TO FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION FOR ECONOMIC EDUCATION

Leonard E. Read died peacefully in his sleep before dawn on May 14, 1983. He had spent the previous day at his desk, arranging for the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees the following week.

The meeting was held, as he would have insisted. FEE Trustee Dr. Perry E. Gresham was asked to open the session on May 16 with a eulogy. This was followed by Dr. Michael Novak's scheduled lecture on "The War of Ideas."

The following morning Dr. Ezra Taft Benson spoke briefly in memoriam at the meeting of the Board of Trustees. The Chairman of the Board also read into the minutes of the meeting a memorial resolution drafted by the Reverend Edmund A. Opitz of the FEE staff.

Memorial services were held at the Irvington Presbyterian Church, following the meeting of the Board. As a part of the services, Dr. Hans F. Sennholz, Chairman of the Board of FEE presented a further eulogy.

These testimonials follow, along with a few of the messages of condolence thus far received from friends.

The Board and staff of FEE are resolved that the ideas and ideals of Leonard Read survive him in the ongoing work of the Foundation he established and guided. At the meeting on Tuesday morning, the Board of Trustees requested that Dr. Gresham temporarily serve as FEE's President, and that I serve as Vice-President and operating manager.

The Foundation was Leonard's life and is his legacy. He left FEE spiritually, intellectually and financially sound. More than ever, all of us are now committed to the duty of building upon his works.

The unfinished and unending pursuit of liberty Leonard began will be continued with vigor. Your help in this effort both honors his memory and contributes to the realization of his vision.

ROBERT G. ANDERSON

Irvington-on-Hudson, New York
May 19, 1983

Softly in the night, like the chiming of a distant Cathedral bell, came the death of Leonard Edward Read. Near eighty-five years of rich meaning were concluded as his sleep became final and his spirit and his truth were set free in the world. His friends and colleagues have gathered to learn the truth of liberty; this has been the major interest of this wise and good man since he first dreamed of a center for the study of economic freedom. The Foundation for Economic Education is his actualized dream. Nineteen forty-six was the year of its charter, and its development is his lengthened shadow.

There is a destiny in each human pilgrimage difficult to fathom and impossible to fully comprehend. Leonard Read began preparing for this cause of liberty from the time of his birth at Hubbardston, Michigan in 1898. He was wise enough to select the right parents and grandparents to provide him with the genes for a clear and discerning mind in a strong and durable body. When he was old enough he began to manage his own life in such responsible fashion that he could excel in academics and sports alike. High school at Hubbardston and Ferris Institute at Big Rapids provided the necessary resources for an education which far surpassed those at many more prestigious centers of learning. Leonard Read learned what his schools had to offer and rose to take his place among the great heroes of economic education.

At not quite twenty years old he volunteered for service in the A.E.F. He was on the *Tuscania* when that ill-fated ship was torpedoed. Young Read not only survived but emerged from the war to become president of his own Ann Arbor Produce Company. For six years he provided fruit and vegetables for the students and faculty of The University of Michigan as well as for many of the townspeople of Ann Arbor. Then he was tapped by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and placed in charge of their Burlingame office. Palo Alto hired him away from its nearby rival city, but even Palo Alto could not hold him. He moved to the western regional office, first as assistant manager, and then as manager. The city of Los Angeles, aspiring to be foremost in the nation, persuaded Read to leave the western office and become chief executive for the Los Angeles Chamber. Here he served with distinction for six years. Now he was 47 years old and ready to risk everything for education in liberty. In 1946 he acquired the property and started the Foundation for Economic Education.