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LETTER FOR ECONOMIC EDUCATION
COMMUNIST

FREEFOLK

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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. 3

March 1974

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VIOLENCE INCREASES

When government is in the business of organised crime, extorting and lying with impunity, the ordinary citizen begins to feel that violence is an acceptable way of life. The progressive degeneration of government is matched by private degeneration. In a small Fraser Valley area recently, the following crimes were committed for the first time: (a) Hoodlums drove a car slowly in front of a peaceful driver, stopped, got out, broke the car's window, pulled out the driver and beat him up. (b) Three girls in a car returning home at night were shot at with an automatic weapon. (c) A young police officer making a routine check of a car was shot and killed by the occupants.

Here we have three situations where people were going peaceably about their business. Suddenly, near their homes, they were confronted with violence. This kind of experience could happen to any one of us. Surely it is time for people to drop the attitude of non-involvement and to give thought to something beyond their own personal affairs.

Unless governments set the example of honourable conduct once more, none of us will be able to have a personal life free from fear of violent government and fortuitous violence on the streets. Therefore we must never stop explaining how taxation puts government in the ranks of crime. Governments must cease to take from people under threat of fine or imprisonment. They must be made to accept the ground-rent freely offered by landholders for social privileges enjoyed at their holdings.

SCARCE PROTEIN

Last year the Peruvian anchovy fisheries were a failure. Largely due to this, a world-wide shortage of protein developed. Stock and poultry feed which contains from 14% to 30% protein doubled in price in a very short time.

This year it appears that the Pacific will yield its usual anchovy harvest. The catch for the first two weeks' fishing in March was expected to be half a million tons. The Communist planners in East Germany have got in early and bought 60,000 metric tons at \$450 a ton. This is bulk buying which is an advantage a socialist state has over economies where individuals buy and sell as they please.

Most likely the Germans will be caught out. With a lot of high-priced stinking fish lying around they will be able to reflect on the merits of bulk-buying. At home, Canadian farmers, protein-conscious, are increasing their acreage devoted to rapeseed yielding over 2,000 lbs. per acre, which when the oil is extracted produces a 35.5% protein feed ingredient. They are also set to grow large acreages of a new protein crop, - fababeans, - which yield 33% protein. This feed has already been tested with swine and cows, and the results are encouraging in every way. Also in the U.S.A. the soybean-producing areas will be increasing production to take advantage of the great protein shortage.

Where individuals are free to produce, they use all their ingenuity to overcome shortages. If a certain commodity is scarce, all kinds of substitutes are tried. Thousands of brains work at the same problem, not collectively, but individually, and thousands of solutions ensue. Most of these are tested out, and results attest to their validity. In totalitarian states, a conference of planners takes place. A consensus is reached, and one solution is applied. In a free economy, bad planning hurts only the unlucky individual; in a socialist economy bad planning hurts everyone and hurts hard.

INTRODUCTION

At a general meeting of the Commonwealth Society for Economic Education, March 26th. it was decided to make up an introductory sheet setting forth in brief, the position of the Society. If a satisfactory presentation could be made, this would be sent out to the printer so that a number might be produced.

On the facing page is a suggestion for a leaflet. Members who can improve on what appears there are asked to contact the Secretary giving their suggestions. The matter will be discussed further at the next general meeting.

ACTION NOW

A most cordial invitation is extended to all interested.

CONSULTATION OF THE HENRY GEORGE GROUPS

Chatham College, Pittsburgh, Pa., June 14th - 16th.

This is intended not merely for discussion but to actually set in motion Programs for ACTION NOW!

Cost \$30 includes registration fee, room and all meals. May be paid in advance or upon arrival. Make checks payable Henry George Foundation of America.

It will be helpful if you will reserve now. No oblig. State your interest, - Education, - Political Action, - Copy methodology of other organisations, - Publications. Contact: John T Tetley, 580 Alden Street, Woodbridge, N.J. 07095

NEW THINKING

Adam Smith believed that good social conditions would ensue if governments would allow people to trade freely. He believed that the natural forces of the market-place would automatically ensure a well-balanced economy.

Henry George pointed out that the failure of free trade to bring about the millenium was due to the fact that the idea of property in land prevented some people from producing, while allowing landowners an unjust control over the lives of others. George proved that the RENT of sites is community-produced and showed the significance of this RENT as a controlling factor in economic life. He claimed that Adam Smith was not wrong, but that he had not gone far enough in proclaiming individual freedom.

The Commonwealth Society for Economic Education is devoted to explaining how natural forces operating in a free society will automatically ensure social harmony if we strip government of its unwarranted powers, and reserve for it the two functions of:

- (a) protecting the equality of individual rights, chiefly by collecting as its revenue the socially-produced site-rents, or ground-rents, and at the same time refusing to impose any form of taxation.
- (b) providing community services expeditiously and without public debt.

Freedom-loving people willing to acquire and to help spread knowledge of the economic significance of land and its rent are asked to contact the Secretary,

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