

## A MESSAGE TO YOUTH

Do you ever think about your future? Do you expect to find a society that is just and free, and under which you will be able to earn an honest, rewarding living, occupy your own house, and eventually settle into a socially secure old age? If you have any doubts, this message is for you.

### What have existing forms of society to offer?

Where it has been tried, communism has failed. It did not suit human nature. People still forced to live under it are bound down by irksome, unnecessary regulations and persecutions, and, despite the desires of the majority, party members and bureaucrats who control the system, intend keeping it that way. They savagely repress those who dispute their oppressive rules and regulations. Nor does state interference allow production of enough goods and services to provide most persons with more than a bare living. No wonder communism has failed.

The other existing system, called 'capitalism', is beset by business failure, unemployment, monopoly, oppressive government and crime. Most people under it do not achieve security and satisfaction, and so it too, is on the way out.

### There is no hope in either communism or capitalism.

Feeling ill-treated by those who hold power, many young people are overcome with frustration and despair and consider there is no worthwhile future for them. Some become addicted to drugs and other self-destructing habits, maybe even to suicide.

But there is another method, a third way in which injustice disappears and under which one may enjoy a life of freedom, dignity and purpose.

Henry George (1839-97), devised an economic and social system based on land. Land is the foundation of all material existence. We cannot live without it. Therefore, if we are to have equality of opportunity, we must have equal access to land. Land is the basic and most important factor of economics and is of limited quantity. You need land, if only for space to live and from which to draw your everyday needs. Such has been so and will always be so while human life exists.

If some hold the land to the exclusion of others, the latter are virtually the slaves of the landholders.

If you are one of the non-landholders, or do not hold skills in demand, you will not be necessary to the present social system and will be callously abandoned. It is up to you to do something about it. And that 'something' is, *change the system*.

When a young man, George suffered unemployment and poverty. This led him to devote the rest of his life towards abolition of social injustice. He wrote a book called *Progress and Poverty* and also many others. Publications have run to several million copies. At one time his ideas were taking over the trend of social thought. Unfortunately, socialism – built on the faulty philosophy of Karl Marx – eclipsed them, only to produce the miserable failures of Russian and Chinese communism.

We affirm that it is the high price of land, high interest rates and the taxes governments levy on ordinary people that are at the heart of such problems as high unemployment, difficult housing access, and the growing gap between rich and poor.

It is time to change to something better and, if you are interested, visit Tax Reform Australia, 31 Hardware Street, Melbourne 3000, between 10 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. on week days, telephone (03) 670 2754 during the same times, or write for free literature.

Arthur Cannon.