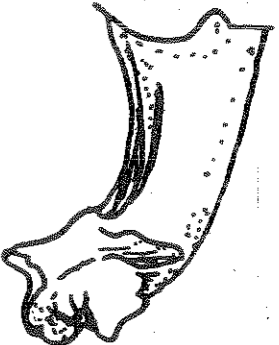


# The Cargoyle



"A throat, mouthpiece, spout." Opinions expressed herein are those of the writers and not necessarily endorsed by the Henry George School.

HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL OF NEW JERSEY

Issue #122

M A Y 1 9 6 8

WE GOOFED! The preceding issue of THE CARGOYLE was issue #121 but in error, dated MARCH -- It should have been "APRIL". Incidentally, it was April 1956, 12 years ago THE CARGOYLE was launched.

AFTERNOON GROUP also has April as its birthday. This group held its first meeting on April 9th 1964. The idea was suggested by Miss Aida L. Chamberlin, who suggested that a Henry George School be established in New Jersey and she was the first person to graduate when the school was started in 1935.

The next meeting of this group will be Tues. May 14th at one o'clock. The film will be "Revolution In Our Time" a dramatic story of how the

#### WHO AM I?

"I am the basis of all wealth, the heritage of the wise, the thrifty and prudent. I am the poor man's joy and comfort, the rich man's prize, the right hand of capital, the silent partner of many thousands of successful men.

"I am the solace of the widow, the comfort of old age, the cornerstone of security against misfortune and want. I am handed down to children, through generations, as a thing of greatest worth.

"I am the choicest fruit of toil. Credit respects me. Yet I am humble. I stand before every man bidding him know me for what I am and possess me. I grow and increase in value through countless days. Though I seem dormant, my worth increases, never failing, never ceasing, time is my aid and population heaps up my gain. Fire and elements I defy, for they cannot destroy me.

"My possessors learn to believe in me; invariably they become envied. While all things wither and decay, I survive. The centuries find me younger, increasing in strength. The thriftless speak ill of me. The charlatans of finance attack me. I am trustworthy. I am sound. Unfailingly I triumph and detracors are disproved. Minerals and oils come from me. I am producer of food, the basis for ships and factories, the foundation of banks.

"Yet I am so common that thousands, unthinking and unknowingly, pass me by. "I AM REAL ESTATE."-From "What Is Real Estate?" by Lou Scott. (Real Estate consists of two entirely different things: LAND and Man-made things!)

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PHILIPPINOS' LAND REFORM  
ELIMINATING HUK INSURGENCY.

Recently in the Philippines a touching ceremony took place. Fifty barefoot farmers with thickened hands and skins received their title certificates from the Minister of Land Reform making them owners for the first time of land which they and their forebears had lived and worked for generations.

This occurred in the heart of "Huk-landia", the five provinces of Central Luzon where the Huk insurgency began after WWII. Twenty years of fighting has failed to destroy the Huks, but it is generally felt if the reform is carried through the Huk movement will probably disappear. This is probably true for almost invariably such guerrilla uprisings are the actions of men who wish to get some land on which to make a living without having to pay ruinous rent to some absentee landlord.

It is an ironical fact of history that while many of the landlords collaborated with the Japanese in Manila the Huks fought them, sometimes under American command. But then after the landings in Leyte Gulf in 1944, the landowners returned to reclaim their land, and to top it all actually demanded rent for the war years. Is it any wonder the Huk movement spread!

The Phillippine government finally realized something constructive had to be done and legislation was finally passed to eliminate sharecropping and substitute a lease-hold system with the annual rent fixed at 25% of the average crop for the past three years, with no increase no matter how much production rose.

Although only a few years old, the reform has resulted in the Phillipines for the first time expecting to become self sufficient in rice. In addition, the peasants are beginning to replace their wooden shacks with substantial homes and to keep their children in school.

A number of interesting points are apparent in this reform. First, we have a large landowner, Mr. Estrella supervising the reform, although he is apathetical for most landlords have tried to sabotage the program. Second, the program at the present time is primarily a leasehold program --the land is still owned by the landlords but the amount of rent is fixed. The next phase of this program is to bring about the actual transfer of land ownership. It is believed that as the peasants prosper, they will become sufficiently politically potent to accomplish this reform.

However, since they are becoming inured to a leasehold arrangement, it would of course be wiser if instead of each peasant acquiring title to the land, title should revert to the local communities with the peasants merely paying their rent to the communities. And, of course, the rent should then be based on the value of the land and not fixed as at present.

Some of the large landlords are skeptical. They point out that small holdings are uneconomic, and they expect that within a decade the land would all revert back to the big landlords. This may happen although it is not necessarily so. If title goes to the communities it should not, but if title remains in the hands of the landlords it probably will.

But, whatever happens in the future for the present, the peasants in this region are going to have a chance to make a half-way decent living, and if they should acquire a better understanding of the proper system of land tenure, and institute it, these Philipinos will amaze the world with what they will do.

Oscar B. Johannsen

SENSE & NONSENSE

The nation's only private mint is in high gear today. It is the Franklin Mint, owned by General Numismatic Corporation in Yeadon, Penna. It is busy pouring out a stream of silver dollar-sized sterling silver commemorative medals.

The medals honor people and events such as Chief John Big Tree, Betsy Ross, and the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The government doesn't like it for it guards its monopoly over money zealously and denounces the company for calling itself a mint. But the company argues that it is for it produces "coinage to min-quality standards with mint-type security." It has produced coin-like gambling tokens for the gambling casinos in Nevada and the Carribbean, as well as for companies wishing to advertise some anniversary.

Probably the reason the government doesn't like its activities is that as the quality of this private companies "coins" is far superior to the depreciated cuprous-nickel coins the government now mints, the people may prefer them.

Just another bit of evidence that money need not be a governmental monopoly. Private enterprise can do a better job and much more reliably.

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You know the average man isn't the only one wondering what becomes of his money--his creditors also wonder.

## SPEAKING OF MONEY

You can easily recognize a homeowner. He's always coming out of a hardware store.

Did you know that a loss can be an asset? It's a fact. Under our crazy tax laws; companies which have losses become prime candidates for mergers. The Hudson & Manhattan Corp., which ran the Hudson Tubes (Newark and Hoboken to New York) before they were taken over by the Port Authority is delaying payment to its stockholders. One big reason is that it doesn't know what its tax loss is exactly and won't until certain decisions are made by the courts. Because of its tax loss it expects to have plenty of suitors begging to merge with it for such losses will apply to the other companies profits, reducing overall taxes.

The question is: if a loss is an asset, what is a profit?

Probably one reason there is so much humor in the world today is because so many people take themselves so seriously.

The Ten Commandments contain 297 words, the Declaration of Independence 300 words, the Gettysburg Address 266 words, a government order to reduce the price of cabbage 26,911 words.

If you want to forget your other troubles, wear tight shoes.

San Francisco proposes to levy a 1 1/2 tax on the salaries of the 120,000 commuters to its city each working day. The communities adjacent threaten retaliatory tax action on the San Francisco residents who work in their areas, but there are only 43,000 of them. Just another example of how to create good will among the people of the nation. Jerseyites are well aware of the tender solidarity of New York City for New Jersey commuters for it too now taxes them although New Jersey communities have not retaliated--as yet.

And they tell us we never had it so good!

If I get a little box and put two dimes in it each week I can contribute \$10. a year to the Henry George School. Two devaluated quarters put in the box each week would enable me to contribute \$25. a year! Such a sum would not make or break the HGS but will help it considerably and it will not appreciably lower my standard of living.

What this country needs - "This country doesn't need a President: - what it needs is a court-appointed bankruptcy administrator." Don Mc Clean in Washington DAILY NEWS.

Sign in travel bureau: "Go Away."

The Federal Reserve Note (\$1.00) series 1963 has printed thereon "This Note is Legal Tender for all Debts, Public and Private". A \$10. note, Series 1950 in fine print - "This Note is Legal Tender for all Debts Public and Private and is redeemable in lawful money at the United States Treasury or at any Federal Reserve Bank." Try taking one to either the U.S. Treasury or a F.R.B. and ask to have it redeemed "in lawful money". Let THE GARGOYLE know what you get.

While the \$1. notes and the \$20. notes of 1963 bear inscription "In God We Trust", the \$10. note of 1950 does not have those words engraved on it. It does have a "picture" of the U.S. Treasury building which picture also has a rather ancient automobile and a few rather disreputable-looking men.

And, incidently, the inscription - "In God We Trust" is now 100% correct; until recently was it not, "In-gots We Trust"?

Of course everyone knows the meaning of the words on the great seal (one side of \$1. note) "Annuit Coeptis - Novus Ordo Seclorum". What does it mean? Then too, observe Big Brother's eye on top of the pyramid!

That is your money lesson for today.

## SALT OF THE EARTH

### Daffynitions

Adolescent: A youngster old enough to dress himself if he could only remember where he dropped his clothes.

Miniskirt: Watch and wear clothing.

Bachelor: A man who never finds out how many faults he has.

Yawn: Nature's way of letting married men open their mouths.

Beautician: One who puts a price on a woman's head.

Conscience: Something which may not prevent you from transgression, but it surely will keep you from enjoying it.

The best things in life are free, but we're not always interested in the best things.

Isn't it true that the minute steak you buy in a restaurant takes you an hour of work to pay for?

Doctor: You'll have to give up wine and women. You can sing as much as you want to.

Newspaper report: A deaf man named Jones was run down by a passenger train and killed on Tuesday. He was injured in a similar way about a year ago.

Athletes Anonymous is the newest organization in the U.S. When you get the urge to take a long hike, you call a member and he comes over and hides your shoes.

## RENDER UNTO CAESAR

It is plainly his duty as a citizen to express his Christian convictions in economic, social and political affairs. Likewise, no one would deny the pupil's right to speak out on civil issues where moral and spiritual principles are clearly involved.

However action to correct existing ills in the secular society should be taken through secular organizations, political parties, chambers of commerce, Labor Unions, Parent Teacher Associations, service clubs and many others which can supply skilled leadership and techniques to do the job.

When any individual church or church council, largely dominated by clergymen, issues statements on matters, giving the public the impression that it is speaking for the whole membership, the result is justifiable indignation on the part of the laity.

I was not asked to subscribe to any special political, economic or social view when I joined the church.

Separation between church and state is a principle deeply embedded in our tradition.

The only way to correct them is to break them. Once it has been stated that any law need not be obeyed unless it is a "good law" the beginning of an end to rule by law has been initiated.

Christ, himself made a clear distinction between the concerns of temporal and spiritual natures. He refused to enmesh himself or his followers in the economic, social and political problems of his day.

At no time did he countenance civil disobedience or promote political pressure either to correct social evils or to advance his spiritual mission. Changed men and women would in time change society.

J. Howard Pew, President  
Sun Oil Company - Readers  
Digest.

## OTHERS ALSO SPEAK

From time to time there has been enclosed with THE GARGOYLE material distributed by the Public Revenue Education Council, 705 Olive St., Rm. 308, St. Louis, Mo, 63101. We trust our readers have found such material interesting and helpful. Mr. Noah D. Alper, Pres. of PR&C will be pleased to hear from any who wish to comment.

## AMERICA IS FINER THAN ITS HEADLINES

You can get deathly sick at heart, reading any issue of any newspaper - mob violence if the mob doesn't happen to like something; rape, stabbings, murders; cowards screaming that they won't fight for their country; courts pampering criminals; teen-age animals.

As a nation, as a community, we should be desperately ashamed. But let's not lose sight of some of the things we can still be proud of, too. Church, and Sunday School attendance is at an all-time high. Nurses' aides and Red Cross workers doing menial work, with no pay - when they could be having a good time.

The finest fighting men in the world proud to wear their U.S. uniforms, proud to represent us well, around the globe.

Individuals and business contributing more to charity and education than ever before and more per capita than any other nation dreams of.

Millions of mothers doing the unglamorous job of running a home economically and raising their children to be decent citizens.

Millions of men working long hours at not very interesting jobs but doing them the best they know how, and cutting down on lunches, perhaps, to save money to pay Junior's way through college - and not demonstrating for "rights" or something "free".

And these same Americans hoping their politicians will wake up to the fact these are the true Americans who want what's best for their country, not what will get the most votes come November.

Yes, the screaming headlines are sickening, but the silence which is America going about its business quietly - that's pretty wonderful.

WARNER & SWASEY -Jan. 1967

## BEST OF ALL

Did you know Cape May (N.J.) has the finest climate in America? Well at least it did back around 1800 when Alexander Wilson noted American ornithologist was working on his books about birds of that region. "If birds are good judges of climate", he wrote, "Cape May has the finest in the United States, for it has the greatest variety of birds." Even today the Cape May area remains a great sanctuary for the.

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