Addressing the Issues

LP Takes Lead on Drug Re-Legalization Issue; Provides Speaker for Nat'l Pro-Choice Rally in D.C.

The LP has been in the forefront recently in opposing the Bush administration's "War on Drugs," (as illustrated by various clippings, page 2-3). After interviewing LP staff members Nick Dunbar and MeMe King recently, the Associated Press began adding the LP as a source for more information at the end of AP wire stories on drug legalization.

Libertarians were also well represented at last month's NORML (National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws) Conference in Washington, D.C., and LP activist Don Ernsberger of Pennsylvania recently appeared on ABC's "Issues and Answers" to speak about the drug issue.

LP Speaker at Pro-Choice Rally

LP activist Margaret Fries of New York was invited by rally organizers to be one of the speakers at this month's major pro-choice rally at the Washington Memorial in Washington, D.C. Our 30-ft banner, reading, "Pro-Choice on Everything: Libertarian Party" should be a stand-out at the rally.

College Outreach Program Moving Into Full "Swing"

The College Outreach Program has started a series of college swings across the country to motivate and assist students in setting up LP clubs there. Don Ernsberger recently completed a swing through University of Virginia and William & Mary, and four more are planned and funded.

Jim Lark of the University of Virginia (see picture of one of UVA club's events, page 2) will be traveling to Ohio later this month where he will meet up with Miami University of Ohio activist Jim Fuller for a swing through campuses in Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana. Among campuses targeted for other swings are University of Alabama, Auburn, Duke, North Carolina, and Clemson, and New Mexico campuses.

We now have over 200 college contacts and 71 clubs. "Care package" boxes which include about 500 pieces of assorted LP literature, an organizing manual, and other items helpful to a campus club are available from the nat'l HQ. So far, about 60 "care packages" have gone out.
Los Angeles Times—October 9, 1989.
Marchers Urge Legalizing of Drugs
About 60 Democrats Protest Government Enforcement


The Libertarian Party of California opened its annual meeting yesterday by an- 

stream America, but said their drug stand would not imme-

tinues today.

The party believes drugs should be legalized.

American politics.

The party opened its annual

mind interference, regardless of

in the American people. It must be

nounced a renewed effort to use

in citizens' lives.

Libertarians should focus less on

the American people. It must be

18-year-old party, which has

reform.

Prohibition of alcohol spawned

nouncement of the tax collect-

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Guest column

An emergency lesson in Libertarian economics

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The author, Timothy Moultrie, is a member of the South Carolina Libertarian Party.)

I APPLAUD the tremendous outpouring of volunteerism from the South and the rest of the nation for the benefit of the victims of Hurricane Hugo. However, Governor Carroll Campbell, Charleston Mayor Joe Riley and President George Bush desperately need an emergency lesson in Libertarian free market policies if they wish to save the state from abject poverty.

These gentlemen need this lesson simply because the state of South Carolina will not have just one critical period, but two. The first critical period extends from the time of the initial disaster to the point at which the most basic life services are restored. During this first period, people directly affected by the initial disaster will bear the brunt of the government's inability to respond. In the short-term, the state of South Carolina Libertarian Party.)

The Libertarian Party was thus reorganized, and polled only 7,003 votes nationally in its first election, but it signaled the start of the anti-slavery movement. The party was reorganized in 1848 as the Free-Sofi Party, and this time polled 281,820 votes. In 1854, it was reorganized again as the Republican Party, which won second place in the election of 1856 and the presidency in 1860.

If it were not for the lack of ballot restrictions in the 19th century, the GOP arguably may never have gained prominence. No ballot law restrictions existed at the time. Indeed, the government had no control over who ran for office. In fact, the government finally took over the job of printing ballots from the states in 1854.

Anyway, in this state, third-party candidates must file signatures with each community's board of registrars.

John Anderson in 1890, for example, spent more than $6 million to gain access to the ballot in all states, money that would have been more efficiently spent on costly television ads.

There is no valid reason — except a desire to keep third-party candidates from access to the ballot — for restrictive ballot laws. Indeed, state Rep. John A. Businger, D-Brookhaven, is planning this year that will simplify requirements and procedures to get on the ballot.

Opponents argue that such restrictions will prevent needless clogging of the ballot by every Tom, Dick and Harry with a grudge or a utopian vision. Experience in the real world indicates that such does not occur. Thousands of people are not botting for political office. In 1984, Tennessee, with one of the least-restrictive ballot laws, had no third-party candidates on the congressional ballot.

Reasonable access to the ballot is mandatory in a free society. Voters, after all, exercise their own judgment. It may be that some candidates are not as great as some mistrust among some people, but that is no reason to exclude them or make it pay dearly to challenge the notions of the two traditional parties.

Arguments that a third-party presence could split the spoils, and thus why third-party candidates should not be allowed on the ballot, is simply not true. But once this rare event should not prevent access to the ballot.

Good ideas and sound government need not be conflicting. The Libertarian appeal is indeed curious. Some free-market economic freedom, a no-holds-barred individual freedom, and an isolationist mentality that could have made even Ronald Wilson Reagan blush. Nonetheless, freedom is best served by a menu of diverse dishes. The people invariably have a firm grasp of who the real crooks are.

Paul Salters, a member of The Enterprise staff.

Paul Salters

THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER

Better schools

Thomas Gephardt's column of Sept. 24 dances all around the way to improve education but never comes out and says what to do. What we must do is decrease the size of our schools and increase those attending private and religious schools.

This shift of dollars from government schools to private and religious schools must also be accomplished by an increase in the number of parents who pay directly for their children's education. The accountability of even private schools is decreased when a third party pays for the education.

What our elected officials must do, and each of us as individuals must do, is face up to the fact that government schools do a poor job of educating our children. The Cincinnati school board, the Ohio Board of Education and the National Education Association must admit that government schools do not work, and stop lying to the public by promising a miracle, higher teacher pay, curriculum changes, alternative education, individualized education, etc., to improve government schools in any meaningful way.

No matter how much we all claim to want better education, it will not happen as long as we continue to look toward the government for something that only we as parents can provide for our children.

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Art funding

When it comes to government subsidy of the arts, both liberals and conservatives are off the mark.

Liberals like Sandy Grayly ('"Freeding Art From Hedan Grip," Sept. 16) say that conservatives are trying to censor art. Conservatives like George Blair ("Let Government Fund Only Art That Reflects Nation's Values," Sept. 24) say that liberals want "government's active support" of their "anti-right, anti-religious propaganda."

While they are both right, neither offers any practical or just solution to this problem. The arts are a cornerstone on which all of society can function, and who should control these handouts. It is time for all Americans to support and implement the following option.

If instead of forcing taxpayers, of whatever political or religious persuasion, to pay for art that they find offensive or non-existent, why don't we privatize the National Endowment for the Arts, thereby allowing all politics and government interference from artistic expression, which is a vital element in the survival of a free society? Only through privately funded art can people of diverse values peacefully support the art or artist of their choice.

Gee, isn't it amazing how such an apparently complex problem has such a simple, practical and ethical solution?

STEVE SCHULTE

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