

Re: Smith and Mill: Georgists?

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From: The Trucker (*mikcob_at_verizon.net*)

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Robert J. Kolker wrote:

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> *royls@telus.net* wrote:

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> Who actually ends up with less money in his pocket as a result of the tax?

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> *I am asking out of whose pocket the money for the tax came. It is the*

> *tenant. In the real world customers pay the entire freight.*

Nope. In the real world producers pay the entire freight. There is no other source from whence any payment can ever flow. In YOUR world (the current world of theft) the land owner is a middleman, extracting rent just as government extracts taxes -- by force. Your confusion arises because of your religious conviction that land owners are necessary. They simply are not. The land will exist whether there are any owners or not. People (producers) will use the land whether there are owners or not. Government (in some form) OTOH IS necessary to the division and specialization of land, and government, in its role as land rights enforcer, is best financed through a land rent system. A very high rate of tax on the market value of land is a compromise system that retains a small amount of rent flowing into the hands of "owners". Such a compromise seems more acceptable to those who have been brainwashed by Austrian (primarily Rothbardian) economics.

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