

Henry George Quotes

*Men, Land, Philosophy, Thinking, Political, Progress, War, Use, Organization,
Justice, People, Civilization, Children, Giving, Evil, States, Wisdom, Book,
Business, Class*

What has destroyed every previous civilization has been the tendency to the unequal distribution of wealth and power.

~Henry George

What protectionism teaches us, is to do to ourselves in time of peace what enemies seek to do to us in time of war.

~Henry George

There are only three ways by which any individual can get wealth "by work, by gift or by theft. And, clearly, the reason why the workers get so little is that the beggars and thieves get so much.

~Henry George

There is danger in reckless change, but greater danger in blind conservatism.

~Henry George

Laissez faire (in its full true meaning) opens the way to the realization of the noble dreams of socialism.

~Henry George

That which is unjust can really profit no one; that which is just can really harm no one.

~Henry George

Man is the only animal whose desires increase as they are fed; the only animal that is never satisfied.

~Henry George

Let no man imagine that he has no influence. Whoever he may be, and wherever he may be placed, the man who thinks becomes a light and a power.

~Henry George

Poorly paid labor is inefficient labor, the world over.

~Henry George

There can be to the ownership of anything no rightful title which is not derived from the title of the producer and does not rest upon the natural right of the man to himself.

~Henry George

There are people into whose heads it never enters to conceive of any better state of society than that which now exists.

~Henry George

In all the new states of the Union, land monopolization has gone on at an alarming rate, but in none of them so fast as in California, and in none of them, perhaps, are the evil effects so manifest.

~Henry George

Charity is false, futile, and poisonous when offered as a substitute for justice.

~Henry George

The fundamental principle of human action, the law, that is to political economy what the law of gravitation is to physics is that men seek to gratify their desires with the least exertion

~Henry George

Private ownership of land is the nether mill-stone. Material progress is the upper mill-stone. Between them, with an increasing pressure, the working classes are being ground.

~Henry George

I propose to beg no question to shrink from no conclusion, but to follow truth wherever it may lead.

~Henry George

The state, it cannot too often be repeated, does nothing, and can give nothing, which it does not take from somebody.

~Henry George

The ideal social state is not that in which each gets an equal amount of wealth, but in which each gets in proportion to his contribution to the general stock.

~Henry George

How can a man be said to have a country when he has not right of a square inch of it.

~Henry George

For as labor cannot produce without the use of land, the denial of the equal right to the use of land is necessarily the denial of the labor to its own produce.

~Henry George

Poverty is the openmouthed relentless hell which yawns beneath civilized society. And it is hell enough.

~Henry George

Capital is a result of labor, and is used by labor to assist it in further production. Labor is the active and initial force, and labor is therefore the employer of capital.

~Henry George

The man who gives me employment, which I must have or suffer, that man is my master, let me call him what I will.

~Henry George

Passing into higher forms of desire, that which slumbered in the plant, and fitfully stirred in the beast, awakes in the man.

~Henry George

It is not from top to bottom that societies die; it is from bottom to top.

~Henry George

The people themselves must think, because the people alone can act.

~Henry George

He who sees the truth, let him proclaim it, without asking who is for it or who is against it.

~Henry George

God showers upon us his gifts-more than enough for all; But like swine scrambling for food, we tread them in the mire, and rend each other.

~Henry George

The march of invention has clothed mankind with powers of which a century ago the boldest imagination could not have dreamt.

~Henry George

The value of a thing is the amount of laboring or work that its possession will save the possessor.

~Henry George

I do not think that any sorrow of youth or manhood equalled in intensity or duration the black and hopeless misery which followed the wrench of transference from a happy home to a school.

~Henry George

The methods by which a trade union can alone act, are necessarily destructive; its organization is necessarily tyrannical.

~Henry George

Progressive societies outgrow institutions as children outgrow clothes.

~Henry George

That amid our highest civilization men faint and die with want is not due to the niggardliness of nature, but to the injustice of man.

~Henry George

Everybody works but the vacant lot

~Henry George

It is not the business of government to make men virtuous or religious, or to preserve the fool from the consequences of his own folly.

~Henry George

Social progress makes the well-being of all more and more the business of each.

~Henry George

The word capital, as philologists trace it, comes down to us from a time when wealth was estimated in cattle, and a man's income depended upon the number of head he could keep for their increase.

~Henry George

Unless there be correct thought, there cannot be any action, and when there is correct thought, right action will follow.

~Henry George

How many men are there who fairly earn a million dollars?

~Henry George

As it is with an individual, so it is with a nation. One must produce to have, or one will become a have-not.

~Henry George

For every social wrong there must be a remedy. But the remedy can be nothing less than the abolition of the wrong.

~Henry George

If you would have the slave show the virtues of the freeman, you must first make him free.

~Henry George

Trade has ever been the extinguisher of war, the eradicator of prejudice, the diffuser of knowledge.

~Henry George

Property in land is as indefensible as property in man.

~Henry George

A good, very good, not to say admirable schoolmaster, but then he is only a schoolmaster.

~Henry George

Let no man imagine that he has no influence.

~Henry George

Abolish all taxation save that upon land values.

~Henry George

It is but a truism that labor is most productive where its wages are largest. Poorly paid labor is inefficient labor, the world over.

~Henry George

Man must be doing something, or fancy that he is doing something, for in him throbs the creative impulse; the mere basker in the sunshine is not a natural, but an abnormal man.

~Henry George

That alone is wise which is just; that alone is enduring which is right.

~Henry George

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