

New York 18

August 7, 1946

Mr. John W. Scoville
2221 Penobscot Building
Detroit 26, Michigan

Dear Mr. Scoville:

I need not tell you how much I appreciate your friendly and very generous letter about my new book.

I was perhaps ill-advised in wording the sentence on page 144 in a way which could be taken to imply that "union rates" represent true market rates. I feel strongly, however, for the reasons I indicated, that the worker is in a weaker bargaining position than the employer. I hope I am always ready, however, to modify any view, even if I am on record with it, if the weight of the argument is against it. I shall look forward to seeing your book, "Labor Monopolies or Freedom," when it appears.

Cordially yours,

Henry Hazlitt

JOHN W. SCOVILLE

CONSULTING ECONOMIST

2221 PENOBSCOT BUILDING

DETROIT 26, MICHIGAN

August 2, 1946

Mr. Henry Hazlitt
New York Times
229 West 43rd Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Mr. Hazlitt:

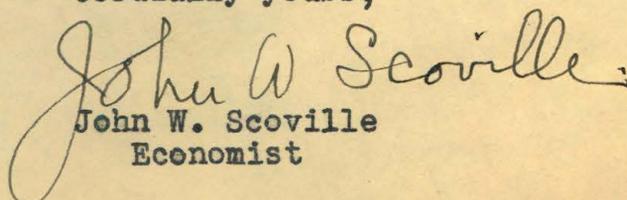
Yesterday noon I bought your new book, "Economics in One Lesson," and I completed reading it before retiring for the night. The review of the book in The Times did not do the book justice. The book is remarkable for the clarity of thought, simplicity and brevity. You are an American Bastiat.

The only criticism I have is in your chapter on labor unions. On page 144, you indicate that union rates tend to show true market values and that the individual worker is in a weaker bargaining position than the employer. These two fallacies which you endorsed are exposed in a book I have written called "Labor Monopolies or Freedom," which will be distributed about Labor Day and published by The Committee For Constitutional Government.

Your book deserves to have a tremendous circulation, not primarily to give you more income, but to educate the American people who are now wallowing in a quagmire of fallacies and ignorance. Of course, I realize that, when judged by the upper five percent who have at least a minimum amount of intellectual ability, the bulk of the people are ignorant, always have been ignorant and always will be ignorant. The hopeful thing is that when the upper five percent advance they tend to drag the ninety five percent along with them.

You performed a great public service in writing this book.

Cordially yours,


John W. Scoville
Economist

JWS:RAS
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