

# Letters



To the Editor:

With Life Magazine featuring an important article on revision of taxes which will reach many thousands of people, don't you think that this is a good time for students and teachers at the Henry George School to get busy writing letters to any and all kinds of papers and magazines on the subject of taxes?

Henry George spent a lot of time and effort in writing to acquaint the people of the world of the tax inequities, surely our folks can take a few minutes to do the same thing. Shout the message everywhere to everyone who will listen, but let people know that the vital knowledge about taxes is free at the Henry George School. If you don't protect your rights and liberties then you deserve to get gyped on taxes—to be bamboozled on T.V. programs—to be asked to buy doubtful cranberries—to endure corruption in government, from Washington down to the town council—everybody who can get away with it filling his pocket at your expense and this includes 'Payola.'

All I am trying to do is to get people mad enough to do something about their social philosophy.

ALBERT E. SMITH  
New York City

To the Editor:

In Robert Clancy's interesting account of the Georgist Movement (September HGN), I might say 'taint the way I heered it, although I don't see that it makes any difference.

Mrs. Ferm (12 years my senior) was a member of the Anti-Poverty Society of which Father McGlynn was

the president and Henry George the secretary. She told me that the name single tax was first given [not by Thomas Shearman, but] by Wm. T. Croasdale, who was editor of The Standard in '90 and '91. Thomas Shearman was always considered a "limited single taxer."

In the days of Father McGlynn there were enthusiastic meetings every Sunday at the Academy of Music on 14th Street in New York, at the Grand Theater in Brooklyn and in Newark, New Jersey. Hugh O. Pentecost was one of the regular speakers, along with George and McGlynn.

I remember very well when Henry George ran for office the first time. There was a club in New York where the membership was composed of single taxers, socialists, anarchists and labor men. The secretary was a woman much interested in the labor movement, and when Teddy Roosevelt was nominated on the Republican ticket and Peter Cooper's son-in-law was on the Tammany ticket, she proposed that George be asked to run on the Labor Ticket (it was not called a reform ticket).

Teddy was swamped and P.C.'s son-in-law was declared Mayor. In 1888 George was induced to run on the state ticket as a Labor candidate, I think it was Secretary of State. I was too young to have a vote but I induced my father, who was a Republican, to vote for him. He believed he would have won if the Australian ballot had been used. It was Henry George who first advocated the Australian ballot, now called the secret ballot.

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