

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

September 1984

Dear Fellow Member,

It is with great pleasure we write to you all, having made the acquaintance of many more members in Cambridge, and we are happy to say that we can now put faces to the names of over half of our members.

We hope that those who were present enjoyed the Cambridge Conference as much as we did. From the very first day, moving into College in pouring rain (who was it promised us Californian weather?...) to the final morning - sunny as we had hoped the whole week would be - the time was full of interest and activity.

The recording of the sessions are of good quality and we shall be issuing a list of available cassettes for purchase in due course - and we hope to have transcripts also - so you may buy those you particularly enjoyed.

At the Business Meeting, the following officers were elected to serve until the Vancouver Conference:-

President:	Wilbur Freeland, Canada
Deputy President:	Richard Noyes, USA
Secretary:	Barbara Sobrielo, England
Assistant Secretary:	Doris Norris, England
Treasurer:	Jose Mernane, England
Vice Presidents:	Allan Hutchinson, Australia
	Mary Rawson, Canada
	Craig Cringan, Canada
	German Lema, Colombia
	Johan Kristensen, Denmark
	Knud Tholstrup, Denmark
	Vic Blundell, England
	Vic Saldji, England
	Albert Toubeau, France*
	Archer Torrey, Korea
	Siebe Sevenster, Netherlands
	Peggy Hill, New Zealand
	Betty Noble, New Zealand
	Rolland O'Regan, New Zealand
	Ronald Rennie, Scotland
	Godfrey Dunkley, South Africa
	Robert Clancy, USA
	Lancaster Greene, USA
	George Lachner, USA
	Edgar Buck, Wales

Executive Committee - all the foregoing plus:

Syd Gilchrist, Australia	Lyn Nichols, England
Graham Hart, Australia	Jan Pot, Netherlands
Harry Payne, Canada	Chuck Byrne, USA
Mirta Lema, Colombia	Oscar Johannsen, USA
Jessica Baker, England	Harry Pollard, USA
Julia Bastian, England	Stan Rubenstein, USA

6100

* Since returning from Cambridge we have heard from Madame Toubeau of the death of Albert Toubeau. We now have no representative of the IU in France. ...

Various resolutions were moved and lost, but it was agreed to alter the Declaration of Human Rights leaflet to the following wording:

At the foot of page 1:

"We therefore advocate: 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 rental 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."

The Accounts of the International Union showed it to be in a pretty healthy state with about £4,000 which could be committed to some form of international activity. Members present were asked to suggest to the Executive Committee what forms this activity might take.

When discussing the venue of the Conference after Vancouver, it was pointed out that 1989 was the 150th anniversary of Henry George's birth and that therefore it would be appropriate to hold the next but one Conference in 1989 in Philadelphia. In the Executive meeting which followed later in the week, when the various suggestions were talked over, it was agreed that Philadelphia in 1989 should be the venue after Canada, and that the Conference be held in conjunction with the American schools' conference for that year.

Subsequent discussion revealed that it could be possible to hold the conference over the period of George's actual birthday, September 2nd (a Saturday in 1989), giving the occasion the maximum opportunity for propaganda. If the period of the joint conference were extended from, say, Saturday August 26th to Tuesday morning September 5th (the weekend of Saturday 2nd September to Monday 4th September will be a public holiday time in the US) this would allow for publicity for the anniversary celebrations and should give ample time for both the IU and the Schools to fit in their papers and reports.

Your Executive decided to take out 400 subscriptions to Land and Liberty at a cost of £2,000 for a year - the subscriptions to be sent to whoever members thought would usefully benefit from them. We therefore ask you all, if there are some local or national figures in your country whom you would like to influence, to let us have names and addresses so that Land and Liberty can be sent to them.

The Canadian Conference Committee reported on plans for the Vancouver conference. Accommodation, some basic and some more luxurious, has been reserved for us at the University of British Columbia and plans are afoot for a stimulating programme. As 1986 will be the International Union's Diamond Jubilee year, we hope that a great many of you will be with us to celebrate that event. More information, as we receive it, will be sent to you from time to time, either via your Land and Liberty envelope (this gives the IU a free postal service since the majority of members are also subscribers to the journal), or the Georgist Journal, whichever is nearer its date of distribution at the time

.....

information is received. The arrangements for Vancouver are being taken care of by the Vancouver Conference Arrangements Committee, Chairman Mary Rawson.

Coming back to the present and leaving the future to take care of itself for a bit, we would like you all to know that we do appreciate receiving letters and news from members. We shall be installing a telephone answering machine in the near future, and this will make it easier for messages to be transmitted when it is in the cheap rate time for the caller, and you can be sure any urgent matters will be dealt with as soon as our office day commences.

Before signing off, we would like to say a very special "thankyou" for the most unexpected gift made to us at the end of the Cambridge conference. Of course you all shouldn't have done it, but we can assure you that we did appreciate it very much indeed. We have both now opened our "Vancouver account" and it is the start of our savings for the 1986 trip, when we look forward to meeting you all again.

With affection,

Barbara and Jose

