

What One Great Book Can Mean to You

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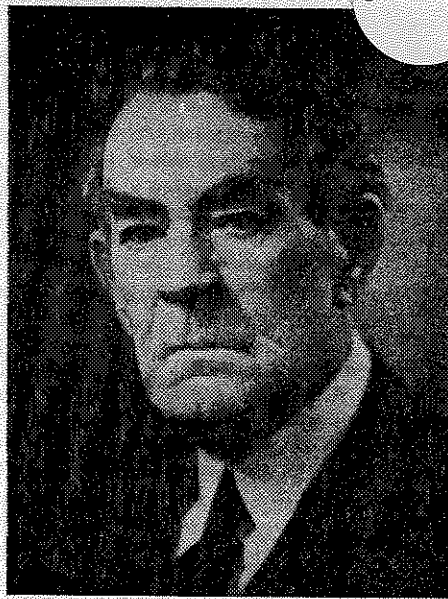
WHEN WILL the business men of America turn their attention to the great problem of expedients resorted to by governments in such national crises as we have suffered since the crash of 1929? One would think that twenty years—notwithstanding a long and terrible war—would be sufficient time for our leaders of thought in the universities and the executive offices of trade and commerce to formulate adequate ideas of how to surmount their difficulties. We go from experiment to expedient with the absurd notion that we are trying something new and that through what is called "trial and error," we shall stumble upon a method to save ourselves from bankruptcy.

I wish it were possible for business men to read a book that I examined recently. It is called *From Plato to the French Revolution*. The pity of it is that it is written in French and has not yet been translated for publication in our language. This work is written by two brothers, well-known Frenchmen, Messieurs Jacques and Robert Lacour-Gayet. The former is in Paris and the other is here, an instructor at St. John's University, Brooklyn. They review for us the most important schemes tried by governments since the days of Plato, some twenty-five hundred years ago. The astonishing thing about this work is that the informed reader is reminded on every page that here in this country, at this time, we are trying the same old dodges that have failed over and over again and have brought nothing but misery to the people. It is scarcely believable that in 1796 a play was produced in Paris which described the methods of the Black Market practiced at that time.

Today we live under a paper government of the order envisioned by John Taylor of Virginia as far back as 1794. At that time, he predicted that the people would be sold lock, stock and barrel, if they submitted to the issue of deficit money. As a result of wars and financial and industrial depressions, our accumulated debt will have to be carried by the workers of the country into the third and fourth generations. Do business men understand what this imposition means to their efforts to reach the purchasing power of the people? Grumbling is not an adequate protest, and government is so little affected by it that it threatens to increase taxation and add to the onerous burdens that

The ideals of free trade, freedom to use the earth and freedom from detailed direction and regimentation by bureaucrats, are diametrically opposed to the ideologies of communism and socialism. Those who say they believe in the private enterprise system and who sincerely deprecate the socialist trend of recent decades, would do well to emphasize and to help spread the teaching of Henry George as an effective antidote to those ideologies.

—HARRY GUNNISON BROWN.



By FRANCIS NEILSON

are almost too heavy to bear.

Now there is only one work that I know which clearly points a way out of our difficulties. It is Henry George's *Progress and Poverty*. I read it when I was poor enough, and knew all the vicissitudes of seeking a job and finding food and lodging. It impressed me so deeply when I was a young man that for nearly sixty years I have looked upon it as a friendly guide to conduct, a safe and sure instruction for clear thought on how to meet the problems which arise from poverty. Moreover, it was of supreme educative value to me. It awakened a desire to study the sources that George drew upon, and in a humble way to emulate what he had succeeded in doing. It taught me an excellent method of reasoning clearly, satisfying myself that problems had only to be faced in their economic garb to discover a way of solving them.

However, George's work—great as it is—would perhaps not have endured had it not been for his discovery that economic justice is essential to a proper understanding of the grievances and disabilities under which mankind bows today. Here he gave us a basis upon which we could erect a new order of things. For without this just foundation, the imagination cannot conceive how producers can enjoy the work of their hands, to use the phrase of Isaiah. George also realized that a beneficent Father, the Creator, knows that we need all these things before we ask for them, and that if we seek justice and inaugurate a system founded upon it, we shall enjoy the fruit of our toil. It was one of the great discoveries for him to reveal to us that justice is inherent in nature and that those things that are created are for the use of all the Father's children.

The philosophers would say that this was no new thought, that both Plato and Socrates, Cicero and many others before the beginning of this era had given these ideas to men. The trouble is that they are scattered through great

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Dear Friend:-

Why did Joe Doakes fall in the ditch every Saturday night?

THE REASON: He took no action to PREVENT IT! (1) He went home the wrong side of the street, the tavern side, and, (2) He never filled up the ditch.

and why

--do some 150,000,000 Americans continually face and FEAR:

- **unending labor-capital fights?
- **recurring 'booms and busts'?
- **masses of our people unemployed, existing on sub-standard wages and in chronic poverty?
- **slum infested cities?
- **a miserable, helter-skelter, TAX STRUCTURE that KILLS job-opportunities and SMOTHERS PRODUCTION?
- **daily SCANDALS of graft and corruption government?
- **increasing child and adult delinquency?
- **aggressive and ruthless tactics of POLITICAL COMMUNISM?
- **WAR AND THE FEAR OF WAR?

WHY do THESE PROBLEMS persist? The reason is simple! WE NEVER DO THING TO PREVENT THEM.

And, as has been said: "Those who fail to learn from their mistakes are BOUND TO REPEAT THEM." Our real trouble is, WE DON'T RECOGNIZE OUR MISTAKES.

THESE PROBLEMS (listed above) are not SEPARATE problems. The CAUSE of one is largely the CAUSE of all. These PROBLEMS are neither INEVITABLE nor NATURAL, a truly "Free" Free Enterprise system (No apology is offered Socialists or Communists for this direct denial of one of the PET ASSUMPTIONS.)

BUT WHEN AN ECONOMY IS --- constantly propogandized as "FREE" which actually is heavily encrusted and straitjacketed by man-made laws which MAKE a SUSTAIN monopolies and special privilege the harsh truth is that, to this extent, it is exactly opposite to Competition and Freedom, the essence of Free Enterprise. Further, it permit a 'planned' tax structure that punish industry and the industrious most severely while making it relatively easy for a few (the planners) to monopolize valuable local sites and natural resource areas essential to a truly "FREE" Free Enterprise way of economic life and human wellbeing. Under these hobbling circumstances the PROBLEMS destroying our country naturally follow, and are then INEVITABLE.

THESE PROBLEMS can be CURED without deficit financing (bond issues) or higher taxes. The application of an economic remedy which fits the bottom facts of the case will reduce both government costs and taxes. The secret? It's very, very simple. It is the nature of "Go and sin no more." It is this: "STOP ECONOMIC WRONGDOING THRU GOVERNMENT." Expose our mistakes! We must stop repeating our mistakes generation by generation. But FIRST we

ust isolate our basic MISTAKES as medical scientists seek to isolate the CAUSE of polio and cancer. The correct treatment will follow.

THESE PROBLEMS, in spite of 100 years of teaching PRESCRIBED economic courses in our institutions of higher learning, have spread greatly and deepened. Combined as they are with FALSE REMEDIES offered to-day they now threaten to destroy what is left of us of true, competitive, free market price economy. Nevertheless, education -- FULL and TRUTHFUL EDUCATION -- is the ANSWER. We offer a hopeful and most practical approach. Study the writings of a great American, Henry George, especially his "Progress and Poverty", the writing of which has made him a candidate for the Hall of Fame. Read the article reproduced here, "What One Great Book Can Mean To You." Read the statements below of a few of the many well-known people who know and honor Henry George. If you do this, you will want to find out for yourself what Henry George proposed and why.

Some Communists have said that Henry George's ideas are the last defense of our free Enterprise economy. The truth is, the application of George's ideas is the last chance to help FREE Free Enterprise of its hampering and aged accumulation of parasitical economic barnacles which weight it down and prevent its full service to our people, both in production and in just distribution. FREED as Henry George would FREE economy, it would, by its SERVICE to the people, reveal the RUSSIAN ECONOMIC MONSTROSITY as hopelessly bogged down and standing still. Only those of short vision even think we can go back to what they call the "good old days". We cannot by mere opposition to those now applying and seeking to apply FALSE REMEDIES win this ideological war. Only something POSITIVE that offers hope to the people can win.

Write the undersigned for KNOW-HOW as to how to do this job and for information you need about free-of-tuition-charge classroom and correspondence courses based on the great classic of American books. (Or write the Henry George School of Social Science, 10 E. 69th St., New York 21, N. Y. for a catalog which gives School location and correspondence course information.)

Cordially yours,

Noah D. Alper

Noah D. Alper, Extension Director.
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Phone: Garfield 5630

Selections from "Who's Who in America")
FRANCIS NEILSON : Critic Theatre Mag. New York 1889, later with reportorial reports. Sun and Recorder. Stage Dir. for Frohman, at London, 1897-1910, Royal Opera, Covent Garden, 1900-1903; mem. British Parliament, 1910-1915; Editor, The Freeman, and Unity; pres. English League for Taxation of Land Values, 1912-15; pres. Nat. Drama League of America, 1920-26; fellow in perpetuity, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Author of Control from the Top, 1933; Eleventh Commandment, 1933; Man at the Crossroads, 1938; The Roots of Our Learning, 1946; Political Democracy on Trial, 1947; regular contributor to the American Journal of Economics and Sociology.

What One Great Book

Can Mean To You (continued)

works and it is not easy nowadays for the working man or his employer to spend their time in searching for them. Let me, therefore, put before you the wonderful description of justice which is attributed to Cicero:

"Of all these things about which learned men dispute there is none more important than clearly to understand that we are born for justice, and that right is founded not in opinion but in nature. There is indeed a true law, right reason, agreeing with nature and diffused among all, unchanging, everlasting, which calls to duty by commanding, deters from wrong by forbidding. . . . It is not allowable to alter this law nor to deviate from it. Nor can it be abrogated. Nor can we be released from this law either by the senate or by the people. Nor is any person required to explain or interpret it. Nor is it one law at Rome and another at Athens, one law today and another hereafter, but the same law, everlasting and unchangeable, will bind all nations and all times; and there will be one common lord and ruler of all, even God, the framer and proposer of this law."

The universality of this astonishing statement is reflected in George's works, and perhaps, when we know this, it is not difficult for us to explain how he was able to win the at-

tention of such profound and diverse thinkers as Lord Acton and Leo Tolstoy, to mention only two. To propound a universal doctrine which can be understood by any sane man, no matter where he lives and has his being, is an achievement that has no counterpart in the realms of thought. In this respect, George is essentially a practical man.

In closing, let me say just one word about the cultural attractions that are offered by him. When I think of the Great Books courses -- the revival of the adult schools, I reflect upon the influences that have bequeathed to me the happy years of my variable career. *Progress and Poverty* is a Great Books course in itself. Culturally it will lead you, step by step, to the masterpieces that schools are studying today. I am informed that business men are finding time to take this course and to join adult classes so that they may make up for the deficiencies of their school days. If my experience is worth anything to them, I strongly advise them to procure a copy of *Progress and Poverty* and read it carefully without the accompaniment of radio or television. I promise that within a year the assiduous student of it will realize that it is not necessary for this system of fear and poverty to exist; it is only needful for an informed body of opinion to change it to one in which man may feel secure and look to the future with confidence.

John C. Lincoln, Chairman, Board of Directors, Lincoln Electric Co., Cleveland, O.

"I urge all thinking people to take advantage of the wonderful opportunity offered by the Henry George School in its free courses in economics. In electrical engineering a scientific study of natural law is essential. How much more important is it for us to learn the truth about economics, which vitally concerns every one of us. This is the contribution of the School."

Edward Keating, Manager, Labor, Railway Workers paper:

"No American man or woman should miss reading "Progress and Poverty" by Henry George. . . . It is unfortunate that this great man's works haven't a wider circulation at a time when George's philosophy could do so much to aid a troubled world."

William C. DeMille, in the motion picture industry, says:

"Business and professional men should be urged to study Georgeist philosophy. They have the brains to understand it - and once having grasped its truth they will realize its vital importance to the nation. Communism cannot be successfully fought by another false doctrine. It can only be defeated by real economic truth."

Harry Gunnison Brown, Professor of Economics, University of Missouri:

"The teaching of fundamental economics as carried on in the Henry George School of Social Science seems to me the most promising venture of our time in adult education for citizenship. I earnestly hope, therefore, that enrollment in its classes will continue to increase and in an accelerating ratio."

Glenn E. Hoover, Chairman, Dep't. of Economics, Mills College:

"No one, anywhere in the world, who claims to be a serious student of Economics, should remain ignorant of the writings of Henry George. He presented the 'dismal science' in clear and eloquent language, and made it intelligible and vital to the poor and perplexed of his time, our time, and all time. I am delighted that the Henry George School of Social Science is extending the circle of his readers."

Rt. Rev. Mgr. Luigi G. Ligutti, Executive Secretary, Natl. Catholic Rural Life Conf.

"Inspired by one of my seminary teachers, I read *Progress and Poverty*. I became interested in the problems of farmers and urbanites, for both of which George presents the solution. The Henry George School is doing a magnificent piece of educational work. When it spreads widely enough it will save our American democracy."

John Haynes Holmes:

"Henry George was one of the world's great prophets of emancipation. His mind conceived an immortal truth; his heart touched this truth with the fire of supreme conviction; his soul lifted this truth as a banner in a great crusade for God and his kingdom of the right. His whole life was a dedication to a cause which shall some day prevail upon the earth."