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# John Lincoln Bequest Keeps Alive the Tax Theory of Henry George

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By GEORGE  
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**W**HY IS IT THAT with all the progress the world is making in so many directions—science, letters, fine arts, every form of industry, commerce, transportation—why is it that there still exists so much want, so much of all that which for lack of a better name may be summed up under the word poverty?"

The question was asked by Henry George, writer, philosopher, economist, nearly 100 years ago in this country. He asked it in a famous book, "Progress and Poverty," which swept across men's minds everywhere. He continued to ask it time and again in speeches and writings. He died in 1897.

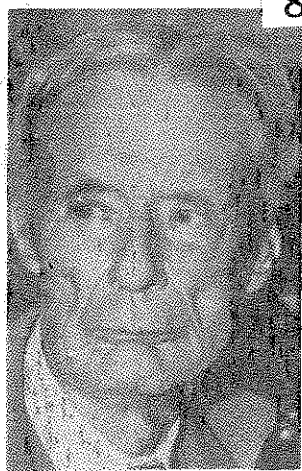
Many men have pondered this question through history, and they, too, have had answers. But Henry George had an answer that was pretty simple. It was this: A man's income must be free of tax. All revenue must be taken from land rent. The land is the community's.

This is the famous single-tax theory of economics.  
**All-Time Best Seller**

George's book was an all-time best seller in the field of economics, where books sell only to the dedicated. It has been translated into every civilized language. It has sold more than 3,000,000 copies. Aside from its stature as a work on economics, is it also said to be a masterpiece of prose.

Many notable people throughout the world have been captivated by George's theory. The list includes such Clevelanders as Newton D. Baker, Tom L. Johnson and the man who left so much to advance the idea, John C. Lincoln.

There is a Henry George School of Social Science in New York that, at a time when most educational institutions are wondering how to make ends meet, offers all its courses free of charge. There are extensions of the school in Ohio, including Cleveland. Johnson sits in state



John C. Lincoln  
... the man with money.



Henry George  
... the man with the idea

nights before the election in which George was running for mayor. Golden says he sat up most of the night thinking of the men George had inspired—Wilson, George Bernard Shaw, Robert M. LaFollette, Samuel Seabury, among others.

Why this intense and constant interest in Henry and his theory? Ivan R. Dailey, 1657 Wyandotte Avenue, Lakewood, long a supporter of the idea, said:

"It's simple. It's uncomplicated. It would free society from any grasping. There would be no opportunity for grasping. It would make for an immensely better world. But it's the simplicity of the theory that catches."



Tom L. Johnson, the legendary Cleveland mayor, spoke often for Henry George's single-tax theory.

in Public Square with a copy of George's book in one hand. The colorful Cleveland mayor gave much of his money to push the single-tax theory. Johnson is buried next to George in New York.

Newton D. Baker, who was President Wilson's secretary of war in World War I, contributed time and money to acquaint Americans with this revolutionary tax idea.

President Eisenhower, according to the Georgists, voted to include Henry George, rather than Stonewall Jackson, in the Hall of Fame in 1950.

Harry Golden, the popular editor and writer, says in his latest book, "For 2c Plain,"

**Catches, Holds Lincoln**

There must indeed be something to the theory to catch and hold such a good solid capitalist as the late John C. Lincoln, who died at 92 last May. He had an estate of millions. Some of his money went into the Lincoln Foundation, which has headquarters in Phoenix, Ariz.