

The Daily SPECTRUM

ISSN 0745-6611

Published daily except Saturday
by Spectrum Publishing Company,
Inc., 155 North 400 West, St.
George, Utah 84770.

CEDAR CITY, UTAH
VOLUME 5 □ NUMBER 270

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1985
14 PAGES

Merger of Utah, Colorado tax reform groups proposed

CEDAR CITY — A merging of Utah and Colorado tax reform lobby groups has been initiated and will be on the agenda of the steering committee of Utahns for Tax Reform on Monday, secretary Earl A. Hanson said Monday.

The public meeting will be a no-host luncheon at noon in the Town and Country Restaurant.

A name change for the group will be considered, he said. The proposed new name is Intermountain Single Tax Association.

That change has already been made by the Colorado Incentive Tax Association, he noted.

Also on the agenda will be the approval of a statement of the objective of the organization.

"That being proposed is essentially the proposal of Henry George, to 'abolish all taxation save that upon land values,'" said Hanson.

"The movement in the early years of this century was labled 'single tax' and it was winning adherents in large numbers in the US, England, Ireland and Scotland, until the outbreak of World War 1 in Europe."

Hanson said that today, in Pennsylvania, where cities have the option, six cities have lowered their building taxes while increasing the land value tax, "with encouraging results in increased building permits."

"A California Assembly bill has been prepared providing for local option in the matter. The tax shift is under consideration in Missouri, New York, New Hampshire, Illinois, Minnesota and likely other states," he said. "Hawaii and Oregon already have the option of shifting the property tax from buildings to land values without constitutional amendment."

In Utah, as likely in most states, such an amendment will be needed, Hansen said.