
LIBERTY PLEDGE NEWSLETTER

TOP SPEAKERS AT NAT'L CONVENTION

MAY 1989

There has been an excellent response to the advance registration package offered by our 1989 National Convention hosts. More than 300 are expected to attend the four day event in Philadelphia from Aug. 31 to Sept. 3rd. Top draws are Dr. Charles Murray, the nationally renowned sociologist, and Dr. Walter Williams, the nationally prominent economist and libertarian author. Also, Nobel Prize nominees Leon Louw and Frances Kendall, from South Africa, are going to be there to speak on Thursday. The Gala Banquet will feature awards and Cong. Ron Paul, while three special breakfasts will feature Jim Lewis, Russell Means, and Andre Marrou.

See the latest copy of your LP NEWS for convention details and prices, or write to "Proclaim Liberty Associates," P.O. Box 338, Warminster, Pa. 18974

TAX PROTESTS SCORE

April 13-17 was Tax Protest time around the U.S.A. for the Libertarian Party. LP activists, organized and coordinated by Andre Marrou, came through with at least 86 separate protest events, with several picked up by UPI. On page 4, see the UPI photo in a California paper of the Pennsylvania LP's "Lady Godiva" ride in Philadelphia!

PLEDGES SHOW BIG INCREASE!

A big reason for the financial health of the Libertarian Party is the support shown by our Pledgers. Pledges rose from a total of \$7700 in January '89 to more than \$12,000 as of May 20th. The number of pledgers rose from 488 to over 700. We appreciate the confidence shown in the LP's leadership and projects!

BACK TO THE CAMPUSES!

In the 1960's, the Libertarian movement started on the campuses. Twenty years later, it is time to recruit another generation of campus libertarians. The LP has set this as a priority for this Fall.

Don Ernsberger and Andre Marrou have started work on a plan to have at least 150 campus literature tables this Fall. By the end of the year, the target is for 50 official "Young Libertarian" clubs to be operating on campus, with another 50 in the formation stage.

Do you know of a libertarian student willing to set up an information table on a campus? Please have him/her get in touch with the LP's national office for full information on how to proceed. There will be no cost to the students (thanks to your on-going generous support) for this table.

BUDGETS RESTORED TO COMMITTEES

At the last NatCom meeting, the LNC restored funding to several projects that had been defunded in December 1987. Outreach, Media Relations, Affiliate Parties, and Campaign '90 received backing. Outreach has acquired 10,000 REASON subscriber names for a test mailing; the Media Committee is going to survey 1,000 media contacts regarding the lack of reporting on LP vote totals last year; the Affiliate Party Committee is sponsoring an Eastern tour by Field Coordinator Paul Jacob to revitalize several weak state parties; and Campaign '90 is planning candidate workshops for an early start on 1990 campaigns.

Wyoming Deflates the Political Experts

NEW YORK TIMES/New York, NY/c: 1,080,000

By R. W. APPLE JR.

Special to The New York Times

CHEYENNE, Wyo., April 24 — George Bush got a lot of mileage out of his Willie Horton commercial in 1988, so John Vinich, who's involved in an election in Wyoming this year, thought he'd try something similar.

Mr. Vinich, a Democrat seeking the state's lone seat in the House of Representatives in a special election Wednesday, ran a television commercial that sought to picture his opponent as soft on crime. It focused on the opponent's vote for a law allowing some felons to serve part of their sentences in county jails rather than in the state penitentiary, which was full.

It didn't work. The problem was that Craig Thomas, Mr. Vinich's Republican rival for the seat vacated by Dick Cheney when he became Defense Secretary, is a rugged ex-marine with no known record as a coddler of criminals. Almost no one in this spectacularly scenic but thinly populated state, where most people know most other people, believed Mr. Vinich's charges. Ed Herschler, a Democrat who is a former Governor, said he did not think Mr. Thomas was at all soft on crime, and other leading Democrats agreed.

A special House race teaches outsiders some lessons.

Mr. Vinich, the 38-year-old minority leader in the State Senate, also operates a bar and a restaurant in the small mining town of Hudson in central Wyoming. He is considered an able legislative operator, but he also has a reputation as a political wild man. Until the commercial started running, he seemed to have moderated his image, but the ad stirred up old liabilities.

A Handy Symbol

"Vinich is the Ted Kennedy of Wyoming," said Scott Farris, the top political reporter for The Casper Star-Tribune. "He's the guy who all the Republicans like to use as a symbol of everything that's evil. It's hard to see, after this episode, how he can overcome the high negatives that he shows in all the private polling."

Mr. Vinich, while conceding that his ad "hits hard," refused to pull it off the air. Partly as a result, most top politicians here, as well as those in Washington who have been following the race, expect Mr. Thomas, the 56-year-old general manager of the Wyoming Rural Electric Association, to win a relatively narrow victory.

Frank Greer, Mr. Vinich's media consultant who designed the crime advertisement, is not the only strategist to be accused of costly blunders in this contest. It has not been a good campaign for the Washington "experts," who have learned the hard way how much Wyoming resents big shots from far away.

The first victim was Edward J. Rollins, the co-chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee. Stung by losses in special House elections in Alabama and Indiana, Mr. Rollins, new to his job, said he was staking his reputation on winning the race in this state. He added, to Mr. Thomas's horror, "Wyoming is something I've had my hands on since Day One."

'Fierce Provincial Pride'

For generations, people in Wyoming have had to put up with railroad barons and grain traders and oil sheiks mak-

ing the major decisions in their lives. Senator Alan Simpson, the premier Republican in the state, says a sense of powerlessness exists here along with "a fierce provincial pride."

"Out-of-state power brokers are trying to decide out future for us again," Mr. Vinich said, sounding like the populist he has always claimed to be.

"Rollins talks too much," Mr. Thomas said, and he made it clear that it was time for the heavy thinkers in Washington to get their hands off.

But no sooner had that flap begun to fade when another one began. Mr. Vinich was hurt in an automobile accident on April 8 and had to spend five days in the hospital. Republican poll takers, hired by the Republicans, began to tell people they interviewed by telephone that there had been three people, not two, in the Vinich car, and that the "mystery man" was a union boss or politician from the East Coast.

Issues Take Back Seat

Mr. Thomas disavowed the rumor campaign, but it left him squarely on the defensive, until the Vinich commercial gave him a chance for a comeback.

There has been almost no real campaigning on the issues, of which there are plenty in a state in chronic economic trouble. Mr. Thomas says he is like Mr. Cheney and Mr. Vinich is not; Mr. Vinich says he will give the people of Wyoming a voice in the counsels of

the majority party on Capitol Hill and Mr. Thomas will not.

At a news conference here this morning, Mr. Thomas called Mr. Vinich "a candidate who owes his life blood to the unions," which have contributed heavily to Mr. Vinich's war chest. Sensing an opening in the troubles of the Democratic Speaker of the House, Mr. Thomas said that the election of Mr. Vinich would represent "a sharp ideological turn toward the Jim Wright majority."

The Democrats had their turn shortly afterward. Gov. Mike Sullivan said the state "can go nowhere if we don't have a route into the power structure" in Congress. Teno Roncalio, a 73-year-old former Congressman, said Mr. Vinich was young enough at 38 to build up a lot of valuable seniority. And State Treasurer Kathy Karpan said he had "matured and moderated" in recent years.

'Evolution of Sleaze'

But The Star-Tribune, the only statewide newspaper, is so disgusted by the campaign that it refused to give its support to either of the major party candidates. "The acid of negative campaigning," it said in an editorial on Sunday, led it to endorse Craig McCune, the Libertarian Party nominee.

Condemning what it called "the corrosive and destructive movement toward nationally dictated 'assassination politics,'" the paper declared: "The destructive process feeds on itself. Each ugly election encourages the next in an evolution of sleaze. Ultimately, if this corrosive trend is not reversed, it will undermine democracy. It will drive good and constructive people from public life, leaving an America run by political hitmen."

The ultimate irony would be a strong enough run by Mr. McCune to throw the election to Mr. Vinich. An unorthodox sort of Democrat who favors the death penalty and opposes gun control, Mr. Vinich showed last year, when he came within 1,322 votes of beating Senator Malcolm Wallop, that he is capable of an upset. But no Democrat has won a Wyoming Senate seat since 1970, and no Democrat has held the House seat since Mr. Roncalio retired in 1978.

Libertarians plan registration drive

FIVE CITIES TIMES/Arroyo Grande, CA/c: 15,800

LOS ANGELES — A Libertarian voter registration drive will be the focus of the party's annual tax protest this year.

The goal is to double Libertarian Party voter registration by the 1990 general election.

At a recent meeting of the party's Long Term Planning Committee, John Vernon, newly elected Chairman of the Libertarian Party of California, said, "California congressional races in the 1988 general election showed a vote increase over 1986 of 28 percent for the Peace and Freedom Party, 24 percent for the Democrats, and 18 percent for the Republicans, while the average vote for Libertarian congressional candidates was up a whopping 69 percent

per race — more than double the percentage increase of any other California party."

Vernon said, "Roughly one-quarter million Californians voted Libertarian last year. Our job will be to double the number of registered Libertarian voters by locating and registering those folks who supported Libertarians in the election."

To start the registration drive, Libertarians erected tables at various locations last weekend.

Founded in 1971, the Libertarian Party is America's third largest and fastest growing political party. More than 400 Libertarians ran for elective office in 1988. Presently, more than 100 Libertarians hold public office in the United States.

Simplified Tax Form Choice Ahead?

PRESS COURIER/Oxnard, CA/c: 19,715

Remember all the problems you had determining what was supposed to go on each line of your federal (1040) and state (540) tax forms? Very confusing language and obscure references to a hodgepodge of instructions are the norm for tax return forms.

Or did you spend a lot of money to have all that confusion done by a tax preparer? It's not going to get better or simpler.

Sometime in the future, Congress is going to pass the ultimate tax simplification act and we will end up with one of these three 1040/540 tax forms. Which one will be up to you.

First Option — IRS Ultimate 1040/540 Tax Form:

Line 1: What was your total income from all sources?

Line 2: Send it in!

Second Option — Optimum 1040/540 Tax Form:

Line 1: What was your total income from all sources?

Line 2: Send in 10 percent of total for city, county, state and federal governments, (if God can operate on 10 percent, why can't government?)

Third Option — Libertarian 1040/540 Tax Form:

Line 1: What was your total income from all sources? (Optional answer.)

Line 2: Keep it!

Which 1040/540 tax form do you prefer? Do nothing and you will get the first option.

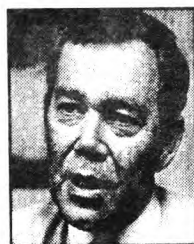
Better do something about it today, because tomorrow will be too late. If nothing else, send this letter to your representatives in Washington, D.C., and Sacramento.

Or do nothing and "send it (all) in!"

Jay C. Wood
Oxnard

CLOSE-UP: WYOMING HARDBALL

House race's negative tactics could preview 1990 campaign



THOMAS: Wins Dick Cheney's old seat

Candidates like to call them "comparative ads."

Everyone else calls it negative campaigning. "It's accepted now," says Democratic pollster Alan Secrest: "Chop the other guy's legs out before he does it to you."

That was certainly the case in Wyoming where, after a nasty campaign, only 56 percent of registered voters turned out Wednesday to fill the state's House seat.

The winner, Republican Craig Thomas, blamed the loser, Democrat John Vinich. But Wyoming Democrats may have been copying the hardball President Bush's team played against Democrats last fall and previewing attacks to come in 1990 congressional races. Explains state Democratic Chairwoman Muffy Moore: "Everybody says, 'We hate negative campaigning.' It's equally true they respond to it."

Vinich's campaign manager, Rodger McDaniel, blames the race's \$1 million cost — almost \$10 per voter: "That amount of money breeds this kind of stuff." Wyoming Secretary of State Kathy Karpan says people told her office, "I don't want to vote because I don't like how the campaign was conducted."

Wyoming's feisty statewide newspaper, Casper's Star-Tribune, was so disgusted by what it called "the corrosive and destructive movement toward nationally dictated 'assassination politics,'" that it endorsed Libertarian candidate Craig McCune.

But he may be among the best indications of why the situation exists: McCune ran a positive, issues-oriented campaign — and won 4 percent of the vote.

Issue will get hearing

If we're unhappy with what we get from Democrats and Republicans, maybe we should make it easier for other parties to get on the ballot and show us what they have to offer.

On the other hand, would this chop the voting public into so many small segments that no one gets a majority, and we stumble through some of the comedies that we have seen in France and Italy?

In any case, encouraging third-party candidates and their ideas is worth debating. The Legislature offers the forum at 8:30 a.m. today in Room E at the Capitol when the House State and Federal Affairs Committee holds a public hearing on House Bill 3230. This bill, supported largely by the Libertarian Party, would make it easier for local and statewide third-party candidates to get on the ballot in Oregon.

Oregon has some of the toughest ballot

Encouraging third-party candidates and their ideas is worth debating.

access restrictions in the country. For example, we require 51,157 petition signatures to qualify a third-party candidate for a major statewide office. Washington state requires 187. California requires 76,172. but, of course, it has a much bigger population.

The pros and cons of opening the ballot to choices other than Democrats and Republicans are worth debating. It must be a public issue, however, because it's not likely that the two parties controlling the Legislature would show much zest for allowing other parties into their club.

Reward offered in hooker's killing

By Mike Folks
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A group representing prostitutes is circulating fliers around the District offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of a suspect in the April 2 shooting death of a Pennsylvania woman who police say worked locally as a prostitute.

Metropolitan Police said they welcome the help in solving the slaying of Mary Ellen Sullenberger, 20, of Lancaster, Pa.

"We don't have any knowledge of a reward," police spokesman Lt.

Reginald Smith said yesterday. "We welcome any assistance in closing the case. We don't have any problem with any assistance we can get."

The flier, which displays a picture of Ms. Sullenberger, promises a reward offered by COYOTE, or Call Off Your Old Tired Ethics, a women's rights organization focusing on the rights of prostitutes.

According to the flier, the reward is being offered by a local chapter of COYOTE led by chapter president Prissy Williams-Godfrey and Denis Sobin, a project coordinator in the chapter and perennial candidate for

city office. Neither Ms. Williams-Godfrey nor Sobin could be reached for comment yesterday.

National officials of the San Francisco-based group also were unavailable for comment.

Lt. Smith said investigators have no suspects in the killing and are still investigating possible motives.

According to police reports, Ms. Sullenberger was found about 5 a.m. April 2 in the 1000 block of 12th Street NW, near L Street. She had been shot and was pronounced dead on arrival at George Washington University Hospital.

Fire up your calculators

DAILY STAR PROGRESS/La Habra, CA/c: 6,036

Be careful, ladies and gentlemen — the pick-pockets are out in force again. But this time, guarding your handbags and wallets won't solve the problem, because it is the criminals in Washington D.C. who are after us.

Their last bid for a 51 percent payraise — through the back door — was a bit extreme, and "we the people" had to get nasty about it. Now, less than two months later, all they want is a scant 20 percent boost to their income. Surely, such a meager, absolutely paltry raise shouldn't get them into trouble again, right?

Well, fire up your calculator, and shed some light on this proposal. Twenty percent of the current \$89,500 annual pay is \$17,900 — an increase of \$1,491.67 monthly, for a total of \$107,400 per year, or \$8,950 per month. Perks not included.

With the average American earning in the neighborhood of \$22,000 yearly, or \$1,833.33 gross per month, we take home about \$1,433.56 after buying off the Internal Revenue Service. The working men and women of this nation manage to survive at this level of income — paying rent, light and heat, food and clothing costs, child care, medical bills, gasoline, auto insurance, and even State and Local sales taxes on virtually everything that we need.

In the private sector, a worker's pay is based on the employee's experience, past performance, education and level of responsibility needed in each position. Wage increases are the result of proven value to the employer, as an incentive to work harder, take on more responsibility, and to remain loyal to the company.

Professional politicians and bureaucrats earn the same wage, regardless of experience or performance, and we — the taxpayers — are their employers, hiring them through the election process, for a specific term at a

specific rate of pay. These public employees, however, claim the need to increase their wages and benefits, at public expense, regardless of the growing budget deficit, foreign trade deficit, defense contractor fraud, pork-barrel projects, and constant tax increases — of one kind or another.

Even if, by the wildest stretch of the imagination, this Congressional pay hike can be justified, I am wondering just where the necessary \$275 MILLION PER YEAR is going to come from. Maybe Social Security funds will be stolen (again), or some "Reaganomics" legacy can be blamed for further cuts in welfare, food stamps, AIDS research and education, Medicare, environmental clean-ups, energy research, the criminal justice

system, or NASA. In any case, rest assured that all of the current waste, corruption and fraud will continue, while taxes will certainly be eyed by the greedy as the easiest way to perpetrate all of our problems.

If our current crop of professional politicians and bureaucrats are having difficulty living on a salary over FOUR TIMES the national average, then so what? Their inability to handle the Federal budget simply points to personal irresponsibility as well. This cannot be the fault of the taxpayers, so it is THEIR problem, not ours. They obviously can't do their jobs, so why encourage them to stay in office?

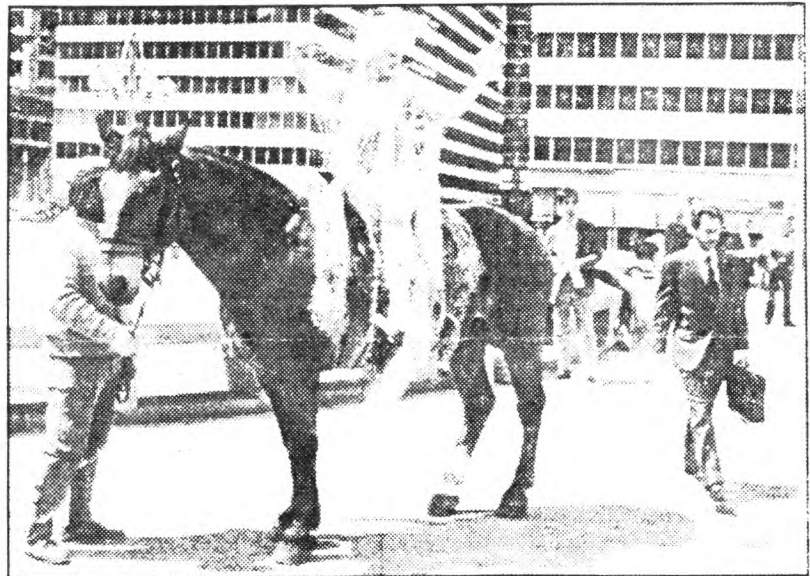
Clark R. Marley, Region 65 Chairman, Libertarian Party of California, Santa Fe Springs.

People

Friday, April 14, 1989

A3

THE FRESNO BEE



United Press International

Baring her political feelings in Philadelphia on Thursday, Libertarian Party member **Lisa Iezzi** recreates the horseback ride of **Lady Godiva**, who rode through Coventry, England, to protest her husband's taxes. Philadelphia's Libertarians were protesting Pennsylvania Gov. **Robert Casey's** new tax plan.

THE BEE/Fresno, CA/c: 134,964