

To Penny Colgan
Phil Finklestein
Bob Clancy
Harry Pollard
Noah Alper

N I hope this letter will be of import to you,--it has to do with Georgist relationship to the Environmentalists -- some of whom are becoming popular for their non-market position, their message of doom, (re natural resource supply), and their almost complete failure to attend to the unearned aspect of wealth, in not knowing or dealing with land-values, etc.

First, let me deal with what comes thru as stated (negative) evaluation from Phil and Penny, re "the decentralists", by whom I assume they mean, Borsodi, Loomis and School of Living. In some printed material I've seen that Penny said, "decentralists were those who built their home in the country and then watched the rest of the world go by." I love Penny, and think she is an effective, charming "leader"---and I hope she has training from Movement for New Society in Phila in small group process, so that she can "train" Georgists in that---and so help reduce dependence on lectures. ...But such a statement about "us" indicates she doesn't know us, or has forgotten that most of us "homesteading" decentralists went to the country in order that we could have "a place to stand" and from there take action, and hurl our broadsides against the status-quo. Witness Scott Nearing, who got thrown out of Uni. Pa. and then built a homestead, to which people flocked to be taught on many subjects. Same of Ralph Borsodi and me; we are strong Georgists, and never failed to let it be known. Same for dozens of others, which I have documented in my new book on Decentralism.

In Phil's last letter he says, "When I was at your workshop in August I said some negative things about the decentralist movement. How did people take that?" So far as I know, people liked that workshop, and want Phil back. But I see not much value in criticism of one another, unless it leads to ways to repair the lacks. Sure, let's have all the help from Georgists we can get, to "improve" the decentralist movement (I taught two of the most active young leaders their groundwork in George--Dan Maziarz of New Age Carmonist; and Mark Satin of Alliance for A New Age.) Neither of them had heard of George--and since have included his essentials. And Herb Goldstein, our youngest and ablest leader in economics-land trust etc. in S of L. We got a \$100 check from some Chicagoan recently saying "this is in appreciation of Herb Goldstein's work on land and land-trusts with us last week." Most decentralists and homesteaders are not retiring--they're active, and in most cases at Georgism. Q.E.D.

The other aspect of this letter is a query How can we (Georgists and decentralists) really influence and inform the Environmentalists. Among them is Hazel Henderson, who is nothing short of remarkable--a young, non-college person who has marched into the economic lair and slain most everyone, so that she's on all sorts of governmental and high placed committees with her ideas in Creating Alternative Futures. She says economics is not a science--she's stressing the human values, participatory aspects of small-scale organization etc. If I can manage I'll include a serozed copy of one or more of her latest speeches.

Hazel's work could be improved with a good grounding in Henry George and land-value economics. She's a close personal friend of mine --and also her husband Carleton--and I gently keep putting Georgism in their path, but they're just too busy to absorb it.--a yeh.

So what I'd like is for each of you to become familiar with her work --read her book, and some of the many articles she's written--each year a dozen or more in well-received journals.* Then write an article on Environmentalists and Land Values. Show the difference in a free market as we have it under monopoly, and what it could, might be, if land values were not privately collected and land privately held. It wouldn't take you long to do that, and I'd like a copy of such article--and will publish one or more (tah best?) in my March issue of Green Revolution on economics.

You could quote her and other ~~shrink~~ environmentalists--and in this way, I think, contribute to the wisdom of a big (ecology) section of the modern public.

In general, for at least 3 or 4 years, I've been saying that Georgists fail for their withdrawal from association with other groups in our culture. I think there's been an improvement--especially in Centennial conference, in including them -- and I trust this continues in the International one coming up. But since land-values are so germane to all reforms and economics, I think there should be a staff member on all George Schools to do just that-- get the Georgist message out in their journals showing in a friendly, simple way how the land value use is important to all their causes.

Here endeth the lesson.

Every good wish,

Mildred Loomis

Director of Education
School of Living

*--Human Impact of Technological Innovation -- free from AT&T--I'll ask them to send each of you a copy

Jumping to New Safety-Net Economy - Christian Science Monitor- Wed Oct 10 1979

Death to Economics - News & Review - Feb 22 '79, Santa Barbara

Experts Polled - Sat. Review, 7/7/79

An Interview with Hazel Henderson - Calypso Log (Costeau Society) June '79

P.S. Please plan to do important things for Earth Day March 21, 1980
(not April 22, the Pres. of U.S. to the contrary!)

It's an important vehicle for important earth-care messages.