



I have an idea or two regarding Alan Hornstein's essay in the December HGN. None of us can ever say too much in praise of the lucidity with which Henry George presented certain facts to so great a number of people, but I rebel at the implication that these facts are "Henry George's theory."

Mr. Hornstein uses such phrases as "rent, to George" — "George believed the solution," and "the Georgist concept," all suggesting that what Henry George wrote is still only a theory. This was admissible, say, from 1892 to 1920, but it is no theory now, it's a thoroughly established fact. As Grover Cleveland once said, "it is a condition, not a theory, which confronts us."

Nothing is "ultimate," but to describe the public collection of the public revenue as "a hopeful suggestion" would drive me out of the work of attempting to establish it. And perfection is not attainable, but I would never admit, or rather, be forced to agree, that there could be any other solution with one small fraction of its value. There will always be problems, but more evils will be corrected by "Henry George's theory" than by any other course or plan, or combination of plans that have yet been brought to light.

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Can a tax on land values be passed on? If it can, why should the New York Port Authority object to the efforts of New Jersey and New York

officials to tax their commercial properties?

It is possible in the case of publicly regulated utilities that a land value tax might be passed on to the consumers, through an authorized increase in rates. New York City's occupancy tax, partly based on rent, is directly levied on the tenant.

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We must get to the elementary and secondary teachers and make them think and study. If a small child has had no opportunity to crawl and attempt to walk, would you suddenly say to it, now run? The power or ability to think and judge can only be developed by way of the crude, childish beginnings, where the child has freedom to decide by way of making something or trying to make something, not merely by memorizing.

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One of the most brilliant of Spanish Georgists, Julio Senador-Gómez, died in January, 1962, at the age of ninety. He was graduated at twenty-three from the Valladolid University as a law student and served thereafter as a Notary. In a remarkably lucid and energetic style which evoked much human feeling, he produced many constructive articles and books on the social sciences. All his writings expressed a fervent and endless love to Spain and were entirely devoted to the common weal. He was an indefatigable fighter against the arbitrary tax systems which are applied in most countries and was a realistic spirit, loving truth and justice. We will render him the best homage in furthering his work.

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