

OPEN HOUSE

CONSIDER the many thousands of organizations — educational, religious, charitable, social, trade, civic — which live by dues, contributions, or gifts. What motivates their millions of supporters? Many donors, if pressed for honest answers, would have to confess that much of their support is given reluctantly. A casual review of one's own experiences will reveal everything from gentle social pressure to lusty arm-twisting. In any event, many of the motivations are somewhat less than ideal.

The following, however, has an opposite type of motivation. While this page was in preparation we received from a California physician:

"I have searched for words that might express my belief in your work. It has finally occurred to me that my personal recognition of your efforts on behalf of libertarianism and free men everywhere could be conveyed best by action rather than words. I feel that a contribution involving a personal sacrifice will impart even more significantly my sincere conviction. Therefore, I have resolved to abstain from smoking for the next year and to increase my donation to FEE by the approximate amount that I shall have saved." (\$75.00 increase)

Now, let's assume that the first type of motivation were to cease. All will agree that the shrinkage in organizations would be enormous. What, in such circumstances, would happen to FEE? I am only certain that if FEE

were to fail in the absence of revenue reluctantly given, it must have been an agency of no account anyway.

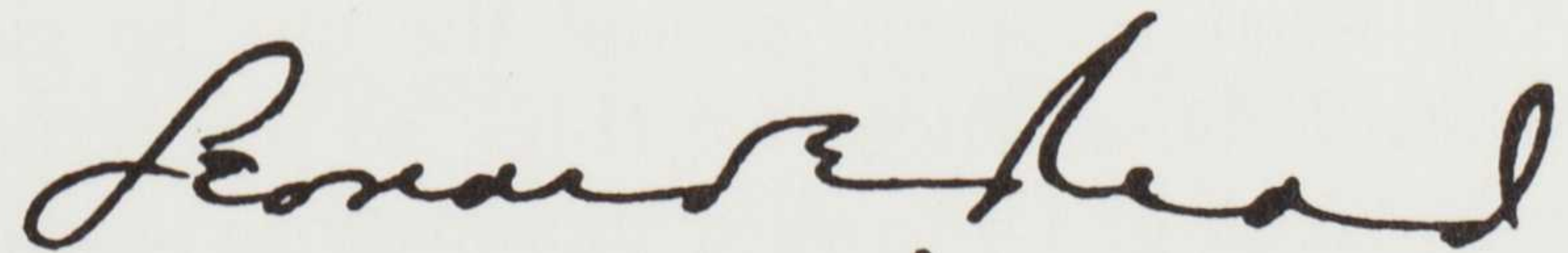
Is there a simple way to judge if revenue is ideally supplied? The question is one each individual may answer for himself: *That gift is most ideal which yields the highest degree of personal satisfaction to the giver.*

Our aim is to conduct the affairs of FEE in such a manner that our work will be looked upon as both opportunity and challenge by all who seek to vitalize their own freedom aspirations and thus strengthen their opposition to a growing statism.

When freedom is the goal, there is no question but that "the gift without the giver is bare." It's when one's gifts are spokesmen for deeply rooted convictions and hopes that they take on meaning and give life to one's purpose. Ideally, the gift and the giver are one and inseparable.

Premised on the above, our obligation does not include asking for funds. It only requires that we report the facts: *FEE will need more revenue than now if the present level of work is to be maintained; still more if we are to increase our educational activities.*

FEE keeps open house for all who are freedom-minded. It isn't for us to say who shall enter. Our responsibility is to keep a good house.



P R E S I D E N T

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