

# The Henry George News

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## Hartzok Says Americans Barred from Land

Most Americans have as little access to land and resources as the poor of the Third World, Alanna Hartzok told the People's Assembly at the United Nations last month.

Speaking at the *Forum for Survival* meeting of the People's Assembly in the Dag Hammarskjold Library, Ms. Hartzok was part of a panel organized by Dr. Harry Lerner, Representative of the World Citizen's Assembly to the U.N., and Coordinator of the World Council for the People's Assembly. Mark Sullivan, Secretary of the Council of Georgist Organizations was also in attendance.

Ms. Hartzok told the group:

"I am sure that all of us here are in agreement that a more equitable distribution of wealth and basic resources is a key challenge at this time, and that the maldistribution of resources is a major source, if not the major source, of world conflict and unrest. The poorer citizens of the world are becoming increasingly vocal that they no longer want the kind of 'foreign aid'

that has been given to them by the richer nations. They instead want to be free from economic exploitation of their land, labor and resources. What can be the response to this plea of those of us with world concerns who live in the wealthy nations? Surely we will no longer want to lend support of any kind to the lifestyles or economic systems that harm and hamper the development efforts of our brothers and sisters in other parts of the earth.

"It appears that the creation of economic justice throughout the world can best begin right where we are. For those of us in the U.S., we need to understand

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## Georgists Respond to White House Plan

Robert Scrofani, Director of the HGS in San Francisco, with the assistance of Alanna Hartzok, has compiled a series of responses to the White House Global Task Force on Resources and Environment report entitled **Global 2000: Report to the President on Entering the Twenty-First Century, Volumes I, II and III.**

In 1977, President Carter directed the Council on Environmental Quality and the Department of State, working in cooperation with the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Science Foundation and others, to make a one-year study of the probable changes in the world's population, natural resources, and environment through the end of the century. After three years, three volumes have been produced, with Volume I as the summary, Volume II covering the technical aspects of the report and Volume III

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## Land Conference in the Dominican Republic

A conference on land value taxation will be held in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic, January 8-10, 1981 sponsored by the Henry George School of Social Science and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.

Arrangements for the conference were made during a visit by Philip Finkelstein, the school's director, to Santo Domingo, at the request of the Dominican Ministry of Agriculture. The Agriculture Secretary, R. Hipolito Mejia, indicated strong support in his department and other Dominican ministries for the

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## School Notes: Long Island

High schools in five school districts in Long Island have been chosen to offer classes in Fundamental Economics as part of the Adult Education program for this semester, according to Stan Rubenstein, Director of the Long Island Extension of the HGS.

The newly revised course, which is designed by Mr. Rubenstein and Fryda L. Ossias, is being used by the five teachers in the towns of Levittown, Bellmore-Merrick, Oceanside, Rockville Centre and Lynbrook. The current version incorporates more contemporary information by applying Georgist materials to the changing world while maintaining the spirit and dynamics of the old approach.

An advanced course, entitled *The Critics of Henry George* is being offered to students, who have had other advanced classes in Contemporary Issues, Science of Political Economy and Democracy vs. Socialism.

Albert Fink spoke to the Alumni Association at the Plainview Public Library on the essence of the Pittsburgh Graded Tax, beginning the semester's schedule of special programs for current students and alumni. Mr. Fink stressed that the success that Georgists have had in implementing land tax reform in Pittsburgh has come as the result of sound reform, teamwork, and dedication over a number of years.

## Toronto Affiliate Delineates Values

The school of Economic Science has published two more reports in its continuing series of objective property tax studies.

*Farm Values and Taxation in Rural Communities: Aldborough Township: S.W. Ontario* by John Fischer and Tim Fielding is a study of property sales and their market value variations, the potential causes of those variations, the characteristics of assessment and property tax variations in relation to land and property characteristics and market values from 1978-1980.

The second report, *Changing Property Values and Taxation Levels in Developing Urban Areas: Yonge Street, North York, Toronto, 1910-1979*, by Tim Fielding and Laire Teich, attempts to trace and explain wherever possible the interaction of changing land use, property values and property tax rates for properties located along the rapidly changing and developing suburban strip of Yonge Street. It monitors the wide variations in effective tax rates and property values during stages of development and change, and indicates areas of difficulty for proposed tax reforms.

Copies of these reports may be obtained by writing to the School of Economic Science, 344 Willard Street, Toronto, Ontario, M6S 3R2 Canada.

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## Georgists Respond to White House Plan

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presenting the Government's global models. All three volumes are available from the U.S. Government Printing Office in Washington D.C.

The major findings of the report point to a more crowded, more polluted, less ecologically stable and more vulnerable to disruption world in the year 2000 than the one in 1980. Population growth figure indicate that the number of people on the earth will surpass 6.35 billion, a growth of 50% from the 4 billion figure in 1975. Agriculturally cultivated land will increase only by 4% in twenty years, so that most of the increased output of food will have to come from higher yields.

In its conclusion the report states that "the United States must improve its ability to identify emerging

problems and assess alternative responses." It was also stated that formulation of prompt and vigorous changes in public policy around the world are needed to avoid or minimize problems before they become unmanageable.

In his response to the questions posed by the report, Scrofani felt that the most critical problem emerging from the report "is our failure to be just and worthy stewards of the land." A comprehensive list of actions the President's Task Force could take is outlined in this compilation, along with quotes from Henry George, Robert S. McNamara, President of the World Bank, Philip Finkelstein, Director of the HGS in New York, and Ms. Hartzok. Copies of this report are available by writing to HGS in San Francisco.