, as well as elicit discussion and critical evaluation of the topic explored. Activities include factual questions on the text, acting out mock trials of historical figures, a visit to the local assessor's office, and a new understanding of medieval society through examining the rules of a chess game.

Topics for the 15 World History lessons are:

1. Rome's Landed Estates
2. The Gracchian Revolution
3. The Feudal Land System
4. The Domesday Book
5. Mercantilism
6. The Enclosure Movement
7. The Old Regime in France
8. Malthus - Population and Poverty
9. Emancipation of the Russian Serfs
10. The Forerunner of Germany - Zollverein
11. Sun Yat-Sen's Three Principles
12. The Soviet 5-Year Plans
13. Chinese Land reform under Communism
14. American Occupation and Land Reform in Japan
15. Land Ownership in Latin America

School Notes

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NEW YORK

BOARD MEETING

C. Matthew Ossias was elected a trustee at last month's board meeting, filling a vacancy created when Mitchell Lurio resigned. As director of the Correspondence division, Mat was active with foreign students. He is fluent in Spanish, French, Italian and Hebrew. Re-elected to the board are: Ed Dodson, President; Oscar Johannsen, Vice President; Lancaster Greene, Treasurer; George Collins, Secretary. Trustees re-elected are; S. Mayers, R. Barbuto, G. Collins, C. Weinstein and F. Gruskin.

HISPANIC ALUMNI GROUP

This semester, the Hispanic Georgist Alumni Group was formed under the advisorship of Jose Yenque and Manuel Felix. Twenty-one members met at the School to discuss group policy, set an agenda, and elect officers. Elected are: Jose Solis, President; Luis Benalcazar and Zella Oldendorff, Co-vice Presidents; Josephine Rosenblatt, Treasurer; Sonia Preciado, Secretary. The group has begun to coordinate activities for the coming year.

GRADUATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The Graduate Research Committee met for the second time on February 19. Their agenda included a review of Committee objectives, and proposals for possible area field trips, the development of an HGS seminar series, and a project to draft a federal LVT statute.

School Notes

PHILADELPHIA

Approximately 35 people attended the seminar "The Property Tax and You," the second in a Saturday Seminar program sponsored by the Philadelphia School. The panel, led by David Zwanets, Member of the Board of Revision of Taxes (real estate assessment) of the City of Philadelphia, included Mike Curtis, Assessor for Arden, and George Collins. "Economics Simplified," to be held on March 14, is the last seminar in the three-part series.

DELAWARE

The Arden Activities unit of the Extension continues to run weekly seminars on Low Wages and Unemployment at Plummer Work Release Prison. Larry Zimmerman took over that program for two weeks while Mike Curtis was in Nicaragua. Curtis, Director of Arden Activities, reported on his recent South America trip at a meeting of the alumni association on February 22.

SAN FRANCISCO

A day-long workshop on economics was presented by San Francisco Director Bob Scrofani at the Annual Conference of the California Council for the Social Studies, March 5 at the Red Lion Inn. Scrofani, a Berkeley High School teacher, presented "Learn to Speak Economics" in the AM session, and "Economics and the Constitution" in the afternoon.

A new newsletter will be published quarterly by the San Francisco School. Fred Foldvary, editor, is on the look-out for comments, announcements and articles. February's newsletter contained letters, a book review, and an excerpted interview with land-taxer Manuel Ayau.

The Unitarian Church of Palo Alto invited board president Roger Somers to speak to members of its congregation last month on the malfunction of our political economy and the threat of world war as a primary consequence of the widespread shared monopoly in land. The program ended with an involved discussion as the audience became more aware of discrepancies in our understanding of economics. A return visit is planned.

ANNUAL CGO CONFERENCE

The seventh annual North American conference of the Council of Georgist Organizations will be held this year in San Diego, California from Wednesday, July 22 to Sunday, July 26, at Point Loma Nazarene College. Pre- and post-conference recreational activities are being planned for Tuesday, the 21st, and Monday, the 27th, including trips to the San Diego Zoo, Sea World, and an all-day trip to Ensenada and Tijuana in Mexico. Speakers and workshops will be announced. For more information, or to register, please contact the Conference sponsor:

Council of Georgist Organizations, 5 East 44th Street, New York, NY 10017 (212) 697-9880

or the Conference host:

Basic Economic Education, 2200 Morley Street, San Diego, CA 92111 (619) 560-5263

PUBLICIZING HENRY GEORGE—CREATING MEDIA LISTS

The media certainly has great potential in helping to publicize the Georgist cause. Radio, television and newspapers can reach the larger audience that wants and needs to hear our ideas. The following are several suggestions on developing an effective, reasonable media list.

Small, local media are most likely to cover local activities such as Georgist meetings, free classes, film showings. Weekly community newspapers and college newspapers are likely to pick up press releases with local interest. Do any of your local publications have a "Community Calendar" section?

A good resource for starting to compile a media list is the phone book. Check the yellow pages under "radio stations and broadcasting companies," "news services," and "newspapers." Other Georgist groups may have media lists they can share or pool. Advertising companies sometimes sell media lists which can be tailored to specific needs. Two fine media resource books we know of are **Editor and Publisher**, which lists all pertinent information on daily and some non-daily newspapers across the country, and **Burrelle's Media Directories**. Burrelle's lists data on newspapers, periodicals, radio, T.V., cable and college publications in the separate areas of New York State, New Jersey, and a soon-to-be-published edition for Pennsylvania. For these, write to: Burrelle's Media Directories, 75 E. Northfield Rd., Livingston, NJ 07039 (201) 992-7070, and Editor and Publisher, Yearbook Dept., 11 W. 19th St. New York, NY 10011 (212) 675-4380.

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