

BIBLICAL ECONOMICS LINKED TO TODAY'S CONCERNS

Ethical Land Tenure - Interreligious Resource Directory has just come off the press. This is an 8-page (letter size) booklet published by the New York school for use by Jewish and Christian groups concerned with issues of economic justice.

Religious groups are now going beyond traditional charity, the booklet points out in its explanatory essay, to ask "Why do those who are not helpless find themselves homeless, hungry, and needy?" The Jubilee proclamation of Leviticus (25:23) is cited: "The land must not be sold beyond reclaim, for the land is mine; and you are but strangers resident with me." Further, the booklet points out, modern theologians now interpret one of the goals of the mission of Jesus was to restore the original intent of the Jubilee, as in Luke 4:18 (by way of Isaiah 61:1-3): "He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor... to proclaim the release of captives... to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."

The *Directory* contains an extensive bibliography of books, pamphlets, and magazine articles written by Henry George and Georgists on religion and economics, as well as related videotapes. A list of Georgist and other organizations concerned with ethical economics and land tenure is also provided.

Ethical Land Tenure is the result of the socially engaged fieldwork of Alanna Hartzok who started the Interreligious Georgist Network a few years ago. It is a most welcome addition to our stock of useful "outreach" material. Copies of the booklet may be ordered @ 50 cents each from the New York school.

Church Ecology - The Earth Is the Lord's is a recently completed ten-week course, for which twenty-two enrolled, at the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, California (the TV headquarters of Robert Schuller). The course, giving a Georgian perspective on land ethics and economics, was presented by Margil Wadley, Ph.D., with guest lecturers Professor Mason Gaffney (University of California at Riverside) and LA-HGS Director Harry Pollard.

IN MEMORIAM: JOHN H. POELKER 1914 - 1990

It is with deep sadness that we, of the Public Revenue Education Council of St. Louis, must announce the passing, on February 9, 1990, of our dedicated and esteemed Honorary Director, the Hon. John H. Poelker, who served us well over many years.

A native St. Louisan, John was almost revered by political friends and foes alike. His contributions to Metro-St. Louis were numerous. He became St. Louis's City Assessor in 1953 -- Comptroller in 1957 -- and Mayor of St. Louis in 1973. His dedication to the site value concept was carried out in subtle fashion over the years, in many ways. John helped us conduct seminars, and was a witness for the cause of site value based public revenue in our state capital, lending his dignity and quiet persuasion to our efforts to make Missouri the "next" site value state.

John will be sorely missed. We'll always remember the keen wisdom and great advice John gave us over the years.

To you, John, from wherever you may be "looking over our shoulders", we promise to move forward as you would have us do. You've been a monumental leader and inspiration to all of us.

--Stanley A. Frederiksen

NY CLASSROOM BECOMES MINI-MARKETPLACE

The New York School conducted a new kind of Saturday Seminar on February 10: *The Real Monopoly Game*, an economic simulation game designed by assistant director Lindy Davies. The game was first introduced as a classroom exercise in *Understanding Economics* during the fall '89 term, and student response was deemed enthusiastic enough to warrant a fuller development of the game in a three-hour seminar format. Although it borrowed the name of the popular board game, this game was altogether different in design. However, press reprints were available on *Monopoly's* original purpose as a Single Tax teaching tool.

Participants in the game chose classroom seats endowed with various natural resources (crayons, paper towels, pencils, paper pads, sharpeners, and a wastebasket) and produced wealth (sentences on paper) and capital (sharpened pencils, etc.) for exchange. The game was surprisingly realistic, and saw the evolution of industrialists, employers, a woman who made a living selling her poetry, and even a welfare cheat. After the game was played for more than two hours, a lively discussion ensued on how it embodied and illustrated the principles of political economy, and how it could be made still more realistic. Two high school teachers in attendance made plans to use the game in their classes.

More information on the simulation game, or on the origins of the *Monopoly* board game, can be had by writing to Lindy Davies at the New York School.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Spring Term Classes will begin the week of April 16th at the New York School. Details in next issue.

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