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Land&Libertyannual

the printed compendium of the year's best writing

Land&Libertycommuniqué

the quarterly newsletter of the Henry George Foundation

letter

Sir,

In **L&L** 1211 your correspondent Ian Hopton advanced a strong case for rendering the principle of land value taxation - or commonly 'land tax' - more readily understood and accepted by renaming it 'location tax'.

Would this acceptance be further aided by replacing the dreaded word 'tax' by 'charge'?

Today's common perception of a tax as being a progressive penalty for diligence, success and thrift is in direct contradiction of the basic principle of georgist taxation, whereas a charge is perhaps more readily perceived as a fixed impost determined solely by the payer's membership of an organisation or position in a location.

A seat in the dress circle costs more than one in the rear stalls. Pure georgism!

Might we not make further progress in the 21st Century if we promote the means of raising public revenues by fixed location charges?

Richard E Field, Huddersfield

UK groups are presently discussing the terms reformers should use to explain their proposals. Amongst the well-known and commonly-used terms comes new wordings like location benefit levy, community rent, the new council tax, new community charge. What do you think?
Write to office@LandandLiberty.net

diary

18th May 2005, London
Conference: **Build More Houses**
go to www.thewaterfront.co.uk

25th May 2005, London
Location Benefit Levy Discussion Group
by invitation - contact Dave Wetzel at davewetzel@tfl.gov.uk

15th June 2005, London
Conference: **Crossrail: The Challenge and Opportunity**
see insert

6th July 2005, London
Conference: **Planning and Public Investment**
see insert

3rd to 7th August 2005, Philadelphia, USA
25th Conference of the CGO
go to www.progress.org/cgo

23rd to 24th August 2005, Czech Republic
Conference: **Property Tax in Transition**
go to www.ipti.org

29th September to 2nd October 2005, Chicago, USA
AMI Monetary Reform Conference
go to www.monetary.org/2005conference

1st to 2nd October 2005, Denmark
Justice Party Annual Conference
go to www.retsforbundet.dk

2nd to 8th July 2006, London
25th World Conference of the IU
go to www.interunion.org.uk

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The Henry George Foundation is an independent economic and social justice think tank and public education group with offices in London and Edinburgh. The Foundation deals in cutting-edge ideas, exploring and promoting principles for a just and prosperous society and a healthy environment.