

NEW YORK POST

Sunday June 20, 1954

EDITORIAL

Dear Robert

We are obliged to reply at once and thus prominently to the communication below, expressing at the same time our gratification that its author is numbered among the readers of The Post.

Dear Editor:

I am finishing my senior year in high school. The other day I received an offer of a ten week summer course in economics given by the Henry George School of Social Science. As I hope seriously to study social science in college I was, of course, very enthusiastic. I decided, however to ask my history instructor before accepting. He told me it was a good school but had just a little tint of pink which might not smell too well if I were applying for a government position. He added, however, that it gave a fine basic course in economics and he had gone there himself. Some of my friends were not as favorable and expressed their doubts.

I am ashamed as I write to have succumbed to the spreading fear and suspicion, But I would very much appreciate a reassurance.

ROBERT E. T.

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Robert, your history instructor and your little friends are wrong. They are victims of the panic of a frightening era. If their fears prevail, then for you and for them, at least, freedom has lost most of its meaning.

If their terrors overcome us, it will not much matter then whether you ever work for the government or not. Indeed it probably means that we cannot long have the kind of government you would want to work for.

If they cannot calm themselves, tell your history instructor and your little friends that it was not long ago that President Dwight D. Eisenhower voted for the inclusion of Henry George instead of General Stonewall Jackson in the Hall of Fame.

Tell them to read the speech of a man named Eisenhower at the Bicentennial of Columbia University on "Man's Right to Knowledge and the Free Use Thereof."

It has often been intoned that eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. This means vigilance, not over others, but over ourselves.

So take that course, Robert. And if you're going to skip any classes, skip those of the faint-hearted history instructor who goes around scaring children. If kids of your age lose their nerve, the republic is really in trouble.

HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL OF NEW JERSEY