

# the Henry George News

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## *From Cupola to Gargoyle*

A SCHOOL has been called, not a building, but an idea—and it was an idea which led George L. Rusby and his wife, Dr. Elizabeth E. Bowen, in 1935 to establish the Henry George School of New Jersey. The first classes were held in Newark at various locations—Newark University (now part of Rutgers, the State University), the Y.M.C.A. "board room" at 17 Academy Street, and in offices of friends. A permanent headquarters was later obtained consisting of an office, stockroom and classroom on the second floor of an office building at the corner of Broad and Clinton Streets, Newark. Subsequently additional adjoining space became available and was converted into an auditorium.

The school grew—an enlarged faculty permitted the expansion of classes conducted in fifteen communities in northern New Jersey. A full-time director was engaged. However, as time went on, the modest rental originally

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paid for the space used by the school was successively increased, and in 1946 Economics Education Institute (a foundation set up by Rusby and Bowen) purchased a three-story building at 1114 Broad Street, which was remodeled, providing a number of classrooms, offices, kitchen, library and auditorium. This, including light, heat and janitor service was leased to the school for \$1 per annum; and E.E.I. returned the dollar as a contribution to the school annually. Headquarters remained at this location until June 1957, when the Broad Street building was sold and a more modern structure in a better neighborhood at 78 Clinton Avenue was purchased to become the new home of the school. The same rental arrangement continues.

The old headquarter's building was topped with a cupola—the new building is adorned with two gargoyles (third floor, at base of triangle, in picture). Significantly, the publication of the New Jersey school is called THE GARGOYLE—which means "a throat or spout." The building has a

brown brick facade and is of brick construction, dating from the early 1900's. The interior contains oak paneling throughout most of the first floor, numerous enormous mirrors, several fireplaces and leaded glass windows. It is spacious, light and airy. Conference rooms and air-conditioned offices are large with ample facilities for expansion. Eventually it is planned to add an auditorium. An illuminated outdoor bulletin board proclaims, "Henry George School—Adult Education—Tuition-free courses—Enrollments now being received—Library and Reading Room open to the public—Come in and relax—You are welcome." Excellent transportation is available with more than a dozen bus lines stopping at the door. Adequate automobile parking facilities are nearby. Lincoln and Clinton Parks are just across the avenue.

With great assurance you can invite your New Jersey friends to visit the Henry George School at 78 Clinton Avenue, Newark.

*John T. Tetley*

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