



Economics 157: Ag Policy

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Economics 157, Ag. Policy

Readings on reserve, May 23 - June 8, 1984

Henry George, "The March of Concentration", excerpt from Social Problems, 1883. This chapter and its appendix, a debate with Francis Walker, are probably what moved the U.S. Census to begin reporting data from which Lorenz curves might be constructed.

Thorstein Veblen, excerpts from Absentee Ownership, 1923. Deep insights into the psyche and economic behavior of the American farmer as a landholder.

Roy Huffman, Irrigation Development ..., 1953.

Ch. 3, Irrigation in Public Land Policy

Ch. 5, Land Problems and Regulations

Ch. 9, Integrated Use of Irrigated Land (this is especially useful on regional synergy)

John Timmons and Wm. Murray (eds), Land Problems and Policies, 1950.

Ch. 2, Objectives of Land Policy, by Rainer Schickele.

(Schickele's essential greatness is confirmed by his having sired Peter Schickele, a.k.a. P.D.Q. Bach)

Ch. 4, Farm Land Resources of the U.S., by Charles Kellogg and Carleton Barnes. (Kellogg is the non-alarmist soil expert; H.H. Bennett was the alarmist, and therefore of course Chief, U.S. Soil Conservation Service.)

Louis Schmidt and Earl Ross, Readings in the Economic History of American Agriculture, 1925. (Yes, Virginia, there were things written way back then still worth reading today.)

IV, Colonial Land Systems and Tenures, pp. 53-72

John D. Hicks, The Populist Revolt, 1931.

Ch.1, The Frontier Background

Carey McWilliams, Southern California, 1973.

Ch.VIII, The Cultural Landscape

Ch.XI, The Citrus Belt

Walter Goldschmidt, As You Sow, 1947.

Chaps. I, II, VII, VIII.

The Grapes of Wrath was banned in Fresno. Goldschmidt got about the same treatment, and also stirred up a reorganization of the U.S.D.A. that emasculated it.