January 4, 1984

The EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS --TO:

and

JOURNALISTS

Robert Schalkenbach Foundation Henry George School Basic Economic Education Henry George Foundation

Gurney Breckenfeld David Hapgood Will Lissner Perry Prentice Walter Rybeck

Morgan Harris Agnes DeMille

SPECTRUM VIDEOFILMS

WING FLANAGAN

WILLIAM NEWCOMB

DIRECTORS

Dear Oscar, Stan, Floyd, Steven; and Gurney, David, Will, Percy, Walter, Morgan and Miss DeMille:

Bulletin: ROBERT VAUGHN, WHO MAGNIFICENTLY PLAYED IN THE ONE-MAN SHOW "FDR" HAS AGREED TO PLAY HENRY GEORGE FOR \$25,000.

Over recent years, you and your Boards of Directors have had many discussions on the production of motion pictures to spread the Georgist message. Both One Way to Better Cities and For This Land is Mine have benefitted the Georgist movement through their visual impact when shown before civic clubs and other institutional groups and you have pretty well covered local TV outlets, too.

Bob Clancy, in a letter on October 26, asked me if Spectrum Videofilms is undertaking the production of a docudrama on "Henry George, Compassionate Economist", unilaterally, and suggests that consultations might be worthwhile all around. Our Company agrees.

Heretofore, the Schalkenbach Foundation and BEE have funded their films with grants from their resources. Spectrum Videofilms takes the position that a film can be produced, 75 minutes running time, with commercials filling out the two hours. which will make money for its investors, whether they be Georgist foundations, Georgist individuals, or anyone who is looking for a high-return investment.

Equal Rights published a press release in its current issue in which we offered to send a "Private Offering Memorandum" to potential investors. A Private Offering Memorandum entails about 50 pages, and has to be checked by tax lawyers That is one reason for the delay in mailing it out. The other reason: Ms. Linda Curtis, our President, has been awaiting word from an agent 0000000 in Hollywood (who happens, incidentally, to be the daughter of a Georgist!) for a well-known actor who will perform the Henry George rol As stated above in the BULLETIN, WERRIT ISLAND 60 80 × 1017

William W. Newcomb 531 West Pine Road Melbourne, FL 32901

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Robert Vaughn has agreed to play the Henry George role for no more than \$25,000. We received proposals starting at \$200,000 -- downward. We sent him literature compiled by Oscar, and he was so moved by the packet he received, he phoned Ms. Curtis his enthusiasm for the opportunity to play the Henry George role. His enthusiasm was communicated to the agent, and she phoned for the packet, too.

We have told Mr. Vaughn that the offer hinges on our ability to raise investment funds of \$150,000 for the production plus the actor's fee of \$25,000.

We know that \$150,000 seems like a small sum for a 75 minute TV show that must qualify competitively in the TV market. Remember that the \$50,000 spent 15 years ago for "One Way to Better Cities" and \$75,000 spent some half dozen years ago for "For This Land is Mine" was paid to producers who work for a profit. In the case of "Henry George, Compassionate Economist" you and ourselves are producers, and our basic cost lies in furnishing minimal sets, directing a skilled actor, editing the film, processing the exposed film by a laboratory, and making multiple film and tape prints.

The first draft of the script is almost ready to send to each of you for your comments and criticisms. Five of you are men with high journalistic skills; Morgan Harris has read and critiqued 20,000 manuscripts, and Agnes DeMille, we hope, will provide us with a "sense of family". We feel that whatever consensus of criticisms you mail back to us should be the criterion for our revision of future drafts.

We will also produce a 10-minute show on <u>Henry George</u> using a local actor, and hope that you will be kind enough to view it when Ms. Curtis brings it to New York for your evaluation.

We are going to Miami Beach in a few days to talk with one of our Board members, Walter Liebowitz, a motion picture producer in his own right, and highly skilled in distribution -- upon which the financial success of any TV production rests.

When we write you again, hopefully in a few days, we expect to send the first draft of the script, a Private Offering Memorandum, and a brochure that details the services and facilities of Spectrum Videofilms.

Sincerely,

William W. Newcomb Vice President

Postscript:

Colin Bonner, Australian Georgist, with real estate investments in Calgary and Stuart, Florida, where he lives, has an investment in a Canadian film, which was produced early in 1983 entitled "Apartment on the Dark Side of the Moon", its budget was \$150,000, including the actors. The film was financed through a Private Offering Memorandum, and its production involved much more casting, variety of sets, and technical personnel. When Spectrum Videofilms was formed in September, we computed our budget on "Henry George" at \$25,000 less than now. But the cost of raw film supplied by Eastman Kodak has gone up astronomically.