

*Who's Who  
in Georgism*  
G. H. Duncan



George H. Duncan was born on December 23, 1876, in Leominster, Mass. He was only three months old when his family moved to East Jaffrey, N. H., where he has lived ever since. It was in this town that his father in 1879 established a drug store which is still in business and the conduct of which is now Mr. Duncan's principal occupation.

Mr. Duncan comes of American Revolutionary stock, his father's people having settled in Hancock in 1775, while his mother, Mary Coolidge, a distant cousin of the former president, had a great uncle who was wounded at Bunker Hill.

The death of his father in 1899 took

Mr. Duncan from Amherst College only a short time before he was to be graduated. However, last year Amherst in recognition of his distinguished career awarded him an honorary degree. The same honor was conferred upon Mr. Duncan in 1932 by Dartmouth College.

In 1904 he was elected Selectman of Jaffrey. His duties included those of an assessor, a responsibility which he took seriously and which led him to conclude that the system of taxation which he was called upon to enforce could stand much improvement.

He set about studying economics on his own and spent three years wading through Adam Smith, Ricardo, John Stuart Mill, Bascom and Francis Walker—and finally Henry George. In *Progress and Poverty* he discovered the golden book of political economy. All the disjointed concepts which he had been trying to master now slipped into place in a unified whole.

Mr. Duncan's life has abounded with opportunities to see demonstrated the soundness of Henry George's principles and to help in calling them to the attention of others. Some of the public offices he has held are tax collector, member of the Board of Education, judge of police court, postmaster, representative in his state legislature, delegate to Constitutional Convention, etc. etc.

From 1925 to 1930 Mr. Duncan lectured throughout the United States and Canada for the Henry George Lecture Association. He taught his first class of the Henry George School at Peterboro in the winter of 1937-8, and the following year he conducted three classes at Concord during the legislative session, having seventy-five enrollments and producing fifty-two graduates, which included twenty members of the New Hampshire legislature.

Mr. Duncan married Helen Prescott in 1900. They have one son George Prescott and a grandson, George B.