

Several states invoke the death penalty when the victim is a police officer. This is an insult to society. Why is a policeman's life of more importance or value than a kid who is gunned down while on duty in a gas station?

the Southern Libertarian Messenger



February, 1984

Rt. 10 Box 52A, Florence, S. C. 29501

Vol. XII, No. 10

IMPROVE MAIL
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PONIES...

Bureaucrat Shot

I.M.: IRS agent Michael Dillon, shot while trying to collect \$537.43 from a taxpayer in Cheektowaga, NY. Mexico City homeowners were incensed when water dept. threatened to cut off water, even if they owed nothing for failure to file a form that they had not been told about; descending on city hall they found that the city quickly ran out of copies, and they had to buy them at stationery stores for 30 pesos. (MCNews)

KKK, failing to get their American Patriot Party on the ballot in NC, have decided that they are really Democrats, & plan to run in primaries. (NofG)

"Reared in the creed of democracy my faith in its tenets has grown with its growth and I adhere to the maxim, "the world is governed too much". - Jefferson Davis



TAXATION

IS



LEGALIZED

THEFT!

Sand Ecru or Smoke Gray

WERNER VON BRAUN UNIVERSITY ?

A group seeking to establish a new center of learning, Werner von Braun University, at Huntsville, Alabama, is trying to raise \$15 million. The W. v. B. U. Foundation, at Box 65, Huntsville 35804, has an elaborate proposal for a superior institution with high tuition, stringent entrance requirements, rigorous curriculum including German as a required course, conservative philosophy, no varsity sports or social activities, and an emphasis on high technology.

For details, contact the Foundation.

One thing that the Foundation is doing is trying to raise money among the German-American community, which is the largest of the ethnic groups in this country (if you count the English, Irish, Scots, etc. as separate groups).

The need for such an institution cannot be exaggerated. And the need in the South for superior institutions of higher learning, as opposed to the many colleges and universities of truly low academic standards, is even greater. One problem that the South is beginning to have in trying to attract high tech industries is the lack of academic resources so that employees of these industries can upgrade their credentials.

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COMPLICATION AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS

by Ralph Roberts

Us laymen are not privy to the entire legislative process employed by the House and Senate in formulating the laws of the land. But, in analysis of their output over the years, a certain amount of deduction and plain outright guessing has made the procedure a bit less obscure. Not the laws themselves, mind you, but the way that they are constructed from some member's original idea. It's a long, very complicated and complex series of give and take. The taxpayer gives and the government takes.

Let's examine the path a proposed law probably winds along before being voted into the already bulging and overloaded lawbooks. It all begins some foggy Washington morning when some Senator or Representative gets a hot flash. And, to begin with at least, it's probably a decent idea and something that would benefit, if not the whole populace, someone somewhere. The proposed law is hastily scribbled onto a yellow legal pad and passed to a member of the staff to work up while the Congressman (and/or woman) leaves town on an important junket — such as viewing first hand the troubles of the underprivileged on the French Riviera. Please note that I do not claim all members of Congress are lazy, self-centered nincompoops. There are some decent, hard-working, competent men and women in that august body. No names readily pop to mind, however.

The next stone the embryo butts up against in its journey is the members of the Congressman's staff. They sit down and kick the once plausible idea around, adding obfuscating phrases and unnecessary verbiage in the manner of a mad chef creating a gastronomical nightmare. Once the law is fleshed out so that they no longer can comprehend any reasonable meaning, one member of the staff carries the now neatly typed and verbose document down to the basement of the Capitol Building.

Deep in a dank sub-basement of the Capitol occurs the least known but most important step in a bill's trip through the thickets of Congressional pruning, amending and intricating. Admittedly, I have no access to hard evidence that this department exists, but, judging from the quality of complexity proliferating our written laws, logic dictates it must.

Call this place, for ignorance of its true name, the Bureau of Complications. Presided over by the cream of the bureaucracy, much use is made of the latest and most powerful computer equipment. Here the proposed law is taken and run through a special scrambling circuit into the mysterious depths of the central processing unit. The computer randomly rearranges the wording and sprinkles it liberally with the approved buzzwords and trite, meaningless phrases. The whole thing is then translated into governmentese (a little known language used primarily by remote tribes along the Potomac River) and printed out through another scrambler. The resulting gibberish is reviewed by an editorial board, and, if any glimmer of meaning has remained, is put through the entire process once more. Only then is the bill cleared and passed on to the appropriate sub-committee.

The rest of the now thoroughly changed bill's vigor is quickly sapped, for now the lawmakers, themselves can get their hands directly on its tender little body. In sub-committee, they vie with each other to rip the poor tiny thing apart and reassemble it in strange and eerie ways with amendment tacked on amendment until the fledgling law is flattened under a mountain of pork-barrels. It's then kicked screaming into full committee where much more and worse happens in the aching, agonizing, and torture-filled months

the Southern Libertarian Messenger



Editor
Associate Editor

John T. Harllee
Robert Brakeman

A newspaper is not for just reporting the news as it is, but to make people mad enough to do something about it.
— Mark Twain

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FACING FACTS..

Historians may remember that Charles Martel Turned back an invasion of the Moors at Tours early in the 8th century. Well, there is another invasion; immigrants, mostly from Algeria and other former colonies are estimated to comprise more than 15% of the population of France. The National Front is urging that they be all sent back in view of the current unemployment situation. (var.)

Fun & games in Washington: Congress appropriated \$31 million to the non-profit National Endowment for Democracy, "to promote democracy abroad". But no one had yet chartered the foundation. So ex-Sen. Eugene McCarthy got a charter in that name, and is awaiting developments. (var.) Of course, Congress could have gotten the same results by cutting the State Dept. appropriation by \$31 million, to reduce the funding to promote dictatorships abroad.

A silver dime is now worth about \$2. (pioneer)
"What has destroyed liberty and the rights of man in every government which has ever existed under the sun? The generalizing and concentrating of all cares and powers into one body, no matter whether of the autocrats of Russia and France or of the aristocrats of the Venetian senate." Thos. Jefferson

ahead.

At last, like Daniel into the lions' den, the bill is thrust onto the floor and the merciless manipulation of the full House or Senate. Total chaos descends in a snowstorm of sonorous but meaningless verbiage. Amendments cascade onto the bill like wheat into a grain elevator. The best efforts of the infamous Bureau of Complication, the sub-committees, and even full committees are put to shame as the full force of entrenched legislators raise a force six gale of hot air. Only after much debate and total confusing of the issue is the bill allowed to come to a vote. Then, if no one at all in the chamber understands a single phrase, it is enacted into law. Such appears to be the legislative process as near as I can determine.

But, it doesn't end there. Not by any means. Laws have to be interpreted so that they might be fairly applied. This is the province of the Supreme Court which relies heavily on the Bureau of Uncomplication. This department is a small room just off the robing chambers of the justices. There, a crusty old civil servant uses a 1954D wheat penny to adjudicate disputes in interpretation. That system seems to work admirably.

(Reprinted from Against the Wall with permission of the author.)

FLOTSAM

IRS has struck again; this time it has busted Liberty Ministries in Virginia, a home church operation with lots of franchises and cash flow. It worked on the pyramid principle, apparently. (AMEN/Rich NewsLead) For full details, write for Newsletter, Box 1727, Metairie, LA 70001. (Some years ago, a similar promoter of new religions proposed to set up a "church" for me, and was told, "I don't want to be a church, I want to be an asylum.")

Attention, Fen! Southern Fandom Confederation meets at DeepSouthCon June 21-4 in Chatanooga. Newsletter is \$3/member, Box 10558, Atlanta 30310. Atlanta is also bidding for 1986 WorldCon. Ask for Rebel Yell.

Dora Pezzilli, 34, Radical has been campaigning for parliament by making speeches in the nude in Trieste, Italy. (Il Piccolo/FFW) Nothing to hide.

Project Cure, 2020 K St NW #350, Wash, DC 20070 is promoting alternatives to orthodox medical "cures" for cancer, such as diet.

New bookstore: Renaissance Bookservice, Box 2451, Riverside, CA 92518, Gene Berkman, prop.

Tom Tacker, Eco Dept, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 is studying private charity, and the adverse effects of government intervention; seeks sources.

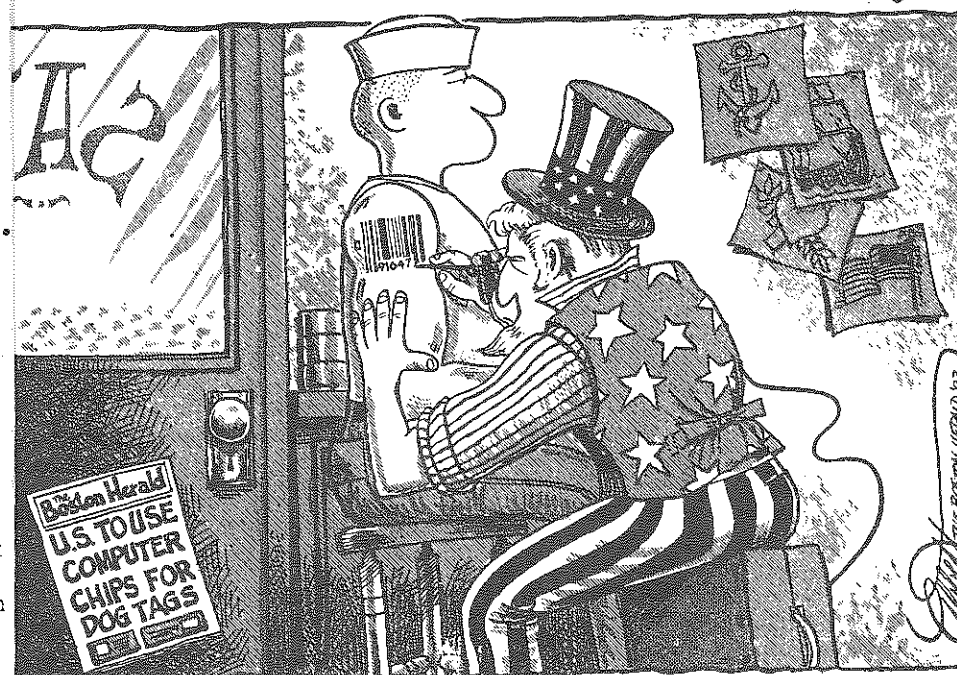
Britons do not like the .3 oz. copper-nickel-zinc pound coins that have gone into circulation, worth about \$1½. Described by Daily Mail as "small, yellow and unloved". (HeraldWS/Econ Advisor)

"The best advice I ever got was 'Buy gold.'" — Gloria Vanderbilt (Good Housekeeping)

21000 TV sets were turned on by remote control when a computer malfunctioned at a cable company in St. Louis suburbs, and remained on until someone at home turned them off. (StL Globe/ Eco Adv)

In Nashville, TN researchers used cable information to identify "religious families" (apparently those who watch TV "evangelists"), and discovered that they preferred R-rated films. (Orl Sentinel/ Eco Adv) Well, maybe they can't get any stimulation any other way?

"Where there is only a choice between cowardice and violence, I would advise violence." — Gandhi (!) (Chalcedon)



Dr. John Whiting, founder of the Progress Party in Australia, has given up the practice of medicine being "fed up with political and bureaucratic interference"; he is considering plans to acquire an island and declare its independence. (Lib Dig - Aus)

Nigel Tambling & Susan Ellis were fined \$75. for having sex in a public park in Liskeard, Cornwall, England. Well, actually, they were fined for ruining 3 rosetrees and 18 cornflowers in the process. (Sun/FFW)

In Lexington, KY it is illegal to put an ice cream cone in your pocket. (FFW) Also messy.

Gov. Percival P. Baxter of Maine (1921-5) ordered flags flown at half staff when his Irish setter died. (FFW)

New zine: Financial Freedom, Box 0491, Charleston, SC 29404, \$9/year.

& JETSAM

Richard Hoskins says that reason North Slope oil is being left in ground is to help banks that have lent money to Mexico. (Portfolio Inv. Advis.)

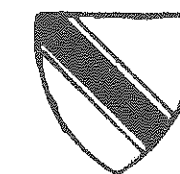
The White House receives 100 letters per day on nuclear war from schoolchildren fulfilling classroom assignments. (RotN)

In August, the House passed HR2957 by 217-211 to give \$8.4 billion to the IMF; voting for were Derrick, Spratt, & Campbell of SC. Yep, Conservative Carroll.

In "New Age", a proposal for an exchange of 100,000 students a year between US and USSR, for hostage and emissary value. First, the hostage value would all be one way; Stalin let his son die in a German

POW camp rather than exchange him. Second, the USSR would never let 100,000 students out of the country; many would never come back, and those who did might bring new ideas with them.

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Compounded legal woes

EASTON, Mass. (AP) — A group of kids and a teacher who started a bank at school were learning a lot about high finance when the state decided to teach them a lesson about the law — by shutting them down.

"The law is the law," said Robert Ledbetter, a state deputy banking commissioner, whose examiners closed the bank at Easton Middle School for not having a charter, among other things.

The bank was started as a learning tool, teaching the children the rudiments of finance by lending money for lunches and pocket cash.

Borrowers were charged 8 percent interest a week with a maximum credit line of \$1.50, twice the price of a hot lunch.

But "the school has gone well beyond the (banking) statute," Ledbetter said. "Making loans at 8

percent runs about 400 percent per annum, and that's in clear violation of the law. The bank was in violation."

Ann Hoyle, director of the school's program for high ability learners, known as HAL, said Wednesday that she got the idea for the bank in January and the last thing on her mind was getting in trouble with the state.

In fact, trying to touch every base was her downfall.

Before opening the bank, Ms. Hoyle said, she went to the president of the North Easton Savings Bank for advice and got formal approval for the project from her school board.

It was the bank visit that led to the end of her students' short careers at the HAL-Middle School Cooperative Bank.

"We were operating daily until the bank examiners came to the

"Our government refuses to pay its legitimate debts in honest money, and refuses to admit this, so, it is morally and financially bankrupt." (Jag)

In Hawaii it is illegal to put pennies in your ears. (FFWorld) Hoarding, I suppose.

In Sao Paulo, Brazil 5000 angry commuters set fire to a train and station because the train was 2 hours late. (Spot) What would they do to Amtrak?

In Wheeler, TX, Rev. Ricky Pfeil picketed the local movie house for months, whereupon the owner turned him in to the IRS for using his church for politics. (MMRep)

LA Daily News reports that one of the bodyguards Jane Fonda hired during her 1972 Indochina peace campaign was moonlighting as a spy (on Fonda & Tom Hayden) for the L A P D. Double jeopardy or something.

National GI assistance project is being organized: John Judge, Box 42508, Philly 19101; 222-6661.

Atlantic City, NJ police chief wants to legalize prostitution, being unable to stop it. (DCGaz)

You Think You Got Troubles Dept.: Rich Suter, former chm. & life member of IL LP plead guilty to mail fraud last June; he was subsequently expelled by party, and is suing same. (IL Lib)

cashier children's bank

North Easton Savings Bank to audit the records" and found a copy of her proposal, she said.

"They asked if they could come and visit the students," she said. "I was very pleased and thought it was a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

She said all the 11- and 12-year-old student bankers — the chairman of the board, the president, the loan officers, the tellers and the bill collectors — came to the meeting with the examiners.

"After they told us what the responsibilities of a bank examiner were, they pulled out a yellow-lined pad and cited our violations," she said.

They included operating without a charter, which would cost \$200,000, charging too much interest, collecting loans without a license and using the word "bank" in the title of a business without

state authorization.

Ms. Hoyle said the examiners, Harold Norton and Richard Kelly, were polite toward the children but insisted that the bank be closed.

"I asked for permission to collect our outstanding loans, and we had a going-out-of-business sale," she said.

The students now are working with state Rep. William Vernon to get either the state's banking laws or the Banking Department's rules changed to allow student banks to operate.

Until then, the kids are out of business.

Ledbetter said his agency would be happy to give the students a charter — if they come up with the fee.

"If they can do it legally, we'll back them all the way," he said.

Sen. E. F. Hollings has come out for 2 years of military serv. for every male between 18 & 24; this would bring the armed forces up to a larger number than at any time since 1945. (DC Gaz) The fact that the military has no use for such numbers is irrelevant. The fact that the cost would be beyond belief is irrelevant. Marse Fritz wants to bring back slavery.

The Interneighborhood Housing Council of NYC manages abandoned buildings for the city to provide housing for the destitute. So the IRS, deciding that no good deed should go unpunished, proposes to lift its non-profit status, since it is in the commercial business of managing real estate. (DCGaz)

Gandhi spoke against "concentrating the wealth in the hands of a few in total disregard of millions of men and women." The chief method by which this is done in this century is, of course, Socialism. In Nicaragua, for example, under the fascist Somozas, one family owned 20% of the cultivated land, and the outside fruit companies about the same; today, the socialist dictatorship owns almost 100%, in the hands of a much smaller group. This is progress?

by Bob Brakeman

Those who believe it's the most beautiful canyon on earth (meaning everyone who's ever seen it) find that they can't believe something else: that it's not famous. In addition to its staggering beauty, this canyon has several other things going for it — "things" which should've helped make it one of the best known scenic locations in the US: it's in the most populous state, California, a state which is, with New York, the leading media-center state; it's not far from the most heavily traveled interstate highway in the country, Interstate 5, which connects Los Angeles with San Francisco; and it's close to two very famous scenic locations: Yosemite National Park and Sequoia National Park.

In spite of all that, Kings Canyon has remained mostly undiscovered. Although it's been turned into its own National Park, that Park is one of the least-visited in the country in spite of its startling beauty. One reason for that paradox may be King's Canyon's just-mentioned closeness to Yosemite and Sequoia: rather than drawing attention to K. C., those two ultra-famous Parks seem to have stolen so much Cal-publicity that people pass right by Kings Canyon on the way to one of the other ones. Another problem seems to be that Kings Canyon begins as the most boring N. P. in the country before it finally explodes into appalling scenic splendor: there's a 30-mile access road leading toward the Canyon, and that road passes through nothing but endless rows and endless miles of flatland-evergreens, the kind that everyone who's lived north of the frostline is very familiar with and has seen so often that it's hard to understand, driving past them, why they should justify a National Park. Because lots of drivers/passengers can't do that justifying, Park Service records indicate that most of them turn back long before they get anywhere near Kings Canyon itself. But for those who keep going....

Both Park Service reports and my own experience in taking people to see Kings Canyon is that the initial response to the first view of it is an audible gasp, followed by some version of the phrase, Oh, my God!"

The 2-mile deep canyon that the Kings River has spent 2 million years carving out of the High Sierras is dramatic enough on its own, but its first impression is tripled in intensity by the very fact that you have just driven through 30 miles of mega-boredom to get to it; your mind has begun to wander, you're half-asleep, you're about to turn back in disgust, there's nothing but every-one-the-same flatland evergreens in all directions — and then suddenly you come around a gentle curve and confront what a recent poll of European travel-writers voted the most beautiful spot on Earth:

You're on top of the Canyon, looking a couple of miles straight-down at the Kings River and a dozen miles straight-out at the suddenly-towering High Sierras (they'd been hidden from you by all those evergreens before), and it is Yosemite Valley and the Grand Canyon and Redwood National Park and Sequoia National Park and the High Rockies all in one — with room left over for Hells Canyon in Idaho and the Royal Gorge in Colorado and Cochise Stronghold in the Dragoon Mountains of Arizona and the most powerfully beautiful parts of the Sangre de Cristo Range in northern New Mexico. A good road begins to wind down/down/down, deeper and deeper into the Canyon, and soon you have a choice of 3 equally-magnetic directions in which to look: Down,

at the bubbling/gurgling/rushing/roaring Kings River as it continues its life-work of tunneling/burrowing all the way through the Earth to Shanghai; Up, at the mile-or-so's worth of High Sierras which now tower above you; or horizontally, at the jagged cliffs and abrupt precipices and dangerously-narrow mountain ledges and clinging-to-the-rock-wall trails which will make you laugh, ever afterward, at anyone who begins to talk about their "favorite High Country places around America"; you will explain patiently that there is only one High Country place in America. (And as a new/true fanatic you will also announce that there's only one National Park.)

When you finally reach the bottom of Kings Canyon (you will; even the scared-of-heights types become so hypnotized by the Walls-of-Wonder surrounding them that they forget to be afraid; no one turns back), you find a realm which is half-shadowed/half-sunlit no matter what daylight-time it is: this is a serious canyon, and its walls are so steep that even at Highest Noon the sun can't touch parts of it. The Shadowland at the bottom is of course dominated by the Kings River, which races so fast beside your car that even the most enthusiastic hot-rodders don't bother to try to catch it. What they (and everyone else) do bother to do is spend several hours (or several days, or a lifetime...) lounging around the Canyon floor, listening to the River provide them with a Whitewater Symphony, watching the Shadowshow creep across the mile-wide canyon, and staring/gawking upward at what must surely be the most overpowering mountain-view/scenic-view in this particular spiral arm of the Milky Way Galaxy: those people aren't all standing around with their mouths open because they're trying to catch flies.

Among the people attracted by Kings Canyon in recent years (it ain't famous, but among serious travelers it's starting to become an underground legend) has been an informal group of cryonicists and political libertarians who've been engaged in a countrywide search for the Best Possible Place for a "retreat" — an area which would serve two purposes: it would be a fine getting-away-to spot in the event of society-wide economic/political debacles; and it could serve various kinds of cryonics purposes, including but not limited to a research location and a secure place for patient storage. Although key parts of Kings Canyon are now included within the K. C. National Park, there is plenty of private land available in the area, and since K. C. is not-yet-famous, land values haven't been driven straight-up-to-Saturn, as they have been around Yosemite & Sequoia. The area's isolation of course makes it appealing as a politico-economic retreating spot (though not far from I-5, it's many hundreds of miles from both the California population centers — the Bay area and L. A.), and it's far enough away from the main earthquake zone (centering on the coast-following San Andreas Fault) that it is among the safest Cal-locations for cryonic-patient-storage purposes.

There is already a mini-community at the bottom of the Canyon (a permanent one of people who live there year-around), and several other very small communities nearby, scattered around beyond the top-rim of the canyon. All the locals have a strong tendency to be mind-their-own-business types, and various "unorthodox" people (these are usually the good guys, since most orthodoxies are demented) have been readily accepted in the area in the past, among them folks ranging from Hell's Angels to hippies to communalists to religious-fanatics-getting-ready-for-the-end-of-the-world to hardcore paramilitary survivalists. As

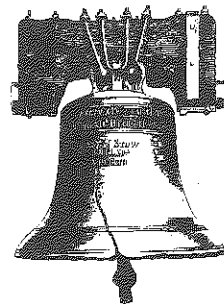
longs as those people don't bother the locals (there had to be some pep-talks with the Hell's Angels over that at first, but now they're Sweethearts-on-Bikes), they're left alone to do what they want on their own property.

Some property-acquisition has begun on land which might be put to cryonics/libertarian usage in the area, mostly in the form of options rather than outright purchases. Those doing the purchasing are not members of the two main California cryonics groups (BACS/TT up north & ALCOR in L. A.), though some of them might join up later; rather, most of those involved in the Kings Canyon project tend to be political libertarians who're gradually becoming interested in cryonics. Some are from other states, and may join the cryonics groups in those states, but the Kings Canyon project is likely to continue no-matter-what, for two reasons: first, it obviously can't hurt the national/international cryonics movement to have one-more-place available for cryonics purposes, even if only as a "spare" to back up other elsewhere-locations in emergencies; second, the land acquired will have continuing residual use as a political-retreating kind of spot quite apart from any cryonics usage. The overlapping of the cryonics and libertarian movements is of course well-known, and so it was nearly-automatic that when the various individuals involved in this project thought of Kings Canyon land at all, they thought of it from both of those perspectives.

It has probably not escaped your deductive powers that Kings Canyon is also one of the most appealing vacation spots in America, quite apart from any cryonics/libertarian uses to which land there might be put; while waiting for society to fall apart or for cryonics-patients-in-storage to start piling up, it wouldn't be painful to spend several weeks there a year, vacationing in the midst of the striking vistas described earlier.

It is worth mentioning, in connection with the cryonics-possibilities of Kings Canyon, that that location and any facilities which might be built there are not envisioned as being part of an organization separate from those in California and other states; although in candor I must admit that the possibility has been discussed, the consensus seems to be that the existing organizations are good enough to stick-with, and that therefore the greatest likelihood is that any land in Kings Canyon might be put to what is best called Supplementary Usage: it would be used for whatever purposes the California or eastern groups think best, with of course a veto power residing in those who actually own the land. And of course in the event of unforeseen disasters involving any of the existing cryonics groups the Kings Canyon land could then become the formation-point for new activities/organizations. The 22 million people in California and next-door Nevada would make starting-over there much more appealing than trying to do so in, say, central Montana. Both cryonics-recruiting & libertarian recruiting require major population centers, and that is of course Kings Canyon's double-beauty: it is simultaneously (a) far enough from major cities to serve its isolation/security function well, and (b) near enough to them that contact with those cities is easy enough to arrange when the Kings Canyoners want to arrange it.

But I should have said "triple-beauty" there rather than "double-beauty", for there is also the gripping visual appeal of Kings Canyon's Sierra-vistas; its creeping shadow-show in a full moon, and its American-eagle community spinning & darting & darting & plunging & spiraling higher than even the Sierra-crests, and crests so high/majestic that the clouds



AMERICAN REVOLUTION

America, 1776, and men lay dying outside the towns of Concord and Lexington.

It was a beginning.

Don't let it end.

Brian Heape, Rt 1 Box 79, Elloree, SC 29047 is trying to organize a libertarian youth movement. If there is any doubt about the need for such an organization, especially after the collapse of YLA & SLS, consider the many anti-freedom groups for young people. Anyhow, Brian has a number of ideas, such as a group run by and for the benefit of the student members, unlike many others. He can use help, including seed money to get started.

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The Plight Of The South

When the South Carolina legislature revised the state constitution in 1976, it left out the section providing for the imposition of a state income tax. (SCL) Very interesting.

Ever wonder what the government does with your income tax forms? Well, in Philadelphia afetr 8 years they are sold as scrap to a recycling firm, which makes toilet paper out of them. (TMEN)

"Anything worth doing well is worth doing slowly." - Gypsy Rose Lee

In Los Angeles, it is illegal to peel an orange in a hotel room. (Libercal) Try to figure that one.

HOW YOU CAN PROFIT FROM TODAY'S GOLD RUSH is \$2.45 postpaid from Books for Businessmen, Box 404, NYC 10019; author Jeff Feinman tells how and why to invest in gold.

In Los Angeles, drivers convicted of intoxication can get a private cell in the local police station instead of going to the overcrowded county jail, for \$75/day. (moneysworth)

"For many years now, you and I have been shushed like children and told that there are no simple answers to the complex problems which are beyond our comprehension. Well, the truth is, there are simple answers...." - Ronald Reagan

Whole Again Resource Guide, Box 6767, Santa Barbara, CA 93111 lists more than 1500 alternative publications. \$14.45! See if your library has it.

don't try to compete & just drift below them, and the High July sun bouncing images of itself off both the mirror-face of the mountains & the water-face of the River of Kings.....

Why more per-pupil spending

To the Editor:

Reversing his no-tax increase position of one month earlier, Davidson County Manager Doug Flick on June 7 unveiled a proposed 1983-84 budget that calls for an eight-cent increase in the property tax rate. The county school system would receive \$1.7 million of the new revenue generated by the tax increase; that is even more than the schools had requested. The county manager seems to be obsessed with the idea of raising the county system's per-student expenditure from \$195 to \$245.

Mr. Flick wants to pick the pockets of Davidson County property owners and funnel the money into the county school system to raise the per-student expenditure. He should be prepared to demonstrate some reasonable basis for doing so.

I asked Mr. Flick about this matter. He spoke vaguely of demographics, test scores, and his experience as county manager, but he finally admitted that he could offer no hard evidence to justify his scheme.

The county manager assumes that raising the per-student expenditure necessarily raises the level of academic achievement. Recent studies challenge that assumption.



FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT

"I have said this before, but I shall say it again and again and again. Your boys are not going to be sent into any foreign wars."

"Things have changed since the days of Columbus," said a traveler. "Columbus headed for India and wound up in Santo Domingo. Today, if you head for India, you get to India. It's your luggage that winds up in Santo Domingo."

According to a massively documented study of 98 comprehensive public high schools, "Per-student expenditure has a small and statistically insignificant effect on both educational and occupational attainment." Christopher S. Jencks and Marsha D. Brown, "Effects of High Schools on Their Students," Harvard Educational Review, Vol. 45, No. 3 (August 1975), p. 317.

A study of student achievement in 13 elementary and four middle schools in a large, suburban Delaware school district found that "the percentage of variance explained by dollar input was minimal." Denis C. Carey, "The Distribution of School Resources and Their Effect upon Achievement - An Intradistrict Approach," paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (Toronto, Ontario, March 27-31, 1978), p. 4.

In a study of the 45 metropolitan and 82 nonmetropolitan Alabama school systems, per-student expenditure was only weakly related to nonmetro eighth-grade achievement test scores and was not significantly correlated with either metro or nonmetro 12th grade achievement test scores. John E. Dunkelberger and Mary A. Soderberg, "Nonmetro-Metro Differences in Student Achievement Scores," paper presented at the annual meeting of the Rural Sociological Society (Ithaca, N. Y., August 1980), pp. 10-11.

The North Carolina State Board of Education's assistant controller for administrative services studied the effects of 33 policy variables on a composite achievement score based on the results of the California Achievement Test. The test was administered to third, sixth and ninth-grade students in North Carolina.

The assistant controller concluded that "the lack of a strong relation between per pupil expenditures and student achievement appears to contradict the generally held view that increasing or equalizing expenditures will improve educational standards or reduce the ranges in achievement." Alan T. Hill, Facts Behind the Figures: School Effectiveness Study (Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Public Education, 1980), p. 18.

There was a desperate attempt to suppress the results of that study. Exposing the truth probably was what cost the assistant controller his job; he was fired on April 17, 1981. (See Michael Skube, "Pricking an Establishment," Winston-Salem Journal, May 17, 1981, p. C3.) It doesn't pay to poke holes in the cherished myths of the public school establishment.

The public school establishment has nothing to fear from Davidson County. The officially approved mythology has a friend and protector in the county manager's office.

Barney W. Hill

THE TIMES—Thomasville, N.C.

Repeal

Barney W. Hill of Thomasville is opposed to the local half-cent sales tax increase recently approved by the county commissioners and is trying to repeal it.

Hill received a model petition from the Davidson County Board of Elections on Tuesday that calls for a referendum to determine whether or not to repeal the new half-cent tax. Hill must obtain signatures of 5,952 qualified voters within a year, which is 15 percent of the votes cast here in the last gubernatorial election, to call for the referendum.

Trying to repeal taxes is nothing new to Hill. In August, he received a model petition from the board which calls for the repeal of the one-cent local option sales tax, which is collected in addition to the three-cent state sales tax. He will need the same number of signatures to call for a referendum on that tax.

At a meeting of the county elections board Tuesday, Chairman Bernard Thomas asked elections Supervisor Ruth Huneycutt to check with the state attorney general's office about whether the two tax questions could be on the same ballot.

Hill was accompanied to the meeting by Edwin Drury, who also is working on petition drive, as well as Don Dublin and Fred Miller of the Lexington area.

"We're the modern day Paul Reveres of high taxation," Drury said. "We're trying to get people to overcome their apathy."

Hill said the next two months are crucial to their petition drive. Although the group has up to a year to get the required number of signatures on the petitions, Hill wants to be able to turn the petitions in by February so that the elections board can certify them in time for the issue to be put on the May 8 primary ballot.

"We've found out we're going to have to wholesale this rather than retail it," Hill said. He said he and others active in the tax repeal campaign are going to flea markets in the county and are trying to arrange meetings with civic groups in an effort to get petition signatures. Hill also said the group has a camper and will be going to different downtown shopping areas to try to collect signatures.

The Dispatch, Lexington, N.C.



... the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

Ray Pike

FOR CONGRESS 4th DISTRICT

Libertarian

You might be a Libertarian. Take this quiz and see.

1. I believe that each person's ability, dignity, freedom, and responsibility must be honored and recognized.

☐ Yes ☐ No

2. I believe that free enterprise and the encouragement of individual initiative and incentive are the cornerstones of a healthy economy.

☐ Yes ☐ No

3. I favor the establishment of a sound money system and oppose deficit spending.

☐ Yes ☐ No

4. I support voluntary funding of public services as an alternative to taxation.

☐ Yes ☐ No

5. I oppose government subsidies to special interest groups.

☐ Yes ☐ No

6. I oppose wage and price controls.

☐ Yes ☐ No

7. I oppose state licensing and franchising laws which prevent competition and create monopolies such as the Post Office, bus and train services, power, water, and sewer services.

☐ Yes ☐ No

8. I oppose compulsory safety laws such as mandatory seat belt use.

☐ Yes ☐ No

9. I oppose government intervention into the economy except where individual rights have been violated.

☐ Yes ☐ No

The TARHEEL LIBERTARIAN welcomes your comments and contributions. Send your news and ideas to: Tarheel Libertarian, P.O. Box 20102, Raleigh, NC 27602.

10. I believe the only proper function of government is to defend the life, liberty, and property of citizens.

☐ Yes ☐ No

11. I believe the law should be applied equally to all individuals, regardless of race, sex, creed, political status, or socio-economic background.

☐ Yes ☐ No

12. I oppose preventive detention laws such as involuntary psychiatric commitment of non-criminals.

☐ Yes ☐ No

13. I believe all sex relations between consenting individuals should be decriminalized. "Big Brother" has no business in the bedroom.

☐ Yes ☐ No

How do you rate?

The Libertarian Party has two major principles: 1) Each individual has sole dominion over his own life and the fruits of his labor. 2) No individual or group has the right to initiate force (or the threat of force) or fraud against others.

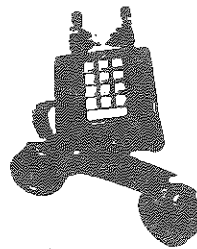
These two principles are applied equally to economic liberties and civil liberties. Whereas liberals tend to support civil liberties, they do not hesitate to violate individual rights when it comes to intervening in and controlling the economy. In a similar fashion, conservatives tend to support voluntary trade with little government interference in the market, but they don't hesitate to violate individual rights when it comes to legislating their version of morality.

The Libertarian Party is the only political party which applies the principles of liberty equally to civil and economic issues. The LP is uncompromising in its principles.

If you have answered yes to many of the above questions, you might be a libertarian. Congratulations!

Common Sense is Florida's oldest (est. 1974) and leading libertarian newsletter and is published 6 times a year at an annual subscription rate of eight dollars per year, for libertarians and other friends of liberty. Sample issue available \$1.00. Please send all correspondence and subscriptions to Common Sense/LPDC, P.O. Box 650051, Miami, Florida 33165.

February, 1984



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If you enjoy this magazine and would like to find other publications of the same ilk, then you'll want the journal of crosspollination!

FACTSHEET FIVE

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Suppose I was to tell you that this educational machine has been stolen? That a bandit crew has got hold of it and has set it to work, not for your benefit, nor for the benefit of your sons and daughters, but for ends very far from these? That our six hundred thousand young people are being taught, deliberately and of set purpose, not wisdom but folly, not justice but greed, not freedom but slavery, not love but hate.

The Goose Step, Upton Sinclair (1922)

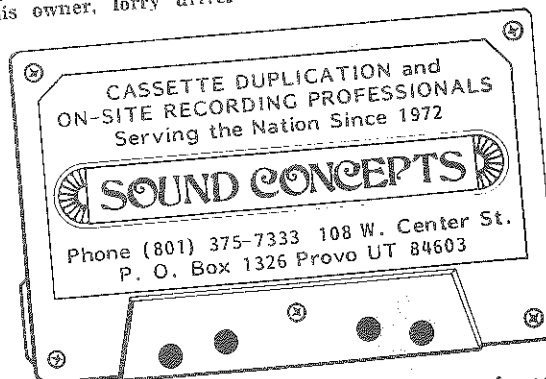
On probation.. a pet crow!

CORBY, the pet crow, was put on probation yesterday for trying to steal a paint brush!

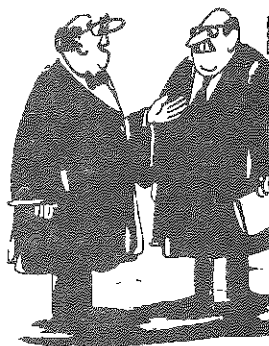
After being seen swooping on the brush, which was on the bonnet of a car near his home at Eye, Suffolk, Corby was "arrested" by PC Timothy Powell. He was taken to the local police station and locked in a cell until his owner, lorry driver

Colin Hall, of Ludgate Causeway, turned up to collect him.

A police spokesman said: "The crow had better watch it in future!"



We find scarcely any persons of good sense save those who agree with us.
—La Rochefoucauld



"I never worry too much about it fair-minded, because I know that justice always triumphs."

February, 1984

The SOUTHERN LIBERTARIAN MESSENGER

Page 9

"A nation can have no right to the time and services of any person at his own expense."

Thomas Paine

FOR LAUGHING

Ban on 'hair bare' bunch

● FOUR friends were laughing and raising their voices over a meal in a restaurant when they were told by a man at a next-door table: "Just because I'm off duty, don't think I can't still nick you."

Some moments later, six uniformed police swarmed into the restaurant, arrested all four men and took them to the police station at Holloway North London.

One of the men, Barry Carliell, left the station soon afterwards covered with blood. His right eye was hanging out of its socket. The eye was later removed at Moorfields Eye Hospital.

His three companions, Peter Lee, William Merle and Leonard Maloney, who is a teetotaler, were banged up in the cells. They were charged with being drunk and disorderly, bailed and released.

They appeared at Highbury Magistrates Court on Thursday, June 2. The prosecution offered no evidence. The clerk of the court asked the magistrates to "bind these people over to keep the peace". The magistrates refused. The three men left the court without a stain on their character.

Police constable Brian Renton has been suspended on full pay, and is out on bail pending a charge of grievous bodily harm on Mr. Barry Carliell.

DAILY MIRROR

EIGHT BOYS have been suspended from school — because their hair is too short.

One said the headmaster had told them to stay away until their hair grew again.

Most of the lads sport close-shaved heads with just "stripes" of hair left.

They attend Hinchin School, Herts. Oldest of the boys is 15-year-old Kevin Ovenden.

Clean

He doesn't have a "stripe" and his father Alf said: "This is ridiculous."

"Kevin's hair is neat and clean—they used to complain if it was too long."

Headmaster Mr. John Gray said the boys' haircuts were "totally inappropriate" for school.

Recently he banned some boys for wearing earrings — and Kevin said Mr. Gray wasn't happy about the boots he and his mates wore either.

Mr. Gray said he doesn't expect the boys to miss many lessons—it's half-term this weekend.

We are confronted with insurmountable opportunities.

Pogo

Peace is such a precious jewel that I would give anything for it but truth.

Matthew Henry

The Correspondent

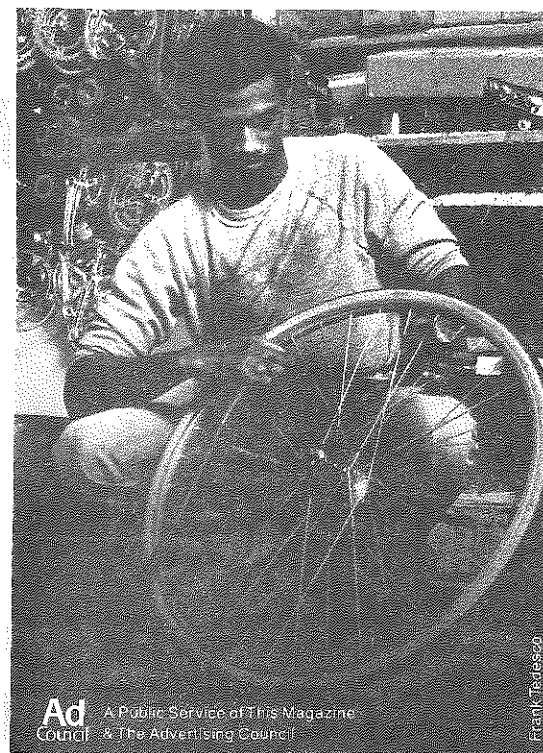
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— Studs Terkel

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— Nat Hentoff



1962—Asst. Secretary of Defense Sylvester: "... it is inherent in government's right, if necessary, to lie ... that seems to me basic—basic."

May

31

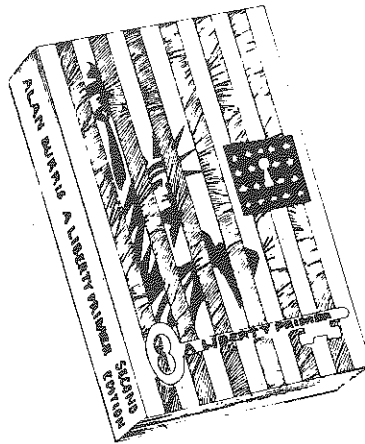
1971—CIA director Helms briefs A.G. Mitchell on the scope of the CIA mail-opening operation.

1978—The Supreme Court rules that unannounced searches of innocent third parties is constitutional.

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By Alan Burris

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Second Edition!



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