

Will Lissner 1908 - 2000

Will Lissner, founder and former Editor-in-Chief of *The American Journal of Economics and Sociology*, died on March 25th after a long bout with double pneumonia, in a nursing home in Dunedin, Florida. He was 91.

Lissner was a native New Yorker. He held a Doctorate in Education, and university degrees in Philosophy and Theology, and he taught at the New School of Social Research.

He hired on at age 15 as a copy boy at *The New York Times*, and became a reporter who specialized in Economics over a distinguished fifty-year career with *The Times* that ended with his retirement in 1976. During World War II he was a correspondent assigned to the strategic plans section of the British Imperial General Staff. *The Times* was his principal employment, but he served for fifteen years as a consultant to the National Bureau of Economic Research on its business cycle studies. He also revived the acclaimed Libertarian magazine *The Freeman*, succeeding Francis Neilson and Albert Jay Nock. He wrote a weekly column for *The Times* on consumer news. He covered the closing of the banks in 1933, the test cases of the New Deal, the postwar inflations, the United Nations programs for less-developed countries, the rise of computers and other historic events.

In 1941 he founded the *American Journal of Economics and Sociology* while working for *The Times*. He was Editor for many years, and continued to offer information and advice, as recently as 1999.

Lissner was the author of *Collective Bargaining Attitudes of Editorial Workers*, 1934; *American Exploitation of Fuels and Minerals*, 1939; *Land Socialization in Soviet Agriculture, 1917-49*, 1949. With Dorothy Burnham Lissner he co-edited five books published by the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, where he was a Director for fifty years: *George and Democracy in the British Isles*, *George and the Scholars*, *George and Ohio's Civic Revival*, *Henry George and Europe* and *George and the Progressives*.

The *American Journal of Economics and Sociology* will feature his contributions in subsequent issues.

He is survived by his wife, two daughters, nine grandchildren and seventeen great-grandchildren.