

# FREEFOLK

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25805 Fraser Highway,  
R.R. 5 Aldergrove, B.C.

## SUBSCRIPTION:

\$1 per annum.

## A PUBLICATION DEVOTED TO:

Explaining the social nature of ground-rent  
and the injustice of taxation.

## A PUBLICATION ADVOCATING: THE COMPLETE

ABOLITION OF TAXATION: THE PUBLIC COLLECTION  
OF THE FREELY OFFERED AND AUTOMATICALLY  
ADEQUATE GROUND-RENTS

Volume 4 No. 7 & 8 August & September 1973

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It is no longer required that students should study a second language either for university entrance or for high school graduation. This is retrogressive. A second language is a tremendous help in the development of the ability to think straight. A fact that even some of our second language teachers are ignorant of, is that people conversant with one language only, do not appreciate its faults. They need to have its particular efficiency, its strengths and weaknesses made clear by comparison with another tongue. Just as we cannot expect an Eskimo to have any idea of what the whole earth is like, having seen only ice, water and rocks, Arctic fishes, birds and animals, we cannot expect a unilingual English speaker to realise the weaknesses of his own tongue. We cannot expect him to achieve precision of speech easily.

The student of language learns to be precise in his speech when precision is necessary. Moreover we all verbalise our thoughts. In fact it seems impossible to think about abstract concepts without speaking to our-selves mentally. Now if the language we use in speaking inwardly is imprecise, how can we have precise thinking? Precision in thinking can only be achieved through literacy and literacy through comparative study of a second or third language.

So, like Hamlet, the politically oriented school boards and teachers' unions which today shape the courses in the schools, look upon thought as pale and sickly, upon physical action as robust and virile. The parent who would like his children to have keen discerning minds and the ability to reason can only send them to a private school if he has the means.

If public education is to be pulled from the morass it finds itself in today, a great change is needed. The parent again must surely have a say in the process. A start could be made by making the schools competitive. Instead of funds being paid to school boards, the funds could be paid to the parents in the form of a coupon which could be presented to any school of the parent's choice in payment for part or the whole of the fees demanded.

EDUCATION IN B.C.

Our schools are a reflection in miniature of the broad social picture. Sport is important to the dictators of new Rome. It keeps the populace happy with endless controversy over non-events of no significance. A whole nation's thoughts hang on what a small group of highly paid thugs have done to a ball or rubber disc. So, in our schools there has been a great increase recently in the number of high school students taking skill-imparting courses or joining amusement-giving classes, while in academic courses where there is something for the intellect where some idea of rational thought-processes may be obtained, a great fall-off has occurred.

This tendency has been seen for some time, but it is only this year that the full impact of debased requirements for high school graduation has been felt. It has been commonplace that a school-board should invite a winning team to dinner. A whole school of over 1,000 students will assemble in a costly gym to "honour the girls' basketball team", but rarely is mention made of academic achievement. Clearbrook Junior High is a small school, yet in a Canada-wide mathematics contest some of its students gained top results. However, the principal writing in a local paper about the record of his school and what it had to offer made no mention of this fact. He was proud of the students' council and the extra-curricular and sports programme.

Neighbouring Langley School Board gave approval to sky-diving as part of the "community recreation" offering. In school hours, one or two students will go up in planes and indulge their appetite for physical thrills while the remainder of the class will have the educational experience of watching. Hilda Neatby wrote a book on modern schools some years ago, "So Little For the Mind" It would be a challenge to find anything at all for the mind today.

CHILE

The newspapers are full of complaints about Salvador Allende. Communist sympathisers detect plots by the U.S.'s C.I.A. to overthrow a just regime which was bringing about great reforms. Others point to the fact that Chile's inflation was running away, that poverty was increasing, that the whole economic life of the country was running down.

All this may be true, but it is not important at all. What is important is that the whole basis of the Chilean state was founded on injustice, and still is.

The corrupt system of voting black to be white, voting wrong to be right has resulted in this mess. Allende owed his controlling position to a minority of votes. In other words the majority of Chileans did not want his rule. Allende's justification was a myth as is the justification of all modern governments. He has been replaced by others whose mythology is similarly founded in public ignorance. Chile is part of the continuing tragedy of mankind.

Readers who were disappointed at the lack of an August issue of FREEFOLK are asked to be forbearing. It was not possible to put one together because the editor not only found himself extremely busy but also less able than before. We hope that this issue proves to have been worth the wait.

Between 1970 and 1973 the money supply in Canada increased by 50%. This is how the wicked working people cause inflation! Government push, - government pull.

RED POWER

Finally the Indians seem to be succeeding in their claims for munificent payments which they claim due to them under treaties of long ago. These treaties ceded land areas to Europeans who were invaders or settlers according to how one looks at the take-over.

Only idiots would grant them the right to compensation for the Indians themselves likely slaughtered their red brothers in order first to take over control of the use of the land they coveted. It is absolutely certain that these Indians paid no compensation to those they ousted. Their titles originated in force, and the white people's titles to Canada, resting on force also, are equally as good at the present day.

However, if owners of land-titles feel that the Indians are entitled to compensation, there is no reason why they can not make ex gratia payments individually. If as a body they feel the same compunction, there is no reason why a levy could not be made against all land-titles according to the value of the holding.

Nevertheless we can be sure that such a just solution will not be found. Payments will be made from general tax revenue, a revenue to which those who earn less than the minimum required for subsistence will have contributed in income tax. Thus an indigent white Canadian who can not lay claim to a square inch of Canada will be compelled to contribute to wealthier Indians in order to make the land-titles of such groups as Marathon Realty, Block Bros. or Grosvenor-Laing less blemished.

That the Indians have a land problem there is no doubt, but it is no different from the land problem of

the poor whites. Any feasible and just solution of the Indian problem must also have the effect of resolving that of the disadvantaged whites, and the pristine attitude of both Indians and Europeans towards land tenure can show us the way.

Originally men realised that it was as stupid to claim ownership of land as it is to claim ownership of the air we breathe or the rain that falls. Yet if people are to enjoy the fruits of their labour, security of tenure of the areas they use is absolutely essential. Land could be held not owned, hence we have inherited the expression "land tenure" which means holding, not owning.

Our modern social knowledge informs us that the value of any land holding is caused by the public advantages available around the site. What more logical arrangement could there be than to have all land titles regarded once more as tenancies? The rent, being publicly produced should be paid to the public in lieu of taxes on the individual's wages and consumption. This arrangement would give both Red and White equal rights to God's earth.

BEEF AGAIN

The Nixon price freeze created a situation in which U.S. producers of beef faced with increasing cost of feed did not send their cattle to market to sell at a loss. Now the freeze is off, the U.S. market is flooded with the normal steer crop plus the unsold backlog. As a result beef has been coming into Canada where prices have kept at an even level. Now the B.C. cattlemen have been awarded tariffs against U.S. beef, This is the first time that cattlemen have called for government action. Soon cattle rearing will be controlled like chickens, eggs, milk, etc.