

## Henry George Centenary an Historical Occasion Successful in Spite of World Catastrophe

Fate smiled wryly at the date set for the Henry George Centenary. It was ironical that persons believing that peace is attainable through universal association in equality should gather to pay tribute to this idea at the very time that war clouds obscured it.

War or no war—over 500 people convened at the Hotel Commodore sessions to pay homage to Henry George on the anniversary of his hundredth birthday.

Wednesday morning, August 30, the convention was opened by Mayor F. H. LaGuardia with a tribute to Henry George. From that moment until the evening session on the first of September, the status and progress of Georgism throughout the world was discussed by representatives from many lands. Great Britain was represented by F. C. R. Douglas, member of the London County Council, and Ashley Mitchell, prominent exporter. Eire sent the genial George Green, and Australia sent Mrs. Ivy Akeroyd from New South Wales, and E. J. Craigie, M. P. From Denmark came Mr. and Mrs. Bue Bjorner and Jakob Lange, noted naturalist. A. C. Campbell, of Ottawa, H. Bronson Cowan, of Toronto, and Miss Margaret Bateman, Montreal, spoke for Canada. The States were not overwhelmed by the international members, for such speakers as Walter Fairchild, Will Lissner, Hiram L. Jome, Gilbert Tucker, Rabbi Aaronsohn, Lawson Purdy, and many others, represented well the large American contingent.

On the night of September 1 over two hundred attended the banquet at the Commodore, when Harry Weinberger, E. J.

Craigie, F. C. R. Douglas and Frank Chodorov spoke.

On Saturday, September 2nd, a luncheon was held at the Casino of Nations, at the World's Fair. Approximately 250 diners heard Judge Samuel Seabury eloquently urge a deeper understanding and wider application of George's philosophy of freedom to forestall totalitarianism. After the luncheon the foreign visitors signed the famous guest book at Perylon Hall, and the Henry George Centenary was a historical record.

Considering the war New York newspapers were generous in their treatment of the convention. Clippings that have been pouring in from all over the country indicate a widespread understanding and appreciation of Henry George. During the convention, the National Advisory Committee of the World's Fair acted as hosts at a dinner at the World's Fair for our foreign guests at which Mrs. Bjorner was asked to blow out 100 candles on a cake especially baked to celebrate the Centenary.

Plans for broadcasting programs were unfortunately cancelled at the last minute because of the outbreak of war, but Mrs. Anna George deMille made a successful talk (in point of resulting inquiries concerning the courses) over WJZ, and Dr. Aaronsohn spoke over WHOM. Mr. Chodorov, with three persons representing different schools of thought, discussed "Permanent Roads to Prosperity" over WABC on September 16th.

The Centenary Committee which planned every detail of the convention consisted of graduates of the School.