

YOU PROBABLY WONT BELIEVE THIS --- BUT

JUST IN CASE NO ONE EVER TOLD YOU:

Accompanying this message is a brief pamphlet, only suggestive and far from adequate, but dealing with a basic and longstanding flaw in our politico-economic system. It is a flaw, so universally accepted as normal and right, and yet, so fraught with danger to our corporate lives as to threaten our very existence.

It is a sad fact that seldom is this flaw identified as such in the varied branches of the media, in the halls of learning, in the assemblies of government or from the pulpits of the land. Many years ago a friend startled me with the remark, "Most of the evils that plague our society could be eliminated by a simple remedy, -- namely, by taxing land value to the exclusion of most of the taxes that we now pay." My reaction: "What good would that do?" It took a long time but after careful analysis I finally became convinced. It might have speeded my progress had someone pointed out a few basic facts about taxes, such as that:

if local tax authorities (city, school and county) in taxing property were to base the tax almost exclusively on buildings and improvements, -- as they do (we do tax land value a wee bit); and if the federal income tax were to be based on profits and receipts for services rendered, -- as it is; and if any government authority insists upon being "cut-in" every time a deal is consummated, -- as many do; and if any other legally constituted authority decides to "snip-off" a share of every person's wage, or charge a consumer for a percentage of some labor-cost expended in his behalf, -- as often happens, the results of such legally authorized "scams" would be predictable, -- to wit, the price of land and the cost of everything else would skyrocket.

City slums would fester, unemployment would soar, crime would increase, corruption would spread, and eventually the economy would crash and millions would be caught in the undertow, as they often have been. If the condition is worldwide international relations would become strained, terrorism would raise its ugly head and war would threaten, -- but of course such things never happen. At least not until they do!!

But if we had the wit to base our major tax on land value (not on buildings, incomes, sales, wages or labor) the results would also be predictable, -- to wit, the exact opposite of everything we now are experiencing. Land prices would be fantastically reduced. The very bottom would drop out of the cost of living. Everything from needles to skyscrapers would drop to a level commensurate to the circumstances of all the people involved in such a free and open-market kind of competitive activity. What is today acceptable and inevitable would have become unacceptable and avoidable.

It is incredible that so much evil could be generated by an unorganized group of people who know that a land based tax would either force them to go to work or at least invest their money in capital goods.

WITH THESE WORDS I INVITE YOU TO READ -- IF REAGAN SUCCEEDS.

*Wylie Young*