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PREMISE

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN PARTY

P.O. BOX 333, ASBURY PARK, N.J. 07712

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GOODSON for GOVERNOR!

THE BASIC PREMISE OF A FREE SOCIETY
IS THAT EACH INDIVIDUAL HAS THE RIGHT TO
LIVE HIS LIFE FOR HIS OWN HAPPINESS.

John A. Goodson of New Brunswick was unanimously voted the gubernatorial nominee at the first state convention of the NJLP. Goodson is 38 years old, a high school guidance counselor, and member of the state and national parties. Ralph Fucetola III and Philip DeBlock were nominated unanimously for Assembly seats in Essex and Hudson counties, respectively, while Oscar Johannsen was endorsed as an independent candidate for the state senate.

Approximately 25 attendees heard party chairman Robert Steiner deliver the opening remarks, in which he warned against nominating candidates who were not Libertarians, as this would compromise the principles of the party and negate our reason for existence.

A platform was adopted, consisting of the statement of principles drawn up by the national party.

Dr. Murray Rothbard delivered a talk after lunch, in which he outlined the general drift of Nixon's second term. Prof. Rothbard expressed optimism that a shift to the right in public opinion would slow collectivism, and said he was encouraged by the spread of libertarian ideas.

In other business, party officers were elected for one year terms as follows: Chairman- Robert Steiner, Vice-Chairman- Joe Salerno, Treasurer- Don Meinshausen, Recording Secretary- Elizabeth Butler, Executive Secretary- Lydia Longinotti. Grace Shamy, Jerry Bernsohn, and Ralph Fucetola III were elected as party trustees for 1, 2, and 3 year terms respectively.

The main concern for the party over the next month or two must be getting our candidates on the ballot, which increases vote total an estimated 10 times over a write-in effort. 800 signatures for John Goodson are required to be delivered to Trenton by April 24th, which means they should be collected by the party before April 16th to allow time to get them notarized. We have only a limited number of petition forms, so if you're really serious about rounding up names, contact the party at its address, or call Lydia Longinotti at 775-2877, and we'll arrange to get the forms to you for a period of time. Then beg, plead, implore, cajole, but get those signatures- collecting names is a drag, but if we are to have any impact at all, we must get on the ballot. And while you're petitioning, be on the lookout for new members.

The next general meeting of the party will be on March 24th at 1:30 p.m., at 301 Joan St., South Plainfield. Purpose of the meeting will be to complete formulation of by-laws (approved thus far through (5), plus (6)b.4)) and the creation of campaign committees. Progress of the petition efforts will also be a major topic of discussion, and party members who have not signed a petition can do so at the meeting.



**Learn the mysterious power
to un-cloud men's minds...
at the
1973 Libertarian Party Convention
Cleveland, Ohio June 8-10**

Tired of "conferences" where an endless series of speakers give lengthy monologues on "the meaning of meaning" and "the role of frisbee tournaments in the ideal society" . . . while **you** sit silent, learning nothing of how to actually hasten the day when that society becomes a reality?

If so, you'll find the 1973 Libertarian Party Convention a refreshing change. Because this will be a gathering of people who already have their heads together, and are looking for ways to work more effectively for Freedom In Our Time.

Three major sessions are scheduled. One on the use of mass media. One on using specific issues to gain public support for the libertarian movement. And one on fund raising. Each of these sessions will be led by a panel of people who have actually done these things . . . and successfully. But the panelists won't be the only ones talking; everyone who has a contribution to make will be given an opportunity to do so.

In addition, there will be a number of "special interest" workshops . . . social events . . . and plenty of free time for informal rap sessions.

The 100 people who attended the '72 LP Convention described it as "the best libertarian get-together ever." This year's will be bigger (estimated attendance: 250) and even better. So don't miss out on **the** libertarian event of the coming summer. Register now; you don't even have to be an LP member to attend. Registration fee for LP members is \$8 prior to May 15, \$10 after May 15. For non-members, it's \$10 prior to May 15 and \$12.50 after May 15.*

Declare Your Independence!

LIBERTARIAN PARTY

7748 Lowell Boulevard
Westminster, CO 80030

*We will send the names of all state party members to the national party so you can take advantage of the reduced cost.

Those Old 'Age of Aquarius' Blues

A time ago, if someone had the temerity to say that he believed in astrology, polite society would get ill and leave. Not any more. When someone alleges that he is "into stars" a look of pity and interest sweeps over the assembled. "Oh, how interesting..." the hostess remarks, "...and do you really feel that the stars influence our lives?" Guess what the answer is?

We used to reserve a reaction of profound disgust for such people; rather as if they had just announced that they enjoyed biting the heads off live chickens. The times, they have changed. I am reminded of all this by the prediction published in the January 29th Family Weekly of one Jean Dixon, "seer". She states that the Vietnam war will have "a cease-fire in 1974.." The lady, as they say, takes no half-measures. When she is wrong, it's beautiful. And the sad thing is that nobody will remember next year.

I save the predictions made in January of one year to re-read in December of the next. It's instructive and amusing.

- Rev. John A. Goodson

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RIPON SOCIETY GETS
NEW PRESIDENT

The Ripon Society of New Jersey announced in February it has picked a new president, John Brotschol, 22, of Union township, who attended one of the organizing meetings of the NJLP.

Mr. Brotschol, a former chairman of the Young Americans for Freedom chapter at the Newark campus of Rutgers University, said of the organization, "Despite its rhetoric, YAF and its heroes consistently supported the concentration of governmental power in the Pentagon, repressive police measures, a coercive and paternalistic welfare system, government subsidies to favored industries and political intrusions into personal affairs".

Letters

To the Editor:

PREMISE has taken an "unlibertarian" position in its article "Cruel Punishment?" in the February issue.

The libertarian theory of justice is that after an act of aggression, the victim must be made whole again. This holds whether the act was not intended (auto accident) or was intended (assault). The sole purpose of a system of justice is to put victims, as nearly as possible, in the same position they would have been had their rights not been violated. To do this, the victim and his agents have the right to use only as much force as may be absolutely necessary to reestablish the victim's rights. No one has the right to inflict "punishment". There is no such thing as jail or "criminal" law in libertarian theory, which is not to say that the freedom of a wrongdoer may not be restricted while he recompenses the victim-- but only if necessary and insofar as necessary.

Your article did not use the libertarian theory of justice as its premise. Had it done so, your conclusions would have been opposite to the conclusions printed. Reasons; MOST PRISONERS HAVE DONE NO WRONG-- they have not committed acts of aggression against the person or property of another and are themselves the victims of the state's aggressive laws; ALL PRISONERS ARE BEING "PUNISHED" as opposed to being required to recompense victims; and lastly, we as libertarians should support any rule which puts the "onus" on the state to prove it has the "right" to keep any person in its cages. As far as the "you can murder anyone you like" argument, the best defense against potential murderers is NOT to depend on the state to "protect" you, especially by "punishing" your murderer after you are dead!

Ralph Fucetola III
North Arlington, NJ

-We are in substantial agreement with Mr. Fucetola's concept of justice. However, we do not believe the way to approach it is to create a revolving door for all "crimes", real or imaginary, but to repeal the offending laws, and change to a system of retribution, as Mr. Fucetola suggests.

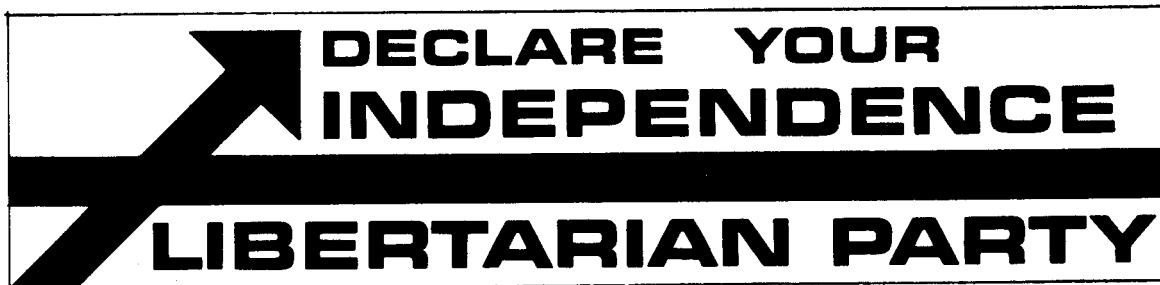
- Editor

NOTES.....With 38 members and 14 subscribers, PREMISE is now read by over 50 people in the state.....The convention and our gubernatorial candidate received excellent coverage from the New Brunswick Home News, who printed an unbiased 5 column story in their edition of Sunday, Feb 25th.....Goodson will also be interviewed by the Courier News on Feb 28th.....Home News reporter Warren Sloat, in an article on Sandman, said the "blandness" of Clifton White's political analysis "suggested why more "philosophical" conservatives are moving into the Libertarian Party"!!..... NJLP will order bumper stickers and Laissez Faire buttons from the National

party in volume, so if you were thinking about buying from them, why not wait a bit so the proceeds will go into our treasury instead.....keep badgering your friends; what we need are more MEMBERS!!!



Latest government figures indicate that, every "working" day, 4050 people are added to welfare roles in America.



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