

## CONFERENCE REPORT

The Council of Georgist Organizations met at the University of British Columbia in Western Canada to hold its annual conference May 24th and May 25th.

Ted Gwartney, Commissioner of CEO of the British Columbia Assessment Authority, welcomed the group on Saturday morning and reported on activities in Canada. Mr. Gwartney detailed the workings of assessment in his province and spoke about the computerized approach used in maintaining properties assessed at full market value.

Mal McCarthy, from the Ontario Province, reported on his progress with Site Value Assessment in Peterborough. After receiving reports from Quebec, Colin Bonner explained the P.E.P. League's plans and Jerry Shaw commented on the plight of the oil industry in Alberta.

Georgists spoke about the U.S. movement — from President Charles Ingersol's report on the lawsuit to his Fairhope Single Tax Corporation to Earl Hanson's update on the International Single Tax Association. Progress reports on the past year's work were given by Felice Gruskin for the Transit Riders in Pursuit (New York), and by Mary Davis for the Georgia League for Land Value Taxation. Stan Fredrikson spoke on the Public Revenue Educational Council (St. Louis), Nadine Stoner on the Wisconsin Property Owner's League, Steve Cord and Dan Sullivan on the Henry George Foundation and the newly formed Common Ground, an umbrella organization for all Georgist Organizations.

Continuing with a tight schedule, Colin Bonner, during the evening session, discussed the budget difficulties faced by both Canada and the U.S. His talk was called, "The Budget Can Be Balanced—Now."

Jack Schwartzman and Robert Clancy, in recognition of the achievements of Canadian economists, developed and quoted from Stephen Leacock, Robert Mundell and Robert Service. Professor Schwartzman read excerpts from the many-sided Stephen Leacock, stressing his contribution as a humorist. Mr. Clancy quoted and commented on Mundell and Service.

After the evening session, Robert Clancy received a plaque from the trustees of the Henry George School in recognition of his decades of dedicated service to the Georgist movement as Director of the School. Mildred Loomis received the annual Newcomb award.

On Sunday morning, Fred Harrison, editor of Land and Liberty, related his experiences of several days spent in Northern British Columbia with native Indians. This was followed by workshops on publicity and alternative forms of money and credit.

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Sunday afternoon began with reports from United States branches of the Henry George School. Stan Rubenstein focused on the developments and results of the nation-wide high school program. George Collins spoke on class results in Philadelphia, Ernest Kahn for the New England area, Dionne Marx for San Francisco and their five part seminar program, Stanley Sapiro for Los Angeles and the progress of their Adult Classes.

Oscar Johannsen reported on the annual results of the Schalkenbach Foundation, mentioning their continued publication of Georgist books, activities at Pace University and Williams College and seminars at the University of Scranton. Floyd Morrow, representing Basic Economic Education (San Diego), commented on his mayoral campaign and the injection of Georgist philosophy. He also spoke about classes and seminar activities. Robert Clancy of the Henry George Institute summarized the progress of correspondence courses.

During the final session on Sunday evening, Ed Dodson resigned as Deputy Chairman of the CGO and was replaced by Jeff Smith. It was decided that San Diego would host the 1987 annual conference with tentative plans for 1988 in the South.

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