



Time for

Liberty

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The American Economic System is Out of Control, Governor Says

"I believe American systems are now out of control." This is how Governor Richard Lamb of Colorado recently described the incredibly dangerous trends that have long been established in the United States and will reach their fruition in the early 1990s.

Richard Lamb is a rare politician who doesn't pull any punches. He sees things from the inside and he knows the system is incredibly corrupt. Here are some of Richard Lamb's forecasts, as quoted in a recent Howard Ruff newsletter: "By 1990, interest rates will have risen to 25 percent at least twice, gold will have hit \$2,000 an ounce or more, and inflation will have soared back to double digit numbers at least

twice. We will see a depression-like economic trauma before 1994.

Living on the Past

"Republicans can't say no to military spending, and the Democrats can't say no to social spending. Together they are repeating all the mistakes of the 1960s, attempting to give us guns and butter. Before long, though, we'll have to pay for our excesses. We're living on a store of wealth built up by past generations, but the joy ride is going to end. Our economy can only take so much abuse."

See Out of Control pg. 4

Fresno City College Features Free Enterprise Seminar

Phi Beta Lambda of Fresno City College held a free enterprise seminar at City College on 13 April 85 entitled "Free Enterprise—Freedom For Your Future." The seminar was open to high school and college students and drew an audience of approx. 40 students—an impressive turnout for a voluntary program held on a gorgeous spring Saturday.

The program featured a video tape—CHICKENOMICS, a market simulation, small group discussions, and two featured speakers. One of the speakers was the Libertarian Party's Director of Education—Dr. Robert Subers, who gave a well received 45 min. presentation titled "Government Policies vs. Free Markets."

Our congratulations to the Fresno City College chapter president Jack Lewis and the Free Enterprise Committee—students Jerry Jarocki (chairman), Lorraine Amenda, Sean O'Keefe, Diane Sanchez, John Tiffany, Dennis Warkentin and faculty advisor Connie Kendrick.

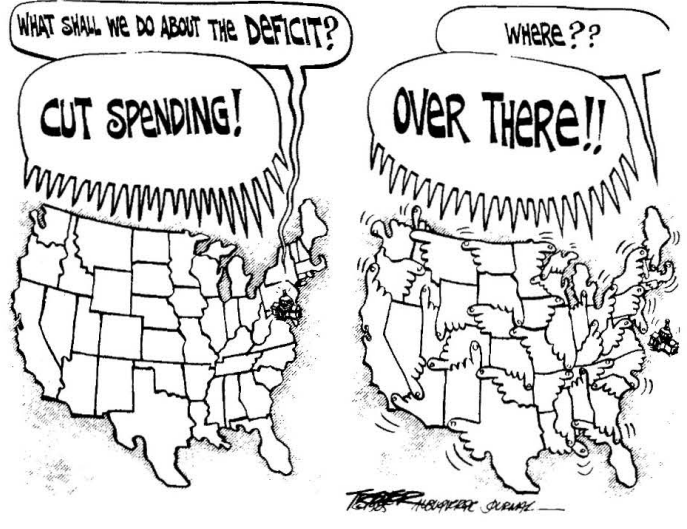
Chairman's Report by Tim Salzer

The future of the Libertarian party is building from the bottom up. Seek local offices such as city councils and boards of supervisors. If you are in the county run for an irrigation district seat. Find out what is on the minds of the local voters. Fashion and demonstrate practical solutions. Libertarians should be seen as reasonable people whose solutions make sense and do work.

For Libertarians to have credibility, there must be public exposure. Get involved in a high visibility activity such as chairman of a local community event.

A position to hold is that government is too rigid to manage the proliferation of change now occurring. More choices would be available if government were to get out of the way.

A reasonable program for the next 10 years would be to gain a majority on five city councils out of the fifteen in Fresno county. This is what I heard Lynn Joyner, a demonstrably practical Libertarian, say to us. It makes sense, let's do it!



How To Reduce The Federal Deficit

By J. Peter Grace

It's wacky time in Washington once again. Just as they do every few years, big-spending politicians are calling for another tax increase. The purpose, they proclaim, is to reduce the federal budget deficit. But did you ever notice that this "cure" never works? No matter how often our taxes are raised, the federal government keeps running up huge deficits.

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"The man with a new idea is a crank until the idea succeeds."
—Mark Twain

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A deficit is simply an excess of spending over income. If any of us were to outspend our income year after year, we would either recognize the problem and take drastic steps to correct it—or end up in the poorhouse.

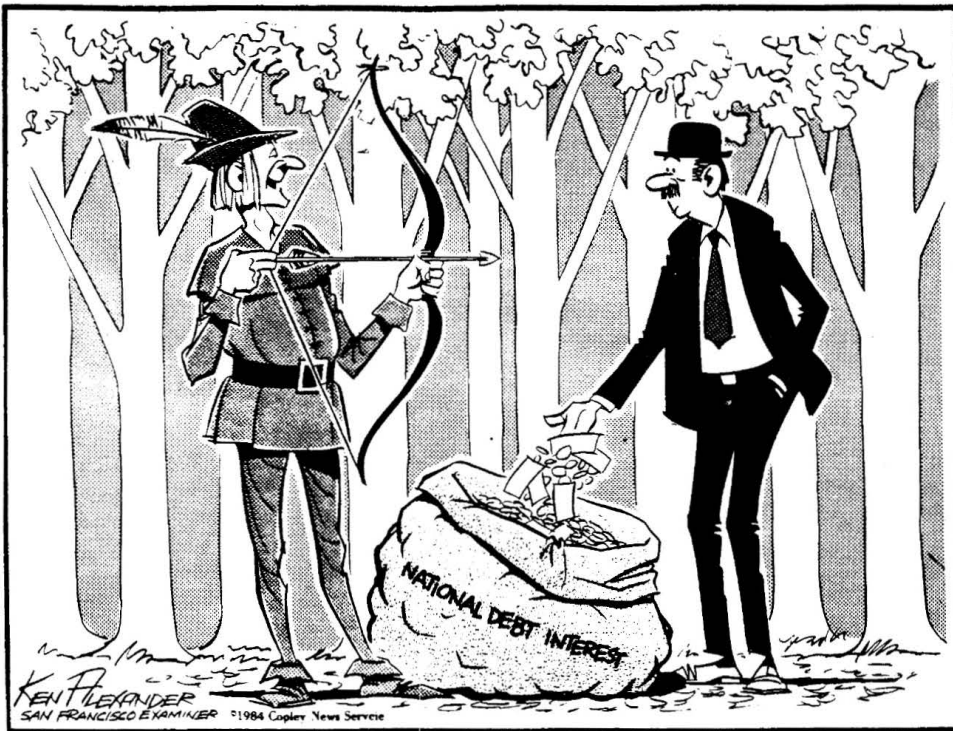
The federal government has now over-spent its income 19 of the last 20 years, including the last 15 in a row! Something must be wrong, but it's not a lack of revenue. Since 1948, median family income taxes have been

increased nearly 25,000%, from \$9 to \$2,218—32 times greater than the rate of increase for median family income.

Recurrent deficits are a symptom of a much more fundamental problem: runaway spending. Higher taxes never solve this problem. They merely whet the government's appetite to spend more and more. We all know the familiar pattern: Taxes are increased to "reduce deficits," but Congress then uses the increases to expand federal programs; deficits persist; taxes are increased again, and so on. This never-ending waltz of free-spending donkeys and elephants couldn't be surprising, since candidates get elected by promising to spend more—not less—on behalf of constituents and special interest groups. While the original purpose of deficit spending was to stimulate the economy when times were bad, the government now routinely over-spends whether the economy is up or down.

In the latest debate over whether to boost taxes, the word "painful" is heard frequently in the halls of Congress—as in, "it would be extremely painful to reduce deficits through spending cuts." Painful to whom? Certainly not to the millions of

See Deficit pg. 6



"IT'S A NEW APPROACH... I ROB FROM EVERYBODY AND DUMP IT IN THE RIVER"



To: Editor, Time For Liberty

Subject: Reply to J. Tuttle

First, I suggest that Mr. Tuttle reread my article subtitled "Let Smoking Pay For Itself." I have no philosophical objection to people smoking or putting any substance they so choose into their own bodies. But at the present time smokers are not paying for the consequences of their actions and non-smokers are, in fact, subsidizing them.

Though he may not understand Public Health as a legitimate philosophical concept, it is indeed a fact that we as individuals in this

society are coerced by others (government) to pay these costs. When a smoker develops chronic lung disease or other sequelae of his smoking and his health care costs exceed the limits of his disability or health insurance (if he has any), society picks up the tab for his continuing care. Granted that in an ideal libertarian society, this would not be the case. However such an ideal society is nowhere on the foreseeable horizon. I have therefore suggested an intermediate goal that will place these costs back where they legitimately belong, i.e. on the smoker, in a way that is politically attainable. Mr. Tuttle's arguments may be appropriate (and quite valid) in a libertarian philosophical context. However politics has been called the art of the possible. *Time For Liberty* is a publication not of a libertarian philosophical group, but of the Fresno County Libertarian Party, a political organization. If we libertarian political activists expect to change the direction of our society to one of more freedom and more individual responsibility, i.e., if we intend to influence the course of public policy, we must do it in the context of what is realistically achievable in an

incremental fashion. The frequently held libertarian political positions of all or nothing and abolish everything statist is not presently achievable. Accusing a gradualist libertarian of being a Socialist/Fascist and taking the position of former senator Joe McCarthy—"I am an ardent anti-communist and anyone who opposes me must be a communist" is regrettable.

Many practical libertarians now realize this. Witness, for example, the position of some libertarians who, instead of trying to immediately abolish public (that word again!) education, have moved for the intermediate goal of a voucher system—which has some chance of success, provides for more individual choice and control, and over the long haul could very probably cause the demise of the public school system as we now know it.

I am not a Socialist/Fascist, but a concerned libertarian activist who is willing to propose potentially achievable intermediate political positions that can work toward the goal of a more libertarian society.

Sincerely,
Robert Subers

Dear Editor,

Having received access to your paper in the office of the Texas Libertarian Party I was astonished to find an article which appeared to have been written by an ardent Socialist/Fascist. Are you giving equal time to the opposition now?

The article in question is that by Robert F. Subers, M.D.. To quote one of the more obnoxious statements: "By placing the *public* costs of cancer directly on those whose activities make the expenditure necessary, the government would allow individuals to make their own decisions; if you want to smoke, then you pay all the costs of doing so, including the *public* health costs." (italics mine)

Run that one by me again, doc? Let's point out first of all that both of the transfer payment (read that ripoff) programs that are so heavily burdened because of all us nasty smokers should be immediately abolished. Secondly, just what is "public" health? The phrase seems to assume an illness in the body politic—but that one seems more caused by taxes and government than smoking. Third, of the \$1 plus per pack current cost of cigarettes, guess how much is taxes NOW? Try 90%.

Doc, I'm not asking you to do any research for me. I'm not asking for free medical care supported by taxes. All I want is to be left to my own personal vices in peace. I have no "social responsibility" to you or any other jerk off the street simply on your say so.

Furthermore, if you're so concerned about the costs of medical care, why don't you help to bust the biggest government backed ripoff around? Yes race fans, that's the doctor's union—the one you call by the name of the AMA. With its legally enforced stranglehold on the supply of doctors, licensing, procedure, ad nauseum it has managed to drive up the salary of doctors relative to other professionals—to astronomical levels. Were a free people to bust up your union, doc, and be allowed some real free choice in medical care we wouldn't need your overburdened ripoff system of Medicare, Medicaid, etc. (and we could do without it now!).

What I put in my body is no damn business of yours.

P.S. to Editor: Is this paper really published by members of the Libertarian Party? Sure doesn't read like it.

Yours for FREEDOM,
Jim Tuttle
Houston, Texas

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Off The Wall by Joe Bohnenkopf

As Others See Us...

Admittedly there are those who believe neither in God nor in the new socialist man-libertarians, for example. Ayn Rand is the archetype. Faith as far as I can see simply forms no part of Libertarians' makeup. They don't have it and they don't miss it. But I insist that such people are rare, which incidentally may be why Libertarians are doomed. They say rational and usually intelligent things, but they can never muster enough troops behind them to make much difference, and deep down they know it.--Tom Bethell, *The American Spectator*. Reprinted in the *Wall Street Journal*

...For Example

I think a nonbeliever can have a "meaning, a purpose, a reason" for life. I certainly do. I consider my life as my standard of value. I strive to enhance my life. The fact that I have a finite existence only gives me further incentive to make my life as pleasurable as I can.

Most religions belittle man and man's life in the real world. One religion fosters the idea that man is a "sinner" from birth. It shuns the material products of man. It shuns the idea of any individual living for himself. Above all, it shuns the questioning of its validity, thus making any independent judgment of objectivity a sin.

It is no wonder that there are a lot of young people who turn to drugs, violence and the rebellious "punk" lifestyle. They are rebelling against morality. The only "morality" they heard of was the anti-man "morality" or religion. Thinking there is no other morality, they conclude, correctly, that to be moral they must regard themselves as walking lumps of depravity.

I claim that there is a morality for life in this world and it is revealed through reason. It is necessarily egoistic, capitalistic and atheistic. Such past and present thinkers as Ayn Rand, Harry Browne, Murray Rothbard, Lysander Spooner and Morris and Linda Tannehill provide the questioning individual with material to formulate his or her positive morality based on reason.

Sincerely,
William Martin III

LETTERS POLICY

TIME FOR LIBERTY accepts letters from readers for publication in our CITIZENS' VIEW section. Letters should be kept short and MUST include the name, address and phone number of the author (for verification purposes only). Letters will be selected at the discretion of the Editor, consistent with the purpose of TIME FOR LIBERTY, and may be edited for length and content. Send to:

CITIZENS' VIEW Editor
P.O. Box 5039
Fresno, CA 93755

Editor
Liberty Newspaper
P.O. Box 5039
Fresno, California 93755

Dear Sir:

In December, 1984, the Resolution that was used by the City Council of Sanger as a model for drafting of the Resolutions that were passed on December 18, 1984, was printed in your newspaper. We appreciate this because it did indeed have some usefulness and it promoted the idea that less intervention by police officers in the daily lives of people is a reasonable and good goal for a democracy. As you may know, the City Council of Fresno also passed a resolution on April 2, 1985, very similar to the one printed in your paper. You may note that both of these City Councils passed their resolutions giving policy direction to their police force that they may not participate in INS Border Patrol raids. These were passed unanimously. Although this is closing the barn doors after the horses have left, it nonetheless acknowledges that these raids were without authority and a violation of constitutional rights.

Thank you very much for your publication.

Yours truly,
Joel M. Murillo

Hispanic Civil Rights Network
321 North Thesta Street
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(209) 268-7227

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It's been a funny month in the media, if you know where to look for the funny stuff. I was looking in the funnies for the funny stuff, and trying to get the serious stuff from the TV news and the news sections of the paper. I had it all backwards. The serious stuff has been moved into the comic section. There were even serious news stories about the protests about the serious stuff in the funnies section, and letters to the editor about the serious comments about the serious stuff in the funnies. Seems somebody did something comical about liquor ads in the funnies, and the serious objections are coming fast and furious.

So much for the serious stuff. Now for the funny stuff, which is in the serious news on TV and serious news sections in the paper. Probably the funniest thing all month was the mess over the Kesterson mess. It got so bad I couldn't tell whether I'd turned on the CBS evening news or had got my channels crossed and was watching "Not Necessarily the News." It's getting so I can't tell the difference till the credits come on.

Senator Pete Wilson kept a perfectly straight face when he unveiled his "solution" to the pollution problems at the Kesterson Wildlife Preserve (Or is it the Kesterson Toxic Waste Dump?). The poison stuff comes from Fresno County, and of course they don't want it, so they've been sending it up to Merced County. Now the folks in Merced County don't want it either. So Pete got on the news and said we can pipe it all down to Kern County, because they really need the water to use for steam to pump oil. The real fun will start when the folks in Kern County decide to ship it all to Pete in San Diego.

From the Mythical Office of Public Safety in Fresno, comes the word that our city building inspectors are really on the ball. They "inspected" the refurbished hangar at FAT, and neglected to notice the sprinkler system and floor drains weren't up to code. They "inspected" the city's downtown parking garage, but didn't notice the beams were too weak to hold up the building, let alone the cars parked in it.

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Despite budget cutbacks and fewer agents, the IRS can't afford to let people think they're getting soft. So agents held nearly 20 children as hostages at an Allen Park, Michigan, day-care center until their parents signed a form pledging to pay the government what they owed the private center. The center had fallen more than \$14,000 behind in taxes. The IRS decided the only remaining levy source would be the parents' debt to the center. Frightened for the safety of their children—several of whom were visibly disturbed and crying—all of the parents signed the IRS "notice of levy." IRS spokesman Walter Dunnigan says no one was held hostage and it was just a "routine seizure." The parents disagreed. "It was like something out of a police state," said Sue Stoja, the mother of a seven-year-old detainee. "They indicated you could not take your child out of the building until you signed their form. They were using the children as collateral."


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Socialism in Action

"How can you possibly defend an economic system that allows one man to have three Cadillacs in the garage and yet allows another man to practically starve? Do you have *no* concern for humanity whatsoever?"

This professor listened for a few minutes while his class discussed the inequities inherent in the free enterprise system. Then he asked them a question:

"Are you advocating that we steal from Mr. Rich and give to Mr. Poor?"

"I'm not advocating stealing from anyone," a young poli-sci major replied. "I am merely pointing out the social injustice and suggesting that if Mr. Rich were not so consumed by the degerate philosophy of a materialistic society he wouldn't *want* to be rich while others were poor... he would be ashamed and embarrassed by his part in an unjust system. I don't blame Mr. Rich...not today's Mr. Rich. It amazes me that after being brought up in such a system he is as altruistic as he is."

"And besides," eagerly added another young student. "I don't believe it is stealing to take from the haves and give to the have-nots. How did the haves get it in the first place? At the expense of the have-nots, that's how. So it really isn't theirs to begin with."

"I see," said the professor and, with no expression whatsoever, added, "Perhaps it would be best if we continue this discussion at a later date."

His class almost smirked. Although the professor had a reputation for being a "stuffy old conservative," nevertheless he was considered pretty sharp, generally speaking. Yet here he was now, not even able to offer *any* defense against basic points made by his students.

Before the class was dismissed the professor made the unexpected announcement that there would be a very important test Monday morning and assigned the material which would be covered. I doubt if there was one student in that class who wasn't furious...the professor had to know that *that* weekend was the all important anti-nuclear Peace March up in San Francisco and more than three-fourths of the class were

planning to go. Retaliation, they grumbled, for his own inadequacy.

There were a few who decided to stay home and study...the rest took off. Grades are important, they reasoned, but so is the fight for justice and equality and life.

The exam went off as scheduled. Tuesday the papers were handed back with the individual grades marked in black at the top of the page. There was the usual assortment of grades... depending obviously on which students had studied and which had not.

Then the professor's students noticed that in the right-hand corner of each exam paper the professor had marked in red pencil, "Your grade is 76%—C" and had added "...from each according to his ability, to each according to his need."

The buzzing of indignation among the A and B students grew louder and louder until young Mr. Poli-Sci-Major spoke out.

"Professor, I am sure everyone in the class has gotten your point and I'm sure all of us agree with you that such a system of grading is unfair. Speaking for myself I have never advocated denying a person his just rewards. But may I remind you that in the previous discussion in this classroom on the importance of the common good—taking from the haves and giving to the have-nots—we were *not* talking about grades. We were talking about life and death... starvation, poverty, deprived opportunities. We were talking about the unjust system of allowing one man to starve and another man to wallow in luxuries, about a system that encourages selfishness and greed. There is a difference, you know."

"Yes," the professor replied, "I suppose there might be, but I thought that in that previous discussion we were talking basically about whether an equal redistribution of the wealth is that which is best for the common good."

"That's exactly what we were talking about," said Poli-Sci.

"Ah yes." The professor once again said no more, but merely announced another test for the following week and assigned the material. He added that he intended to grade just exactly as he had on the last test, said good afternoon to the class, and left.

See Socialism pg. 5

Out of Control cont. from pg. 1

We Made a Promise

Lamb uses the example of Social Security: "Thus, we have made promises and raised expectations beyond our ability and that of society to deliver. I believe the American systems are now out of control. We all know about the \$1.4 trillion national debt and the \$184 billion deficit.

"As of 1983, the **unfunded liabilities** of Social Security will stand at \$5.1 trillion, which of course is not considered on the \$1.4 trillion national debt. In this society in which a typical enlisted man will retire from the service at 39 and an officer at 43, unfunded military pensions amount to another \$500 billion. Pensions are forever: The U.S. still pays pensions of Civil War veterans (their dependents). "Consider the numbers: Our systems are not only actuarially unsound, they are a chain letter into the future...By 1994 it will have become clear that the United States is a country in liquidation."

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Powerful forces are at work which will cause an economic crisis of unparalleled proportions by the 1990s.

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Inevitable Crisis

Lamb has seen the system from the inside, and he knows that the breakdown of the American system calls for an inevitable crisis **based on the numbers**. A tremendous megatrend has developed that will inevitably mean major social and economic crises in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Regardless of the short term variabilities, one must realize that the huge budget deficits, the out-of-control government spending, the overextended U.S. banking system, the Third World banking crisis, and many other powerful fundamentals, are, as Gov. Lamb says, "Careening

toward disasters of our own making."

By saying that both Republicans and Democrats are at fault, Gov. Lamb eloquently points out a dilemma that many have ignored. There is little or no difference between Democrats and Republicans, just as there is little or no difference between present-day conservative and liberal policies. Even the traditional conservatives favor continuing the bloated massive military spending without holding the pentagon responsible, and the liberals favor continuing massive social programs. Each side proposes only modest cuts and in the final analysis there will actually be real increases.

Social Time Bomb is Ticking

The real problem of America, and the real guarantee that we will eventually have a staggering economic and monetary crisis in this country, is socio-economic. The American people, both conservative and liberal, favor government solutions to problems. They may not vocalize it this way, and it's popular to **talk** about being against big government today (ala R.R.). But the underlying trends developed in President Roosevelt's time in the 1930s continues today. Whether you're a businessman (Chamber of Commerce wants more city gov't money), a union member (import quotas), a teacher (continue gov't subsidized student loans and increase aid to education), a welfare recipient (more), Social Security recipient (don't you dare touch it), or any other of a long list of those seeking help and subsidies from the government, the bottom line is the same.

The people of America, because of their philosophical and social beliefs, are guaranteeing a huge growth in government which we simply cannot afford to pay for in real terms. In the final analysis this means massive economic problems, including a surprisingly rapid reflation, mass unemployment, bank closures, and tremendous social problems in general. As Gov. Lamb said, "The social time bomb is ticking."--R.S.

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Investment Strategy

By Pete Lang, Investment Counselor

Refinancing Advantages

Interest rates on new real estate loans, at this writing, are lower than they have been for months.

The recent easing of pressure in this respect has led to a pickup in home sales, as prospective buyers take advantage of the situation.

The number of refinance loans, as opposed to purchase loans, is low. But there would be more activity in refinancing old loans than there is in loans, if the public understood the advantages of refinancing.

There are three advantages to refinancing very old loans with low principal balances, even at higher interest rates:

1. It's a way to pull cash, free of income tax liability, out of long-owned properties without having to sell them, in the case of properties one would rather not sell.

Funds thus received are not subject to income taxes until such time in the future that the property may be sold. Then they would be taxed, to the extent they represent long-term capital gains.

2. It's a way to increase cash flow by reducing the monthly payment, in situations where cash flow is more important than equity gain (or net worth buildup).

3. It's a way to increase leverage so that the remaining equity will multiply much faster for the investor than it would if he did not refinance, as inflation pushes the property's dollar value higher over a period of time.

A fourth advantage can apply to loans of any age. Refinancing under an FHA program (the only type of "refi" worth considering) can convert what now may be a non-assumable loan into a fully assumable loan. An FHA loan can be assumed with almost no paperwork, almost no cost, and no qualifying.

A fifth and obvious advantage applies to newer loans. At this writing an investor can borrow up to 80% of appraised value on a 12.5% interest, fixed-rate, 30-year FHA loan, for a two-point fee (2% of the amount borrowed) and escrow costs.

Anyone who now has a fixed-rate loan at 14% interest or higher, or a variable-rate loan with an interest-rate cap higher than 14%, should refinance it if for no other reason than to shed the poor financing he has now.

Let's illustrate with three options in a situation where a client of mine is refinancing now. It involves a \$60,000 rental house with a loan of \$32,000 that has an interest rate of 14.25% and a monthly principal and interest payment of about \$465.

Here are three ways to go, among others, depending on the investor's goals:

Despite being accused of not seeing the point, the professor went ahead with the second test. This time, however, much to the serious dismay of the students, the average grade turned out to be 48%, not 76%. It later was admitted that none had really studied, figuring a "C" would be their grade regardless. To put it mildly, all "hell" broke out...they even threatened to go to the administration and report the unfairness of this "childish" way of making a point. The grades, however, were recorded.

"Perhaps now," said the professor, unruffled by the threats, "it is time to discuss the economic theory of redistribution of the wealth in order to help the less productive members of society as opposed to the economic theory of letting each man keep the fruits of his labor no matter how disproportionate the distribution of wealth becomes. I know there are those in this class who feel I am missing the sociological point and oversimplifying the economic one by my stubborn determination to grade your exams on the basis of 'from each according to his ability, to each according to his need.' I, on the other hand, do not think I have missed the point at all. I have only one question to ask and would like answers and discussion on it now.

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1. Refinance to the hilt, to obtain maximum cash for other purposes. This goal would dictate a new loan of \$48,000 (80% of \$60,000). After paying off the old loan (\$32,000) and refi expenses (say, \$1,500), the investor would have about \$14,500 to use for other purposes—tax-free unless and until the house should be sold. The new payment (principal, interest and FHA insurance) would be about \$530—a cash flow only \$65 a month worse than he has now.

2. Refinance only the \$32,000 (or, say, a new loan of \$33,000 for enough new money to also cover most of the refi costs) to get maximum improvement in cash flow. The new payment would be about \$360 inclusive—a cash flow \$105 a month better than he has now.

3. Seek a blend of these advantages, perhaps to get cash for new investments while avoiding any disadvantage in cash flow. A new loan of about \$42,000, for example, providing close to \$9,000 in new money after expenses, would do the trick. The payment would remain about the same (\$465) but the investor would have nearly \$9,000 in pocket.

The first option might appeal to young, high-income professionals seeking maximum appreciation potential and current tax advantages. The second might appeal to a retiring couple who need current income and are unconcerned with equity build. The third option might appeal to an investor who is somewhat aggressive but would feel uncomfortable with more negative cash flow.

One thing is certain. No one is smart to stay with poor financing in a market that will permit him to substantially improve his position, whatever his goals.

Considering that the average grade fell from a 76% to a 48% and, if I were to continue under this system of grading, would probably fall even lower next time, would someone care to explain to me *why* the average went down? You may take any tack you wish."

One wide-eyed young girl blurted out, "Well, why should I work for an 'A' when I know I can only make the same grade everyone else does? Obviously everyone in this class isn't going to get an 'A'... some of them are pretty stupid and I don't think it's fair for me to work only to bring their grade up and my grade down."

Mr. Poli-Sci quickly got to his feet.

"But that's just the trouble," he said.

"No one is thinking beyond his own selfish interests. Everyone is so determined to have more than the next guy that he is unwilling to share or help or be humane in any way whatsoever. That is what we have been *taught* for years and that is exactly what I think is so wrong."

"It doesn't matter to me," said the young girl, "whether I have more than someone else or not. If that's the way it should be, then that's fine with me. But then don't expect me to work harder than the next fellow either... because that's *not* fine with me."

"But you *have* to... or it won't work." Mr. Poli-Sci's voice was getting a bit too loud. "That's why the average grade went down in this class. Don't you see... everyone was so selfish he didn't see he had to work according to his ability as hard as he could so that the average would stay high and possibly even get higher. You *have* to."

"Who says I have to?" She was getting a little loud herself now. "And who's going to make me? Why... *why* should I? What do I possibly have to gain except knowing that some clod got to have a ball over the weekend and I had to study so he could get the same grade as I?"

"WHY? My God, for the *common good of everyone*, including you, that's why," said Poli-Sci hotly. "What's best for *all of us*, *that's* why. When the world is governed by love of the other fellow—true concern for his welfare—and not consumed with individual greed, then, and only then, will this world be a fine and truly free place in which to live. What has happened to this country has happened because each person was out to get as much for himself as he possibly could. There

See Socialism pg. 6

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Deficit cont. from pg. 1

Americans who cannot afford to buy a home because of high mortgage interest rates, caused largely by excessive federal spending. Certainly not to middle-income families already hard-pressed to make ends meet, let alone pay more taxes.

In the interest of expediting some spending cuts, I would like to suggest a few common-sense reductions that shouldn't be the least bit painful to the general public:

The military is forbidden, by act of Congress, from obtaining competitive bids when shipping household goods between the contiguous 48 states and Alaska or Hawaii. Somebody must benefit, but it's not the American taxpayer. Reversing this ban would save \$70 million over three years.

Since 1979, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has been trying to shut down 63 small, antiquated facilities that disseminate weather forecasts. Such closings have been supported by Congress' own investigative arm, the Congressional Budget Office. In 1983, however, Congress voted more money to keep the unneeded facilities open, at a cost to taxpayers of \$4 million a year.

Generous public pensions were conceived in the 1920s as a way to attract and retain federal employees without paying high salaries. But under the Federal Salary Reform Act of 1962, federal salaries are now equal to—sometimes better than—those in the private sector. Federal pensions have never been reduced to reflect this change. Civil Service and military retirees continue to collect three and six times, respectively, the lifetime pension benefits of their counterparts in the best private sector plans. Bringing Civil Service pensions into line with the private sector—slightly better in the case of military pensions—would save \$58.1 billion over three years.

These are three of the 2,478 money-saving recommendations put forth earlier this year by the President's Private Sector Survey on Cost Control. These recommendations would save the federal government

\$424.4 billion over three years. None of the recommendations endanger the substance or legislated intent of federal programs. The overwhelming majority involve reductions in outlays through improved management, greater operating efficiencies and the elimination of outlandish excess.

At a time when federal finances have reached crisis proportions, one might wonder why Congress rejects even the most innocuous cost-cutting proposals—such as closing 63 unneeded weather facilities; or eliminating the duplication among six federal inspection services at ports of entry, at a saving of \$48 million over three years; or eliminating the overlap between food stamp and school lunch benefits, at a saving of \$1.7 billion over three years. The answer is that for virtually every spending program there is a special interest group ready to jump to its defense. These special interests have a stranglehold on the Congress. Consequently, many spending programs endure long after their original purpose has expired. Like old soldiers, these programs never die—but seldom do they fade away either, adding enormously to the costs of government.

Congress will continue to overspend on behalf of special interests, and insist the problem is lack of revenue, until we make clear that we understand the game and won't stand for it any more. When it becomes "painful" for our elected representatives to answer to an angry public about lack of cost control—more painful than it would be to offend special interests by trimming bloated programs—Congress will finally get serious about reducing expenditures.

J. Peter Grace is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of W.R. Grace & Company, an international company with \$6.2 billion in sales of chemicals, natural resources and consumer services. In addition to serving as Chairman of The President's Private Sector Survey on Cost Control, he is the author of *Burning Money: The Waste of Your Tax Dollars* (Macmillan Publishing Company).

Socialism cont. from pg. 5

was no love, no compassion, no concern for society as a whole. Hate ... war ... greed ... selfishness. This must be changed. This must be corrected, and if individuals will not accept their responsibility to society then they must be forced to."

"Now wait a minute," interrupted the professor. "Let's be fair and look at just exactly what has happened in our country under this system you are berating and so eager to change, by force, if necessary. This system of ours, which is far more concerned with protecting individual freedom than it is with sacrificing the individual for the common good, has produced a nation with the highest standard of living (average grade if you wish) of any country in the world. It has produced more scientific advances, more medical advances, and more industrial advances than any country in this world. There is less poverty here than in any other nation. And, it has produced a nation of people who give freely as individuals more per capita to volunteer charities than any other nation in the world. In essence, this system allows Miss Gray to keep her 'A' and also brings the average grade of the class up higher. My contention is that only through free competition and the motivation of individual gain

will the common good of society ever be served, and the converse of this conviction will produce nothing but a lower level of society necessitating force, as you have suggested Mr. Chambers, to maintain even that level. Miss Gray, you see, will probably have to have a gun at her head to work so that someone else who doesn't work will have the same rewards as she. It boils down to understanding the basic nature of man. The results will be either individual freedom and progress, or slavery and deterioration. There cannot be a society that is at once both free and equal."

The new elevated railroad in Miami cost only one billion dollars. Ridership is only 10,000 a day. It would have been cheaper to give each passenger \$100,000. Meanwhile, back at the US Department of Transportation, the printing presses are rolling so that posters commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration can be displayed throughout the country. This comes at a time when UMTA's budget has been slashed to eliminate most transit grants. The ever-frugal New York City subway system has ordered 13,000 of the posters. Perhaps graffiti artists were running out of clean surfaces.

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All The Knowledge of Man

Robert F. Subers, M.D.

There is a famous story about a ruler who wanted to share all the wisdom of the world with his people. He gathered his wisemen together, and sent them to the four corners of the earth to gather the wisdom of man. When they returned, the king had them condense their knowledge into one book. He read the book and said, "The book is good but too long for my people to read. Condense the book into one page." The wisemen complied with the king's request and brought him the knowledge of man on one page. Once again the king read the page and said, "my people are too impatient to read a full page. Condense the information into one sentence." The wisemen condensed the information into one sentence. The king read the sentence and was pleased. The sentence said, "There is no such thing as a free lunch!"

Today, we live in a society with a free lunch mentality. Politicians have maintained their power by promising us a free lunch. The majority of the public expects it. The government has bought the lunch and paid for it with credit. Are you concerned with what will happen to our society when the bill comes due?

It is interesting to note the difference in response to the two major blackouts in New York City in the past 20 years. In the first, the response was quite calm and the major effect was noted in the increased birth rate nine months

later. Fifteen years later respectable citizens were looting and burning because of a power failure. In California, we had fighting and shooting during the last energy crisis because people had to wait in line for gas.

Five hundred times a day we are exposed to violence or sex by television, movies, newspapers, etc. How can the human spirit endure under this pressure? How would a society programmed as we are, react under a real crisis? How would we deal with massive unemployment, a food crisis, or a war that affects our homeland? Would we unify or would our free lunch mentality take over, each one of us striking out against society, trying to get even, looking for something for nothing? I am sad to say that I am more concerned about the reaction of my fellow man to any crisis we may have than the crisis itself. The more power we give the government, the weaker we become as individuals. Our individual strength will determine how we succeed or fail as a nation in time of crisis.

We must understand as a society that we cannot borrow ourselves into prosperity. We must teach our leaders to pay as we go. We must teach our children to earn their own way. We must all learn the lesson of the wisemen, "There is no such thing as a free lunch!"—R. Subers, Director of Education, Libertarian Party of Fresno County

Light On Illusion

This column seeks to understand human nature and its implications to the political arena.

Phillip H. Mitchell, Ph.D.

The American Dream

The American Dream is to be free to pursue one's goals and ambitions. The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution seek to fulfill this dream by formulating a government which derives its "powers from the consent of the governed." Unfortunately, due to human nature, that is just what has happened. We have gotten exactly what we have asked for; and, to just complain changes nothing.

There are two possible avenues we can pursue to regain the American Dream: Relieve the symptoms or confront the causes.

Relieve the Symptoms

Government action is the product of human nature and is thus only a symptom of the problems. For example, relieving the symptoms of excessive taxation and restricted choices can be achieved in three ways: a) Redirect the government's interventions into less destructive activities. b) Make the government more efficient in performing its services (the point of the Grace Commission). c) And, reduce the role of government.

Confronting the Cause

The cause of big government is not evil politicians, evil political systems or special interests. Robert J. Ringer, in his book RESTORING THE AMERICAN DREAM, points to four relevant ingredients of human nature: a) The Survival Instinct. b) The Expediency Factor. And, two internal conflicts, c) Individuality verses Conformity. d) Power Lust vs. Subsistence.

Politicians act out of these motivations—just like the rest of us, and thus government is the product of these factors. One does not need to be a psychologist or historian to see through the illusion that people act in their own best interests. Pogo spoke the truth when he said "I have seen the enemy and he is us."

Human nature follows a particular path. First, a person becomes aware of a real or imagined need. Second, he then looks for a quick, easy fix. This Expediency deals with the present but loses sight of the long term. As time passes, yesterday's future arrives, the piper demands payment. The desire for Subsistence (letting mommy care for you) easily dovetails with another person's Power Lust but leads to the subservient person becoming resentful and the person in power mistakenly believing the only way to survive is to maintain power.

No one, but no one is willing to say, "I got what I asked for."

Action

However, something can be done—we can do something. Each of us as individuals can unilaterally adopt Ringer's suggestions as to their personal mode of behavior. And, if a significant number would do so a major shift in government policy would take place. Those suggestions, changing only the individuals own behavior, are as follows:

- 1) Stop blaming others, special interest groups or a political system.
- 2) Pay all taxes, abide by all laws and regulations.
- 3) Stop receiving government bribes in the form of payments or favors.

This personal change is challenging for each of us; such behavior goes against our grain. I am not very optimistic. I do not expect any significant number to do it for "the greater good of mankind," or some abstraction like "freedom."

There are two motivations, however, that can be tapped into which will help us meet the challenge. First, a person's inner sense of satisfaction, self-worth and self-esteem is enhanced by following these suggestions. Second, even if others do not follow the suggestions, one will be individually better off—in the long run.

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Industrial policy really amounts to central planning in disguise. And central planning doesn't work because the central plan must inevitably run afoul of all the myriad small plans of individuals. So if the central plan is to be implemented, individuals "have to be" prevented from carrying out their plans—whether they like it or not. That is why planned economies always turn into police states.—Tom Bethell, 1982

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Where do my rights end? Where yours begin. I may do anything with my own life, liberty and property without your consent; but I may do nothing with your life, liberty and property without your consent.—Jarrett Wollstein, 1970

Calendar of Libertarian Events

June 28
7-9 pm
Fri.
Film Series \$3
Snacks, & refreshments (also popcorn)
Libertarian topics cinematically portrayed

July 10
7-8-9:30 pm
Public Program Meeting
Carnation Restaurant
1089 E. Shaw

July 24
7:00 pm
Wednesday
Business meeting
Fall Line-up

July 26
7-9 pm
Fri.
Film Series \$3
(Film starts at 7:30)

Refreshing Conviviality

The Individual in Society

Seen from the point of view of the individual, society is the great means for the attainment of all his ends. The preservation of society is an essential condition of any plans an individual may want to realize by any action whatever.

Even the refractory delinquent who fails to adjust his conduct to the requirements of life within the societal system of cooperation does not want to miss any of the advantages derived from the division of labor. He does not consciously aim at the destruction of society. He wants to lay his hands on a greater portion of the jointly produced wealth than the social order assigns to him. He would feel miserable if antisocial behavior were to become universal and its inevitable outcome, the return to primitive indigence, resulted.

August 14
7-8:30 pm
Wednesday
Introduction to Libertarianism
—Rational Politics Explained—
Location to be announced

August 28
7:00 pm
Wednesday
Business Meeting
Strategy for November District Elections

August 30
Friday Night Film Series \$3

September 11
Wednesday Evening
(Time to be announced)
Introduction to Libertarianism
Hosted by Thomas Jefferson Society
at California State University, Fresno
Student Union
(upstairs)

September 25
7:00 pm
Wednesday
Business Meeting
Candidates for November District Elections
Jobs for Remainder of Year

September 27
7:00
Friday
Friday Night Film Series Continues
with another block buster smash hit!

Liberty and freedom are the conditions of man within a contractual society. Social cooperation under a system of private ownership of the means of production means that within the range of the market the individual is not bound to obey and to serve an overlord. As far as he gives and serves other people, he does so of his own accord in order to be rewarded and served by the receivers. He exchanges goods and services, he does not do compulsory labor and does not pay tribute. He is certainly not independent. He depends on the other members of society. But this dependence is mutual. The buyer depends on the seller and the seller on the buyer.

—Ludwig von Mises
Economist

Agnos Takes Aim at Gun Owners

One would think that proposition 15 of a few years ago would have laid firearms control to rest, but it hasn't. Attempts are again being made to proscribe firearms ownership.

Two new bills have been introduced by assemblyman Art Agnos of San Francisco. The first (AB 1509) would ban the possession or sale of semi-automatic firearms with a detachable magazine, including but not limited to the UZI, which can be converted to fully automatic fire through use of commercially available parts. The second (AB 1510) would require anyone desiring to sell a firearm to make that sale through a licensed dealer.

In the case of the first bill, fully automatic firearms are already prohibited by California law with very few exceptions. Federal law requires registration with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms and payment of a \$200 transfer tax. That is, if one resides in a state which allows such ownership, which California does not. The federal law also applies to conversion of semi-automatics. Thus (AB 1509) actually provides no additional protection. It is merely an attempt by the firearms control special interests to enact a creeping ban on semi-automatic firearms of which semi-automatic handguns comprise a large part.

In the second bill one's right to dispose of his/her property as he/she sees fit would be infringed. Can you imagine being required by law to sell your automobile through a car dealer or your home through a realtor?

I would urge anyone who is concerned to write your state senator and assemblyman. Neither of these bills is needed. —T.B.

From the Why There's a Trillion-Dollar National Debt Department: The government buys more than half the honey produced in the United States, at a cost of \$90 million. In 1984, wool producers got cash subsidies of \$117 million. The wool they produced was worth \$62 million. The Appalachian Regional Commission costs \$420 million a year. Among the projects it funds are ski resorts, ice rinks, swimming pools, and wave machines for the pools.

Who says that government punishes initiative? A New York State regulation that imposes a \$50 fine for motorists who don't wear seat belts has opened up a new market. A Woodmere, New York, company is manufacturing a "Pseudo Shoulder Strap," a 40-inch nylon seat belt with a "quickie" Velcro attachment. The "strictly for show—not for safety" device is guaranteed to fool cops and toll collectors into thinking you're really buckled in.


—Mark Edward Crane

The state cannot get a cent for any man without taking it from some other man, and the latter man must be a man who has produced and saved it. The latter is the forgotten man.—W.G. Sumner, 1883

The departments of administration, ever extending and absorbing more public money, become independent of all real control...and turn out second-rate work, just because such work is exposed to no competition, and is relieved from the danger of the bankruptcy court...all official mistakes being covered over by larger and larger takings from the public.—Auberon Herbert, 1897

Today, nobody sees, or wishes to see, that in our time the enslavement of the majority of men is based on money taxes, levied on land and otherwise, which are collected by government from the subjects.—Leo Tolstoy, 1900

Necessity is the plea for every infringement of human freedom. It is the argument of tyrants; it is the creed of slaves.—William Pitt, 1783

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