

June 1988

The Liberty Pledge News

The Debates

At the beginning of June, the Headquarters initiated a campaign to contact all members and donors since 1985 in order to have them sign a specially printed petition to the League of Women Voters. This petition simply states that we, as interested voters, request that Ron Paul be included in the Presidential Debates; it emphasizes that he meets the League's own criteria for participation.

This effort was researched and headed by the local D. C. Chair, Scott Kolhaas. These petitions will be personally presented by Scott at the August board meeting of the League (the exact date is not yet set).

Because of the time constraints involved and the expensive initial cost of a mass mailing, the campaign was done by phone, using the Party's inexpensive "bulk-rate" service via M. C. I. The response was overwhelming! The confirmation letter sent with each petition suggested that each person write a personal letter to the League, in addition to signing the petition. This makes the campaign twofold: first, the League will receive a huge load of signed petitions at the August board meeting; secondly, they will already have received many personal letters regarding Ron Paul.

Since Liberty Pledgers do not need to be included in phone campaigns (you receive a regular mailing), the petition is enclosed. Please sign it and return it as soon as possible. Also, please write a personal letter to

the League; the address is:

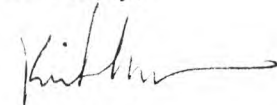
Vicki Harian
Presidential Debate Chairperson
League of Women Voters
1730 M Street
Washington, DC 20036

Try to time your personal letter to arrive during the first week of August. The Liberty Pledge program is at its highest point yet this year, which means that the League should receive over 400 letters in 1 week; and this just prior to their board meeting!!

Remember: John Anderson was included in 1980; and Ron Paul will garner at least the percentage of votes that John Anderson got. If the League includes Ron Paul in the debates and the Republicrats drop out because of this, a single message will be sent out loud and clear to the American people: the older party candidates are afraid to debate Ron!

This year we're in the mainstream more than ever before! This year, we're going to do it!

In Liberty,



Kirk McKee
Acting National Director

The Liberty Pledge News is produced monthly for members of the National Libertarian Party's Pledge Program, Independence '88 and the Torch Club. It is also distributed to State Party Chairs and National Committee members in appreciation of their contributions and to make available information on Headquarters activities and Libertarians in the news. Clippings and other items of interest are greatly appreciated.

Libertarian Party Headquarters * 1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE * Washington, DC 20003
Can we be of help? Want to raise your pledge? Call 1-800-682-1776.

For Libertarian, 'less is more' has relevance for '90s

BY PATRICIA MONTEMURRI
Free Press Staff Writer

Leave it to the Libertarian Party and Americans could legally indulge in drugs and prostitution. The United States would have no federal income tax, no public school system, no welfare system, and no IRS.

Leave it to the Libertarian Party and government would "LEAVE US ALONE."

So trumpets the campaign literature of Libertarian presidential candidate Ron Paul, a 52-year-old Texan who has delivered babies as an obstetrician, and blistering attacks on the government as a former renegade Republican congressman.

He's still attacking the government, but he left the GOP last year, calling President Ronald Reagan a traitor for not reducing the federal bureaucracy and budget.



The Libertarian Party's "less-is-more" philosophy has made it the biggest of the small political parties. Libertarians lag behind Democrats and Republicans in election

votes, and Paul believes that won't change in November.

But Paul measures success in other ways — by a steady stream of callers when he appears on radio talk shows, as he did Friday in Detroit, and by his first telephone call from Newsweek, which asked for his opinion on the drug problem. He's also been interviewed on C-Span and the "Larry King Live" talk show.

"Where I get the most fun is to go on a college campus and get 100 kids together and talk about these things . . . and then get about 35 of them to sign up and want to do something," Paul said in a Free Press interview last week, "because then I know we're making inroads into another generation."

As a congressman from the Houston area from 1974-76 and again from 1978-84, Paul's votes against government intervention and big spending cast him as a maverick.

He was the only member of Congress to vote against a 1981 resolution calling for a settlement of the crisis in Lebanon after Syria placed missiles there in its conflict with Israel. Paul said the United States ought to interfere less in other nations' affairs.

Saying he believed too much money was being spent on defense, Paul was the only Republican to vote against the 1981 defense budget.

In Congress, Paul's biggest triumph was sponsoring legislation calling for the U.S. government to produce gold coins again, resulting in the recently reissued American Eagle gold coin. He wants the American economy to return to the gold standard.

Instead of seeking re-election to the House in 1984, Paul unsuccessfully campaigned for the Republican nomination to the U.S. Senate from Texas, losing to Phil Gramm, who filled the seat left vacant by the retirement of U.S. Sen. John Tower.

Paul returned to medicine after leaving Congress. In the early 1960s, he worked two years at Detroit's Henry Ford Hospital. He decided to enter presidential politics at the end of the Reagan era.

Paul believes that people should be able to get drugs — such as heroin, cocaine and marijuana — at the drugstore.

"Within a week, the drug dealers would be out of business," Paul said.

Without federal incomes taxes and regulations on business and work force requirements, Paul projects that within six months "everybody would be working and thriving."

"Look at the underground economy. Everybody's working in the underground economy because they're not paying taxes. Legalize it and give people incentive to work," said Paul.



WILLIAM DEKAY/Detroit Free Press

LIBERTARIAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE RON PAUL

Although they'd disagree with him, presidential contenders Michael Dukakis, a Democrat, and Republican George Bush have identical philosophies, Paul claims.

"They believe in the use of government power to serve special interests. They argue a little bit over which interest to serve, but they endorse the same concept of government," said Paul. "About civil liberties, look at what they want to do on drugs. Are they protecting the privacy of our homes or letting the DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration) agent bust our doors down?"

Libertarians are on the ballot in 27 states so far, including Michigan, and they hope for a total of 47 by election day.

Libertarians' philosophy appeals to voters in frontier states such as Alaska, where members have been elected to legislature, and California. Paul's running mate, Andre Marrou, is a former state legislator from Alaska. He now lives in Nevada.

Their philosophy of hands-off government tends to make Libertarians a group of fiercely independent members.

"But we all come together with one concept," said Paul. "To each his own."

Austin American-Statesman May 18, 1988

Detroit Free-Press May 23, 1988

Libertarian says party's day coming

BILOXI (AP) — Andre Marrou scoffs at Republicans who say they want to reduce the federal budget deficit and take government out of peoples' lives.

"We're the only party that talks about getting rid of a large part of government," said the 49-year-old former Alaska state representative, who is seeking the vice presidency on the Libertarian ticket.

Marrou toured the Mississippi Gulf Coast Monday.

He said the party's presidential candidate, former U.S. Rep. Ron Paul of Texas, quit the Republican Party in the early 1980s after he became disgruntled with the GOP and particularly with President Reagan's deficit-raising budgets.

Marrou said past classifications of Libertarians as conservatives because of their anti-government stances are incorrect.

He said Libertarians essentially favor letting people do just about anything as long as it doesn't directly hurt anyone else, physically or financially.

For instance, they favor the legalization of marijuana, cocaine and prostitution.

Libertarians also want to ban compulsory education and dissolve many federal agencies, such as the departments of education and the interior.

Marrou admitted the party's chances of winning the presidential election this year are slim but remains optimistic about the future.

According to campaign literature, the party, founded in 1971, will be on the ballot in November in all 50 states.

Libertarian urges making drugs legal

By Debbie Graves

American-Statesman Capitol Staff

A Libertarian candidate for the state Legislature on Tuesday called for the decriminalization of drugs, saying existing anti-drug laws have caused the black market to flourish and crime rates to soar.

"The enormous black market profits to be made in the drug trade assure us that as long as drug prohibition continues, we will have violent gangster activity," said Libertarian Erich Schwarz, 21, who is challenging incumbent state Rep. Wilhelmina Delco, a Democrat. "We will have pushers in our schoolyard. We will have corrupted law enforcement agents, and we will have ever increasing tax bills to pay for the failed policy that creates more and more prohibition-related crime.

"Organized crime has flourished under prohibition, just as it did under alcohol prohibition."

Schwarz, a University of Texas student, spoke during a news conference at the Capitol.

Because of the prohibition, a gram of cocaine sold illegally on the street sells for \$100 to \$150, but cocaine sold legally by a pharmaceutical company sells for \$7 per gram, he said.

"Once drug users are allowed to purchase drugs at their free-market value, there will no longer be a need to steal \$600 worth of merchandise, fenced off at 25 cents on the dollar, to pay for a \$150 habit," Schwarz said.

Delco, a 13-year veteran of the House who didn't know until Tuesday that she had a Libertarian opponent, said she thought drug addicts ought to be treated as ill people who need help. But she said, "I'm still for going after the big dealers."

Schwartz, who unsuccessfully ran for the City Council in 1987, said it "may be a long, uphill fight" to persuade the Texas Legislature to pass a bill decriminalizing drugs.

Libertarian commends tax defeat

By CARA NETH

The Coloradoan

Ron Paul, Libertarian candidate for the U.S. presidency, applauded the efforts of local Libertarians in defeating a Poudre R-1 school tax increase.

Paul appeared in Fort Collins Saturday for the Colorado, Wyoming and Alaska Libertarian Convention at the University Park Holiday Inn.

He has traveled to 44 states in the course of his campaign, and intends to continue spreading the Libertarian message until the November election.

"I run to win, but not with any naive belief that that's an absolute certainty," said the former Republican congressman from Texas. "A lot of good comes from it — more attention, more publicity. It's a grassroots movement, actually."

Mary Margaret Glennie, a Fort Collins Libertarian leader, helped lead the opposition to a school mill levy increase earlier this month. Paul said this local activity is the kind that will help turn Libertarian philosophy into public policy.

In his speech before the convention, which was attended by about 75 people, Paul condemned compulsory public school attendance and encouraged parents to educate their children privately to obtain tax credit.

"The disintegration of public school systems shows that government monopolies are bad," he told the audience.

Success for Libertarians doesn't mean preparing to move into the White House, Paul said. It is spreading the Libertarian message far enough that "we can start directing this country."

The Libertarian party, which claims it has more than 200,000 registered members, has run presidential candidates since 1972. Libertarians support a free market system, including a free market for prostitution and drugs that are now illegal in the United States. It promotes a non-interventionist foreign policy, abolition of taxes and cutting government spending.

Russell Means, chairman and founder of Freedom Is For Everyone, also spoke at the convention and emphasized the need for strong grassroots involvement.

"All you're doing is talking among yourselves, and I'm tired of it," Means said. "Talk about freedom; talk about decentralization; talk about dismantling the government. I'm embarrassed."

Libertarians need to join local commissions and committees and run for local offices, he said.

"This is like a room full of sparks, and one of these sparks is going to start the fire," Means said.

Libertarian candidate striving to cut government's role in life

By Carmen Brutto
Patriot-News

Andre Marrou wants to get back into government so he can get government out of people's lives.

Marrou is a transplanted Texan who served in the Alaska Legislature after earning a chemical engineering degree in Massachusetts, and is now pursuing graduate work in Nevada.

He is also the Libertarian Party candidate for vice president.

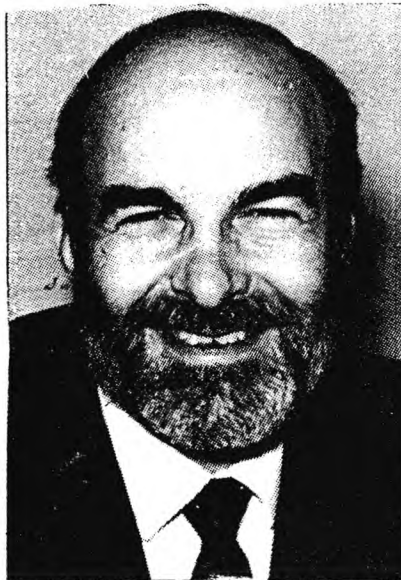
Heading the party's ticket is presidential candidate Ron Paul, a Pittsburgh native who did undergraduate work at Gettysburg College and received his medical doctor degree from Duke University. He's a practicing obstetrician in Texas who served four terms in Congress.

The Paul-Marrou ticket will be on the ballot in all 50 states and expects to spend up to \$7 million to make itself known. Actually, said Marrou, the party has raised \$700,000, of which he will use \$65,000 as his budget for getting around the states and talking to reporters.

Paul and Marrou were picked at the party's convention last September in Seattle.

Marrou was in the area Friday for a talk with about two dozen supporters at the Sheraton Harrisburg East. He was escorted by Michael Slaughter of Harrisburg, his midstate coordinator, and John Famularo of Philadelphia, state party chairman.

The Libertarian Party, found-



Andre Marrou
Running for vice president

ed in Denver in 1971, has 200,000 registered voters — 75,000 in California — and describes itself as the nation's "third-largest and fastest-growing political party."

"Libertarians believe that being free and independent is the only way to live," the party explains in its brochures. "We want a system which encourages all people to choose what they want from life; that lets them live, love, work and play and dream their own way, at their own pace, however they wish and with whom they wish, win or lose."

Marrou was asked whether this doesn't seem anarchic.

"The extreme Republican is a

fascist; the extreme Democrat is a communist and, yes, the extreme Libertarian is an anarchist," Marrou replied. "But I am not extreme."

"We need a defense system of sorts, but less than we have," he said. "We need courts and police, but police who go after murderers, rapists and robbers instead of after people going five miles over the speed limit or growing marijuana behind the dorm."

Marrou is one of three Libertarians elected to the Alaska House where, he said, other legislators "would come to me and ask me to speak on things they were afraid of."

The party claims to have 90 of its members elected to county and local offices, with that increasing at the rate of one a week, in "villages and school boards and things of that nature," Marrou said.

"You must remember that in a number of states, 15 or 20, it is illegal to register as a Libertarian," he said, noting that the high point of the party's elections was in 1980 when its presidential candidate, Ed Clark, received 700,000 votes.

"The underlying issue in politics today is individual liberty vs. government power," Marrou said. "Full liberty means a small, severely limited government. America's large, powerful government has grown by taking away individual freedom. There is an inverse relationship between these two positions: As one grows, the other shrinks."

Fight rigged election laws

The Libertarian Party of Illinois has embarked on a lonely quest for which it deserves support. It is fighting rigged election laws that make it as cumbersome as possible for anyone to get on the ballot unless he or she is nominated as a Democrat or Republican.

The Libertarians usually manage to get onto the Illinois ballot because they are able to raise sufficient funds locally to survive the legal merry-go-round designed to frustrate independents and third-party candidates. However, progressively stricter ballot-access laws in other states are jeopardizing the party's ability to mount a national campaign.

To help chapters in states that are tightening the

squeeze on non-major-party candidates (North Carolina, for instance, has raised its signature requirement 350 percent), the Illinois party's political-action committee has decided to share surplus funds earmarked for ballot access in other states. It's a worthwhile endeavor to assure fair treatment for the party's presidential nominee, Ron Paul, former four-term congressman from Texas, and his running mate, Alaska legislator Andre Marrou.

Organizations devoted to voting rights should pay far more attention to election codes that discriminate because of political affiliation or lack of it. Their neglect fosters the growing domination of the electoral process by the marriage-of-convenience alliance of the two major parties.

Chicago Sun-Times

June 5, 1988

Libertarian candidate tells why other parties fall short

Dallas Times-Herald May 18, 1988

By Jerry Needham
OF THE TIMES HERALD STAFF

Democrats and Republicans are bedfellows perpetuating big government, and many Americans are ready for an alternative, Libertarian Party presidential candidate Ron Paul said Tuesday in Dallas.

Paul, a Houston doctor and former Republican who served four terms as a U.S. representative, called for decriminalization of drugs, cuts in all areas of the federal budget and a return to a monetary system backed by gold.

"We should immediately balance the budget at a much lower level," Paul told reporters at Thanks-Giving Square after a 20-minute speech to about 250 employees of Atlantic Richfield Co.

"Everything should be cut," he said. "Domestic welfare is out of control, and so is defense spending. Seventy percent of the military budget is spent overseas. We could spend less money and still protect the liberty and property of the American people."

Paul said decriminalization of drugs "is one of the most

exciting political ideas around."

"Drug laws create crime on the street and corruption," he said. "Seventy percent of the people arrested for serious crimes are drug users. And all the evidence shows that they commit these crimes to support a habit made extremely expensive by government prohibition."

Paul said decriminalization "won't solve the problem with drug usage," a problem he said must be addressed with education, as alcohol abuse is now. "Accepting that a law is going to improve the moral character of the nation is insane."

Montgomery County Record June 8, 1988

Libertarian candidate vows to eclipse Howard

By James E. Stanton
Calkins Newspapers

Donald Ernsberger, the Libertarian candidate for the 8th Congressional District seat, on Monday told a group of supporters that he intends to replace Republican challenger Edward L. Howard as the principal challenger to Democratic incumbent Peter H. Kostmayer.

"In the upcoming debates, you will see two people going at one another — Kostmayer, representing the status quo, and a Libertarian offering the alternative of innovative ideas," said Ernsberger of Warminster, a social studies teacher at Council Rock High School.

Ernsberger, describing Howard, a former state senator, as "laid back," said the latter would not present a threat to Kostmayer, who is seeking a sixth term.

He spoke before a group of about 35 campaign workers at a dinner held at the Buck Hotel in Feasterville.

Ernsberger said that he was "ahead of Howard" in what he hoped to accomplish.

He said he expects to raise more than \$30,000 during the campaign — twice the amount he hoped to raise when he announced his candidacy over the winter.

"Our goal then was 30 newspaper articles and we've had 66 al-



DONALD ERNSBERGER
... alternative ideas

Ernsberger, 40, who has called for the legalization of drugs, said that their present illegality is "the direct cause for the crimes policemen are worried about — the muggings and assaults, and innocent people being caught in the cross-fire of gang warfare."

Ernsberger will be on the Lib-

ertarian ticket headed by Presidential candidate Ron Paul, a former Texas congressman.

Guest speaker at the Ernsberger dinner was vice presidential candidate Andre Marrou, who made remarks later in the evening.

In an interview prior to the dinner, Marrou, a former state legislator from Alaska, said that the Internal Revenue Service is the most discussed topic in his talks with voters in the various states.

"It (IRS) is easily the most hated agency in the United States," said Marrou, now of Las Vegas. "This even surprises me."

He said the Libertarian's national ticket is campaigning to eliminate the IRS.

He estimated that about 28 percent of the IRS' staff could be eliminated in the four-year term of a president "through attrition."

The income tax, he said, is one of the "abuses of a government that has gotten too big — much bigger than our founding fathers intended."

Libertarian presidential candidate would like to gut the government

By Steve Wise
Herald Staff Writer

A presidential candidate who wants to dismantle most of the federal government brought his message to Grand Forks on Wednesday.

Libertarian candidate Ron Paul said he wants to end all farm subsidies, abolish the income tax and pare the federal government to a minimal national defense and a judiciary system.

"The purpose of government is the protection of liberty, but you don't have the Department of Energy and the Department of Agriculture. You don't have a Department of Education. People take care of those problems, not the government bureaucrats," said Paul, 52, who

served as a Republican congressman from Texas from 1976 to 1984.

"Why can't we wake up and say the government's doing a lousy stinking job, and we need to do something else?"

Paul called the personal income tax "involuntary servitude" because people are forced to keep records for the government and are assumed to be guilty of non-payment if the Internal Revenue Service finds fault with a person's tax return.

By eliminating the functions he sees as unnecessary, Paul said government would run well without the revenue from income taxes.

"If we want the proper role of government, which is the protection of personal liberties, we absolutely

don't need a personal income tax."

And if the Federal Reserve System ceased to exist — ending the manipulation of money values and inflation — farm and other government subsidies would not be necessary, Paul said. Free market forces, he said, would set farm prices, health-care systems and education systems better than government allocation, which he said is really determined by special interest groups.

"Subsidies are the use of force to take money from one group and give it to another group that lobbies strongly in Washington," he said.

Sioux Falls Argus-Leader May 13, 1988

Means: Tribal system is enemy of Indians

BOZEMAN, Mont. (AP) — Tribal government rather than the federal government has become the worst enemy of Indians because they want to run a patronage system at the expense of economic development, says a founder of the American Indian Movement.

Russell Means, addressing a gathering at Montana State University as part of Native American Awareness Week, said reservation-based governments in the West hold 60 percent of the country's energy resources but have failed to develop them.

"Tribal government doesn't want economic development," Means said. "They want to run their patronage system."

Means said he considers himself a "born-again primitive" and believes America is becoming one huge Indian reservation ruled by a totalitarian federal government.

"The reason I'm espousing Libertarian rhetoric is the Libertarian Party wants to dismantle the federal government non-violently," said Means, who came in second last year in his bid for the party's nomination to run for president.

He characterized the federal government as increasing its



Russell Means

power over Americans. There's a bill in Congress now to provide all Americans with a Social Security number at birth, he said. Federal catastrophic health insurance will bring a form of socialized medicine that won't work any better for whites than federal health coverage works now for Indians, he said.

Means, who now lives on the Navajo reservation in Chinle, Ariz., plans to return to Montana June 25 to place a monument at the Custer Battlefield "to commemorate the heroic stand made by our patriots in defense of women, children and the elderly, — who gave Custer a 'sensitivity training session.'"

Wednesday, Means said he and other Indians have been working with superintendents of the Custer Battlefield for more than 16 years to win approval to put up the plaque.

Means, an Oglala Sioux, left AIM in January to create his own organization, Freedom Is For Everyone (FIFE).

Long Branch Atlanticville June 20, 1988

Laura Stewart, Libertarian Announces For Congress

Laura Stewart, 31, of Keyport, a freelance computer programmer and income tax preparer, announced last week as the Libertarian candidate for the 3rd Congressional District.

A native of California, Mrs. Stewart has been a resident of New Jersey for seven years. She is chairman of the Libertarian Party of Monmouth County and a member of the steering committee of the state Libertarian Party.

Mrs. Stewart, in explaining her Libertarian stance said that, unlike Democrats and Republicans, the Libertarians do not vary their positions from year to year to please special interest groups.

"We really only have one issue: peace and honesty," she said. "You can determine our stand on any issue from that."

Relating that philosophy to the issue of taxes, Mrs. Stewart stated, "A peaceful person will not take your money without your permission, even for a good cause. Neither will a peaceful government."

Asked how this philosophy might relate to specific issues of the 3rd Congressional District, such as ocean pollution, Mrs. Stewart replied, "Ocean pollution is trespassing and an act of aggression. I don't know why they're talking about stopping it in 1991, when the government should take steps to stop it immediately."

Asked about the strength of the Libertarian Party in New Jersey, Mrs. Stewart said the party has a mailing list of 250 members, but she stressed that in the 1980 presidential election 20,652 New Jersey voters cast their ballots for the Libertarian Presidential candidate, Ed Clark.

Mrs. Stewart is married to William Stewart, a computer engineer with Bell Labs. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in computer science from Cornell in 1978.