

The
E.I.C.
Work
Sheet.
Feb. 160
Freedom
is as
Freedom
Does!
No. 8

SAINT LOUIS EXTENSION * HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL
Education -- Information -- Communication
--OUR WORK SHEET I--

OPEN HOUSE, Thursday, Feb. 18 - 7:30 P. M.
Sponsored by the Henry George School Conference banquet in
at 5164 Washington Ave. (at Lake St.)

I AM
Able To
help in
many ways!
To Fight
Tyranny
Create
True
Freedom!

Also, a brief demonstration of the flip chart
used by Noah D. Alper to give "one-lesson"
course on the economic science in the book
Progress and Poverty. (A good chance for a
quick and easy review!)

Georgist books, magazines & pamphlets will be displayed for you to buy or borrow.
Refreshments will be available at a nominal cost.

Plans have been made for having an Open House at the same time and place the third
Thursday of each month, so that Alumni of the School can get together for informa-
tion, conversation and recreation. Don't miss the first meeting.

SPRING TERM CLASSES

Spring term Classes in Fundamental econ-
omies will begin the week of March 21, 160
and will consist of six or seven classes.
Write down names of friends or others whom
you would like to receive announcements.

Two basic classes, one in St. Louis and
one in St. Charles, and one advanced class
in the Science of Political Economy are
now in action - good classes, too.

Missing! The Spirit of the Cunce
of Prevention Worth a Pound of Cure

"Neighborhood rehabilitation will never
be accomplished without federal finan-
cial help", said Charles L. Farris, ex-
ecutive director, St. Louis Land Clear-
ance Authorities. He said, "several steps
must be taken by the Federal government
in addition to rehabilitation grants, to
keep up with the inroads blight and decay
are making... Some faster method than ur-
ban renewal and other current programs is
needed to stop blight".

One, "could be very beneficial". "If home
owners would be given tax deductions for
rehabilitation work". And Mr. Farris is
somewhat on the target. But why not full
exemption of improvements and collection
of RENT-of-land to do this job; why not
the "ounce of prevention" that would save
us so many millions of dollars in false
cures?

UPSIDE-DOWN ASSESSMENTS

Did you see the story about "Nobody does
Anything About Downtown 'Eyesore' Build-
ing"? It's at 6th & Washington.

"Taxes more than anything else will
force some redevelopment of that corner"
An attorney who tried to get this land
for development declared. Yes, taxes on
the land value, not taxes on improvements.
Assessments listed one section-land \$226,
000 and "improvements" (?) \$1,000; another
section land \$54,000 and buildings \$17,000.
Sort of upside down, don't you think?
(quote from St. Louis Globe Dem. 1-6-60)

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Airport Land in Demand

Land being considered for a St. Louis
County Airport which sold at \$450 an acre
down Gumbo, Missouri way, is offered-1000
acres for \$3,000,000 - \$3000 an acre. And
to think of it; the Dalton boys once did
it but carried guns; you see, the law was
"agin 'em" - not for em! Do our land and
tax laws reflect either good morals or
good economics?

And then there is the now famous Howell
Island deal! From nothing to riches!

Why Not Look At The Land Tax

This is the heading of an editorial in
The Boulder Daily Camera, Dec. 1, 1959.
"All this talk about local option sales
taxes is out of harmony with one of the
most welcome taxation trends in recent
years."

"But municipalities seem to be overlook-
ing the opportunity to solve a good many
local problems through an enlightened
system of real estate taxation, to the
exclusion of the hodge podge of sales tax-
es, income taxes, and other revenue rais-
ing measures that tend to create new pro-
blems while they bolster local treasuries
only temporarily."

"Taxes on income tend to discourage gro-
wth... Taxes on sales tend to discourage
free buying and selling".

"But real estate taxes, when the major
part is on the land itself, encourage pro-
duction, put no penalty on initiative to
create new wealth, and confiscate nothing."
"Man does not create the land... The Com-
munity creates the major increase in land
values."

"Henry George first proposed the idea
back in the last century."

"A few communities in the U.S. have used
it for many years..."

"The results have been gratifying. It is
a most potent tool in urban renewal with-
out dependence on federal handouts."

"The plan deserves at least a thorough
investigation at this time..."

Q. Is not land peculiar also in that it is a gift of the Creator, and not a product of labor?

A. Yes, that is true of land itself, but not of the value of land.

Q. What is meant by a capitalized tax?

A. It is a sum, the interest of which would pay the tax.

Q. Why would the Single Tax be an improvement upon present systems of taxation?

A. Because the taking for public uses of that value which justly belongs to the public would relieve all workers and capitalists of those taxes by which they are now unjustly burdened, and would make unprofitable the holding of land idle.

Q. Should not all people pay taxes for the protection of their property?

A. Yes, and that is what they are doing when they pay their ground rent. To tax them again, as is now done, is double taxation.

Q. Do all people, then, pay ground rent?

A. Yes, in proportion as they are users of land.

Q. Why, on similar lots of land, should one man with a \$10,000 building be taxed as much as another with a \$100,000 building?

A. Because the cost to the city, for public equipment and public service, is substantially the same in both cases.

Georgists are happier for the many items of news in papers and magazines. Faith means work - work means news. Money and work will help make our School's spring term. To respond when asked, is a way.

Our Land and Tax Packets

"Says U.S. Loses Millions

Through Land Appraisals"

"In a letter to Secy. of the Interior, Fred A. Seaton, (Rep.), John E. Moss (Dem.) of Calif. said public land was being sold far below its true value and then resold at huge profits." He "cited three cases his Government Operations Sub-Committee heard at Phoenix, Ariz. 50,000 acres of govt. land 35 miles out, appraised at \$1.50 an acre, sold by original buyer at \$125 an acre; 4540 acres cost buyer \$12,341 - sold for \$670,000. (A.P.-2/8/60), The Arizona Republic, Phoenix (1/23/60) quotes Robert A. Evans, another "worker" who profited \$565,000 in 11 months who said the deal

"Not since Laguardia's time, certainly, has any public leader aired these ideas with the earnestness California's Gov. Edmund G. "Pat" Brown has been manifesting of late.

It seems that Gov. Brown has been looking behind the "front page" news to get more of the meaning behind such things as California's proposed \$1,750,000,000 state water bond issue. In a news conference the Gov. brought up the question the "unearned increment" some will get unless "some legal formula is enacted to collect some of this . . . to pay the cost of the public works which earn it."

"By 'unearned increment', Mr. Brown is telling reporters, he means the rise in land values, for example, that would result for some distance around the perimeter of a new state university campus. The Gov. implies that since such values are publicly created and are not the result of the landholders' labor or initiative they ought to be collected to defray the cost of the new university."

The above quoted remarks from the Christian Science Monitor, 12/8/59. They further indicate a trend that is growing to consider the Henry George basic idea of using ground rent to replace taxes.

"Of all the current crop of top-drawer political candidates, California's Gov. 'Pat' Brown has succeeded to think and speak in the language of yesterday's liberals-leaders who left their cities or states relatively better off than before. All this was in the pre-inflation era, too, before Michigan went broke." (From: Gov. "Pat" Brown--Authentic Liberal by Harlan Trotter)

Write: "The Hall of Fame for Great Americans", 53 Washington Square South, New York 12, N.Y., for a "Form of Proposal for Candidates" and place the name of Henry George in nomination - again. Many feel he will/will be day - so we try again.

"was not a good one for the taxpayers of the nation." The appraiser who valued the land at \$2.50 to \$3 an acre, said "That under his instructions he considered only its value from the standpoint of grazing."

Said The Country Parson: "All we expect of our friends is that they overlook our shortcomings and have none of their own."

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Henry George School
Room 765-818 Olive St.,
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Open House

Up-Side Down Assessments

Authentic Liberal?

Our Land and Tax Packets

Our . . . is a way.

Spring

Term Classes.

Boulder Daily Camera Editorial

Mr. Robert Clancy
50 East 69th St.
New York 21, N.Y.

Form 3574 Requested