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The Economic Overthrow of Empire

Providing a Quality Life to Each World Citizen in 50 Years

J.W. Smith

My book, *Money: A Mirror Image of the Economy*, is not the book I intended to write and I must tell you that story. It had to be one of the most exhilarating moments in anyone's life.

To understand this story I am about to tell, visualize a thousand pilgrims settling a resource-rich uninhabited island establishing their property rights law. As nature offered those rich resources to all for free, obviously each should have an equal share of the fruits of that natural wealth. Yet if they established Western property rights law only a few would own vast tracts of land and all others must pay those "owners" a rental value from which those few would accumulate huge amounts of capital (wealth). However, if they established the property rights laws of America's premier economic philosopher Henry George, those resources would be privately owned and managed but society would collect those rental values and use them to build roads, railroads, an education system, water systems, sewer systems, etc, all natural monopolies.

In the example of Western property rights law, you will have a few massively wealthy, a sizeable middle class, and a large impoverished class. In the Henry George philosophical example, and assuming other amenities of full and equal rights such as equal pay for equally productive labor and a sharing of productive jobs, those fruits of nature will be equally shared and there will be no poverty, even though the flow of money may be half as much—or even less—as within a monopolized economy.

Now I will go into my story. Finally realizing that my little book of 18 years ago, *The World's Wasted Wealth*, had only extended the principles of Henry George across the full economic spectrum, I restructured those chapters to give him that credit. At the end

of each chapter, each a discussion of one sector of the economy, I said, "Make this little change in property rights law, the monopoly disappears, the huge blocs of capital buying and selling those capitalized appropriated values disappear, and they instantly reappear as equally-shared use values. Chapter by chapter those changes were made.

If you are to write a monetary thesis and yours is a slave society, your banks will buy and sell slaves but will never finance a slave for any endeavor of his or her own. If yours is a monopolized society, your banks will finance that monopoly system. So, to write this money book, I had to first eliminate those monopolies.

Teasing out these pictures for myself and my readers had prepared me for the reality-expanding flash vision soon to hit me. I took one look as those chapters came together and said, "Holy Cow! Those huge blocs of capital that America is worshiped for not only were never necessary they reduced economic efficiency by fully 50%"; the savings possible within the economy as outlined in those chapters.

I then said, "Those economic classics are not even philosophies. They are nothing more than justifications for a system of theft, current property rights law, that powerbrokers spent 700 plus years putting in place, and that privatization process is still ongoing."

I then said, "If land and technology had been shared instead of monopolized, there would have been no poverty and few wars these past 300 years. All these battles had been over who will control the resources from which all wealth is processed and who will control the wealth producing process."

Those classics and the thousands of books derived from them, all written in complicated language that few can understand, that we all thought we must read in or-

der to be educated, need only be glanced at. They are all written within the parameters of current property rights law which are now totally discredited.

This is the opportune moment for such belief-shattering research. As we watch the suppressions of populist revolutions bursting out worldwide, Americans are becoming aware that their country is a center of empire and they sense that, if these revolutions succeed, the economies of the developed world, dependent upon the theft of those resources, will collapse.

We are taught that governments must be kept to a minimum and let decisions of individuals run the economy, Adam Smith's famous invisible hand. Not True! An alert government aware of the fraud of current property rights law can stop an economic collapse in its tracks. Assuming the world followed Henry George's example of an economy with full and equal rights, it is possible to eliminate poverty worldwide in 10 years and provide a quality life for every citizen of the world within 50 years. Saving the 50% of our wealth now wasted and leading a more rational life style gives the world that cushion.

Assuming the current populist revolutions succeed, those now-free nations will turn their natural wealth to the well-being of their own citizens as opposed to current consumption of those resources by the imperial centers. As those imperial economies are built upon the theft of the wealth of the impoverished world, their economies will collapse. This is exactly the same world crisis which led to WW's I & II. The imperial centers of the time were desperate to hold onto their stolen wealth.

A worldwide populist revolution against empire is on as we speak. Strictly as a vehicle to get the picture out, my current writings assume the collapse of the American empire is imminent. For you too young to know what an economic collapse—a depression—is, it means you and everyone you know are out of a job and your children are cold and hungry.

In this assumption, let's assume further that America is fortunate enough to have a president alert enough to protect all citizens from that disaster as opposed to protecting monopolizers of the world's wealth as has been done throughout history. This president would note that the banks are going broke right along with all other sectors of the economy, the government provides the final guarantee for most those loans, and thus society technically now owns most those banks. Noting that a socially-owned bank can create money at will, and

thus never go broke, that president—with the support of a frightened Congress—will quickly nationalize all banks. An executive order would go out for all banks and credit unions to open an account for any head of household who does not already have one.

Under oath, any who do not have income or resources of value will immediately have a living monthly wage for that family deposited into their account and the first of each month thereafter. That buying power, newly created money that has no value outside a nation's borders, replaces the money destroyed by bankruptcies and, though there is much more yet to do, the collapse will be stopped in its tracks. The need for a new currency is to protect against financial maneuvers of other societies. That subject is too big to include in this lecture.

With food and clothing taken care of the next order of business is secure housing. Current idle accountants will be employed to analyze current home values against those before the collapse. If the home had previously been half paid for, the debt would be reduced to half the home's current value. As a person is guaranteed only one home, renters will have the option of purchasing that home from either the banks or the owners and financing using the new currency will be available. Bankrupt businesses will have their debts revalued by the same formula. Under Henry George principles, no values—thus no debts—shall be assessed to the land under those properties.

Through banks being socially owned, that monopoly has been eliminated and the savings—fully 2/3 the current costs which are wasted—are obvious. With food, clothes, homes, and businesses secure, this alert president informs the citizenry how the economy can be further restructured, using the philosophic principles of Henry George across the full economic spectrum to attain full and equal rights for all.

No longer cold and hungry, an appreciative citizenry would support the next restructuring, elimination of the monopolization of land through society collecting the land-rent. Though the annual cost of ownership, paying land-rent to society, is only slightly lower than making mortgage payments on monopolized land, the purchase price is now zero. All now have rights to land for a home, the most efficient industrialist or business person can pay the highest land rent and will own space for their industry or business, the most efficient farmers can pay the highest land rent and will own their farms, etc. As all other taxes disappear and are replaced by

those resource rents, the net cost of land is, as it should be, zero.

Those home and business sites are privately owned but the title is conditional, society collects the rental values. The rule is that, since it was not built by human labor, society should collect rental values on all resources and technologies offered free by nature and use that capital to build infrastructure and provide essential services.

All structures upon that land were produced by labor and the owners can very properly collect those rental values.

Technologies are a part of nature that only have to be discovered. Restructure patent law to pay inventors well and placing their inventions in the public domain will instantly eliminate those monopolies. As monopoly patent profits are collected through the stock markets, 85% of the activity of those gambling casinos disappear, that remaining becomes as stable as bond markets, and the price of consumer products drop by fully 50% (we actually think 75%).

To understand the current inefficient technology property rights structure, consider that when windmills were invented efforts were made to claim title to the wind. If they had succeeded, as they did with most inventions, we would have to pay a rental value on the wind. That unnecessary charge is paid on most technologies.

What we are exposing and eliminating in all sectors of the economy is the superstructures of monopolies we are told do not exist. WiFi communications has 10 times the capacity of fiber optics at 10% the cost. Currently monopolists are buying up the efficient low frequency spectrums that travel through mountains and leave the high frequency spectrums which travel only 300 feet for public use. Place a reasonable share of those low frequency spectrums in the public domain and anyone can call across the world for a penny a minute and education, beamed over WiFi, will cost 15% that of today's brick and mortar schools. Ditto for how cheap TV, radio, and Internet connections can be beamed into a home. Remember, 10 times the communication capacity for 10% the cost.

Monopolization of health care is eliminated by making health care a right. This drops the cost by half even as all have access to it and, with America in virtually last place among developed nations in providing health care, a dozen states are already discussing making that a right.

Social security makes retirement a right and here we only need to make the retirement of the previously poorly-paid adequate.

With the full and equal rights outlined above, crime, prisons, lawyers, and other guard labor drop to a small percentage of that under the current monopoly system. Employed labor time drops to less than half that under the current property rights system. This means the work week, by law, will drop to 2.5 days per week or less. As soon as those reduced labor hours are in place and all have employment income, the only support that will be required will be for the mentally or physically incapacitated. For them, the supplemental law remains in effect.

This leaves the restructuring of the rest of the world whose economies will also have collapsed. As soon as regions ally together and federate into economically viable units, they can create money spendable only within their borders. Applying the principle of society collecting all land and resource rents, will provide the money to build infrastructure and industry. Through trading their resources for technology and training, they can catch up to the developed world in roughly 30 years. To establish an efficient economy, they can follow these guidelines for restructuring the American economy.

Note how the ethereal world of high finance has totally disappeared. Those huge blocs of capital were only tying ever more complicated schemes into the property rights system to suck out more wealth. That they were, or are, necessary is total fiction. Under full and equal rights everything is real and touchable, not ethereal. Think of it like your dinner table, none are required to pay rent to sit there and all get their share. All this thesis does is, through applying Henry George's philosophy across the full economic spectrum, eliminate the monopolization of the bounty nature offers for free and all receive their share.

Assuming the current world crisis leads to a collapse of the monopoly system and the world restructures to full and equal rights for all, poverty can be eliminated in 10 years and all can have a quality life within 50 years.

Poverty and denial of rights is entirely the product of monopolization through exclusive titles to the resources and technologies that nature offers to us at no charge. Our property rights system was designed by aristocracy and those designed inequalities are with us yet today. This is the first challenge to those property rights I am aware of outside of socialist and Marxist

literature. This challenge follows the principles of honest capitalism.

Great strides have been made in human rights and political rights but those unequal property rights—the root cause of poverty, inequalities, and war—has not been touched. Lets touch it with the torch of a world-wide revolution.

In the discussion we can address the need for currencies having value only within federated, economically viable, regions which includes America. Once those regional economies are stabilized and the old debt system rebalanced, then currencies can be made interchangeable. But, because it makes the entire world trading system transparent, retaining those regional currencies and creating a world currency to handle trade between regions is very likely a far better choice.

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