



A hundred years ago economists and humanitarians were concerned, as they are today, with the progress and poverty of man. Henry George, an economist at the beginning of the industrial revolution, became concerned with inequities among men and a possible scarcity of land. To eliminate the abuses he saw and chart a safer course through the future he envisioned he proposed a single tax on landowners to provide for all men's needs.

Today's economic and social conditions vary greatly from those in Henry George's day but adherents and students of his philosophy have maintained an interest in his theories and ask that September 2, the one hundred and thirty-sixth anniversary of his birth, be dedicated to his honor.

THEREFORE I, Dan Walker, Governor of the State of Illinois, proclaim September 2, 1975, HENRY GEORGE DAY in remembrance of a man who preached peace and brotherhood among men a century ago.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.



Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield, this TWENTY-SECOND day of AUGUST in the Year of Our Lord, one thousand, nine hundred and SEVENTY-FIVE and of the State of Illinois, the one hundred and FIFTY-SIXTH

Michael J. Houlett
SECRETARY OF STATE

Dan Walker
GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR DECLARES HENRY GEORGE DAY

Governor Dan Walker's Henry George Day Proclamation is the third issued by the State of Illinois. It has been the City of Chicago custom since 1943, when at Esther Anderson's suggestion the late George Strachan submitted a script to Mayor Kelly. Mr. Daley has done the honors since 1962. Altho I compare different scripts each year they are sometimes slightly changed. Walker's staff proposed this message, not as complimentary as mine, but we appreciate the Governor paying homage this way.

Friends elsewhere read our lead sometimes in our phraseology, obtain proclamations in several cities on both coasts.

South End Review run this into print reduce as a special favor but I give them my weekly Row without charge. No the message was too small I stripped in the original make easier reading for and replaced the "gold" with a print instead of Note peace and brotherhood, lifted from my speech. Bob.

KING PUMMELS PRINCETON POLL

Friday, May 19. Opinion Research Corporation of Princeton University published results of their federal government sponsored poll of obviously rigged questions sent to a picked group, being careful not to contact anyone connected with Henry George Schools and affiliated groups coast to coast. The statistics released were as you would expect from a government study on the question: "Suppose Federal Government must raise taxes substantially; which of these would be the best way of doing it?"

46% want local "property" levies reduced, the premise probably being that they want no local tax raising, that federal government give handouts to municipalities - which idea I strongly oppose. (I propose that taxes be collected only locally, the county pass on to state treasurer, the state pass on to federal government; too much danger of graft and favoritism if Washington does out as it wishes.) The word "property" is not defined, a common fault. It should mean personal property, car, furniture, furnishings; but it is construed to mean real estate which consists of land only, which is not property, and buildings or other improvements which are really property structures and often built on leased land - as little as 10 year leases, too.

40% favor cutting income tax deductions, capital gains, charity, medical expenses; and 10% want income tax rates hiked. This is insanity! My medical expenses are high, but I have to settle for the standard deduction without itemizing and subtracting. Why can't the stupid public, equally stupid professors and politicians realize that confiscation is unjust, whether done by gangsters, unfriendly communist nations or our own government? Taxation is robbery! 20% of your paycheck is robbed from you. 5% of your every purchase is added for state tax, and if Nixon has his way there will be possibly 20% federal sales tax. It's your money; you worked for it; what you buy is yours; you shouldn't be penalized in sales tax or personal property tax or both. Understand, your house or factory building is also your personal property, and should not be taxed.

34% favor Nixon's European Value Added Tax, which is a federal sales taxes levied first against manufacturer, then against wholesaler then the retailer, adding expense instead of value to your purchase. Princeton's proposal stated "except food and necessities." Well! Every purchase is a necessity! There will be conniving to exempt certain items especially if a manufacturer pays a campaign contribution. Other items will be taxed, as I predict, 20% in addition to 5% state tax. How much will be left of your paycheck? Write the President! Tell him his goofy tax scheme is confiscation!

Reflect again on the 5½ to 6% real estate tax. We're talking about pennies compared to the robbery of our food money and paychecks at rates of 20% and higher. What's a 5% levy? But as I state above, NOT on the building, which is real property. Tax the land for its land value. Tax it 10%. Instead of land value continuing to skyrocket, it will go down. Nobody gets hurt. The tax divided by 12 won't amount to what I pay in rent. Even the present 5½% combined tax is nothing compared to my rent for which I receive no services.

Suppose land sharks get their way and have real estate tax repealed completely. What would happen to land value? Zoom! You'd be lucky to get a 10 year ground lease at bandit rental. It would be impossible to buy. For two years Tishman negotiated with a robber in midtown New York trying to buy his 5 story firetrap in the middle of the block where they are building a skyscraper. He played cat and mouse with Tishman, first offering to sell for \$100,000, two years later jacked up the price to \$2,000,000; Tishman broke off all contact and is building around the fleabag, which lot is not worthless, usable only as a small parking lot if the old structure is ever torn down. A tax on land with no tax on building would have induced this landhog to rebuild or sell years ago, and be a credit to the human race. It would have opened up business opportunities and made jobs. Anyone denying this is hypocritically keeping the poor poor and unemployed unemployed.

Chicago Commentary

DEDICATED TO THE
FIGHT FOR FREEDOM
JUSTICE & EQUALITY
FOR ALL

SEPTEMBER
1975

CONGRATULATIONS, JUNE GRADUATES!

This first issue is going to 500 area college graduates who may have had no previous introduction to land value taxation in their economics courses, and need this positive philosophy to counteract the Keynesian, defeatist, leftist teachings. Let's hear from you! Do you want to learn more?

TEACHERS AND CLUB PRESIDENTS:

Contact us for speaking before any class or club group. The editor will deliver a 15 minute talk with same length question period, longer if so desired. Other speakers available to cover certain areas.

GREETINGS, PUBLIC OFFICIALS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE:

This issue is also mailed to selected persons, Springfield, Washington, elsewhere, especially persons who have spoken on poverty, inequality, crime, housing, and taxation. Write for further information.

INVITATION TO WRITERS TO WRITE US:

Send in articles pro or con, on this or other subjects. We'll do our best in limited space to accommodate if we get a sponsor. Let us know if our presentation is understandable, if you have solutions to any problem, or ask any questions. Let us know if you wish to receive our paper.

APPRECIATION OF SPONSORSHIP

This first edition is made possible by unexpected, unsolicited contributions from Myron Goldenberg & Martha Kohte. For 5 months your editor tried unsuccessfully to interest Chicago's largest business firms to sponsor our "defense of business" philosophy for a modest \$100 printing and postage cost. Thanks, but you shouldn't have done it.

PLEASE PASS THIS ON TO A FRIEND