

TENNESSEE LIBERTY BELL

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COMMITTEE FOR INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY AIMS TO BUCK HIKES, BACK CUTS IN GOVERNMENT POWERS IN ALL ASPECTS

by Philip Carden, Chairman

Organized Libertarian activism began in Tennessee last May 18, and, not surprisingly among individualists, it resulted in formation of two organizations and some misgivings about any.

One group was the Tennessee Libertarian Party.

The other was the Committee for Individual Liberty.

The committee idea arose from two factors: (1) Some work needed to be done that wouldn't fit within a formal party organization, and (2) some present and perhaps many absent would not be ready to abandon their parallel efforts as independents or members of older parties.

The first members adopted the following basic principle:

"Our vote is NO on any proposal to increase the power of government and YES for any proposal to decrease the power of government at any level."

The idea was that whatever their differences on just where the limits of government power **should** be, those who call themselves libertarian, Objectivist, anarcho-capitalist, or disciples of Chicago or Austrian economics could unite in saying that every government today exceeds them.

* NO CRACK IN OUR BELL *

* Our masthead Liberty Bell *
* has no crack in it for two *
* reasons: *
* * * *

* (1) We hope our drawing *
* symbolizes a third re-cast- *
* ing of the Bell which was *
* re-cast twice before it rang *
* out Liberty in clear tones *
* in 1776. *
* * * *

* (2) The well-known crack *
* came in tolling the funeral *
* of Chief Justice John Mar- *
* shall who had removed so *
* many constitutional limita- *
* tions on government that the *
* occurrence made both liberty *
* and its symbol museum items. *
* * * *

STATE LIBERTARIAN PARTY LAUNCHED AS PARTY OF CONSISTENT PRINCIPLE

A statewide convention of the Tennessee Libertarian Party in Nashville August 3 put the newest "third" party on a permanent footing dedicated to political action on the principle that:

"Each individual, by nature, has the right to life--the right to live his life in any manner that does not interfere by force or fraud with the equal right of another. No group or government may violate these individual rights. The same considerations apply to the right to liberty

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 COMMITTEE FOR INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY
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 Editor
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 Associate Editor

ABOUT THE BELL AND CASH

Your first Liberty Bell issue doesn't contain all the news we have or any comment or theory. That's because the most reasonable quality production facility can't handle type reduction and reproducible typed lines fill up four pages fast.

More pages would have drained too much from our limited funds. Obviously \$4 a year membership dues won't keep it going a year, much less take care of other committee expenses. I suggest that members consider adding a voluntary contribution to bring the total to \$10 or more (as some have already done). Non-members will get a sample issue one time, and may subscribe at \$9 a year. We're talking about current fiat paper money, of course, at least until gold is legalized, which will be soon.

In addition we're offering to sell ads at \$1.50 per column inch with discounts for camera-ready copy and 12-month contracts. Inquiries invited.

All copy not otherwise attributed herein is by the editors. By-lined copy has been edited to fit available space and reduce duplication. If we err, let us know promptly.

Libertarian Party Treasurer Ray Walker says he has \$75 in the bank from four contributors, and more will be needed just for preliminary preparations for the 1975 convention. Party contributions should go to P.O. Box 12707, Nashville 37212.

STATE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

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and the right to property, which are corollaries to the right to life."

Jim Forrester of Memphis, who had started the ball rolling in May by inviting all libertarian-oriented people whose addresses he knew to the first meeting, was unanimously elected permanent chairman.

Other permanent officers elected at the convention were Wendell Hill of Chattanooga and Roger E. Bissell of Nashville as co-chairmen for East and Middle Tennessee respectively; Sandra R. Dean of Memphis, secretary, and Ray L. Walker of Nashville, treasurer. The officers were named as an executive committee to conduct party affairs until the next convention.

Additional committees named to prepare for the two-day 1975 convention to be held in Nashville in February included:

Platform: Forrester, Hill, Bissell, Philip Carden of Nashville, Bob Williams and Mike Nash of Memphis and Roger Clark of Winchester.

Publicity: Carden, Dean and Linda Smith of Gatlinburg.

Finance: Walker, Fred Stiles of Memphis and Clinton Anderson of Morristown.

Rules: Hill, Carden, Anderson, Clark and Larry Roberts of Nashville.

Membership: Bissell, Forrester, Williams, Anderson.

A judicial committee to settle any convention disputes will be named at the convention.

Party members hope to field their first candidates in municipal elections in 1975 and to back statewide candidates in the 1976 elections.

COMMITTEE FOR INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY ORGANIZES, LAYS OUT ACTION PLANS

by Myrle Carden, Secretary

The Committee for Individual Liberty held its first state-wide convention Aug. 3 in Nashville with 21 people present.

Officers named were: Chairman, Philip Carden, Nashville; co-chairmen, Wendell Hill, Chattanooga; Fred C. Stiles, Memphis, Larry L. Roberts, Nashville; secretary, Myrle A. Carden, Nashville, who was also named editor of the newsletter; and treasurer, Ray L. Walker, Nashville.

The group also decided that the chairman has the option of appointing as many co-chairmen as is necessary to hold regional meetings between conventions.

Functions of the Committee will include:

- lobbying during legislative sessions.
- alerting members to bills that affect individual liberty.
- mailing questionnaires to all candidates for public office.
- publishing a newsletter.
- reserving and manning a booth at the Nashville Flea Market for the purpose of advertising and selling Libertarian literature.

The newsletter will be called the TENNESSEE LIBERTY BELL and will be published monthly, with one-page bulletins sent out as often as is necessary to alert the membership of encroachments on individual liberty being made during legislative sessions.

The Nashville officers will draw up a budget and submit it to the membership for approval.

I now belatedly suggest another worthy project: Stopping the use of water supplies for mass medication.

WEST TENNESSEE LIBERTARIAN GROUP ENDS FIRST YEAR, LOOKS TO FUTURE

by Jim Forrester

The West Tennessee Libertarians began their second year of activity by setting up a new schedule of dinner meetings the second Tuesday of each month at Ray Gammons Restaurant, 2374 Summer Ave., Memphis.

This group began as an informal discussion group interested in the philosophy of Objectivism about a year ago. Out of it grew the plans for a state party organization to affiliate with the national Libertarian Party.

Future plans for local action range from an immediate project to get action going on the local university and college campuses, to a project as far ahead as a 1975 Mid-South Fair booth.

Bob Williams is chairman of the committee on college action.

MIDSTATE LIBERTARIANS HIT RADIO, TV, PAPERS, OPEN SUPPER MEETINGS

Ray Walker and Roger Bissell launched the Libertarian Supper Group Aug. 27 to meet monthly in Nashville, and preceded it with a publicity blitz.

Ray and Roger had libertarian ideas published in The Tennessean Sunday and Monday, and Ray appeared on Teddy Bart's WSM-TV "Noon" show and his afternoon talkback show on WSM Radio the same day.

That night 21 persons showed up for supper and libertarian discussion at the Green Hills B & W Cafeteria.

Future meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m., same place, the fourth Tuesday of each month.

Roger's topic next meeting: "Get Metro Out of Your Garbage."

A PROPOSAL FOR NON-PARTISAN TENNESSEE ELECTIONS

by Philip M. Carden

A legislative project approved by the state Committee for Individual Liberty is drafting legislation to give independents and minor party voters a more equitable voice. Ideally, a year's campaign should consist of one non-partisan primary to name two candidates for each post open in the general election with time for a run-off. These should be about a month apart.

The state Constitution, however, provides for two general elections, one in August and one in November. In addition, present election procedures require a minimum of 45 days from qualifying to election day for setting up machinery and allowing absentee voting. And there's the presidential "preference" primary, too.

Thus the nearest approach to this ideal would be a law setting a primary about May 1 for offices to be filled in both of the biennial general elections, with a run-off about the middle of June.

"Non-partisan" here means the ballot would contain a single list of names for each office without party designations or columns, both in the primary and general elections. This would leave the parties as entirely private groups to advertise their slates in their own ways without supervision, control, or aid by the State.

[This capsules proposal I wrote Wendell Hill after he found candidate interest in general idea. Comments, alternatives welcome.]

HAMILTON COUNTY COMMITTEE PUSHES NON-PARTISAN BALLOTING LAW IDEAS

by Wendell D. Hill
East Tennessee Co-Chairman

Hamilton County members of the Committee for Individual Liberty began monthly meetings Aug. 25, with voting law change as their main topic.

The group discussed a proposal for non-partisan primary and general elections and information on legal difficulties.

Some suggestions were that, while there should be no listing of official party affiliation on election ballots, a short space should be allowed where a slogan or whatever the candidate wanted could be inserted.

This alteration was aimed at minimizing expected objections of party-minded legislators.

Suggestions for future projects included assistance for

those protesting unconstitutionality of taxes and means of collecting them; pursuit of ways to limit new bills introduced into the legislature to cut needless waste of time; review and repeal of obsolete laws; and pursuit of ways to abolish "tax-paid" education. Opinions on these proposed projects are solicited.

Future meetings were officially set up for the last Sunday of each month, initially at the office of Sequoia Realty & Development, Inc., 4154 N. Bonny Oaks Dr., Chattanooga.



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