

International Union for Land-Value Taxation and Free Trade

177 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 1EU, England.

October 1989

Dear Fellow Member,

After all the months of planning and hard work the Sesquicentennial Conference in Philadelphia has come and gone. It had a very good attendance. All credit must go to George Collins, Lucia Cipolloni, Ed Dodson, Mike Curtis, et al, who were the local organisers and day to day smoother-outerers of the problems and confusions that inevitably arise in coping with a large number of international delegates coming together on a University Campus, whose geography one only really masters as the week goes by.

1991 Conference:

At an Executive meeting prior to Philadelphia, we had informed the Committee that the College of our Lady of Mercy in Dublin - which we had felt was the only venue with the standard of facilities our members would expect - had been sold and was no longer available to us for 1991.

The Committee then decided to consider a place where the land issue was topical and contentious. They decided, subject to suitable accommodation being available, that Israel should be proposed as the venue for the 1991 conference when the Executive met again in Philadelphia. Appropriate enquiries were made and a statement prepared for the Executive meeting held in Philadelphia on Saturday, July 29th.

At the General Meeting on Tuesday August 1st, a representative from the New York branch of the Israeli Government Tourist Office addressed the members on the aspect of security in Jerusalem and answered members' questions. At the subsequent Executive meeting, Israel was voted for as the venue for 1991. So that members may have as much information as possible, a statement on Israel is sent with this letter.

1993 Conference:

As members will know, the Australians were very keen to host the next but one conference and it was agreed that the International Union co-sponsor a conference in Melbourne in 1993. Because of the difference in the seasons in the southern hemisphere, the most likely date will be January 24 to 31st 1993.

As time goes on, further information will be given to members on the plans for the Israeli conference which is, in fact, only eighteen months away!

General Meeting:

At the General Meeting (the full Minutes of which will follow later) the resolution to delete the last part of the final sentence of Article XIII of the Constitution was carried. The motion proposed by Bill Pitt on the prime activity of future conferences was defeated, and the need for financial help for New Zealand Georgists in their fight to keep an annual land value tax, was referred to the Executive Committee for further discussion and consideration.

Election of officers:

Your President, Richard Noyes was re-elected for a further term of office and Karoly Ravasz of Hungary was elected Deputy President, members being delighted at his re-appearance after so long an absence from the International Union, of which he was once a Vice President. Other officers were elected as follows, Barbara Sobrielo, Secretary, Jessica Baker, Assistant Secretary, and Jose Mernane, Treasurer.

Vice Presidents elected were: George Jukes, Australia, Wilbur Freeland and Mary Rawson, Canada, German Lema, Colombia, Ole Lefman, Denmark, Victor Blundell, Doris Norris and Victor Saldji, England, Gustav Bohnsack, Germany, Archer Torrey, Korea, Siebe Sevenster, Netherlands, Peggy Hill and Betty Noble, New Zealand, Ronald Rennie, Scotland, Godfrey Dunkley, South Africa, Robert Clancy and Oscar Johannsen, USA, and Edgar Buck, Wales.

Executive members elected were: Julia Bastian, England, Charles Byrne, George Collins and Ed Dodson, USA, Fred Harrison England, Jean Jukes, Australia, Mirta Lema, Colombia, Harry Pollard, USA, Jan Pot, Netherlands, David Richards, Wales, Stan Rubenstein, Mark Sullivan, USA and James Walker, England.

It was apparent that many members were not clear as to the procedure for electing officers and and it was felt that this should be looked into. It was also felt that it would be beneficial if the International Union could be accorded consultative status by the United Nations. This, it was understood, would require its officer structure to conform to certain requirements. It was subsequently agreed at the Executive committee meeting that a special committee should be appointed to look into this.

It was also suggested and later agreed at the Executive meeting, that to facilitate the smooth conduct of business at committee meetings, a set of standing orders should be drawn up.

Finally, we are pleased to say that for the time being at least, there is no increase in the membership fee. But may we here put in a plea for a response, where possible, to the first appeal you receive for the renewal of a subscription. A speedy reply saves quite a bit of time in the office. A copy of the Secretary's and Treasurer's report will follow in due course with the full minutes.

As a tail piece, some commemorative ties and head scarves are still available both from 177 Vauxhall Bridge Road and the Henry George School of Social Science, South Tenth Street, Philadelphia who also have a small stock of attractive souvenir T shirts and mugs, Philadelphia is also the address to write to for the group photograph taken outside the birth place on the dedication day, so if you want to get something for Christmas, order now!

With very best wishes from London.

Barbara & Joe

Conference theme: WAR and PEACE

The Conference will be held at the Maierdsdorf Faculty Club of the Hebrew University on Mount Scopus, which has spectacular views of Jerusalem.

The weather at this time of the year is warm and pleasant but not too hot.

The Club is modern, well furnished and very comfortable. It is fully air conditioned.

Accommodation will be in double and triple rooms, each with private facilities, refrigerator, telephone and radio. It is unlikely that there will be any single rooms available.

Catering facilities are good. The club offers a large Israeli-type breakfast of eggs, fish, cheese, yoghurt, rolls and fruit juice. Lunch can be taken either in the dining room, which offers vegetarian foods, a low fat/sugar meal, and any combination from one to four courses, or in the coffee shop and bar, which is open daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Dinner is not normally provided but will be prepared specially for our members each evening of their nine day stay. Because the breakfast is abnormally large by Western standards, and the possibilities for lunch are so varied, we have decided to offer only breakfast and dinner to conference participants, leaving them free to choose (and pay cash for) whatever lunchtime option suits them best.

As we shall be in Jerusalem over Easter, we are planning a three day break from Good Friday to Easter Sunday so that participants can take part in the religious ceremonies held in Jerusalem at that time, or take tours to other areas of interest, such as Bethlehem, Nazareth, Masada or Tel Aviv, or just wander about Jerusalem, which has something for everyone - religious or secular, ancient or modern.

It is hoped to provide a package which will include airfare from New York or London, and bedroom and Israeli breakfast and dinner for nine nights for a cost of around £450 (London) and \$1,300 (New York). Other arrangements will be made for participants from other countries at comparable prices. Our normal early booking discounts will again be offered.

We hope to issue a full brochure with firm prices next summer, which will be sent out with the July/August *Land & Liberty*. If you are seriously considering making the trip and would like to have the brochure by airmail as soon as it is produced, please fill in the form and return it to us.

One reason for selecting Israel as the venue is that it will help to focus the debates around a major global problem; the social and economic disputes that lead to conflicts over territory. The "war" theme is not merely of philosophic interest; it is, in fact, central to contemporary geopolitical issues, ranging from the prospective separation of the fifteen republics which at present coexist under the umbrella of the USSR, through the creation of a supranational state in Europe, to the painful protraction of localised wars from the Middle East to Ireland.

Topics for discussion will include the psycho-social dynamics of war; the history of the modern nation state will be critically evaluated; and case studies will be presented that contain analyses of how the Georgist philosophy can be applied in a problem-solving manner to help to resolve the conflicts, addressing such difficulties as the need to protect (or provide for the revival of) the cultural identities of ethnic minorities.

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To the International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade, 177 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 1EU.

I hope to attend the 19th International Conference in Jerusalem in 1991. Please send me the Conference Brochure as soon as it is available

Signature

Please print name:

