

The Henry George News

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Joint HG Conference Set for August 28

All of the Presidential candidates, including those of the Libertarian, Citizen's and Independent Parties have been invited to speak at a luncheon at the 1980 Joint Georgist Conference, to be held in New York, from Thursday, August 28 to September 1. Senator Jacob Javits of New York has also been invited along with the Democratic Candidate for his senate seat.

A tentative schedule has been proposed by the Committee of Philip Finkelstein, Robert Clancy, and Oscar Johannsen, based on responses from conferees of last year.

Registration will be held on the opening day, Thursday, at headquarters, and a wine and cheese reception will follow. Information will be available on cultural events, and bus and subway schedules will be provided.

A panel on Money and Inflation will begin the day's activities on Friday, and lunch with political guests will follow. The topic "Land Reform and New York City" will be presented in the afternoon. A boat ride around New York City will provide conferees opportunities to talk, relax, and take in the sights.

Steven Cord will present a talk on Graded Tax in Pennsylvania on Saturday morning, and Stan Rubenstein and Harry Pollard will discuss Education Developments in California and Long Island as part of the afternoon program. Time will be provided for meetings of the various Georgist organizations, and the evening will be free.

Robert Andelson will chair a panel on Critics of Henry George on Sunday morning, and the Council of Georgist Organizations will meet in the afternoon.

de Silfa Invited to DC

Lucy de Silfa, director of the Henry George School in the Dominican Republic, has been invited to attend the first White House Conference on the American Rural Woman, being held in Washington, June 23-24. The conference will be concerned with the role of women and the land, as it pertains to wealth, food production, and the family. A full report on the conference will appear in the next issue of the News.

The annual Banquet will be held in the evening at a ballroom of one of the major midtown hotels located close to headquarters, and possible speakers are being contacted by the Committee.

The last day of the Conference will be Monday, and wrap-up sessions will precede a walk up Fifth Avenue to Central Park to visit the Henry George Tree, and the conference will then be adjourned.

All programs will be held at Headquarters, unless otherwise indicated. There are a variety of hotels in the area, and a list will be made up shortly. Breakfast will be provided at headquarters before the beginning of each morning session, and cold lunch with beverages will also be available each day of the conference.

Finkelstein talks LVT to Carolina Officials

Philip Finkelstein met with North Carolina County and Municipal officials on May 21, in Raleigh, to discuss land value taxation as it could apply to that state.

Former Long Island Georgist Jerry Schleicher, now a Raleigh resident, arranged the meeting with Arnold Zogry, Assistant Secretary for Policy and Management for the state, who, in turn, invited the following officials:

Leigh Wilson, Executive Director, North Carolina League of Municipalities

J.D. Foust, Secretary, North Carolina Local Government Commission

Ronald Aycock, Executive Director, North Carolina Association of Country Commissioners

Jake Wicker and Joe Farrell, North Carolina Institute of Government

Billy Ray Hall, Assistant Director, Division of Policy Development

Ken Flynt, Governor's Economic Advisor

Mr. Finkelstein presented effective arguments for land value taxation, using recent developments with
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Toronto Programs Successful

The Director of the Toronto School of Economic Science, Tim Fielding, has initiated two programs that have met with considerable success in reaching the desired target audiences.

On May 13, an Adult Education Class entitled "Current Economic Issues" was begun at a high school in North York. This course is being offered as part of the Board of Education Cooperative and Community Education Program, and will last ten weeks or more, depending upon class attendance and participation. Currently, twenty-five adults have attended the opening sessions. Invitations have been extended to local government and community tax experts to appear as guest speakers, which should bring in interested homeowners. Neil Stokes, a high school teacher and Educational Coordinator of the school, has assisted Mr. Fielding in setting up the curriculum for the course.

A recent program, entitled "Zimbabwe and Toronto," presented on a local cable television station as part of community affairs programming, was directed and produced by Tim Fielding. This program was one of a series of Monday features which Mr. Fielding has been involved in on the station. The result of the Zimbabwe program was a meeting with Canadian representatives of the new Zimbabwe government, including Robert Mugabe, Jr., nephew of the Premier, who showed interest in land value taxation and other

ideas of Henry George. The group will forward materials to Salisbury in hopes of getting the government interested in having studies done on the feasibility of land value taxation in Zimbabwe.

Carolina

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the graded tax in six Pennsylvania cities, including Pittsburgh and Harrisburg, as examples. A proposal for a formal study, to be made with the cooperation of the State House and Senate, was favorably received by the group.

Among the major issues raised was the effect of land taxation on rural areas as well as on population centers. It was pointed out that a fair land tax would help preserve farmland by directing development to urban areas and away from the countryside. It would also help farmers and other homesteaders by removing taxes on their improvements.

North Carolina enjoys one of the lowest tax rates in the nation but is now considering additional revenue sources for local government needs. The current property tax is levied on both real and personal property and administered at the county level. Some discussion also focused on shifting the administration of the tax to the state to make it uniform.

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