

# THE GEORGIST JOURNAL

Number 3

April 1974

## GUEST EDITORIAL

Some time ago David Chester (in the International Union Newsletter No. 18, August 1972) suggested that there were three ways of making headway - the political, the educational and the practical approaches. I drew attention to the political approach (in IUN No. 19, Feb. 1973) and I would now like to draw attention to the educational approach.

The educational approach is probably the way most of us were introduced to land value taxation, but as our ranks are so sparse, it is obviously full of problems. I well remember my own feelings when attending classes: Was it a trick? Was it part of a Communist plot? Was it out-of-date? And although my suspicions have now been extinguished, I wondered why the solution was ignored by so many political parties.

Clearly therefore, my suspicions will be shared by others and so, when attempting the educational approach, we should ask ourselves whether our targets should be the politicians, the general public or the experts. All three groups have their attractions.

The trouble, however, is (as my Georgist teacher, Mr. H. Lee, used to say) that people are like wheelbarrows - they wait to be pushed. The politicians, for example, could influence the general public; the public could influence the politicians; and the experts could influence both - but unfortunately they wait for each other. Thus our attempts to educate by instruction are often thwarted.

Other ways of influence are through books, films, television, plays, etc. These can be divided into the fictional and the non-fictional. The non-fictional holds prospects, I feel. A modern version of Progress and Poverty, drawing attention to the evils of state hand-outs, subsidies, mixed economies, inflation and common markets, might prove useful. If too much for one person to tackle, then what about a symposium?

Fiction too holds possibilities. One of the best remembered plays on British television was one about the homeless. It might be difficult to get a publisher or producer to consider anything with a "Georgist" message, but I refuse to believe it is impossible. If Alexander Solzhenitsyn can get through, then surely those of us who live in the "free world" can do it!

Leonard A. Tooke  
Portsmouth, England

---

The Georgist Journal, Rm. 462-A, 55 W. 42nd St., New York, N.Y. 10036, USA.  
Robert Clancy, Editor. Readers are invited to submit suitable articles, letters, etc., for publication.