

"Progress and Poverty" Centennial Committee

Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Henry George's Masterwork "Progress and Poverty"
1879 - 1979

Sponsored by
Georgist Groups
and Members

Agnes de Mille,
Honorary Chairman

Reply to:

URAHNS FOR TAX REFORM
P. O. Box 207
Cedar City, Utah 84720

10-4-79

Honorable Scott M. Matheson, Governor
State of Utah
State Capitol
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Dear Governor Matheson:

We are greatly concerned that the State will be burdened with an extremely bad tax rebate program if the State Supreme Court should overturn the decision of the 3rd District Court in the matter of the Excess Revenue Act. Accordingly our steering committee of 8 members respectfully makes the following suggestions for your consideration:

1. The appeal to the State Supreme Court in the matter of the Excess Revenue Act should be dropped. The ruling of the 3rd District Court that the law is unconstitutional should be accepted.
2. If this is done the state budget for fiscal 1980 should be restored to that which was authorized by the Legislature, cancelling the 4% across the board reductions that have been imposed.
3. The State Tax Revision Committee should be urged to consider basic tax reform rather than rebate schemes that are extremely costly to administer. Our organization is urging a phase out of all property taxes on buildings, improvements and personal property over a period of about 5 years with the revenue to be made up by increased collections of economic rent (land value taxation).

Sincerely yours,



Earl A. Hanson, Secretary



*To those who, seeing the vice and misery that spring from
the unequal distribution of wealth and privilege,
feel the possibility of a higher social state
and would strive for its attainment.*
—Dedication from *Progress and Poverty* by Henry George