

Society for Individual Liberty

SERVICES OFFICE 400 BONIFANT ROAD, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 (301) 384 6015

August 2, 1970

Miss Bettina Bien c/o Foundation for Economic Education 30 South Broadway Irvington-on-Hudson, New York 10533

Dear Bettina:

Just a couple of things to ask of you and from you. First, I have heard rumors that you and/or Percy Greaves are planning on writing a biography of Ludwig von Mises. I wondered if this was true - can you enlighten me?

Secondly, I understand that Rothbard, some time not too long ago, gave a speech at one of the Mises dinners, or somewhere, offering an Austrian critique of Milton Friedman and his "Chicago school" of economic thought. I spoke with Dr. Rothbard a few days ago, and he said that you had transcribed the tape of the speech, and that I should speak with you about the possibility of getting a copy. Could I obtain a xerox of your transcription from you somehow? I would really like to see Rothbard revise it - which it needs, according to him - and have it published somewhere, perhaps by FEE or SIL. Have you any thoughts on this?

And finally, I wanted to know your reaction to the new Rothbard book, POWER AND MARKET: Government and the Economy, which has just been published by the Institute for Humane Studies. I have just finished reading and reviewing it for both the SIL services bulletin and our magazine, THE INDIVIDUALIST, and thought of asking you of your reactions to it. I wish that Mises were a few years younger and could review the thing. It would strike up quite a controversy between the two - Rothbard and Mises - whom I, at least, consider the greatest economists now alive.

Yours for reason & liberty,

R. A. Childs, Jr.