

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR LAND VALUE TAXATION AND FREE TRADE
177 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 1EU England

GENERAL MEETING

Selwyn College, Cambridge, England
Monday, 6 August 1984 at 9.30 am

AGENDA

1. Regrets for absence
2. Minutes of the last General Meeting held at the Woudschoten, Utrecht, Holland on 27 July 1982.
3. Secretary's Report.
4. Treasurer's Report and presentation of Accounts.
5. Election of officers:-

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| President | Secretary |
| Deputy President | Assistant Secretary |
| Vice Presidents | Treasurer |

Executive Committee
6. Suggestions for the venue of the next but one conference.
7. Proposals:

The following proposals have been received in accordance with the Constitution.

Amendments to any proposals on the Agenda must be put in writing and handed to the President by 13.00 hrs, Sunday 5th August. No amendments will be accepted after this time, or at the meeting.

The proposals will not necessarily be taken in the order shown.

- (i) Mr. David A. MacMurchie of Dundee, Scotland, will move that:

The name of our movement be changed to "International Union for Ground Rent as Community and State Revenue"

Motion seconded by Mr. R.J.Rennie, Glasgow.

- (ii) Mr. W.H.Pitt, New South Wales, Australia will move that:

- (1) Because our present name is too long and the word taxation is controversial and is misleading as related to our stated objective to abolish taxation,
- (2) And because the words Free Trade do not embrace the abolition of protective tariffs alone and because our present title places the importance of land reform on an equal plane with free trade,

| INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR LAND VALUE TAXATION AND FREE TRADE | | | |
|--|-----------|----------------------------------|----------|
| Income & Expenditure Account | | | |
| Year ended March 31st 1983 | | | |
| Postage for Georgist Journal | 282.41 | Balance b/f from previous year | 4701.15* |
| Stationery | 64.57 | Less Advance conference receipts | 2670.50 |
| Advance conference expenses | 216.80 | (transferred to conf. account) | 2030.65 |
| Contribution to UCTLV for services | 300.00 | Subscriptions & donations | 1567.76 |
| Exchange adjustment | 20.23 | Profit from 1982 Conference | 15.80 |
| | | Treasurer's Appeal at conference | 407.58 |
| | | T shirt sales | 10.00 |
| | | Bank interest on US funds | 17.84 |
| Balance c/f | **3165.62 | | 4049.63 |
| | 4049.63 | | |

** £2802.11 in London
\$617.97 in New York

* D.Fls 30,966.25 in Utrecht
\$86.25 in New York
Debit £1855.77 in London

| Income & Expenditure Account | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Year ended March 31st 1984 | | | |
| Postage for Georgist Journal | 271.08 | Balance b/f from previous year | 3165.62** |
| Advance conference expenses, Cambridge | 548.16 | Subscriptions & Donations | 2275.33 |
| Contribution to UCTLV for services | 750.00 | T shirt sales | 4.50 |
| | | Bank interest on US held funds | 32.27 |
| | | Advance Conference receipts | 13744.67 |
| | | Exchange adjustment | 48.87 |
| Balance c/f | *** 17702.02 | | £19271.26 |
| | £19271.26 | | |

*** £17,520.17 in London
\$263.69 in New York

Stock of 16 T shirts still held

| INTERNATIONAL UNION CONFERENCE, UTRECHT, HOLLAND, 1982 - CONFERENCE ACCOUNT | | | |
|---|------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| Preliminary visit to Holland & promotion | 334.25 | Receipts from participants | |
| Paid to Conference centre | 12,336.21 | (Board & conference fees combined) | 15,791.30 |
| Delegates fares & expenses | 506.65 | | |
| Cost of conference papers | 1,541.50 | T shirt sales | 157.83 |
| Cost of T shirts* | 219.65 | Bus & minibus fares | 146.73 |
| Hire of mini-bus | 110.23 | | |
| Refunds/overpayments | 437.24 | Unspecified receipts | 35.56 |
| Payment to UCTLV for services | 450.00 | | |
| Sundry expenses | 179.89 | | |
| Excess of income over expenditure c/d | 15.80 | | |
| | £16,131.42 | | £16,131.42 |

* Stock of 34 T shirts still held

Excess of income over expenditure b/d 15.80
Proceeds of Treasurer's appeal 407.58
£423.38

- (3) And because taxation in all its forms, including customs duties, is ultimately at the expense of rent, and consequently a reduction in tariff protection without land reform would benefit land holders only, the name of this International Movement be changed to the
"Georgeist International Union"

Motion seconded by Mr. S.G.Hart, Wembley, W.Australia

- (iii) Mr. Arthur Dowe will move on behalf of Mr.E.A.Middleton Norfolk Island, Australia that:

- (1) Because the present name of the International Union does not accurately reflect the true purpose and nature of the Georgeist Movement, founded as it is on the principles and the economic philosophy of Henry George, as evidenced in his published works, in particular in his *Science of Political Economy*
- (2) And because the words 'Land Value Taxation' are self-defeating unless the whole of the Surplus Product is annually collected as the natural basic public revenue of the State, in which case taxation as a method is inappropriate and should be eliminated from the Georgeist policy and practice for its connotations of bad government,
- (3) And because the name of the movement should clearly indicate its origin, relevance and purpose and should relate to Henry George as its inspiration, the name of this International Movement be changed to
"The International Union of Georgeists"

Motion seconded by Mr. Arthur Dowe, N.S.W. Australia

Rider to above:

and that, failing the acceptance of the above motion, it be placed on the Agenda of the next conference.

- (iv) Mr. S.G.Hart, Wembley, Western Australia will move that:

In order to strengthen the Henry George Movement through the formation of a common statement of objectives upon which supporters of the Henry George Movement throughout the world may unite and because our present constitution refers to "taxes" and in a manner which is imprecise the wording of the Constitution be amended as follows:

Article II OBJECTS: Delete all under this heading

Substitute:

"In accordance with the philosophy of Henry George, this International Union holds that all men have a right to the use of the earth and that all have a

right to the use of the earth and that all have a right to the fruits of their labor. To implement these rights it is proposed that the rent of land be taken by the community as public revenue, and that all taxes on labor and the fruits of labor be abolished.

The Union believes with George that 'liberty means justice and justice is the natural law,' and that the social and economic ills besetting the world today are the result of non-conformance to natural law. The Union pledges itself to bring this philosophy to the attention of the public by all suitable means."*

Motion seconded by Mr. W.H. Pitt, Victoria, Australia.

* This wording is precisely that of the Henry George Institute in their "Statement of Purpose."

- (v) Mr. R.J.Rennie, Scotland, will move that:

Because many Georgeists now believe that the use of the word "taxation" in our propaganda is detrimental to the promotion of our policy, the following changes be made:

Article II, line 10.

Delete "Taxes and rates upon the value of land apart from improvements in order to secure the economic rent for the community."

Insert "By securing the economic rent of land for the community."

The new wording will read as follows:

"Specifically towards the realisation of these objects the Union favours the raising of public revenue by securing the economic rent of land for the community and the abolition of taxes, tariffs or imposts that interfere with the free production and exchange of wealth."

Motion seconded by Mr. V.G.Saldji, London, England.

- (vi) Mrs. Doris Norris, London, England will move that:

The following words be added to Article XIII (Amendments)

"No motion to amend or alter Articles I and II of this Constitution shall be accepted, notwithstanding the foregoing, until at least three conferences have passed since such a motion has

been considered."

Motion seconded by Mrs. E. Nichols, England.

(vii) Mr. S.G.Hart, Western Australia, will move that:

Because insufficient time was available at the last conference for consideration of the wording of the Declaration of Human Rights, and because there was considerable support for such a change, the last paragraph on the first page be amended as follows:

Line two delete the word "tax" and substitute the word "fee".

Line two insert the words "land dues as" after the words "payment of".

Line four delete the word "taxation" and substitute the word "charges".

Line six delete the word "made" and substitute the word "kept".

The new wording would read as follows:

"That the equal right to land be secured by requiring of all land holders the payment of land dues as an annual fee on the value of land held whether it is used or not and excluding the value of improvements thereon: and that such charges, national and municipal, be based on a valuation showing the true value of land, this valuation being kept public and being kept up to date by periodic revision.

Motion seconded by Mr.W.H.Pitt, Australia

(viii) Mr. R.C.Clancy, New York, USA will move that, in view of the large minority at the last Conference voting against the IU Declaration as it now stands, the following changes be made:

1. Page 1, heading, "We therefore advocate"
Line two, delete the words "the payment of an annual tax on the"
Substitute "a payment to society approximating the full rental value of the land,"
2. Line four, delete the word "taxation"
insert the word "payment"
3. After the foregoing paragraph:
insert new paragraph: "That such payment be construed to be the rightful and sufficient public revenue for all levels of government."

The new wording will then read as follows:

"That the equal right to land be secured by requiring of all landholders a payment to society approximating the full rental value of the land held whether it be used or not and excluding the value of the improvements thereon: and that such payment, national and municipal, be based on a valuation showing the true value of the land, this valuation being made public and being kept up to date by periodic revision."

"That such payment be construed to be the rightful and sufficient public revenue for all levels of government."

Motion seconded by Mrs. E.Nichols, London, England.

Enc: Copy of the Minutes of the General Meeting held at the Woudschoten, Utrecht, Holland in 1982.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

May I first say what personal pleasure it gives me to see so many faces who were at Holland in 1982. This is the first time we have had a gap of only two years between conferences, and the size of the enrolment would seem to indicate that this is welcomed by members.

Since two years is the very least amount of time one needs to organise a conference, the main activity, so far as the International Union headquarters has been concerned, has been the preparation for this Conference at Cambridge.

As agreed at the Executive Meeting in Holland, I was instructed to set up the Conference Arrangements Committee and they are:-

Vic Blundell, Jose Mernane, Fred Harrison, Jessica Baker, Lyn Nichols, Vic Saldji, Doris Norris and myself.

Jose Mernane and I, working in the office, have naturally coped with the day to day matters, and Fred Harrison has shouldered much of the correspondence in connection with the speakers. I would like to take this opportunity, however, to express my thanks to the members of the Conference Arrangements Committee for their cooperation in attending meetings, often at short notice, in order to discuss suggestions and make decisions.

The number of members at the time of writing this report is 326 and the list requires continual updating as people join, depart our ranks, or just move to a new home.

The International Union is a Movement for the individual Georgeist, something he or she can belong to however remote from any main Georgeist centre, and it is important that all these individuals are kept together. I feel the Georgist Journal does an admirable job in giving us news and pages in which to debate topics of joint interest.

The International Union as such has not engaged in any specific propaganda exercise, but we do have considerable international correspondence. We are always pleased to get news from members, and particularly information of any promising activity which can be useful to refer to in showing the relevance of our ideas to those not familiar with them. Land and Liberty with articles on countries all round the world is our most useful source of propaganda material.

With the time at our disposal it is not possible to accomplish all we would like to, but what resources we have we endeavour to put to the best possible use.

B.P.Sobrielo

July 1984

TREASURER'S REPORT

It gives me great pleasure to present the accounts for the past two years and to tell you that, apart from the enormous amount of conference money being held by the Union, we have a working balance of something over £4,000.

That we have as much as this is due largely to the fact that most of our mailings go free of cost with Land and Liberty, and I should like to acknowledge here the enormous debt we owe to Land and Liberty International Ltd, for allowing us this facility.

It is hoped that the Union will in future make some return to the magazine, both to help to secure its financial future, which - as you will know - is in some doubt, and to increase the knowledge and awareness of international matters of all our members.

Since the 1986 conference will be held in Vancouver, there will be a considerable expense in that year, but even so, there are still sufficient funds for the Union to think in terms of some international propaganda activities. The new Executive will be considering this at their meeting on Tuesday evening, and all Executive members will be glad to listen to any ideas you may have on this subject.

We are delighted that so many new members have enrolled for this Conference year, and we hope most sincerely that they will stay with us and pitch in.

There's an awful lot still to do!

Jose Mernane

July 1984

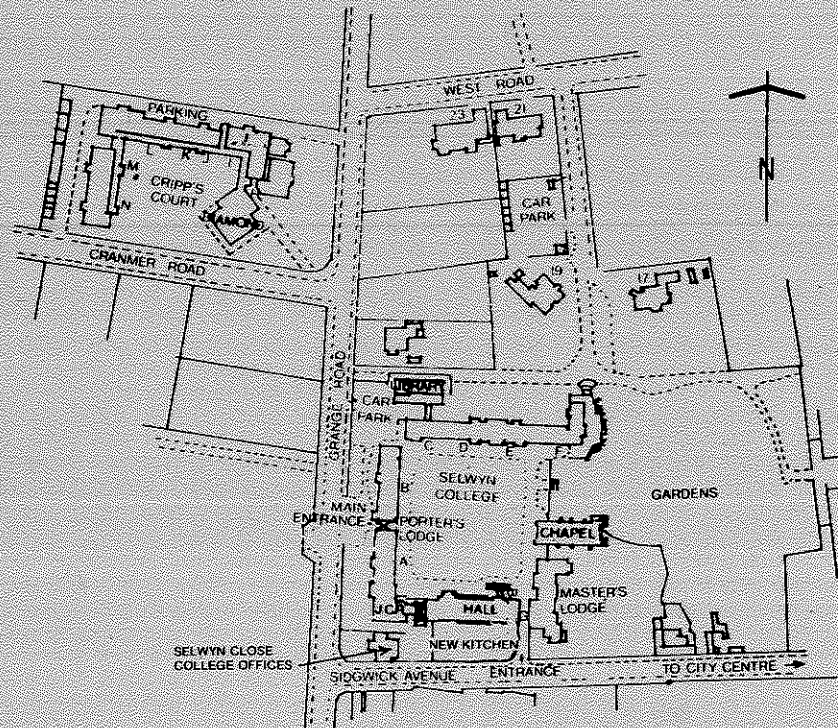
THE COLLEGE AND ITS BUILDINGS

SELWYN COLLEGE was founded by Royal Charter in 1882 in memory of George Augustus Selwyn, Bishop of New Zealand in 1841 to 1868, and Bishop of Lichfield from 1868 to 1878. It became a full College of the University in 1957. Further details can be found in the recently revised history of the College, on sale in the Buttery. By its Statutes, the College is required to be "a place of religion, education, learning and research".

The new court, known as Cripps Court, was built on the site of three houses in Cranmer Road, belong to Selwyn College. This court was first occupied by undergraduates in October 1968.

By custom only Fellows of the College walk on the grass in the courts and visitors are requested to respect this practice.

The College is essentially a place where people can work and study peacefully and visitors are requested to respect the privacy of the resident members of the Society.



Information for the use of Conference members staying in the College

Facilities available to Conference Members within the College

Bar Facilities Bar service is available by arrangement with the Catering Manager. Conference members are asked to consult their organisers for information. Off sales liquor may be purchased from the College Bar.

Porters Lodge The Main Gates in both Courts close at 11.15 a.m. A Night Porter is on duty if required. Arrangements to be admitted after 11.15 a.m. may be made with the Porter's Lodge.

Porters The Porters in the Porters' Lodge will always assist with telephone calls, taxis, train time tables and any general information.

Keys Each Conference member will be given a room key on arrival. You are strongly recommended to lock your room when it is unoccupied. Please lock the door of your room when leaving the College finally and hand your key in at the Porter's Lodge.

College Office will be pleased to help with any general information and is open from 9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Monday to Friday inclusive. This is situated in Selwyn Close.

Mail Postal delivery twice daily at the Main Porter's Lodge.

Telephones Coin box telephones are available in the Old Court in the J.C.R. and on 'A' and 'E' Staircases and in Cripps Court on 'K' Staircase.

Domestic Arrangements

Meals All meals will be served in Hall.

Rooms Soap and towels are provided in all rooms. Additional blankets may be obtained on request from the bedmaker.

Baths There are baths on B, E and F Staircases, and showers on A, B, C, D and E Staircases. In Cripps Courts showers are adjacent to rooms.

Laundry Facilities are available at the bottom of 'J' Staircase, Cripps Court and in the kitchen yard off the Old Court.

Catering Manager The Catering Manager is responsible for the general organisation of conferences and any problems concerning catering arrangements and will be pleased to offer any help required.

Domestic Supervisor The Domestic Supervisor is responsible for the general organisation of accommodation and public rooms, and the Office is situated on 'D' Staircase Room 1A.

Gratuities It is customary for Cambridge Colleges, including Selwyn, to add a service charge of 10% to their bills for conference. This money is distributed among the staff and there is no need for conference members to give additional gratuities.

General Information

Car Parking Space for parking cars is available in the area of both the old and the new courts. It is also possible to park cars in West Road and Cranmer Road.

Car Hire Cars may be hired from the following reputable companies:
Budget Rent-a-Car, 137 Histon Road, Cambridge
Godfrey Davis Ltd, 315 Mill Road, Cambridge

Early Closing A number of shops are now open six days a week, but apart from these, Department stores are closed on Mondays, food stores etc. on Thursdays.

London Airport This is a daily bus service direct to London Airport from Cambridge in summer.

Travel Agencies The following are very centrally situated in Cambridge:
Thomas Cook, Market Hill
Lunn-Poly, King's Parade
Abbotts, Sidney Street
Premier Travel, Rose Crescent

Banking Facilities All major banks have branches in the town centre. They are open Monday to Friday, 9.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Conditions of Booking of Conferences

INSURANCE

The College can accept no liability for delegates or their property. Organisers should, therefore, arrange third party insurance or any other insurance they may deem necessary in their circumstances.

DAMAGE TO PROPERTY BELONGING TO THE COLLEGE OR THIRD PARTIES

The Hirer shall accept responsibility for, and should provide the necessary insurance cover to indemnify the College against all claims;

- a) for loss or damage to the premises and their contents occupied or used during the period of the hire where such loss or damage is caused by or occurs as a result of any actions or omissions of the hirer, his servants, contractors, agents or licensees.
- b) made by or against the hirer, his servants, contractors, agents or licensees arising from loss or damage to property or bodily injury to the hirers, servants, contractors, agents or any third parties.

Except injury, loss or damage caused by the act, default or negligence of the College, its servants, contractors or agents.

Note: The hirers public liability insurance should not preclude cover for "property in the insured's care and custody or control or contractual liability".

CONSEQUENTIAL LOSS

The College does not accept any responsibility for any claims for consequential loss suffered by the hirer, his servants, agents, contractors or licensees following cancellation or abandonment of the event.

