



Please remind readers that it is time to write to the Hall of Fame to again nominate Henry George. Nominations close April 1st. The address is Hall of Fame, New York University, 1009 Fifth Avenue, New York 10028.

CARL SHAW
West Point, New York

We are living in a war industry prosperity called "defense." Our profits earned this way filter into our way of life. We are trying to force our way on the other fellow and he is trying to force his way on us. People and money/credit are only incidental to our way of life. Natural products and man-made products are used in the war industry operation, be it a hot war or cold war. Land naturally is needed for the resulting "war" product, also people (labor) and money/credit. Basically wars are fought over real estate (land) and its products.

Look at all the land Castro possesses and the wide expanse owned by Russia with a fence (Berlin wall) around it. Hitler wanted more living space as the population increased. We are all being squeezed into less and less space for money/credit.

There are approximately 55 companies with sales of \$160 billion with profits around \$12 billion and with a work force of around 6 million people. How much land do these companies own? As a commodity becomes scarce naturally a premium is paid—land here is handled as a commodity—the basis of land speculation. Look at the mad rush for land in Alaska for oil used in war. We are so concerned about supplying countries outside our borders that we are falling apart internally, socially, politically and economically.

Result: inequalities, envy and hatred in our increasing population.

JOHN J. HICKS
Elmhurst, New York

I am sorry to read in the HGN an attack on the welfare people.* The majority of people on welfare are mothers with small children and no husbands, who would gladly work if there were day centers to take care of their children. Another large percent of welfare recipients are people on social security, who have worked all their lives, but inflation has made social security inadequate. If there is anyone sitting around doing nothing and earning money it is the land speculator, he is making millions. Unimproved land in downtown Manhattan is \$500 a square foot.

Most of the money that welfare recipients get goes to landlords who let their property run down making no repairs and are unfit homes to live in, they hold the building which has become worthless so they can speculate in the land which gets more and more valuable. Many children have gotten lead poisoning from the antiquated paint on the wall.

There is an epidemic of evictions from rent control houses. These people cannot pay rents of \$250 for a studio apartment and \$300 for a one bedroom apartment. The owner of the old tenement makes more than \$60,000 speculative profit, then the new owner in order to make his investment pay tears the building down and puts up luxury apartments. We'll all be on welfare if speculators aren't stopped.

I always enjoy the Henry George News but I hope our ire is saved for land speculators, not their victims, welfare recipients.

ELAINE O'CONNOR
New York

*Ref. is to "Society is my shepherd . . ." Jan. HGN p. 13.