

Hartzok Says Americans Barred from Land

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the reason for the growing distance between the rich and the poor right here. According to statistics from the World Economic and Social Indicators, the income distribution, percentage-wise, in the United States today is about the same as that of India—the poorest 20% has 4% of the wealth while the richest 20% has 46%. In terms of **real** economic power, meaning ownership and control of land and resources, probably more than 80% of the U.S. population should identify with the Third World poor.

“We have heard over and over again, that land reform and banking reform are essential ingredients for economic equity and power for the people of the Third World. Yet it is a little known fact that in the U.S. 3% of the population owns 95% of the privately held land. Because so many have had homesites, the land has appeared to be better distributed. But the land under homesites is just a small percentage—about 2%—of the total land mass. In California just one company, Southern Pacific, owns more land than the land under all the homes in the state. The possibility of home ownership in an increasingly remote one even for middle class people. To afford a modest two-bedroom home in San Francisco now means that a family has to be making about \$4000 a month!

Land Conference in the Dominican Republic

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implementation of land value taxation both for economic development and as a stable source for revenue.

Lucy de Silfa, director of the Henry George School in the Dominican Republic said that leading figures in the government and other major economic institutions would participate in the conference, to be held at the Sheraton Hotel, in Santo Domingo.

During his visit, Mr. Finkelstein also addressed a graduation ceremony of the Henry George School at the National Library, and met a new group of students organized by Ms. de Silfa in Bani, a city east of the capitol.

“As Theodore Roszak says in his fine book, **Person/Planet**, ‘Land reform is the undiscovered revolution in American politics.’ The access to the land and resources of this country by increasing numbers of its citizenry can help to create an economic system that provides an alternative to unemployment, underemployment, wage-slavery, and work in the weapons-producing industries. It is getting clearer that the creation of real economic justice in the U.S. is one of the best things we can do to promote the same throughout the rest of the world.”

HGS to Be Opened in Johannesburg

Plans are underway to set up a school devoted to the teachings and philosophy of Henry George in Johannesburg, South Africa, reports Lancaster Greene, who recently returned from a trip to Australia, Africa and the Far East.

Mr. Greene met with Godfrey Dunkley who attended the Centennial Conference last year in San Francisco and together they discussed efforts to bring the Georgist message to the people of South Africa. Judge Frank Lucas, the overseer of the administration of Location Value Tax, which places no tax on buildings, also sat in on the meetings.

In Sydney, Australia, Mr. Greene spoke at the Henry George Anniversary Event, sponsored by the Association for Good Government and the Australian School of Social Science. He pointed out the success of Georgist principles in Australia and hoped that there will be continued interest through the schools now operating in Sydney and Melbourne.

In Melbourne, Alan Hutchinson, the publisher of the Georgist newspaper **Progress** and a prominent Georgist, William Pitt, were on hand to present Mr. Greene to Georgists active in the Henry George League there.

Mr. and Mrs. Greene also traveled to Singapore, and Kuala Lumpur before returning home.