

Libertarian Party

NEWS

November 1995 Vol. 10, No. 11

LP says end welfare now

**End welfare as we know it?
No — end welfare.**

That's the basis of a new public policy proposal issued by the Libertarian Party. Entitled "Ending the Welfare State," the package puts a Libertarian spin on the current debate about "reforming" welfare, and argues that only private, voluntary charity can solve the problem of poverty in this country.

"For years, people have asked us, 'what about the poor?' And now we have the answer," said LP National Chair Steve Dasbach.

Subtitled "How to Promote Opportunity, Work, and Individual Responsibility," the proposal details the failure of the modern welfare state, critiques Republican and Democratic reforms, and outlines a four-point plan to replace government welfare with private charity and increased economic opportunity.

"Only the Libertarian Party is offering a thoughtful, genuine alternative to welfare despair, hand-outs, and dependency," Dasbach said. "Compare this to the fake solutions you're hearing from Washington.

"On one hand, Democrats want to 'end welfare as we know it' by spending more money—on failed government jobs programs, failed government education programs, and failed government health programs," he said.

"On the other hand, Republicans want to 'end welfare as we know it' by funneling money through the hands of Washington bureaucrats and then back to the states—so they can spend it on the same failed welfare programs. The bottom line: Not one penny saved. Not one wasteful program ended. The Libertarian Party has a better way. Don't end welfare as we know it—simply end welfare," Dasbach said.

Dasbach said the party's new welfare package has four goals: To educate LP members, to help the party attract media attention, to assist LP state parties and candidates, and to influence public debate.

1. For LP members: "Are you tired of Libertarians being beat up because supposedly we don't care about see **End welfare** on page 11

Campaign book

Available at bookstores this month

By DAVID BERGLAND

Government doesn't work!

We libertarians have broadcast this irrefutable fact for decades, citing evidence from the government schools, the bankrupt Social Security system, the failed disaster of the War on Drugs, and other misadventures deriving from the fallacy of legislative omniscience. The evidence continues to pile up. Americans increasingly express dissatisfaction with government and disdain for its competence. But, are they ready to do something about it other than vote the Demopublicans out and the Republicrats in, then reverse that preposterous dance in another two years?

The missing ingredient, until now, has been a guide to take the thinking voter through the underbrush of traditional political folderol, explaining how and why government has a reverse Midas touch, and providing a vision of life unburdened by taxes, economic regulation, snooping bureaucrats, and fear of criminal attack.

"Why Government Doesn't Work," by Harry Browne, who seeks the Libertarian Party's 1996 presidential nomination, could just be the attention grabber to which the disaffected voters will respond, and Harry Browne could be the guide they need. Due in bookstores in early November, "Why Government Doesn't Work" is timed perfectly to fill the existing political vacuum with libertarian answers and boost the prospects for LP success in the 1996 elections. How might that happen?

see **Book** on page 12

HARRY BROWNE

Libertarian
Candidate for
President



WHY GOVERNMENT DOESN'T WORK

Huge Tax Cuts Now!

Huge Spending Cuts Now!

A Balanced Budget Now!

'Declare Your Independence'

The 1996 National Libertarian Party
Nominating Convention - Washington, DC

More than 1,000 Libertarian activists from across the nation will gather in Washington, DC, during the week of July 4, 1996, to participate in a history-making national convention.

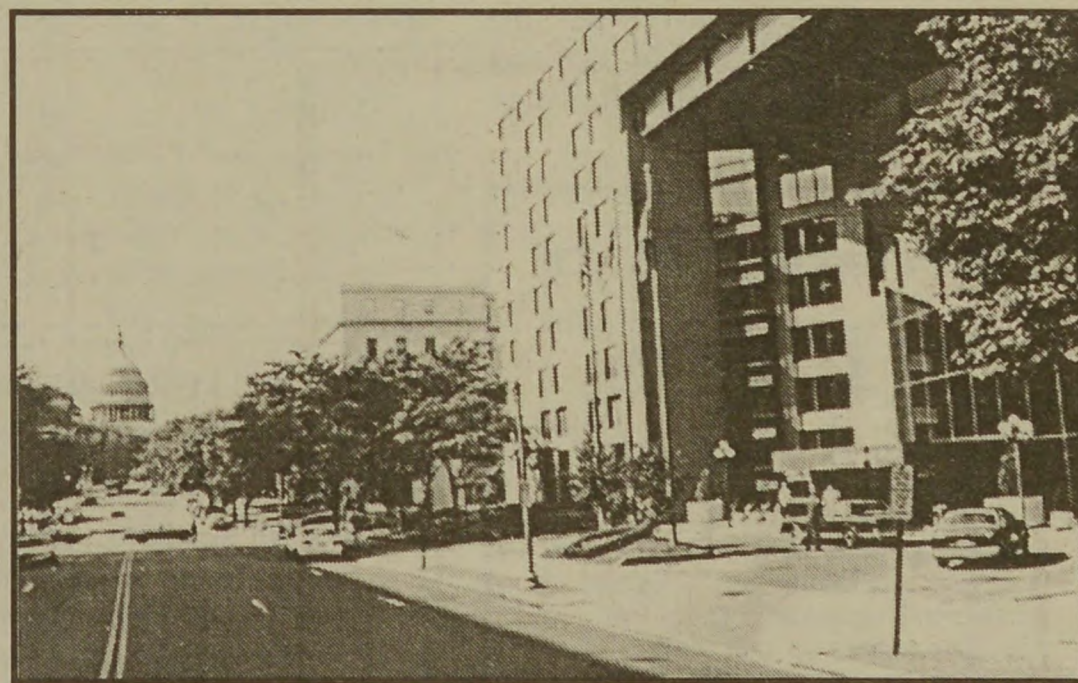
The activists will nominate presidential and vice presidential candidates for the 1996 elections. Convention attendees also will gather on the front steps of the U.S. Capitol where more than 218 Libertarian Party candidates for the U.S. House will unveil the "Libertarian Contract with America."

The delegates and visitors to the convention will mark the 25th anniversary of the Libertarian Party in a week filled with social, educational, and business activities.

Among the events planned are:

- ★ **Opening Ceremonies at the Jefferson Memorial**
An evening of liberty in words and music
- ★ **Consideration and Review of the Libertarian Party National Platform**
A poll of the delegates on all platform planks
- ★ **Major Speakers and Panel Discussions**
Foreign policy, economic freedom, and personal liberty
- ★ **Music and Fireworks at the Smithsonian Mall**
An evening of entertainment
- ★ **The Libertarian Party 25th Birthday Party**
A social event with food and entertainment

The activities begin on Wednesday, July 3, and run through Sunday, July 7. Make plans now for the biggest and best Libertarian Party national convention ever. The Libertarians will confront the Republi-



The Hyatt Regency Hotel in Washington, DC, will be the site of the 1996 Libertarian Party Nominating Convention.

- ★ **Nomination of the Presidential and Vice Presidential Candidates**
The team to carry our banner in November 1996
- ★ **Workshops, Seminars, Training Sessions**
Political action, public relations, persuasion, party organization
- ★ **The Libertarian Contract with America**
On the steps of the U.S. Capitol
- ★ **The Presidential Banquet**
A gala affair of awards and speeches
- ★ **Election of Libertarian Party Officers**
Selection of leadership for the next two years

can and Democratic parties where they live—and Washington, DC, will never be the same!

See pages 8 and 9 for complete details on attendance.

Browne close to qualifying for matching funds

The Harry Browne for President campaign is working hard to qualify for federal matching funds it will not take, according to Campaign Director Sharon Ayres.

"We're only four states and about \$4,000 away from our goal of qualifying for presidential campaign matching funds," she announced on Oct. 13 as the NEWS was about to go to press.

"While we don't intend to take the funds, we feel that showing we qualify on paper will give Harry added credibility when it comes to qualifying for participation in any debates or other appearances that may come up. It shows that Harry is a candidate with broad national support."

According to Federal Election Commission rules, a candidate qualifies by raising

\$5,000 or more in 20 different states, and the \$5,000 must consist of gifts of \$250 or less—which means that only \$250 out of each \$1,000 donation counts towards the total for matching purposes.

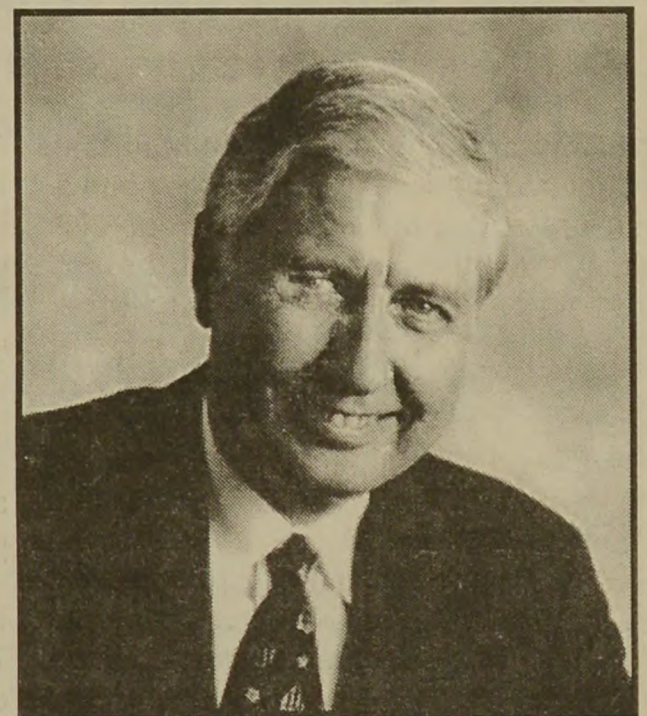
"In simple terms, we only need 16-20 more contributions of \$250 in several key states to reach this milestone," Ayres explained.

The 16 states in which the Browne campaign has qualified to date are, in order of total support: California, Texas, Washington, New York, Florida, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Colorado, Georgia, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Ohio, Oregon, Arizona, and Virginia.

There are seven states nearing the \$5,000 threshold—any four of which could help

the campaign reach its goal of qualifying for matching funds with just a few more contributions of \$250 (amount needed is in parentheses): Tennessee (\$630), Wisconsin (\$1,035), North Carolina (\$1,100), Minnesota (\$1,292), Alabama (\$1,626), Missouri (\$1,806), and Maryland (\$1,930).

"We're still discussing how best to utilize qualifying publicity-wise," said Ayres. "We've discussed several options, such as applying for the funds but not accepting them. Unfortunately, that might not be possible. The FEC rules are complicated and the reporting requirements are onerous. We definitely don't want to entangle ourselves in years' worth of follow-up audits, so we're carefully studying the next step."



CityVote

continued from page 2
the weekend of Nov. 3-5, regarding the future of Industrial America. "Lowell's rich industrial history, and its geographical proximity to both Boston and the state of New Hampshire, make it an ideal site for such a forum," said CityVote officials.

"We may still be in for some surprises and changes in the schedule," Ayres said. "After all, this is a new program. But we're very pleased that CityVote is working so hard to make this all happen."

Recorded updates on the CityVote debate schedule will be available on voice mail at Browne for President headquarters 24 hours a day at 714-437-7911, according to Ayres.

LP presidential campaign contacts

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216-248-9994 (fax)
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UNITED WE SIT, AMERICA

TOYS, TOILETS & TAXES

By
T.K. Pullman

YAKETY-YAK-YAK! THE LOCAL KIDS and THE KIDS IN CONGRESS ululate about spending cuts and tax reductions. What's the end result of their howling? INCREASED spending and HIGHER taxes!

UNITED WE SIT, AMERICA introduces and promotes a unique, universal system of taxation to replace all (that's right, all) existing systems of local, state, and federal taxation. The proposed system is straight-forward, simple, fair, cost-efficient, and is affectionately referred to as *The Toilet Tax Revenue Collection System*.

AND CHECK THIS OUT! Income is NOT taxed! The value of things is NOT taxed! Things sold are NOT taxed! Permit fees, license fees, user fees, entry fees, and service charges are gone, too! GRASP the concept — every existing form of taxation is HIS-TOR-REE!

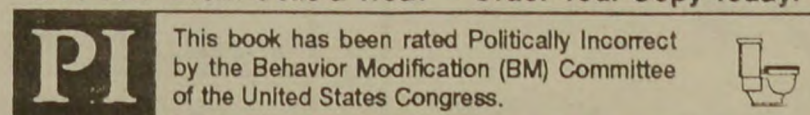
UNITED WE SIT, AMERICA illustrates a 50% PLUS reduction in your total tax bill. And guess what? Spending was NOT cut one iota! Does the reduction include business and corporate taxes? You bet! Imagine how low your taxes would be if THE LOCAL KIDS and THE KIDS IN CONGRESS were to clutch themselves and stop pee-peeing your money away!

The Toilet Tax Revenue Collection System does all of the above, plus this (and more):

- Eliminates all tax deductions, exemptions, credits, loopholes, and the IRS!
- Simplifies the way in which local, state, and federal tax liabilities are determined for individual taxpayers, organizations, and businesses, as well as the way in which taxes are collected!
- Eliminates tax-related payroll deductions by kicking government out of payroll departments (you receive your paycheck in full, as is your inalienable right)!
- Taxes non-profit and charitable organizations in the same manner as profit-making businesses!
- Subjects imported products to a limited form of local, state, and federal taxation!
- Introduces a limited form of local, state, and federal taxation applicable to religious organizations!
- Incorporates a system of checks and balances as a way in which to HELP limit spending at all levels of government!

UNITED WE SIT, AMERICA is pro-free market. It's humorous, too — Lot's of Congress bashing!

Give Your Brain Cells a Treat — Order Your Copy Today!



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Affiliates

Libertarians save taxpayers more than \$500 million

Alabama

At the recent state party convention, the following new officers were elected: **Mike Probst**, chair; **Steve Dow**, vice chair; **Bob Burns**, treasurer; and **Mike Cobb**, secretary.

Colorado

Carol Stuckey Hill, Lake County LP activist, is running for Leadville City Council. The election will be held this month. Hill has served on the Lake County Planning and Zoning Commission since August 1994, and recently became acting chair of the Lake County Board of Adjustments.

Delaware

According to the state department of elections, Libertarian Party registrations have increased by 31 percent since September 1994, and are up 49 percent since the last presidential election.

Hawaii

In September, more than 100 Libertarians filled the Garden Lanai Ballroom of the Ala Moana Hotel for their 1995 annual convention. This was the largest convention turnout in recent memory. The following new state officers were elected: **Dick Rowland**, chair; **Dale Pratt**, vice chair; **Roger Taylor**, secretary; and **Keith Rose**, treasurer.

Illinois

LP State Chair **Mike Ginsberg** recently addressed the College of Complexes in Chicago on the subject of libertarianism. The College of Complexes is a weekly discussion group that has met since 1951.

Maine

► State party volunteers garnered sev-



National pulse

News from the states

eral new members, new names for the mailing list, and donation money at a fair booth at the Cumberland County Fair in the southern part of the state.

► **Wayne Leach**, state party secretary, is running for councilman-at-large in Winslow. Leach reports that public response to his campaign has been very encouraging. He also has been invited to participate in the Veterans' Day parade in Waterville by the local American Legion post. Leach will enter a float of the Statue of Liberty and pass out brochures along the route.

Michigan

► **Renee Emry**, 35, is a single mother of two and the LP's candidate for the Ann Arbor City Council. Emry suffers from multiple sclerosis (MS). In February 1994, law enforcement officers raided her apartment and seized nine marijuana plants. Emry had been growing a modest amount of marijuana in order to self-medicate her MS condition. For the past 15 years, Emry has chosen to alleviate her pain, blurred vision, muscle spasms, and loss of appetite—all symptoms of her debilitating disease—by smoking marijuana. Emry was recently found guilty on the possession charge. The jury was not allowed to hear her defense that she uses the drug for medicinal purposes. The judge, however, suspended her fine "on the truth that you are seeking medical treatment for MS." Emry intends to fight the battle of legalizing medical marijuana all the way to the Supreme Court, if necessary. She is using her campaign to publicize the medical marijuana issue. For more information on

her campaign, call 313-482-9563.

► Approximately 1,000 people attended Brass Roots '95, a pro-gun rally held on the steps of the State Capitol in Lansing. The executive director of Brass Roots is LP member **Jon Coon**, candidate for state representative in District 24. **Harry Browne**, LP presidential hopeful, also spoke at the rally.

► After years of semi-dormancy, the **Ann Arbor Libertarian League**—the University of Michigan student libertarian group—has been reactivated in a big way. Along with sponsoring forums, debates, and information sessions, the group also is hoping to run candidates for the school's student assembly this year. Co-chairman of the group is **Martin Howrylak**.

Missouri

"Judges and Juries on Trial" was the focus of a unique panel discussion of the **St. Louis Area Libertarians'** September monthly meeting. Panelists included lawyers, a prosecuting attorney, judges, a law professor, and a Fully Informed Jury Association representative.

"The forum was designed to discuss a wide range of topics concerning judges and juries," said organizer **Ken Bush**, "but **Frank Nugent** (MO FIJA director) changed that. He spoke first and emphasized jury-veto power—the jury nullification issue. Later the judges and prosecuting attorney were put on the defensive and their remarks heavily dealt with that controversy."

The three officials were adamantly opposed to judges informing jurors of this power. The other panelists were favorable. One judge, who said he was advised by colleagues not to attend, complimented the local libertarian group for sponsoring the whole interaction.

Montana

The following officers were elected at the recent state party convention: **Michael Fellows**, chair; **Scott Butler**, vice chair; and **Jerry O'Neil**, secretary.

New Jersey

► In a written opinion issued in mid-September, an administrative law judge blasted the Hillsborough Board of Education for publishing a biased newsletter encouraging township voters to approve a \$53 million bond referendum to construct a new high school. The referendum was defeated at the polls in late March.

The judge's decision followed a long line of cases holding that school boards are permitted to spend tax money to *inform* voters about upcoming election issues but are not allowed to use tax funds to *advocate* one side of a public question. The judge ruled that the newsletter did "not merely cross the line between education and advocacy, but actually distorts the facts. . ."

For the next year, the judge ordered, the school board has to publicly discuss any new publications dealing with election issues and make specific findings that the publications don't cross the line between education and advocacy. The board put another high school bond referendum, this one for about \$50 million, before the voters in October.

Randall H. Enterline, the petitioner in this matter, is the treasurer of the LP of Somerset and Middlesex counties.

► LP member **Michael T. Buoncristiano** was recently appointed by the Hoboken City Council to a task force on rent control and modernization. Buoncristiano, as president of the Hoboken Homeowners' Alliance, has been active in efforts to deregulate rents in the city. Last year he supported a Vacancy Decontrol

see **Affiliates** on page 6

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☐ I want to join the Libertarian Party as a national member and receive LP NEWS. I wish to join in the category indicated ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ ⇒

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals."

Signature _____
(required for membership only)

☐ Yes! I want to help support the national Libertarian Party with a contribution of:
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Enclosed is my subscription fee—\$25.

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☐ \$500 ☐ or \$50/month Patron
☐ \$250 ☐ or \$25/month Sponsor
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☐ \$25 Subscribing

☐ Payment enclosed (Make check payable to Libertarian Party)

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Acct. # _____

Signature _____

☐ I am joining the monthly Liberty Pledge Program in the amount indicated above. **The Liberty Pledge News will be sent each month.**

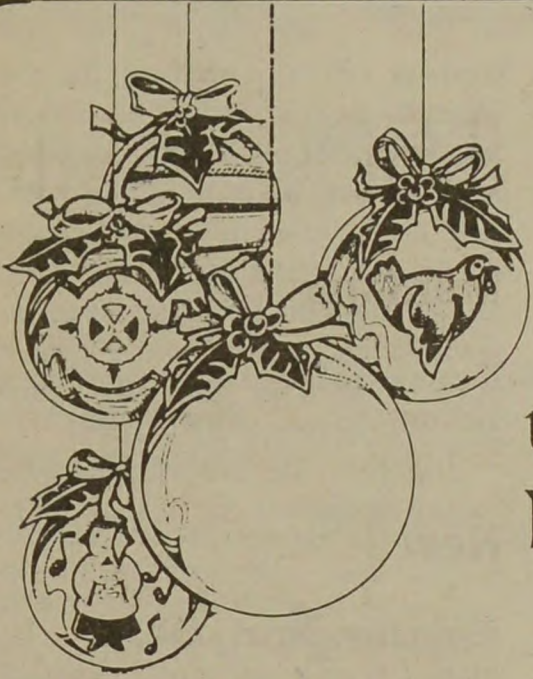
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The United States Postal Service requires us to notify you that LP NEWS subscription cost of \$25 per year is included in your membership dues. The Internal Revenue Service requires us to print "contributions are not tax-deductible" on all fundraising appeals. Federal Election Commission requires us to ask for your employer and occupation.

LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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TAPE R1. The single most self-defeating mistake libertarians make -- and how to avoid it. When explaining libertarianism to others do you often find them turned off? You may unwittingly be making a common psychological error that sabotages everything you say. In what many have called "the best libertarian speech ever," I explain how to avoid it and improve *all* of your relationships. (New recording. Originally presented at the 1991 LP National Convention.)



TAPE R2. Libertarianism -- the most caring & compassionate philosophy. If you've ever been accused of being an insensitive and uncaring capitalist "Scrooge" because you're a libertarian, here is your vindication! I explain why liberty is the most compassionate philosophy, and the only approach that can truly end oppression, racism, and poverty. (Recorded at the 1995 Advocates for Self-Government Summit.)



TAPE R3. How government regulations kill. An insider's perspective. Drawing on my 25 years in the health care industry, I document the immense suffering and needless death caused by the FDA, using my sister Martie's struggle with cancer as an example. You will also learn the free market alternatives to the FDA. (Recorded at the 1993 ISIL International Conference.)



TAPE R4. How changing our beliefs changes our world. Church-goers want separation of church and state, yet unwittingly compromise it by advocating government coercion for good cause. In this tape, I discuss my sister Martie's Kevorkian-assisted suicide as an example of the danger of trying to legislate morality. (Recorded at People's Unitarian Church, 1995.) **Also included:** *Unity Through Community*, in which I explain how treating others with extraordinary respect can change the world.



TAPE R5. Liberty Works: Multiply the effectiveness of your communications through practical, principled arguments. Would you advocate libertarianism if you were convinced it would result in poverty and misery? Of course not! But that's precisely where many people believe liberty will lead us. Learn how natural rights and utilitarian arguments are actually two sides of the same coin. (Recorded at the 1995 Kentucky LP Convention.)



Video Tape of "Liberty Works" See Dr. Ruwart speak live at the Ohio LP Convention. This video of her powerful "Liberty Works" presentation (described above), captures all of the fun and excitement of her appearance at the convention. This makes a great gift for your local LP chapter and helps prepare candidates for the 1996 campaign. **Tape V1.**



Two Great Books by Dr. Mary J. Ruwart

LETHAL COMPASSION: Why Government Medicine Is the Cure that Kills by Dr. Mary J. Ruwart and Jarret Wollstein. The current Congressional debate over Medicare has returned health care issues to center stage. In *Lethal Compassion*, Jarret and I explain why the present Medicare system is unsustainable and how Medisave accounts can get government out of medical care for the poor and elderly without abandoning them. You will also learn how thousands of elderly people die every year in England because they're denied kidney dialysis in government hospitals . . . how over 1,000 government mandates in the US make health care unaffordable for millions . . . and 20 practical steps you can take to further health care freedom in America.

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Affiliates

continued from page 4

Amendment that was passed by the city council but later rescinded when a tenant activist group blocked passage through a successful petition. Rather than bring the issue to a referendum, city officials chose to rescind the amendment in light of upcoming school board and council elections. In July, Buoncristiano again pressured the newly elected council to re-examine the issue.

Ohio

Hamilton County Libertarians **Steve Schulte**, **Gary Sweeney**, **Paul Nabershaus**, and **Jim Berns** played an important role in mobilizing opposition to a proposed, Republican-sponsored, sales tax increase. A group of citizens made up of Libertarians, Democrats, and independent-minded Republicans conducted a referendum petition drive. The group collected more than 120,000 signatures, with a validity rate of more than 80 percent, in only 20 days. The proposed tax increase will now appear on the March primary ballot.

Oregon

Paul "Stormy" Mon has announced he is seeking the LP nomination for U.S. Senate. "Many people are tired of wasting their vote on the status quo," said Mon. "Libertarians advocate much less government, individual responsibility, and personal freedom. Our most endangered species is the free human individual." Mon, 50, has been a libertarian candidate four times in Colorado. He owns a recycling business. For

more information, call 503-396-2901, or check out his Internet WWW page at http://www.efn.org/~david_p.

Tennessee

➤ A new affiliate party has been formed—the **LP of Shelby County**. For more information, call **Donna Malone** in Memphis at 901-353-1805.

➤ The **Hamilton County LP** was featured in an article in the *Chattanooga Free-Press* in early June.

Virginia

Eric Strzepek, LP candidate for state senate, was invited to be a guest on the NewsTalk Television program "Daytime Edition." The NewsTalk Television network, based in New York, reaches more than 8 million households nationwide.

Strzepek was invited to discuss the political views of Generation X, the "twenty-something" generation, which has shown a clear tendency toward the libertarian philosophy.

During the hour-long program, Strzepek noted that many friends and acquaintances in his age group are dissatisfied with Republicans and Democrats. He said many in Generation X are "turning to the Libertarian Party for leadership. The reason is easy to see: We don't like the government interfering in our private lives, and we don't like the government taking away the money we earn."

Washington

➤ **Art Rathjen** is the first state party

candidate to run in a special election, and it is taking place this month. He is seeking the spot as state senator in District 43—north central Seattle. This is a two-way race, since no Republican is running in the heavily Democratic district. For more information, call 206-527-6149.

➤ In another current campaign, former three-term LP State Chair **Jim Campton** is running for Federal Way City Council. His campaign is based on opposition to the formation of a local police force—as opposed to contracting out to other police forces for protection—because of the higher costs of the former. For more information, call 206-941-4547.

➤ LP presidential hopeful **Harry Browne's** visit to Seattle was a catalyst for a half-hour documentary about the LP of Washington State that aired Sept. 24 on KING-TV, the Seattle-Tacoma NBC affiliate.

➤ As one of the chief opponents of a proposed sales tax increase, state party Chair **Matt McCally** was on radio, television, and in print slamming as "corporate welfare" the \$410 million stadium project the new tax was to fund. "Despite the fact that nearly every major politician, columnist, business leader, and sports figure in western Washington favored the new stadium, and the fact that the pro-taxers had about 40 times more money to spend on ads, the anti-stadium coalition—of which Libertarians were the largest contingent—won over public opinion, with the measure going down to defeat by about .1 percent of the vote," explained McCally.

➤ Several members of the **West King**

County LP were active in the grassroots effort to save a central Seattle neighborhood from the proposed "Commons," a 60-acre park to be built at the cost of \$111 million in higher property taxes and hundreds of lost businesses and homes. The group manned telephone banks, put up lawn signs, handed out flyers, and celebrated when the proposition failed at the polls 53 percent to 47 percent.

Together the two efforts saved Washington taxpayers more than \$500 million dollars.

Washington, DC

Gays and Lesbians for Individual Liberty (GLIL) recently elected the following new officers: **Odell E. Huff Jr.**, president; **Richard Sincere**, secretary; and **Austin Fulk**, treasurer. For more information, call 703-920-4023.

NC ballot appeal lost

The Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals has rendered a decision on the appeal in the ballot access case of the North Carolina LP. The court ruled against the LP on every count.

The state party is pursuing an appeal to the Supreme Court, but money is needed. In the meantime, the state party has started collecting the 51,903 signatures needed for ballot access, with paid petitioning help from the national LP.

An Evening With The Presidents The Videotape

Featuring:

**John Hospers • Ed Clark • David Bergland
Ron Paul • André Marrou**

In October, 1994, these past presidential nominees of the Libertarian Party were captured on videotape presenting what might be one of the best cases for the Libertarian Party ever.

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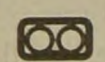
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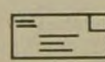
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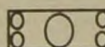
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Lost cause

The utter failure of the GOP 'Revolution'

By DON ERNSBERGER

They had the opportunity to roll back the size and power of government . . . and they allowed it to slip between their fingers.

The 1994 congressional elections gave the Republican Party control of both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House. For the first time, the GOP was able to pick committee chairmen, control the agenda, and dominate the staff positions on Capitol Hill.

More importantly, for the first time a political party that talked about assaulting the welfare state and big government had received

Commentary

an electoral mandate *after* laying out its legislative agenda for all to see.

For years the Republican Party and its think tanks had criticized and assaulted the host of government agencies and programs that had regulated, subsidized, redistributed, and coerced the American people. 1995 would be the year the GOP could walk the walk. With 73 freshmen members charged up with rhetoric of free markets, privatization, and abolition, the opportunity had arrived.

Yet behind the scenes, forces within the Republican Party feared that the new freshman class, the new free market slogans, and the anti-statist ideology might just sweep away the cozy alliance that had kept major Republicans in power for all those years of Democratic control.

Seniority is everything in Congress. Those Republicans who had worked their way into seniority positions (as minority members) had learned to play the power game. Republicans such as John Porter (IL), Ralph Regula (OH), Harold Rogers (KY), John Myers (IN), Pat Roberts (KS), and Joe Skeen (NM) had guaranteed electoral success during the hard times by making deals with Democrats and with business interests back home. Sometimes, it was building courthouses, post offices, and highways. Sometimes, it was defense plants and farm subsidies. Sometimes, it was tax dollars to finance foreign trade and investment.

Meanwhile in the Senate, the seniority Republicans are even worse. Here skill at making pork barrel deals with Democrats by senators such as Specter (PA), Chaffee (RI), Hatfield (OR), and Jeffords (VT) is combined with an ideological rejection of most traditional Republican beliefs. Whereas in the House we see GOP committee chairs dominated by social conservatives who love pork barrel, in the Senate we see chairs dominated by social moderates who embrace the welfare state.

A failure to deliver

The effect of this compromised leadership at the committee level was the virtual abandonment of the goal of serious repeal of government agencies. The very programs that were on the Republican rhetorical "hit list" last November became the object of efforts to reform-reduce, but never abolish, this summer. Republicans arrived in Washington with swords sharpened to eliminate the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), Legal Services Commission (LSC), and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). The best they could do was to reduce their budgets. Serious attempts to abolish these agencies gathered from 100 to 140 GOP votes, with half the Republicans, *including the leadership*, usually opposing the measures.

Republicans for years attacked welfare state agencies such as the Appalachian Regional Commission,

THE 104TH CONGRESS

OPPORTUNITIES LOST. . . OPPORTUNITIES BETRAYED

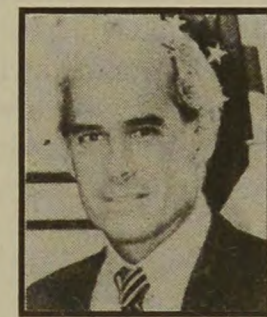
"This was the year to repeal and to abolish government programs and agencies that should not exist within our government"



Rep Harold Rogers
saved the EDA & ARC



Rep Ralph Regula
saved the NEA & NEH



Rep John Porter
saved the CPB & NLRB



Rep Frank Wolf
saved Highway Projects



Rep Jerry Lewis
saved VA spending



Rep Pat Roberts
saved Farm Subsidies



Rep Gerry Solomon
saved the Selective Service



Rep John Myers
saved water projects



Rep Joe Skeen
saved research grants



Rep Jim Lightfoot
saved the BATF & FEC



Rep Bill McCollum
saved the LSC



Rep Bob Walker
saved NASA projects

the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Economic Development Administration, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, and the Market Promotion Program, but when the time came to abolish them, the votes in favor numbered less than half of the Republicans. The agencies were refunded, reorganized, and hidden in the federal bureaucracy.

For years, the GOP railed against regulatory agencies such as the FCC, OSHA, FEC, and AMTRAK, but when their times came they were refunded without serious attempts to rid government of their presence.

When the time came to trim highway pork barrel, in

stepped Chairman Frank Wolf to save them. When water projects were threatened, Chairman John Myers spoke out for them. When the time came to eliminate space programs, leader Bob Walker defended them. Finally, when it came time to tackle the massive farm subsidy program, Reps. Roberts and Skeen diverted the effort before it began.

And any real major cuts in the House usually were derailed on the Senate floor where the GOP chairmen don't even pretend to believe in rolling back the federal government.


see **Lost cause** on page 14


July 3-7, 1996 Washington, DC


A week-long experience for friends, families, and lovers


The first week of July 1996 will offer an opportunity for all Libertarians in the nation to visit the nation's capital and combine the serious business of the Libertarian Party Nominating Convention with the sights and sounds of a vacation with friends, family, and lovers.

During the first week of July, the professional politicians leave the city and return to their districts. The nation's capital, purged of much of this political debris becomes the location of celebrations, tourism, and social events. Several days before the convention officially opens on the steps of the Jefferson Memorial, Libertarians from all over America will arrive in town and take advantage of arrangements convention planners have made:

 We have arranged for trolley tours leaving from the hotel to take you to the monuments, parks, and historic sites.

 We have arranged special tours of the U.S. Capitol to give you an inside peek at how the system works and in-depth seminars by Capitol Hill veterans.

 We have arranged discounts for you and your party at major Washington, DC, sights.

 We have planned an evening of fireworks and music to celebrate the holiday that has been betrayed by Washington politics and that we plan to rededicate to human liberty.

Full details on these plans are available from the LP National Convention staff in your registration response mailing.

This week is not just for politics...it can be for the whole family and for those with whom you enjoy adventure.

*Art Museums
Arlington National Cemetery
The White House
Historic Georgetown
Museums of Natural History
Universities
Monuments
The Potomac River and Parks*

Bock speaks on Ruby Ridge this month in CA

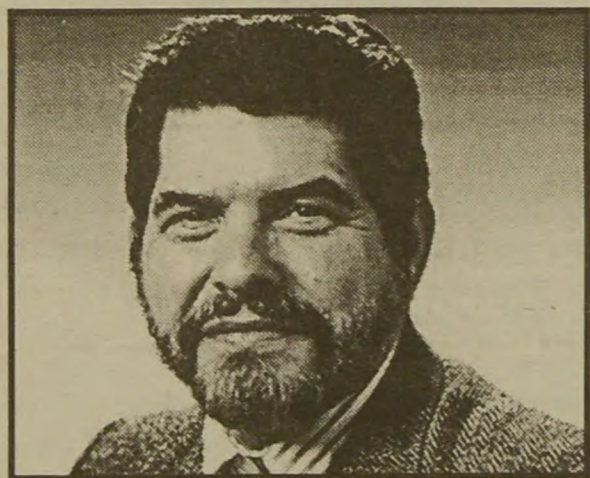
Alan Bock, senior columnist at the *Orange County Register* and author of "Ambush at Ruby Ridge," will address Orange County libertarians and their guests on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at the Radisson Plaza Hotel at John Wayne Airport in Santa Ana, CA. The 7 p.m. event will feature discussion of the incident at Ruby Ridge and related issues.

Past candidate for the U.S. Senate, Richard B. Boddie, will be master of ceremonies for the event. Other special guests have been invited to speak, including the attorney for Ruby Ridge co-defendant Kevin Harris.

County Chair Geoffrey Braun made it clear that the LP of Orange County's interest in the incident at Ruby Ridge should not be construed as support for Randy Weaver, Kevin Harris, or divisive separatist groups. "Our interest," said Braun, "is to expose gross government malfeasance toward any individual or group."

This event will be professionally videotaped and edited for future use as a "virtual infomercial," available to all LP county and state organizations for use on public access television.

Admission to the event is \$5, or free to individuals who join the LP of California at the event. For more information, call 714-540-5053.



Alan Bock

Convention offers referendum on the LP National Platform

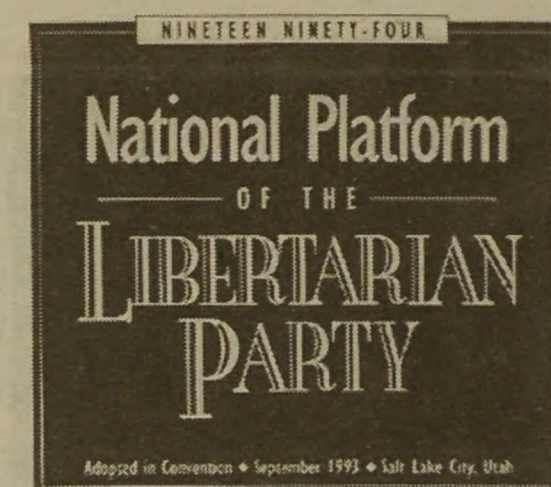
Under new convention rules adopted at the 1993 Salt Lake City convention, all delegates to the 1996 national convention in Washington, DC, will play an active role in the evaluation and review of the entire Libertarian Party national platform.

At the start of the convention—on Thursday morning, July 4—each delegate will vote on every plank of the national platform using an electronically tabulated ballot. The platform committee will have met for several days prior to the convention to consider changes in the platform. All platform planks that fail to meet the approval of a majority of registered delegates will be reviewed and amended by the convention as a whole prior to the close of the convention business sessions. All delegates will vote again on platform planks that failed to win approval and have not

been amended. This will provide an opportunity for all LP convention delegates to have far greater input than ever before into the platform process.

Another change in convention procedure will require all presidential candidates to submit their own personal "Presidential Campaign Platform" to the convention at the start of the proceedings. This document will outline the focus of their campaign if they are nominated by the delegates. After the nomination of our ticket, the delegates will be able to review and approve all planks in this platform.

The Washington, DC, convention will see a major increase in the role of party activists from all affiliate states in the LP platform process and in the campaign policies of our candidates. *It is important that you be there!*



Preamble

A Libertarians seek a world of liberty, a world in which all individuals are sovereign over their own lives, and no one is forced to sacrifice her values for the benefit of others. We believe that respect for individual rights is the essential precondition for a free and prosperous world, that honor and trust must be borned from human relationships, and that only through freedom can peace and prosperity be realized. Consequently, we defend each person's right to engage in any activity that is peaceful and lawful, and welcome the diversity that freedom brings. The world we seek to build is one where individuals are free to follow their own dreams in their own ways, without interference from government or any authoritarian power. In the following pages we have set forth our basic principles and enumerated various policy stances derived from these principles. These specific policies are not our goal; however, our goal is nothing more than a world set free in our lifetime, and it is to this end that we take these stands.

Attention:

Libertarian Party Activists

The prices posted in this month's NEWS for the Washington, DC, Nominating Convention are lower than either the Salt Lake City or the Chicago conventions. The prices will be in effect until December 31. **ACT NOW TO SAVE MONEY.**

Next Month: The Convention Agenda

Declare Your Independence

Presidential and Vice-Presidential Nominations and Debates**

George Washington's Farewell address 200th anniversary**

Public readings of the LP program by selected Libertarians**

"Liberty in Words and Music" at the Jefferson Memorial

Free transportation to Jefferson Memorial event

25th Birthday Party for the Libertarian Party

Major speakers and panels**

Presidential candidate platforms**

Election of Party Officers

Platform committee and floor debate

Election of the National Committee

Meeting of the Council of State Chairs

Candidate training sessions

Three Breakfasts with Speakers

Fourth of July fireworks at Washington Monument

Special vendor and exhibit area "The Agora"

Full C-SPAN coverage with tapes available

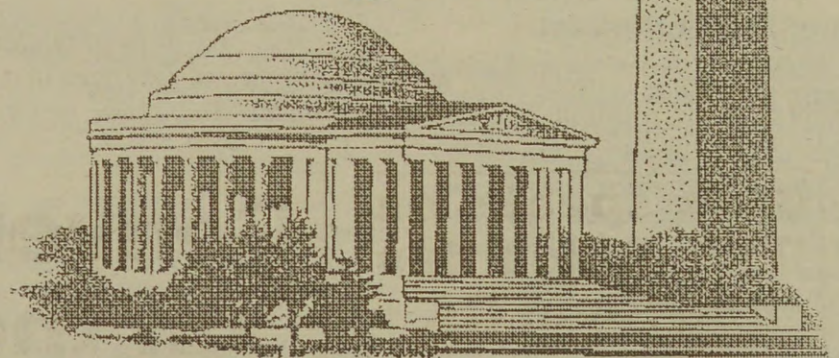
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Presidential Banquet and Awards

1996 Libertarian Party
Presidential Nominating Convention
Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill
July 3 - July 7
Washington, D.C.



**indicates C-SPAN coverage

The package prices below are lower than either the 1993 or 1991 conventions.

Register before January 1st, 1996 for the low introductory prices; after that date the prices will increase.

Bronze \$110 All panels, all speakers, floor pass, convention souvenir, program booklet, and the LP 25th Anniversary party. Excludes Breakfast meals, Presidential banquet and Jefferson Memorial.

Silver \$200 All of the above plus Presidential banquet and Jefferson Memorial event.

Gold \$260 All of the above plus three Breakfast meals.

The Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill

is within walking distance to many of the city's museums, monuments, historic sites, the new LP offices, and excellent viewing of the giant fireworks show. Ten minutes from National Airport and 45 minutes by shuttle from Dulles and Balt-Wash International airports, two blocks from Union Station and the Metro Subway. The hotel features a health club with swimming pool, roof top restaurant, and a five story atrium lobby open for breakfast, lunch dinner and late snacks.

Our special room rates of \$99 per night are good from June 30th thru July 10th. Contact the Hyatt Regency directly at 400 New Jersey Ave., NW, Wash. DC., 20001 1-800-233-1234.

Reserve your rooms early since all indications are that this convention will be heavily attended.

Bring your family for the entire week for a combination convention and historic sightseeing vacation.

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Talking points

A closer look at protectionism and trade deficits

Cliches and uninformed statements are easy to dismiss as senseless prescriptions from political outcasts and fringe ideologues. Libertarian advocates—be they candidates, state officers, speakers, pamphlet writers, or other spokespersons—may gain credibility for Libertarian ideas by presenting facts and quoting expert opinion that bolster LP positions. This column will provide the ammunition you can use to confound the skeptics and impress those searching for answers by citing mainstream publications and recognized opinion leaders (for and against individual liberty).

Send in your submissions, with a clipping to verify the statement and the source, for inclusion in future issues of the NEWS.

Issue: Protectionism

In the course of the last few presidential elections, the Republicans have successfully marketed themselves as the party with sensible ideas on economic matters, but Bob Dole and Pat Buchanan are not being sensible at all as they compete to see which can make the most vigorous attacks on the principle of free trade. Reducing the volume of trade by means of tariffs, import quotas, and that sort of thing might seem at first glance to be a good way of keeping American jobs that otherwise would be lost because of foreign competition. However, each job that is preserved by means of protectionism imposes a huge cost on consumers far in excess of what the job actually pays and also destroys more than one additional American job that otherwise would have been available, thus producing a net loss in both employment and the standard of living.

"Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole was right when he strongly supported free trade with Mexico. By so doing, he advanced U.S. economic interests and the core Republican belief that free trade creates jobs and prosperity.

"So why is he down on free trade with Chile? New York's 'Journal of Commerce' reports that Mr. Dole wants Congress to deny President Clinton authority to negotiate Chile's accession to the North American Free Trade Agreement.

"What's changed is that Mr. Dole is now the Republicans' presidential front-runner. As such, it ill behooves him to grant a political victory to Mr. Clinton. Further-

Libertarian talking points

Charles D. Poe
Editor

more, one of his rivals for the GOP nomination, Patrick Buchanan, is siphoning right-wing support through his calls to repeal free trade with Mexico. By opposing Mr. Clinton's request to negotiate with Chile, Mr. Dole appears to be reversing his philosophy in order to pander to those elements.

"It is unbecoming of Mr. Dole to sacrifice his party's principles and the country's long-term interests for short-term political gain.

"Mr. Dole needs to stop his misguided flirtation with protectionism. It isn't doing him or the country any good."

The Dallas Morning News, Sept. 4, 1995.

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

"Take steel. The industry was indeed losing money and market share to heavily subsidized foreign producers before import quotas were imposed in the early 1980s. Those restrictions restored profitability and saved 17,000 jobs—but at a cost. Studies show that for every steel job saved, three jobs were lost elsewhere. The reason is simple: more than twenty times as many Americans work in steel-using industries as in the steel industry itself. Higher steel prices hurt a larger segment of the workforce than they helped."

National Review, Aug. 29, 1994.

Issue: Trade deficits

Those who argue in favor of protectionism often mention America's trade deficit, as if its mere existence were reason enough to restrict the importation of foreign goods. A trade deficit is a very poor excuse for the crippling of international commerce, however, and is not necessarily a sign of economic ill health at all.

"Commentators should also mind their tongues when it comes to trade. America's trade balance is said to 'improve' as its deficit shrinks, Germany's to 'deteriorate' as its surplus disappears. Yet a trade surplus is a misleading measure of a country's economic strength, or a deficit of its weakness. Barring further information, it is neu-

tral.

"The idea that surpluses are good and deficits are bad comes from the nasty mercantilist view that exports are good and imports are bad: yet the only reason to export is to enable your consumers to buy lots of luvverly imports. For as long as foreigners were willing to finance the American deficit, Americans enjoyed a higher standard of living than they otherwise would have. When Mexico was in a debt-ridden mess, its current-account deficits were 'bad' because they could be financed only with short-term borrowing. Now that it has lowered trade barriers and opened its economy to foreign investment, its current-account deficit is a sign of strength: imports of capital goods and others are being financed by foreign direct investment. Economic commentators take note. Trade surpluses and deficits increase, rise, grow, widen, or swell, but they never improve."

The Economist, Aug. 31, 1991.

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

"Many pundits claimed that a wanton binge of consumption, mostly financed by foreigners, had destroyed U.S. competitiveness. But fully one-third of the imports consisted of capital equipment imports. A dollar of the trade deficit was four times more likely to be spent on industrial equipment than a dollar of domestic GNP. . . . What was happening was a surge of U.S. investment led by U.S. entrepreneurs pioneering in the microcosm.

"The trade gap was a fully positive result

of the U.S. entrepreneurial lead in the world economy. While the trade gap grew, the dollar rose in value, and U.S. rates of growth of investment, employment, and industrial production increased between two and three times faster than the rates of our trading partners, including for most of the mid-1980s Japan.

"The advocates of trade balance convey an image of autonomous national economies with trade and capital movements equilibrated at the borders by gyrating currency values. They may think they are for freedom, but in fact they are exchange rate mercantilists, revolting against the microcosm in the name of an economics of national control.

"The real target of the bureaucracy is not Japan or even trade. It is the entrepreneurial freedom conferred by quantum technology. Trade can never balance as long as entrepreneurs can dispatch capital wherever they wish in response to new opportunities or in flight from oppressive taxes and protectionist barriers. Therefore the drive to balance trade necessarily dictates an effort, whether direct or indirect, to control capital flows."

George Gilder, "Microcosm," Simon & Schuster, 1989.

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Thanks to the following for clippings used this month: Scott Shreckhise, Roanoke, VA; Dave Walter, West Chester, PA; and Research Etc., Princeton, LA.

1995 LP Candidates

The following is a list of additional Libertarian Party candidates who have been identified since a listing was printed in the October NEWS.

Colorado

Carol Stuckey Hill

Leadville City Council

Indiana

Steve Dillon

Mayor of Indianapolis

Dr. Gary Proksch

Indianapolis/Marion City-County Council, District 2

Dr. John Pasqua

I/M City-County Council, District 4

Kenneth H. Fary

I/M City-County Council, District 7

Lucy Brenton

I/M City-County Council, District 8

Dan Ferris

I/M City-County Council, District 25

John V. Curotto

I/M City-County Council, At-Large

Michael D. Miessen

I/M City-County Council, At-Large

Webster J. Smith

I/M City-County Council, At-Large

J. Scott Upton

I/M City-County Council, At-Large

Pennsylvania

Thomas F. McGrady Jr.

State Senate, District 19

Joseph M. Lisowski

Chester County Commissioner

George E. Barnett

Chester County Commissioner

John F. Andl

Chester County Prothonotary

Ken Krawchuk

Abington Township Commissioner

Washington

Art Rathjen

State Senate, District 43

Jim Campton

Federal Way City Council

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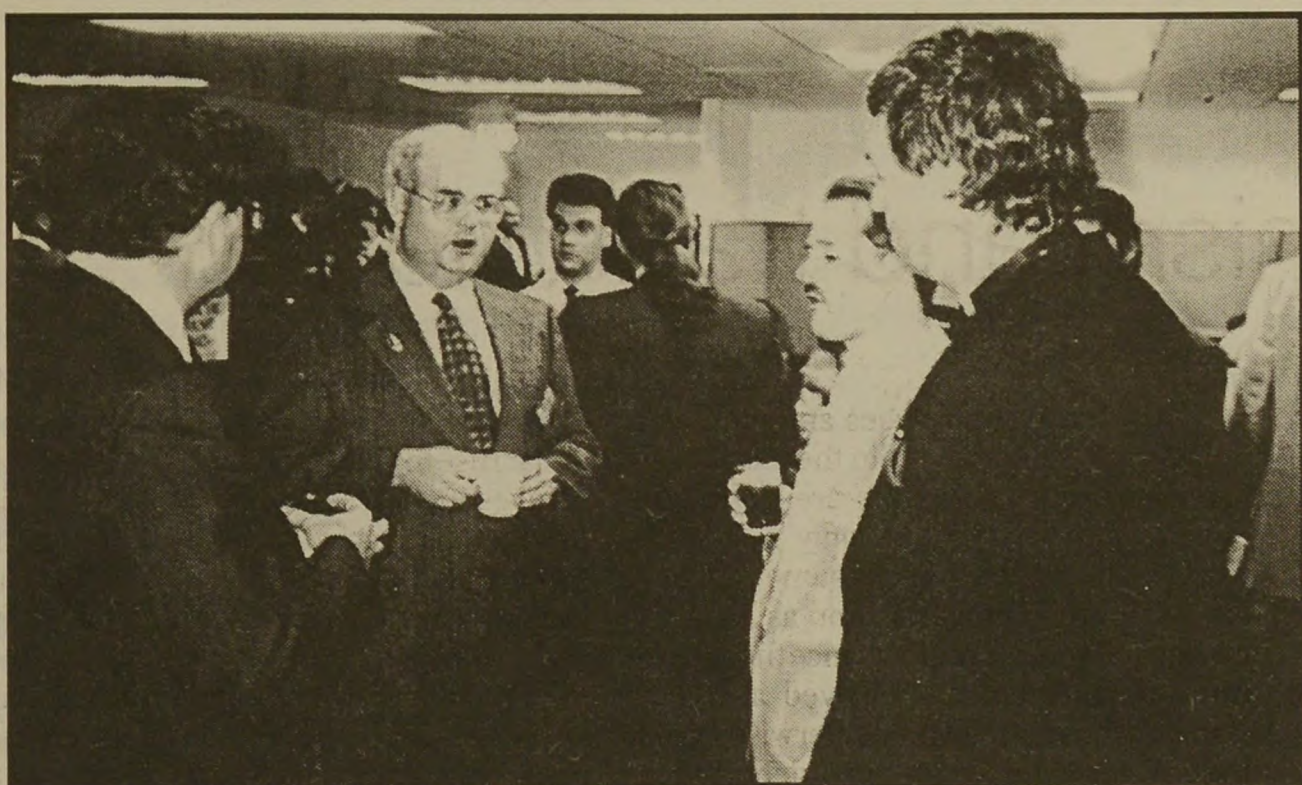
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GRAND OPENING - The Libertarian Party's new national headquarters located in the Watergate Office Building in Washington, DC, opened to rave reviews at an open house in early October. More than 100 Libertarians with their families and friends, as well as other guests, attended the affair. National Chair Steve Dasbach, second from left, greeted guests, including David Boaz of the Cato Institute, second from right, and proudly showed off the new office. Both CNN and CBS television news crews already have visited the new office and filmed interviews with party officials.

End welfare

continued from page 1

the poor? Do you want the facts to unsettle smug Democrats and pretentious Republicans?" asked Dasbach. "Our 'Ending the Welfare State' package will give you the intellectual ammunition to do exactly that. In fact, we'll make you an 'instant expert' on welfare reform."

☞ "Do you know how much money the government wasted on the War on Poverty?" he asked. "Our proposal has the numbers."

☞ "Do you know what this spending has accomplished? We'll prove how things have gotten worse," said Dasbach.

☞ "Did you know the Republican plan is even worse than Clinton's plan? We'll tell you how," he promised.

"This package will allow you to confidently face your conservative or liberal friends—and effectively debunk the myth of government 'compassion,'" he said.

2. For state parties and candidates: "We've sent this package to every state party. It gives our state activists the tools to create media opportunities and outreach events," Dasbach said. "We'll also mail it to every LP candidate in 1996 so they'll have the ammunition to shoot down Democrats and Republicans in public debates."

3. For publicity: "This is our big push for the next wave of national media attention!" said Dasbach. "We've already mailed our package to America's most influential radio talk show hosts. When we did this with Project Healthy Choice, it resulted in appearances on more than 110 radio stations. And now that we're in the public eye, it could result in even more exposure."

4. For lobbying influence: "The political battle over welfare has been joined," noted Dasbach. "And, like with the debate on health care and crime, it's important that the Libertarian perspective be heard. So we've done a mailing to Washington's most powerful senators and representatives. Congress needs to be reminded that there is a constituency for freedom!"

Dasbach said that the "Ending the Welfare" package is the latest in a series of LP public policy proposals, but "without the support of the party's members, these packages would not be possible," he stressed.

"There are many battlegrounds in the ongoing contest between government and individual liberty. The welfare debate is just the latest chapter. Your assistance ensures that the LP will have the resources to get the pro-freedom perspective heard in every important debate!" he said.

Help 'End the Welfare State' today!

Here's what you get in the comprehensive "Ending the Welfare State" package:

☞ An eight-page scholarly "Briefing Paper", complete with footnotes, graphically charting the failure of government welfare and presenting the positive Libertarian alternative.

☞ An outreach brochure, summarizing the four-point Libertarian plan.

☞ A "Talking Points" sheet, featuring sound-bites and statistics that illustrate the catastrophic consequences of the welfare state.

☞ Helpful lobbying tips, to make Libertarians more persuasive and effective.

☞ A list of the addresses and phone numbers for every senator and U.S. representative in the 104th Congress.

"Because of limited resources, we can only send the welfare package to people who contribute \$25 or more for this project," said Dasbach. "But remember, your support makes it possible for us to create these kinds of policy proposals, and to publicize them to the media."

Donations can be sent to the national LP headquarters at: 2600 Virginia Avenue NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20037. Include a note explaining the donation is for the "Ending the Welfare State" package.

Highlights of the welfare proposal

From across the political and ideological spectrum, there is now almost universal acknowledgement that the American social welfare system has been a failure.

Since the start of the "war on poverty" in 1965, the U.S. has spent more than \$5 trillion trying to ease the plight of the poor. What we have received for this massive investment is—primarily—more poverty.

Our welfare system is unfair to everyone: To taxpayers who must pick up the bill for failed programs; to society, whose mediating institutions of community, church, and family are increasingly pushed aside; and most of all to the poor themselves, who are trapped in a system that destroys opportunity for themselves and hope for their children.

The Libertarian Party believes it is time for a new approach to fighting poverty. It is a program based on opportunity, work, and individual responsibility.

1. End Welfare

None of the proposals currently being advanced by either conservatives or liberals is likely to fix the fundamental problems with our welfare system. Current proposals for welfare reform, including block grants, job training, and "workfare", represent mere tinkering with a failed system.

It is time to recognize that welfare cannot be reformed; it should be ended.

We should eliminate the entire social welfare system. This includes eliminating AFDC, food stamps, subsidized housing, and all the rest. Individuals who are unable to fully support themselves and their families through the job market must, once again, learn to rely on supportive family, church, community, or private charity to bridge the gap.

2. Establish a Dollar-For-Dollar Tax Credit for Contributions to Private Charity

If the federal government's attempt at charity has been a dismal failure, private efforts have been much more successful. America is the most generous nation on earth. We already contribute more than \$125 billion annually to charity. However, as we phase out inefficient government welfare, private charities must be able to step up and fill the void.

To help facilitate this transfer of responsibility from government welfare to private charity, the federal government should offer a dollar-for-dollar tax credit for contributions to private charities that provide social-welfare services. That is to say, if an individual gives a dollar to charity, he should be able to reduce his tax liability by a dollar.

3. Tear Down Barriers to Entrepreneurism and Economic Growth

Almost everyone agrees that a job is better than any welfare program. Yet for years this country has pursued tax and regulatory policies that seem perversely

Four-point plan

designed to discourage economic growth and reduce entrepreneurial opportunities. Someone starting a business today needs a battery of lawyers just to comply with the myriad of government regulations from a virtual alphabet soup of government agencies: OSHA, EPA, FTC, CPSC, etc. Zoning and occupational licensing laws are particularly damaging to the type of small businesses that may help people work their way out of poverty.

In addition, government regulations such as minimum wage laws and mandated benefits drive up the cost of employing additional workers. We call for the repeal of government regulations and taxes that are steadily cutting the bottom rungs off the economic ladder.

4. Reform Education

There can be no serious attempt to solve the problem of poverty in America without addressing our failed government-run school system. Nearly 40 years after Brown vs. Board of Education, America's schools are becoming increasingly segregated, not on the basis of race but on income. Wealthy and middle class parents are able to send their children to private schools, or at least move to a district with better public schools. Poor families are trapped—forced to send their children to a public school system that fails to educate.

It is time to break up the public education monopoly and give all parents the right to decide what school their children will attend. It is essential to restore choice and the discipline of the marketplace to education. Only a free market in education will provide the improvement in education necessary to enable millions of Americans to escape poverty.

Summary

We should not pretend that reforming our welfare system will be easy or painless. In particular it will be difficult for those people who currently use welfare the way it was intended—as a temporary support mechanism during hard times. However, these people remain on welfare for short periods of time. A compassionate society will find other ways to help people who need temporary assistance. But our current government-run welfare system is costly to taxpayers and cruel to the children born into a cycle of welfare dependency and hopelessness.

The Libertarian Party offers a positive alternative to the failed welfare state. We offer a vision of a society based on work, individual responsibility, and private charity. It is a society based on opportunity and genuine compassion. It is a society built on liberty.

Book

continued from page 1

Two main factors come together here. First is today's political context, with a majority of voters saying they are ready to consider a third party. They clearly are down on the Democrats' failed and empty welfare state liberalism. The Republicans are accomplishing nothing of substance to reduce the size, cost, and intrusiveness of government. (Their deficit reduction plan is to increase the government for seven years, then stop. Boy, am I impressed.) Although we will hear libertarian rhetoric from the establishment politicians until November 1996, justifiably cynical Americans will not buy much of it, from them. Ross Perot's attempt to create a third party will fizzle. Colin Powell will listen wisely to his close advisers and decline to run. The desire for some alternative to more of the same big, costly, ham-handed government will increase. The Libertarian Party is ready to fill the vacuum. No other group is even close.

The second factor is Harry Browne, the established best-selling financial author, with a new book that addresses today's hot political and social issues from a uniquely libertarian foundation in a way that the reasonably attentive voter can readily understand. More importantly, it's done in a way that confirms their emerging suspicions about government's pervasive failures and leads them, gently and ineluctably, to see that liberty is the solution, an attainable solution. How might these factors combine to promote the prospects for the Libertarian Party and our cause?

Even if Harry Browne were not a candidate for the Libertarian presidential nomination, the appearance of his new book would help us considerably, just by exposing a number of new and willing readers to his libertarian analysis and solutions, and to the Libertarian Party, which he discusses extensively in the book.

St. Martin's Press, a mainstream publisher, is bringing "Why Government Doesn't Work" out with an initial hard-cover printing of 40,000 copies. This is quite a large first printing for a non-fiction political work, suggesting that St. Martin's expects it to do quite well and will promote it aggressively.

The publisher has good reason to be optimistic. Harry Browne has had books on the best-seller lists before. His first book, "How You Can Profit from the Coming Devaluation," was published in 1970 and made the *New York Times* best seller list. In 1974, his "You Can Profit from a Monetary Crisis" shot to the number-one position. In all, his previous nine books sold more than two million copies.

Mr. Browne also is well known and has a substantial following in financial circles. He has been publishing his newsletter, Harry Browne Special Reports, providing opinions on the economy, politics, and investments, since 1974. He has appeared frequently on Wall Street Week, the Today show, CNN, and many others. What this means is a ready-made market of readers eager to hear from Harry Browne again. It also means a full calendar of TV and radio appearances to promote the new book once it is in the bookstores.

What is Harry Browne's message for Americans weary and frustrated by the conditions and prospects they see for themselves and their children? Simply, he explains why government programs, based

" I expect the publication and promotion of 'Why Government Doesn't Work' to be the single greatest recruiter of new members in LP history. "

as they are on coercion, always and necessarily fail to achieve their announced goals and always and necessarily cause more problems that politicians then use as the basis for expanding the programs, leading to more controls, more taxes, more public debt, and inevitable collapse. The solution: liberty. Liberty now, quickly, with the broadest possible sweep, before it is too late. Massive elimination of federal government programs, regulations, and taxes, with constitutional amendments to bind the federal government down and prevent future arrogation of power, all done in a practical and realistic program. (I cannot do justice here to the persuasiveness of Mr. Browne's analysis and arguments, but I assume LP members will be reading the book and discovering that for themselves.)

It is predictable that the majority of the readers of "Why Government Doesn't Work" will never have read anything that introduces the LP and the freedom philosophy in such a succinct, yet readable and comprehensive way. Certainly, they will not have seen any such book carrying the credibility of a mainstream publishing house and a best-selling author. We can also hope that this book will be Harry Browne's next best seller. Even absent the author's position as candidate for the LP presidential nomination, a successful selling campaign for the book would substantially increase interest in the party and its platform and would give journalists an enhanced set of tools to hammer the establishment politicians.

Now, let's add the Harry Browne for President Campaign to the mix. This could make the coming year truly exciting. The book is openly a "campaign book" with considerable information about the Libertarian Party, why Harry is running, and discussion of the issues high on the country's current political agenda. Reviewers will be comparing it to books by other candidates, and prospects like Colin Powell and Newt Gingrich, and no doubt noting how it takes an unequivocal libertarian stand on each issue. Interviewers on radio and TV will be drawing Harry Browne out, not only on the issues in the book, but about the party and other libertarian candidates who stand ready to implement the program set forth in the book. I think we can expect print journalists and others in the media to start challenging the establishment politicians with Harry Browne's libertarian premises and program. (I particularly look forward to how they deal with his devastating critique of the War on Drugs and all the damage it is doing in the lives of peaceful Americans.)

Bottom line for me: I expect the publication and promotion of "Why Government Doesn't Work" to be the single greatest recruiter of new members in LP history. Because of Harry Browne's already sub-

stantial reputation and following outside the party, it seems quite reasonable to think that many who know him from his prior writing and speaking will enthusiastically support his presidential candidacy and join the party in the bargain. That has been happening already, before the book's publication. So, teammates, what might we do to make more good things happen?

If the book is a best seller that will give libertarian ideas and the LP an enhanced status never before achieved. The media, being the herd animals they are, can be expected to perceive the event as more evidence of the rising libertarian movement and report on it extensively. Harry Browne will be in great demand. So will all other LP spokespersons and candidates, to tell the story of this "new third party." Where did it come from? What would we do if libertarians are elected to Congress? LP headquarters will receive thousands of inquiries. New members and contributions will increase dramatically.

But you and I must not leave this exhilarating scenario to chance. Most readers of the NEWS will probably want to get a copy of "Why Government Doesn't Work" for themselves, and actually read it. The publisher and author will surely appreciate that. But, let's not stop there. You and I can make it a best seller. Buy two copies, or five or 10, 20, 50 copies if you can afford it. Christmas is coming; books are great gifts. Stock up for your family, friends, and co-workers. Buy copies to give to your local public library, high school, or college. Don't wait. Buy as many as possible as soon as possible and spread the purchase around at different bookstores. Call all your local bookstores and ask them if they have it. If a bookstore doesn't have it, order one from that bookstore. Call the talk shows and mention the book. Write letters to the editor about it.

Marshall Fritz used to joke about libertarians being non-violent, so much so that the worst they might do is throw a book at an attacker, but only in self-defense. But we now have a different way to use books in the crucial battle for liberty. Buy a good libertarian book onto the best-seller lists and stand by for an influx of new libertarians.

" The desire for some alternative to more of the same big, costly, ham-handed government will increase. The Libertarian Party is ready to fill the vacuum. No other group is even close. "

I am mindful that some libertarians may not be comfortable with my suggestion, as it will surely help Harry Browne's campaign, but not others also seeking our presidential nomination. I can only say that I would urge the same upon you if someone other than Harry Browne had written this book and had the background he has for us to make political capital out of it. This is the opportunity we have now. We should take it.

Or, some libertarians may disagree with something in the book and resist purchasing it on that basis. (Everyone's an editor!) I am reminded of a phrase I came up with during my 1984 LP presidential campaign and have used many times since. "Utopia is not one of the options." We cannot wait to act until each of us is completely satisfied with every detail of every single project in our party's struggle to rescue liberty from her statist captors. We will grow only by bringing new people aboard even though, surely, not one of them will yet be as "pure" as some of us. Let us enthusiastically welcome them on board our freedom train and educate them while we keep it rolling in the right direction.


The story of LP growth has been one of opportunities; some we missed, some we seized, some we botched, some were gifts. Better to recognize opportunities and do something positive with them, even if you know that what you do won't create Utopia immediately. Harry Browne has given us a great opportunity with "Why Government Doesn't Work." Let's make the most of it.

David Bergland, a longtime Libertarian activist, was the 1984 Libertarian Party presidential candidate.

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Indianapolis campaigns may offer surprise

By GREG DIRASIAN

This fall's Indianapolis mayoral election may offer some pleasant surprises. Steve Dillon, the Libertarian candidate for mayor is running against Steve Goldsmith, the Republican incumbent.

In the Oct. 9, 1995, issue of the *Indianapolis Star*, the following poll for the mayoral race was published: Goldsmith (R), 53 percent; Jimison (D), 11.1 percent; Dillon (L), 6.5 percent; and Undecided, 25 percent.

The poll's margin of error is plus or minus 4 percent. That puts Dillon in a statistical dead heat with the Democrat.

Indianapolis Libertarians also are fielding nine council candidates out of a possible 29. Based on demographics and strength of the individual candidates, it was decided to concentrate campaigning in District 8. Lucy Brenton, a 24-year-old mother of two and student pursuing a degree in international business, is the Libertarian candidate. Articulate and intelligent, Brenton represents the Libertarian Party well and will be an asset to the council if elected. After three weeks of campaigning, we noticed a disproportionate response from the Republican incumbent—he is putting up yard signs all over District 8. No other signs are up yet for any of the other 28 council races.

Our strategy is primarily going door to door. We had some signs photocopied on 11 x 17-inch colored paper. If some more contributions come in, we will print yard signs for Brenton.

In District 2 on the northside of Indianapolis, LP candidate Dr. Gary Proksch is running against the Republican incumbent. The two met recently at a neighborhood association that invited all northside candi-

dates to speak. Four Republican candidates, five Libertarian candidates, and one Democratic candidate attended.

One of the first Republicans to speak was an incumbent. One of the reasons he mentioned for wanting to be re-elected was to get the "Policemen's and Firemen's Pension Fund" funded. Shortly after that, one of our LP candidates, Webster Smith, spoke. He addressed the issue of the unfunded pension plan, and reminded the Republican that eight or nine years ago they passed the County Option Income Tax (COIT), claiming that they needed the money to fund the aforementioned pension plan. Smith concluded by saying that if you want the job done right, vote Libertarian, and we will fund the pension plan and repeal the

tax. The Republicans were duly embarrassed, and it was a joy to see the expressions on their faces.

Later in the evening, the incumbent president of the council spoke. After having been embarrassed by the Libertarian candidates, he felt obliged to say that most Republicans are closet Libertarians. Proksch was so moved by the evening that he wrote a \$500 check to the campaign, and he has said that we will pay for some radio commercials.

In the mayor's race, as you can imagine, with all the positive press that the Republican incumbent, Steve Goldsmith, gets from places like Reason magazine, it makes it hard for a Libertarian to compete. If Reason magazine knew the truth about Goldsmith's

"privatization" efforts, they would not be rewarding his cronyism with such positive press. All he is doing is out-sourcing city projects to his buddies so they can rape and pillage the city-county treasury.

As you may have noted, there is little heard from the Democrats. The Democrats may have managed to get every position on the ballot filled, but they are not putting up a fight.

At this point, it is highly likely that Libertarians could come in second in the mayoral race, replacing Democrats as the second party in Indianapolis, and relegating the Democrats to minor party status.

Greg Dirasian is the campaign chair of the Marion County LP.

Lost cause

continued from page 7

Free enterprise police state

Of course no one really expected the Republican Party to apply its slogans about freedom and government reduction to the area of personal liberty. Republicans champion the Second and Tenth Amendments, but little else in the Bill of Rights. A unique GOP blend of free enterprise and the police state has emerged during this session and has brought us new assaults on personal liberty.

To help promote American jobs, the GOP talks about a national identification card for all of us. To continue their failed "War on Drugs," Republicans passed a watering down of the Fourth Amendment protection against warrantless search (only a handful of GOP negative votes). To be sure that their symbol of freedom and liberty was protected, they passed a constitutional

amendment to allow laws against flag burning with only a handful of GOP dissenters. And when the time came to end the Selective Service System, only 60 Republican votes could be mustered. In the wings we see the Religious Right agenda of censorship, intolerance, and anti-abortion choice.

A lack of courage

Behind the inevitable failure of the Republican Party to roll back the size and power of government is the fact that its political power base (like the Democrats') is a group of people who want government subsidies, favors, and contracts. The only difference is that the groups are different—not the political payoff.

The GOP will reduce environmental funding, social welfare payments, and labor union services, but it will never bite the hand of agriculture corporations, defense

contractors, and space or highway contractors who feed off taxpayers and feed the GOP coffers. When the tough votes on the corporate welfare state come to the floor, most GOPers stand in line to protect the status quo. In vote after vote this year, from 80 to 120 deficit hawks in the GOP were defeated by the leadership and by the majority of their own party.

At this writing, the final numbers are uncertain. A few minor programs may fade away. But when all is said and done, the federal government will expand—perhaps more slowly—and personal liberty will decrease—perhaps more quickly—and the two-party system will do what it has always done—*rob the productive and redistribute to those with political clout.*

Don Ernsberger is a member of the Libertarian Party national committee.

Letters: Harry Browne on sales tax issue

A.J. Davies (Oct. 1995 NEWS) raises concerns about the proposal in my campaign brochure to reduce the 15-39% income tax to a 5% sales tax. I understand and appreciate those concerns.

I doubt that any prior LP presidential candidate believed he had any chance to win the presidency. Such a candidate could refer vaguely to "repealing the income tax" or "returning to the Constitution"—and no one would bother to ask how he would implement his ideas. Although the odds against me are quite long, I believe I do have a chance to win; otherwise, I wouldn't be running. This means I have to propose a specific, credible program that I would pursue vigorously as president.

I have to capture the public's imagination with proposals that will change their lives dramatically for the better. So I have laid out a number of them in my new book, "Why Government Doesn't Work," which is now in the bookstores.

Being specific has its liabilities. It allows anyone to claim my plan goes too far or doesn't go far enough. It allows anyone to claim that, if elected, I would be "initiating force" just by showing up at the Capitol for my inauguration.

And it allows anyone to divert attention from the central question: *Will people*

be dramatically better off with my plan? Will government be smaller or larger? Will government be a *lot* smaller? Will taxation be milder or worse than it is now? Would this be a step forward or backward? Would this be a *big* step forward? If you had your choice, would you rather wake up tomorrow morning to a 5% sales tax or the current 15-39% income tax?

I have yet to find a single person who wouldn't eagerly prefer a 5% sales tax to the current income tax system. Even people who think the sales tax proposal is "unlibertarian" would rather live with that than the current income tax. I am simply recognizing this fact of life and trying to move us a long way along the path to liberty.

Don't misunderstand me. A 5% sales tax has only one virtue: *It isn't as bad as what we have now.* It has nothing else to recommend it. Thus I have wanted, as much as anyone, to find a way to avoid it, and I have invited everyone to offer alternatives.

Mr. Davies suggested a very creative plan. There were some problems with it—such as not providing for extracting us from the Social Security quagmire—but we have found ways to handle the problems. The final plan isn't perfect (only politicians promise perfection), but it is cleaner, less complicated, and more radical than anything else that's been

suggested:

- All income, Social Security, estate and gift taxes are repealed immediately.
- The federal budget is cut in half the first year, and it continues to shrink until it reaches \$100 billion after six years.
- Assets of the federal government are sold over a six-year period.
- All Social Security recipients receive private annuities to remove them completely from Social Security—which is abolished.
- If the asset sales yield \$12 trillion, the entire federal debt will be liquidated.
- If the sales don't realize \$12 trillion, the proposal calls for either a 5% sales tax or a 10% flat tax (structured in a much more private, less intrusive way than the Republican plan) to amortize and pay off the remaining federal debt as quickly as possible. If either tax is implemented, it must be reenacted every two years by Congress or it dies—and it dies automatically when the debt is retired—so it can't become a permanent institution.

The plan has received enthusiastic response wherever I have presented it.

I am grateful to Mr. Davies for triggering the ideas that led to this plan. I also appreciate the constructive suggestions made by many other people, and I look forward to receiving more of them—on a variety of issues and strategies.

All surveys show that about three out of

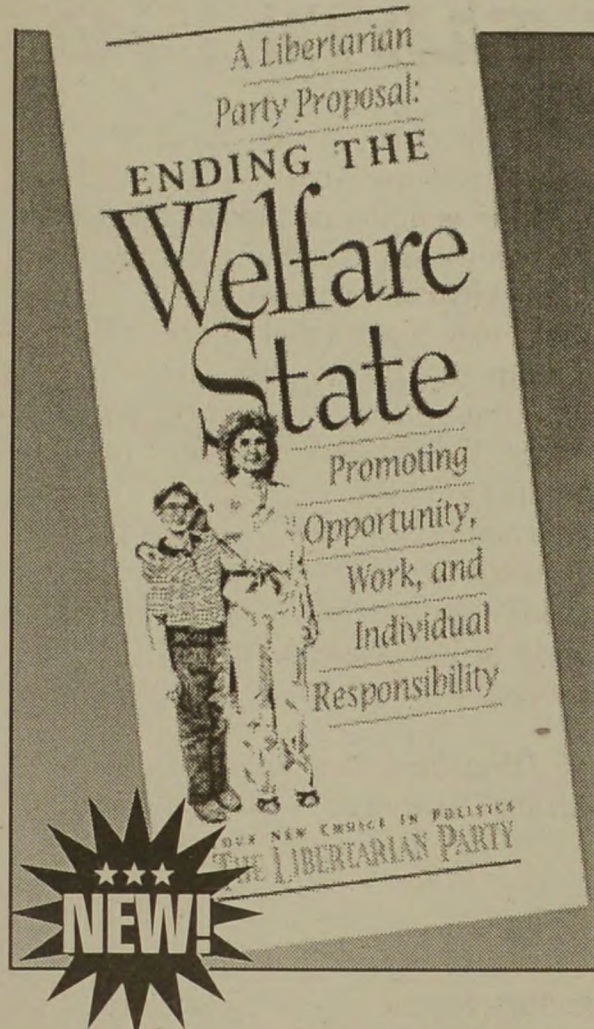
four Americans want a lot less government than they have now—and we are the only party offering that. Today we are no longer on the fringe; we're the mainstream. We must take this presidential campaign seriously—not simply raising people's consciousness, but presenting a serious program with the intention of implementing it. To do this, we don't have to compromise our principles. We do, however, have to focus on proposals that people can understand and that will change their lives significantly for the better. A political campaign isn't the place to browbeat people into accepting every aspect of libertarian dogma.

We are the only party with a hopeful message. We are offering to set everyone free—free from welfare, free from dependency, free from working to support the government, free from the insecurity the government has created.

Everyone but politicians will benefit in some way from the proposals made in "Why Government Doesn't Work," because the blessings of liberty touch everyone.

And liberty is America's destiny. So let's get busy and make this a free country again.

Harry Browne
Costa Mesa, CA



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Are you tired of the accusation that Libertarians "don't care about the poor"?

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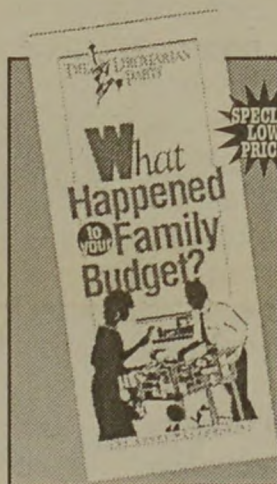
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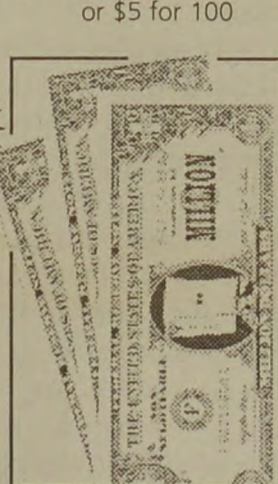
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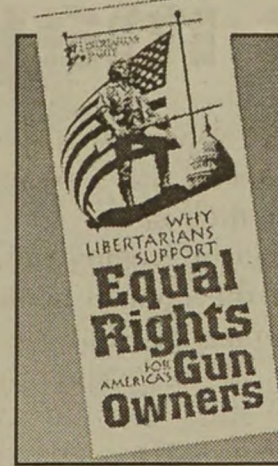
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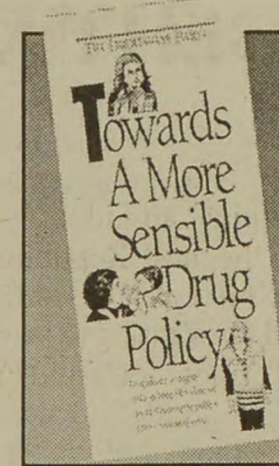
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_____ 1994 LP Platform

_____ LP Fact Sheets. 2-page LP history & 2-page bibliography. (Offered as a package only.)

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_____ Libertarianism in One Lesson book

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_____ Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian

_____ Enough is Enough/Vote Libertarian

_____ Vote Libertarian/1-800-682-1776

_____ I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!

Buttons

_____ Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian

_____ VOTE LIBERTARIAN/800-682-1776

_____ Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything

Windbreaker

_____ Lined windbreaker. Circle one: M L XL.

Tools for Campaigning

_____ LP Statue of Liberty logo master

_____ LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk

_____ Newsprint ads: "Libertarian Party—Defenders of Liberty" set of seven.

_____ Libertarian TV Ads

_____ Libertarian Political Action: Techniques for Effective Campaigning manual.

Large & Small Banners

_____ Large: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (18" h x 5' w)

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Editor: Randy Langhenry

Upcoming Events

Nov. 7, 1995:

Election Day. **Vote Libertarian!**

Dec. 3, 1995:

Oregon LP Special Nominating Convention (to fill Bob Packwood's seat), Monarch Hotel, Portland; for information call 800-829-1992.

Feb. 10, 1996:

Massachusetts LP Convention, Cambridge Sheraton Commander Hotel, Cambridge; for information call 617-876-FREE.

April 13, 1996:

Wisconsin LP Convention, Country Inn and Convention Center, Pewaukee; for information call 800-236-9236. Speakers include Rick Tompkins and Harry Browne.

April 19-21, 1996:

Michigan LP Convention, Georgian Inn, Roseville; for information call 810-784-8783.

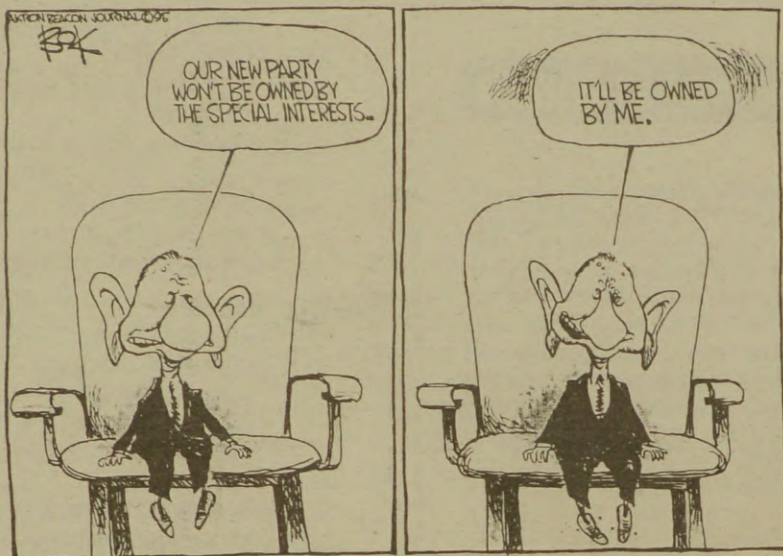
May 25, 1996:

Missouri LP Convention, Ramada Convention Center, Columbia; for information call 314-874-3454 or 314-443-4883, or e-mail: hemerson@mail.coin.missouri.edu

July 3-7, 1996:

1996 LP Presidential Nominating Convention, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Washington, DC.

Send upcoming event notices early to: Libertarian Party NEWS, P.O. Box 3391, Gainesville, GA 30503.



Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

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