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Public Revenue Education Council

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February 25, 1956

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Dear Friend:-

March 1st marks the beginning of our fifth year since incorporation and it is going to be a creative testing year.

We have, we believe, a mind-opening idea, one that presents a sharp and challenging focus on man's most pressing economic, social and political problem - WRONG-SOURCE public revenue. The idea is one that we believe will switch man's thinking from the highly confused area of taxes, to a clear vision of sources of public revenue; and will ultimately raise the vital issue citizens must decide: Which source of public revenue, RENT-of-land, or the Wage Rewards of human effort should we use, or use first to meet the costs of government. We find this approach carries a strong impact.

The President of one of Pittsburgh's best known manufacturing concerns wrote, after reading our letters and literature:

"The thoughts of taxation, which you detailed in your letter of March 24th, certainly takes a "grass roots" approach and represents commendable philosophy."

A high ranking executive in one of America's gigantic industries wrote one who submitted to him our letters and literature:

"The literature put out by the Public Revenue Education Council was very interesting, and I found it food for some real thought, since I had not previously been exposed in any serious way to the doctrine expressed."

A New York City Georgist, well versed in the history of our movement, who always fights for its advancement and who ordered 50 copies of Dr. Harry Gunnison Brown's pamphlet, "Capital, America vs Russia, An Answer to Communism" and which we publish, said:

"Your activities are certainly along the right direction and when your new basic pamphlet is reprinted would like to have a few copies of this to use as enclosures with my correspondence."

All who work to interest others in Henry George's proposal for the use of the correct source of public revenue are eager for ideas that "communicate", ideas that have a penetrating point rather than one of broad generality. It might be said that an idea is the key to unlocking a closed mind. We believe the use of our idea will spread. For example:

The Henry George School Magazine of London reproduced our article, "An Open Letter to Educators, Students and All Concerned With the Failure of Economic Education." It will be read by people in many places in the world. This "Letter" was sent to some 1400 professors and students on the Campuses of Washington University, St. Louis University and Harris Teachers College, all of Saint Louis, Missouri.

Correct Public Revenue Action Depends on Correct Public Revenue Education

Mayor Russel Conklin, of Great Falls, Montana, used the basic idea we are emphasizing in a speech at the Annual Convention of the Montana Chamber of Commerce (Henry George News, January 1956). He put it this way:

"A new tax does not create a new source. Taxes are merely pumps to draw taxes from only two sources available; earned income or production, and unearned income or speculation."

We believe our experiment has a good chance to succeed. We hope to demonstrate this. If we do we will find men, means and methods to expand our effort.

During the past year we increased the number of people asking for our basic literature from 700 to 1200; and we want to increase the number of such people this year - substantially. To help do this the enclosed educational pamphlet: .

WRONG-SOURCE PUBLIC REVENUE!
The Greatest Threat To
Free Private Enterprise.
(How To Correct It)

. . . will be mailed, soon, to over 6000 people -- members of the Chamber of Commerce, the Engineers Club of St. Louis, architects, contractors, material suppliers, certified public accountants, labor leaders and women's groups.

Our basic pamphlet, the story of "The Great American Tax Shift", has been re-printed. It is much improved in content, in appearance, and its statistical data has been brought up-to-date. (Members and contributors will receive copies)

Once a year we make a special effort to secure financial support, and members. If you are a member, or have given us financial assistance before, we ask that you respond to our needs this year.

The Lincoln Foundation, Inc., which is doing so much for our movement in so many ways, and which has extended financial help to us on an incentive basis before, will again match the money you send us, dollar for dollar; so each dollar you make available for this work has the strength of two in helping us.

A combined membership and contribution form is enclosed, along with a return envelope. We will be most grateful if you will act on this request as quickly as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Noah D. Alper

Noah D. Alper,
President.