

**Location**

United States

Users

Josiah Warren, inhabitants of Cincinnati.

Maintained by

Josiah Warren and clients

Duration

1827 - 1830

Category

politics, economy, social

Nr. and Title

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Cincinnati Time Store

Initiator(s)

Josiah Warren

Description

A store where customers could purchase goods with "labour notes", which represented an agreement to perform labour. This was determined on the principle of the equal exchange of labour, measured by the time taken, and exchanged hour for hour with other kinds of labour. Warren embraced the labour theory of value, which says that the value of a commodity is the amount of labour that goes into producing or acquiring it. Warren summed up this policy in the phrase "Cost the limit of price," with "cost" referring to the amount of labour one exerted in producing a good. He set out to examine if his theories could be put into practice by establishing his "labour for labour store". His experiment proved to be successful.

Goals

To establish various colonies whose participants all agreed to use "cost the limit of price" in all economic transactions, hoping that all of society would eventually adopt the tenet in economic affairs.

Beneficial outcomes

Anyone could purchase goods without money but with an exchange of labour. Created a new system in how to value goods.

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