

# Tenth Henry George Congress

HOTEL NEW YORKER, NEW YORK CITY, SEPTEMBER 26, 27 AND 28

THE Henry George Congress has met and adjourned. The friendships formed after three days' intimate contact are certain to be renewed by correspondence and future meetings. We have shaken hands across the sea in a very real sense. Arthur Madsen of London and F. Folke of Copenhagen, have cemented a friendship between our workers here and the devoted group of adherents to the Georgist philosophy in the countries from which they come. We have been apprised of what they are doing in England and Denmark, of which many have learned for the first time, and this knowledge is a revelation as well as an inspiration to renewed effort here.

It is time to appraise the value of the Congress itself. It will be remembered that we had certain criticisms to make of the Chicago gathering a year ago. The New York gathering of this year is a distinct improvement.

There are still some criticisms to be made. There is still possible great improvement in these gatherings. There are still defects to be corrected. We were spared a few of the definite disagreements with Henry George with which we have been regaled on previous occasions, disagreements which have no place in such conferences met to renew our faith in the teachings of the master. We do not question the sincerity of the gentlemen who put different interpretations on these teachings, but we must demand that they seek other forums. Their opposition at Henry George Congresses is an illicit intrusion. The Henry George Congress is not a debating society, but a meeting to advance certain definite principles and consider definite lines of action.

Did the Congress succeed in doing this? We think it did. Indeed the activities of the Henry George School of Social Science, opening up a new and tremendously promising sphere of opportunity for advance, impressed all present. Perhaps the only ones who showed impatience with the slow advance were the young student graduates of the School who want to see something done *at once*. Privilege may look to itself in the face of the growing anxiety of the new youthful adherents to the Georgist philosophy to realize the teachings of the master in actual accomplishment. The suggestion of Mrs. Mary Ware Dennett that bills be introduced in every State Legislature of the forty-eight States appealed to them and will find response everywhere. We are more confident that ever of the early realization of our hopes.

Another very hopeful sign at this gathering was the emphasis laid by nearly all the speakers on the individualistic character of our philosophy and the repudiation of Socialism and social planning which includes so much that is definitely antagonistic to our philosophy. There was a consciousness that the Roosevelt policies were

doomed, and that our appeal is to the producers of the world, to capital and business men, for the relief of industry and the preservation of the rights of property. In other words, there was a prevailing tendency to present our doctrines as the sole hope for successful opposition to the confusions of the New Deal and to place in the hands of business leaders, and of labor and capital, the real remedy for poverty and depressions.

We thank the press of the city for the very generous space allowed to the proceedings of the Congress. We differ with our friends who believe that there is a conspiracy of silence among newspapers with regard to our movement. Newspapers will give the news if we provide it for them. The newspapers are still newspapers, not entirely governed by their editorial policy nor by their advertisers. Their advertisers, too, are business men and very much interested at this time in matters of taxation. What interests them will interest the newspapers. As we make news (and in the exact proportion that we make it) the daily press will give us space. We need not be concerned about that.

As to the Congress itself it is necessary to speak. Too much praise cannot be given to the chairman of the Congress, Edward P. Donovan, who presided with skill and dignity.

The "high lights" may be briefly indicated. They include the admirable address of Col. Rule, the report of the Extension Classes of the Henry George School of Social Science from the Field Director of the School, John Lawrence Monroe, the speech of young Bill Trueheart, a fourteen year old boy from Houston, Texas, who knows his economics and is able to express them forcibly and well; the eloquent speech of Rabbi Michael Aaronsohn and the touching tribute to him from his comrade in arms in the Argonne, Hon. Abe D. Waldauer. The appealing figure of the blind rabbi whose words thrilled those present will remain with us for a long time, and the beautiful tribute of his friend will echo in our ears after many incidents of the gathering are forgotten.

Mention must not be omitted of the address of Arthur Madsen, the editor of *Land and Liberty* of London, beloved friend of John Paul, and the interesting account from F. Folke of the real progress made in Denmark. Both Mr. Folke and Mr. Madsen have a keen sense of humor, and let us not be told again that our English friends lack humor. In this sense of humor our Danish representative is not far behind. We should include also in the mention of what we have termed the "high lights" of the Congress the well chosen words of Hon. Charles O'Connor Hennessy, chairman of the Friday night session, and the searching inquiry into our principles and purposes

made by Benjamin W. Burger in his paper, "What to Emphasize in Teaching the Philosophy of Henry George," which we hope to publish some time.

At the banquet Mayor McNair of Pittsburgh regaled us again with his purely American humor. He knew his audience when he said, "Is there anybody here who doesn't want to make a speech," and a good natured laugh went up.

The banquet was a big success. An attendance of over two hundred, each of whom paid \$2.50 for an excellent dinner, was larger than that of any previous Congress. And as if loth to depart the members of the conference stayed after midnight to exchange greetings and farewells. Thus came to an end a memorable, and on the whole a really constructive Henry George Congress.

## Opening Session, Sept. 26

REPORTED BY MRS. ADELIN T. MULHENBERG

THE opening session of the Tenth Annual Henry George Congress began Sept. 26, 1935, at 10 a. m. with Edmund P. Donovan of New York City, chairman of the New York Convention Committee, and Charles Joseph Smith of New York as the chairman of the session. The subject for this session was "The Henry George School of Social Science."

Mr. Donovan gave an address of welcome and introduced Charles Joseph Smith.

Mr. Donovan again resumed the chair and asked that "brevity" be the keynote of the convention. He then introduced the chairman of the session and Mr. Smith took the chair. Mr. Smith said, "the finest method of learning is by way of teaching." He urged that we "keep the sun of our cause rising."

The principal speaker was Otto K. Dorn of New York, Business Manager of the Henry George School of Social Science, who reported on the activities of the School. He called the School "a clearing house for all schools." Mr. Dorn anticipates a larger registration than ever before. The Teacher's Training Classes are becoming more popular.

There followed five minute reports from teachers and alumni students of the School at its National Headquarters as follows:

Roma B. Halpern, graduate of Teachers' Training Course advises that all problems and questions on the work be brought to the class for discussion. The methods of this class were given in detail.

Charles Erwood, present member of the Training Class, left the thought that "most people who study Henry George think they know it better than anyone else."

Stephen Bell, foreign editor of *Commerce and Finance*, spoke on the importance of "free trade" in and out of the movement. He gave a very instructive talk on the tariff, saying "too much attention cannot be given to free trade; it can give all nations and all mankind a place in the sun." Mr. Bell urged a special class at the School on tariffs.

Lancaster Green of New York pleaded for a restimulation of the movement by all. Mrs. H. H. McEvoy of Alaska and Chicago told of her work in Chicago among the colored women.

Morris Van Veen pleaded for imparting the Henry George theory every day of one's life. Mr. A. C. Thompson of Toronto Canada, told of spending an entire lesson on the Malthusian theory with all of his classes.

Mr. Herbert M. Garn of New York addressed the convention. Mr. Smith completed the session. Mr. Donovan then presented to the convention the following distinguished guests who were present:

Marietta Johnson of Fairhope, Ala., Miss Charlotte Schetter of New York, Bill Beach Truehart and Mrs. William Truehart of Houston, Texas, the Messers. Ellert from Milk River, Alberta, Canada, Mr. F. Folke of Denmark and Mr. Arthur Madsen of England.

## Second Session, Sept. 26

REPORTED BY MRS. ADELIN T. MULHENBERG

THE second session of the Tenth Annual Henry George Congress convened at the Hotel New Yorker in New York City, on Thursday, Sept. 26, 1935 at 2 p. m. with James F. Oastler of New York as chairman. The subject of this session was "Extension Classes of the Henry George School of Social Science." Mr. John Lawrence Monroe of Chicago, Field Director of the Henry George School of Social Science, was the principal speaker.

Edmund P. Donovan, chairman of the Congress opened the session with announcements of the exhibitions in New York City of first editions and galley sheets of "Progress and Poverty" and other writings of Henry George at the New York Public Library, and the portrait of Henry George as painted by an American artist, George de Forrest, and donated to the Metropolitan Museum by August Lewis who commissioned the portrait.

Mr. Donovan introduced Mr. Oastler who, after his greetings and expediting of the subject in turn presented John Lawrence Monroe. Mr. Monroe told of his visits to different parts of the country and Canada, and reported the extent and progress of the movement. "There are too few people who know," said Mr. Monroe. He urged the use of radio, class work and the press, to arouse the interest of the country. An outline of the methods of teaching was given and systems of attracting students presented. "Realize," said Mr. Monroe, "the power of education to spread this teaching."

Mr. Oastler then presented a number of speakers from various parts of the country to give five minute reports on Extension Classes as follows:

Rabbi Michael Aaronsohn of Cincinnati, reported the progress of classes by personal contacts, the radio, and the press. "Acquaint the world with Henry George's teachings," was the message that he left with us.

Dave Margolis of Cleveland, O., spoke.

Richard E. Howe of Pittsburgh, reported on the class movement in that city.

Robert C. Bowers contrasted the success of the present as compared with the past in Pittsburgh.

Bill Beach Truehart of Houston, Texas, representing a splendid example of the youth of today and the interest that can be created in and among the younger generation, interested this session immensely. Mrs. William Truehart, mother of this youth, and the instructor of a class of high school boys in Houston on the teachings of Henry George followed. Eva L. Maxwell of New York and Danbury, responsible for the organization of class work in Connecticut, spoke hopefully of our progress.

Dr. Elizabeth E. Bowen of Newark, N. J., left some very constructive messages on teaching by the use of the blackboard; in assisting the reading by summary work; by giving a thorough understanding of the "seven terms."

J. B. Ellert, Milk River, Alberta, Canada, spoke of his success in giving the Henry George philosophy to others by the spoken word. He drew his examples from Milk River, his home town, the town of the Single Tax. Miss Zarah Dupont of Cambridge, Mass., spoke. W. W. Monroe, of Schenectady, a Henry George follower for fifty years, said he is prepared to teach four classes every week.

Hartley Dennett, East Alstead, N. H., was now heard, and Mrs. Anna George de Mille, daughter of Henry George who reported the results of the progress of her efforts in California during the summer, F. Folke of Denmark, who has helped to spread the Henry George

theory in Denmark, gave us the thought "one cannot teach the principles of Henry George without thoroughly understanding them."

Mr. Arthur Madsen of England related the progress made in his country. He suggested the publication of a summary of "Progress and Poverty" so that it might be placed in the hands of prospects as well as students.

Dr. Bowen announced that she had in her possession an original newspaper, *The New York World*, wherein many years ago Henry George himself had published a complete summary of "Progress and Poverty." Mr. Edmund P. Donovan then closed the meeting with the announcement of the evening session.

## Evening Session, Sept. 26

REPORTED BY CHAS. ERWOOD

MR. LANCASTER GREEN, as chairman opened the meeting and introduced Mrs. Marietta Johnson of Fairhope, Ala. Mrs. Johnson began her address by urging that Georgists and Socialists should come together in their fight for social equality. She expressed the belief that the Socialists would see that the socialization of land value would accomplish the aim of social justice without having recourse to the rest of the Socialist programme; that they would be content with this fundamental step and not try to socialize capital as well.

Most interesting was her theory that children are brought up to expect injustice, and she went on to explain that external standards set up by schools and parents foreordained many to failure. She criticized the school system as closing the mind to truth; learning to accept truth on authority instead of accepting truth for authority. Schooling must meet the need of the individual instead of forcing the individual into a fixed pattern.

Mrs. Johnson laid our present difficulty to lack of purchasing power and strongly advocated the Townsend Plan as a remedy, but stipulated that the pension must be paid by collecting economic rent.

Mr. Waldauer of Memphis, Tenn., opened his address with the now celebrated story of his first Single Tax speech at the age of thirteen.

He then spoke feelingly of his meeting with Rabbi Aaronsohn in France in the Argonne and of the comradeship known to men who have faced death together, and said, "Great as was that comradeship, it cannot compare with the comradeship known to the followers of Henry George."

Mr. Waldauer told of the fight to stop sales tax legislation in the State of Tennessee, and drew comparisons between Tennesseans' and New Yorkers' reactions to sales tax legislation that was not at all complimentary to New Yorkers. He quoted from a letter of Enoch Emsley who, long before George, had written, "Never tax anything that would be of value to you or your State, that could or would run away, or that could or would come to you."

In closing Mr. Waldauer said that despite the general illiteracy in Tennessee there was more tax literacy than in many sections of the country, and that he hoped to see sales taxes and all other forms of taxation on production abolished in the near future.

Rabbi Aaronsohn referred to this as his maiden speech at a Henry George Congress and hoped that it would be the first of many.

The Rabbi went on to say that most conventions are called to benefit some partisan interests, to gain privilege for some group or individuals; but that this convention was called for an unselfish cause and a noble purpose.

The chief object of this gathering should be to choose the best way of spreading the philosophy of Henry George, and the only way to fill the empty press section would be to knit the followers of Henry George into a close compact army. "We cannot look upon ourselves merely as disciples of a great teacher, but must also be warriors, girt for battle, ready to fight a series of orderly engagements instead of the present guerrilla warfare against injustice and corruption."

He was enthusiastic about the work of the Henry George Fellowship and the Henry George School and said that the Fellowship should be the mother institute of the Georgist movement, the heart and the guiding mind.

Rabbi Aaronsohn paid tribute to the work of Tom L. Johnson, Louis F. Post, and Oscar H. Geiger, all of whom he regarded as heroes of the Georgist movement.

## Morning Session, Sept. 27

MR. DONOVAN introduced Mrs. Mary Ware Dennett as chairman of this session which was devoted to legislative methods. Mrs. Dennett introduced James G. Blauvelt, who ran for United States Senator on the Republican ticket in New Jersey, and who is president of the Henry George League of that State. He congratulated the Congress on the progress of the Georgist cause. He paid a deserved tribute to Graham Peace for his work, "The Great Robbery."

Mrs. Dennett now called upon P. R. Williams, secretary of the Henry George Foundation, who responded briefly. Walter Fairchild spoke for the Society for Scientific Taxation, and told of the bills recommended by the society to the legislature, which now rest in committee.

Mrs. Dennett advocated the introduction of Single Tax bills in every State, such bills to conform to circumstances. A greater stimulation would thus be afforded, giving an opportunity to those who wanted to do something for the cause.

Joseph Dana Miller reported for California by reading portions of a letter from Hon. Jackson H. Ralston and submitting the following telegram:

State Federation of Labor at San Diego with five hundred delegates today unanimously endorsed again the constitutional amendment and instructed its executive board to further its adoption at the polls in November, next year.—JACKSON H. RALSTON.

Other speakers were Congressman Moritz, Donald Marcellus, Harold Sudell, the latter reading a bill, which he had prepared, for Philadelphia.

Mr. Ewing and Mr. Leubuscher also spoke.

## Afternoon Session, Sept. 27

THIS session was called to order by Mr. Bowers of Pittsburgh, who announced that the principal speaker Mr. Schwartz was unable to be present. The same announcement was made respecting Henry George Atkinson.

Miss Antoinette Kaufmann reviewed the work of the Schalkenbach Foundation, and the history of the movement since 1897, and answered a number of questions.

Mrs. Gertrude E. Mackenzie spoke for the Women's Washington Single Tax organization.

Mrs. Eva Maxwell reported for the *Forum and No Taxes* of Stockton, Calif., and Mr. Miller reported for LAND AND FREEDOM.

Mr. Edward Polak detailed his efforts, which were remarkably successful, in the High School Essay contests and the Forum which he established some years ago. He advocated a policy of "boring from within" through the dominant parties. In 1922 we did this and were successful in establishing a ten year exemption, of improvements from taxation, which gave a great impetus to building.

Alfred M. Chandler reported for activities in New Jersey and the bill which received 22 votes, lacking only nine of adoption.

Mrs. Bessie Beach Truehart of Houston, Texas, stressed the necessity of appealing to the masses.

The speakers also included George Lloyd, Chas. Johnson Post, Mrs. McAvoy, Mrs. DuBois and others.

## International Night, Sept. 27

REPORTED BY DONALD MARCELLUS

THIS session was presided over by Hon. Charles O'Connor Hennessy.

An address on "Land Value Taxation in Politics and in Practice in Denmark," was delivered by Mr. Folke.

Mr. Folke described the long battle and slow evolution of Georgian principles in Denmark. The outstanding events were: abolition of serfdom in 1788, the adoption of a democratic constitution in 1849, the growth of cooperatives which gave the small farmers power against the landed proprietors, the famous scientific land valuation carried out between 1805 and 1826, the bringing of Georgian teachings to Denmark by Jacob Lange in 1884, assessments at one hundred per cent of market value in 1903, separate assessment of land and buildings in 1916 and the financing and land settlement acts of 1899 and 1919. Under the financing provisions of these acts about ten per cent of Danish farms came into existence. In 1932 tax exemption of all farm improvements and part of city improvements was achieved, also a tax on land value increases which had the interesting effect of inducing landholders to make a true declaration of the value of their holdings. Also at this time the Georgists succeeded in getting subsidies for farmers in place of tax reductions.

The importance of the Danish achievements can be partially judged by realizing that up until 1930 Denmark had more commerce than any other nation in relation to the size of its population, and that practically all Danish farmers owned their own farms as contrasted with our ever growing proportion of tenant farmers. They have far to go yet as is made apparent by the fact that they only take 1.4 per cent of the total taxable land value but their legislation is progressively building up to achieve pure Single Tax.

The grain-dumping activities of America forced England to give up her agriculture and forced Germany to take refuge behind tariffs but Denmark built up a new agricultural industry. The Danish farmers also proved that small farms were as efficient producers as large ones. (This will be of particular interest to the advocates of the large scale plans of the Technocrats.)

Mr. Folke's description of the defensive tactics of the Georgists was particularly interesting. Attempts to substitute *income taxes* for land taxes were parried by showing that this *would favor the rich* (they would pay lower taxes on their incomes than they had to pay on their speculative lands) *those that received the most services from the community and those that improved their farms the least*. When in the agriculture crisis of 1930, attempts were made to reduce land taxes, it was pointed out by the Georgists that the debt burden was more oppressive than the tax burden and that the debt burden would increase if taxes were reduced.

Other speakers at this session were Arthur Madsen of London, Alan Thompson of Toronto and Col. Victor A. Rule of Chicago.

## Morning Session, Sept. 28

REPORTED BY MRS. EVA L. MAXWELL

IN the absence of Mr. Jesse M. Zeeman, Col. Victor A. Rule presided.

Mr. Benjamin W. Burger, the speaker of the session, took for his subject, "What to Emphasize in Teaching the Philosophy of Henry George."

He said our philosophy can find acceptance only in the well-ordered mind, those who sense a divine order in the universe, for we see things not as *they* are but as *we* are. Therefore to understand the Georgist philosophy requires for the ordinary mind the establishment of a new viewpoint. He must understand the fundamentals of political economy. Mr. Burger then listed six qualities which distinguish land from private property, as follows:

1. The earth is not produced by man, but is the gift of the Creator, for the equal use of all.
2. It is limited in quantity.
3. It is essential to existence.
4. It does not owe its value to anything that landowners choose to put upon it.
5. It owes its value entirely to the presence and activities of the community.
6. It cannot be carried away or concealed.

As in law, there are five points to establish the necessity for the collection of ground rent. The First is that man in his physical aspect is a land animal.

As Georgists we are radical. We place the emphasis on land as the essential, while the Socialist places it on the non-essential, capital. The Second point we must establish is that all human beings have an equal right to live on the earth. The Third point, that the earth cannot be privately owned follows from the first two. The Fourth point is that land rent measures the desirability of different locations. And, Fifth, the most difficult to establish to the satisfaction of beginners is, that by using ground rent for our common needs, we secure for each and every human being the equal right to live.

It is of vital importance if we would be understood, that the terms of political economy, land, labor, capital, rent, wages and interest mean exactly the same to our hearers as they mean to us.

Mr. Roy A. Folke, of Dun and Bradstreet, discussed the effects of land speculation on business enterprises. He established the fact that speculative increase in land value causes an undue proportion of income to go to rent. The economic function of business is to produce goods and services. Too large an investment in land leads to bankruptcy.

Discussion followed from the floor. Mrs. Marietta Johnson of Fairhope, Ala., urged that we bring our gospel to church people. She said that love was impossible if we allow individuals to take what they do not produce, or if society takes from individuals what they produce. There was further discussion by Professor Oppenheimer, author of "The State," Miss Charlotte Schetter, Messrs. Leubuscher, Fiske Warren, Foley, Tynes, Odgen, Marcellus, Olcott and others. They further emphasized that we must put this fundamental teaching in language the people can understand.

## Meeting Board of Directors of Henry George Foundation

CLAYTON J. EWING presided and Edward P. Donovan thanked the officers of the Foundation for the fine cooperation established between the official body and the committee of arrangements of which he was chairman. He suggested the formation of a more militant organization and spoke of the work being done in Great Britain of which Mr. Madsen had told us.

The officials of the Foundation were re-elected at this meeting and Miss Grace Isabel Colbron, on motion of Mr. Leubuscher, was elected to the Board and Miss C. H. Fuller was elected on motion of Mr. Miller.

Mr. P. R. Williams reported for the Foundation.

Mr. Waldauer advocated enclaves for land reverting to the States where anybody could go to the land on a ninety-nine year lease.

On motion of Mrs. de Mille the thanks of the board was given to the efficient chairman of the Congress, Edward P. Donovan.

Resolutions having been ruled out of convention proceedings the following resolution suggested by Mr. Ewing had been drawn up and introduced at this meeting by Mr. Miller.

Believing that the principal cause of wars is the hunger for land and the policy of greedy nations in the grabbing of territory, and

Believing also that the imposition of tariffs that strangle trade divide peoples into hostile camps, thus accentuating the temptation to conflict, we call attention to the need of considering the teachings

of Henry George who pointed out a way for the destruction of these peace-destroying institutions, the freeing of Industry from tariff barriers, and the establishment of the natural rights of man to the lands of nations, thus bringing about a reign of universal peace.

## Visit to the Grave of Henry George

REPORTED BY M. VAN VEEN

ON Saturday, Sept. 28, about one hundred members of the Henry George Congress availed themselves of the opportunity of paying tribute at the grave of our great leader Henry George in his resting place in Greenwood cemetery.

Most of those present went, owing to the thoughtfulness of the Committee, in a huge stage, while others went by the subway.

A most beautiful and fitting tribute was made by Col. Victor A. Rule, in the absence of Hon. Peter Witt who was to have made the memorial address. Called upon at short notice thanks are due to Col. Rule for his beautiful and feeling tribute to our great leader.

This was followed by an address by F. Folke, of Denmark, who explained that the heather flowers which he laid upon the grave were gathered by his fellow countrymen to be so placed.

Mr. Madsen followed with an eloquent address, and in behalf of the English followers presented a beautiful wreath which was placed at the foot of the monolith. Mr. Madsen said: "He is alive with the spirit of those who are alive with his thought."

All agreed that they had been present at a beautiful ceremony that they would cherish as an imperishable memory.

## Banquet Henry George Congress

REPORTED BY MRS. MARGARET F. BINGHAM

THE Tenth Annual Henry George Congress came to an impressive close on Sept. 28, when over two hundred people gathered at a banquet in the ballroom of the Hotel New Yorker.

Mr. Edmund P. Donovan, to whose intelligent and capable direction much of the success of the Congress was due, acted as toastmaster. Mr. Donovan, an Englishman, modestly yet humorously referred to his selection as Chairman of the New York Convention Committee. Mr. Leonard T. Recker had notified him of his appointment. Said Mr. Donovan, "I was a stranger in a strange land, and Mr. Recker took me in—and how."

First to be introduced was Mr. Percy R. Williams, secretary of the Henry George Foundation, and Chief Assessor of Pittsburgh. Mr. Williams reminded the gathering that conventions are merely a means to an end, and expressed the conviction that all had profited by this one. Reporting on conditions in Pittsburgh, he gave the satisfying information that the Mayor, the Administration, and a majority of the Board of Assessors, are Single Taxers.

Mr. Helmuth Moller, First Vice Consul of the Kingdom of Denmark, son of a prominent Danish Georgist, introduced the next speaker, Mr. F. Folke of Denmark, President of the Henry George Society of Denmark. Mr. Folke brought resolutions of greeting from that body. He spoke of the difference between America and Denmark. America is young, strong, with conditions of life new and different from those of Europe. The Danes, on the other hand, occupy an old, small country, hemmed in by the sea. They can hope for nothing by strength; their only hope is through justice. There is a happy country, however, for every child is true heir to his fatherland, as Henry George advocated. Although Denmark, too, has unemployment, quotas, and restrictions, freedom and equality permeate the spirit of the people. Mr. Folke gave a disarming account of his impressions of New York. Although prepared by pictures for the skyline and for skyscrapers, he was thrilled and de-

lighted by seeing them. This, he said, is what a people can do with even a little freedom and democracy, such as we have had. Now that free land is gone, democracy has lost its foundation. America must return to true democracy and the principles of Henry George. It will then be the happy country of the world.

Mr. Arthur Madsen, of London, editor of *Land and Liberty*, told of his first contact with the idea of the Single Tax, years ago, in East London, Cape Province, Africa. From 1909 he was associated with John Paul at the United Committee for Land Value Taxation. An interesting trend in Great Britain today is shown by the fact that Sheffield, England, and Cardiff, Wales, have separately called upon all cities to join in petitioning Parliament to shift taxes to land values. Mr. Madsen spoke of the misunderstanding on the part of Liberals as well as Protectionists on the meaning of "laissez-faire." It is not obsolete, as they think, nor does it mean "Let things alone." It means "LET THINGS BE DONE," and was originally said by the French Physiocrats to a government whose taxation was restricting enterprise.

The entire gathering stood for a minute of silent tribute to the Single Taxers who have passed on during the last year,—to Frank Stevens, William Black, Francis Maguire, Judge Robert Minor, and Mrs. Julia Goldzier.

The Hon. William McNair, Mayor of Pittsburgh, then spoke. He made the telling point that the people must select as law makers men really fitted for their jobs, with a knowledge of economics. Henry George schools throughout the country will provide them. From leaders produced by the schools, the masses will get the idea that community value should be taken for community purposes. When they realize what economic rent is, they will take it.

Mrs. Anna George de Mille read an inspiring letter written by her father to Father Dawson, of Dublin, in which he explained his dedication to the cause of freedom.

A fitting valedictory to the banquet, and, indeed, to the Convention itself, was uttered by Mr. Folke. All winds of Europe, he said come from the west. Many messages have been sent from the new country to the old; that of Benjamin Franklin, who tore the lightning from heaven, and the sceptre from tyranny; that of Woodrow Wilson, whose name will never be forgotten in Denmark; that of Henry George, true Democrat, and prophet of freedom and justice.

## Mr. Folke's Speech Before Grave of Henry George Greenwood Cemetery

I AM here on behalf of the Danish Henry George Union to do honor to the memory of our great leader in gratitude for what he has given to each of his followers: an active and fertile viewpoint on the central economic question in our social life, a firm belief in the future of mankind, an ideal to fight for, a service to render our country in memory of the sacrifice of our ancestors and in hope for the future of our children. The influence of Henry George was not limited to his followers. In my country his name is known and honored everywhere by the people. He was a teacher to my people—a benefactor to Denmark.

This name of honor is generally attributed to those who founded universities, who built hospitals and charitable institutions. In my country most of this work is rendered as public service. Our true benefactors are those who taught our people to understand themselves, their needs, their duties and responsibilities. These Henry George gave to many of the best of my people.

The wreath I bring has been bound by Danish friends of Henry George. It is composed of heather-flowers, the beauty of our heaths, which now are disappearing under the ploughs of our smallholders. For in Denmark such work is not accomplished by companies, but