

FREE LIBERTARIAN

newsletter of the Free Libertarian Party

JANUARY 1980

MEDIA COVERS FLP CLARK RALLY FLP Grassroots Organization Spreading STATE CONVENTION SET: MARCH 29-30

Libertarians' Candidate for 1980, In New York, Urges Budget Cuts

By E.J. DIONNE Jr.

"If we ever get discouraged," said Ed Clark, the Presidential candidate of the Libertarian Party, "we can look at the quality of the Republicans and Democrats."

Mr. Clark and 150 fellow outriders against the power of government came yesterday to the West Side of New York City, a political nesting place of New Deal liberalism, and preached the Libertarians' doctrine of a laissez-faire economy, a noninterventionist foreign policy and an end to laws against such "victimless" crimes as prostitution and drug use.

The Libertarians in attendance, an assortment of lawyers, businessmen and other professionals, were true to their individualistic proclivities: They generally denied Mr. Clark the standing ovation a party customarily bestows upon its candidate when he walks into a room.

But after an address that included campaign strategy, attacks on his opponents — "When you vote for Jerry Brown, you vote for the Gallup Poll" — and a listing of Libertarian principles and programs — "spending cuts of tens of billions of dollars" — the crowd at the Riverside Drive brownstone rose to its feet in applause.

Party Seeks Breakthrough

The Libertarian Party, which drew 171,627 votes for its ticket in 1976, or one-fifth of 1 percent of the total vote for President, believes that the 1980 election will be its breakthrough year. Organizers hope to get Mr. Clark on the ballot in as many as 47 states and at least 42. Party brochures say the American people are ready for the Libertarians, and so does the party's candidate.

"Many things have happened to make them ready," said Mr. Clark, who contends that the Vietnam War, the Water-

gate scandal, the South Korean influence scandals in Congress, the high inflation rate and the tax-cutting Proposition 13 in California have helped break down Americans' faith in government and build a movement for scaling down government activity. He points to the 1.3 million votes the party won in the 1978 elections.

The Libertarian Party has a collection of positions to attract, and repel, voters on the right and the left.

Its commitment to a totally free market economy, oil price deregulation and sharp cuts in taxes and the welfare state, appeals to conservatives but would irk many liberals.

On the other hand, its proposals to cut military spending and repeal laws against drug use and sexual activities among consenting adults would appeal to many calling themselves liberal but might turn off conservatives.

Mr. Clark's solution? He calls himself a "low-tax liberal."

This philosophy leads Mr. Clark to a variety of other positions — and one-liners.

On bringing back the draft: "If you're into victimless crimes, this is the ultimate in victimless crimes. The crime is turning 18. The punishment is two years at hard labor."

The lesson of the Iranian crisis: "You don't interfere in the affairs of other countries. The Government hardly knows what it's doing when it interferes in our country."

Oil Company Lawyer

Besides having a set of issues he believes will win support, Mr. Clark, a 49-year-old antitrust lawyer for the Atlantic Richfield Company in Los Angeles, also seems to have something that eludes

most third party movements: Cash.

According to Jule R. Herbert Jr., the campaign treasurer, the party has already raised \$700,000 and hopes to come up with a total of \$3.5 million, enough to allow it to conduct market research and buy television advertising time.

The party is refusing to accept matching campaign funds from the Federal Government. But David Koch, a New York City lawyer who is no relation to the Mayor, accepted the party's Vice Presidential nomination with the understanding that he would contribute about \$500,000 to the Clark-Koch ticket, Mr. Herbert said.

In New York, the party is known as the Free Libertarian Party, to keep it from being confused with the Liberal Party. Thus, when some passers-by yesterday saw a sign on the brownstone announcing a "Free Libertarian Party," they walked in, expecting free beer. They were invited up, in violation of one principle expressed in a party bumper sticker that bears the letters "T.A.N.S.T.A.A.F.L." The meaning is well known to all Libertarians: "There Ain't No Such Thing as a Free Lunch."

The New York Times

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1979

CITYCON A SUCCESS

By Steven J. Schneider

On Sunday, November 25, about 150 people packed the second floor of Jim Rogers' townhouse to hear Ed Clark, David Koch, Murray Rothbard, Bill Hunscher, and Chris Hocker speak on the present and future of the libertarian movement. They came from Washington, D.C., New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut, Albany, Westchester, Nassau, and Suffolk, as well as New York City's five boroughs. They heard Murray Rothbard keynote the convention with a discussion of the energy crisis, caused and sustained by government controls, remedied only by creating a free market in energy.

Ed Clark spoke about the success of the presidential campaign to date. Wherever he spoke, new libertarians came out to hear him, and the press listened and reported on what he had to say. Clark suggested that we should encourage our foreign allies to be responsible for their own defense, which they can well afford to do, and thus reduce the American defense budget by billions of dollars. He told his audience that all subsidies to business and agriculture should be eliminated, that the Price-Anderson Act should be repealed and the government-subsidized nuclear power industry should be converted to a privately-financed industry, resulting in the closing of all unsafe nuclear plants.

On bringing back the draft Clark said, and this was quoted in the New York Times article appearing the following day, "If you're into victimless crimes, this is the ultimate in victimless crimes. The crime is turning 18. The punishment is two years hard labor."

Bill Hunscher asked for a Clark button from the audience to demonstrate his support for the Clark campaign. Commenting on the "Draft Hunscher for Senator" effort going on in New Hampshire, Hunscher expressed the ultimate in optimism. Should he decide to run, and should he be able to raise enough money, "If I want to be the next Senator from New Hampshire, I will be the next Senator from New Hampshire," he said.

David Koch, our vice-presidential candidate, spoke on the catch-22 aspects of the federal election law and state ballot requirements, and said that he may contribute more than the \$500,000 he has already pledged as the campaign progresses.

Chris Hocker noted that we are now on the ballot in 7 states, are working on 19 more by the end of 1979, and expect to be on the ballot in at least 45 states by election day, 1980.

During a break in the procession of speakers, Dan Feldman conducted a lively auction of libertarian paraphernalia. Cathy Savadel, an accomplished singer and guitarist, entertained the gathering with a beautiful and moving performance.

After a short business meeting to elect officers and adopt by-laws for the new city-wide Free Libertarian Party, wine and cheese were provided for the guests.

According to Cathy Groudine, our public relations director, we can expect a number of articles on the Libertarian Party stemming from this convention. The New York Times, Nov. 26 edition, ran a very favorable 2-column story in the metropolitan section. In addition, a future story in the magazine section of the Times is planned. Also covering the convention were reporters from the Village Voice, SoHo News, and Our Town. Mike Nelson, a writer for Saturday Review, conducted in-depth interviews with Ed Clark, Ed Crane, David Koch, and Chris Hocker for a story on libertarianism and the Party.

Gary Greenberg, our hard-working State Chair, took the floor at one point with a pitch for contributions to the FLP. It costs \$700 a month to sustain party activities at a minimum level, he told the audience, and urged people to pledge whatever they could to fill the party treasury (as you read this remember it is membership renewal time).

The convention was definitely a success! The speakers were eloquent, the audience warm and friendly. There were a number of new faces, along with some old timers I haven't seen for a while. We made money, and we made the papers!

Libertarians Tooling Up

Leaders of the Libertarian Party contend it's the fastest growing third party in the country. They boast about the 1.3 million votes Libertarian candidates received in races last year — especially the party's strong showings in California and other Western states.

But the Libertarians have never really caught on back East, where it is hard to challenge political "tradition." Last weekend, the party made an effort to generate support — and publicity — in New York City with a "convention" featuring its nominees for President and Vice President.

Although only 100 of the faithful showed up at an Upper West Side townhouse for the affair, party leaders insist that an increasing number of voters in the metropolitan area are coming around to the candidates' basic message — Big Government must go.

"I think we are tying into trends that I see happening nationally," said presidential candidate Ed Clark, a 49-year-old Los Angeles attorney. "People feel government is the problem, not the solution. People feel that taxes make us poorer, not richer. People want more control over their lives. The Libertarian Party is the only party addressing these concerns in a meaningful way."

Hard Copy

The Libertarian position on issues crisscrosses the conventional left-right political spectrum. The party's ultimate goal is the creation of a free market economy with no governmental interference.

"Whatever government does, private enterprise can do better," said Clark. He termed the Great Society and other liberal social initiatives of the last 25 years "dismal failures." Clark says that the poor and handicapped should be aided by their families and private charity groups which will provide "more humane treatment than the impersonal government bureaucracy."

Party leaders see the 1980 election as an organizing tool for future national, state and local races. The party wants to get on the ballot in at least 45 states by election day and plans to field close to 400 candidates for offices across the country.

On the campaign trail, Clark is calling for "the most massive tax cuts this nation has ever seen." He wants to balance the budget by gradually withdrawing all American troops from Japan and Western Europe and by stopping government subsidies to business and agriculture.

Clark favors Salt II, the Equal Rights Amendment, gay rights, the legalization of

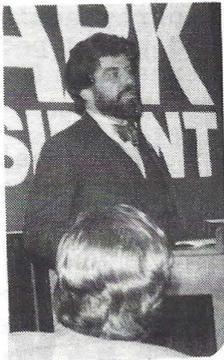
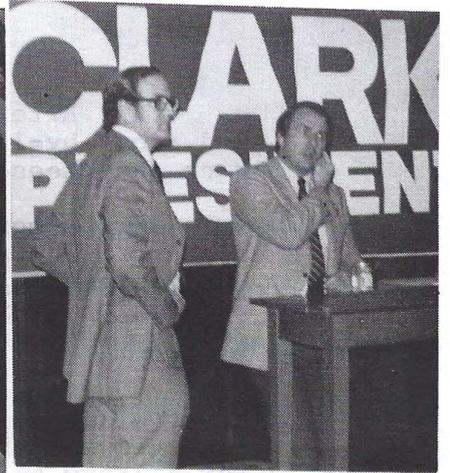
cocaine and marijuana, abortions (although not those financed by the government), voluntary affirmative action policies in the private sector and a constitutional amendment mandating a balanced budget.

Clark opposes the minimum wage, the reinstatement of the draft, military aid to foreign governments and the proposed federal bailout of Chrysler. He wants the Internal Revenue Service, the FBI, the CIA, the Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare and the Dept. of Energy immediately disbanded.

Organizers say the party has already raised \$600,000 for the 1980 race. Vice Presidential Candidate David Koch, a 35-year-old millionaire whose firm manufactures air pollution control devices, has promised another half-million dollars for the campaign. Strategists are planning sophisticated polling and media operations.

Party leaders say they will be satisfied if the ticket receives 50,000 votes in New York next year. Only 19,000 votes were cast for its gubernatorial candidate in the state last year. "The historical moment is right for us to discuss our issues," says Clark. "We must seize the initiative."

Eric Nadler



The 1979

NYC-FLP

Convention

Photos by
Steve Schneider



LIBERTARIAN PARTY DINNER CLUB

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1980 at 7 PM

SPEAKER: Chuck Pike

TOPIC: Nuclear Power:

A Case Study of American Socialism

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1980 at 7 PM

SPEAKER: John Chodes

**TOPIC: Molineaux: The Freedom Theme
in American Theatre**

**LOCATION: 352 Riverside Drive
(Rogers Townhouse)**

PRICE: \$10 (includes Buffet Dinner)

CASH BAR

RSVP (212) 354-0292

CHUCK PIKE is a project engineer for an industrial-environmental engineering consulting firm. He is also Long Island coordinator of the Committee to Repeal the Price-Anderson Act (which protects the nuclear industry against damage suits for its negligence). Mr. Pike is also active in the FLP and has delivered several editorial replies on our behalf. He is Western Vice Chair of the Suffolk County FLP.

JOHN CHODES is a successful writer and playwright. His play, "Molineux," presented at Playwrights Horizon in 1979, is being considered for filming by Columbia, Warner Brothers and EMI. His play, the true story of a 19th century slave-fighter, dealt with the inability to distinguish between slavery and freedom. Though well received by critics, they appeared to misunderstand the true theme, thus confirming its premise. Mr. Chodes is presenting the chairman of the FLP's Editorial Reply Committee and has delivered several responses on our behalf.

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

The FLP State Convention will be held on March 29 and 30 in Albany. Featured speakers at the 2-day affair will include Peter Breggin, Dom Armentano, Murray Rothbard, Ralph Raico, Bill Burt, and LP Presidential candidate, Ed Clark. More speakers are being added. The package fee (excluding hotel rooms) will be about \$50 and include both a banquet and a breakfast. A more detailed brochure and registration form will be mailed out soon. Since there will be no national LP convention in 1980, the FLP affair may well be the major 1980 gathering for East Coast libertarians. Substantial promotion throughout most of the East Coast is planned...

Speaking of conventions, the FLP is preparing a bid for the 1983 Presidential Nominating Convention. An active committee, chaired by Loretta Weiss, has been meeting regularly to design the proposal. Participating on the committee have been Andrea Rich, John Doswell, Jean Preece, Dan Feldman, Cathy Groudine, and Steve Schneider. Several other individuals have also been involved as consultants or handling special projects. New York hosted the 1975 nominating convention and it was generally acknowledged to be an entertainment breakthrough for such libertarian gatherings, including many multimedia events and an original musical comedy production...On organizational fronts, we are making substantial progress. At the November State Committee meeting, the FLP chartered the first new regional club in several years - The Rockland-Orange FLP Club. Also the Northern NY counties of Franklin, Essex, and Clinton, under the leadership of Dana Peryea, are on the verge of establishing an FLP chapter in the heart of the Olympic invasion. Suffolk county has started to reassert itself. A major problem in Suffolk has been the size of the county (over 100 miles long). The county has appointed Eastern and Western regional coordinators. Although the petition drive fell short of the heavy requirements in the '79 local races, the Suffolk organization did collect a large number of signatures. An organizational meeting is being held in Westchester on January 18, featuring State Chairman Gary Greenberg as guest speaker. The Nassau and Rochester clubs are running stronger than ever after their recent successful local election campaigns. Attempts at organizing regional chapters in the Syracuse-Cortland region and the Ulster County region are in progress. Other targets include reviving the Buffalo and Poughkeepsie chapters. In NYC the three existing county groups, New York, Queens, and Kings, completed their mergers and now all of NYC is represented by the new NYC-FLP chapter. The effectiveness of this new merger can be seen in the enclosed stories about the Clark rally and the revived Dinner Club program...Anyone interested in these efforts should contact Dan Feldman, the FLP Field Coordinator, at 914-352-1683, or at the FLP office (212-354-0292)...The FLP is establishing a Libertarian College Council to coordinate the development of libertarian college activity. Alex Puig of Columbia University is coordinating the project and the active NYU-SLS Chapter, chaired by Chris Sciabarra, is participating. Any college student in New York State is invited to participate. Please contact the state office. The group will soon start meeting on Saturdays at the FLP office...FLASH!: It appears that the California LP has registered the required 72,000 people into the California LP by the Dec. 31, 1979 deadline. State certification is still pending and panic efforts by the state apparatchniks to undermine the registration drive are in effect. In LA county, the board of elections conducted massive mailings to registered libertarians in

order to generate deregistration. If the 72,000 names are certified, and almost all have been by now, then the California LP will have full scale political party status, and over 100 California LP candidates for public office are waiting in the wings...The next state committee meeting will be at the FLP office on January 12, 1980... Don't forget, the key to libertarian growth is local grass roots activity. Please support your area groups wherever possible AND SEND IN YOUR 1980 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- JAN. 11 Rochester FLP-SIL Annual Membership Meeting
Contact: Alan Burris, 714-460-9136
- " 12 FLP State Exec. Committee Meeting, FLP Office, 12 Noon
- " 18 Westchester-Putnam Organizing Meeting: Gary Greenberg will speak on Victimless Crimes; Contact: Steve Schneider 914-476-9272
- " 19 FLP-NYC Dinner Club @ The Rogers' Townhouse: Chuck Pike will speak on Nuclear Energy (see enclosed announcement)
- FEB. 2-3 LP National Committee Meeting, Scottsdale, Arizona
- 5 Rochester SIL featuring Lewis Lasagna from U. of Rochester speaking on FDA Regulations; Contact: Alan Burris, 714-460-9136
- 11 Tentative: Orange & Rockland FLP General Membership Meeting
- 29 FLP-NYC Dinner Club @ The Rogers' Townhouse: John Chodes will speak on The Freedom Theme in American Theatre (see enclosed announcement)
- FEB. 29- LIBERTROPOLIS '80--LPNJ STATE CON. Featured Speakers: Karl Hess, Walter Williams, Murray Bookchin, Ed Clark (tentatively)
- MAR. 1 at Jersey City Holiday Inn...Very convenient to FLPNYC Members For information contact: 201-783-6246
- MAR. 29-30 FLP STATE CON., ALBANY, NY with Peter Breggin, Dominic Armentano, Murray Rothbard, and others.

REPLY
EDITORIAL
REPLY
EDITORIAL
REPLY



HEAT FOR THE POOR

November 17, 1979 at 7:25 PM
November 19, 1979 at 6:55 AM

I am John Chodes, of the Free Libertarian Party, and I'm replying to a Channel 2 editorial. Recently, Channel 2 naively applauded President Carter's \$1.6 billion heating aid program for the poor and elderly which may be tied to windfall profit taxes against the oil companies.

We believe that Channel 2 is unaware that this is not humane. Singling out favored groups for special help, as Channel 2 would have the government do, creates a class system where different kinds of people live under different legal standards. This is more the trait of a kingdom than a democracy.

The true danger is that the poor and the aged may lose favor with those that rule but the means for creating special classes will remain entrenched. Then, who knows what will happen when an unjust but powerful group assumes that special place.

Secondly, the proposed "windfall profits tax" to finance this aid reveals how the government falsely blames business for the plight of the poor. Thus, businessmen are "bad" and punished through higher taxes if their talents bring greater rewards than those with lesser skills. This twisted bias against the enterprising, balanced by the stifling protection of the poor, has long been connected with the rule of kings.

That is why the Free Libertarian Party believes that government must be forced out of its sham role of charitable life-giver. If not, then all of us will be trapped in its grasp.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY

Membership Application

COMBINATION STATE & NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP. I enclose \$15 to pay for a combination one year membership in the Free Libertarian Party of New York and the national Libertarian Party. I am in substantial agreement with the statement of principles and objectives of the Free Libertarian Party as set forth below and I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature _____

Date _____

STATE MEMBERSHIP. I enclose \$5 to pay for a one year membership in the Free Libertarian Party of New York. I am in substantial agreement with the statement of principles and objectives of the Free Libertarian Party as set forth below.

Signature _____

Date _____

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP ONLY. I enclose \$10 to pay for a one year membership in the national Libertarian Party. I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature _____

Date _____

Make all checks payable to the Free Libertarian Party and mail to Free Libertarian Party, 15 West 38th Street, New York, NY 10018.

Name _____ Occupation _____
 Address _____ County _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (Home) _____ (Office) _____

PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE FREE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

The Free Libertarian Party is a political organization which has as its primary objective the extension of individual freedom to its furthest limits. To that end the Party affirms the following principles:

1. That each individual possesses the inalienable right to life and liberty and to justly acquired property.
2. That no person or institution, public or private, has the right to initiate the use of physical force against another.
3. That all individuals are entitled to choose their own life styles as long as they do not forcibly impose their values on others.
4. That the only moral basis of politics is the preservation and protection of individual rights.
5. That the voluntary exchange of goods and services is fundamental to any socio-economic system which provides for the harmonious integration of divergent value systems.

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