

Libertarian Party

NEWS

May 1993 Vol. 8, No. 5

Paperwork

LP testifies against FEC proposals

Stuart Reges, national director of the Libertarian Party, testified before the Federal Election Commission (FEC) on Wednesday, March 31, opposing proposed regulations that would increase the reporting requirements for political parties. The hearing was held in the FEC building in Washington, DC.

The FEC is proposing that political committees make an additional follow-up request to those who contribute over \$200 a year, but do not provide employer and occupation information when they make their contribution.

"This will place an undue burden on our organization and will generate almost no results," said Reges.

A study of contributions made to the LP in 1992 indicates that most people who are willing to provide such information do so the first or second time they are asked.

"Asking once more won't get us any more information," Reges explained. "Besides, we already have a high average. We reported employer and occupation information for more than 54 percent of our contributors, which is higher than the average of either the Clinton or Bush campaigns of last year."

Reges estimates that the recording of this information for the more than 43,000 contributions made to the party in 1992 took the equivalent of nine weeks of a staff



member's time.

"We are already investing far too many resources on FEC reporting. We simply cannot afford to do more," Reges insisted. "Given that I have only two full-time staff working for me, this is a tremendous burden."

Reges also explained to the FEC why current information is difficult to maintain.

"One of the first forms I processed had 'Star Fleet Officer' for occupation and 'The Federation' for employer. I had to stop a moment to decide what to do. Obviously it was a joke, but I wasn't sure whether the

see **FEC** on page 3

Waco

LP continues protests at Texas standoff site

Libertarians in Texas have continued to protest the armed BATF raid on the Branch Davidian compound outside Waco, and members have found the demonstrations to be an excellent outreach tool.

"There have been a lot of new people step forward who want to help the party who have heard about us through our protests," said Karen Tegtmeyer, LP state secretary. "There are five new county contacts, and some of them want to be temporary chairs and organize their counties."

According to Jay Manifold, publicity director for the Libertarian Party of Dallas County, the LP has received mostly "sympathetic coverage of our protests to date."

"Our protests in Waco on 7, 13, and 20 March and 3 April resulted in interviews with, among others, Argentinian, Australian, Canadian, French, Italian, and Japanese media," Manifold explained.

"I have personally conducted over a dozen radio interviews, including two in San Antonio, and have appeared on a two-hour radio talk show in Alaska," he said.

"The most recent protest was covered by at least one Dallas TV station (the ABC network affiliate)," Manifold noted, "and it featured excellent footage of a well-groomed Libertarian, accompanied by wife and baby, elucidating our position in a clear and simple manner."

Manifold added, "Make no mistake: This is the BATF's Vietnam, and possibly the greatest publicity bonanza the Libertarian Party has ever experienced."

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

Dr. Ron Paul, the Libertarian Party's 1988 presidential candidate and a former U.S. congressman from Texas, was recently contacted by LP activist Sarah Foster and asked about his views on the standoff in Waco. The following comments by Paul were made March 9, 1993:

PAUL: I think there are serious infractions of the law, but the most serious infractions have been by our government. The most interesting story I've heard, and I



NEWS photo by Larry Dodge

WACO - Demonstrators from the LP and other groups concerned with individual rights gathered in early March outside the Waco Convention Center to protest the assault by the BATF upon the Branch Davidian compound, just 10 miles away. Facing the camera in right center is LP activist Honey Lanham Dodge. Being interviewed, next to Dodge, is LP national committee member Gary Johnson.

don't know if this made the national media, but the district attorney of Waco County that prosecuted Koresh in 1987 said that when there was evidence that there had been a shoot-out and Koresh was to be charged with attempted murder, he, as district attorney, simply called him [Koresh] up on the phone, explained the charges, Koresh met him at the door, he was peaceful, very cooperative, and the people there were very, very nice.

He [Koresh] was exonerated from that charge, and the weapons were returned to him. His opinion as district attorney, which I tend to agree with, was that the government was acting without reason and that their main goal was to kill Koresh. This was the district attorney saying this.

The other interesting thing is that the DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) is involved. And all the law enforcement officials do not accuse this group of being

see **Waco** on page 6

Penny bills set

U.S. Rep. Timothy Penny (D-MN) is scheduled to introduce two bills that are of great interest to Libertarians. The bills should be introduced on April 20, just after publication deadline.

The bills are titled the "Democracy in Presidential Debates Act of 1993" and the "Fair Elections Act of 1993."

Congressman Al Swift, chairman of the House Elections Subcommittee, has already scheduled a hearing for May 20 on the debates bill. According to Richard Winger, editor of Ballot Access News, "This is the first time any congressional hearing has ever been held on a bill designed to help third political parties."

This is the second year Penny has introduced the debates bill, which provides that any third party or independent presidential candidate who gets on the ballot in at least 40 states, and who raises at least \$500,000, must be invited to at least two general election presidential debates.

Major party presidential candidates who refuse to debate such third party or independent opponents would lose their general election campaign funding.

"It forces the major candidates to debate us without violating libertarian principles," said Stuart Reges, LP national director. "It does so by placing an extra burden on candidates who accept federal funds."

Reges explained, "So, for example, in the last election, Bush and Clinton would have been required to promise that they'd debate Andre Marrou twice as a condition of accepting federal campaign support. Ross Perot and The Commission on Presidential Debates

see **Penny** on page 19

Voting results

The final results are in from the 900-telephone line survey for March. The question was, "Should the Libertarian Party eliminate the membership statement requirement?"

Only 67 callers responded to survey question, and 41 callers responded "yes," while 26 callers responded "no."

What if?

When anybody's rights are threatened, everybody's rights are

By L. NEIL SMITH

Suppose you were fond of books.

You liked their leather bindings, their fancy endpapers, the way they speak to you of other times and places, the way they feel in your hand.

You even liked the way they smell.

Naturally you were aware that books are dangerous. They give people ideas. Over the long, sad course of history, they've resulted in the slaughter of millions—books like "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Das Kapital," "Mein Kampf," even the Bible—but you had too much intelligence, too much regard for the right of other people to read, write, *think* whatever they please, to blame the books themselves.

Now suppose somebody came along who agreed with you: books are dangerous—and something oughtta be done about it! Nothing you couldn't live with: numbers could be stamped inside them, a different number, not just in each kind of book, each title or edition—but in each and every indi-

vidual book.

"We can keep track of 'em better that way—it'll help get 'em back if they're stolen."

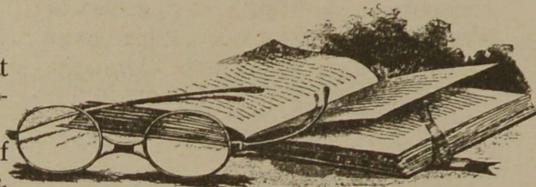
But wait . . . Isn't the right to freedom of expression, the right to create, exchange, and collect books—without a trace of government harassment—to read, write, and think whatever you please, supposed to be guaranteed by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution? No matter who thinks it's wrong? No matter how "sensible" their arguments may sound for taking that right away?

You tried to defend your rights, but nobody listened. You appealed to the media; they were even more dependent on the Bill of Rights than you were, and American journalism always gloried in its self-appointed role as watchdog over the rights of the individual. But the sad truth was, that during its long, self-congratulatory history, it was more like a cur caught bloody-muzzled time after time, savaging the flocks it had been trusted to protect.

You were alone. You insisted that books don't kill people, people kill people. They laughed and told you that people who read books kill people.

Time passed . . . Still they weren't satisfied. They wanted the serial numbers written down in record books. Then they wanted your name written down beside the numbers, along with your address, your driver's license number, your age, your race, your sex: "Cause we gotta right to know who's *reading* all these books!"

Soon they were demanding that bookstores be licensed. They forbade you to buy books by mail or in another state and required that your dealer report you if you



bought more than one book in a five-day period. They forbade you to buy more than one book a month. They demanded that you wait five days, a week, three weeks before you could pick up a book you'd already paid for—at a store subject to unannounced warrantless inspections and punitive closure by heavily-armed government agents. In Massachusetts and New Jersey, the mere possession of a book meant an automatic year in jail. At one point they offered to spend tax money to buy your books: "You've got too many. This is a purely voluntary measure—for the time being."

Now they want to confiscate any of your books they think are *too long*: "No honest citizen needs a book with *that* many pages!"

Your taxes will be spent to burn them, and somehow you have a feeling that it's just the beginning, that some dark midnight, no matter how peaceable or agreeable or law-abiding you are, you're going to hear that knock on your door . . .

Yes, books are dangerous. They start holy wars, revolutions, and make people dissatisfied with their lives.

But this is ridiculous! Is it a nightmare? Another Gulag horror story? A bloodsoaked page from the history of fascism? No, it's just the commonplace oppression people suffer every day when they feel about *guns* the way you feel about *books*.

Okay, maybe that feeling's hard to understand. But just try justifying your own love of books to a Reverend Donald Wildmon or an Ayatollah Khomeini. The very requirement that you must, in violation of your basic human rights, will make you inarticulate with rage.

Gun owners laugh at the notion of human rights, because they have none.

Guns *are* dangerous. Like books. Like books, the right to create, exchange, and collect them without a trace of government harassment, is supposed to be guaranteed. No matter who thinks it's wrong. No matter how "sensible" their arguments may sound for taking your rights away.

So what makes you think your books are any safer than your neighbor's guns? Whether you like books or guns, the issue's the same: **WHEN ANYBODY'S RIGHTS ARE THREATENED, EVERYBODY'S RIGHTS ARE THREATENED.**

L. Neil Smith is the author of "The Probability Broach," "Henry Martyn," and other novels. He is also founder of the Libertarian Second Amendment Caucus.

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Doris Gordon, National Coordinator

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FEC

continued from page 1

FEC would want me to report it or not. I didn't.

"These are the easy cases. I was skeptical about a woman who claimed to be a soap opera star employed by General Hospital. I entered the information anyway because I had no reason to doubt her. As it turns out, she was being completely honest and accurate. I don't know whether the same is true of the 'professional wrestler' I recorded in the data base, but I had no way to know for sure that he was not telling the truth," Reges explained.

Reges suggested alternatives to the follow-up proposal, including raising the \$200

limit. The FEC requires the reporting of information for those who contribute over \$200 a year. Because this amount has not been increased since 1980, the party has been required to do more work each year even when its contribution base has stayed constant relative to inflation. Consumer prices have risen over 73 percent in that time period, but the FEC has not made any adjustment.

"Increasing the limit from \$200 to \$250 would eliminate over one-fourth of the workload associated with large donors. Increasing it to \$300 would eliminate almost half. Increasing it to \$400 would

eliminate over two-thirds," Reges said.

"I hope you either abandon your plans for increasing the burden on us or follow one of the suggestions I have made for decreasing the negative impact of such an addition," Reges told the FEC.

Mary Gingell, LP national chair, later said in a press release, "The FEC is a meddlesome, intrusive bureaucracy that helps incumbents by imposing ridiculous busywork on newer, smaller parties. Rather than increase reporting requirements," she added, "the FEC should get out of the way and open our political system to all participants."

LP backs Reda

The national Libertarian Party decided to support the mayoral campaign of John Reda (see April NEWS) with a donation of \$1,500.

The election in Elsmere, DE, was held on April 24, after the deadline for this issue of the NEWS. Look for results in the June issue.

Reda said the donation was greatly appreciated and that the money would "pay for radio ads and to try to get direct mail out before election day."

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In session

Libertarian legislators in NH find rough going in first session

The Libertarian legislative effort this year in the New Hampshire State House has reached a rocky conclusion, with only one of the party's six specifically targeted bills still alive.

Five of the six bills either sponsored, co-sponsored, or slotted for special lobbying efforts by the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire have been voted down by the entire House or re-referred to committee. Only one, the federal term limits bill, is still in the running for passage this year. The bill would limit U.S. House members to eight years, and U.S. Senators to 12 years in office.

Libertarian bills falling by the wayside this-session included bills to 1) enable the "Epsom Plan" (school choice); 2) allow the recall of elected officials; 3) enact the Fully Informed Jury Act; 4) reform property forfeiture laws; and 5) allow citizen referendum. Most of the bills were voted down overwhelmingly by an alliance of Republicans and Democrats.

"There's no one reason why most of our Libertarian backed bills failed," said House Libertarian leader Don Gorman (L-Deerfield). "Some didn't adequately address secondary technical problems that

would have arisen if they had passed. Others, like the Epsom Plan bill, I don't think the public is quite ready for. But they're close! Eventually the frustration will reach a point where they'll welcome educational choice. Next year we might put three or four bills in on the Epsom Plan."

Gorman said Libertarians should consider two re-referred bills as victories. "On the amendment for referendum, my sense is that the committee really wants to work

on that and make something happen," he said. The bill to reform the state's property forfeiture laws was also re-referred to committee.

In other legislative news, the Libertarian delegation earned points during an outbreak of fighting between Democrats and Republicans.

"I have to compliment the Libertarians for their efforts at peacemaking," said Republican Rep. Dana Hilliard (R-Somerset).

"I've heard a lot of members talking about the Libertarians trying to restore peace in the House."

"That kind of open warfare isn't good for the people of New Hampshire," said Gorman. "We Libertarians are in the unique position of being able to talk to both sides, and I think they appreciate having us there as a neutral third party."

This article first appeared in Libertarian Lines, the newsletter of the LPNH.

Membership report by region

States or regions consisting of several states with 10 percent or more of the dues-paying national membership qualify to select regional representatives to the national committee. Following are the percentages for the current regions (regions may be redefined by agreement of the participating affiliate parties):

Reg 1: 1,048 9.0% (short by 113)
AK CO HI ID MT OR UT WA WY

Reg 2: 2,283 19.7% (short by 38 to qualify for two reps.)

CA
Reg 3: 1,440 12.4%
IN KY MI OH VA WV

Reg 4: 1,540 13.3%
AL AR DC FL GA LA MS NC SC TN

Reg 5: 1,423 12.3%
DE MD NJ PA

Reg 6: 1,366 11.8%
CT MA ME NH NY RI VT

Reg 7: 1,255 10.8%
IA IL KS MN MO ND NE SD WI

Reg 8: 1,247 10.7%
AZ NM NV OK TX

Total 11,602 100.0%

All information shown above is based on preliminary membership counts for Feb. 28, 1993, and is subject to change if errors are found in those numbers. However, it is not likely that any such corrections will be large enough to materially affect the results.

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Kalamazoo Gazette

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The author combines libertarianism with Western and Eastern spirituality...examines health care, the rain forests, prisons, unemployment...she challenges the reader to see those things outside of custom, in spiritual clarity. —Paul Whitfield, South Bend Tribune

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...it should be required reading for every high school and college student. —Harry Palmer, author of CREATIVISM and the AVATAR COURSE

A great message! —Wayne Dyer, author of YOUR ERRONEOUS ZONES, REAL MAGIC, THE SKY'S THE LIMIT, GIFTS FROM EYKIS, YOU'LL SEE IT WHEN YOU BELIEVE IT, etc.

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...Dr. Mary Ruwart is well on her way to becoming the Ayn Rand of the '90s. —Andre Marrou, 1992 Libertarian Presidential nominee

Through its win-win approach, HEALING OUR WORLD bridges the gap between conservatives and liberals, Christians and New Agers, special interests and the common good... —Ron Paul, former U.S. Congressman (TX) and 1988 Libertarian Presidential nominee

...the emphasis is on presenting libertarianism as a practical philosophy that is compassionate, humane, and compatible with the highest spiritual values. —Carol Ann Rand, President of the Advocates for Self-Government

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Waco

continued from page 1

involved with drugs, but they say that in that compound in 1985 someone made some amphetamines.

My suspicion is that this was one of these seize-and-forfeiture deals. They don't like these people, and they decided to take their property on trumped up charges that it was once used for drug manufacture. So far nobody's been able to produce a search warrant, so we don't know if there was even a search warrant issued.

And under these procedures of seizing property, they don't always have a search warrant. They just say, "Well, it looks like someone has drugs, so we're going to take over the property."

It's something like the case in Southern California, of the individual [Donald Scott] who was shot in their efforts to seize his land.

QUESTION: When was that?

PAUL: About six months ago [Oct. 2, 1992]. He [Scott] was a millionaire recluse, and they said he was using marijuana and grew it on his farm. His land was surrounded by federal property, and he would not sell to

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To me this is just another attack by government on our privacy, gun rights, and our religion. Just another example of how government takes over property. It just didn't go as smoothly as it usually does for them.

”

the feds. It was in Ventura County, but the LA County officials, plus the DEA and the other feds, went over and raided his place in the middle of the night.

He pulled out a pistol when he heard everybody barging in his house—he put his hands up. When they said, "Lower your hands," he did, and that's when they filled him with bullets. He never fired a shot. Then they searched his property, but never found any marijuana. A friend of his on the LA police force said he thought it was just a way to get the man's property.

Another remarkable thing is—actually it isn't remarkable, it's the officials who have been surprised—they've admitted that the children who have been released are all very well cared for and smart and very well educated.

They're amazed because they're used to seeing kids indoctrinated by the public schools, so they're surprised that kids can learn something some place else.

There's been no proof that these people

have committed any crimes. The worst may be that they may not have had proper licenses from the government for some of the guns. They've never been involved in violence, except this one other episode where there was a fight, and a charge, but Koresh was exonerated.

To me this is just another attack by government on our privacy, gun rights, and our religion. Just another example of how government takes over property. It just didn't go as smoothly as it usually does for them.

In Houston, on the talk shows, the calls are coming in overwhelmingly in support of those in the compound. Some of the talk show hosts are shocked that their callers are defending these people, but the majority of people here are critical of the government's action here.

Shoshone elder jailed in dispute over lands

The Western Shoshone Nation has issued an urgent call for help in its dispute with the U.S. government over national sovereignty, taxation, and grazing rights.

The Shoshones claim that the dispute is part of a deliberate attempt to eradicate the Western Shoshone Nation. According to Chief Raymond Yowell of the Western Shoshone National Council, "It's economic genocide." Observers expect this case to affect the way other native rights cases are resolved.

On March 3, 1993, Clifford Dann, a Western Shoshone elder, was convicted of assaulting a federal officer during a raid by U.S. land management authorities near the Dann ranch in Nevada. Dann faces a 35-month minimum sentence on the charge and will be officially sentenced on May 17.

Dann was arrested last November when he attempted to stop U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) agents from rounding-up horses. The BLM alleges that the Dann family failed to obtain grazing permits and that Dann-owned cattle and horses have overgrazed the range. The Western Shoshone maintain that they do not need permits since the 1863 Treaty of Ruby Valley gives them jurisdiction over their land.

Although the Dann family has lived on the land for generations, the BLM claims that their ranch and almost all Western Shoshone land was taken by the U.S. at some time in the past. According to the BLM, title to all Shoshone lands except for a few small reservations was transferred to the federal government by a process known as "gradual encroachment."

Now the BLM claims that the Dannes are trespassing on their ancestral home, where their grandparents lived in a wickiup. But family elder Mary Dann rejects that idea. "[The] only time I would be trespassing," she told federal agents, "is when I go over to the Paiute land, past my territorial line."

Dann was injured and arrested when he attempted to stop BLM agents from removing the captured horses. Blocking the road with his truck, Dann stood in the bed, doused himself with gasoline, and announced that he would set himself on fire if BLM agents did not release the horses. Dann declared, "By taking away our livelihood and our lands, you are taking away

“

By taking away our livelihood and our lands, you are taking away our lives.

”

our lives.”

After speaking with Dann's sister, agents convinced Dann to leave his vehicle. When Dann approached officers, still carrying the plastic container of gasoline and a lighter, the officers wrestled him to the ground.

Authorities claim that Dann was trying to commit suicide and kill federal agents in an effort to draw attention to the conflict between the Western Shoshones and the BLM.

Among the Shoshone, Dann's conviction is viewed as an ironic victory in that it will force the U.S. courts to deal with indigenous sovereignty issues during the appeals process. A spokesperson for Dann stated that Dann's goal is to "ensure that the precedents and statutes defending native liberty are addressed within the judicial system."

According to Yowell, "Western Shoshone law is the first law for us; international law is second in our view; U.S. law is third and least significant to us. For a solution to the Western Shoshone land rights issue to occur, the above must be followed. We do not accept U.S. law, and they (the U.S.) do not accept Shoshone law. The forum for a solution to the problems has to be done in an international setting."

Yowell issued a "cease and desist" order to the federal government. "We are making moves to protect our land like any nation would during an invasion."

In an article in *The Salt Lake Tribune*, Yowell was quoted as saying, "We've asked them to show us a paper how they took the land. Show us a title or deed and we'll back off."

For more information on this situation, contact the Western Shoshone Defense Project, General Delivery, Crescent Valley, NV 89821, or call 702-468-0230.

			
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- | | | | | |
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| Joseph Alt
<i>New York</i> | Pat Cunningham
<i>Illinois</i> | Scott Lieberman
<i>California</i> | Neal Reynolds
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Affiliates

State groups active with outreach

California

Los Angeles Libertarians are setting up a "S*T*R*I*K*E T*E*A*M," designed to jump into action on 24-hours' notice to give a Libertarian response to the media on appropriate public occasions. **Mike Everling** is heading the effort.

The Orange County LP affiliate recently elected officers for 1993: Mark F. Murphy, chair; Richard Boddie, vice chair; Geoffrey Alan Braun, secretary; and Gale Moore, treasurer.

Florida

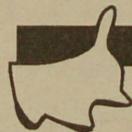
LP member **Andrew B. Spark** of Tampa has been appointed to serve as chair of the American Bar Association's Subcommittee on Initial Public Offerings and vice-chair of the ABA's Committee on Insurance Company Investments. Both the committee and sub-committee are part of the Tort and Insurance Practice Section.

The state party recently agreed to contact the Bahamian FNM, an official Bahamas political party that, although not 100 percent libertarian, does have definite libertarian leanings. According to state party spokesperson Edward Reasor, "Due to their proximity, the LPF proposes learning from each other and opening a dialogue for international interchange."

Maine

The state party has announced the formation of the "Tax Brake" Committee to sponsor a ballot initiative to require voter approval of any future state or local tax increases. The proposed statute will require that any new tax, increase in the rate of an existing tax, delay of inflation indexing, or extension of any expiring tax will go into effect only if approved by the voters.

Proposed increases in state taxes and/or fees will re-



National pulse

News from the states

quire a statewide vote. County increases will require a countywide vote, and local taxes will require a local vote. Mandates are to be considered as taxes and will similarly require voter approval. Government activities paid by retail or wholesale sales or by user fees will be exempt.

The party anticipates collecting more than 80,000 signatures by January 1994. If successful, the proposal will go to the voters in the form of a statewide referendum in 1994.

Missouri

Jim Morrison, chair of the St. Louis affiliate, recently gave a talk on the LP and its philosophy to the Downtown Kiwanis Club.

Virginia

The state party is circulating petitions to legalize marijuana for medical uses. The petition states in part, "We believe that the current federal policy placing cannabis, also known as marijuana, on Schedule 1 of Controlled Substances (meaning that it is totally prohibited) is misguided. . . Therefore, we ask the Virginia Delegation to the U.S. Congress to introduce legislation" removing marijuana from Schedule 1 and permitting physicians to prescribe marijuana for therapeutic uses. The party hopes to collect more than 2,000 signatures by Memorial Day.

Wisconsin

Gene Burns' syndicated talk show can now be heard on WRJN radio (1400 AM) in Racine.

LPNH protests dog-gone law

The Libertarian Party of New Hampshire (LPNH) took to the streets recently to defend a beleaguered barber under attack from a state licensing board for keeping a dog in his barber shop.

Sign-carrying Libertarians posted themselves outside the official hearing of Manchester barber Norm Longval before the state Barbering, Cosmetology, and Esthetics Board (BCEB) as the board heard testimony on whether it should allow Longval to keep his dog in the barbershop in violation of state regulations.

But the Libertarians had a broader objective in mind, according to LPNH Chairman Douglas Harrigan.

"The issue is not whether or not it's good or bad to have a dog in the barbershop, but whether the government should decide the matter for us," said Harrigan in a news release. "If the citizens of New Hampshire can decide for themselves how to vote, they can certainly choose where to get their haircuts without the state's help."

Harrigan and other Libertarians called for the BCEB to be abolished, in line with the LP preference of smaller government and a free market.

The plight of Longval and Shadow, his dog, rocketed to national attention via an Associated Press story when the BCEB discovered that Longval was keeping the dog in his barbershop for security reasons. The BCEB demanded that the dog be removed, and threatened Longval's state license.

The LPNH's defense of Longval also won considerable press attention for the party—including TV, radio, and front-page newspaper stories.

"It presented us with an excellent opportunity to get our limited government message across," said Harrigan.

Reaction to the LPNH's stand ranged from WMVU radio talk show host John Moran, who said "God bless the Libertarians! Do we have any patriotic music we can play?" to state representative and former BCEB chairwoman Leona Dykstra, who said she was "infuriated" to read of the Libertarian call to abolish the BCEB.

Harrigan said he intends to pursue legislation to abolish the BCEB because it is just "one of a long list of petty and unnecessary boards and agencies New Hampshire would be better off without."

This article is reprinted from Libertarian Lines, the newsletter of the LPNH, P.O. Box 5293, Manchester, NH 03108.



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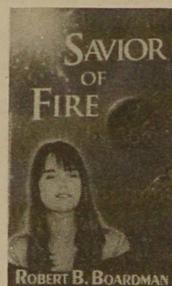
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5. How the Libertarian Party can be more effective and remain principled.

II. You need not be a member of PLEDGE or of the Libertarian Party to win.

III. The winners will be announced, and the prizes presented, at the Libertarian Party national convention in Salt Lake City during the first week of September 1993. All judges' decisions are final. You need not be present to win or to receive your prize. The prizes are a grand prize of \$250 and two runner up prizes of \$125 each.

IV. Send all entries to PLEDGE, 655 Lewelling Boulevard, Suite 143, San Leandro, CA 94579. Include your name, address, and telephone number.

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Campaigns

Election results and campaign results across the country

California

Richard Newhouse received 1.9 percent of the vote in a special election for a state house seat. It was a six-way race.

Colorado

Dale Doelling, of Grand Junction, had announced his intention to run for city council, but has now decided to try for a county commission seat. Since this is a partisan post, Doelling will have to gather signatures to get on the ballot as a Libertarian.



Florida

Paul Crumrine, of Ozona, has announced he will be a candidate for the District 49 state house seat next year.

Massachusetts

LP member Craig Rosen ran for the School Committee in Swansea. The election, which was non-partisan, was held April 12.

Missouri

Libertarian Mike Babcock received more than 4 percent of the vote in a special election for the state senate held in Jefferson County. Babcock's 4.2 percent was twice as good as an earlier result when Eric Harris ran in another special election. Three more

state representative special elections are coming up in Missouri.

Longtime activist Steve Schaper announced he will run in one of those special elections for state representative in the 108th District. Schaper, 43, has run twice before for state office, but this time around he doesn't have to petition to get on the ballot, and he plans to concentrate on the campaign rather than the petition drive.

New Hampshire

Two more Libertarians were elected to office in town elections in March. Dave Tuttle was elected selectman in the town of Alton in a close three-way race. In the town of Dunbarton, Scott Ives ran un-opposed for the position of school board clerk, but said the town moderator claimed Ives' 403 votes were by far the highest number ever received for that post. Ives attributed his record vote to his visibility at town and school board meetings and other community events, and to his active campaign for state senator last year.

Other LP candidates who participated in town elections but did not win included, John Drabinowicz, Clarence Blevens, Al Carista, and Charles Hampe.

New York

In February, the New York City LP nominated candidates for city offices for the November elections. Candidates include: Joseph Brennan, mayor; Robert Falk, public advocate (new name for city council president); and Vicki Kirkland, city comptroller. Additional candidates may be announced this summer, when petitioning will start to gather 7,500 signatures to place the LP candidates on the ballot.

Brennan is a third-year law student who has been active as a petitioner and state assembly candidate, and has served as state vice chair.

Texas

Thomas Rush announced his candidacy for the Magnolia School Board in Montgomery County. Rush lives in Klein.

Virginia

Although no Libertarian announced for the Arlington County board, the local LP decided to endorse independent candidate Ben Winslow, an advocate of limited government, personal freedom, and fiscal conservatism.

Wisconsin

LP candidate Edward J. Kozak is running for the U.S. House seat vacated by Les Aspin, now the defense secretary. The election will be held May 4.

Kozak, 35, is an Elkhorn resident. This is his first time running for office. The district includes the cities of Racine, Kenosha, Beloit, and Janesville.

Letters from elected Libertarians

Thank you for reporting to your readers my early success in bringing LP principles into local government on the Moreno Valley City Council (Jan. 1993). Your dollar amount, however, was somewhat under-stated: I actually knocked almost half a million dollars out of the 1992-1993 budget in my third month in office. I have also been able to defeat a proposed tax on spray paint and markers, and amend the Municipal Code to permit privately owned recreational facilities (which are now under construction). In addition, I have two non-Libertarian colleagues on the council talking to the Reason Foundation about privatizing city services. Three councilmembers constitutes a majority, and the first privatization resolution was passed last week.

What a joy it is to battle statist—and win!—in the real world. I encourage any Libertarian who is frustrated by perpetual windmill-flailing to seek a local elective office. The rewards are frequently quantifiable and always immeasurably gratifying.

Bonnie Flickinger
City Councilmember
Moreno Valley, CA

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

I am amused and amazed by the ongoing debate over the Libertarian pledge and platform. Juxtaposed with the constant pleadings for candidates and/or attendance at candidate training sessions—I can't figure out just what the real intentions of the party are.

For the record, I am a sitting elected "official." I was elected last fall to my small city's governing council—duly recorded in your issue following the elections. I ran on a simple platform of "minimum taxes, and less city intrusion in your life." I won with the highest vote count (more than two incumbents), in a six-way race for two seats. If anyone asked, I told them I was a Libertarian—but it never was an issue. Someone called me the stealth candidate. But so what? I GOT ELECTED!

The biggest problem I have is that the pledge forswears force, or aggression. Doesn't anyone remember that all government is force? How can you push folks to run for office—where they will be expected and obliged to

use force—and propose to hold them unwaveringly to this idealistic pledge?

I can sign and accept the pledge as an OBJECTIVE. I cannot use it as anything else, as a councilperson, in the real world. When you have candidates running for offices that don't have a prayer of winning, I suppose they can be as idealistic as they want. But anyone who could possibly win had better understand that, IF they win, they will use force at every meeting.

I have been embroiled in 1) an expensive greenwaste recycling plan (and beat it), 2) a countywide forced billing for foreign language translations for candidate statements (I did the homework, organized countywide opposition and beat it), and 3) the transfer of a \$90 million per year fire department from the county to the 16 contract cities that buy the service (and I have stalled it pending a better definition of its management structure). I introduced the thought that anyone tearing up the streets had to restore that public property to original condition—and make sure it stays that way into the future (and got it passed); and softened an ordinance dealing with bikes and skateboards in the shopping center. I am carrying on a sub rosa campaign for more accurate city records—by using the "force" of a threat of public embarrassment over specific instances. I singlehandedly convinced the council to veto a proposal that would have forced all new residential construction to include fire sprinklers.

I am currently involved in rewriting the commercial sign ordinance. I am shooting for a 70 percent reduction in text, and removal of most of the most onerous features. And, do you know what? The merchants are my worst problem. They don't want to be responsible for their own rules and "policing."

As each zoning issue comes up, I do my best to allow folks to do what they want with their own property—and argue with those who want to tell someone else what they can do with theirs. That includes those who insist they have the right to encroach on public property with impunity. (The commons argument?) We are now in the last stages of taking legal action toward seven scofflaws who refused to deal with a city that offered amnesty, but who expect to continue with obstructions in/on public right-of-way. I am known as the "property rights guy"—and I think that has to include the city itself, which I insist

has rights in its own name.

We are a contract city, with only eight employees for a population of 6,300. We "buy" engineering; building inspection services; attorneys; police; fire [protection]; trash collection; street, sewer, and building maintenance—even lawn mowing. We have no social or welfare services—and those of us on the council serve for no pay, no expense account, and no frills. We have not had a tax increase in the 32 years the city has existed—but with what is going on in California, the handwriting is on the wall. The fire department transfer will cost a 20 percent increase for that line item, or about 7 percent of the total budget. We have nothing to cut back except the fundamental and minimal reasons for government—and I doubt that I can get through my term without a tax increase. So much for those who write that Libertarians are against all taxes.

That is what government is all about. Force and taxes. That is what any candidate will find themselves immersed in the minute they win an office. That, kids, is the real world. You can believe anything you want—but you'd better understand that getting there a step at a time might be a lot better than grandstanding and getting nowhere.

Those who advocate the pledge and platform as objectives are on the right track. If those documents are really a litmus test of membership—including elected folks—I'd suggest that anyone who wins an office must be instantly excommunicated. Do you want my card now?

The rest of you can contemplate your navels, worry about how many true Libertarians can pass through the eye of your favorite needle, train candidates for an impossible dream, or run for offices you'll never achieve. And what will you prove to the great unwashed mob out there?

In the meantime I won't talk about Libertarianism, I'LL DO MY BEST TO LIVE IT AND PRACTICE IT—to impose (force?) it, through persuasion, one issue at a time—to the benefit of my community.

Bob Patchin
City Councilman
Villa Park, CA

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see page 4



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(June 1990)

A Democracy Project of

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Sept. 2-5, 1993

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These hearings will investigate charges that the governments referenced above routinely violate the political and democratic rights of political minority parties. Persons interested in testifying at these hearings, or in submitting written or documentary evidence, should contact:

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Celebrate Liberty!

All about LP national conventions

The Libertarian Party meets in general convention every two years. In presidential election cycles, we nominate candidates for president and vice president, consider changes to the national platform, and elect officers and members of the national committee. The delegates may also consider resolutions or other new business.

In "off-years," we consider changes to the party's bylaws and convention rules, and deletions to the platform. We also elect officers and members of the national committee.

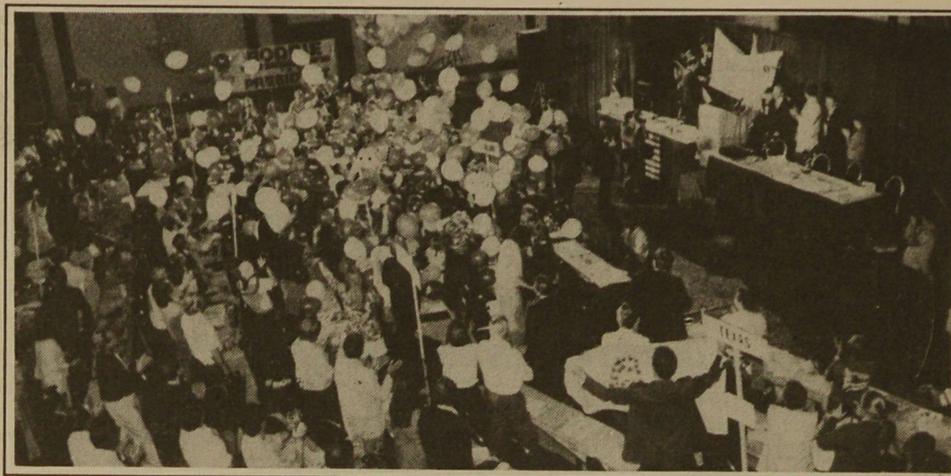
The 1993 national convention will be the last held in an odd-numbered year. The national committee voted last year to move the 1995 presidential nominating convention to 1996 (probably the Fourth of July weekend).

In addition to the business sessions, each convention features a range of other

activities such as breakfasts, parties, and a formal banquet. Workshops, speakers, and an exhibit hall round out the program.

The Democratic and Republican conventions are paid for with tax money. Last year, each received \$5 million just for their conventions. Since Libertarians have a well-developed sense of morals when it comes to funding our activities with other people's stolen money, we finance our convention ourselves.

For each convention, the national committee selects a contractor through a competitive bid process. Potential contractors submit bids that select a city and a proposed hotel/venue for the convention activities. The national committee considers the relative merits and votes to select a contractor. The convention oversight committee then negotiates a contract that finalizes the arrangement. Commencing with Celebrate Liberty!, each contractor pays a fee to the LP for each delegate or alternate who registers. (For the 1993 convention, the fee is \$15.)



NEWS photo by Ken Bush

NATIONAL CONVENTION - A scene from the 1991 Libertarian Party national convention in Chicago.

Contractors are then responsible for all financing of the convention, including publicity, meeting sites, speakers, banquets, meals, parties, decorations, equipment, etc. The price for each event therefore includes not only the expenses directly related to that event, but also a "share" of the overhead for running the convention.

Financing a convention requires considering many variables. This is one reason contractors traditionally offer discounts for early registration. Morning Glory Productions, this year's contractor, has taken this one step further by also offering payment plans that allow people to lock in an early purchase discount with a modest monthly

payment.

Major issues will be decided at Celebrate Liberty!. Should the bylaws membership definition be changed? Should the platform be altered? PLEDGE and the Committee for a Libertarian Majority are each going all-out to get delegates supporting their particular points of view to the convention.

The 1993 convention contractor is Bob Waldrop. Bob has been active in the LP since 1978, has run for office seven times as a Libertarian, and was the coordinator for Operation Bold Strike and the San Antonio Declaration, libertarian responses to international drug war summits.

Convention venues attractive, convenient

Celebrate Liberty! activities are located at two primary locations: The Salt Palace Convention Center and the Marriott Hotel. These two sites are directly across the street from each other.

We will utilize the Assembly Hall in the Salt Palace for the general convention sessions, Gala Opening Ceremonies and Keynote Address, and Joyful Noise. The Karl Hess Institute and the Political Expo are located directly adjacent to the Assembly Hall.

The Marriott Hotel is the official convention hotel. For one to four people, the room rate is \$87.17 per night, inclusive of the taxes. For one or two people, your option is one or two double beds. Whether you put

one or four (or any combination thereof) per room, the price is the same—\$87.17, inclusive of taxes.

If you'd like to spend a bit more, you can book a room on the concierge level of the hotel, for \$105 (plus 10.5 percent tax). Suites of various types are available (contact Morning Glory Productions (MGP) for suiterates and availability).

To make reservations and get this low room rate, call the Marriott at 801-531-0800. Tell them you are with the Libertarian Party national convention. If you prefer, as an alternative you can purchase your room nights through MGP with one of their convenient monthly payment plans.

The room rates are very competitive, especially when you consider splitting the

expense by sharing a room. MGP offers free roommate match service for persons wishing to share a room.

NOTE: To get the low convention room rate, you must make your reservations prior to Aug. 10, 1993.

The Marriott offers many amenities, including a liquor bar, two restaurants, exercise, sauna, whirlpool, steam rooms, and pool. There is a direct connection from the hotel to the Crossroads Mall, with complete food court and shopping opportunities. The Marriott offers free parking to hotel guests and free airport shuttle.

Dawns Early Light, Green Dragon Inn, pre-convention candidate training and committee meetings, and the convention banquet will be held at the hotel.

Celebrate Liberty! offers free events

The Celebrate Liberty! schedule offers several free events open to the public. These include:

Gala Opening Ceremonies and Keynote Address. A local Scottish pipe band, orchestra, and a fife and drum corps will complement a stirring keynote address by American Indian leader Russell Means, contender for the 1988 LP presidential nomination. This event begins at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 2, 1993. It will be held in the attractive and professionally decorated Salt Palace Assembly Hall.

Freedom Rock '93. Three local bands team up with comic Mike Slagle, Bob Waldrop, a local Middle Eastern dance troupe and instrumental ensemble, magicians, jugglers, space aliens, and clowns in an evening of entertainment and the subtle

presentation of Libertarian values. (Bob calls it the "Jesus by the back door" approach.) Local craftmasters will be on hand offering a wide range of articles for sale—from tie-dyes to beaded jewelry and hair wraps. The location will be the Triad Center Amphitheater—an outdoor venue two and one-half blocks from the hotel.

Ballot Access Hearings. These are open hearings to present testimony and documentary evidence regarding compliance by the U.S. (and several states) with certain international human rights agreements concerning political and democratic rights.

Which Way America? Four free speakers and presentations: Terree Wasley (on health care), Dirk Pearson and Sandy Shaw (on FDA madness and reform), Carole Ann Rand (Advocates for Self-Government), and Dr. Bruce Daniels (on Social Security). These events will be well publicized in the

local community.

1993 Political Expo! The ever-popular convention exhibit hall will be open to the public. In addition to exhibits and displays from vendors, organizations, businesses, and committees, Morning Glory Productions will present educational displays on Libertarian values, both as examples to take "back home" and to present our ideas to the public. Free Political Expo admission will be highlighted in all local convention promotions.

Joyful Noise. A colorful, exciting, and inspirational "send-off" presented Sunday afternoon (time currently being negotiated with the national committee). Celebrate Liberty! is the first national LP convention to feature a grand closing ceremony. This event will feature a number of musical selections, together with short remarks (four minutes each) from Libertarian Party members, candidates, volunteers, and advocates.

Convention package descriptions

Full Celebration: Everything on the menu, Sept. 2-5.

Delegate Deal I: "Full Delegate Celebration" (all events Sept. 2-5, except Karl Hess Institute, includes a complete set of Karl Hess Institute audio tapes).

Delegate Deal II: All meal events/parties; does not include Karl Hess Institute.

Thrif: No breakfasts or banquet.

Issues Focus: Karl Hess Institute, plus "Basic" and free events.

Basic: Convention information packet, souvenirs, two speakers or workshops (your choice of the Karl Hess Institute).

Free: Political Expo, Joyful Noise, Access to convention hall, Freedom Rock '93, four free speakers (Carole Ann Rand, Dirk Pearson and Sandy Shaw, Dr. Bruce Daniels, and Terree Wasley), Keynote Address, Gala Opening Ceremonies.

In addition to these packages, there is a "pre-convention program" consisting of three intensive days of candidate training under the theme "Everything You Always Wanted To Know About Winning Elections, But Didn't Know Where To Ask." This event, the 1993 Stamp Act Congress, is an invitation to get organized for victory. Price of the three-day training is \$150, and each enrollee receives three campaign manuals totalling 990 pages. Persons booking this event receive student prices for convention activities, so the price for a Full Celebration (or Full Delegate Celebration) plus the Stamp Act Congress, is \$450.

THE 1993 LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL CONVENTION & POLITICAL EXPO

1993 STAMP ACT CONGRESS — AUGUST 30 - SEPTEMBER 1
 PLATFORM & BYLAWS COMMITTEE MEETINGS — AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 1
 CONVENTION PROGRAM — SEPTEMBER 2-5
 BALLOT ACCESS HEARINGS — SEPTEMBER 2-3
 SALT PALACE CONVENTION CENTER / MARRIOTT HOTEL — SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

CONVENTION ACTIVITIES	SPEAKER LIST		
GALA OPENING CEREMONIES	Dean Ahmad	Alexander Joseph	Dagny Sharon
KEYNOTE ADDRESS	Karen Allard	Dr. Karl Hess Jr.	Jane Shaw
DAWNS EARLY LIGHT	Rick Arnold	Frances Kendall	Sandy Shaw
GREEN DRAGON INN	Dr. George Ayittey	Gary King	L. Neil Smith
FREEDOM ROCK 93	Alan Boch	Me-Me King	Eric Sterling
AWARDS BANQUET	Richard Boddie	Manuel S. Klausner	Dr. Richard Stroup
POLITICAL EXPO	Doug Casey	Henry Lamb	Dr. Thomas Szasz
JOYFUL NOISE	Gus Dizerega	Dr. Val Lambson	Michael Tanner
KARL HESS INSTITUTE OF LIBERTARIAN POLITICS	Larry Dodge	Amy Lassen	Joan Kennedy Taylor
LIBERTY: NEXT GENERATION	Dr. Richard Ebeling	Dr. Nancy Lord	Sojourner Truth
AGENDA 2000	Don Ernsberger	Russell Means	Yuri Tuvim
GREAT DEBATE	Bill Evers	Vince Miller	Bob Waldrop
VALUES FOR THE 90S	Bonnie Flickenger	Matury Modine	David Walter
CAMPUS FOCUS	John Fund	David Nolan	Terree Wasley
	Doris Gordon	Randall O'Toole	Jack Wheeler
	Michael Grossberg	James Ostrowski	Perry Willis
	Leon Hadar	Dirk Pearson	Robert Anton Wilson
	Patrick Henry	Bob Poole	Richard Winger
	Karl Hess	Carole Ann Rand	Jarret Wollstein
	Jacob Hornberger	Kathleen Richman	Dr. Jonathan Wright
	Jim Hudler	Sheldon Richman	Brigham Young
	Jeff Hummel	Dan Rosenthal	and many,
		Dr. Mary Ruwart	many more.

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Late Riser	\$275	\$300	\$400
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Issues Focus	\$150	\$175	\$325
Basic	\$30	\$40	\$205
Free	0	0	0

Single event tickets go on sale August 15th (subject to availability). Ticket sales end 48 hours in advance of event. Prices do not include hotel.

*Freedom Week price is the convention package indicated PLUS the three day pre-convention training program, the 1993 Stamp Act Congress.



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The Poor

Some Libertarian answers to one of the most-asked questions

By GEORGE O'BRIEN

The question asked of Libertarians perhaps the most often is "What about the poor?" Apparently many people imagine that the U.S. would quickly begin to resemble a third-world country with millions of starving beggars on the streets if libertarian policies were implemented.

Unfortunately, there is no simple "30 second" answer that can even start to explain why a free society actually does a better job of curing poverty than any statist approach. The reason is that when people use the term "poverty," they are describing a very complex set of issues.

The most obvious issue is whether a free market economy creates poverty as Marx and Lenin suggested. The jury is no longer out on this issue: Free markets do a much better job than statist economies of creating jobs while increasing the general standard of living of the entire population. For example, the average person living under the poverty line in the U.S. has more living space than the average for the middle class in Japan.

Countries throughout the world are changing toward free market policies. For people who care about the plight of the poor, they look to places such as Hong Kong, where it is almost impossible to hire receptionists because people can easily find better paying jobs. Prosperity cures poverty. (As a side note, the standard of living in Hong Kong has now passed that of Great Britain.) All that being said, the free market system benefits some people more than others. Many people continue to be concerned that people at the bottom of the economic ladder would be worse off under laissez faire than they would be in a poorer country with more redistributionist policies.

In certain circumstances this might be true. The real question is whether this would justify the economic damage caused by statist interventionism on the overall level of prosperity and personal freedom. I think Libertarians can make a convincing case that it does not.

What is poverty?

Before addressing the problems of the poor, it is necessary to consider what we mean by "poverty" or by being "poor." Merely looking at income statistics confuses the issue.

One of the problems we have in looking at this issue is that there is a difference between being "poor" versus being "temporarily without funds." We often hear of tycoons going bankrupt, yet we never hear of them moving into public housing. They may have no money for the moment, but they are not "poor."

In a similar manner, recent college graduates often have little or no income prior to getting their first job. Some people lose

their jobs and have little income for a while, but they are not really "poor."

Income statistics are also confusing when dealing with retired people living in homes with the mortgage paid off and substantial savings, adult children of affluent parents, and people with erratic incomes such as writers and artists.

It is not clear that there is a "problem" with low income people who are temporarily without funds. Perhaps in "utopia" everyone can be idly rich, but that is hardly a relevant public policy issue.

If there is a "problem," it is with people who seem to be trapped in their situation without a sense of hope. We should consider their problem seriously, but keep in mind that each individual's situation is unique.

Why are they poor?

For the sake of this discussion, I contend that there are at least four broad categories of people who are generally thought of as being "poor" rather than merely temporarily without funds. Let me suggest that each category may require a different response, and that requires judgment which is difficult for government agencies to apply because they risk lawsuits over "discrimination."

There is no single answer because there is no single problem. The four categories are:

- 1) The Unfortunate
- 2) Misfits
- 3) Leisure seekers
- 4) Victims

1) **THE UNFORTUNATE** are people who are poor due to circumstance beyond anyone's control. This might include medical or mental problems, catastrophes, etc. Someone with a below-average IQ who has impaired vision is likely to be poor no matter how strong the job market is. Most people agree they should be helped. The only question is how.

This is an obvious area for charity. Historically, free people have been generous. The people of this country give more to charity per capita than those of any other country in the world and their generosity increased at an average of 5.1 percent during the 1980s (the alleged "decade of greed") compared to an average of only 3.5 percent during the previous 25 years.

To a certain degree this is out of self-interest because each of us can imagine being afflicted and we want to live in a society that would be supportive.

Unfortunately, the problem of poverty in America is not limited to the merely "unfortunate." Government programs designed for the "unfortunate" tend to break down when trying to deal with other causes of poverty. Charities and religious groups can use judgment in deciding who will be helped and who will not. (For example, the Mormons do an extraordinary job of taking care of "unfortunate" members of their churches.)

2) **MISFITS** are poor because of their behavior. Such behavior ranges from merely poor work habits (failure to get to work on time, yelling at customers, etc.) to substance abuse to outright criminal behavior.

Unfortunately, the social pathologies that push certain individuals into self-destructive behavior seem to be impervious to government action. Historically, non-statist social systems have had more effect than government programs that are inevitably "legalistic."

One example of how non-statist agencies can help is a group called "Delancey Street," which works with ex-cons. They rigidly control the actions of the participants while training them to work in the agencies' businesses including a restaurant, a construction company, and a trucking company, among others. Their results have been phenomenal, yet they receive no public funds or private charity.

Mutual aid and voluntary community programs work better without government interference. Unfortunately, government money invariably attracts professional "dogooders" who are inclined to view these people as "clients" rather than as human beings capable of solving their own problems.

In any case, it is now clear that government is extraordinarily ineffective at dealing with misfits. Yet many statist assume that misfits are merely unfortunate, which is simply not true. Giving misfits money only helps them put off the day when they will have to change their behavior. Sending misfits to schools is a joke and only serves to destroy the educational opportunities of others. Forcing misfits into "12-step programs" such as Alcoholics Anonymous fails because these programs work only when the participants want to change.

As one leading libertarian put it, "It is not really clear that we as individual members of this society have any real obligation to people who are the cause of their own problems." This statement seems harsh to many social democrats who are inclined to blame "society" for the personal problems of the misfits rather than to insist on individual responsibility.

Yet in some ways, libertarians advocate a kind of "tough love" that parents have to practice when they kick their adult children out of the house and make them live on their own.

As libertarians, we tend to focus on the expanded role of charities and mutual support groups in an environment of rising prosperity and increased economic opportunities. Nonetheless, the message of libertarianism is clear: "There ain't no such thing as a free lunch." (Oddly enough, socialist countries are much harsher on people who refuse to work. Many have practiced the Biblical maxim: "He who will not work, nor shall he eat.")

3) **LEISURE SEEKERS** are people who prefer poverty to working hard. If you increase the level of welfare benefits, the result will be more people who will go on welfare.

Some social democrats deny that this happens, pointing out the relatively low standard of living sustained by welfare recipients. However, the data are overwhelming: Higher benefits lead to more applicants.

Leisure seekers are not necessarily misfits. They are simply responding rationally to the law of supply and demand. Higher prices lead to more of what is being paid for to be offered. This holds for oil, chewing

gum, and welfare recipients.

Another part of this problem is that there is a significant number of people who receive benefits who actually work in the underground economy. For this group in particular, the cost of getting a regular market job includes not only paying taxes, but also losing all of the welfare benefits including housing subsidies, food stamps, medicaid, etc.

Most attempts to get "able bodied" welfare recipients off the books tend to fail. As long as the same system is used to support the "unfortunate," the politicians are reluctant to cut the benefits. At the same time, the cost of determining who should be excluded is often greater than any "savings" because the beneficiary has the right to due process. Tax-funded Legal Services Agencies often drag this out as long as possible in the name of the poor's "right" to an equal share of the wealth of others.

Private charities permit judgments as to who really needs help. Government agencies cannot discriminate for fear of abuse.

4) **VICTIMS** are people who are poor due to the actions of others. For the most part, I look at the "working poor" as being the primary victim class of poverty. However, the sense of being trapped that is felt by many welfare recipients is a power form of victimization.

In spite of what many people suppose, the real victimization is not by greedy capitalists or rednecked bigots (although some is), but due to the unintended consequences of government action.

Economist Martha Fuhrig once stated that the reason she is a libertarian is that "government is hurting people." No group is hurt more than the working poor.

Space does not permit a comprehensive list of government actions that hurt the poor, but a few examples include:

- Federal labor law permits unions to increase the wages of some workers by "restricting supply," i.e. destroying the jobs of others. Poor people might take jobs in the auto companies at lower wages, but aren't permitted to do so. Racial minorities and women are far less likely to get jobs on union construction jobs than on non-union jobs, yet the federal government prevents effective competition by non-union contractors with the Davis-Bacon Act.

- Licensing laws keep poor people from forming businesses such as taxi companies or hairdressing salons. In most states, it is illegal to offer babysitting for more than a couple of families. In California, there are over 130 licensed professions that require tests and various other requirements that make it hard for the less well educated to even enter the profession.

- Local business licenses and permit controls are used to prevent the creation of shoe shine stands, street vendors in most communities, and other low-capital businesses.

- Federal laws forbidding "home production" (especially of clothing) hurt poor female heads of households. Local zoning laws do much the same.

- Land use laws (zoning, building codes, etc.) are used to restrict the supply of housing units, driving up the price of housing. Urban renewal type programs have destroyed hundreds of thousands of low income

Why isn't everybody a libertarian?

Why aren't people breaking down doors to join the Libertarian Party?

When you explain libertarian ideas, why aren't people dropping to their knees and protesting, "All my life, with open arms, I've waited for you and your message. How do I join? When's the next meeting? Is there a limit to how much money I can give?"

Is Something Wrong With Your Libertarian Ideas?

You be the judge.

Re-examine the political and economic ideas of Rand and Von Mises, Friedman and Rothbard, Hazlitt and Hayek, Bastiat and Heinlein, Jefferson and Paine.

Browse through the catalogues of Laissez Faire Books, Freedom's Forum and Liberty Tree.

Scan the policy reports of the Cato Institute, Heartland Institute and Reason Foundation.

Leaf through *Reason*, *Liberty*, *Freedom Network News*, and *The Pragmatist*.

Or this issue of *LP News*.

Need more proof? Compare your libertarian ideas to the statist ideas you read in the newspapers and magazines. To those you see on television. Liberal and conservative, socialist and fascist, totalitarian and populist.

Not even close, is it? Liberty wins hands down.

"You Libertarians have a 24 carat gold idea—freedom—and you can't even give it away. Ever ask yourself why?"
Congressman Sam Steiger, 1976

In 1976, I was the Arizona Libertarian Party's candidate for the congressional seat held by Morris Udall.

I lectured people who weren't interested. I debated when I should have discussed. I talked when I should have listened. I talked down to everyone.

If there was an offensive, shocking way of presenting a libertarian position—I used it.

Every so often, people would try to agree, but I didn't notice. I

couldn't take 'Yes' for an answer.

My campaign taught me how to lose friends and alienate people.

Finally, it sunk in. My problem wasn't other people. It was the man in the mirror. Me.

Do You Lose Friends And Alienate People?

Some libertarians have a more-rational-than-thou attitude. Or smarter-than-thou. Or more-principled-than-thou. Or more-ethical-than-thou.

Are your 'discussions' really lectures? Do you try to convince by beating the other person into submission? Do you behave like a tormentor, not a mentor?

And when you fail to persuade, do you blame the listener? The other person isn't rational enough, or intelligent enough, or good enough? It's always their fault?

That is the road to permanent failure.

Failure is feedback. It's telling you to do something different.

The people you don't convince are showing you what does not work. Are you paying attention?

The marketplace of ideas works just like the free market. Consumer response is a teacher. Are you learning?

The Art Of Political Persuasion.

I felt stupid and embarrassed by my campaign in 1976. But I was determined to salvage something from my experience. I wanted to learn the art of political persuasion.

I began to read. It's now over 1,000 books on psychology, epistemology, semantics, salesmanship, cybernetics, self-help, hypnosis, communication and creativity.

I interviewed specialists in communications and persuasion. I asked questions and took notes.

I applied the scientific method to everything I learned. I tested every approach, technique and format. I observed and listened.

I began to write up my results. *How To Get Converts Left & Right* and *The Late, Great Libertarian*

Macho Flash were published by *Reason*.

I followed these with more articles: *The Militant Mentality*, *The Myth Of Mushrooms In The Night*, *Leveraging Liberty With Language* and *Intellectual Judo*.

The libertarian audience wanted more, so I launched a seminar. *The Art Of Political Persuasion Marathon Weekend Workshop* has been offered all over the United States and Canada.

Then, I tested my teachings in the field. I was the organizer and fund-raiser for the 1988 *Marrou VP Campaign*, *Project 51-'92* ballot effort and the 1992 *Marrou For President Campaign*. Between Fall 1987 and Fall 1991 I raised more than \$500,000 for these projects. \$519,344 to be exact (source: FEC).

Now, after 12 years of study, testing and results, I have produced a three hour audio tape learning program: *The Essence of Political Persuasion*.

What You'll Learn In Only Three Hours.

- > How to influence with integrity.
- > Open the door with rapport.
- > From confrontation to conversation.
- > The power of metaphors, parables and teaching tales.
- > Political Cross-Dressing: how to get converts from the liberal left and the conservative right.
- > The Late, Great Libertarian Macho Flash: abuses and uses of intellectual shock tactics.

> Leveraging Liberty With Language: the semantics of libertarian persuasion.

> Intellectual Judo: gently win people over without arguing.

> And many more easy, enjoyable and effective ways to make libertarian ideas irresistible.

Does It Really Work?

"*The Essence of Political Persuasion* is bold, imaginative and brilliant. It is the most innovative and effective program of its kind."

Andre Marrou, 1992 Libertarian Party presidential nominee.

"I've personally listened to Michael Emerling's political persuasion tapes several times. This program is great. It's a necessity, not a luxury, for all libertarians."

Jim Lewis, 1984 Libertarian Party VP nominee and 1992 *Marrou For President Campaign* Manager.

"Michael Emerling's political persuasion tapes are superb. I have listened to them many times. I continue to be impressed by the power and sophistication of his techniques."

Vince Miller, President of International Society For Individual Liberty (I.S.I.L.).

"I have a set of these political persuasion tapes. I had to learn it before I could teach it. Thank you very much, Michael Emerling."

Marshall Fritz, founder of Advocates For Self-Government

FREE BONUS TAPE WITH THIS OFFER

- Yes! Send me *The Essence Of Political Persuasion* Audio Tape Program for only \$29.95 and the free bonus tape—an added \$10.00 value—Emerling's *The Missing Factor In The Libertarian Equation: Self-Responsibility*.

name _____

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city _____

state/zip _____

60-Day Trial Period

If, within 60 days, I am not completely satisfied with the Tape Program, I will return it to you for a full refund of the purchase price. And I can keep the bonus tape as a free gift.

Michael Emerling

Box 28368
Las Vegas NV 89126

Libertarian Party 1992 Annual Report

Highlights

BALLOT ACCESS:

The LP began 1992 with presidential ballot status in 24 states: AL, AZ, CA, DE, GA, HI, ID, KS, ME, MD, MI, MS, MT, NV, NH, NM, OR, SC, SD, TX, UT, VT, WI, WY. No petitioning is required in AR and LA to place the presidential ticket on the ballot.

The LP achieved ballot status in all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia and Guam, for the first time since 1980. Almost 400,000 signatures were collected.

After the 1992 general election, the LP retained ballot status in 16 states: CA, DE, GA, HI, ID, KS, MS, MO, MT, NH, OR, SC, SD, TX, UT, WI. In Pennsylvania, the LP became a qualified minor party, which means Pennsylvanians may register Libertarian, although individual candidates must still petition.

CAMPUS ORGANIZING:

Campus Organizer Joseph Knight prepared a College Libertarians organizing handbook and trained our first student organizer, Brad Klopfenstein, who organized western campuses. Marti Stoner was hired to do advance work for both organizers.

Knight and Klopfenstein visited 116 campuses. By the end of 1992, more than 100 College Libertarian clubs were established

or in the process of organization. They compiled a student mailing list of 2,200 names and administered the World's Smallest Political Quiz to more than 12,000 students, with the following results:

	Total No.	Percent
Libertarian	2,675	22%
Liberal	2,373	20%
Centrist	4,983	42%
Conservative	823	6%
Authoritarian	1,152	10%

CANDIDATE RECRUITMENT:

Over 700 LP candidates ran during 1992, including 23 for U.S. Senate, the most for any third party since 1914. One hundred and thirty-nine LP candidates ran for the U.S. House of Representatives.

CANDIDATE SUPPORT:

In New Hampshire, six LP candidates for state representative received LP funding in the primary to help them gain major party primary nominations in addition to their LP nominations. New Hampshire allows candidates to be listed under multiple party labels, which greatly increases their chances for victory. All six successfully gained at least one additional nomination.

Four of these candidates also received LP funding for the general election. Two were elected and one received 43% of the vote. Three additional candidates declined funding; two were elected, while the third narrowly lost.

In Nevada, Tamara Clark received \$11,100 from the LP for her State Senate race. Although exit polls showed her receiving over 60% of the vote, the "official" results gave her only 44.4%. There were indications of massive vote fraud, which is under investigation.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Twenty LP members were elected to public office in 1992. Four LP candidates were elected to the New Hampshire State Legislature: Andy Borsa, Don Gorman, Finlay Rothhaus, and Calvin Warburton. Rothhaus and Warburton were re-elected; each had switched from Republican to Libertarian during his previous term.

FIELD ORGANIZING:

Field Organizer Joseph Knight worked from January through August on a joint project of the LP and the Marrou/Lord Campaign. He worked to rebuild the party in South Dakota and Nebraska, gave convention presentations in Alaska and Texas, and did advance work in the Midwest for the Marrou/Lord Campaign. Beginning in September, he began working full-time for the LP.

INQUIRIES:

More than 60,000 new names were added to the LP database in 1992 through our 800 number, our 900 number, from the mail, or referred by members of our state and local parties.

LIBERTY PLEDGE PROGRAM:

Throughout 1992 an average of 690 pledge payments arrived at HQ each month, averaging about \$12,000 per month.

Ten issues of Liberty Pledge News were published.

LITERATURE DEVELOPMENT:

We prepared a four-page supplement to Liberty Today, which contained the revised LP history and bibliography, and the LP Program. Also published was a new edition of the three-color "slick" LP brochure.

LP NEWS:

Twelve issues of LP NEWS were published in 1992, with an average length of 14 pages. In December, we renewed our contract with Solstice, Inc. to edit and produce the LP NEWS for another year.

MEMBERSHIP:

Paid membership was 11,442 on Dec. 31, 1992, an increase of 24.6% from year end 1991. Total recorded membership (all those who have signed the "non-initiation of force" certification) was 26,848 at the close of 1992. This included 11,442 whose dues were current, 12,080 whose dues had

lapsed, and 3,326 other members who had signed the certification.

NEWS RELEASES:

We began a regular program of news releases announcing LP activities and quoting Libertarian activists. As a result, various publications quoted from our releases. During 1992, we issued approximately 40 releases, not including those issued by the Marrou/Lord campaign.

900 NUMBER:

In 1992 our 900 number provided information on the following topics: LP membership, LP activities, legislative hotline, Marrou/Lord Campaign report, and LP presidential, congressional, and local election history and results. Revenue totaled \$15,000 from 3,600 calls, all of it going to the Marrou/Lord Campaign.

OFFICE:

In addition to three full-time employees for the entire year, we increased staff by one full-time employee for the months of May through December. During that time we provided contribution processing, TV ad buying, and other administrative services for the Marrou/Lord Campaign, as well as office space for their campaign manager, under the terms of a service contract.

From August through November we received the services of two "full-time volunteers" who worked for living expenses only. These volunteers were shared by the LP and the Marrou/Lord Campaign.

More than two dozen other volunteers came into HQ, some on a regular basis, to prepare mailings, handle routine correspondence, and work on various other clerical tasks.

OUTREACH PROJECTS:

Several outreach activities directed at women's organizations were undertaken, including a booth at the national convention of NOW. LP representatives also attended other conferences and conventions.

PROGRAM:

We adopted a completely new edition of the LP Program and made it available for outreach and campaigns. This focused on five issues thought to be of current concern to voters.

PROSPECT MAILINGS:

During 1992, prospecting letters were sent to the mailing lists of Reason Magazine, Laissez Faire Books, Liberty Tree, Free Inquiry, and the Gun Owners of America. In addition, membership prospecting letters were sent to our own list of those who called the 800 number as part of our inquiry follow-up.

TALK SHOW PROJECT:

Continuing a program begun by the Marrou/Lord Campaign, the LP hired a contractor to place Libertarian spokespersons on radio talk shows, for the purpose of increasing awareness of Libertarian views and encouraging calls to our 800 number.

Libertarian Party 1992 Annual Report (unaudited)			
BALANCE SHEET as of December 31 (figure in thousands - may not add exactly due to rounding)			
	1991	1992	
Assets:			
Cash	64	27	
Receivables	3	6	
Depreciated Assets	4	0	
Total Assets	71	33	
Current Liabilities	11	33	
Adjustments to 1991 Report	4		
Net Worth	63	0	
INCOME AND EXPENSES Jan. 1, 1992 - Dec. 31, 1992			
Development Area Revenue			Administration Area Revenue
Fundraising			Service Fees 11
In-House Direct Mail 311			Apartment Rent 5
Telephone Fundraising 140			Total Administration Revenue 16
Liberty Pledge Program 147			Total Revenue - All Areas 1,107
Targeted TV Advertising 52			Development Area Expenses
Other Fundraising 38			Fundraising 187
Total Fundraising 688			Material Sales 92
Membership			TV Advertising 84
Prospecting Mail 30			Membership 47
Inquiries 118			Inquiries 168
Renewals thru National 117			Other 6
Dues Via Affiliates 36			Total Development Expenses 584
Total Membership 301			Education Area Expenses
Material Sales 80			LP News 97
Other Development Revenue 12			Media Relations 8
Total Development Revenue 1,083			Other 2
Education Area Revenue			Total Education Expenses 107
LP News Advertising 7			Political Action/Organizing Area Expenses
Other 1			Ballot Access 314
Total Education Revenue 8			Local/Campus Organizing 43
			Campaign Organizing 25
			Total Political Action/Organizing Expenses 382
			Administration Area Expenses
			Office 61
			National Committee and Executive Committee 7
			Other 29
			Total Administration Expenses 97
			Total Expenses All Areas 1,170
			Revenue Less Expenses -63

The Libertarian Party: 21 Years of History

The Libertarian Party is the third-largest political party in the United States. Millions of Americans have voted for Libertarian Party candidates in past elections throughout the country, despite the fact that many state governments place every imaginable roadblock in our path in order to keep our candidates off the ballot and deprive voters of a real choice.

Libertarians believe the answer to America's political problems is the same commitment to freedom that earned America its greatness: A free-

market economy and the abundance and prosperity it brings; a dedication to civil liberties and personal freedom that marks this country above all others; and a foreign policy of non-intervention, peace, and free trade as prescribed by America's founders.

What began with a small group of activists in Colorado has, in 21 short years, become America's third-largest political party. We are proud of our heritage and the progress we have made in these last 21 years.

And the best is yet to come!

1971: The Libertarian Party is founded Dec. 11th, in the home of David Nolan. Disillusioned Republicans, Democrats, and political newcomers hope to create an alternative to the old parties.



David Nolan

1972: First national convention held in June in Denver, Colorado. John Hospers, a philosophy professor at the University of Southern California, is nominated as presidential candidate. Libertarian Party vice presidential candidate Tonie Nathan becomes the first woman in U.S. history to receive an electoral vote.

1975: National convention in New York City. Roger MacBride is nominated as the Libertarian Party's presidential candidate, David Bergland as his running mate.

1976: MacBride achieves ballot status in 32 states, and receives over 170,000 votes.

1978: Ed Clark receives 5% of the vote in his race for governor of California. Dick Randolph of Alaska becomes the first elected Libertarian state legislator.



Ed Clark

1979: Presidential nominating convention held in Los Angeles. Ed Clark and David Koch named presidential and vice presidential candidates. Permanent ballot status achieved in California as more than 80,000 voters register Libertarian.

1980: Ed Clark appears on the ballot in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Guam, and receives almost one million votes. His campaign runs extensive national television ads and offers many Americans their first look at what the Libertarian Party has to offer. Many in the media recognize the Libertarian Party for the first time as a serious political force. Dick Randolph is re-elected to Alaska state legislature. Ken Fanning, also running as a Libertarian, is elected to Alaska legislature.

1982: Louisiana congressional candidate James Agnew receives 23% of the vote.

Alaska gubernatorial candidate Dick Randolph receives 15% of the vote. Arizona gubernatorial candidate Sam Steiger receives 5% of the vote.

1983: David Bergland is nominated in New York City as the Libertarian Party's presidential candidate. Jim Lewis is his running mate.

1984: On the ballot in 39 states, David Bergland and Jim Lewis come in third in the race for president for the first time in the Libertarian Party's history. Bergland publishes "Libertarianism in One Lesson," a campaign book that eventually sells over 85,000 copies, and is still used by the Libertarian Party as an introductory text. Andre Marrou becomes the third Libertarian elected to the Alaska legislature. Libertarians are elected to 11 more local offices nationwide.



David Bergland

1986: More than 200 candidates across the United States receive 2.9 million votes. Ray Cullen, candidate for treasurer in California, gets 570,000 votes, largest vote total ever for a third-party candidate in California.

1987: Doug Anderson is elected Elections Commissioner in Denver. Libertarians are elected to every city council seat in Big Water, Utah. Former U.S. Congressman Ron Paul resigns from the Republican Party and joins the Libertarian Party. Seattle convention nominates Ron Paul for president and Andre Marrou for vice president.



Ron Paul

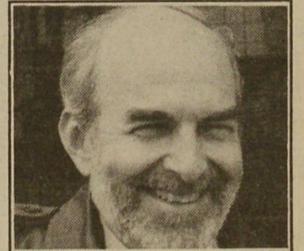
1988: Ron Paul, on the ballot in 46 states and the District of Columbia, comes in third, receiving more than 430,000 votes nationwide—almost twice the total of any other "third" party.

1990: Approximately two million people vote for Libertarian Party candidates. Election Day is "Double Digit Day," as numerous Libertarian Party candidates for U.S.

Congress and state house draw percentage numbers in teens, twenties, and thirties. New Mexico state legislature candidate Illa Mae Bolton gets 31% of the vote. California congressional candidate Joe Shea receives 27% of the vote. A 5% vote for New Hampshire gubernatorial candidate Miriam Luce qualifies the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire as an official party with ballot status. More than 440,000 Texans vote for Court of Criminal Appeals candidate Carol Caul. More Libertarian candidates win election in local races—city council, school board, etc.

1991: New Hampshire state legislators Calvin Warburton and Finlay Rothhaus resign from the Republican Party and join the Libertarian Party. Chicago nominating convention names Andre Marrou and Nancy Lord as presidential/vice presidential ticket.

1992: In New Hampshire's presidential primary election Andre Marrou beats incumbent President George Bush 11 votes to 9 in Dixville Notch, the town whose voters always vote first in the nation. In the general election, four Libertarian state leg-



Andre Marrou

islators are elected in New Hampshire. In addition to the re-election of Warburton and Rothhaus, Don Gorman and Andy Borsa are elected. Once again the Libertarian Party's presidential ticket is on the ballot in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Guam, the only party other than the Democrats and Republicans to achieve this goal. The more than 700 Libertarian Party candidates nationwide receive more than 3,700,000 votes for state and federal offices alone. The 23 Libertarian candidates for United States Senate receive over 1,000,000 votes, the highest total for a nationally organized third party since 1914. The LP retains ballot status in 16 states following the 1992 election. This is two more than it had after the 1988 election.

LIBERTARIANISM IN ONE LESSON

New, Expanded *Sixth Edition!*

By David Bergland

"The best introduction to Libertarianism yet written."

Libertarianism In One Lesson was first published in 1984 during David Bergland's Libertarian presidential campaign. Demand for it has continued undiminished. Now in its Sixth Edition (March, 1993). Revised in light of the end of the Cold War and the worldwide trends toward liberty, democracy and free markets. Sixth Edition includes a new chapter on libertarian solutions to the "Health Care Crisis."

Unsurpassed as that important first book for the friend, student or potential Libertarian Party member who needs a thorough, but brief, introduction to libertarianism and the LP. Includes chapters on the nature of government, libertarian philosophy, the LP, foreign policy, education, taxation, the environment and more. Includes a bibliography of additional readings and an appendix of libertarian organizations.

Mail this order form with your check to: Orpheus Publications, 1773 Bahama Place, Costa Mesa, CA 92626. (714) 751-8980. Orpheus Publications will pay for shipping by lowest cost method.

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Send me _____ copies of **Libertarianism In One Lesson**, Sixth Edition.

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My check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Notebook

This month we look at industry, health, education, jobs, and more

Cliches and uninformed statements are easy to dismiss as senseless prescriptions from political outcasts and fringe ideologues. Libertarian advocates—be they candidates, state officers, speakers, pamphlet writers, or other spokespersons—may gain credibility for Libertarian ideas by presenting facts and quoting expert opinion that bolster LP positions. This column will provide the ammunition you can use to confound the skeptics and impress those searching for answers by citing mainstream publications and recognized opinion leaders (for and against individual liberty). Send in your submissions, with a clipping to verify the statement and the source, for inclusion in future issues of the NEWS.

Your submissions are needed if you wish to see this column continue.

Issue: Industrial policy

The Clinton administration continues to consider ways to use taxpayers' monies to promote high-technology research. Some business observers continue to believe it is folly for the government to try to pick the "winners" in the competition for new products and new technologies. There is ample evidence to back them up. Recently, Jonathan Levine, Business Week's European reporter on high-tech issues, wrote that "governments and equipment makers have poured some \$2 billion" into Europe's high-definition television system. According to Levine, their technology is "outmoded" and "obsolete."

Rather than continue pouring tax money down the rat hole, European authorities voted in early February to abandon the project, in favor of the new U.S. HDTV standard. The U.S. standard has also blown out the Japanese version, and was developed, in large part, by private funds contributed by the 25 or so companies with business interests in communications. General Instrument's Jerry Heller, executive vice president of the VideoCipher Division, remarked, "Chances are that government funding would have gone to larger companies and that we might not have been funded. Technological innovation is almost guaranteed not to come from where you expect it."

Dr. Gary S. Becker, the 1992 Nobel Laureate in economics, believes the technological threat to the U.S. from foreign economics is greatly exaggerated. He says, "the real threat is from an entirely different direction. It is often argued that U.S. companies don't receive enough support from the federal government. But surely we do not need more misguided government efforts to regulate and assist business. On the contrary, I believe U.S. companies will continue to do just fine in world markets as long as they do not get too much interference from government." The victory for the U.S. HDTV standard certainly supports Dr. Becker.

Becker and Levine, Business Week, Feb. 1, 1993, and Heller, Philadelphia Inquirer, March 7, 1993.

Issue: Health and welfare

According to a report by Insight's Shawn Miller, the United States Agriculture Department (USDA) announced that nearly 27 million people were receiving food stamps in September. This was an increase



Activist Notebook

Dave Walter
Editor

of 7 million since the end of 1987, but—according to Miller—"the recession doesn't come close to accounting for the magnitude of the increase, which far outstrips that during earlier and more severe economic downturns." USDA deputy administrator Andrew Hornsby agrees, "the whole situation has been very unusual" in that the increase no longer tracks unemployment. Hornsby says "the system is working" because more and more qualified people are being identified and signed up.

The Heritage Foundation's Robert Rector, a policy analyst, comments that the government "has worked very hard to break down the extremely valuable work ethic of low income Americans who wanted to be self-sufficient and didn't want to depend on welfare. It looks like they're succeeding."

USDA critic and author James Bovard says, "There are lots of folks who see food stamps as another way to change the distribution of income. And they regard almost any increase in participation as a moral triumph. There is an entire industry built around making food stamps as attractive as possible, and that is simply the wrong thing to do."

Insight, Jan. 18, 1993.

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President Clinton has labeled vaccine prices as "shocking" and has excoriated drug companies that "profit at the expense of our children." Pounding the bully pulpit has, so far, caused \$20 billion to evaporate from the value of Merck's stock (must be a new Clinton plan to encourage investment?), but has done little to contribute to an understanding of the vaccine problem.

In an editorial, the *Wall Street Journal* (WSJ) pointed out—using figures from the Centers for Disease Control—that the cost of vaccines recommended for a 2-year old in 1982 was less than the federal taxes alone on the same vaccines in 1992! "The fear of liability is responsible for much of the increased cost of vaccines over the past decade." In 1986, Congress—rather than reform the tort liability plague—set up the Vaccine Injury Compensation Fund so that more drug companies would not leave the business.

The *WSJ* also noted that the government's delivery system for free vaccines is so poor that only 61 percent of qualified children are vaccinated compared to a national average of 58 percent. They accuse Clinton of "diverting attention" from this fact and "creat[ing] a useful scapegoat" in drug profits.

Wall Street Journal, Feb. 23, 1993.

Issue: Education

In a major article, U.S. News & World Report offered a prescription for revitalizing teaching and refocusing the confused mission of American education. The major drawback that they saw was, "A wide range of interest groups—from superfluous administrators to territorial principals—of

ten sabotage school reform because it puts their influence or livelihood at risk. The vast majority of teachers' unions reject school choice and a host of other reforms."

Libertarian candidates for local school boards can now find plenty of ammunition from non-libertarian sources to convince the voters why government schools need a house-cleaning. Some will just never "get it," but those concerned with the education of young people should heed Dr. Allan Meltzer, professor of economics at Carnegie-Mellon: "We should encourage, too, general research and development and improvements in education and training by promoting competition in schools and increasing incentives for learning. Instead the president's program spends money on costly government training programs and make-work summer jobs for teenagers. In many countries, school grades are important for getting a first job. In the U.S., our laws can treat such information as evidence of discrimination."

U.S. News & World Report, Jan. 11, 1993, and Meltzer in Wall Street Journal, Feb. 22, 1993.

Issue: Free trade vs. protectionism

While many in Congress are still bashing Japan for not letting in American imports and suggesting that we retaliate by similarly harming our own citizens, the costs to Japan are becoming clear. In his "Ten Investment Tips for 1993," Dr. Michael Evans, president of Evans Investment Advisors, advises: "The Japanese economic miracle is over—period. By cutting themselves off from the rest of the world, the Japanese eventually stabbed themselves. Stay away from Japanese stocks: they have no growth potential this year." Actions have consequences, whether or not Congress and the Japanese care to challenge the "invisible hand" of the free market.

Evans' column in Industry Week, Jan. 4, 1993.

Issue: Environmental protection

The new leader of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is Carol Browner. As her appointment was announced by President Clinton, she held her son Zachary aloft and proclaimed, "I want my son to be able to grow up and enjoy the natural wonders of the United States in the same way that I have." Gushed the chairman of the Sierra Club, J. Michael McCloskey, "Carol Browner's appointment is like a breath of fresh air after 12 years of choking smog." Added the *New York Times*, "[Her appointment] means ending bureaucratic turf wars, thereby enabling government to fulfill its historic role as custodian of the nation's resources."

Insight's Richard Minter reports on an incident in the new "Earth Mother's" past that shows just how important custody of the nation's natural resources is when it affects her personally: "While living in the Washington suburb of Takoma Park, MD, in the late eighties—a community sometimes known as Tree City USA—[Browner] got permission over the objections of her neighbors to fell a healthy 120-foot oak on

her property, in order to widen the driveway. 'There's an inherent contradiction here,' City Council member Hank Prenskey told *The Washington Times*, noting that Browner was aware of the narrow driveway before she moved in. 'What she saw is what she bought.'

Insight, Feb. 8, 1993.

Issue: Jobs, jobs, jobs

While President Clinton's 1992 campaign rhetoric was tuned to creating jobs, his 1993 plans for taxes and spending certainly aren't. Two economics professors from Ohio University, Richard Vedder and Lowell Gallaway, take issue with Clinton's plans in a new book for the Independent Institute, "Out of Work: Unemployment and Government in Twentieth-Century America."

"Clinton's promises do not seem likely to alleviate unemployment. He favors indexing the minimum wage, allowing it to rise on a continual basis. His health care proposals will lead to a huge increase in the cost of fringe benefits associated with health care, which can be financed only by lowering wages, raising prices or reducing profits, the latter leading to a reduction in jobs. And the higher income taxes he has in mind will only reduce labor inputs. As for his proposed spending on 'infrastructure' (i.e. political pork barrel), the evidence is not encouraging: Massive public works spending in the 1930s was accompanied by an unemployment rate languishing in double digits for a decade.

Opinion article in Insight, Jan. 11, 1993.

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"The federal government's heavy taxes on the employment of American labor have cost us jobs. So has a 15.4 percent payroll tax. So have mandated health benefits and cost pension and retirement benefits. These regulations have pushed firms to substitute capital for labor or use more inexpensive labor either by importing components assembled abroad or by locating production facilities abroad."

John H. Makin, former chairman of the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission in an op-ed piece in Wall Street Journal, Feb. 8, 1993.

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The nation's mayors were quick to hit up President Clinton with a list of "ready to go" infrastructure projects costing some \$26 billion. According to David Wyss, chief financial economist at DRI/McGraw Hill, the list is a "wish list, like asking kids to come up with a list of what they want from Santa Claus." Insight reports that the benefits of the projects are widely exaggerated: "A new traffic light at the corner of Iroquois Street and Washington Avenue in Naperville, IL, for example, is listed as producing six full-time jobs."

Insight, Jan. 25, 1993.

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"Alas, Mr. Clinton's [national service] scheme would likely end up no bargain. It would expand federal power, politicize the independent sector, increase an already nightmarish deficit and siphon tens of thousands of young people out of productive labor and into make-work projects."

Doug Bandow, author of "Human Resources and Defense Manpower," in an op-ed piece in Wall Street Journal, March 2, 1993.

Karl Hess Institute presents stellar line-up

Fifty-seven speakers are now booked for Celebrate Liberty!, offering you world class presentations on policy, strategy, and tactics. Institute offerings are organized in five areas:

Liberty: Next Generation

High school and college age Libertarians talk about what matters to them.

Agenda 2000:

Considers key issues of the 1990s. Environment. Health Care. 21st Century Economics. Drug War. Second Amendment. Social Services. Foreign Policy. Crime & Violence.

Penny

continued from page 1

could have done whatever they wanted, but Bush and Clinton would have had to promise to participate in such a debate somewhere, sponsored by someone. I think we could have found a suitable organization to host the debates, and I think Andre would have agreed to attend."

The second bill Penny will introduce, the "Fair Elections Act of 1993," is basically the same legislation that has been introduced in previous years. It would set federal standards for ballot access. States would be able to set lower standards, but they could not deny a candidate access to the ballot if he or she qualifies under this standard. Basically, the signature requirement is 1/10 of one percent of people who voted in the last election, or 1,000, whichever is greater.

The LP has already been approached by backers of these bills and asked to support the legislation. LP officials are currently implementing a plan to provide LP support of these bills. Look for more information next month on how you can help with this legislation.

Some information for this article came from *Ballot Access News*, P.O. Box 470296, San Francisco, CA 94147.

1993 national convention

The Great Debate:

Examines Tactics and Strategy. Media. Ballot Access. Initiatives and Referenda. Feminist Issues. Presidential Campaigns. LP Elected Officials. Grassroots. Early look at the 1996 LP presidential nomination.

Values for the '90s:

Community. Children. Abundance. Home Schooling. Religion and Liberty. Race and Minority Issues.

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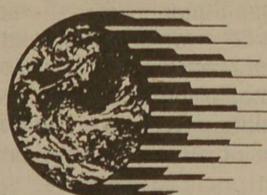
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Letters

Members on shortwave, NRA, Waco, the debate, and more

Shortwave

I have just finished reading an article on Free Radio Europe. I was wondering, is there an international (shortwave) radio station that is dedicated to or discusses libertarian ideas? If not it would be an ideal way to inform not only those in the U.S., but also those overseas who are interested in liberty, freedom, and a break from the same old tripe they get from the usual media.

Why let the lovers of socialism and big government run all the national media? Has this ever been considered?

Troy P. Brooks
Alva, OK

Liberty Fund

On March 1, 1993, I established a Fund for Individual Liberty (for 1996 and after), consisting of \$1,000 in a stock mutual fund and \$1,500 in a money market fund.

Whenever the value of the stock fund rises above its initial value by an amount significantly greater than 10 percent of its then current value, I will sell that excess portion and transfer it to the money market fund. Conversely, whenever the value of the stock fund falls below its initial value by an amount significantly greater than 10 percent of its initial value, I will transfer this amount from the money market fund to the stock fund.

Let's put the market to work for freedom! Let's have 100, 500, 1,000 Funds for Individual Liberty! Let's let liberty prevail!

Max M. Hughes, M.D.
Philadelphia, PA

Waco

Three cheers for the Libertarians of Texas who protested the assault on religious freedom in Waco (April 1993 NEWS). It is truly ironic that a movement and party that many consider to be atheistic should be in the lead defending religious liberty in America, while the "mainstream" religions are silent!

I confess to knowing little of David Koresh or his Branch Davidians group, even if he is a looney who thinks he is Jesus Christ—so what? Even Andy Rooney on CBS's "60 Minutes" commented that "a religious fanatic is someone with a strong religious view that differs from yours."

Regardless of how objectionable some of the viewpoints of these various groups and sects may be, the battle for liberty applies to all. If their rights go, so do ours!

Mark Richards
West Milford, NJ

Libertarian?

On what basis does Rep. Dana Rohrbacher (R-CA) rate being called "libertarian"? Perhaps the votes that were selected to rate the legislators on were skewed hard to the right, otherwise, no way! At one time in his youth he was a bit of an anarchist, but this leopard has changed his spots. Nowadays, Rep. Rohrbacher is known as a darling child of the far right, an anti-drug, anti-porno, and anti-gay warrior—and also as a toy of the military industrial complex.



Staying in touch

Letters to the editor

Rating legislators doesn't do us much good unless we see which votes were used to rate with—and which votes might have been, but weren't.

Fred Heiser
Santa Clarita, CA

NRA

Starting with an NRA bumpersticker, Ms. Gingell (Jan. 1993 NEWS) makes the important point that the LP membership is a diverse group of individuals who share a "basic vision of a free society." That is true.

I am writing to protest her intimation that the NRA is nothing more than a group of people who "happen to like one particular type of sport."

The NRA describes itself as "the foremost guardian of the traditional right to keep and bear arms." What its members all have in common is a commitment to that right.

Ms. Gingell didn't read the whole bumpersticker. It doesn't just say "I'm the NRA." It says "I'm the NRA, and I vote." The meaning is clear. Rather than trivializing the NRA, Ms. Gingell should be recruiting from its members!

Elizabeth Macron
Howell, NJ

Flash

In the April 1993 NEWS, Mary Gingell passed on advice to "get radicalized" and "GET IN THEIR FACES." Does she mean to suggest we haven't? Let's remove all doubt and change the name of our party to the Libertarian Macho Flash Party. Of course, we could try to present radical ideas in a positive, solution-oriented manner. But that would ruin the fun of getting in people's faces—a Libertarian pastime.

Mark Sulkowski
Buffalo, NY

The Debate

Both sides have good arguments in the debate over retaining the "oath." As a new member, I do not feel I should take a side. But I do want to plead: Don't let this issue be divisive. My concern is not how a bylaws change will affect the party, but how the leaders of the LP will affect the party.

Divide and conquer? We are too busy defending ourselves from the assaults of Democrats and Republicans to be fighting amongst ourselves.

One side or the other is going to lose this debate. Whoever loses, it is not the symbolic death of the party—that will happen only if the losing side decides not to invest any more time, money, or energy into the cause of liberty.

Douglas Saul
Houston, TX

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The pledge as written raises three questions: 1) How about the initiation of force regarding economical goals?; 2) How about the initiation of force *and fraud* . . . to achieve goals?; 3) Do the principles of the LP change by the removal of the pledge as a membership requirement?

It appears that honest answers to these questions indicate there is more to be gained than lost by the elimination of the pledge as a membership requirement.

The LP philosophy is better expressed in our Statement of Principles than in a truncated, out of context certification on a membership form.

Keep the platform (more polished, less confrontational) as the primary, permanent libertarian document, but combine Preamble and Statement of Principles into one statement.

Retain the LP program as a biannual or quadrennial position paper addressing the "hot" issues of the day (program may include respective excerpts from the platform).

Geb Sommer
Lexington, SC

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The Libertarian Party was founded as the Party of Principle. The LP remains the Party of Principle because its political and social policies stem from a rejection of the initiation of force as incompatible with human liberty.

Those who would abandon and repudiate the oath as a condition for membership believe that the result would be increase in membership, improved public image, and a moderation in our political positions. They naively see the scraping of the oath as a panacea for our lack of rapid political growth. They are wrong in fact and wrong in principle. Their proposals grow out of frustration, not out of vision.

Ask yourself what the oath affirms each time you think of its message. When the president calls for compulsory military or civilian service for American youth, the oath rings loud and clear! Initiation of force is wrong and unacceptable! When Congress passes legislation to outlaw private ownership of handguns, the oath rings loud and clear! Initiation of force is impractical and immoral! When the courts suspend the Fourth Amendment protections of property, the oath rings loud and clear! Initiation of force is against the liberty of all people!

When each of us joined the LP, we were asked to sign a statement, not as a religious vow or a secret society writ, but as a statement of personal conscience. A statement that proclaims that individual liberty is threatened by the acceptance of the initiation of force. A statement that liberty is both practical and moral, that the initiation of force is both impractical and immoral.

The oath must be preserved if we are to remain a Party of Principle and to avoid the erosion of our principles in a sea of opportunism. Liberty works and liberty is right, even if it is sometimes unpopular with the voting public. The oath must

remain as the personal commitment of all who join the Libertarian Party.

Don Ernsberger
Warminster, PA

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

Doesn't signing the LP pledge preclude supporting the U.S. Constitution, which envisions the initiation of force under certain circumstances? Is it not the purpose of the LP to return our government to the principles of the Constitution? Or is the LP simply a debate club for extremists?

We owe it to our children to do more of what it takes to WIN in politics. Liberty in our lifetimes? The way things are going in this country, we're more likely to die as wards of the state.

Jack McHugh
Gladstone, MI

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

I am just learning about the Libertarian Party, but I am already sure that both the current platform and the pledge should be dropped.

No such pledge should be a requirement of membership and the platform is much too specific. A general statement of principle would be much better.

Mona K. Stern
Gary, IN

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

In reviewing the latest editorial section I'm reminded why I'm a Libertarian: I love to laugh. The word pledge was repeated so many times I began to wonder if the Women's Temperance League had been reformed. Once again the trap has been set and Libertarians have fallen. The debate goes on and on and on. . . We are distracted from the real problem.

In the state of Oregon over 8,000 people have registered Libertarian. There are 138 active or inactive dues paying members in the state party. The state party has accessed all the names and addresses of those registered Libertarians with the exception of a few counties. As far as I know only one attempt at a mass mailing has been made and it was to ask for money.

I would suggest it is time we got off our high handed individualist intellectual rhetoric and moved to invite our fellow Libertarians into the fold. The principles of liberty and responsibility will withstand any and all attempts to delete, co-opt, corrupt, and dilute or they won't. No pledge or platform will protect them. The way to keep socialists and wackos off the Libertarian ticket is to not nominate them.

I've contacted the keeper of our state data base and he is sending me a list of registered Libertarians in the 97222 zip area. If that's your zip, look for me or call me at 653-9846, and maybe I can save some wear and tear on my Nikes.

Kevin R. Wheeler
Milwaukie, OR

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I support the requirement to subscribe to a pledge as a condition of membership in the LP. The notion that having a pledge is somehow arrogant, authoritarian, or see **Letters** on page 21

Letters

continued from page 20

arbitrary just doesn't wash. The LP is, after all, a voluntary association, and if people don't like what we believe in or stand for, they are free not to join. A pledge makes sense for a political organization as a device for establishing that the prospective member understands and agrees with the objectives of the group he or she is about to join. The group has the right to ask for this kind of agreement as a condition of membership.

But my problem with the current pledge is that it doesn't state what we as Libertarians believe; it states what we do not believe in—the initiation of force.

Here is the pledge which I have proposed to deal with the objections and replace the existing pledge: "I agree with and support the Statement of Principles of the Libertarian Party."

It has several advantages over the existing pledge. First, it is simple and to the point. Second, it is a positive statement of what we believe, not a negative statement of what we don't believe in. Third, it assumes that the person has read and agrees with the Statement of Principles, and therefore requires that each member attempt to inform himself about the positions of the LP.

I believe that our growth as a political entity requires that we make significant changes in our way of doing things and our manner of presenting our ideas. We should take pains to ensure that they are the right changes.

John Vernon
Van Nuys, CA

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I am a registered member of the LP and I agree with Nancy Lord's article in the March NEWS. The oath is not needed—no one really knows what it means and how it would be actually used.

The platform does need a second part that states specific goals in a certain 2-4 year time frame.

If we do not appeal to the masses, all the LP will ever be is an "intellectual theory" and not a part of reality.

Melissa Ryan
Chicago, IL

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The only purpose behind the move to eliminate the "pledge" is to allow non-libertarians to be candidates on the LP ticket. Eliminating the pledge transforms the LP from a genuine political movement into an alternative rung to power for those who could not make it in the Democratic or Republican parties.

No one is required to take the pledge in order to vote Libertarian. The pledge is not a barrier to winning votes.

The greatest barrier to Libertarian success as a movement is the lack of any real vision for a creative and productive society that motivates and needs the struggle for freedom.

It is not enough to say what we need freedom from, but also what we need freedom for. We need a moral vision and a creative purpose.

By the way, it was reading the LP platform that convinced me to join.

Gary Schnitzer
Dallas, TX

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

As matters now stand, I support the

efforts to eliminate the oath.

I would change my position were the modifying terms "coercive or violent" placed immediately preceding "force," for then the oath would recognize all the non-coercive and non-violent, or in directly positive force of focus, all the positive meanings and expressions of force.

Anyone can think of many statements of force to convey reference to peaceful, civilized, and constructive operations or interpersonal and social relations. Here are several further examples in more succinct force of form expression—"the

force of communications and persuasion in advertising," "the force of clear or cogent or coherent thinking," "the force of changes-wanting citizenry may assume many sorts of expression," "the LP as a political force upon the American socialscape," and not least in example is "May the force be with you!"

From this above brief set of examples it appears the originator(s) of the oath were too far under the force (influence) of the narrow thinking, traditional academic political science negative meaning use of the term's many meanings. This matter

should now be rectified if the oath is kept.

Finally, if kept in upgraded form, signing the oath should also, in my opinion, be made a voluntary act. This will eliminate coerced conformity as the path of entry into LP membership.

Myself, until upgrade changes in this matter occur, I will be forced to remain outside the LP within the greater Libertarian Movement from a position of personal allegiance to higher order principle, congruence in positive uses of force.

Trucia Quistarc
Wichita, KS

A Feast of Freedom

"Liberty is a Glorious Feast." —Robert Burns

Every issue of *Liberty* offers a feast of individualist thinking designed to delight the most refined palate.

Hors d'oeuvres

To whet your appetite, *Reflections* offers the provocative opinions of *Liberty's* editors. A few selections from our menu:

Jane Shaw on the problems of being a libertarian mom;

David Friedman explains why free immigration may result in the end of the welfare state;

Ralph Raico wonders what the defenders of free speech are doing when Holocaust revisionists are arrested for their beliefs;

Loren Lomasky defends salsa in its battle with catsup and wonders why Paul Harvey sells libertarian ideas so much better than Andre Marrou;

Sandy Shaw and *Durk Pearson* tell how you can profit from Bill Clinton's upcoming nervous breakdown.

Entrées

The main course is a variety of controversial and thoughtful essays. A few entrées from our current offering:

Albert Jay Nock gives his final thoughts on the nature of the State, in four previously unpublished lectures;

John Taylor defends ballooning from

Inside Ayn Rand's Inner Circle

In an exclusive interview, Barbara Branden speaks frankly about life with Ayn Rand and Nathaniel Branden (Rand's lover and Barbara's husband). She reveals for the first time intimate details of life inside Rand's circle. The fascinating topics include the weird psychological manipulations within the cult, the expulsion of members in kangaroo courts, the glaring errors in Nathaniel Branden's memoir about his affair, and Rand's fight in a posh Manhattan restaurant with Alan Greenspan, now chairman of the Federal Reserve System.

This account includes information that cannot be found in any other source. You won't want to miss this probing interview. And it's yours free with your subscription to *Liberty*.

Liberty

June 1993 Vol. 6, No. 5 \$4.00

Bill Clinton's
Coming
Nervous
Breakdown

The War on Computers:

How the FBI and Secret Service are plotting to invade your personal computer
articles by David Friedman, Brian Doherty and Bart Kosko

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Just How Bad Is Extremism?

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Burying the Corpse of Socialism

reviews by John Hospers and Leland Yeager

Big Animals, Big States, Big Mistake

by John McCormack

"Where Liberty lives, there is my homeland." —Algernon Sidney

the hot air of its utilitarian detractors;

David Friedman reveals how our criminal justice system victimizes the innocent bystander;

Robert F. Tinney plots the political spectrum not in terms of left versus right, but child versus adult;

John McCormack reports from Africa on how private property protects endangered species;

Sheldon Richman wonders: is President Clinton a paradigm shifter or a shifty demagogue?

Potages

To accompany its main features, *Liberty* presents a variety of penetrating reviews. A few examples from our current issue:

Brian Doherty examines the world of computer hackers and the federal police who arrest them;

R.W. Bradford on the extreme credulity and extreme dishonesty of those who condemn extremism;

Jesse Walker celebrates vanishing small-town America, minus its politicians, plus its prodigal sons.

Desserts

To top off your feast and satisfy your intellectual sweet-tooth, *Liberty* offers:

The funniest cartoons in the world, from *Gunnar Bergstrom*, *Baloo*, *James Gill* and *Ace Backwards*.

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R. W. Bradford
Publisher

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WUH-oh

Looking for a little fun? Dave says you could try an IRS audit

Tax time is here, and chances are that you, like millions of other Americans, are busily going over your financial records, adding up columns of figures, trying to determine whether you have enough money left to pay for a house call by Dr. Jack Kevorkian.

Ha ha! That was just a little suicide humor to put you in a lighthearted frame of mind for preparing your tax return. You're going to want to be extra careful this year, especially after the big scandal that erupted concerning Zoe Baird, one of the estimated 430 women President Clinton attempted to nominate for attorney general before he found somebody who had never knowingly had children.

As you recall, Baird was forced to remove herself from consideration when it was discovered that she had failed to pay the required federal tax on the two little dots she puts over the "o" in "Zoe."

I'm kidding again. The government does not tax accent marks. Yet. What got Baird in trouble was that she failed to follow the correct federal procedure regarding household help. Let me explain this procedure, using a simple example: Suppose you have a teen-age neighbor who baby-sits for your kids every Saturday night. If you pay this baby sitter more than \$50 per fiscal quarter—which works out to about \$3.85 per fiscal week—federal law requires that you file an SS-4 with the IRS to get an employer identification number; then, every quarter, you must file IRS Form 942, making sure to deduct 7.65 percent of the baby sitter's wages, and adding 7.65 percent yourself to



On the light side

Dave Barry
Columnist

cover Social Security and Medicare taxes. Then, at the end of the year, you must give your baby sitter a W-2 form and send a copy to the Social Security Administration.

Outrageous, you say? A ludicrous example of an insanely burdensome and complex tax system raging out of control? Well, perhaps it will surprise you to learn that, according to a recent nationwide investigation, these regulations are being complied with at a level approaching 93 PERCENT by Mr. and Mrs. L. Fieldmont Vanderwacker, of Ames, Iowa. Everybody else, including you, just pays the baby sitter and forgets about it.

This means that you are a Tax Law Violator, and, therefore, cannot be in the Cabinet. Pretty soon NOBODY will be clean enough to hold a high government position; we'll have to recruit our federal officials from primitive Brazilian rain forest tribes that have never heard of money ("WASHINGTON—In a development Thursday that observers believe could indicate a deep rift in the Cabinet, the Secretary of Transportation ate the Secretary of Defense").

Another problem with violating the tax laws is that you might get audited. Fortunately, this is not as bad as it sounds. I know

this because I recently viewed an educational videotape provided by the IRS. This tape, which was recommended to me by alert reader Sam Kent, of Boulder, CO, is titled, "Hey . . . We're Being Audited!"

(I love that title. I think it should serve as the model for other educational government videotapes, like "Hey . . . We're Intervening In Bosnia!" or "Hey . . . They're Storing Nuclear Waste In Our Neighborhood!")

"Hey . . . We're Being Audited" looks sort of like a TV sitcom: It features a Typical Suburban Family—a perky Mom with perfect blond hair, a genial tie-wearing Dad with the IQ of lettuce, and two child actors playing a brother and sister who have clearly been drugged because they never hit each other.

Everything is going fine for these people until—WUH-oh—they get an audit notice from the IRS. They're very nervous. Fortunately at this point, in comes the wise old grandpa, Fred. Fred has been audited before and seems to have actually ENJOYED it. He says things like: "The unique thing about our nation's tax system is that it's based on trust." (SURE it is! That's why we're being audited!) Fred also says: "You know, those IRS folks, they're just people."

As proof of this, the scene switches to the IRS office, where we meet two IRS auditors who LOOK like humans, but talk like Martians. Here is some of their dialogue:

FIRST AUDITOR: You know what impresses me? The emphasis on confidentiality!

SECOND AUDITOR: (chuckling, as though this is a hilarious remark): Oh yes, we're always stressing the importance of preserving the taxpayer's privacy!

Anyway, comes the big moment, and Mom and Dad go in to the IRS office. They're doing OK until—WUH-oh—the auditor discovers that they used THE WRONG BASIS FOR DETERMINING THE DEDUCTION ON MOM'S HOME OFFICE. Those silly geese! In a wonderful scene, an IRS supervisor hauls out the Tax Code and shows it to Mom and Dad, and they—this is a triumph of acting skill—pretend that they can understand it.

So it turns out that Mom and Dad owe some money, but not too much.

"THAT wasn't so bad!" says Dad. "They never found out about our cocaine smuggling!"

No, I made that last line up. The tape ends with Grandpa Fred saying: "Our taxes help to maintain our country and the quality of life we enjoy as Americans today." They also pay for such vital government programs as producing "Hey . . . We're Being Audited!" If you'd like to see it, call the IRS Taxpayer Education Office, and they'll send it to you, free. Be sure to return it on time, or they get your house.

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Have you heard the one . . .

The other day, President Rod-ham was walking down the street and saw a small boy selling newborn puppies. She asked the boy what kind of puppies they were, and the boy replied, "They are Democratic puppies."

So she ran home, called the press, and made sure the First Gentleman Bill Rod-ham came to buy one on national television.

He did, and as the media showed the incident on live television, a reporter asked the boy what kind of puppies they were. The boy replied, "They are Libertarian puppies." Everyone was speechless.

Hillary said, "B-b-b-but you said they were DEMOCRATIC puppies!"

"That was yesterday," the boy replied. "Last night, their eyes opened."

Submitted by Jeff Bishop.

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Quote of the Month

This month's quote comes from West Palm Beach, FL, Mayor Nancy Graham. The city bought a newspaper ad, under the headline, "Have your neighbors been arrested for soliciting prostitutes?", listing names of men arrested for soliciting. Later, at least one of the men was found not guilty, but Graham showed little remorse for publishing an innocent man's name in such context.

"The fact that one may be found not guilty does not sway me at all."

Submitted by Rick Scott of Melbourne, FL.



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Option #3: LP Project Report

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Option #5: Contribution Line (enables caller to contribute \$25 through phone bill; caller will be asked employer and occupation)

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Poor

continued from page 14

come housing units on net, further impoverishing the poor.

- Employment taxes increase the cost to the employer without providing money to the employee. Strict enforcement of income tax laws regarding "tips" primarily hurts the poor. Studies show that government mandated "benefits" such as unpaid leave result in lower wages.

- Sales taxes, excise taxes, tariffs, agricultural price supports, etc., all raise prices, reducing the standard of living of all consumers and hurting the poor hardest. (Realistically, even the corporate income tax tends to get passed through to the consumer through higher prices.)

- Regulations on the performance of domestic work (butler, maid, gardener, etc.) include extensive paperwork requirements, employment taxes, and even withholding taxes on the value of meals, clothing, lodging, etc., given to the domestic. The results are very few job opportunities in an area requiring limited education and the importation of foreign laborers exempt from these requirements to take jobs (e.g., au pairs) that would have gone to poor Americans. (The option of ignoring the state such as was done by Zoe Baird is a high-risk one as she eventually found out.)

- Government schools are especially bad for the poor. Unlike the middle class that can move to cities with good schools, the poor are often limited to schools where violence is uncontrolled and the teachers fail to teach. A black man running for superintendent of schools in one state claimed that David Duke couldn't have designed a system better at keeping blacks down. It is remarkable how many poor parents send their children to non-governmental schools (in spite of paying taxes for public schools) because they want better for their children.

- The poor are frequently the victims of crime resulting from the failed policies of drug prohibition. Also, the high crime rate in many poor neighborhoods tends to drive away businesses and therefore jobs. However, laws prohibiting flexible transportation alternatives like jitneys make it almost impossible for many poor people to get to where the jobs are.

Conclusion

Libertarians' solution to the "problem of the poor" is prosperity, a freeing up of resources from government to charity (it is estimated that less than 30 cents on the dollar actually gets to the supposed beneficiaries), increased emphasis on mutual assistance programs, and most of all an end to all the destructive policies that actually make people worse off. It is not a utopian solution, but it is one that has a real chance of making a real difference.

The federal government has spent \$3 trillion over the past 25 years on social welfare, yet poverty is worse than ever. It is time for caring people to look at the final result of the government run "war on poverty" - poverty won.

For those of us who want to solve these problems, we must first take personal responsibility rather than assuming that giving government officials the responsibility will work.

**Join the party!
see page 4**

Visit Port Watson

Dear Freedom Lover,

Do you yearn for freedom now?

Do you ever daydream...plotting your daring escape from the faceless bureaucrats and their idiotic edicts?

Imagine, for a moment, your picture of "utopia"... a place where you are free to be you... with friends and neighbors who share your views on liberty, individualism, free thought and free enterprise.

A place where the sun sets and rises on a locale of mutual acceptance and intellectual emancipation...

A place where your personal lifestyle is your business...

Your very own private tropical paradise where freedom flows gently through the palms like a tradewind breeze...

Safe, secure, crime-free... yet fun and exciting...

A place which has existed only in our hearts and minds... **until now.**

We invite you to visit Port Watson where the quality of life is our first concern...

Located on Clove Cay, Exuma, Bahamas, Port Watson is being created as an intentional community of Free-thinkers, Artists, Writers, Cybernauts, Philosophers, Computer Professionals, Free-Market Leaders, and other Interesting Individuals in the midst of a true tropical island paradise surrounded by the best sailing, fishing, and diving waters in the world! Conspicuous by their absence are Cops, Jails, Tax Collectors, and Bureaucrats.

Your neighbors will be adventuresome free-thinkers who understand freedom and personal responsibility...

Free-spirited intellectuals who share your vision of a libertarian intentional community...

People like YOU.

Picture yourself on a hammock between twin palms gently swaying in the tradewinds' breeze beside a quiet lagoon as sailboats glide gracefully by. The water is light green, deep blue and every imaginable hue in between, yet clear as glass down to the sand dollars, starfish and colorful shells below...

Or, if you seek the more active lifestyle, water sports abound in the calm, clear seas surrounding Port Watson. The diving is rated among the best in The Bahamas, which is to say the best in the world, and yachtsmen the world over revere the waters for their unsurpassed clarity and beauty and uninhabited white beaches.

Famous for its abundant fishing, being rich in Blue Marlin, Bonefish, Tuna, Amberjack and Grouper, Port Watson is a true Deep Sea Fisherman's dream.

Make your next car a boat!

Whether you plan to become a year-around resident, or decide to build a vacation home, Port Watson is exclusive, private, quiet... for the discerning few who know the value of ocean front property...

Port Watson at Clove Cay is a rare real estate opportunity that you can visit, build your dream home on, vacation at, or live forever with those you love.

In fact, the friendly new free-market government of The Bahamas is encouraging your emigration...

The Bahamas - the perfect NO-TAX haven...

No personal or corporate income tax, no sales tax, no capital gains tax, no withholding tax, no business tax, no estate tax, no gift tax, no inheritance tax, no death duties, no employment taxes, no probate fees.

Individuals, corporations (including nonresident-controlled Bahamian corporations), partnerships, trusts, and estates can all enjoy this immunity!

And, there's more...

... The Bahamas' model bank secrecy laws are the envy of the world... and the scourge of greedy bureaucrats. The Bahamian secrecy laws are imposed on all Bank and Trust Companies, their directors, officers, and employees, attorneys, and auditors. The Bahamas is not a party to any tax or fiscal information-sharing agreements (i.e., tax treaties) with any other country. Neither the IRS, Revenue Canada, British Inland Revenue, nor any other foreign principality or power can obtain information about a bank account you may have in The Bahamas... Once you open an account in The Bahamas, you are the only one who has the privilege to access it!

Freedom isn't free, but we've made it as low cost as possible.

Owner financing is available! All land sales and transfers are being handled by Graham Thompson & Co., Sassoon House, Nassau, Bahamas.

We have investigated the cost of materials and local labor, and can recommend several styles of homes and building materials. Using state-of-the-art building techniques and materials, your home could be on-site and up in a matter of weeks.

If you wish, we can arrange the rental of your vacation home for you. Homes in the area currently rent from \$150 to \$300 per night. If you elect to rent out your vacation home through us, full-time caretakers are available to maintain your home and grounds during your absence for a small fee, contingent upon rental.

With an eye toward our goal of reasonable self-sufficiency, co-ops are being encouraged to meet such needs as energy, food, communications, etc., to ensure that Port Watsonians enjoy the comforts of gracious high-tech living. Even co-op housing options are available as a cost-saving alternative for the budget minded, and our planned state-of-the-art satellite communications facility will make telecommuting a comfortable reality for our residents.

You see, Port Watson is an Idea Whose Time Has Come.

For itinerary and more information contact Kevin Bloom, of Port Watson Ltd, 303-442-6256 (11 AM to 6 PM Mountain Time, Monday-Friday) or portwatson@firefly.rain.com or CompuServe: 74640,606.

VISIT PORT WATSON, the intentional community at Clove Cay, Exuma, Bahamas... AND LET THE ADVENTURE BEGIN!

Your Visit May Be Tax Deductible!

This offer of freedom void where prohibited by law or similar inanity.

**"A libertarian community, ESPECIALLY IN
THE BAHAMAS, is a GREAT idea!"**

— Dr. Mary Ruwart

author of "Healing Our World: The Other Piece of the Puzzle"

Sincerely Yours,
Benjamin Hamilton Power,
Secretary-Treasurer
Port Watson, Ltd.
portwatson@firefly.rain.com

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Upcoming Events

May 1, 1993:

Kentucky LP Convention; for information write 1809 Ranier Dr., Lexington, KY 40505, or call 606-299-5547.

May 8, 1993:

Kansas LP Convention, Olathe; for information call 316-269-9210. Speakers include Gene Burns.

May 14-16, 1993:

Oregon LP Convention, Portland; for information call 503-620-8945.

May 15-16, 1993:

North Carolina LP Convention, Falls Lake Recreation Center, Highway 98, between Raleigh/Durham. Speakers include Dr. Mary Ruwart; for information call 1-800-292-3766.

May 21-23, 1993:

Georgia LP Convention and Southeastern Leadership Conference, Northeast Atlanta Hilton, Atlanta; for information call 404-957-6825. Speakers include Tamara Clark.

May 22, 1993:

New York State LP Convention, White Plains; for information call 212-219-2702. Speakers include Mary Gingell and Dr. Mary Ruwart.

May 22-23, 1993:

Louisiana LP Convention, Quality Inn Mid-town, New Orleans; for information call 504-945-4290.

June 4-6, 1993:

Florida LP Convention, Marriott at Sawgrass Resort, Ponte Vedra; for information call 904-724-9832. Speakers include Dr. Mary Ruwart, NH Rep. Don Gorman, Carole Ann Rand, and Steven Reese.

June 18-20, 1993:

Ohio LP Convention, Marriott Inn North, Columbus; for information send S.A.S.E. to LP of Ohio, 3194 Griggsvue Ct., Columbus, OH 43221, or call 614-771-7748. Speakers include Dr. Nancy Lord, Tamara Clark, and Dean Ahmad.

Sept. 2-5, 1993:

Libertarian Party National Convention, Salt Lake City, UT; for more information write: MGP, P.O. Box 526175, Salt Lake City, UT 84152, or call 801-582-3318.

To get your upcoming event listed, notify the NEWS early.

September 2-5, 1993 Libertarian Party National Convention

Salt Lake City, UT
For information write:
MGP, P.O. Box 526175
Salt Lake City, UT 84152
801-582-3318

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