Monday, June 24, 1968

San Antonio Express

'Sickness' From Taxes

Dear Sir:

If, as our President says, "our society is not sick," why then does he continually recommend feeding it more and more medicine (taxes)?

Not only is society sick, but due to our governmental ac-

tions, the disease is growing and spreading?

How and why? Because taxes levied by the government and paid for by the people are continually increasing; from an humble tax on matches to the heaviest tax for our highways,

private improvements and income.

When a citizen or group of citizens want to build a factory or other building, they first of all need a tract of land to provide a foundation. (This foundation should be provided by the government on a rental basis, which should be the government's fundamental source of taxes). Under our present system of taxation however, the people who build and improve their own efforts and integrity, are penalized with higher taxes for building and improving our country's landscape, its economy and its productiveness; and still more in the form of income taxes and other taxes.

Our young couples are confronted with the same impediment when they want to build their home and beautify the

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Our Country developed and progressed notwithstanding burdensome taxes, but which were still reasonable. However, under our present multiple system of higher and higher taxation, the burden is becoming unbearable and therefore creates our present sick society.

The present system makes private property public property

and public property private property!

Instead of carrying the load of our products 'in the bed of our wagon of progress,' our system of taxation ties the load "to the wheels of the wagon"! Under our present system of taxation, the intangible value of land, created by the efforts and activities of the people, goes into the pockets of the possessors of the land who ultimately reap the profit and assets created by the producer of that intangible land value and by reason of this maladjustment, the value producing people pay the same taxes twice.

All of our burdensome taxes should be and can be gradually reduced by substituting them with rental value of the land. The intangible value of the land was created by the people who

work it and improve it.

The illness of our society will not be cured if the recent expression and lack of concern by one of our prominent congressmen in Washington is followed, he is quoted in substance to have said: "When we levy taxes, we are not concerned with the consequences, but, what we are after is the money." But it is not beyond cure.

J.R. Fuch

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