

"A threat, 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

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"My opinion is that political economists devote too much brainpower to the price of gold and too little to the cost of pastrami." Sidney A. Meyers

"Henry George was a master of English; one of the greatest that ever used a pen..He was one of the real prophets of the world; one of the seers of the world..His was a wonderful mind; he saw a question from every side; his philosophy appealed to every school..." Henry George wrote a profound book, the first book on political economy that people may read; the first and perhaps the last that was readable to plain, ordinary men."

Dr. John Dewey

AN APPRECIATION OF HENRY GEORGE

MEDIA FOR LAND ECONOMICS, INC. -This newest of George organizations has been launched by William W. Newcomb, its President. The other officers are: Joseph E. Tisch, Vice Pres., who is a Liberal Catholic priest, and director of Human Services, City of Melbourne, Fla.; Mary W. Knope, Secretary a long time activist in the League of Women Voters and prominent in national Unitarian Church matters; Maynard M. Mitchell, Treasurer, a photographer-artist; William Neal, Vice Pres. and Counsel, who is an attorney and member of the American Legion.

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"The greatest threat to the future of our nation - to our freedom - is not foreign military aggression or internal communistic subversion but the growing dependence of the people on a paternalistic government. A nation is no stronger than its people and the best measure of their strength is how well they accept responsibility. There will never be a great society unless the materialism of the welfare state is replaced by individual initiative and responsibility." - Charles B. Shuman, former Pres. American Farm Bureau Federation

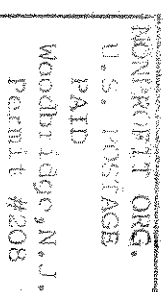
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FOR LAND'S SAKE - READ

"SECRETARY ANDRUS MAKES HIS STAND" - Reader's Digest - March 1978

"WHO REALLY OWNS THESE LANDS: the 217 MILLION CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES"

HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL OF NEW JERSEY

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THE WASTE LAND OF THE STATE

To that dean of abstract poets, T.S. Eliot, April is the cruelest month. To too many millions of Americans his imagery is only too true for each April the iron fist of the ubiquitous State unfolds to carve out the mountainous pounds of flesh it needs to feed its obscene near trillion dollar appetite. To ask courtously is beneath it; to demand is its right. So it thinks. Woe unto the luckless citizen who dares to deny what it considers to be its due. Though he flee to the ends of the earth, it will seek him out to collect its wherewithal. Nothing that he owns is sacred. To meet its demands, it invades his privacy in any direction it feels necessary and takes even the last cent needed to sustain his life.

With its gargantuan appetite has come all the vices that any glutton develops -- slothfulness, immorality, corruption, venality, licentiousness, ruthlessness. But just as a dissapator is incapable of decent sustained effort, so the tax-swollen State is unable to attain any worthwhile goal.

Instead, its overblown size inhibits not only individual freedom but economic and social efficiency. The growth and spread of knowledge in the past century have caused explosive activities in areas of human endeavor almost beyond belief, as in the field of communication with the telephone, radio, and television spreading their networks of contact around the world not only by means of earthbound devices but satellites endlessly orbiting the world. Increasing means of information gathering and storage have arisen with the computer which are so sophisticated that weighty arguments have been raised on whether a computer can be designed which will actually imitate man. Transportation is not now limited merely to travel on the surface of the earth but involves planes speeding across oceans at supersonic speed, while instant photography now presages instant motion pictures. Marvel upon marvel has been produced in such profundity and rapidity that one begins to accept them as commonplace.

But how much longer will this explosion of achievement in the fields of human endeavor continue? The tremendous advancement in knowledge--scientific, economic and social--has been predicated on freedom from statist interference. It has been primarily in the western oriented countries, as the United States, Europe and Japan that these great advances have been made. In these portions of the globe a sufficiently high degree of freedom has been permitted so scientific and experimental work could be performed by private individuals and companies

without too much interference from the State. In the slave states, as the Soviet Union and China, few, if any, quantum leaps in knowledge or achievement are made. What few advances are accomplished represent primarily improvements of inventions and ideas which have arisen in the freer areas of the world. And even these innovations are largely designed not to increase the standard of living of the people but of the military prowess of the State.

But the people in the western oriented States seem to be unaware of what is the fundamental basis of their great achievements. It is the non-interference by the State. Because they do not understand, or have forgotten, increasingly they permit the State to intervene in more and more activities. As but one example, on the questionable claim that a better environment necessitates Statist action, an environmental bureaucracy has arisen causing ever greater delays, if not actually preventing the construction of homes, plants and other improvements. Nuclear power--a tribute to the genius of man--is hampered by so much red tape by the State that the enormous increase in energy at low cost which is possible may never be realized.

Gradually, much as does a man who is suffering from hardening of the arteries, the western world is suffering from the hardening of the arteries of science, commerce and industry as the State injects itself into the arteries creating an economic arteriosclerosis which threatens to kill the patient--the society of individuals trying to live their lives as happily as possible.

What is to be done? A great emotional and educational campaign must be initiated to awaken the people of the Western World of the menace which the State presents. Albert Jay Nock labeled it rightly when he called it "Our Enemy, The State". Much as a fire must be contained if it is not to consume all about it, so the State must be contained if it is not to destroy society. Since the heart is more easily aroused than the brain, a simple emotional campaign must be inaugurated pointing out the manifold injustices of the State and its myriad bureaucracies.

But paralleling it must be an educational campaign teaching what should be obvious that knowledge has now attained a degree of sophistication too great to afford the interference of a blundering State. The knowledge which man has now acquired, if used unwisely, can result in the death of individual freedom much sooner and easier than was possible in past civilizations. Already such a marvel for collecting

information as the computer is being used to collate information about each individual almost from the day of birth to death. This material can be used by the State to browbeat and blackmail him into behavior contrary to his own desires or well-being.

The very marvelous achievements which arose as a result of freedom of thought and action can make it that much easier for the State to control all thought, stultifying individual achievement until at last the State collapses through the weight of its own obesity. But before and during the collapse, the individual will suffer the impossible agonies that the minorities did in Nazi Germany under the megalomaniac, Hitler, and still do suffer under the monstrously ruthless bureaucracies of the Soviet Union and China.

The peoples of the earth can no longer continue to be apathetic and indifferent to the rise of the monolithic State. They must be aroused to stop it. Each day that passes with no action makes it that much harder for the fight to be won. Unless they bestir themselves, the world in the not too distant future will indeed become a Waste Land.

OSCAR B. JOHANNSEN

WOULD YOU BELIEVE - "TOILET PASSES"?

As we approach the 21st Century certain practices exist which one would expect to occur in the darkest era of the Middle Ages. Most people today would be dumbstruck, incredulous, and outraged at the idea that one person can legally deny and prevent another person the right to urinate and defecate. Yet, such is the power of the landowner in India.

In the Oct. 24, 1977 issue of the Wall Street Journal, a front page story tells of the battle of India's "untouchables" for political and economic rights. The report begins by stating that "eleven poor farm laborers, -- all but three of them 'untouchables' -- were shot by landowners' thugs and their bodies burned on a bonfire". The world is accustomed to this type of action and hardly raises an eyebrow -- however, the incredible and shocking punishment to the more numerous and less dangerous "troublemakers" is to take away their "toilet passes", a uphemism for permission by the landowner to use the fields as a toilet.

Georgists deplore and fight against the unjust power of landowners to deny access to land to produce food (and other wealth). This power is recognized and legalized throughout the "civilized world. Yet how far removed in concept is the right to deny

the "untouchables" to eliminate body matter, from the right to deny access to land. In effect denying food and drink to enter the body? The world considers the latter acceptable and legal, yet is outraged and horrified by the former!! The concept involves the single process of digestion, the only difference being which end of the alimentary canal is being considered!

In a sense, we are all economic "untouchables". Throughout the world, access to land can be obtained only through meeting the demands and whims of the landowner. Through the concepts of Henry George and the medianism of Land Value Taxation the world's "untouchables" can be released from this gross injustice and be free and equal as is possible in this imperfect world.

H. A. LAZAR

SENSE & NON-SENSE

It may well be that the minority groups will take the leadership in attempting to stem the march toward socialism. And this the result of pure pragmatic experience.

Minorities are finding that they are being shortchanged in the nation's socialistic school system, misnamed public schools. They have found that their children simply are not getting the education for which they are putting out good money. Many of them are looking to private and religious oriented schools, taking advantage of any scholarships or other aids to finance the tuition requirements. As a step in the direction for more control in our socialistic school system, as in New York City, they are demanding and receiving a measure of local autonomy. But this is not working out too well, so many of the minorities who have some hope of meeting the requirements are looking with increasing interest on the private educational sector.

As another example of the sound common sense which is coming from the minority groups, is the statement by the NAACP. It has come out for deregulation of natural gas prices. Why? Because it has found that the price ceilings have cost many of their members jobs. It simply does not pay for much exploratory work to be pursued if when the gas is found, the price is permitted to receive by one is not determined by the supply and demand of the marketplace, but rather by some bureaucrats in Washington, D.C. The result is since much of this work is done by minorities, they find themselves out of work.

The liberals are upset over the action of the NAACP for it is contrary to their philosophy of letting the government regulate just about every-

thing. The minorities are not interested in fancy philosophical sophistries of questionable economic common sense. They want a better standard of living and if that means more private enterprise, they're for it. More power to them!

 Today any two young people wishing to have their own home are running up against the government frustrating their desire. According to a Rutgers University report, the median price for single family home is now \$50,000. This, of course, means only a relatively small number would be able to buy a home but the price is not due so much to increased material and labor costs as it is due to governmental regulations. The study published in a book, "Housing Costs & Governmental Regulations: Confronting the Regulatory Maze" points out that with an annual 6% inflation rate, the median priced house of \$23,000 in 1970 would now be priced at about \$35,000. This is \$15,000 less than the current median price.

This \$15,000 difference is attributed to government regulations which affect home production. The study points out this is due to building codes which are so cumbersome and detailed that many building officials are incompetent to deal with the technicalities and make decisions which apparently are unnecessarily expensive. The code raises costs by requiring safety and quality features far in excess of any which can reasonably be defended as needed.

This is just part of the economic arteriosclerosis hampering production. Instead of less regulations, however, we will probably wind up with more. The study itself recommends mandatory training and licensing of all building officials in the state. In other words, more bureaucracy.

Any sensible solution as eliminating all the codes and zoning regulations is simply unthinkable. Freedom is something archaic apparently--regulation even by those who show the sad effects of regulation is the order of the day.

 Did you know that the new income tax forms are simpler and are resulting in fewer mistakes? However, the one mistake you must not make is to fail to send in your check for the amount of tax due. If you make an error in accounting the government will probably overlook it or simply correct it, but if you make the error of forgetting to send in the pound of flesh demanded of you, you'll hear about it pronto!

The stock market has been sinking lower and lower since Carter became President of the U.S. How much lower can it go? No one knows, but sooner or later if business is able to keep on a fairly even level and pay dividends the market will have to turn around. Now it's known as the Carter Bear Market. What will it be called if it does turn around -- the Carter Bull Market? He, of course, takes no credit for the bear market but will he also take no credit for the bull market, if it ensues before 1980? If he doesn't he will be the most unusual politician ever to have been in the White House.

SALT OF THE EARTH

Do you know what history is? Well, according to one cynic, history is an account mostly false, of unimportant events brought about by rulers mostly scoundrels, and soldiers, mostly fools.

 Americans all believe in free speech because it is the right to argue about issues which they don't understand.

 Ask a Georgist what a farmer is and he'll tell you that he is a man who can make money if he can sell his farm to a golf club.

 The one book this writer does not like is his checkbook. Too often it has an unhappy ending.

 If you are in a war it is smart to be a major general. He's the army officer who has his men behind him before the battle and ahead of him during it.

 If you are a part of the majority, you can be quite sure you have all the fools on your side.

 Do you know there is one thing that can grow without any nourishment whatsoever? Your ego.

 Judging by what you see in the news papers today, it would appear that an editor is a person employed to separate the wheat from the chaff and to see to it that the chaff is printed.

 What is there about our government which is more permanent than taxes? Deficits.

 This writer is against amplifiers because they are merely devices for enlarging the speaker's voice, but not his ideas.

MEDIA FOR LAND ECONOMICS - From Pg.1

The first project of the foundation is the formation of a newspaper, a magazine syndicate, whose output will be directed to college newspapers, the alternative press, and other selected publications. Anyone interested and desiring a prospectus should send a long, self-addressed envelope with 24¢ postage to: Media for Land Economics 532 Wickham Rd., Melbourne, Fla. 32901