

July 10, 1987

Dear Werner:

Last summer I wrote to you about homelessness and told you that we had discovered the root cause of it through studying the relationship between it and how we as a people "hold" the land.

Andrea Anbender wrote me and said that although you had received the material you didn't know what to do about the economy. (Fair enough.) The next thing I knew you were interviewing top economists and attempting to get at the chaos around money.

From your conversations with Friedman and Jerry Goodman I gather you are clear that money has nothing to do with economics.

From being a participant in "Openings" last week I finally had a breakthrough regarding how I might interest you and the Hunger Project spokesladies, Joan and Lynn, in the work we do at the Henry George School. And since I wrote the first draft of this letter on the 4th of July I have spoken to Lynn about it and she is expecting a copy of this letter.

I have been sending you material "describing" the result of not following natural law regarding land but since I am not able to give you a context for our work in a letter (it needs to be studied) what I was trying to do was "teach" you a few things that can't be taught in this manner.

It boils down to the fact that until you "see the cat" as we call it you won't be able to understand how important it is to know how the relationship of land, labor and capital (the three factors of production) work to produce wealth, and how a lack of understanding of this has produced the massive screw up called hunger and starvation.

You know the children's game where you had to pick out the animal hidden in the background of a drawing. Once you see it you can't not see it. Many people have "seen the cat." William F. Buckley is one. Milton Friedman has not seen the cat and from what I can see, doesn't want to. Gore Vidal, Nobel Laureate Samuelson, John Kenneth Galbreath, Michael Kinsley, Roger Starr of the New York Times Editorial Board, Senator Moynihan, your friend Roger Somers, and several writers on the Wall Street Journal have seen the cat.

I want to call your attention to one of the enclosed articles, which is written by audia Rosett of the Asian WSJ in which she not only condemns the proposed method of land reform for the Philippines but mentions your friend Roy Prosterman as being one of the champions of this muddled proposal which the World Bank says would be disastrous. Obviously Roy Prostermann has not "seen the cat."

Lynn saw clearly that "seeing the cat" would be empowering. It's certainly the answer to how hunger could be eliminated. Unfortunately the problem is to get the people who could bring that about to do the uncomfortable--as Jerry Goodman so rightly pointed out.

Bob Scrofani of the San Francisco Henry George School stands ready to give a summary course to anyone interested in learning to "see the cat."

Bob is a teacher, an est graduate, and I can't think of anyone more qualified. His phone number is 282-3110.

Here's to the end of hunger, Werner.

Devotedly,



Nan Braman

cc: Joan Holmes
Lynn Twist
Bob Scrofani
Wendell Fitzgerald