

FALL CLASSES IN CHICAGO

Semester begins the week of September 10; all classes meet for ten weeks. A \$10 registration fee is required for each course. Courses are taught by Mr. Sam Venturella.

Fundamental Economics: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays at 11:00 AM and 2:30 PM; Mondays and Tuesdays at 7:00 PM.

Applied Economics: Wednesdays at 11:00 AM.

Science of Political Economy: Wednesdays at 7:00 PM.

The Role of Land in the Economy: Fridays at 7:00 PM; Saturdays at 11:00 AM. Basic text: *The Power in the Land* by Fred Harrison. Additional \$25 tuition required.

Having demonstrated that freedom is under siege in America, Russell did not look to Marxism as an answer, but instead condemned it as another variation and "intensification of the exact same Eurocentric characteristics which make the order of the U.S. so reprehensible. As a consequence, other indigenous people and I have all along predicted that marxism would self-destruct where it was put into practice....Perversely, it may be said that marxism-leninism really has lived up to promise to provide us a 'road map of liberation,' if only by virtue of its complete failure."

Mildred Loomis and Ralph Borsodi, Georgist-decentralists, came to mind when I heard Russell talk about the various liberation struggles of ethnic people around the world (such as Armenians, Serbians, Croats, Tibetans, and Miskito) and conclude: "the state itself - whether communist or capitalist - stands revealed as the enemy. The objective is for each people to regain its own self-determining, autonomous existence, in its own right...the process at issue is called 'Balkanization.' It is the reverse of the process of consolidating increasingly larger and more powerful states which has marked the history of Eurocentrism....Balkanization means defining nations...according to natural affinity and cohesion of their people, geographic integrity of their territory, and so on...as to allow each individual member to be able to exercise real control over the decisions which effect his or her life, whether these relate to social circumstances such as poverty, police and prisons, or environmental issues.... It follows that herein lie the solutions to

every problem discussed in this presentation."

Russell pointed out how many of these decentralist American Indian ideas contributed to the thinking of the US "founding fathers" and that, in fact, the US Congress passed a unanimous resolution thanking the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy for its input into the formulation of the US federation. Detailing how the Iroquois Confederacy was structured, he pointed out how the role of women was left out in translation into US polity. "The very ideas which went into the formation of the U.S. came from women, 'primitive' ones at that. What Euroamerican 'fathers' achieved was to bastardize the integrity of these American Indian women's concepts." Among these concepts were that the earth is our living mother, and that a healthy society requires a male/female balance so that one does not have more power than the other. He concluded: "Understand why American Indians are so universally despised and abused by the U.S. elite today. It is because we have never abandoned our ways of life and the principles thereof. This makes us the greatest threat to the Euroamerican male power mongers' continuing deceptions. We represent the antithesis of everything that is wrong with America today. Consequently we are the only alternative for the future. Understand this, and you will understand what it is you need to do. *We may be brothers after all. We shall see....* - Seattle."



A standing ovation, followed by questions and answers - polite answers to sometimes very heated "questions". Russell took pains, for example, to point out that American Indians are not opposed to technology *per se*. But what about this question of Georgist economics? Does it have a place in Russell's vision? Certainly I could see that it does. A decentralized, confederated world based on ecological/libertarian values similar to that of American Indians would have a place for each small nation collecting the rental value of the land for the benefit of the people (unhindered by centralized bureaucracies imposed by conquest). Sadly, in our world today, even where a small (or large) nation collects this rental value (for example, on precious oil reserves) it often does so to benefit the government itself, or a ruling elite - not the people, not the ordinary citizen. Clearly, there's a lot of work to be done - where Russell Means and his fellow American Indians can work together with students and proponents of Henry George.

- Mark A. Sullivan

ATTENTION NEW YORK GRADUATES

Elizabeth Reeves, Registrar of the New York HGS, still has a small collection of unclaimed certificates. She invites graduates to drop by on a weekday afternoon and pick them up. Or, give her a call if you would prefer us to mail it to you. 

MORE INSIGHTS

Volume 1, #2 of *Insights: A Journal of Commentary on Political Economy* was published this July. Jointly published by the Los Angeles Henry George School and the LA Chapter of Common Ground USA, *Insights* is written by Stanley Sapiro and edited and typeset by Marion Sapiro. This issue features several major articles: "California Revenue Scandals; Is the Decline in Land Prices a Good or Bad Thing for America?"; "Does Rent Control Provide Low-Cost Housing?"; and "Aid to Nicaragua and El Salvador". For a copy, write to *Insights* care of the LA-HGS in Tujunga.

FALL SCHEDULE IN PHILADELPHIA

Classes begin on the last day of September. Fees range from \$25 to \$50; discounts are offered for early registration.

Fundamental Economics: Monday evenings, 5:30 - 7:00 and 7:00 - 8:30, both taught by Mike Curtis.

Applied Economics: Wednesdays, 5:30 - 7:30, Mr. Kenneth Ford.

How Wall Street Works: Tuesdays, 7:00 - 9:00, Mr. Sam Gray.

Liberty and a Just Society: Wednesdays, 5:30 - 7:30, Mr. Edward J. Dodson.

Great Decisions: Thursdays, 7:00 - 9:00, Mr. Alfonse Bayo.

Basic Economics: Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, 12:10 - 12:50, Mr. Mike Curtis.

SATURDAY SEMINARS:

Wage Tax vs. Property Tax: the Pittsburgh Experience, September 29th, 1:00 - 3:00, Mr. Dan Sullivan.

One-Day Seminars in Basic Economics: October 6th and 14th, 1:00 - 4:45, Mr. Mike Curtis.