

## HOT SEMINARS RAISE WINTER TEMPERATURES IN NEW YORK

### How Safe Are Your Savings?

Introducing his talk on the whys and wherefores of the S&L debacle, Roy Jensen offered a quote from Bismarck: "There are two things you don't want to see being made: sausage, and legislation." As a Deputy Regional Director of the Treasury Department's Office of Thrift Supervision, Mr. Jensen's job is to help to enforce the laws affecting that industry. He summarized the long list of legislative steps that transformed the Savings and Loan industry from a safe and mundane provider of long-term housing loans into a fast-lane vehicle for venture capitalism.



Roy Jensen

The problem started, Jensen reported, with the double-digit inflation of the late 70s, which in turn was spurred by that decade's oil price shocks. S&Ls had always paid slightly more interest—a quarter of a percent—on deposits than commercial banks because of their need for long-term funds. Banks, being more responsive to inflation, lured depositors away from S&Ls. The thrift industry, which had always been in the business of

long-term, low-risk loans, was being squeezed out of business by inflation, and so there was pressure to loosen regulations.

In 1980 Congress increased the amount of deposit by 150%, to \$100,000 — in a voice vote, without debate, and *without any increase in insurance premiums*. This created a new — and ultimately insurmountable — problem for regulators. "Examiners trained for old long-term mortgage issues," Jensen said, "now had to deal with complex development and consumer credit loans, with no training and an inadequate staff." The Reagan administration had no inclination to beef up the regulatory corps. "Charles Keating had fifty lawyers and accountants, all of whom had salaries over \$100,000." Entry-level bank examiners at far lower salaries had neither time, skill, nor institutional support to do their jobs.

Will the FDIC be next? Possibly, says Mr. Jensen. He argues for a regulatory overhaul aimed at simplifying and clarifying the work of bank regulators. European banks, he noted, have far less complex regulations, and confidence in their stability remains high.

Richard Barbuto, Esq., financial lawyer and HGS trustee, provided an overview of broader economic and political forces behind the banking mess.

"The banks who fail are the small ones," he noted. The policy of "too big to fail" reveals how critical the state of money and banking is to the whole political economy. "The trend among big banks is to become bigger and bigger," he said. This shifts funds from local banks to huge corporations, and the American taxpayers are largely unaware of the process. The solution, according to Mr. Barbuto, is to "create a crisis for our so-called elected officials. Voters must insist on healthy regulation. Big banks can't be trusted to provide for people's interests — accountability must be enforced." Taxpayers must not be compelled to take risks for entrepreneurs.



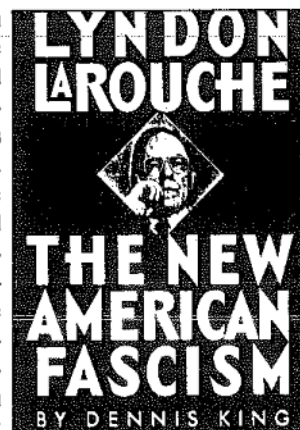
Richard Barbuto, Esq.

### Populist Rage in the 90s

Populist Rage in the 90s was examined on Friday February 15th by Dennis King, author of *Lyndon LaRouche and the New American Fascism*. Mr. King revealed the stories and statistics behind the rise to popularity of two leading figures of the American far right: David Duke and Lyndon LaRouche. LaRouche, a Trotskyist in the 1940s, began building an elitist political machine based on neo-Nazi ideas and methods in the 1970s, taking advantage of poor and middle-class white discontent with the system. For example, he exploited the plight of farmers in the 80s and thereby got about 2000 local candidates to run for office as LaRouche Democrats. LaRouche himself was a Presidential contender in 1980. Although LaRouche is now serving time in prison, Mr. King contends that mainstream American media soft-pedalled and even ignored the fascist nature of LaRouche and his followers. For example, the *New York Times*, in covering a speech by Senator Moynihan, left out his calling the LaRoucheans neo-Nazis. Focus instead was on LaRouche's bizarre conspiracy theories (e.g., the Queen of England is behind the drug trade, and homosexuality is caused by the Jews). Dismissing LaRouche as a kook served his purposes very well.

David Duke, handsome ex-Ku Klux Klan leader, was likewise ignored by the major media, or dismissed as a "fluke" even as he rose to political power in the Louisiana Republican Party. Like LaRouche, Duke has brought in hundreds of thousands of votes. King expects Duke, now running for Governor, to try for the Presidential nomination in '92. The Louisiana Coalition Against Naziism prevented his getting elected into the US Senate (he got 65% of the white vote, and needed only 5 or 6% more).

Mr. King also examined the new Populist Party, which has been unable to successfully compete with the two major parties. To cope with this, Populists adopted in 1987, according to King, a policy of tripartism, which calls for running in any of the three parties as conditions warrant. King predicted a continued rise of both fascism and white populism in the 90s. A successful conclusion to the Persian Gulf war will strengthen George Bush against "populist rage." Mr. King's talk raised some questions as well as answered others: Has the Gulf war been used to bolster Mr. Bush's popularity in the face of US economic disintegration? Is the current administration (and the values and agenda it stands for) the only viable alternative to extreme fascism/racism? Is the only choice the lesser of two evils? Is there, instead, a middle way that transcends, or synthesizes the best of, "left" and "right"?



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JUNE 14-17, LAFAYETTE COLLEGE, EASTON, PA  
INFORMATION & REGISTRATION BEGINS ON PAGE 5

## Henry George Newsletter

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## A SURVEY ON WAR

For several months Lindy Davies and myself have noticed much interest among students in discussing the crisis, war, and post-war situation in the Middle East. What (really) caused the war, and (how) can future wars be prevented? We were, implicitly and explicitly, being asked, "What is the Georgist position?" "There isn't one Georgist position, but this is one Georgist's position," is how, in effect, we sometimes prefaced our remarks. But as a school of political economy, do we not owe it to our students to face critical world problems, ask searching questions, and question easy answers? This prompted us to solicit more than one Georgist's opinion for this issue of the Newsletter, by a letter sent in early February to Henry George School teachers, directors, and other Georgist educators. We reproduce here excerpts from all who have replied (except one who wished to remain unpublished). Since the war is officially over, these excerpts will reflect some of the issues that remain. Since the opinions are those of individuals, not organizations, we have not added organizational affiliation after each writer's name.

— The Editor.

**From Prof. Jack Schwartzman:** If Henry George were alive today, in 1991, he would analyze the current conflict in the Persian Gulf with the same precise and chilling clairvoyance as he did in 1879 in *Progress and Poverty* (pages 509-511, 1979 Robert Schalkenbach edition). "Man is social in his nature," George began, and man's general bent is to live in peaceful association and harmony with his fellow-humans. However, obstacles arise because of artificially-created shortages of world resources, together with deliberately-induced suspicions of "differences...in language, custom, tradition, religion," and they engender rivalry, fear, and hatred. "With these differences, prejudices grow, animosities spring up, contact easily produces quarrels, aggression begets aggression, and wrong kindles revenge.... Warfare becomes the chronic and seemingly natural relation of societies to each other, and the powers of men are expended...in mutual slaughter..."

What are we fighting for in the Persian Gulf? Oil, land, colonization, conquest? They are all summarized in one phrase: control of energy. Is the world "running out" of energy? In his recent book, *Population Matters* (New Brunswick, USA, Transaction Books, 1990), Prof. Julian Simon unequivocally declared: "There is no reason to believe that the supply of energy is finite, or that the price will not continue its long-run decrease.... The measure of the future oil supply must therefore be at least as large as the sun's seven billion or so years of future life." (p. 80) He supported his contention with unquestionably valid statistics.

This war, therefore, is not only totally destructive and horrifying (and unending, since it will spawn future wars), but, even from a cold-blooded, economic, point of view, totally senseless! Alas for humanity!

(survey continues on page four)

## QUESTIONS ON WAR - & ANIMAL RIGHTS - IN L.A.

"War! Is it the lot of humanity?" was the theme of a special March First Friday Dinner sponsored by the HGS-LA at Pickwick Banquet Center in Burbank. Included on the program with familiar "designated hitters" Butler Shaffer, David Byrnes, Bob DeTolve, and Michael Green, were discussion leaders Harry Pollard and Prof. Mason Gaffney.

Tough questions were on the agenda: How can a "new world order" where law is outlawed by the world community be enforced? By a World Police Force? Who will pay the piper? If wars become too costly, won't a draft make it even easier to wage them? Is peace-at-any-price the only rational response? Or is it a cop-out for those avoiding the responsibility of taking proper action?

Harry's presentation also was framed by a series of questions. "Is the franchise important to keeping the peace? Georgists might argue that economic freedom is more important than political freedom; that all you can do with the vote is to limit your existing freedom. But, perhaps the vote has a cosmetic effect on unrest. It hides potential aggression. Quite cynically, it might be argued that people should be given the vote to keep them quiet. In an Iraqi democracy, would Iraqis have voted against war if they felt they could influence the decision? Or, would they be like us — influenced by politicians and newspapers?... So, what about the West Bank? Dare the Palestinians be given an Israeli vote? Would it keep them quiet? In any event, the West Bank should obviously be returned to the Palestinians, or back to Jordan which is Palestinian to the core.... Unless you are an Israeli. Israel without the West Bank has the wasp-waisted look of a twenties' flapper. If I was an Israeli, I'd say to heck with giving it back. We stole it fair and square."

Included with the dinner program was "A Middle-Eastern Timeline" stretching back from 1990 AD to 2700 BC when the tower of Babel was built in what is now Iraq, between the present cities of Bazra and Baghdad! [Maybe "Babel" still reigns? - Ed.]

(continued on next page)

## GEORGIST MESSAGE COMES TO RHODE ISLAND

On Tuesday January 15, 1991, Mr. Hanno Beck of the Center for the Study of Economics made a presentation for land value taxation at a Fair Housing Conference held at Brown University and sponsored by the Providence housing Authority. The conference was attended by about 200; however, Mr. Beck's workshop was one of three scheduled late in the afternoon and was heard by about 20. That was unfortunate, because while other speakers offered detailed problems, Mr. Beck offered a solution -- one that can be started immediately, with no need for federal or state funds, no new layer of bureaucracy, and, best of all, no change required in the Rhode Island state constitution.

The Director of the Providence Housing Authority and one or two top aides were there. They appeared positively impressed with Mr. Beck's cogent presentation, asked good questions, and spoke later of pursuing the topic.

A Georgist reform could not come at a better time, because Rhode Island appears to be in an economic tailspin. The state was experiencing a "booming economy" during the period of 1985-90, which was really a land speculation bubble, as by Bostonians were locked out by high land prices in their area. They found it worth the hour's commute to come to "cheap Rhode Island" and receive at least 30% more for their housing dollar. During those five years the median selling price for a single family home in Rhode Island jumped from \$67,200 to \$127,000, a jump of 89%. In Providence, single-family home prices jumped 111% during the same period. Banks lent heavily on the ensuing building boom, especially in condos, and by the end of the period were teetering, with real estate loan losses causing massive red ink.

Worst among these were the state's credit union banks, insured only by a private state fund, which was largely unregulated, and whose directors were politically connected and themselves officers of the same credit unions. Some of these institutions had 94% of their loans in real estate, many of them "non-performing" by 1990. When the director of one credit union disappeared along with most of his bank's funds, the insurance fund rescued those depositors and became underfunded for continued operation. On New Year's Day the governor closed 45 credit unions. Many people do not have access to their life savings, and many businesses are in trouble as well. It will be miraculous if the state does not head into a full depression as a result.

Clearly, land prices have fueled all

this. We learned at the housing conference that the cost of a building lot in the City of Providence had increased 300% between 1985 and 1990--much more than the figure cited earlier for land and buildings (111%). As a real estate appraiser, I came across a good example yesterday. In 1983, a family bought a spacious home on 2.5 acres in East Greenwich for \$161,000. They sold it in December 1990 for \$230,000. The home was well-maintained -- but based on MLS listings it was the same home with in-ground pool that was purchased. This 43% gain is the "typical" speculative gain seen on almost every resale in the past few years. However: this owner subdivided the land, and sold off two *additional* 30,000 square foot lots -- both affordable lots in the very desirable East-Greenwich-by-the-Bay. One closed at \$80,000; the other will probably close closer to \$70,000. The total sale price will then be \$380,000; his net gain will be \$219,000 or 136%! The gold is in the land!

It was very appropriate that Hanno Beck came to Rhode Island on January 15th, the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. As these times are making painfully clear, the struggle for justice and full human rights must begin with equal rights to the earth itself. The taxation of land values would have prevented the speculative land fever that overtook the state with all its attendant misery. Let's hope it's not too late to begin.

— Cathy Orloff



## ANIMAL RIGHTS IN L.A.

(continued from previous page)

The March 1st dinner was a departure from the HGS-LA tradition of *Final Friday* dinners, the last one having been held on January 25. The subject that evening was "Animal Rights: Do they include humans?" Speakers included Mike Greene, a regular participant and founder of the Albert Jay Nock Forum and Southern California Supper Club. Chris DeRose, the other speaker, founder of "Last Chance for Animals" and the Sunset Greens, has been arrested several times for non-violent civil disobedience. "Designated hitters" this evening were June Aserseng, Christine Bounce, Butler Shaffer and Bret Barker. Harry Pollard pointed out that of deeper import than statistics on animal testing (25% of young people oppose it) "is the philosophical question of rights - for humans as well as animals...for we are animals, too."

## EDITOR'S NOTES

*This issue* devotes much of its space to two items of timely interest: the Persian Gulf war, which has aroused the concern of many people the world over; and two back-to-back Georgist conferences in June, which will occupy the attention of our readers, especially in North America. There are a few items of news and opinion which we have saved for our next issue.

*Ruth Berling*, we sadly note, passed away on Saturday, January 26th. Although she had a heart condition, she had been doing quite well, and her death was unexpected. We first knew Ruth as wife of CGO-founder Clay Berling, of the Northern California HGS. Later, Ruth volunteered her professional services in typesetting the CGO's *Introduction to Georgist Philosophy & Activity*. We will miss Ruth at our annual conferences, and extend our deepest sympathies to Clay and to all of Ruth's family and friends.

*Toward a Progressive Municipal, State and Federal Housing Policy* is a one-day workshop being held on Wednesday March 27, 1991, at Cityspace Conference Center, 275 Chestnut Street, Springfield, Massachusetts. Cost is \$55 (\$75 for governmental agencies). For further information, contact the sponsor: Institute for Community Economics, 57 School St., Springfield, MA 01105; or call Carrie at 413-746-8660.

*Economic Intelligence* is a four-page publication from England which provides economic data and analysis from a Georgist viewpoint. A recurring theme is that business cycles are caused primarily by land speculation. The February 1991 issue includes a "we told you so" article on "The Crash: they said it couldn't happen..." as well as articles on both the US and USSR economies. Edited by Fred Harrison, author of *Power In the Land*, it is an important resource for all serious Georgist analysts. Contact: Centre for Incentive Taxation, 177 Vauxhall Bridge Rd., London, SW1V 1EU, England (Tel: 081-943-1379).

*Land Trust Proposal:* Several families at Tolstoy Farm are engaged in setting up a land trust and would like to network with other individuals and groups who could offer help (legal, financial, spiritual). Their goal is "to establish a sustainable community that values ecologically sound land stewardship; social and economic justice; cultural, sexual and philosophical diversity; cooperation and global responsibility." Contact: Stephanie A. Kearns and Chrys Ostrander, Rt.3 Box 74-F, Davenport, WA 99122 (Tel. 509-725-1400).

## A SURVEY ON WAR

(continued from page two)

**From Pat Aller:** Who wants war? Who trusts what governments say about the need to fight?

Still, we know Kuwait was conquered and annexed by Iraq, whose leader tortured and murdered Kuwaitis, just as he had his own political opponents, just as he had poisoned thousands of Kurds, his own minority citizens. Iraq threatened chemical and nuclear warfare against Israel, simply because it exists, and against United Nations coalition forces, and has repeatedly fired missiles at Israeli civilians....

More than blood and oil are at issue: the right of nations to exist, the strength of the world's social contract based on deliberations and decisions of its members, and the agreement of nations to forego -- if not war -- war's vilest methods, nuclear and chemical.

I opposed the US war in Vietnam, which should have stayed a regional political dispute.... Iraq's motive is greed: for land, including sea access. The motive and methods of Hussein's Iraq bring morbid reminders of Hitler's Germany.

All nations, including ours, have armed Iraq. The role of arms superiority in coalition success will be used to argue against disarmament. But the Gulf war is our fierce lesson, our grim reminder that global disarmament must be the priority of each of us. As Georgists, we know that economic justice is both the way and the goal.

*President Jimmy Carter once called the energy crisis the "moral equivalent of war" and ordered solar panels installed on top of the White House.... today those panels -- taken down during the Reagan-Bush years -- gather dust in a government warehouse in suburban Virginia.*  
--David Corn, in *The Nation*, March 4, 1991

**From Pia Francesca DeSilva:** As usual, the US has gone off on a "carry a big stick" policy.

Economic sanctions against Iraq were beginning to have an effect towards change. The only problem was, this policy wasn't quick enough for President Bush and his cohorts. Our collective mentality seems to still be: waste billions of dollars on weapons, let the young die for the errors of the old, and to "continue not to learn from the mistakes of the past" (please excuse the paraphrasing of Santayana).

Henry George wrote about the futility of war as an economic fixative in *Protection or Free Trade*. We still aren't listening.

**From Craig Cringan:** It's over. The Iraqi military machine has been destroyed. What comes next?

Will North Americans do some long hard thinking about the energy future of their own countries? We hope so but there is no sign of it yet. Our dependence upon oil riches is similar to the sixteenth century dependence of Spain on gold riches: it can lead to a similar decadence. At best, plentiful supplies of oil will be ended within the lifetimes of most persons now living. Civilization will have to adapt.... Some countries, notably Japan and the European Community, are far ahead of Canada and the US and their lead seems to be increasing. Our readiness to take the lead in disciplining Saddam Hussein seems to be a sign of lag in perception of energy realities....

Reparations? from whom? In this case the answer is obvious, from anybody who wants to buy oil from OPEC.... From now on the US will be the leading member of OPEC, doing commission on every barrel until its war costs have been recovered. The Europeans and Japanese will pay: the Russians will applaud. Consumers in the United States and Canada will find themselves paying more for oil but they will know that their governments are getting a substantial part of this increased flow of revenue and maybe they will also have the intelligence to insist that taxes against production of other things be reduced. At last there will be a permanent economic incentive to learn and to practice the energy economies which are going to be needed later....

Let's hope that the people of the middle east will see the way clear to replacing their feudal barons with a system which shares the resources for the good of all. It is up to them to make their own arrangements: perhaps we can help by educating their future leaders. But how can we offer even this meagre aid when we haven't learned to teach these principles to our own leaders?

**From Dr. Oscar B. Johannsen:** The invasion of Kuwait by Iraq was the result of the action of one man, Saddam Hussein, primarily because he desired control of more of that natural resource -- oil. In other words, he wanted control of more land.

This illustrates the fact that Georgists must not only understand and educate people on man's relationship to land, but also to that entity known as the organized State. Society consists of individuals voluntarily cooperating for specific purposes -- for example, chess clubs. The State, on the other hand, is an organization of a relatively small number of individuals in control of people, with or without their con-

War is the health of the State. It automatically sets in motion throughout society those irresistible forces for uniformity for passionate co-operation with the Government.... The machinery of government sets and enforces drastic penalties, the minorities are either intimidated into silence, or brought slowly around by a subtle process of persuasion which may seem to them really to be convincing them.

--Randolph Bourne, *The State*, (1918)

The health of the people precedes the health of the state. --Bill Moyers, speaking before the 1991 Democratic Issues Conference, Leesburg VA.

sent, in a particular area. In effect, the State acts as though it owns the individuals in its area, as evidenced by conscription.

The result is that, as long as people permit States to exist, a coterie of individuals can control and direct the lives of masses of people. The coterie can reduce itself, in effect, to one individual as in the case of Hitler, Stalin and Hussein.

How to contain and restrain the State has puzzled philosophical thinkers down through the ages. Georgists may not be able to solve this problem any more than anyone else, but at least they should stress its importance and effect. If a State were to have at its disposal the full economic rent of the space it occupies, the coterie in charge would have greater control than it does now over the individuals in its area.

The distinction between government and state...is in the use to which political coercion is put. When it is used negatively, for the protection of life and property, with which must be included the adjudicating of disputes among citizens, it is a service; when it is used positively, in the interests of one group of citizens, including politicians, against the interests of other groups, it is a disservice. In the one case it makes for harmony, in the other it is the cause of discord.

--Frank Chodorov, *Government Contra State* (Analysis, February 1946)

**From Richard Barbuto:** Americans-for-Empire continue to control US military-industrial policy. The "new world order" sought by the First World powers is the real reason for the declaration of war on former Third World countries of the Middle East. Restoration of the old "captive nations order" is the reason for Second World complicity in the Middle East. These two power-blocs have decided it's time to upset the respective threats from emerging and neighboring Fourth World nations, peoples with the will and strength to say "no" to the bosses.



The contrived reason for this war, Iraq's invasion-annexation of Kuwait, provided the theatrical cover for UN Resolution 678. Iraq was expected to reject the ultimatum.... Consider how these same Coalition Nations stood idly by for the past two decades while Iraq and many other governing cliques did worse to their own and neighboring peoples. Was the United Nations convened to liberate these peoples? No. Human concerns (John Dewey considered *moral* and *human* as synonymous) are not the issue for these powers. Hegemony for client-seeking, colony- and satellite-foraging First and Second World powers is the motive for wars against all freedom-seeking peoples in the Middle East.

The Remedy is at hand for Georgists

seeking liberty and justice for all. Georgists must support the Fourth World Movement that envisions thousands upon thousands of free communities; communities that will share their site/location values, their natural resources and the value-added by public debt and taxpayer-funded infrastructure. We need to support a Fourth World movement that is sensitive to the one world we are. We need to support some form of light monitoring of public and private social services by regional and world-wide institutions that are run by people who share the spirit of the anarchist-syndicalists of old.

*From Prof. C. Lowell Harris:* Hostilities in the Gulf provide a dramatic example of the desirability of forthright thinking about use

of the fruits of natural resources. A small percentage of the world's population are descendants of persons who lived in certain locations - barren sand above rich deposits of petroleum obtainable at costs far lower than in most of the world.

The people who have been profiting from their fortunate location above oil will quite naturally support continuation of rules that have applied. Others who consume over the world pay. Is this a just arrangement? It does not seem to me to conform to reasonable interpretations of justice. There must be better ways. Whether such could be worked out seems to me far more doubtful than one would wish. Getting any agreement on a different system would be impossible, I believe, in the world as it exists. Even within single

## 1991 NORTH AMERICAN GEORGIST CONFERENCE: June 14-17, Lafayette College

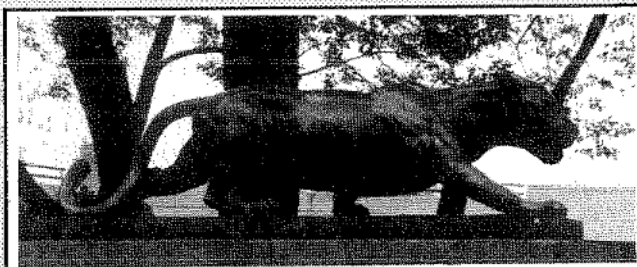
You are cordially invited to attend the 11th Annual Conference of the Council of Georgist Organizations. Conference sessions will be held at the William Simon Center at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania. Options include meals on campus and your choice of accommodations on campus or at the Sheraton Easton Inn, downtown Easton. Shuttle service will be organized by CGO volunteers to and from the Inn and the College.

This year's conference follows on the heels of an independently organized scholarly conference on Henry George, being held by Lafayette College on June 13-14. As a bridge between the two conferences, the CGO will begin with a reception on Friday evening 7 PM at the Sheraton Easton Inn, to which participants of both conferences are invited. [See next page for more on program.]

**DEADLINE #1:** MAY 1st is the deadline to reserve accommodations at the Sheraton Easton Inn. After that date, the Sheraton cannot guarantee vacancy. Rooms being held for the conference are "single" with two beds in each. Prices are \$50 for one person, and \$55 total for two persons. Write or call: Sheraton Easton Inn, South Third & Larry Holmes Drive, Easton, PA 18042 (Telephone 215-253-9131).

**DEADLINE #2:** If you pay in full by May 15th, you pay only \$15/person/day Conference Fee, instead of \$20.

**DEADLINE #3:** Register by JUNE 1st for guaranteed room & board on campus, and a place at the Banquet.



LAFAYETTE COLLEGE in Easton, Pennsylvania is located across the Delaware River from Phillipsburg, New Jersey on Route 78. It's less than two hours drive due west of New York City, 90 minutes west of Newark airport, and about an hour and a half due north of Philadelphia. We will have regular shuttle service from the Greyhound bus station in Easton to the campus, which is very close by. Further details will be sent later to registrants.

**ACCOMMODATIONS** at the College are dormitory style, single and double rooms, without private bathrooms. The College advises those who require a reading lamp to bring one with them. Prices per room are as follows: **Single:** \$16 first night, \$5 each additional night. **Double:** \$25 first night, \$10 each additional night (per room, not per person) **Key Deposit:** \$25 cash (returned when key is returned) (please see next page)

### 1991 GEORGIST CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM -- Side One

PLEASE REGISTER the following in the 1991 Conference:  
@\$20/person/day\* for (indicate number of persons/day):

Sat \_\_, Sun \_\_, Mon \_\_, Tue \_\_, Wed \_\_.

\*\$15/person/day if you pay in full by May 15, 1991.

Total non-refundable registration fee enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_.

Friday Reception for \_\_ persons @ \$5 = \$ \_\_\_\_.

**\*\* SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR MORE \*\***

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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Make Checks payable to: **Council of Georgist Organizations**  
And send to: **121 East 30th St., New York, NY 10016**

**SURVEY ON WAR** (continued)  
countries such as the United States geographical inequalities appear to be accepted as the right and proper way to arrange human affairs.

These are issues of profound human importance. Open discussion ought to yield, first better understanding of possibilities, and then, eventually, perhaps, action. Discussion of the immediate future could usefully draw upon Henry George's thinking and what has grown out of his work a century ago.

*From Susan Klingelhofer:* I think we all know what caused the war - a madman, and US dependency on oil. As Georgists and Americans, we must reflect on our abuse of this resource. We have to learn to conserve its use; otherwise we will have

future wars. It is not too farfetched to imagine our planet being a "Mad Max" kind of world in five years time.

In the Middle East, buildings were destroyed, lives were lost, and hearts were broken. And cormorants, fish, and other Gulf wildlife are being smothered to death in oil. The people living on the Gulf coastline now suffer filthy, polluted air, and undrinkable water. While we worry about "our" oil, they worry about their survival. The Hussein oil spill is three times worse than the Exxon Valdez disaster. To put this in perspective, the Valdez is almost as long as the Empire State Building is tall. Meanwhile, hundreds of burning oil wells turn night into day, and day into night. Tragically, those who opposed the war knew that all this would happen, but they were overruled by White House policymakers.

As Georgists concerned with stewardship of the Earth, is it not our responsibility to demand from government legitimate programs for environmental protection? If we must pay taxes, our dollars should be used to develop safe, ecological and efficient non-nuclear alternatives to the fossil fuels we are so heavily dependent upon. And none of our tax money should assist in financing the regimes of any more self-aggrandizing lunatics.

*From Don Hurford:* As many if not most American would agree, the Persian Gulf War centers on ownership of land, on oil. (There was no US or UN call to save Tibet when it was taken over by China. Tibet has no oil.) One is reminded of the cartoon entitled "Ronald Reagan's Map of the World," with the Middle East region la-

## 1991 NORTH AMERICAN GEORGIST CONFERENCE: June 14-17, Lafayette College

MEALS at the College will be Breakfast 7:30-8:30 AM, Lunch 12 - 1 PM, and Dinner 5:30-6:30 PM. Meals on campus will be available to those who reserve beginning with Breakfast on Saturday June 15 through Breakfast on Tuesday June 18. Meals will also be provided for Common Ground conferees through Breakfast on Thursday June 20. (The Banquet at the Sheraton on Monday evening replaces dinner on campus.) Prices are as follows: Breakfast \$3.50, Lunch \$6.00, Dinner \$8.50, Monday Banquet \$25.00.

AMERICAN AIRLINES offers our conferees 5% off their lowest supersaver fares to Philadelphia & Newark Airports (you must reserve 14 days in advance). And 40% off coach fare (reserve 7 days in advance). From Canada, 35% off coach fare only. Call American Airlines Action Desk at 800-433-1790 and refer to "Henry George Conference, Star # SO9618D."

PROGRAM is being developed, and will be sent later to registrants. Here are some general highlights:

FRIDAY EVENING: Hors D'Oeuvres Reception with cash bar at the Sheraton Easton Inn, 7:30 - 9:30 PM. We begin with a convivial gathering to which we also invite Dr. Jerome Heavey and those who attended the preceding Lafayette College Henry George Conference.

SATURDAY: A morning session with scholars who presented papers at the Lafayette College Conference (see accompanying information from Lafayette College). Chaired by Stan Rubenstein. An afternoon devoted to further discussions of Georgist philosophy and analysis. Speakers to include Jack Schwartzman and Ian Lambert.

SUNDAY: "Setting Course for the 21st Century" will include a morning plenary session and afternoon break-out sessions. Speakers will lead workshops in the fields of educational and political action. Chaired by Ed Dodson. Council of Georgist Organizations business meeting. Chaired by Sam Venturella.

MONDAY: Reports from Georgist Organizations. A look at local land tax issues and progress. Chaired by Steve Cord. Henry George Foundation business meeting. Evening Banquet at the Sheraton. Speakers to be announced.

COMMON GROUND U.S.A. meetings from Tuesday morning through Wednesday evening. Check-out after breakfast Thursday.

QUESTIONS? Contact: Mark Sullivan, Sec., Council of Georgist Organizations, 121 East 30th Street, New York, NY 10016  
Telephone, afternoons and evenings, 212-869-8020

## 1991 GEORGIST CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM -- Side Two

MEALS (indicate number of persons for each meal):

Breakfast @\$3.50: Sat \_\_, Sun \_\_, Mon \_\_, Tue \_\_, Wed \_\_, Thu \_\_.

Lunch @\$6.00: Sat \_\_, Sun \_\_, Mon \_\_, Tue \_\_, Wed \_\_.

Dinner @\$8.50: Sat \_\_, Sun \_\_, Tue \_\_, Wed \_\_.

Banquet @\$25.00: Mon \_\_.

Total for meals: \$ \_\_\_\_.

Vegetarian fare is requested for \_\_\_\_ person(s).

ROOMS ON CAMPUS:

Single @\$16 + \$5 each additional night:

Fri \_\_, Sat \_\_, Sun \_\_, Mon \_\_, Tue \_\_, Wed \_\_.

Double @\$25 + \$10 each additional night:

Fri \_\_, Sat \_\_, Sun \_\_, Mon \_\_, Tue \_\_, Wed \_\_.

Total Amount for Rooms: \$ \_\_\_\_ Ground floor requested: \_\_\_\_.

[Rooms at Sheraton must be reserved directly with Sheraton]

beled simply "Our Oil." Clearly that view still prevails....

There is more to the war than this, of course. We have not only the rashness and defiance of Saddam Hussein but also the hard-line philosophy of George Bush, his desire to play the role of forceful leader, his pro-oil outlook, the outlook of a man who made his fortune working for Texas oil companies and as president now continues to act in their interests.

Another factor is the cultural hiatus between the American and Iraqi presidents. Why not negotiate the conflict? Why not leave Hussein a face-saving out? Why so unmoving on the January 15th deadline? As a US-educated Iraqi commented to a reporter, "Arabs do not understand that 'yes' means 'yes' and 'no' means 'no.' To us this kind of talk is rude." Did

George Bush try to understand Hussein's language?

It is likely that, given sufficient time, the blockade on trade would have worked. Henry George wrote and spoke eloquently on trade as essential to material economic well being. Today, a hundred years later, trade is more vital than ever. Iraq, whose economy hinges on oil export, is extremely vulnerable to boycott or blockade. Unfortunately, this less-drastic alternative to war was not given a fair trial.

One can only hope...that the legacy of US responsibility in the Persian Gulf is not burdensome, that war-incurred Arab hatred of Americans is mild and short-lived. The Georgist analysis of the conflict is clear enough. The Georgist solution remains to be spelled out and tried.



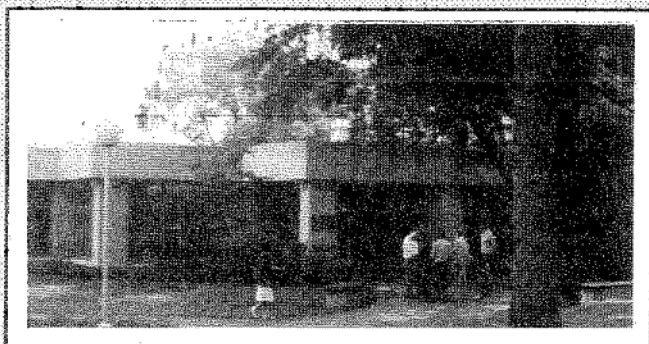
Obviously a wide spectrum of views exists among adherents and teachers of the Georgist philosophy. There is no monolithic "Georgist Position" on the Persian Gulf crisis, and this is probably as it should be. Nevertheless, each writer here is concerned with natural laws, underlying causes, and truly just and workable long-term solutions. That orientation virtually ensures that the responses of Georgists to the issues of the day will be worth hearing. For we all recognize that there are very few issues that do not bear on political economy. As George wrote, the body economic is the "Greater Levathan" that forms and directs the body politic. So we hope that this forum will accomplish its goal of stimulating constructive discussion -- and we thank all who contributed their views. --Mark Sullivan, Editor

--Lindy Davies, Assistant Director

## FIRST LAFAYETTE COLLEGE CONFERENCE ON HENRY GEORGE: June 13 - 14

On June 13th-14th, 1991, Lafayette College will host a conference on the works and impact of Henry George. Its purpose is to provide a forum for the scholarly examination of George's works and their influence in economics, and in other fields of learning.

The annual conference of the Council of Georgist Organizations will follow immediately, beginning on Saturday, June 15th. All sessions will be held in the air-conditioned William E. Simon Center for Economics and Business, on the campus of Lafayette College. Lodging will be available in college residence halls and meals will be provided in the Marquis Dining Hall.



Among the papers to be presented at the conference are:

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Robert Andelson:   | <i>Henry George and the Theory of Interest</i>  |
| Herbert Barry:     | <i>Evaluations of Henry George in Social Science Publications</i>                               |
| Steven Cord:       | <i>Henry George Revisited: What is His Proper Place in the History of Ideas?</i>                |
| James Dawsey:      | <i>Henry George and Liberation Theology</i>   |
| Fred Foldvary:     | <i>Real Estate and the Business Cycle: Analysis of Henry George's Theory of the Trade Cycle</i> |
| Mason Gaffney:     | <i>Neoclassical Economics as a Defense Against Henry George</i>                                 |
| C. Lowell Harriss: | <i>Henry George's Theory of International Trade</i>   |
| Ian Lambert:       | <i>Henry George's Theory of Value</i>   |
| Will Lissner:      | <i>Democracy for the Twenty-First Century</i>   |

Persons wishing to attend both meetings should register separately for each conference. The registration form for the Lafayette College conference appears below. Please complete the form and mail it to:

Professor Jerome Heavey, Department of Economics  
Lafayette College, Easton, PA 18402 [Tel: 215-250-5300]

## LAFAYETTE COLLEGE \*\* HENRY GEORGE CONFERENCE \*\* REGISTRATION FORM

General Registration Fee.....\$70.00

Registration fee includes conference, lodging for Thursday evening, lunch and dinner of Thursday, breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Friday, refreshments at breaks, and conference materials.

Additional fee for Wednesday night lodging, and breakfast on Thursday morning.....\$7.25

Registration fee for those attending conference but not requiring dining or lodging.....\$15.00

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Lafayette College - Henry George

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

If two persons are registering, should they be lodged in single rooms or a double room? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to have a vegetarian menu? \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Professor Jerome Heavey, Department of Economics,  
Lafayette College, Easton, PA 18402



## SCHOOL NOTES

**Nibaldo Aguilera**, teacher for the New York Latin American Affairs Division, made a presentation on "Focus on Political and Socio-economic Problems of Latin America" on March 11th at the South and Central American Student's Union of the Eugenio Maria de Hostos Community College of the City University of New York, in the Bronx. This was part of a one-day seminar which included several other speakers and discussions. Mr. Aguilera, who also has a program on listener-sponsored public radio WBAI, approached his topic from a Georgist perspective.

**Communism to Free Enterprise: How to Get There?** is the question to be discussed by the Long Island Extension on Thursday May 2nd at Plainview-Old Bethpage Library, 999 Old Country Road, Plainview. Program will run from 7:30 to 9:45 PM. Speakers include: Dr. Barbara K. Reinfield, Professor of History at New York Institute of Technology, and President of the Czechoslovakia History Conference; Dr. George Soltys, President of the Organization for the Rebirth of Ukraine, Vice President of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, and Chairman of the National Committee to Commemorate a Millennium of Christianity in Ukraine; and Mr. Charles Boyle, Vice President of the International Division of Chemical Bank, and speaker for the World Trade Club. Refreshments will be served. For more information call 516-734-7543.

Q. WHAT BEGINS WITH S, HAS E  
IN THE MIDDLE, AND ENDS WITH X?

A. SINGLETAX!

## SPRINGTIME IN NEW YORK

### BASIC CLASSES

#### FUNDAMENTAL ECONOMICS

Tuesdays, Mr. Lindy Davies, 6:00-8:00.

Wednesdays, Mr. George Collins, 5:30-7:30.

Thursdays, Ms. Pia DeSilva, 6:30-8:30.

#### PROGRESS & POVERTY (IN SPANISH)

Tuesdays, Mr. Nibaldo Aguilera, 5:30 - 7:30.

Wednesdays, Mr. Manuel Felix, 5:30 - 7:30.

#### UNDERSTANDING ECONOMICS

Wednesdays, Mr. Lindy Davies, 12:30 - 1:30.

#### CLASSICAL ANALYSIS I

Tuesdays, Mr. Mark Sullivan, 6:30 - 8:30.

### ADVANCED CLASSES

#### APPLIED ECONOMICS

Wednesdays, Mr. Syd Mayers, 5:30 - 7:30.

Thursdays, Mr. Manuel Felix, 5:30 - 7:30.

(in Spanish: Third World Issues)

#### ECONOMIC SCIENCE

Tuesdays, Mr. George Collins, 6:00 - 8:00.

#### GREAT DECISIONS '91

Tuesdays, Mrs. Fryda Ossias, 5:30 - 7:30.

#### MONEY & BANKING

Thursdays, Dr. Oscar Johannsen, 1:00 - 3:00

#### PRACTICAL WRITING

Thursdays, Mr. Lindy Davies, 6:00 - 8:00.

### FRIDAY NIGHT FORUMS

*Land in the Movies: The Milagro Beanfield*

War. April 12th, 7:00 - 9:00 PM.

*The Japanese Economic Miracle: How Long*

*Can It Last?* Prof. Stephen Sussna,

May 31st, 7:00 - 9:00 PM.

*Land in the Movies: Matewan.* April 26th,

7:00 - 9:00 PM.

### SATURDAY SEMINARS

*The Real Monopoly Game*, Mr. Lindy

Davies, May 11th, 1:00 - 4:00 PM.

*Property Tax Reform: Challenge and Promise*

for New York, Dr. Steven Cord, May

25th, 1:00 - 4:00 PM.

In the very nature of things standing armies and standing navies are inimical to democracy, and never, save in the case of absolute necessity, should those who desire the perpetuity of democratic institutions consent to maintain them. Standing armies and navies have always provided the ready tools of tyranny, and in every country in which they have been suffered to pass a certain point have proved the death of liberty.

--Henry George, in *The Standard*,  
April 6, 1889

## ST. LOUIS AFL-CIO

### TEACHERS ENDORSE SITE VALUE REVENUE

Al Katzenberger, Treasurer of the St. Louis Teachers' Union, AFL-CIO, gave a workshop for fellow members on "the decent way" to pay for schools and other public services. The films, *For the Land Is Mine* and *A Tale of Five Cities*, were viewed and discussed. Al, who is a board member of the Public Revenue Education Council (PREC), had proposed a resolution to the Teachers' Union, Local 420, on August 22nd, endorsing a lower real estate tax rate on buildings and higher rate on location values.

According to Stan Frederiksen, Ex Officio of PREC, "the resolution has been adopted by the local St. Louis group, and has been forwarded to the national teachers union organization, which will introduce it, and likely pass it, at the next national convention, about a year from now."

For a copy of the resolution, contact:  
PREC, Suite 118, 111 Church St., St. Louis,  
MO 63135-2441 [Tel. 314-521-2514]

Henry George School of Social Science  
121 East 30th Street  
New York, NY 10016

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JUNE 14-17, LAFAYETTE COLLEGE, EASTON, PA  
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