

Dr. Robert C. Lane, 610, Park J. Jefferson,
Henry George Institute, 3 Scarborough Circle,
Room 162A, SCARBOROUGH
55, W. 42nd Street NEW YORK, NY. 10510
NEW YORK, NY. 10036 - 21st June, 1944.

Dear Bob, First, thank you for accompan-
ing me to Central Rail Station and
for kindness and consideration and
most friendly atmosphere from the
moment I joined that group to
visit Greenwood Cemetery, BROOKLYN
on the occasion of the restoration ceremony
connected with Henry George's
beloved memory. To me it proved an
almost overwhelming momentous,
event - an outstanding experience
of my life. How honoured I feel at
being specially invited to be present
and take part in that simple yet
meaningful ceremony. What an
impressive event it proved.
From this letter you will see
that I arrived home safely.
The first thing my grand-daughter
said to me was "I wonder you left your
notes behind and you would be half
way to New York before they were
found." It shows as Burns said, that
the best laid ^{SCHEMES} plans of mice and men
often go wrong (S.T.O.)

gang off, agree² just left at
last minute — that all-important
document.

None-the-less if I got across
the idea that TAXATION is all
wrong and is ^{ITSELF} the cause of social
ills, and that ground rent for
State revenue is the natural source
of finance to run and maintain
the State, then I have accomplished
my something worth while. Those 14
words in that Chapter "THE FIRST
GREAT REFORM" in "Social Problems"
"ALL THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO DO IS
TO COLLECT ^{THE} GROUND-RENT" FOR THE
COMMON BENEFIT. is the master key
to SOCIAL REFORM. I agree that it
needs explanation — but that
can be obtained from the works of the
master. It is all there to go by.
As I insist it civilisation is a natural
condition then the means of maintaining
the State is a natural operation —
nothing to do with EXACTION, EXTORTION,
CONFISCATION, LEGALISED ROBBERY or all
these immoral enforcement-actions that
modern governments use to raise revenue.
I contend that the offer of money or as often
in market bid for the lease of lands
is voluntary — and this is the source
of State's revenue — the annual
ground rent of the sum total attached
to all communities in any State.

the things and provisions have been done better than they are

3
As the Land belongs to all the
residents of any State in usufruct or
uses commoned, then the ground rent
must belong that State or political en-
tity; and that spontaneous FUND
ought to be exhausted, and seen to
be exhausted before one cent can be
claimed in taxes from capital and
labour by way of supplementing State
revenue. As the disciples of the Henry
George philosophy know full well -
the mere serious threat of collecting
annual ground rent for State purposes
would immediately or mediate open up
all lands for production; and at once
solve involuntary unemployment, poverty
and all those other major social
disorders which so heavily afflict humanity
all due to the private land-owning
system. The system must be ~~made~~^{ALLOWED}
to function on a natural ~~basis~~^{BASIS} ~~system~~
the trouble is man-made and so
bound to end in social upheaval or
disaster. (The reason I suggest opening
Fred Phelps's "Sensational experience"
as a Danish M.P. in 1954-1960 and to
be found in Page 15 of my talk on
involuntary unemployment and Inflation,
is that it shows what the mere invention

of promoting a proper system of finance
by the State would bring about (see
Page 16) Had that Coalition of Radicals,
Democrats and Justice parties also included
a clause in Bill terminating private land
monopoly, the gifts of nature on the
part of individuals or groups that plan
would have proved efficacious in every
way. Once the privileged people see
that the masses have the solution of
ground rent for State revenue off that
they will join them in establishing the
State on a national basis. The rich make
the laws and the laws make them rich.
Yet they will also realize that it is ignor-
ance of the masses that allowed them
to get away with it. Another famous
American speaker and lecturer, namely
Jed. Robert Green Ingersoll, says there
is no slavery but ignorance, liberty
is the child of intelligence.

I do believe the climate is now favour-
able for the teachings of Henry George
— but these teachings must be in the
light that taxation does not enter the
question at all — that is a wrong
but fixed idea — the same no deceiving
the masses into believing they enjoy some
considerable form of democracy which
they never can enjoy till they possess
FREE LAND, FREE TRADE, FREEMEN as a
pre-condition. What is operating today

and regulations which are ⁵ found
enforcement as in baseball, golf,
boxing, local and national authorities.
There is no such thing as "parliamentary
democracy" existing in any State. One
might as well believe that democracy
operates in East Germany ~~for~~ ^{because} they
describe that State as a Democratic
Republic. John Kenneth Galbraith — that
popular economist writer — one who
describes his own fellow-economists as
"cranks and crackpots" — and one
who can be depended on to spill the beans,
or get the gaff away, says "The economy
requires for its success organized public
Lumberjacking." ("Industrial State.") As you
are aware, economists of the Scholastic
order usually deal with exceptions to
rule — as for example, taxes are drawn
from Capital or the private landowner
contributes to the ^{economic} value of land. By
referring to Scholastic economists' writings
one ascertains what those exceptions to rule
are — if one is not himself positive.
As much as I have read Galbraith's
works, I have not acquired any real
ascertained knowledge as a result —
except how the proof is done. Still I
find I must continue to read his notions
if for nothing else to keep myself informed
of such effusions.
Once I get my pen going on matters

of political economy is so difficult
lay down that pen. will do. I apprehend
that I left many questions unanswered
in my short address to members of the
Henry George Institute. As it stands on
the reverse side of that monument to
Henry George. The truth I have tried
to make clear will not find easy acceptance
if that could be it would have been
accepted long ago. If that could be, it
would never have been obscured.

"OBSCURED" is the operative word.
But it will find friends. Those who
will toil for it as I found
in my visit to Greenwood Cemetery
that is the power of TRUTH.

At the risk of repeating myself, I
say that I do appreciate very
highly being invited to join that
pilgrimage to take part in that
ceremony marking the rectoration of
Henry George's monument. To me
a great impressive event and I do
feel proud and honored to have been
specially invited to be present. I am
deeply thankful it happened that way
and nothing prevented me from sharing
in that ceremony. And I can scarcely
conclude without congratulating you
for the ladies for the whole event passing
off so reverently and efficiently; well
done the Henry George Institute.

Yours sincerely, Daniel H. Matthews

repeat my remarks.

So far I do not seem to have had
the time to listen to my recording of
those events of the 16th of June — Nor
is it likely I'll be able to do that
till I return to EAST RILBRIDGE, GLASGOW,
SCOTLAND on 30th June 1944 — as
per Air Service return booking.

But he assured that "I'm no awa
to bide awa" — if it lies in my power.

May I add that I have read over
that leaflet THE PATH WE DARE NOT TAKE
by Milton Friedman and condensed and
circulated by REEDER'S DIGEST and
given to me by one of the members of
your Executive — for which I express
thanks.

Though the Hotel Brizeman's
returning is timely — it is for the
wrong reasons. Though he recognises
wrong reasons.

taxation as a disincentive — he
believes that taxation is necessary — but
how much, for ^{he does not say} sure except perhaps
something between 10 and 40 per cent
of G.H.P. Of course, he draws his opinion
from a corrupt social order and thus he
could never arrive at the TRUTH. I
may take it up with Reader's Digest
when time permits. As you know I regard
taxation and the need for taxation as the
cause of the United Kingdom's or New York's
social disorders or any other disordered modern
country. I would not for state revenue for the all
time cure. In doing I think you and members of

all at heart of this letter. Yours truly
John Maynard Keynes

Mr Robert Clancy
Henry George Institute
Room 462 A
55 W. 42nd Street,
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10036

Robert J. Gering,
3 Scarborough Circle,
Scarborough
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10510
26th June 1994.

Dear Bob,

A week has elapsed since I
joined that devoted group of men and
women members of the Henry George
Institute in an expedition to Henry
George's grave and monument and
witness all that had been done by way
of restoration to his final place.

I repeat — it was indeed a great
honour and privilege to have been
specially invited to join in that simple
and most impressive pilgrimage.
I have often thought about the
circumstances of Henry George's death
and I am anything but a suspicious
person — it must have been a granting
of a secret wish to have taken part in this
momentous event.

Again, Robert Clancy and your
members deserve due praise and congrat-
ulations for so efficiently organising and
carrying through the restoration of Henry
George's grave and monument. A memorable

exhibited & Temporarily
by Scarborough Little
Scarborough
New York N.Y. 10510.

24th June,
1944.

Mr Robert Blaney,
Henry George Institute,
R.M. 462A. 55 West 42nd St.,
New York N.Y. 10036

Dear Bob,

I held over posting my
letter to you of yesterday's date in case
there should be a letter from you.
And my guess turned out all
right. I am glad to record.

Quite right to inform me that
all members of group present - did
not agree with my remarks -
I hardly expected unanimity - people
need time to think it over.

Henry George's Monument States
"The truth I have tried to make will not
find easy acceptance." That sums it up.

When you have time please supply
me with a list of your ~~new~~ and
former members who attended Green -
Wood Cemetery and also those present
at "New Bedford". While I believe that
that Executive member who gave me

[Faint, illegible handwriting]

[illegible]

I have been thinking of you very much lately, and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy. I have been very busy lately, but I have managed to find some time to write to you. I have been thinking of you very much lately, and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy. I have been very busy lately, but I have managed to find some time to write to you.

that leafed - "THE PATH WE TAKE
NOT TAKE" by Milton Friedman -
was your treasurer - I may be
wrong. Had I had his name I could
have addressed him personally. As I
am likely to take up question with the
"READER'S DIGEST" I'll send a
copy of that criticism.

Anyway, I'll be writing you
soon after returning home. One
person who will be anxious to hear
how I fared with members of Henry
George Institute - is my most
severe critic - that man who
prods me on - He is my brother
David. He remarked that he had
read "OPEN SESAME" recently and
could not fault it. What do you say?
It is original - I posit that
the profit-motive is the cause and
impulse of civilisation; and of course the
profit-motive maintains civilisation.
David and I have a work - "Of

Shoes and Ships" - David & I work
for most part. It ought to be going
into production soon.
Thank you for prompt reply and
for the wish of a good trip back.
Yours fraternally,

James H Mac Nechie
P.S. You are at liberty to quote "OPEN SESAME"

I have just received from the
 Hon. Secy of the Interior
 a copy of the report of the
 Commissioner of the General
 Land Office, dated at
 Washington, D.C., 10th
 Decr. 1881. It contains
 a full and complete
 statement of the
 progress of the
 land office during the
 year 1881, and
 also a full and
 complete statement
 of the land office
 for the year 1880.