

COUNCIL OF GEORGIST ORGANIZATIONS

Though in existence as a membership organization for only one year, the Council of Georgist Organizations has made good progress. There are now 36 organizational members in North America, as well as several individual members. One of the chief functions of the Council is to plan the annual Georgist conferences. The existence of the Council is made possible by the support of its members and by extra support from the Henry George School and the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation.

The matter of inviting organizations in other countries was broached at the International Conference in Holland last summer, and since then six Australian organizations have joined, thanks to the initiative of Graham Hart. It is hoped that other countries will follow in due course.

Chairman of the Council is Robert Clancy, Deputy Chairman is Edward J. Dodson and Secretary is Mark A. Sullivan. Ed Dodson had a leading article in the October 15 issue of The Greater Philadelphia Economist, entitled "Enact Site Values Tax on All Land to Stimulate Real Economic Growth."

The first edition of a new brochure was published in 1982, "An Introduction to the Georgist Philosophy and Movement." This 14-page folder offers an outline of the philosophy of Henry George and its applications, and a listing of Georgist organizations in North America. The brochure sells for 25¢ a copy. To readers of the Georgist Journal, the Council offers to send on request a copy of the brochure and a copy of the Dodson article if you will send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Council of Georgist Organizations, 5 E. 44th St., New York, NY 10017.

In the Autumn 1982 GJ we reproduced a Resolution adopted by the Council at the Pittsburgh Conference, to be sent to Congress. An Amended Resolution has now been approved, to be transmitted to the 98th Congress, along with the Council brochure and a covering letter. The Amended Resolution follows:

WHEREAS, the President and the Congress of these United States of America have been struggling, unsuccessfully, to design a system that will obtain a workable balance of taxation and expenditure to ensure the economic solvency of this country, and

WHEREAS, land site value taxation encourages production, individual initiative, and helps ensure full employment, is easily and directly implemented, and provides a greater degree of economic justice,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the President and the Congress move to derive the Federal government's principal revenue from lands and natural resources that properly belong to all the people, such as oil and mineral resources, public lands, radio and television frequencies, airways, waterways, coastal areas, etc.; and that all other powers of taxation be returned to the several states; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the states shall tax the full community created value of the surface of the land, with concomitant abolition of taxes that hamper production and exchange; and thereby bring about equitable access to the land, setting free individual initiative, giving economic incentive, adequate revenue, and the opportunity consistent with the ideals of this great country.

GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS this 19th day of July, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Two.

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In Conference Assembled.