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Foundation for Economic Education
Irvington-on-Hudson
New York

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is our review of Anything That's Peaceful, which
was released November 24 to our subscribing newspapers.

Sincerely,

Harry Browne
P.W.

Harry Browne

HB:pw
enc.



Between the Bookends



THE WORLD'S LARGEST COMPUTER

Where would you guess the world's largest computer is located?

Leonard E. Read answers that question in his new book, *"Anything That's Peaceful"* (published by Foundation for Economic Education, Irvington-on-Hudson, N.Y.; \$3.50). He points out that the free market — the billions of daily choices of millions of individuals — is equivalent to the greatest computer in the world.

This "computer" automatically records the needs and desires of all free individuals and tabulates their choices — providing exact answers to questions of the proper use of human and natural resources.

ACCURATE RESULTS

Read says: "The free market computer gives accurate answers in prices, signalling to all would-be entrepreneurs to get into production or get out, to step up or diminish particular economic activities. Supply and demand thus tend, automatically, toward equilibrium. The free market computer is truly free: its accurately instructive answers are founded on *free* exchange data; its services are *free*, with no more cost than the sun's energy; it *free*s each and all of us from the impossible task of assembling the billions upon billions of data behind our daily decisions."

The author then draws the obvious con-

clusion that no planner, no committee, no government could possibly make such a precise allocation of resources as does this invisible free market computer.

Read's analysis of the free market computer is one chapter in his new book. In it, he presents the thesis that governments should be limited to the single function of keeping the peace. He demonstrates conclusively that no government is capable of efficiently governing the economic lives of human beings.

SAD RESULTS

He cites the fact that government intervention has resulted in the cost of storing millions and billions of bushels of wheat, pounds of butter, pounds of tung oil, bales of cotton, gallons of turpentine, pounds of grain sorghum, and bushels of corn.

He also draws attention to the fact that "private plots make up only 3 to 5 percent of Russia's farm land, yet they yield a product astonishingly out of proportion to that small fraction. In 1959, some 47 percent of the USSR's meat came from this fraction of land, 49 percent of the milk, 82 percent of the eggs, 65 percent of the potatoes, and 53 percent of the vegetables."

"Anything That's Peaceful" is a masterful presentation of the case for getting the government out of all economic matters.