

January 31, 1986

Dear Bob,

I'm running out of ISTA stationery and so you don't get any this time. Day before yesterday, I managed to adjust four bolts on the printing press that I think hadn't been turned since it was built in 1895, so from now on it should do better work.

PDBox
130,
CS
80901
Your letter to the G-T is just fine, and I'll watch for reactions if any. The Sun is still in business, and probably will be for at least two weeks more, so you might as well write to them about free trade and the book, even if they didn't have such an editorial.

Many thanks for the interesting art newsletters, which Marian will enjoy seeing. Right now I'm in the basement office of ISTA and both of us are expecting guests 1 hr 15 min from now, so I'll take these to her when I come up. The news letter for Arati Artists Gallery, Inc., has not yet been initiated. It is something that members have agreed must be started, and your newsletter will be quite helpful. Didn't know you are in that kind of thing. Enclosed is an Arati announcement - our first printing job after getting the bolts turned.

As soon as I get time from all these unbelievable things, I'll send out a notice to all prominent Georgists - or at least those that I know about - regarding the really sensational development in Arizona. Carol Gimmi of Tucson is Treasurer for District 14 of the Arizona Republican Party, and her husband, Richard C. Gimmi, is a member of the State Committee of the party. Both are members of ISTA, and I think we have one or two ^{other} Arizona people who are also state committee members, but I'm not sure. At any rate, Richard Gimmi of ISTA ~~has~~ managed to get the delegates (420, I think) of the Arizona State Republican Party convention meeting in Phoenix on January 25 to pass the following resolution:

LAND VALUE TAXATION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the value of unimproved urban land is socially created; and,

WHEREAS the improvements on land and the results of human labor should not be taxed; and,

WHEREAS the present property tax system rewards owners of vacant inner city lands for not improving their property; and,

WHEREAS the present property tax system encourages suburban sprawl while leaving large inner city areas undeveloped;

RESOLVED 1) that the Arizona Republican Party favors any measure which would cause a decrease or removal of all taxes which inhibit production, business, human labor or improvements of property; and,

- (2 that the Arizona Republican Party favors measures which would replace these lost revenues by increasing the site value tax on unimproved urban land.

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Richard C. Gimmi is the author of the above, and both he and I want that to be known. Also, he has sent me some fantastic proposals for political action, but he doesn't want any of this to fall into the hands of anyone who would use it for any sort of personal or monetary purposes, whatever they might be. So, I have sent him U.S. copyright blanks and instructions to use if he sees fit.

ISTA now has 59 members, and inquiries are beginning to come in from Arizona. Soon, I think, I'll be even more swamped than previously, especially since I have accepted a proposal that I be on a search committee to help fill a vacancy in political science at the University.

This morning Earl Hanson and I talked with each other and agreed that ISTA now has the following officers:

President: JLB

Executive Secretary: Earl A. Hanson

State Chairmen:

Arizona: Richard C. Gimmi

Colorado: JLB

Utah: Earl A. Hanson

We are doing nothing further to set up any kind of formal organization, and will not establish any other posts anywhere until we know we have active, alert people prepared to fill them.

Sorry this is so full of errors, but you will understand the rush. Also, you don't get the full electric-typewriter treatment this time because the Underwood still goes twice as fast.

Very sincerely,


Jim Busey

Oh - we are dropping Alberta because of 0 interest there, but adding Chihuahua and Sonora, both intermountain Mexican states south of New Mexico and Arizona, respectively. One of the ISTA members, Oscar Bluth, spent more than 50 years of his life there in a Mormon colony, and is going to write to his Mexican friends. He is fluent in Spanish. I don't know of any other single tax organization that includes a polygamist among its members, let alone some more who might join!-j.

Note: Nothing wrong with letting people know orally about the Arizona situation. I have to check my wait for my circular announcement before publishing anything. I have to check my facts, dates, etc., quite thoroughly. Also, Gimmi turns out to be our most valuable member and we want to protect ISTA from any misunderstandings that misinformation might create. Earl is going to send out news releases to newspapers in Utah & Colo. - j