

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



# Liberty Bell

Cries of Liberty

Volume One, Number Seven - July, 1993

"... and the truth shall set you free."

## INDEPENDENCE DECLARED! SHOTS FIRED! The Price They Paid

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes, and accordingly all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies, and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former systems of government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his assent to laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right representation in the legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the people at large for their exercise; the state remaining in the meantime exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these states; for that purpose obstructing the laws for naturalization of foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migration hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.

He has made judges dependent on his will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies without the consent of our legislature.

He has affected to render the military independent of and superior to the civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these states:

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing taxes on us without our consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury:

For transporting us beyond seas to be tried for pretended offenses:

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighboring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies:

For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering fundamentally the forms of our governments:

For suspending our own legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burned our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow citizens taken captive on the high seas to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of the friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress the most humble terms: our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Declaration of Independence,  
continued on page 2

### Statue of Liberty sand castle at Venice Beach planned for Independence Day

On the morning of July 4, between 9:00 - 9:30 a.m., a group of artists, Libertarians and artistic Libertarians will start arriving at Venice beach near the water line opposite Horizon Street. They will have buckets, shovels, sand carving instruments, and lots of food and drink. They will bring children, friends, family and any one else they know who wants to have a great time on July Fourth.

They will build an oversized sand castle of the Statue of Liberty to commemorate the cause of Liberty for which our country was founded, and which we Libertarians hold dear. What does "oversized" mean? Well, let's just say it's going to be big enough to be seen by passing aircraft, especially news helicopters covering beach activities.

This in fact did occur a couple of years ago. An NBC news helicopter captured our statue of Liberty on film, and as Fritz Coleman reported it on the news, he had to acknowledge the (also oversized) banner which said "Libertarian Party." Dave Larkin (R 61) who is promoting the event, has been visiting supper clubs with a video tape of that newscast.

The more people that show up, the larger we can make the statue. The artists will again be organized by Michelle Obregon, former chair of R-64, who did such a terrific job for the last two years. There is no cost, and absolutely everyone is invited.

Suggested items to bring: Shovels, buckets, food, drinks, sun tan lotion, a big smile, as many people as possible.



### Insidious plot to stop trial by jury must be halted

This is a concerted effort to let you and your friends know how the California Legislature has denied your constitutional rights to a trial. Write (or call) your state Assembly Member, your State Senator, and the Governor and let them know you want this bill repealed. Then write your local newspaper, radio or TV station, and let them know about this bill. Soon everyone will know about it, and the legislature will know that the people of California will not tolerate having their constitutional rights denied even on a small matter such as a parking ticket.

California Assembly Bill 408 goes into effect on July 1, 1993, and completely denies your Constitutional right to a trial for a parking ticket. The bill changes a parking violation from a criminal infraction to a civil offense. You still have to pay the fine, but you no longer have a right to a trial!

Instead of a trial the accused gets an "administrative review," which means that the same agency that wrote the parking law, that gave you the parking ticket, and that will get to keep most of the money from your fine, will be the only agency that will give you a "hearing" if you decide to contest the parking ticket. The issuing officer doesn't even have to appear at this review to testify against you, because that would mean that he or she would be taken away from the important revenue raising activity of writing more tickets!

Before A.B. 408 the person who committed a parking offense was responsible for the parking ticket—not

the owner of the car, but now the owner of the car is jointly liable for the parking ticket no matter who committed the parking offense.

This bill gives the agencies that issued the parking tickets an automatic civil judgment simply by paying the court filing fee (which you then have to pay in addition to the fines). This civil judgment means that the issuing agency can use any civil method to collect its money: it can seize your bank account, put a lien on your house, garnish your wages, or seize your car or other property.

The current law allows a fine of up to \$100 for a first offense, but most parking violation fines are currently \$20 to \$40. You can be sure that the parking violation fine amounts will increase dramatically after A.B. 408 goes into effect, as the issuing agencies no longer has to worry about more people contesting their tickets in court.

We the people must reclaim our Constitutional rights! It is morally wrong, and unconstitutional, to change a law from criminal to civil for the sole purpose of increasing revenues by denying accused persons Constitutional rights. Unless the legislature and the courts meet strong opposition from the public will the next step will be a prohibition of trials for moving violations. . . ?

The legal fees for fighting this injustice in court are estimated to be between \$80,000 and \$200,000, so let's put pressure on the legislature for REPEAL so we don't have to go to court and appeal.

For more information, call P.A.R.C. at (619) 630 - 6303.

### Training session deemed a success

Representatives of several Southern California regions braved heavy rains that flooded many Southland freeways early in June to attend the first formal training session for Regional Officers.

The training session on Saturday,

June 5, was the first of two trial sessions to be held. The second was scheduled for Saturday, June 19, in Northern California. Responses from the participants will determine the format and content of future training sessions.

Judging from the response of participants in the Southern Region, the training has been long - awaited and was heartily welcomed. The four - hour session was put together under the leadership of Southern Vice Chair Gail Lightfoot. Lightfoot discussed Management and Leadership tips for officers. Ed Moss of Region 36 presented the topics of Purpose, Organization and Duties of Officers of Political Parties: A Manual for Local Libertarian Party Officials. Richard E. Venable, a journalist and public relations specialist, talked on Publicity and use of media at the local level.

LPC State Chair Kim Goldsworthy addressed the group on the subjects of training, community involvement and levels of activism.

Each presenter left time for questions and discussion and also provided hand - outs to the participants.

At the end of the session, the participants were asked to complete a questionnaire about the session, the

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Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British traitors, and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons in the Revolutionary Army, another had two sons captured. Nine of

Rutledge, and Middleton.

At the Battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr. noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. The owner quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.

### This could be it, folks!

See the bottom of page 2

the 56 fought and died from wounds or the hardships of the Revolutionary War.

They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

What kind of men were they? Twenty - four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners, men of means, well educated. But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the sea by the British navy. He sold his home and possessions to pay his debts, and died in rags.

Thomas McKeam was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Vandals or soldiers or both, looted the properties of Ellery, Clymer, Hall, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward,

Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their thirteen children fled for their lives. His fields and his grist mill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later he died from exhaustion and a broken heart.

Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild - eyed, rabble - rousing ruffians. They were soft - spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more.

Standing tall, straight, and unwavering, they pledged: "For the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of the Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor. The gave us an independent America.

Have we kept it?

- Author Unknown

### Property forfeiture now targeting the wealthy

By Ross Regnart

Passed 1989: Section 963 of The Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act (FIRREA), Public Law 101 - 73, Stat. 183, provides for the forfeiture to the United States Government of "any property real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to a violation of § 1014 of this title." 18 USC § 1014 prohibits "knowingly" making any false statement for the purpose of influencing in any way - any institution the accounts of which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) upon any application for a "loan."

FIRREA's in rem civil forfeiture provisions are remedial and thus applied "retroactively" in action which false statements on loan application occurred prior to FIRREA's enactment. In the recent precedent setting case U.S. Government v. 403 1/2 Skyline Drive mentioned above, the loan applicant is alleged to have overstated his income in July of 1986 in order to qualify for a Great Western Savings loan of \$195,000. Applicant never fell behind on his loan payments. On February 25, 1992, plaintiff, United States Government, filed a verified complaint in United States District Court, Los Angeles, California.

Probable Cause Under FIRREA to Seize and Forfeit Property

Applicants are held strictly liable for their mistakes on loan applications. An applicant's mistake on a loan application serves as the probable cause for Federal Government to warrant the belief that a defendant property loaned on, was used for a violation of section § 1014 of 18 USC. § 1014 operates on the erroneous contention that the property instead of the applicant - is responsible for the alleged misrepresentation on a loan application. The applicant in

effect starts out guilty having to prove they did not "knowingly" make a false statement. Government can forfeit an applicant's property with no more information than it takes to get a search warrant. Any citizen is especially vulnerable to making mistakes on complicated loan applications and may experience difficulty trying to explain to "Federal Forfeiture Squads" a statement made on their loan application five or ten years before. Foreseeable: FIRREA could attack and destroy an anticipated inheritance when the deceased is not present to explain to government what appears to be a blatant misrepresentation on a loan application. Borrowers can be denied trials and subject to losing their property by summary judgement if they can not meet the burden of showing by specific facts that there remains a genuine issue for trial. 403 1/2 Skyline Drive, Case No. CV 92 - 1205 DT (JRx) was refused a trial as the court believed the defendant - borrower could not support by specific facts he earned the income stated on his July 1986 loan application. Undermining the borrower's civil defense the Federal Government produced a declaration from the borrower's alleged employer stating he did not work for him at the time borrower signed loan application. Disputed by applicant were alleged cash payments for work he had performed but was never substantiated by the defendant.

Defense Is Difficult - Applicants Face Stacked Odds . . .

Federal Government need only find a mistake on a borrower's loan application used to obtain a FDIC insured loan to cause seizure of their property under § 1014 18 USC. Applicant then has about 20 days to locate a defense attorney to file specific facts to rebut government's probable cause to forfeit applicant's property. Most citi-

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# Two hundred and seventeen years later, a new Declaration of Independence

Drafted by Vincent H. Miller and Jarret B. Wollstein

Two hundred years ago our ancestors signed a document which forever changed the course of history. Colonial Americans severed the bonds to a tyrannical king and parliament in England and established in America for the first time a society based on the principle of the rule of law and limited government. Benjamin Franklin, one of our great statesmen, stated at this time: "Gentlemen we give you a Republic - if you can keep it."

The result was a glorious and turbulent two hundred - plus years which witnessed the greatest achievements, the highest standard of living, and the highest levels of individual freedom ever experienced in human history. However, we have allowed govern-

ment to grow without bonds so that today the golden prize of liberty has been all but lost. Indeed, our present President Bill and Our Congress are worse than King George and his Parliament.

Thomas Jefferson, George Mason, and the signers of the first Declaration of Independence made the following observations about the nature of man and government which are as valid today as the day they were written:

"We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.

"That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the

consent of the governed;

"That whatever any form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter it or abolish it and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security."

We, the People of these 50 states have patiently suffered mounting government outrages against us - lies, corruption, legal plunder and terror. We have waited in despair for reforms and redress, but the outrages have only gotten worse. We can now wait no longer. The fundamental rights of the people must be restored now. Government's role must be limited to protection of our lives, liberty and property. These are the crimes of the State against its citizens:

- They have erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their substance. The IRS, Justice Department, police, State and local revenue authorities and a growing list of other government agencies have engaged in an escalating orgy of terror, looting, and wholesale seizure of private wealth to feed the appetite of arrogant and rapacious bureaucracies.

- They have subverted the electoral process through unjust and exclusionary ballot - access laws. Vast sums of tax - extorted monies have been used to create a Congressional Monopoly and Imperial Presidency, which have crushed dissent and excluded any serious challenge to their power.

- They have manipulated laws beyond reason or humanity, subverting both the words and intent of our Constitution and Bill of Rights. There is not a single American who could not be arrested, imprisoned and impoverished for violating one of the millions of arbitrary and incomprehensible government laws and edicts now in force.

- They have instituted oppressive and destructive taxes; stolen over half of our incomes year after year; compelled us to testify against ourselves by filling out endless compulsory reports; made us into unpaid government spies and tax collectors; and destroyed our peace, security, and freedom in order to finance their oppressive bureaucracies, failed social programs, and wars of aggression.

- They have seized control of our economy and have dictated and controlled every aspect of how our businesses must be operated. They have

issued edict upon edict, issued regulation on top of regulation, instituted fine after fine, treated us as common criminals, imprisoned us and seized our property.

- They have destroyed our financial security. They have debauched the currency, substituting worthless paper for gold and silver. They have clandestinely seized our banking system - inflating the currency and looting the economy. They have burdened us with enormous deficits and waste which have brought our nation to the brink of bankruptcy. They have destroyed jobs and stifled initiative with suffocating regulations and oppressive bureaucracies.

- They have hobbled and corrupted our system of justice by creating endless numbers of technical crimes against the State, and crimes without victims - making vices into crimes, dissent into treason, and sensuality into perversion. They have seized billions of dollars worth of property without due process of law, imprisoned countless thousands without indictment or trial, and have, made equal justice under law impossible by manipulating courts and juries, terrorizing our attorneys, and seizing their fees.

- They have kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies. In direct violation of the Constitution, U.S. troops have repeatedly invaded and reduced to ruin foreign countries without declaration of war by Congress. They have used force to compel our children to fight and die in foreign wars far removed from their homes. In the name of the War on Drugs they have declared open war on the people of the United States, invading farm and field, village and home, and spreading terror across the land.

- They have perverted our relations with other nations, using their power to support foreign despotisms. They have bribed other nations with foreign aid, restricted foreign trade, and exported massive quantities of weapons of death and destruction - fer-

menting discord, repression and war throughout the world.

We submit that the government of the United States of America has abrogated its sacred covenant to protect the life, liberty and property of the people of this nation. With the collapse of major foreign threats, our own government has emerged as the greatest menace to freedom, peace and prosperity of the people, we therefore demand:

- That a new Constitutional Convention be called to restore and strengthen the legal protection of each

individual, be privatized.

- To restore security to our banking system, we demand that the Federal reserve, FDIC, FSLIC and currency laws be abolished, and that banking and insurance systems be left to the private sector.

- That all laws creating franchise monopolies in education, medicine, utilities, mail delivery and other public services be abolished.

- That State and Economy be separated, and that federal control of interstate commerce be confined to prohibition of tariffs and trade restric-

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## Taxes, drug war, and school choice are main concerns of California Libertarians

By David Nolan

California Libertarians feel that the ongoing battles to reduce or eliminate taxes and stop the vicious, destructive "War On Drugs" should be the main focus of our 1994 campaigns, according to a survey of 50 party members conducted in April and May.

The poll was conducted by Dave Nolan for the Party's Political Action Committee, and asked respondents to rate ten possible issues on a scale from 1 to 5, with 5 points representing "most important" and 1 point "least important".

Overall, three issues rank neck-and-neck for first place, each receiving an average rating of 4.4 to 4.5. These issues were taxes, the drug war, and choice in education. However, since the educational choice initiative will be put to the voters this year, it will not be a hot issue in the '94 campaign.

"It's pretty clear that the members we polled want the party to really hit on the tax issue and stopping the drug war," notes Nolan. "The asset forfeiture thing has people really scared. Plus, by pairing these two issues, we can clearly differentiate ourselves from both the liberals and the conservatives."

*Runner-Up Issues: Gun Rights, Health care*

Two issues which made a strong showing among many respondents were opposing gun-grab plans and socialistic health care proposals. "These issues are very important to many of our members," says Nolan, but lack the universal strong support of the top three issues. Clearly, they are issues that many candidates will want to emphasize.

The remaining issues offered as choices in the poll were (in descending order of support) support for free speech, opposition to national service, workers' compensation reform, the environment, and the proposal to split California into three states.

"These are issues that some people care about, but lack broad-based support in the Party," Nolan noted. "In some cases they are seen as too vague, or more effectively addressed at the

national level. Most of the respondents would prefer us to keep focused on taxes and the drug war, with a strong contingent supporting an emphasis on Second Amendment rights, in addition."

## Independence declared

From page one

be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in attention to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war, in peace friends.

We, therefore, the representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by the authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these united colonies are, and of right ought to be free and independent states; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that free and independent states, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent states may of right do. And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortune and our sacred honor.

menting discord, repression and war throughout the world.

We submit that the government of the United States of America has abrogated its sacred covenant to protect the life, liberty and property of the people of this nation. With the collapse of major foreign threats, our own government has emerged as the greatest menace to freedom, peace and prosperity of the people, we therefore demand:

- That a new Constitutional Convention be called to restore and strengthen the legal protection of each

- To restore security to our banking system, we demand that the Federal reserve, FDIC, FSLIC and currency laws be abolished, and that banking and insurance systems be left to the private sector.

- That all laws creating franchise monopolies in education, medicine, utilities, mail delivery and other public services be abolished.

- That State and Economy be separated, and that federal control of interstate commerce be confined to prohibition of tariffs and trade restric-

individual's inalienable right to life, liberty and property.

- That a new, and stronger Bill of Rights be drafted which will guarantee the inalienable rights of the individual to life, liberty and property. That all laws be abolished which restrict freedom of speech, press, religion, assembly and enterprise; the right to keep and bear arms and the right to own and dispose of property. That henceforth it shall be a reasonable offense to pass any laws which violate the rights of the individual.

- That a "Citizen Veto" be created at federal, state and local levels, whereby all citizens can veto any new legislation including revenue acts. We also call for the establishment of a universal citizen power of Recall so that unscrupulous politicians may be removed from power by citizen initiative.

- That the Income Tax and the IRS be abolished and that all persons jailed for income tax evasion be freed.

- That sufficient government property be sold to retire the national debt. That all government agencies which are not engaged in the protection of the life, liberty and property of the

contract and negotiate; that all capitalist acts between consenting adults be legalized.

- That all restrictions upon foreign trade be abolished, including tariffs, quotas, import duties, license fees, content laws, and "dumping" laws.

- That all federal laws restricting gun ownership be abolished, and that a trained, well - armed citizenry be encouraged, as a defense against domestic criminals, foreign aggression and domestic tyranny.

- That due process of law and the presumption of innocence be restored. That RICO statutes and other laws enabling the government to confiscate property without the owners being convicted of any crime be abolished. That the Seventh Amendment to the Constitution, preserving the right to trial by jury in civil disputes be strengthened to include disputes between Citizens and the State.

- That the Fully Informed Jury Amendment be passed, and all juries henceforth be informed of their right to judge the propriety of laws as well as the facts of cases.

- That Sovereign Immunity, which makes government officers and agents immune from prosecution for their crimes be abolished. That presumption in trials in favor of government officials, police officers and other agents of the state be ended. That government officials and agents, and citizens be treated as equal before the law in all cases, both criminal and civil.

- That all victimless crime laws be abolished, including laws restricting the sale and possession of pornography and controlled substances. That the War on Drugs be ended, Drug Peace be declared, and all persons imprisoned for victimless crimes be immediately freed and their records cleared.

- That immigration laws and the INS be abolished. Henceforth the only persons restricted from immigration to the United States shall be known criminals or those carrying easily communicable diseases. That imprisoned illegal aliens be freed.

- That the function of the military be confined to defense of the territory of the United States, and that all U.S. troops be removed from foreign countries. Henceforth the sole purpose of the military shall be protection of the lives and property of U.S. citizens at home.

We seek to create an America in which the freedom and sovereignty of the people are restored; in which the functions of government are limited to protecting life, liberty and property; and in which each and every individual is again the master of his or her own destiny.

We support this Declaration in the certainty that our rights are unalienable and innate and not subject to the whims of government; that the only rights which we will ultimately retain, are those which we are willing to defend; and that rapid yet peaceful reform is now America's only alternative to tyranny and mounting social violence.

To create a new dawn of liberty in America, and to secure a rebirth of liberty, justice, peace and prosperity for all, we mutually pledge each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor. We seek and will settle for nothing less than freedom in our time.

**"I fear three newspapers more than I do 100,000 bayonets!"**  
- Napoleon Bonaparte

## Property forfeiture now targets the wealthy

Continued from page one

zens having their homes and other property seized prior to trial will not have assets with which to employ legal counsel to defend against government forfeiture. Government drug forfeiture squads often allege that illegal drug proceeds have tainted a defendant's other assets. Government in causing blanket seizure of citizens' assets with no more information than it takes to get a search warrant - seizures, most citizens will have no opportunity to save their property from civil forfeiture. Expected: Government just getting warmed up with § 1014 18 USC. will blanket seize and forfeit any asset to which proceeds from a loan application violation can be traced. Payments made on other properties with tainted loan proceeds or funds from assets tainted by a violation of § 1014 18 USC. could cause their forfeiture.

### Statute of Limitations

FIRREA's in rom civil forfeiture provisions are retroactive and appear from the ruling in U.S. Government v. 403 1/2 Skyline Drive not to have a statute of limitations. It is the belief of this writer that FDIC has access to the tax returns of borrowers which they have insured loans.

### § 1014 18 USC. Lends Itself to Extortion and Blackmail

Under Title 18, Federal Government can pay informants 25% of net proceeds that result from an informant's information that caused the forfeiture of assets from a loan applicant who made a misrepresentation. Drug informants are now paid 25%. So extreme are civil penalties

for an alleged loan misrepresentation that Federal Government Could Turn the Most Wealthy Into Country Club Informants To Stay Off Having Their Own Home Or Property Forfeited. Could a foreign power, International Business Competitor or corrupt government official use § 1014 18 USC. to extort high ranking United States Corporate Executives known to have made misrepresentations on their loan applications? Imagine the power a blackmailer would have to influence an entire corporation by extorting just one high level executive. Congressman and Senators would be no less subject to extortion by a foreign power. In effect a congressman could be told how to vote and what policies to support or lose their home to forfeiture. So severe are § 1014 civil penalties that it may be difficult to find a larger number of citizens that wouldn't be intimidated upon being informed they could lose everything over a false statement made on a loan application years prior.

### Proportionality In Penalties Needed Under § 1014 18 USC.

Contact your Congressional Representative to introduce legislation that will restore proportional balance to the civil penalties for alleged misrepresentations on loan applications insured by FDIC.

Courtesy of The Asset Guardian, P.O. Box 513, Franklin, N.J., 07416, phone (201) 827 - 0513, Fax: (201) 827 - 6006.

(Editor's note: Emphasis and capitalization the author's.)

## Training session deemed a success

Continued from page one

subject matter, whether other such training programs were wanted and what other topics should be covered. Results of the questionnaire, combined with comments from by the participants during discussion periods, revealed that:

1. The training was worth the time and money.
2. Participants liked the focus of the training and the length of the session.
3. Attendees recommended similar training for others and also proposed a number of advanced topics they would like covered in future sessions.
4. Similar training sessions should be offered at least quarterly.

Each participant was charged \$5.00 to cover the cost of producing hand-out materials.

Ten representatives of three southern Regions attended the session,

which was held in the Long Beach office of Region 66. At least three other individuals had indicated they would be attending. Only seven of the ten participants completed the evaluation forms.

Lightfoot indicated her disappointment at the low attendance. "With eighteen Regions in Southern California," she said, "I had hoped for at least double the number that did come out. However, the heavy rain may have played a role in keeping people away."

Lightfoot went on to say that the course material is being refined and other lesson plans are being prepared for a training session to be held in October.

Northern Vice Chair George O'Brien has scheduled his first training session for Saturday, June 19. It was not possible to get a report on its reception before press time.

## This could be it, folks!

The past several months of editing and publishing the *Liberty Bell* have been deeply rewarding ones. It has been deeply gratifying to network and sometimes meet the many wonderful and dedicated people within the Californian Libertarian party in doing the monthly task of collecting pertinent articles for this newspaper.

However - there's that word again - push has come to shove and it has been decided that the *Liberty Bell*, in an effort to balance the budget, will be forced to go every other month. We here at *Liberty Bell* Central don't want to see that happen as there is far too much news, views and opinions to be condensed within an eight - page newspaper format six times a year. If anything, we would like to see the *Bell* retain its twelve times a year publishing schedule, growing to sixteen or even twenty pages. We would hope our dedicated readership would want to see growth in lieu of streamlining. It is here that our readers come in.

Originally, we had set out to garner advertisers outside the Libertarian Party framework to support our efforts. This proved to be nearly impossible; our minimal staff of two (and countless valued free - lancers) simply does not have enough hours in the day to pursue large corporate accounts. Instead, the *Liberty Bell* has relied on Libertarian business people for advertising. These people need your patronage and continued support.

If you are a Libertarian with a business, you need to advertise in the *Liberty Bell*. Our advertisers will vouch for the excellent response their ads have received. Why, a person who placed a small classified ad in one issue will proudly state that his insert received many calls from around the state of California. And furthermore, our advertising rates are exceptionally reasonable. A similar ad in your local shopping gazette would cost twice or three times as much and not receive the breadth of replies that one in the *Liberty Bell* would. And remember, your ad is 100% tax - deductible.

If you would like to help in some small way - you would reap enormous benefits, taking a cue from Southern Vice Chair Gail Lightfoot, we have devised a wonderful outreach tool. Give your favorite friend, legislator, statesman, enemy or whoever a subscription to the *Liberty Bell*. For twenty dollars a year (\$20), we will mail a year's worth of the *Liberty Bell* to who so ever you may choose. We hope you will buy a subscription to our newspaper to send to people interested in the goals of personal freedom and less government, but we would be most delighted to send copies to those who may feel just the opposite. We might just turn their heads around a little bit.

Just mail a check or money order to the *Liberty Bell*, Post Office Box 41301, Bakersfield, California, 93384 - 1301 and we'll be sure to put that special someone on our subscription list. Our daytime office phone number is (805) 327 - 8104, 24 - hour fax is (805) 327 - 9055, and our voice mail is (805) 633 - 1776.

In times of adversity, one usually relies on good friends or the kindness of strangers. Whatever you, the reader, may decide, we hope you will act quickly as . . .

*This could be it, folks.*



# Lies, damn lies and statistics; helmet law statistics don't reveal truth

By J. T. Taylor

The University of California of Los Angeles concluded a two-year \$1.2 million tax payer funded study and released the results at a press conference in April. The claims by this study stretch the imagination to the limit and are a perfect example of how the state cannot justify the helmet law in California.

There were four news releases so we'll deal with them one at a time.

In the first paragraph of the first news release, there is the statement the helmet law resulted in reducing deaths, "...by more than one-half after the law." They go on in the third paragraph to say, "about 92 lives were saved by the law during its first year." Other claims in the release say helmet use before the law was 60 percent and 100 percent after the law. Also, they say California had 19 percent of all motorcycle related fatalities in '91 but only 15 percent of all registered motorcycles in the United States.

Riding has been reduced by more than one-half the first year of the law and motorcycle registrations have gone down by more than 48,000 in '92. This is where the reductions in everything can be attributed, not helmets. One-half of the deaths in 1992 is 261, not 92. The reason California has more accidents is because we have the longest riding season. Most states ride only eight months out of the year while in most of the state we ride all year.

**Points of Interest:** Release No. 1 claims 523 deaths in '91 and 321 deaths in '92; Release No. 2 claims 512 deaths in '91 and 321 deaths in '92; Release No. 3 claims 512 in '91 and 327 in '92 and Release No. 4 (by the California Highway Patrol) claims 509 in '91 and 326 in '92. Out of four news releases made on the same day by the same tax payer funded study done by "scientists" and Law Enforcement, their eight most important "statistics" don't even match. This establishes their accuracy. None of the studies take into consideration the reduced riding, the reduced number of registered motorcycles or the fact that the CHP only reported accidents they responded to in '92. In '91

they reported their's and all allied agencies. The studies are distributed by the UCLA Department of Epidemiology (which is the study of epidemic diseases). All the data was furnished by the state; not outside agencies.

When I was stationed in Germany, the government had a method of figuring out what they would reimburse a German farmer if a GI ran over a chicken with a U.S. vehicle. They would take the cost of the chicken, add the cost of all the eggs the chicken would have laid in a year, the cost of all the chicks the eggs would have hatched in a year, and the cost of all the eggs the chicks would have laid in a year. This makes for a \$2,500 chicken. Remember this!

The second news release is designed to show the "cost of motorcycle fatalities in California 1991 - 1992." (University of California, San Francisco.) They start by saying, "The helmet law may be credited with saving 92 lives and \$86 million in lost productivity in 1992." The 92 lives have already been attributed to less motorcycle registrations and less riding; however, the \$86 million dollars goes right to the Chicken Formula. They totally disregard the facts that the number one cause of death in a motorcycle accident is crushed body cavity, (chest and pelvis), head injuries fall to the third cause of death. Out of the deaths in '92, according to these news releases, 100 percent of riders were wearing helmets. The release mentions helmets only in three paragraphs of a four page report (the rest of the release uses the Chicken Formula in a county-by-county breakdown) but the main thrust of the release is to justify the helmet law by using the "Chicken Formula" and the waste of \$1.2 million of taxpayer money.

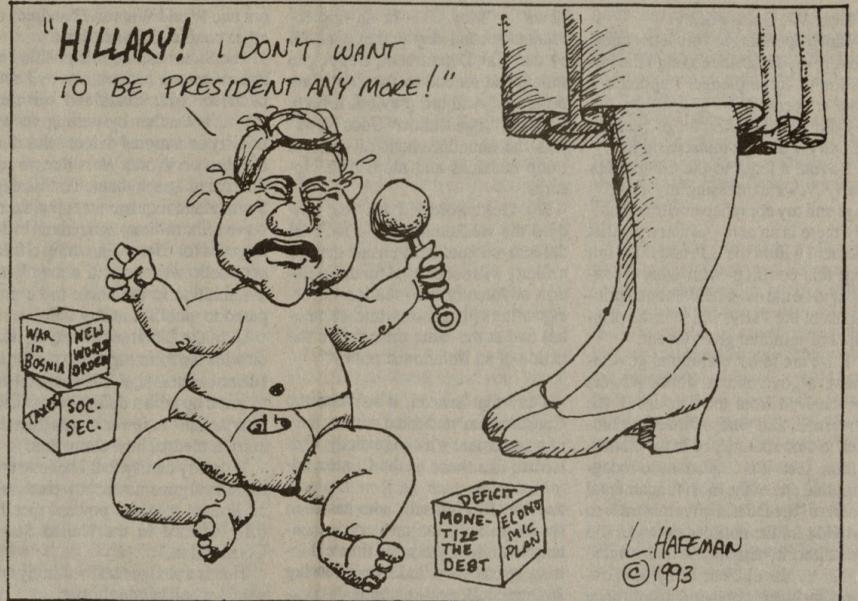
Release No. 3 is a detail of No. 2 and uses still different death statistics for '91 and '92 and continues the Chicken Formula even more. The bottom line on these reports is that U.C.S.F. is trying anything to get taxpayer grants from the California Department of Transportation. It's a sad state of affairs when students

can't afford tuition and departments are spending millions of dollars in studies based on inaccurate data and Chicken Formula based estimates.

The final news release comes from the California Highway Patrol. The report differs still for fatalities for '91 and '92. They also report a 1/41.6 fatality ratio for '92 and a 1/36 ratio for '91. These statistics are explained by reduced sales and riding but they refuse to give us the most important statistic of all: the death per thousand riders ratio in '91 and '92. This shows per accident, death occurred more in '92 than any previous year. The most important statistic here is, citations issued by CHP officers for violations of the motorcycle helmet law (Vehicle Code Section 27803) in 1992: 4,721 (3,845 to riders, 876 to passengers). If, as two of the four releases say, California has 100 percent compliance with the law, then these 4,721 tickets were issued to riders wearing a helmet.

An additional attachment to these news releases is a bio on the center that made it all possible, the UCLA Injury Prevention Research Center. The center is comprised of investigators from research institutions throughout Southern California and is funded by a \$1.5 million grant from the Centers for Disease Control. Topics under investigation include: sexual revictimization of African American and White Women and it's effect on subsequent adjustment; community earthquake preparedness following the 1987 Whittier Narrows Earthquake; effect of MAST (military anti-shock trousers)... Is this where you want your tax dollars spent? Does anyone wonder why California is rated towards the bottom in education? In four reports on the same subject they have eight different statistics on the same two things; deaths in '91 and '92.

It's been established by non-tax supported studies that the State of California has wasted over \$32 million on this helmet law and now we can add \$1.5 million to the total. Mark Twain has the best closing for this: "The three kinds of lies are: lies, damn lies and statistics."



## Principles Vs. Whims: The War for Civilization

Civilization is the progress of mankind toward a society of privateness, a society in which the freedom and privacy of each individual is secure from the coercive meddling of others. The savage's whole existence and life is public, ruled by the tribe and tribal laws. Civilization is the evolutionary process of setting man free from the coercive interference of men. This can only be done through the use of man's rational mind, his use of his conceptual faculty to interpret and organize the data provided from his senses, and to develop sound principles by which he can guide his actions to deal more efficiently with reality.

Civilization depends on true principles — not arbitrary, random whims of one man, a minority, or even the majority of the moment. Progress toward a more civilized society can only be accomplished by using rational principles to contain the use of legal force (government) to its proper role of combatting the initiation of the use of force — instead of allowing force to be wielded at the arbitrary and capricious whims of anyone.

If government is not placed under the discipline of the Principle of Individual Rights to Life, Liberty, and Property, then it will be the tool of Whim and will inevitably destroy freedom and any harmony in social relations.

- Sam Wells

# War Against Drugs has turned into war against our people

By Katherine H. Smith  
Founder and President,  
Group Resolving Anti - Social Problems

One doesn't have to be a social scientist to be painfully aware that our society is awash in crime and violence. Drugs, guns, and the "me" generation are all blamed, yet these are only symptoms.

To solve a given problem we must understand how and why we arrived at that particular point. I stand back and observe as the decades go by watching change occur. As a child, I remember a time during World War II when I felt great pride when my father never passed a hitch - hiker without an offer of a ride. If our car filled, the extras would ride on the running board. The Fifties were a halcyon time of rebuilding and prosperity; our country was great in so many respects. The came the Sixties; increasing hate, dishonor, distrust, drugs, crime, cities burned and not rebuilt. Our prisons began to overflow with minorities who had grown up in harmful environments where schools were woefully inadequate.

Children could not learn so they dropped out. Drugs appeared to be the only avenue of escape from such poverty and hopelessness. The problem grew exponentially and by the Eighties we were in a total "war" against illicit drugs, which became a war on our people. "Throw them in prison," with no treatment for medical addiction, no job training, no back - up system. Generations later, the children of these people are called "Crips" and "Bloods." They feel anger, hate, pain and hopelessness; life holds no meaning. So why not kill? Now, in the 1990s we aren't safe anywhere, and people in many cities sleep on the floor in order to survive until morning.

I can't accept this. A year ago this March I started an effort to do something. It became G.R.A.S.P... - Group Resolving Anti - Social Problems. With the help of understanding police officers we decided to focus on a goal of encouraging schools to adopt school uniforms, one of the twenty - four solutions which we felt would have a positive societal impact. The effort gained attention: "Change children's attitude by dress and violence will be reduced." Test scores will improve when children begin to think of themselves as students, and start to see themselves in a more positive light.

How else can we reduce violence? Go to the root problem of poverty, which fosters the heinous world of drugs and violent crime.

- Focus on the USA and not other countries. Charity begins at home.
- Quickly enacted community policing will bring a measure of compassion to the neighborhood and help police feel they truly are needed.
- Thoughtfully serve our inner cities where this passion for violence begins and rededicate our efforts to rebuilding schools and neighbor-

hoods.  
• Nourish inner city Chambers of Commerce for small business people to help them really be a part of the neighborhoods they serve. They must get to know the kids.

time to search for other solutions, even as our leadership awakens to the reality that drug addiction is a social and medical problem that is not going to go away. A change in drug policy will be a good start. A change in

## We must return to the tenets of John Locke

By Richard Weyand

An insidious, destructive, and yet pervasive institution is eroding the cherished and traditional establishment of private property ownership. This organized and popularly legitimized method of expropriation and outright looting is devastating the foundations of our economic well - being at present and for future generations. Horror and indignation would emanate from our founding fathers if they were able to observe this institution's perdition on private property and productive people.

The formation of private property rights stems formally from the basic tenets of John Locke. He professed essential universal rights in the late seventeenth century, those being: 1) the right to self - ownership, 2) the ability to homestead land and claim possession of it by productive means, 3) the individual's right to not only own the homestead land, but also to own the productive capacity of that land, 4) the right to voluntarily contract with others and 5) that all activities of the property owner and the contractor do not harm and afflict other's activities, personage and property.

It is asked why the declaration of these universal rights are so vital to the well - being of the individual and the nation and why the community of Hemet and the legal residents of this United States must be reminded and aroused of our traditional roots? Because the tradition of private property from this nation's inception

through the nineteenth century had allowed men to pursue their goals without the fetters of other men or institutions. It has given men the opportunity to develop the electric light, to build a skyscraper, to produce the automobile, to manufacture the computer. Without the establishment of private property rights, these consumer goods would only be concep-



tions in men's minds, but never fully completed tangibly without this protection. With the exclusion of private property, both the commoner and elite would be resigned to a brutish, adverse and harsh existence as experienced by those in medieval Europe which did not practice the protection of private property.

Though doubt, apprehension and outright hostility will race through your synapses when it is revealed what institution has deceptively devastated private property and our American way of life, one will, none-

theless, cogently and succinctly express the reasons why this is the case.

Universal suffrage and the concept of "one man - one vote" has performed with certainty the task to impair and ruin property rights. Those disenfranchised and less fortunate as well as those who are more successful economically have had the ability throughout the twentieth century to vote on ballot measures or politicians that are agreeable to redistribute income in their favor. All socio - economic groups use politicians and laws to achieve their interests at the exclusion of others. The others in this case are productive citizens who must by governmental mandate fork over their productive capacity in the form of taxes.

Most ballot measures and politicians sincerely and nobly desire to attain the best for their constituency, but this is, however, to the detriment of property owners and productive individuals. To apportion the hard productive capacity of individuals for the collective good is a slap in the face to those who successively toil for earnings whether rich or poor. The erosion of property is seemingly innocuous and insignificant, but cumulative. A meager one - half of one percent sale tax increase, a governmental bond measure for a government school, a scant two dollar increase in the national park user fee, a modest hike in the social security tax are but measures voted on by politicians who are elected through democratic means to support their constituents and to maintain power at the expense and expropriation of private property owners and hard - working people.

The Washington's, Jefferson's, and Madison's understood that the intrusion and interference of government can irrevocably harm the creative and fruitful talents of individuals. They were concerned and convinced that democracy and the legitimate decree of the populous with claims and not universal rights would use the political process to consume the yield of imaginative and able people. They affirmed the idea of a small government with limited voting power among the populous. Only property owners could vote, which included not only white males, but women and minorities as well who possessed property in the nineteenth century.

It is patently clear that private property rights and democracy are incompatible. To maintain the copious and abundant life that Americans have held for so long, we must return to our traditions of a limited democracy, Locke principles and the protection of private property rights.

## Let's put liberty on the radio airwaves!

As most of you know, talk radio is enjoying a huge renaissance. Millions of Americans tune into talk shows each day to participate, actively or passively, in lively discussions of current events. Unfortunately, there are very few overtly libertarian talk show hosts; Gene Burns is the most obvious exception. You can help change that. LP Founder Dave Nolan has declared his intention to become a talk show host, and his chances of getting on the air will be greatly enhanced if we can show some support. If you live in Southern California, Please take a few minutes to write or call the talk show stations in Los Angeles and/or San Diego (whichever ones you can receive in your area) and urge them to add Dave to their lineup. If possible, you should both call and write! Point out that libertarian ideas are gaining in popularity, (as shown by our rising vote totals and number of elected officeholders) and that as the LP's founder, Dave is uniquely qualified to present the libertarian perspective. You might also note that Dave is quick-witted, knowledgeable, and has a great voice! Here's who to contact: Los Angeles: David J. Hall, Program Director, KFI, 610 South Ardmore Avenue, Los Angeles 90005. Phone 213 - 251 - 3126, FAX 213 - 251 - 3170. Diane Cridland, Program Director, KABC, 3321 S. La Cienega, Los Angeles 90016. Phone 310 - 840 - 4912 FAX 310 - 558 - 5689 San Diego: Kelly Wheeler, Program Director, KSDO, 5050 Murphy Canyon Road, San Diego 92123. Phone 619 - 278 - 1130, FAX 619 - 285 - 4503. Bill Stairs, Program Director, KFMB, PO Box 85888, San Diego 92186. Phone 619 - 292 - 7600; FAX 619 - 279 - 7676.

# Opinion

The opinions expressed on this page are those of the respective authors. Endorsement by the Californian Libertarian Party is neither intended or implied.

- Encourage the voluntary creation of physical beauty by planting trees, plants and flowers. These can be tended by "Adopt a Block" programs similar to the "Adopt a Mile" highway beautification programs, fostering community pride and awareness.
- Assistance from Senior Citizens to mentor and be a part of children's lives will reduce violence, without a significant drain on the public purse.
- Take a child by the hand. Offers of help and assistance to form a bond can change a child's life. Do you remember acts of kindness extended to you as a child?

Meaningful progress in the inner city will not occur until we come to grips with the he problem of drug prohibition. As long as there is a demand for these drugs and the street price is kept artificially high through ever more Draconian law enforcement, the killing will continue. It's

attitude toward our inner cities, both by those trapped therein and the community at large is necessary.

Public policy must be reshaped to help the disadvantaged through improved education geared to their needs. More opportunities to establish businesses in those areas of chronic high unemployment can be achieved with meaningful enterprise zones. Saving can be encouraged through K - 12 student savings accounts. IRAs can be liberalized to attract more lower middle - class dollars.

Since at least the days of "The Great Society" we have tended to just throw money at the inner cities. This has been no more effective than our quick - fix policy of giving the justice system a blank check to "win the war" on drugs. It is truly better to teach a man to fish than to give him one - or a dozen.

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# "I wish to be a member in a party concerned with the beliefs of its individual members."

Dear Mr. Goldsworthy:  
I am responding to your letter questioning my reluctance to sign the initiation of force pledge. I appreciate your concern.

I did not sign the pledge because initially, I did not understand it.

I wrote a letter to the *Libertarian Party News* expressing my misgivings and my apprehension that possibly there is an anti-military pacifist element within the L.P. and that I felt that this conflicts with what I consider to be the most fundamental principals of the Party, which is the principal of minimal government.

If we are to have minimal government, a government whose powers are derived from the consent of the governed, and whose duties are limited to those delineated in the Constitution, then it is important to recognize that one of the most fundamental duties of the federal government is to provide for the national defense, and this authority must not be undermined either by the citizens or by the government itself. Abraham Lincoln once said: "It is the duty of every citizen not to overthrow the Constitution, but to overthrow those who would subvert it."

I received an answer to my letter to the *L.P. News* from Mr. Don Meyer. He assured me that the Libertarian party was in favor of the military for the purposes of national defense, but not for the purpose of aggression towards other sovereign nations. And, by the same token, the right to individual self-defense is recognized, but not individual acts of aggression towards others. This was a satisfactory explanation, and upon reading other literature made available to me by the Party, I was able to conclude that the Libertarian Party is not Pacifistic, but rather Isolationistic.

However, not only is this distinction not made clear to the majority of the people in the party, particularly those who write for the *Libertarian Party News* and the *Los Angeles Libertarian Newsletter*.

In the May-June newsletter, under the Liberty Scorecard column by Andy Rotter, Mr. Rotter lists as "Good

News" - "May 13 - In an unprecedented second step within a month by the War Department, Les Aspin announced an end to the Star Wars program." And in a previous Liberty Scorecard, again under "Good News" was the announcement of massive troop cutbacks and more base closures.

Mr. Goldsworthy, I ask you, how does the weakening of the national defense axiomatically ensure that the military will not be used for the initiation of force or intervention in foreign affairs (it has not, witness Somalia) and at the same time ensure the nation of an isolationist policy?

I say that instead, it subverts the Constitutional mandated primary duty of government which is exactly what leftists like those in the Clinton administration such as Ron Dellums and Mr. Bill himself, who has been shown to hold the military in contempt, while at the same time exhibiting gross ineptitude in assessing strategic military situations. It is exactly this, the subverting of military funding that they wish to achieve. If it is the goal of the Libertarian Party for the United States to become an isolationist nation, a goal which I support with some exceptions, then it is important to look to the only modern nation in the history of the world to be successfully isolationist through-

out two World Wars and hundreds of other conflicts; Switzerland.

The Swiss earned this position of stature among nations, not by being pacifists who disdained military might, but rather by putting such a priority on national defense that during the two World Wars that no nation dared attack them. To this day, Switzerland requires that all citizens serve in the military and remain in the reserves for life, maintaining a fully automatic weapon and a supply of ammunition in the home to be prepared to mobilize at any time.

Until the Libertarian Party is clear on what the meaning of the pledge is, I do not want to sign it. If you want me to come up with a definition of "Libertarianism" in fewer words than the current pledge, how about this:

"I hereby certify that I believe that the federal government powers should be limited to those powers specifically defined in the United States Constitution."

That is a pledge that I willingly and would wholeheartedly sign.

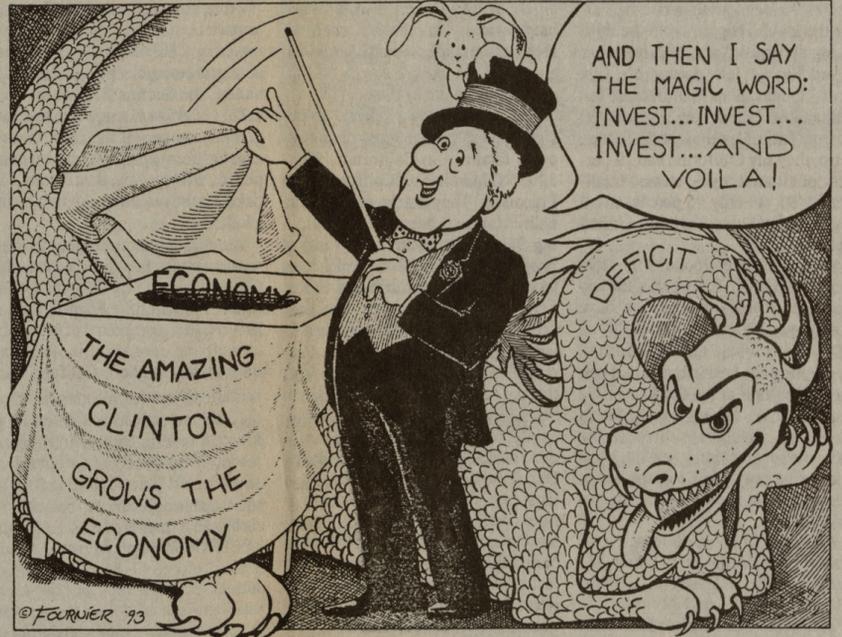
Please do not relegate me to associate member status until the pledge issue has been resolved. I wish to be a full-fledged member in a party that is concerned with principal and the beliefs and concerns of its individual members.

Ron Yorke  
Reseda

## "Yours In Liberty . . . ."

### Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor are strongly encouraged. Letters addressed to the *Liberty Bell* should be typed, with the author's name and address at the top left hand corner. The editors reserve the right to edit letters on basis of length. Submit missives to the *Liberty Bell*, Post Office Box 41301, Bakersfield, CA., 93384 - 1301, by post, or FAX (805) 327 - 9055. We appreciate reading your comments!



## "Liberty is intimately connected to the quality of life in a spiritual way"

To The Editor:  
I suppose to most Libertarians the advantages of freedom from excessive government are simple and obvious. People can live more comfortably when they can use money they would otherwise lose to taxes, to further their comfort. And, people can enjoy more activities when they are free to do them or, if they don't like certain activities, they are free to abstain from them.

However, there are subtler and (I believe) much more profound benefits of living free than the obvious ones. Liberty is intimately connected to the quality of life in a spiritual way.

As a child grows to be an adult, he watches as his personal liberty gradually increases. He is allowed to stay up later, go farther from home

un-supervised, smoke, drive a car, drink alcohol, etc. These are exciting and usually happy-times because he is becoming more autonomous and life is improving. The age of emancipation is the age when most young people feel the spirit of life most strongly. Conversely, some people, as they age, begin to feel restricted in their activities. Because of the effects of age, they can't (or think they can't) do the things they enjoyed doing when they were young. When people become obsessed with their waning abilities, they trade the spirit of life for the spirit of dying.

Now a government is in a position to affect the spirit of a nation's entire population. A government can engender the spirit of life in a people by minimizing restrictions on them. The

analogy between liberty and the coming of age will probably be recognized subconsciously by most people, but it will be recognized! On the other hand, a government can engender the spirit of dying in the people by increasing restrictions. Telling people "You can't do this anymore and you can't do that anymore" is similar to what an aging person feels as he becomes more and more helpless.

I sense this spirit of dying in everyone I talk to (lately). I suspect that unless people begin to accept Libertarian ideas, that the collapse of our society will follow (in not many years) the collapse of the Soviet Union - and for the same reasons!

Brian Stedjee  
Modesto

## Franking isn't going to help us

To The Editor:  
Bill Clinton, the President elected to "change Washington," wants to reform the election process to eliminate special interests. So what does he propose? A huge increase in the free franking privileges of Congress!

Clinton's budget would increase the free House postage another \$24 million, a 50% increase. For his buddies in the Senate, Clinton would increase their postal budget \$16 million, an 80% increase (Wall Street Journal, editorial page, May 25,

1993).  
Aside from the waste of taxpayer dollars, this subsidy further ensures that incumbents can easily beat back any challengers for their seats. Incumbents can send out puff pieces as "official mail" without paying postage, whereas the challengers must pay the freight for their own mailings.

As the saying goes, "The more things change, the more they stay the same."

Cynthia Ming  
San Diego

## Poor financial decisions

To The Editor:  
In his press conference the President said that "the majority" of the people are willing to pay a bit more for health care if it would insure that everyone would have coverage. I want to go on record to say that I believe that his statement is, at best inaccurate. Most people are not willing to pay more, and, in fact, want to pay less.

As a Libertarian, I am not willing to pay one penny more for health care to insure the health needs of the people who have chosen not to pay for it themselves. I know people who can afford to take vacations and avail themselves of other luxury items but say that they can not afford health insurance. This is an issue of choice. They choose to spend their money on something other than health insurance. I choose not to support them and their poor financial decisions.

Joe Hoenigman  
San Diego

## You are your brother's keeper - but only if you want to be!

To The Editor:  
Bill Clinton is generous with other people's money - taxpayers' money that is. Recently, he doubled the ante to Russia. He wants to give \$3 billion to help Russia's Economy, while America's economy enters stagflation. Clinton continues to follow an immoral and economically unsound "Give-away" foreign policy.

After World War II ended and the "Cold War" began, Democrat and Republican Administrations cast American in a new and expanded role. America fast became the world's leader, the world's police force, and the world's financial fool. This new role was implemented off the backs of American taxpayers. Never before did so few politicians balk so many taxpayers to pay for so much waste, corruption, and mismanagement in the name of foreign policy.

This expanded role was a trenchant

departure from the wise traditions laid down by our Founding Fathers. They left us a legacy of limited government, a free-market economy, and a non-interventionist foreign policy - the three pillars of today's Libertarian Party.

George Washington's warnings of our "avoiding foreign entanglements" and "keeping our hedges high" was great advice. It's truly tragic that his warnings went unheeded by most American presidents of this century, including "Slick Willie".

For the pronounced purpose of containing world communism, 38,000 American servicemen were killed in Korea; 58,000 were killed in Vietnam, and thousands more were maimed and wounded physically and psychologically by these undeclared wars.

Further, it cost the American taxpayers trillions of dollars to defend against Russia's nuclear and conventional weapons threats. Not only did we pay for America's defense, but we also paid for Japan and Western Europe's defense. America spent a large percentage of its gross national product on defense, while Japan and Western Europe spent very little. Yet this imparity was allowed to exist by both Democrat and Republican Administrations!

So, after losing tens of thousands of our best people, and trillions of our tax dollars to deter Russian Communism, slick Willie plans to give our tax dollars to Russia! Willie's justification is that if we don't give Russia money they will revert to communism, and it will cost us more. This is nothing more than self-imposed blackmail on us taxpayers.

Remember, you are your brother's keeper - but only if you want to be.

In liberty,  
B. Wilder Merrill  
San Jose

## Land use planning is the right and responsibility of the land owner

To The Editor,  
In reference to the Tuolumne County General Plan update, we seem to have an opportunity ask several questions: Do we really need more government? And, perhaps more to the point: Do we need to give government more power to plan and control uses of private property? This is more noble, in the mind of man, to suffer the ungrassy paved parking lot at the nearby shopping center or to walk ankle deep in mud and horse dung?

If an evil army would march upon our land wearing swastikas or hammer and cycle arm bands, catching babies on their bayonets and openly attacking our rights to life, liberty and

property, no doubt we would know what to do. Today, the same socialist controls are poised and ready to snuff out the last of our property rights, but, instead of guns and terrorism, these ideas are being sold to us using crafty slogans and buzz words such as "Community Identity," "Rural Lifestyle," "Cultural Heritage" and "Natural Environment". Perhaps we should remember from history that the bases of all totalitarian thinking, in addition to hatred and fear, rests on government planning and control of human activity, especially "land use planning." Truly, in a free society, land use planning is the right and responsibility of the land owner, cer-

tainly not special interest groups filling out a questionnaire for the purpose of justifying more government oppression.

For a refreshing perspective on the subject of free market solutions to environmental problems, I recommend: *Visions Upon the Land*, by Karl Hess, Jr., available through the CATO Institute (800) 767 - 1241. Karl has written a compassionate field guide on how to preserve freedom in the western region of our nation while preserving an ecology of which mankind is an integral part. Here is more proof that there is a better way.

Albert J. Segalla  
Twain Harte

## "I feel those blank stares coming on again."

To The Editor:  
You know how it is when you talk to people about the Libertarian Party and they just can't seem to get the concept of life without the government controlling their every step. You know that blank look you see in their eyes . . . the look of non-comprehension, like you must be from another planet?

To tell you the truth, I feel that way when I talk to other Libertarians about abortion. The Libertarian viewpoint is that a woman has the right to have an abortion and that taxpayers shouldn't be forced to pay for someone else's abortion because 1.) taxes

are immoral, and 2.) the taxpayer may feel that abortion is murder. Well, excuse me, but if abortion is murder (which it is) isn't that one of the few areas where the government's responsibility is to defend a person's rights, especially when that person cannot defend him/herself?

Recently, a pregnant woman was shot in a drive-by, and her unborn child was killed. The courts rightfully charged the gunman with murder, and I don't think any of you would dispute that. (Would you?) So pray tell, what on Earth is the difference between a third party murdering an unborn child and the mother murdering the unborn child?

Oh, never mind. I feel those blank stares coming on again.

Nancy Tucker - Girdler  
Rainbow

## Murderous holocaust

To The Editor:  
CS gas was used on the Branch Davidians in Waco, Texas. Not (CN) "tear gas," CS gas is described in Military Field Manual 3 - 9, as a potentially lethal war gas. It's use would prevent a mother from moving to save her child. A videotape of the effects of CS gas is available by phoning (305) 685 - 7374.

The "CAP" effect - tiny particles in the air - can set off a "dust initiator" conflagration. Even talcum powder can explode into flames this way. In Waco, that accelerant was CS gas.

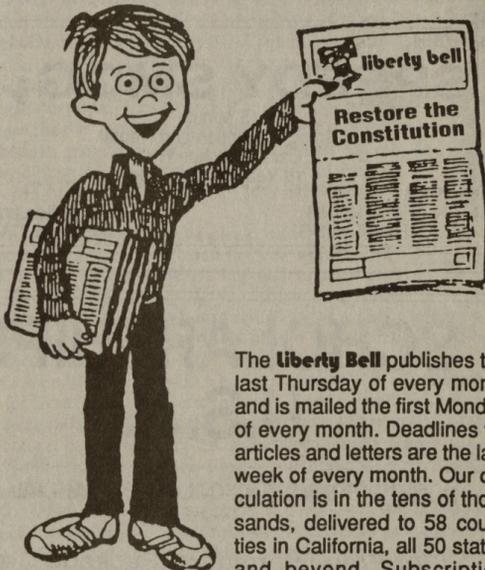
Maybe the only way to wash the blood off our collective hands is to abolish the BATF, which has cost so many lives. This is just their latest murderous holocaust.

Thank you for honest news.

Ina Rogers  
Santa Ana

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The *Liberty Bell* publishes the last Thursday of every month and is mailed the first Monday of every month. Deadlines for articles and letters are the last week of every month. Our circulation is in the tens of thousands, delivered to 58 counties in California, all 50 states and beyond. Subscription comes with paid membership - see ad on page 8.

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## Taxes going to bureaucrat's salaries

To The Editor:  
If anyone needs a crystal clear example of why public schools are still having to cut programs and skimp on supplies for education, while our taxes continually increase, the federal Chapter 1 program for the improvements of test scores of underprivileged students offers itself as that example.

In Peter Rowe's *San Diego Union-Tribune* article (April 30, 1993 - page E - 1) on the particular federal program in practice here in San Diego,

he documents that what starts as a grant of approximately \$1,200 per student is whittled down to \$246 per student after the federal, state, and district offices take their administrative cuts.

Apparently, the taxes we thought we were paying to give the next generation a boost with better education are being spent to ensure bureaucratic job security. Class dismissed.

Quin Marshall  
San Diego

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# Convention Time!

## FROM THE CALIFORNIA STATE CHAIR



By Kim Goldsworthy  
Chair, LPC

I hope you had a safe and sane Independence Day. July is the mid-year mark of the California party's convention, and one month away from the national convention in Salt Lake City. It's time we review the party's progress from the February convention, and look forward to the big bi-annual convention August 31 - September 5 in Utah. You might say this column features a blast from the past, then back to the future.

First, a review of California's party activities. The news is nearly all good. The training sessions for incoming officers were held in June. From the evaluation forms the attendees filled out, both party vice - chairs now know what topics were interesting to the audience versus those topics of nil interest. If you are an officer in your local county's central committee, you should now know the basics of what skills it takes to run an organization at top efficiency, or at least know the name of the local expert who can advise you accordingly.

Financially, according to our treasurer and our fund raising chair, we are on schedule with our cash flow, compared with past years' budgets. The only bad news is that 1993 is not an ordinary year because 1992 was an extraordinary year. If you remember, you know that last year, the state party Executive Committee paid bounties of \$3 a head for voter registration with "Libertarian" affiliation. The Good News was that our numbers jumped up significantly so that we were no longer the smallest of California "third" parties; the Bad News is that over \$20,000 of region dues money was diverted from their respective counties to instead pay off the "headhunters" (professional bounty registration gatherers). Thus, the new 1993 officers and new Executive Committee inherited a big, red debt. We're working on bigger

and better fund raising, and we're cutting the state party budget to practically nothing.

The bad news is there is no "fat" in our budget; there never was. So to save money at the state level and to pay off the regional dues monies A.S.A.P., the *Liberty Bell* newspaper will be cutting its publication schedule to every other month after this July issue. Thus, expect no newspaper in August because the August and September issue will be out in September, October and November will be combined likewise, etc. This cut, drastic as it is, is meant to save approximately \$1,200 every other month, the money to be used instead to pay the counties their 1992 dues money.

And P.S., if your region would rather accept a slower payback than allow the *Liberty Bell* to alter its monthly eight - page format, then please let your Northern Vice - Chair or Southern Vice - Chair know before July 31st. (See the back page of the *Liberty Bell* for their phones and addresses). My personal preference would be to consider the newsletter the last place to wield the budget axe, and to keep *Liberty Bell* monthly and cut somewhere else. (But where? . . . It's the biggest budget item.) Remember our #1 goal at the February California convention was to pay 100% of the debt back; so in a non-election year, I'll bite the bullet and suppress my personal preferences, unless the membership decides otherwise (and fast).

Bottom line: *In regards to the fund - raising advertisement to the immediate right, please be generous.* And a P.S. to that effect: Mr. Marc Franklin of Palm Desert gave the party \$1,000 out of the blue. If you are planning your estate, then now would be the ideal time to give to the LPC because I can guarantee almost 100% will be forwarded to the leanest, meanest, grass roots activists! Can you match or better Mr. Franklin's timely and

generous donation?

And now, the national LP convention in Salt Lake City - don't miss out. I have attended three straight conventions - Seattle, Philadelphia, and Chicago. I've always wanted to lead the California delegation ever since I heard Mark Hinkle utter the words during a roll - call vote, "The monolith known as California, casts its ballots as follows . . ." The convention floor activity is a gas. The nightly parties and hospitality suites are legendary. The caucusing is great. The speakers are always significant, if not well - known. Man, I'll never forget the Chocolate Caucus in Seattle, squeezing in Gettysburg sight - seeing in Philadelphia, and nominating Dick Boddie for President in Chicago. As a Certified Parliamentarian, I will make sure every resolution California supports gets its fair shake on the convention floor (i.e., attention; pledge - keepers). Memories! This is what Libertarians are made of. Be there or be square.

# They've got your number

By Dolyne Keller

Once upon a time, thirty years ago, I was told that the day would come in which I would not be able to buy groceries, gasoline, clothes, nor would I be able to receive medical attention, attend school, or a concert, etc., if I had not allowed the government to stamp a number on my forehead or wrist. I was in high school the first time I heard this discussion. We were reading George Orwell's *1984* - you know - real "far out stuff, man;" this will never really happen in the United States of America.

We also began hearing that the governments of many lands eventually planned to take over our government, (there was a Communist in every closet) that our society would eventually arrive at what would be known as the "cashless society." No business transactions would be conducted with money, we would all have credit cards! Credit cards? Gee, that sounded like a good idea to 16, 17 and 18 year old kids! Really, though, we thought the whole concept was outrageous, laughable, a great subject for a make-believe novel!

My generation left high school and moved out into the bigger life stream, and we continued to hear these stories of how "they" were going to brand us - in Biblical terms, the mark of the beast, 666 but we really didn't take it seriously at that time. (At least most of us didn't.) We simply couldn't imagine a world in which we would not be able to "buy and sell" if we weren't marked like our dad's cows. Well guess what? It is here, it is

being put in place. No, we will not be branded like cattle, we have more sophisticated means today. The credit card is known as a "debit card." And the Mark of the Beast, for the time being, is your Social Security number. Have you ever tried to get a job without a Social Security number? Or enroll your children in school? Or receive emergency medical care? Or get a driver's license, or register your vehicle? Or claim your child as a tax deduction? I have read that the ultimate plan is for the implanting of a very small computer chip under the skin. The chip will contain all the information which the government considers pertinent about you. When you go to the store, that computer chip, or the lack of it will determine whether you buy food or not. You can have most of your income deposited directly into your bank account, and many of your bills paid by the bank from your account. You can purchase groceries with your plastic card, just run it through the little machine that sits on the check out stand. Every bill of \$20 value or higher, printed in the last few years, has a strip across it. (Hold the bill up to a light and about an inch from the top you will see a line running clear across it.) The supposed reason for this is so that we can't make counterfeit money. Many believe it is so that the Bankers can keep track of who has money, and how much they are spending, and what for.

Our president is working on a so-called "health reform plan", which will require every American to ac-

quire and carry an I.D. card, bearing a number. The number would be used for computerized tracking of medical and insurance records. They will call it a "health security card" or a "smart card". Two Congressional Aides who refused to be named, stated that the *Social Security Number* is being considered as the identification number for the cards.

I still feel like I am reading a George Orwell novel, I just can't believe this is all really happening, but it is, folks, and we have the sorry responsibility today to stand up and speak out against a more insidious enemy than previous generations of patriots would have believed possible. The attacks on our freedom today make the freedoms our fathers thought they were fighting for when they went off to war look like child's play. In fact, the wars that our fathers and brothers (and perhaps sisters) went marching off to fight were all part of the plan to eventually arrive where we are today - very close to one world government.

At no time in your life will affiliating yourself with knowledgeable and patriotic organizations such as the Libertarian Party be more important. California has a new State Chair, Kim Goldsworthy. We now have a state newsletter which is in truth a full blown newspaper, and it is full of excellent, up to date news. Cost is \$30/year. The editor of the state newspaper is Mike Hodges. Write to him at P.O. Box 41301, Bakersfield, CA 93384-1301.

## Fund - raising event asks for members to share their wildest dreams

The fund - raising committee, chaired by Southern Vice Chair, Gail Lightfoot, optimistically reports its basic plans for the LPC annual fund. Other committee members are Cullene Lang of Sacramento, Ed Moss of San Antonio, and John Webster of Santa Clara.

Of the \$22,500.00 needed (above the annual dues, California citizen tax - form check off and the amount raised during the convention) most will be coming from single contributors - individuals who will be increasing their support through the conve-

nient monthly pledge, a method which is growing in popularity. The current executive committee is collectively assuming responsibility for ten percent of the goal! This is a real first, according to Lightfoot.

Costs of fund - raising will be minimized by letters going only to current contributors, which explain the Party's needs beyond the basic "dues" of "individual" and "household" memberships which are shared with the regions. Everyone is eager to see the Party move ahead beyond asking for

funds; to be instrumental in recruiting outstanding candidates and getting the message out," she added. "As it has been so aptly put we are the only choice if an individual wants his or her liberty defended."

To make it easier and more fun, activities of interest to non - registrants and those registrants not involved with the Party, will be planned throughout the state during the year. Several Regions plan to co - sponsor local events. No more panic! No more costly mailings. "All we really need

is five per day from everyone who is really serious about the continued existence of the Party," stated Ed Moss.

"If all who claim 'membership' could upgrade their choice of dues level by another \$20 we will be in good shape," says Lightfoot.

Look for the thermometer each month in the *Liberty Bell* and watch as we go over the top!

Send your pledges to: LPC, 655 Lewelling Boulevard, #362, San Leandro, California, 94579.

Send your favorite legislator, friend, assembly person, enemy, or whoever a subscription to the *Liberty Bell*!

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## Government - run schools foster illiteracy, mediocrity and conformity on students

By George L. O'Brien  
Edited by Geoffrey Erikson

The tax-supported "public school" system is in trouble. There are chronic problems with discipline, mounting violence, declining test scores, and administrative costs spiralling out of control. Government schools continue to graduate functional illiterates, and U.S. public school students' math skills are now among the worst in the industrialized world.

How bad is it? The U.S. has 27 million illiterates as well as 40 to 50 million people who can barely read at the fourth-grade level. The U.S. is also among the worst industrialized countries in the areas of math and science. More than half of all 18-year-olds cannot find Britain or France on a map.

The defenders of the government schools claim the problem is a lack of money. However, in real terms, spending on education has actually risen over the last 40 years. The U.S. ranks near the top in the world in per student spending - more than either the Germans or the Japanese. The cost per student in government schools is nearly twice that of a typical private school, yet the results are distinctly inferior.

There is so much dissatisfaction with government schools that many parents are paying to send their children to private schools. This is after having already paid for government schools through their taxes. It is a ringing testimony to the failure of one of this country's most ambitious social experiments.

### Origins of Public Schools

The "public schools" movement began in the 1830's, led by Horace Mann. Supposedly, the goal was to ensure that every child would have access to an education. However, from the beginning there was another agenda, and that was to control what was being taught so as to create so-called "model citizens." Public schools meant taking control of education from the parents and placing it in the hands of social engineers and the government.

Was there ever a popular outcry for government schools? The answer is no. Basically, the demand for government schools came from elites in response to two perceived threats to their notion of society: 1) the rise of the "common people" who were becoming politically active; and 2) the influx of immigrants.

These political and intellectual elites promoted what was then considered an un-American value system in the government schools: Blind obedience to authority; conformity; equating patriotism to loyalty to government; externally imposing ranking of people in a military-like hierarchy; and perpetuating the myth that knowledge is a scarce commodity to be obtained only from an elite educational priesthood.

Many parents resisted these attempts by government bureaucrats to impose alien values on their children. Most ethnic groups also came to resent the way the elites tried to undermine and usurp their parental authority - the most obvious example being the Catholics who felt the need for their own schools.

### The Role of Decentralism

Fortunately, the full impact of the government schooling system was mitigated by the decentralism of the 19th century. Virtually every school had its own autonomous school board. These local school boards had the power to hire and fire teachers at will based on their own judgements.

However, after the turn of the century, during the "progressive era," there began a concerted attempt to destroy the system of local control through the "unified schools" movement. It took 50 years before most of the country was subjected to unified schools which may be why the real decline was delayed until after World War II.

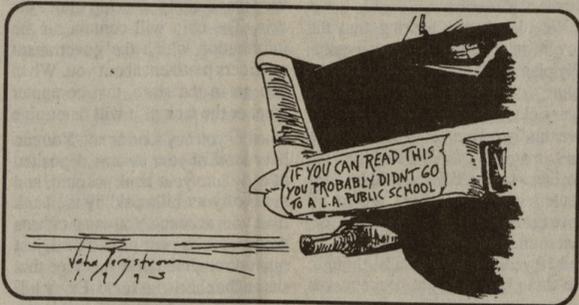
The idea behind unified schools was that they would be able to offer a wider variety of courses because of "economies of scale." However, the

real goal seems to have been to remove control of the schools from the parents and place it in the hands of the "professionals" in the school bureaucracies.

At the same time, there began the movement to require teachers to attend specialized "teachers' colleges" and the dictating of mandatory state certification. The criteria for hiring was now graduation certificates from teachers' colleges, rather than demonstrated skill in teaching. In many

failed. It ignored the unique problems of each child and was detrimental to the education of all. Not surprisingly, in recent years it has been racial minorities who have led the fight to overturn these rulings. In cities such as Chicago, it has caused many black parents to put their children into private and Catholic schools.

Another failed social experiment had to do with I.Q. tests and special "tracking." As John Gatto (New York State Teacher of the Year in 1991)



states, local school boards were actually forbidden from conducting their own testing of teachers.

Once the parents lost control of the schools, the schools quickly became laboratories for social engineering experiments. Educational fads such as "progressive education" were imposed on the helpless children in vain attempts to use behaviorist psychology to remodel children into some vision of "proper" citizens. Everything from sex education, to politically-correct textbooks, to forced bussing all became methods of molding children into some ideal image. The legacy of Horace Mann would be the tyranny of government control and bureaucratic manipulation.

### Money and Power

Centralization took another giant step in the 1950's as funding of schools began to be moved to the state governments. The primary result of this was an explosive growth in the size and power of the school bureaucracies. According to Steve Buckstein of the Cascade Policy Institute, the Portland, Oregon schools district has 600 employees in its central office, or roughly one central office employee for every 92 students. By comparison, the Portland-area Catholic school system with 11,500 students has only five central office employees, for a ratio of about one central office employee for every 2,300 students. The government-run schools have 25 times as many people in their central office.

Ending the linkage between parents and the schools also removed all barriers to the takeover of the schools by the teachers' unions: the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers. These unions have made it virtually impossible to fire incompetent teachers. They have forbidden wage differentials for outstanding teachers or higher pay to attract teachers in subjects where there is a scarcity, such as math and science. In addition, since the administrators are also members of the unions, it has become virtually impossible to reduce the size of the bureaucracy.

The state school bureaucracies have transformed areas such as curriculum into a political battlefield. State textbook selection has led to fierce struggles between various special-interest groups. Choosing history and social science texts is an area of constant conflict. In the area of biology, small segments of the religious right have forced the "dumbing down" of science textbooks, while the denizens of political correctness have made history and social science texts nearly worthless.

Government control of schools has had a disastrous effect on racial minorities such as blacks. *Brown v. Board of Education* outlawed segregation in public schools, however, in place of parental control a new set of controls and forced bussing was substituted, which without question

put it: "David learns to read at age four; Rachel, at age nine: In normal development, when both are age 13, you can't tell which one learned first - the five-year spread means nothing at all. But in school I will label Rachel 'learning disabled' and slow David down a bit too.

"I adjust David to depend on me to tell him when to go and stop. He won't outgrow that dependency. I identify Rachel as discount merchandise, 'special education.' After a few months she'll be locked into her place."

Stereotyping of students using standardized tests can create enormous problems when dealing with racial minorities.

Other experiments have included using psychoactive drugs to counter "hyperactivity in children" without the permission or even the knowledge of the parents. What is especially ironic is that studies now indicate that many hyperactive children are likely to grow up to be successful entrepreneurs.

A related problem includes the inability to expel disruptive or undisciplined students, because the state pays for warm bodies rather than educational results. It is not a coincidence that crime is a big problem in many inner-city government schools, but not a problem in the non-government schools.

The net result has become a disaster of epic proportions. While it is true that there are some government schools which continue to be effective, they are generally in small suburban school districts (where parents have some elements of control), or they are "magnet schools" which are chosen rather than assigned. A greater and greater number of parents are searching for alternatives, even though few can really afford the extra cost.

### Resistance to Choice

Educationists and their unions have resisted parents' desires for choice with everything they can muster. Tactics include using the state to decide what constitutes a school, imposing expensive rules and regulations on non-government schools, and using truancy laws to harass home schoolers. Creative alternatives such as Marshall Fritz's Academy for Self-Government face enormous hurdles just to survive.

The central struggle, of course, is money. As long as the government schools take so much money from parents in taxes, it is hard for parents to afford to send their children to non-government schools. Attempts to change this through tax credits and vouchers have resulted in vicious counter-attacks from the NEA among others. As Gatto put it: "School has become too vital a jobs project, contract giver, and protector of the social order to allow itself to be 'reformed.' It has political allies to protect its marches."

### Conclusion

Education choice involves returning control of education to the parents rather than the bureaucracies. History has shown that the system of centralizing control has resulted in poor results and a massive waste of resources. The battle cry for choice in education is central to bringing about a free society. Government schools are not simply another "black hole" for tax dollars, but an institution which does actual harm to our children. The only way the U.S. will get quality education will be when control is returned to the parents who can have a real choice, versus the sterile monopoly of the government schools. Creative proposals such as the California Education Choice Initiative (which will be on the ballot in November 1993) will eventually be passed as more and more people understand why the current system will not be fixed - the sooner the better.

## More bills to oppose

By Ted Brown

The deadline has now passed for California state legislators to introduce new legislation in 1993. A total of 2,363 Assembly and 1,219 Senate bills were introduced before the deadline. The following are a few of them that deserve to be defeated. To voice your opinion, write to your legislators at State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814.

AB 8 by Assemblyman Tom Connolly (D-Lemon Grove) would help police find out who buys beer for teenage "kegger parties" by requiring liquor stores to put identification tags on beer kegs and make buyers sign receipts including their names, addresses and drivers license numbers.

AB 538 by Assemblyman Bernie Richter (R-Chico) to make it a crime to rent a video and add pornographic footage to it to shock subsequent renters. The penalty would be up to 6 months in jail and/or a \$1000 fine.

AB 1915 by Assemblywoman Paula Boland (R-Granada Hills) would prohibit news media publication of jurors' names, addresses, telephone numbers or places of work.

AB 415, also by Boland, would extend the state's statutory rape law to include sexual intercourse with a male under 18.

AB 1903 by Assemblyman David Knowles (R-Cameron Park) would provide \$100 rewards for citizens who report alcohol or drug-impaired drivers to law enforcement authorities.

AB 2196 by Assemblyman Jim Costa (D-Hanford) would move California's presidential primary election to the first Tuesday in March. (This would be quite expensive, since there would still be a primary for all other offices on the first Tuesday of June.)

AB 214 & AB 215 by Speaker

Willie Brown (D-San Francisco) would establish a state-sponsored home mortgage guarantee fund that would allow first time California home buyers to pay as little as 3% down.

SB 1019 by Senator Milton Marks (D-San Francisco) would outlaw the sale of tickets to entertainment events for more than 120% of the price printed on the ticket.

SB 800 by Senator Robert Presley (D-Riverside) would authorize the use of wiretaps where there is a reasonable cause to believe that the person under investigation is involved in a gang.

SB 1156 by Senator Diane Watson (D-Los Angeles) would require businesses establishments that have on-site liquor licenses to also have coin-operated vending machines that dispense affordable, high-quality condoms in their restrooms.

SB 399 by Senator Teresa Hughes (D-Inglewood) would grant a \$16.5 million emergency loan to the financially troubled Compton Unified School District.

### News Briefs

Ross Perot suggested that President Clinton might "get a little war going" in Bosnia to divert attention from broken promises at home. Clinton's promises on everything from taxes to health reform are just imploding, making it a "good time

to distract the American people," Perot said in an interview in *U.S. News & World Report*. Responded Clinton spokesman George Stephanopoulos, "The very idea that President Clinton or any other American president would make a decision involving the lives of Americans in uniform for political reasons is outrageous." Stephanopoulos is the outrageous one; political reasons are the

only reasons presidents send troops off to war.

The California Supreme Court has ruled that police may arrest and search drivers and passengers who are stopped for minor violations and fail to produce a license or other written identification. The defendant, William Monroe, was a passenger stopped in a car by Oakland police, who thought they recognized a homicide suspect (sure they did!). The officers decided Monroe was not the suspect, but saw an open bottle of beer in front of him and asked him for identification. Monroe replied that he had none with him, so he was arrested and searched. Officers found rock cocaine so he was convicted of possession and sentenced to five years in prison. Had he presented ID, he would merely have been ticketed and sent on his way. The judges ruled that the law gives police the authority to decide that they will accept only "reliable, written evidence" of identity.

## South African gay Libertarian tabloid now available on computer modem

Libertarian activist Jim Peron, former chair of the San Francisco LP, has started a new monthly newspaper in South Africa with a strong Libertarian message especially marketed to the gay community. The paper, *Esteem*, is tabloid size and includes several pages in full color. Almost 8,000 copies are distributed nationwide in all the major cities: Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban, Cape Town, and Bloemfontein.

"What people in the States should understand is that this is a much smaller country. The U.S. population is five times as large, so a similar paper in the States would need a circulation of 40,000 to compare," said Peron. He noted, "if you only consider our saturation within the literate community, then a comparable paper in the States would need a circulation of something like 80,000."

*Esteem* has published hard-core pro-freedom articles and been highly critical of both the current government and the Mandela regime in waiting. The paper has been particularly strong in promoting freedom of speech and has been the only publication in South Africa to consistently oppose censorship. The paper has run exposes on the African National Congress and it's support of the anti-gay Castro regime. The paper also ran a major article revealing the anti-gay bigotry behind Winnie Mandela's role in the kidnapping and murder of a 14-year old boy. This article was reprinted by a major gay newspaper in San Francisco almost immediately.

*Esteem* has also become the first gay newspaper in the world to be

accessible by modem. "We have a system of telecommunications here similar to a bulletin board system," said Peron. "Not only can you access the system with a PC but you can also use a terminal that can be rented for about \$15 per month. Access time to the system we're on is about 7¢ per minute anywhere in the country," he said.

Each month the major articles from *Esteem* will be available for anyone to read. Individuals will be able to place personal ads in the paper via their computer or terminal, as well as send letters to the paper or ask for information. "Nothing like this has ever been done with a gay newspaper before or, for that matter, a Libertarian publication. And we're both," said Peron.

As of July, *Esteem* has published nine issues successfully. Each issue has broken even or made a small profit. Subscriptions and newsstand sales have been growing each month as well as advertising revenue. Jim encourages U.S. Libertarians, gay or straight, to help support the paper by subscribing. "We will send them the first nine issues plus the next five issues, for a total of 14 issues, for just \$50," he said. "Considering the cost of overseas postage this is quite reasonable and the money will help the paper expand circulation and add new cities to our distribution network."

Anyone wishing to subscribe can send a U.S. check for \$50 to *Esteem*, P.O. Box 23375, Joubert Park, 2044 South Africa. Jim can also be called at 011-27-11-622-9654 (voice or fax).

## Your tax dollars at work

As a shining clear-case example of the left hand not knowing what the right hand is doing, the FDA (Federal Death Administrators) awhile back approved the use of the nutritional supplement, *Blue-Green Manna*, for human consumption. However, a separate lab within the FDA examined a five-ounce sample of *Blue-Green Manna* and discovered the following materials:

"15 whole or equivalent adult flies, 164 adult fly fragments, 41 whole or equivalent maggots, 59 maggot fragments, one ant, five ant fragments, one adult cicada, one cicada pupa, 763 insect fragments, nine ticks, four mites, 1000 ostracods, two rat (or mouse) hairs, four bird feathers, six bird-feather barbules and 10,500 water fleas.

The pluggers for *Blue-Green Manna*, though, say that it contains "neuropeptides" which allegedly, "detoxify the body and provide food for the brain".

Now, for all of you six-legged arthropods out there with piercing, sucking mouthparts, rat tails and feathers, stay tuned for further developments.

Your tax dollars at work...  
Submitted By  
William A. Gaillard

The Liberty Bell's 24-hour fax line is (805) 327-9055

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# A sign in Placer County



"I apologize for not writing sooner, but we had important goals to accomplish — a tax protest and the re-painting of the 20 x 10 foot Libertarian Party sign located on Highway 49. (Please note accompanying photographs.)

"We are very proud of this sign and we hope it will generate many phone calls to the 1 - 800 telephone number. Many, if not most of the potential callers will be Nevada County residents. I have spoken with Gary Dusseljee and he has mentioned that he has been just too busy to contact new inquiries into the Libertarian Party. Because my most important goal is membership outreach and Gary's schedule is overloaded, I have accepted the responsibility as the initial contact for Nevada County as well. We would both appreciate the public contact numbers to reflect my number, (916) 591-1776. And Hey, let's keep it fun and very much like the two main parties (in one regard only); have them call Brian "Satchel" Page.

"The Libertarian Party of Placer County's next most important items will be county fair educational booths, an even bigger sign on Interstate 80 and campus outreach to the local community college and several high schools. We will be very busy with these tasks during the ensuing months. Wish us luck; we understand the difficulty that our predecessors have endured."

- Brian "Satchel" Page  
Placer County

## F.E.A.R. in Irvine; conference discusses property forfeiture

An organizational meeting of F.E.A.R. (Forfeiture Endangers American Rights) was held Saturday, May 15, at the Marketplace in Irvine, California.

As reported in recent issues of Lib-

erty Bell by Sarah Foster and Ross Regnart, civil asset forfeiture allows law enforcement agencies to seize property which they assert has been used in the commission of a crime. This can be done, and most of the time is done, without the property owner even being formally charged with a crime. It is then the property owner's responsibility to initiate the legal process to reclaim his or her property, and to prove to a court that it should not have been seized.

ditionally protected rights. F.E.A.R. members expressed strong opposition to a bill currently before the State Senate, SB 1158. This bill, written by Attorney General Lungren and introduced by state



Pictured, from left to right, are Arnold J. Gaunt, President, Tustin Area Firearms Association; Judy Osburn, author of Spectre of Forfeiture; Matt Kenney, Orange County Republican activist.

erty Bell by Sarah Foster and Ross Regnart, civil asset forfeiture allows law enforcement agencies to seize property which they assert has been used in the commission of a crime. This can be done, and most of the time is done, without the property owner even being formally charged with a crime. It is then the property owner's responsibility to initiate the legal process to reclaim his or her property, and to prove to a court that it should not have been seized.

Hosting the event was Orange County political activist Matt Kenney. Attorneys Rick Barnett from San Diego and Greg Brockbank from Marin County talked about their legal struggles against forfeiture. They mentioned that every Wednesday in USA Today, there is a long listing of recent civil asset forfeitures.

Bay area attorney Brenda Grantland, who has been fighting forfeiture cases for about ten years, provided background on how forfeiture came about and how it has evolved from primarily drug cases to a wide variety of offenses.

Orange County Register columnist John Seiler reported on trends he sees which affect the future of forfeiture laws: One negative trend is that, with governments at all levels looking for

conservatives against forfeiture. Liberals are fighting it because due process is completely bypassed, and conservatives because it negates property rights.

Judy Osburn talked about what happened to her and her family in rural Ventura county. Their property was seized in 1988 by the United States Marshal, with the help of the FBI, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Ventura County Sheriff's Department. One Sheriff's deputy told her "This is the wave of the future."

Ms. Osburn is the author of *Spectre of Forfeiture*, the story of her experiences and a primer on fighting civil asset forfeiture. She said that many people don't assert their rights because they are not even aware of them. The United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights, which prohibit the kind of seizures currently taking place, are not taught in government schools any more.

It was evident at the meeting that the old political divisions are no longer valid, especially when it comes to civil asset forfeiture. The audience included Republicans, Democrats, Libertarians and others of all political stripes. Whatever their positions on other issues, they expressed concern about this attack on Constitu-

Senator Maddy, expands civil asset forfeiture law in California. Members suggest contacting your state Senator and Assembly Member to oppose SB 1158 and to support AB 114, a bill which reforms existing law.

Ron Zucker announced the first Annual National FEAR Seminar, to be held in San Francisco on Saturday, August 14, 1993. For further information, contact him at 1378 29th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122, (415) 759-5768.

For more information about F.E.A.R., call or write: Main Office, P.O. Box 5424, Somerset, NJ 08875, (908) 873-1251, fax (908) 873-2070; or, West Coast Office, c/o Brenda Grantland, Esq., 265 Miller Avenue, Mill Valley, CA 94941, (415) 380-9108, fax (415) 380-9208. For membership, which includes one year (ten issues) of the newsletter, *F.E.A.R. Chronicles*, send \$55 to the New Jersey office.

To get involved, in Southern California, contact Christine Tainter at (805) 496-2595. In Northern California, contact Brenda Glantman at (805) 380-9108.

## What your government doesn't want you to now about your beer

By Tony Burke

In December we learned that the highly regarded Grant's Yakima Brewing Company in Yakima, Washington, would start printing nutritional information on packaging and promotional materials relating to their Scottish Ale. What a great idea! The information would appear in the standard Food and Drug Administration format on six pack carriers, point of sale materials, and other public displays. Plans were in the works to analyze and label its other five brands with nutritional data during 1993.

While we were in the process of keyboarding this timely material into our computer, we learned from Sherry Grant that "Yakima Brewing and Malting Company has been ordered

by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (BATF) to remove all reference to nutritional content from packaging, display and advertising materials (on the company's products) with the exception of calories, fats, protein, and carbohydrates."

The BATF has determined that the labeling of Grant's Ales with vitamin content is prohibited under a 1950's BATF ruling which interprets an earlier Federal regulation pertaining to "curative and therapeutic claims" on malt beverage labels or advertising material regardless of whether or not the statement is true.

Herbert Grant, Brewmaster for the company, says, "I feel very strongly that beer contains dietary factors other than alcohol. Over the years we have had many requests from consumers for nutritional information on beer. Apparently, the government has decided this information is misleading." Grant tells us that the brewery's only resource is to petition the government through the courts but "this would be a time consuming and expensive proposition, and beyond the resources of our small business."

So once again craft beer enthusiasts get the short end of the stick. As

consumers we are inundated with dietary information on everything from candy bars to dehydrated, flash-frozen, survival meals, some of which, I suspect, have little or no "curative and therapeutic" benefits whatsoever! We are on the one hand encouraged by our nation's leaders to familiarize ourselves with the contents of a breakfast cereal but are not allowed to know what is in our favorite beverage. Perhaps some of the larger beer manufacturers (and their lobbyists) whose products are directed to a less discerning market would rather not have the contents of their beers made public. (Rumor has it there are more than four basic ingredients in their products and some of them can't be pronounced.)

In any event, it looks as if it will take a long struggle by craft brewers and drinkers alike before we can be expected to see the nutritional information contained within printed without. Our congratulations to Grant's for giving it a shot and bringing the situation into the limelight.

To express your opinion and or support, Grant's Brewing, P.O. Box 9158, Yakima, WA., 98902, or call (509) 457-6782.

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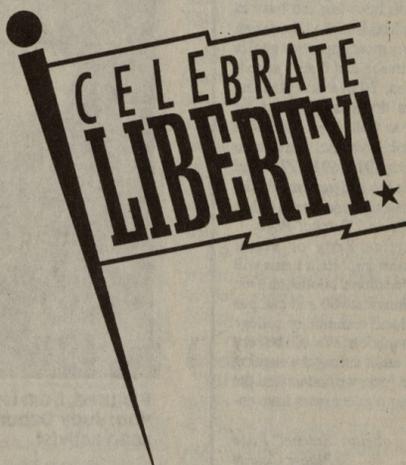
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