

Here is yet one more comment on how we should get practical Georgism into our revenue system and get a general understanding of the land question to the people.

I concede we must continue to seek to convince people in power in government and also prospective candidates. But such people only obtain or retain power if elected. They are therefore subject to the pressure of voters, although the politicians do have power to lead voters in some directions.

The basic gap in Georgist education is to the new voters. Georgists are too keen to argue and to convert and to change the ideas of people who have fixed their ideas already. There are two areas upon which Georgists should concentrate effort:

A. The people who have not fixed their ideas - that is, the people who are still forming their ideas - namely, the young. We must get our ideas implanted before the other "isms" get to them. Once the other weeds have a firm hold it is almost useless throwing our seed to minds already cluttered. We should concentrate on students below the age of 22 years.

B. The other area is the landless - the people who live in rented accommodations. (In Australia it is estimated that 70% of the people live in privately owned houses, so presumably 30% live in rented houses. I would guess that at least 30% of the community in other countries are landless also, and in some countries much more.) Our literature should go to people who live in rented apartments. We should not bother to convert big landowners!

How would we go about this? We must distribute literature widely. We must not expect to make personal conversions by talking to individuals - it's too slow.

I believe that every dedicated Georgist has the duty to let a few hundred people know of the Georgist proposition every year. This can be done impersonally by handing out pamphlets at busy city street corners, at college and university gates, and by putting pamphlets in rented flats and houses. The public must be exposed to Georgism and Georgism must be exposed to the public. We spend too much time talking to one another.

I believe the Georgist movement must budget 20% of its time to putting pamphlets in the hands of young people and in letter boxes. The same pamphlets can be distributed year after year at the same places! Repetition is good. It does not matter if only one in five gets read, or if only one in a hundred gets some idea across. Our duty is to let people have the opportunity of knowing of George.

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