to explain it to our 4,218 contributors -- and to 22,500 others on our mailing list who will, I hope, want to become contributors as sincerely as this man wants to discontinue being one:

1 This Foundation does not take "positions" in the resolution-passing sense, any more than does a college or university. Nor are we in the business of political implementation.

2 The sole purpose of FEE is to present the philosophy of the free market and limited government by means of educational methods. The free market is synonymous with free trade. An explanation of free trade is as implicit in our work as is the multiplication table in the training of a mathematician. So for us to deviate from our announced objective for fear of losing contributors would be a breach of faith with all contributors.

3 The removal of the American tariff would, admittedly, be but one step in the restoration of free trade in the world. Of equal importance -- indeed, of necessity -- is the correction of each nation's internal policies, our own included. Trade will not be fully free until all the barriers to production and exchange have been removed. Trade is hampered by exchange controls, government trading, commodity agreements, embargoes, subsidies, allocations, cartels, and the like. Nor can there be free trade when money, the medium of exchange, is controlled and manipulated by politicians. A sound and honest money is a requisite to free trade. Required is free exchange, both as between the persons of a given country and between the persons of one country and those of another country.

4 This Foundation, however, has not deemed it the best educational procedure to try to present all of the above subjects at once. Instead, we have elected to present the philosophy of the free market and limited government item by item. The Tariff Idea is but one in a continuing series of contemplated studies and publications -- over one hundred already prepared and released.

5 I should like to emphasize again, as The Tariff Idea does emphasize, that the American protective tariff, purely as a tax on exchange, is not the greatest obstacle to free trade. A most important harm is of another sort: It serves as the political excuse for every other item in the American socialistic portfolio, items which industrialists mostly oppose. "If the businessman can have his tariff, we, the farmers, are entitled to our subsidies." And so the argument goes through the whole range of subsidies and political favors for one group after another.

6 Good educational work requires getting at the roots of things. For instance, what thinking and motivations lie behind socialistic actions? It is the desire to be free from competition during life, to have what one wants beyond what is his, and to have "society" put up the difference. These and other urges account for TVA, compulsory "social security," public housing, the use of force in

labor relations, and so on. It is sometimes referred to as "protectionist thinking," and we are obligated to examine all of it even though some businessmen and others may not agree with our analysis. To study and report other than impartially would properly classify our work as special pleading. Good education requires the diagnosis of a question on its own without regard for one's own prejudices and those of friends -- even financial supporters. This attitude is an essential discipline of good education. We presented The Tariff Idea in this spirit.

7 We of the staff and Board of Trustees of the Foundation do not presume to have the last word even in our own specialized subjects. In our research we are attempting, as best we can, to gain a better understanding of the free market and related institutions, and to discover ways of explaining what we have learned with an ever-increasing clarity. It is not to be expected that what we find and report on in our search will meet with unanimous approval. Thorough popularity would signify a useless effort -- that is, if one concedes that there is some error in present-day thinking. This Foundation, if it is to be supported by anyone, must find justification in an "on balance" performance -- a performance never marred by expediency or inconsistency.

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But enough about tariffs; the subject is explained in our The Tariff Idea for all who are interested. Now for another question:

Should there be branch offices for FEE? Suggestions for these are numerous: the Pacific Coast, the Midwest, Germany, Lebanon, Canada, and other countries. We need only one workshop for efficient research, study, writing, editing, correspondence, literature distribution. The proper divisional offices for ideas worth spreading are the minds of men and women everywhere. Ideas are little related to office space, furniture, geographical glad-handing.

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"I use it /FEE's literature/ frequently in class lectures and regularly in conjunction with special report assignments. I am interested in getting the students to read the material rather than have me lecture them on it too often. When the students prepare their own reports, they get more of a sense of 'discovery' and present the material with great fervor."

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Another Study Guide by Tom Shelly of FEE's staff. This one is for Hazlitt's Economics in One Lesson. Designed primarily for adapting the book to secondary classroom use, it is also useful for adult study and discussion groups. Single copy free to teachers; to others $1.00. (60 pages, multilithed, bound).

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