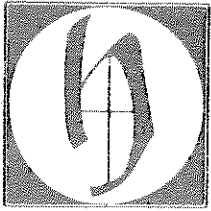


Founded in 1935

The Henry George Schools of California



**Interstudent**

Box 655, Tujunga, CA 91042

(213) 352-4141

*You might tell Mark Sullivan, I've  
sent material to Charles Hamilton.*

March 23rd, 1981

Robert Clancy  
3353 82nd Street  
Jackson Heights NY 11372

3-608

Dear Bob,

I've never gone along with leaving a percentage to the landholders. If they are absentees, let them break loose. They aren't necessary. If they are working holders, they'll pay the tax without reward (as they do now).

In any event, market pressure would wipe out the 5% or whatever, pretty quickly, I feel. And I'm not sure that many people, for small reward, would wish to be rent collectors, when the power of the state can enforce their debt, but the renter's debt might require suits, courts, litigation, etc.

Main reason for the Rothbard letters is, as you suggest, to reach out to the less than brain-washed. We haven't really put our case to libertarians. This is because, in confrontation, we try to establish the worth of 'our tax' to people who are adamantly opposed to all taxes. They hear nothing. I take precisely their position - that all taxes are coercive.

Then, as you know, I concentrate on the economic need and result of a 'rent-charge'. That market price-mechanism doesn't work with land. Thus, land prices are not controlled and the market is in trouble. But, a rent cost attached to land forces it into the market.

This is an argument they haven't before heard and it gets to them.

*our* However, many accept the Rothbard arguments about George and don't pay attention to *the* argument. The attack on Rothbard is intended to upset this easy acceptance.

With regard to FEE, their financial support is landholder oriented, so one would hardly expect them to rush to our support. They seem pretty good people, and I suspect that they are not so much anti, as uncaring. To them, the free trade issue is more important. However, if anything will shake them, remotely the Georgist 'unfree market' contention might.

If our analysis is correct (it is) then all the suggestions and policies of the libertarians, from tax and regulation reduction to minimum or no government, will simply raise rents.

Thus landholders happily welcome the libertarian position. Or, of course, any state action which pushes rent in their direction.

I enclose a couple of bits that you might find a use for in the GJ.

See you in New England this July.

*Might come to NY a few days earlier. In which case  
I might also crash your pad. (Maybe even with 'little Harry')  
(not so little)*

*Harry Pollard*

March 26, 1981

Dear Harry:

For one brief shining moment we were in agreement. Now we have to go back to disagreeing.

Your economics is O.K., but your method of collecting rent leaves something to be desired. You're against all taxes and you'd force land into the market via a rent cost. Music to the ears of libertarians, but it conceals more than it reveals. What is this "rent charge"? Who imposes it on whom, who collects it and how is it disbursed? If it is my land, how dare any one charge me a rent?

Gaston Haxo was the only one who was plain and consistent on this point. He too opposed land value taxation, but he only stated that he was in favor of George's Method 2 - abolish land titles and let land out to the highest bidder - and of course it would be the state doing that. (He also thought the only just distribution would be a per capita distribution to all citizens, and if people wanted public services they should pay for it in taxes.)

Georgists who don't want either any tax at all or the state are very vague on method. Choderov (and I suppose his followers) said "the rent would collect itself", it would roll down the (privately owned?) roads and wind up in something called "the community", whatever that is. But nothing said about land titles.

As Julian Hickok pointed out, land value taxation provides a method, one that has been pretty well worked out, one that makes use of the present system, and one that has made progress within that system. What might happen as we neared the ultimate goal is unforeseen at present, except that it is the right direction to go. The "percentage" left to landowners is simply the portion of rent untaxed, large now and progressively smaller as we increase the tax. We at least start this way and go on for a long time this way.

Landowners may throw a few dollars to FEE but it's not really needed by them. FEE is in an ivory tower, and landowners are lobbying in Washington, studying and acting on state legislation and monitoring real estate boards.

Best -

P.S. Good publicity. But - "Henry George lives, thanks to Harry Pollard" - eugh!

48th and Main.

## People and places

● The State Avenue Shopping Center at 6425 State, Kansas City, Kansas, has welcomed a new tenant, C&K Office Products.



Blankenship Turner

● Larry Blankenship, an architect with Howard Needles Tammen & Bergendoff since 1976, has been named director of architectural planning by VTB. Ronald F. Turner has joined the firm as a senior partner in charge of the new headquarters building now under construction at 9200 Ward Parkway.

● Santos Restaurant has joined in 900 square feet of space in the Farview Shopping Center in eastern Independence.

● Olathe's Townsquare Shopping Center has added the Alice Patch Shop, a fabric shop, to its tenant roster.

● Fleming Associates, a national executive search firm, has moved to offices in Corporate Woods Building 14 at 8171

# Cuts threaten jobs of those who aid jobless

By Richard M. Johnson

Star labor writer

Ironically, proposed federal budget cuts threaten the jobs of some state workers whose mission is to help the unemployed find work, officials here say.

On Tuesday, President Reagan sent Congress \$13.8 billion in new suggestions for trimming the budget for fiscal year 1982, which will begin Oct. 1. About \$1 billion of the proposed cuts would come out of job programs.

Most of the new proposals in the job field simply expanded on previously announced plans to cut a \$3.6 billion program that provides public service jobs for disadvantaged persons. But one of the newly suggested cuts would eliminate one in six

employees in state Job Service offices—the ones who counsel and refer unemployed persons to job openings—according to Richard Miskimins, regional administrator for the Employment and Training Administration in Kansas City. ETA oversees and distributes federal money to state job agencies.

The president proposed a fiscal 1982 budget of \$729 million for Job Service salaries, \$150 million less than what was proposed by the Carter Administration. From the current fiscal year to the next, \$85 million would be slashed under the Reagan plan.

"That's one that's going to nick us pretty hard," Miskimins said. He figures the national payroll of 30,000 Job Service workers would be cut by more than 5,000 employ-

ees, 17.1 percent, if the Reagan budget were adopted. "I can't predict what a 17.1 percent cut will do, but it'll have some significant impact," Miskimins said.

Last year, the Missouri Job Service placed 101,000 persons in jobs, while the similar agency in Kansas helped 55,500 people find jobs, Miskimins said. Almost certainly, the placements would be reduced if fewer state workers were devoted to placement, he said.

Miskimins said ETA hasn't decided how the budget cuts would be divided among the states if Congress approved the reductions.

But Clarence Veit, acting director of the Missouri Division of Employment Security, said about

100 of the 725 placement jobs in his agency could be affected by such a cut.

"It would be pretty serious, for the very reason that we would have that many less people trying to help people find jobs," Veit said. "Here in Missouri, with the unemployment level that we have, we need everybody we can to help get these people into jobs."

The result would be longer lines at Job Service offices, less assistance to job seekers and a more cursory check-up on those who draw unemployment benefits and are sent out to apply for jobs, Veit said. It would tighten the job market even further for unemployed people in the state, he said.

# Henry George lives, thanks to Harry Pollard

By Steve Rosen

Star Business & Financial writer

Harry Pollard was in Kansas City recently doing what he loves best—spreading the gospel according to 19th century American political and economic philosopher Henry George.

As president of the Henry George School, a non-profit organization based in Los Angeles, Pollard travels extensively in his quest to spread the philosophy of George and make converts.

George, a social reformer, attracted attention in the late 1800s with single tax philosophy, which

holds that land is nature's free gift and everyone has an equal right to use it. George proposed to make the increase in the value of land the source of all taxation because he felt it would stimulate growth in the economy.

Although many economists reject George's thesis, some countries, notably Denmark, have enacted so-called land value taxes based on George's plan.

Pollard, who characterized himself as a "libertarian and a believer in the free market," during an interview here last week, said he is at odds with many economists whom he faults for disre-

garding the social and political context of economic problems.

"They are attempting to make (economics) scientific," Pollard said, "but unless they have a decent premise they won't have good results."

One of Pollard's main concerns is the quality of economic education. He said many high school students are "deplorably illiterate" in the fundamentals of everyday economics.

"Kids go to college without a real understanding of how the free market works," Pollard said. Since 1970, the Henry George School has made a concerted ef-

fort to get economics into the classroom, Pollard said. His School was founded in 1992 by a group of teachers interested in improving the educational system—specifically in the area of economics.

His school works with teachers to introduce economic programs into the curriculum. So far, some 200,000 junior high and high school students have participated in the program, Pollard said.

The students become intensely involved in the program, Pollard said, because they are divided into teams and are given subjects to debate.