

Libertarian Party

NEWS

December 1993 Vol. 8, No. 12

LP candidates win campaigns

Libertarian Party candidates in at least five states were victorious last month, while other candidates made good showings in the off-year elections.

In addition to Jimmy Blake in Birmingham, AL [see story on this page], Libertarians were elected to city and borough commissions, a town board, a school board, and county offices.

In Ohio, Bob DeBrosse, a 40-year-old sales representative, won 59 percent of the vote in a two-way non-partisan race for the Piqua City Commission. DeBrosse has been a member of the Libertarian Party for 17 years, and he will be serving his four-year term as one of five city commissioners.

DeBrosse said his campaign focused on the over-regulation of private behavior, the lack of balance and diversity on the city commission, and especially on promising to "make the sun shine on the inner workings of city government."

In New York, Rebecca Wilber received 70 percent of the vote for a seat on the Woodstock Town Board. Wilber, a longtime Libertarian activist, ran under both the Libertarian and Republican party banners.

In Pennsylvania, five Libertarians were elected to various county positions. Ken Sturzenacker, state chair, was elected to the North Catasauqua Borough Council. Berlie Etzel was elected to two public offices—as a member of the Keystone School Board and Ashland Township Tax Collector. In Montgomery County, Danielle Cauley and Tim Moir were elected Inspectors of Elections, and in Bucks County, John Pata assumed the post of Judge of Elections.

In Minnesota, Donald Salyards was re-elected to the

see **Elections** on page 8

Blake elected

LP state chair wins in Birmingham

By RANDY LANGHENRY

Dr. Jimmy Blake, Alabama Libertarian Party state chair, was elected to the Birmingham City Council with more than 55 percent of the vote.

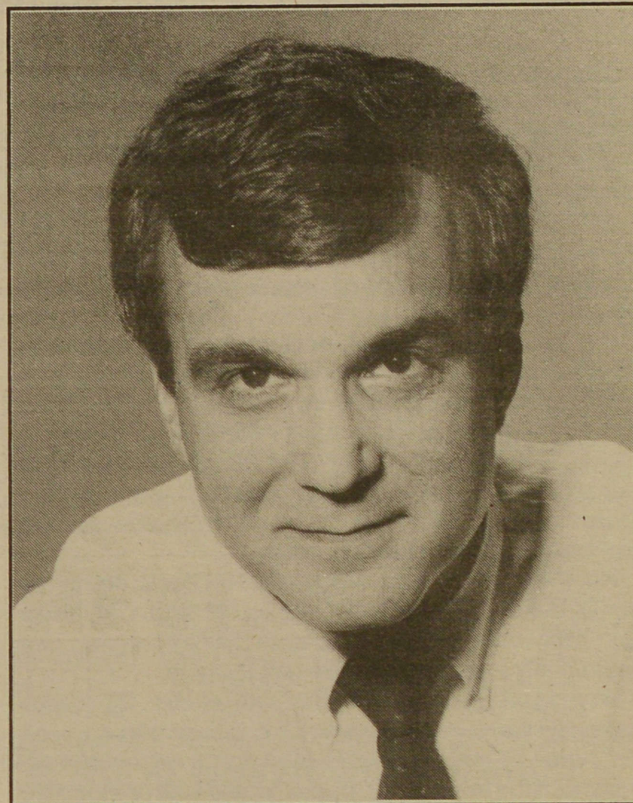
Blake, 42, a family doctor and former Air Force flight surgeon, became one of nine members of the city council when he took office in late November. Blake will be serving a four-year term.

Blake defeated his opponent by a 2,906 to 2,332 vote total.

Birmingham is the largest city in Alabama, with a population of about 270,000.

"Our victory was really a stomping victory," Blake said. "We had more people turn out in the run-off than we did in the first election, which was kind of exciting."

Blake attributes his victory "to working our asses off. We were in the trenches and we had lots of people volunteering—lots of good Libertarians. Then we had the ex-mayor, who's Republican, strongly pulling for us. We had the ex-lieutenant governor, who's a Democrat, pulling for us," Blake explained. "It was a people-to-people type deal, and I've been in the community long enough to have some credibility. We just outspent them, too. The bottom line is see **Blake** on page 7



BLAKE WINS - Dr. Jimmy Blake has assumed the four-year post as a city councilman in Birmingham, AL.

Healthy choice

LP develops alternative health plan

The Libertarian Party has launched its largest, most vigorous lobbying effort ever—and its goal is to stop the Clinton Health Care "Reform" plan in its tracks.

"We need to take an active, vocal, energetic role in this great national debate," said National Chair Steve Dasbach. "The Libertarian perspective must be heard!"

Called Project Healthy Choice, the effort has three major objectives:

- To target "swing" congressmen and senators to vote against the Clinton plan.
- To publicize the Libertarian Party Alternative Free Market Health Care Proposal, and to spread the word in general about market-based solutions to the health care crisis.
- To convince congressmen and senators to vote for any other proposed plan that makes the current health care situation better, that contains free market elements, and is less damaging to freedom than the Clinton plan.

"There will be a loud chorus of voices against the Clinton plan," said Dasbach. "We must be part of that chorus. Clinton's plan could come down to just one vote in the House or Senate—that's how close his budget package was. Our lobbying could be the difference between success and failure. Sure, we may not be big enough to convince 100 congressmen, but I know that we can be powerful enough to sway one vote!"

Dasbach said there is also a political reason for weighing in on the health care debate. "We can't afford to just stand on the sidelines," he argued. "Political parties are defined by what they do, not what they say. I want to make it clear that we are not only in favor of liberty, and against the ominous growth of government power, but that we are

**PROJECT
HEALTHY
CHOICE**

The Libertarian Party's Alternative
Free Market Health Care Proposal

willing to pitch in and fight for what we believe."

The Project Healthy Choice Task Force has already completed its Libertarian Party Alternative Free Market Health Care Proposal, said Dasbach, and has amassed compelling evidence against the Clinton plan.

"The Task Force's arguments make powerful sense. The Clinton plan is dangerous not only because it is anti-freedom, but because it will be economically disastrous, and simply won't work!" he said.

In its report, the Task Force noted: "Twenty years ago, health care was a \$42 billion per year industry. Today, health care costs Americans more than \$2 billion per day, more than 14 percent of our Gross Domestic Product. These soaring costs are putting enormous financial pressures on American businesses, forcing thousands of small businesses to reduce or drop benefits for their employees. At the same time, nearly 35 million Americans lack health insurance.

"But, President Clinton's proposals for socialized medi

see **Health care** on page 11

Setting goals

Chair aims at doubling membership/contributor base by '95

You, our members and contributors, are the strength of the Libertarian Party. And if we are to become an effective force in American politics, we must grow! My goal is to double our base of members and contributors by the summer of 1995.

Setting that goal wasn't the easiest thing for me to do. After all, we haven't achieved that rate of growth since the founding of the Libertarian Party more than two decades ago.

But that's what we must do if we want to become an effective force in American politics. And we can do it!

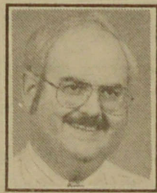
We faced a similar challenge in early 1992. All our projections said that we couldn't raise enough money to get on the ballot in all 50 states and DC. We were going to fall short by about the same as the expected cost of getting on the ballot in Oklahoma. Write off Oklahoma, and we could be reasonably sure of 49 states.

But if we were to have any chance at getting our presidential ticket on every ballot, we had to start Oklahoma right away. And if we failed to raise the extra money, we would likely lose several states, not just one.

Writing off Oklahoma was the "safe" choice, the choice that didn't carry with it a high risk of failure. But it wasn't the "right" choice. We needed 50 states to establish credibility with the media, with the public, and with prospective new members. We needed it to distinguish ourselves from the scores of other minor parties fighting to be heard.

But most of all, we needed to get on every ballot to build a solid base for future success. I knew that to win, we had to be ready to tackle the tough jobs. It was a significant, challenging goal—but we had to achieve it!

I didn't join the Libertarian Party 14 years ago merely to fight the good fight. I joined to reverse the erosion of our economic and personal liberties. I joined because I saw no chance that either the Democratic or Republican parties would change their destructive policies. I joined for the sake of my children (and someday grandchildren). I joined to win!



From the Chair

Steve Dasbach
National Chair

Winning requires growth. And growth requires commitment.

- Commitment to professionalize everything we do, to let people know that they're joining an organization determined to succeed.
- Commitment to relentless outreach, to let people know that we want them to join our fight to restore liberty.
- Commitment to political activity, to let people know that by joining the Libertarian Party, they can make a difference.

We're already demonstrating our commitment to professionalism. With your support, we've hired Bill Winter as director of communications and given him the professional tools he needs to produce first-rate publications.

We're also continuing to demonstrate professional results on the ballot access front. Thanks to your support, we've just completed the Michigan ballot drive, and we're nearing the home stretch in Indiana and Wyoming.

We're also demonstrating our commitment to political activity. We now have more elected city council representatives, county supervisors, and state legislators than ever before. This election alone added nine more to our ranks.

In addition, Libertarians across the nation are working to defeat Clinton's plan to socialize our health care system. The national party has developed professional tools to help Libertarians lobby effectively against the Clinton plan and promote a practical free market alternative:

- Our five-point Libertarian Alternative Health Care Plan—simple, concrete proposals to make health care more affordable right now—and empower citizens, not



I didn't join the Libertarian Party 14 years ago merely to fight the good fight.



government bureaucrats.

- Talking points to help Libertarians lobby persuasively against Clinton's proposal, and in favor the Libertarian Alternative.

- A detailed white paper on health care reform (complete with 42 footnotes) to give our activists and candidates the ammunition they need to be "the experts" in the health care debate.

Now we need to demonstrate our commitment to relentless outreach. We need to make membership growth the top priority of both our national office and of our affiliate parties.

Our goal is to increase membership 100 percent by July 1995.

Achieving this goal will require a massive outreach effort, similar to our massive ballot access effort in 1992.

Our Party has faced many turning points in recent years. In 1990 we ended a decade-long stagnation and began to grow again. Then we licked the ballot access problem in 1992 with far less money than Ross Perot spent on his so-called volunteers. Better yet, we've started to win local races.

Our strength as a political party is growing at a time see **From the chair** on page 9

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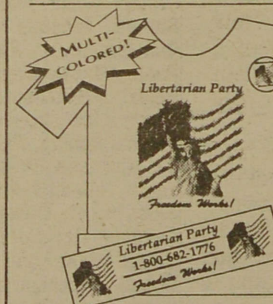
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Why The Drug Companies Want Them Kept Secret...

By ROBERT E. WILLNER, M.D.

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These safe, natural remedies have worked for centuries, are low cost, readily available for you and your family to use; yet do not have the side effects prescription drugs do!

As a matter of fact, half of all prescription drugs in use today are derived from certain plants (traditionally called herbs) and the medicinal use of many of these natural herb medicines dates back over 5,000 years.

One of the first drugs to be synthetically produced was from common White Willow Bark in the 19th century. The Bayer Co. called this new "wonder drug" aspirin, yet its medicinal use dates back to the Greek physician Hippocrates.

The common Foxglove herb was used for centuries for heart failure until "digitalis" was extracted from it, patented and sold as a drug at a much higher price.

In the treatment of cancer five mainline drugs are all derived from herbs, some of which were traditional natural cancer remedies centuries before being rediscovered and turned into drugs in the laboratory.

In clinical studies scientists found that a safe, common plant grown in many U.S. households showed "significant anti-leukemic activity". It contains polysaccharides that boosts the immune system.

Scientists at the Pasteur Institute of Madagascar found a certain form of this plant conferred strong protection against infections from bacteria, (including one that causes bubonic plague), parasites and the common fungus Candida.

The American Botanical Council reports a simple herb often used to enhance the flavor of food has a broad spectrum of activities and exerts a beneficial effect on the circulatory system, similar to aspirin. It lowers cholesterol, regulates blood sugar and lowers high blood pressure as well as helps a host of other ailments.

UCLA scientists said that an extract of this herb "appears to be more potent or an equivalent inducer of differentiation of melanoma compared to some known cytokines and agents" In plain English, they said this herb was as good as, if not better than, synthetic - toxic drugs for treating cancer.

Recently a front-page story in the New York Times announced the discovery of a "potent anticancer compound" in a certain vegetable found in nearly every grocery store in America.

The chemical is called sulphoraphane and according to scientists at John Hopkins medical school, it may be the most powerful anticancer compound ever detected. "We're very excited about this," said Professor Paul Talalay, "and we don't excite easily." This research was published in the March 15, 1992 issue of the National Academy of Sciences - Proceedings.

German scientists have already begun to modify this compound to make it into a synthetic anticancer drug.

This delicious herb not only tastes good but researchers recently discovered it contained a new polysaccharide that showed what scientists called "remarkable" immune system boosting activity. Research has also shown its hypoglycemic properties useful in treating diabetes.

Laboratory research was performed at the National Cancer Institute on a tea herb common to the American Southwest. In the words of Dr. C. R. Smart, assoc. professor

of surgery at the University of Utah Medical Center it showed this herb "was a very active agent against cancer".

These are just a few reasons why The World Health Organization adopted resolution (WHA30.49) calling for a rebirth of ancient medical traditions. They urged governments to give "adequate importance to the utilization of their traditional systems of medicine with appropriate regulations as suited to their national health systems."

Herbalism has always been regarded as the "medicine of the people"- simple, easy to prepare remedies that can be used at home for minor ills or to supplement more potent remedies prescribed by professionals for chronic and acute conditions. Time after time when orthodox medicine fails patients finally turn to natural herb remedies and experience miraculous cures.

Unlike synthetic drugs, natural herb medicines work with your body, not against it. Antibiotics indiscriminately kill not just harmful microbes but destroy helpful bacteria as well, leaving your body defenseless and susceptible to other forms of illness. While natural herb medicines are specific in the microbes they attack and have less impact on friendly, vital bacteria of the intestinal tract.

Unlike orthodox medicines, herb medicines help the body and immune system repair the damage created by illness. Orthodox medicines treat the symptoms of disease while natural herb medicines treat not only the symptoms but the root cause of disease as well.

In the new book *The Complete Medicinal Herbal*, you will learn how to use nature's herb medicines to treat:

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You may be wondering if natural herb medicines are so wonderful then why are they not the medicine of choice?

They are, in many parts of the world! In Japan, herbal remedies are available as part of the mainstream health system. In France, herbal practitioners are almost always medical doctors. In Germany, licensed naturopathic healers have comparable status to orthodox medical practitioners. In Great Britain, the respected National Institute of Medicinal Herbalists dates back to 1864. In China and even in

General Knowledge Of These Safe, Low Cost, Little-Known, Medicines Could Cost The Pharmaceutical Industry Billions Of Profit Dollars Yearly!

Australia, Herbalists are classified as Health Care Professionals. Yet in America, even though we are free as individuals to use herb medicines - orthodox medical professionals are not specifically trained in the use of them and many even try to down play the importance of herbal medicines.

Why? The answer may surprise you! In 1907 Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller gave their vast financial backing to fund orthodox medicine in an attempt to put an end to herbal medicines and they nearly succeeded!

Because natural herb medicines cannot be patented, a company that might have chosen to market them had no protection or

paration of herbal remedies. There are over 250 safe treatments in all.

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The United Nation's World Health Organization - has asked doctors to create a "New Medicine," calling for a rebirth of ancient medical traditions. It urged governments in resolution (WHA30.49) to give "adequate importance to the utilization of their traditional systems of medicine..."

proprietary rights whatsoever (making herb medicine very unattractive from an investment and business standpoint).

But when the active ingredients in these natural herbs are copied and then synthetically manufactured they can then be patented as a new drug and the company that makes this synthetic concoction is then protected against infringement by law. With patent protection the pharmaceutical company can then set the price, limit the availability and decide what clinical studies it will conduct for the product and which studies it will release to the general public.

So a product that ordinarily would cost you just a few cents in its natural form now costs you hundreds of times more (the unattractive suddenly becomes very attractive to the drug companies). And what do you get out of all of this? You get a completely unnatural copy of a specific ingredient which occurs naturally in nature. You get to pay exorbitant prices for a synthetic drug that more often than not has just as bad or even worse side effects than the illness it was intended to treat.

The fact is each year 659,000 people are hospitalized because of adverse drug reactions. All told 9.6 million adult Americans suffer some form of adverse reaction to over the counter and prescription drugs each year.

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"Dear Michael, "Your Persuasion Tapes Saved My Marriage..."

"We've been married almost 6 years. My husband is a member of the LP. He subscribes to all the libertarian magazines and journals. He reads 10 or 12 books every month.

"He talks to everyone about politics and economics, but he stopped talking to me and with me about what matters to us and our relationship. I felt taken for granted. I felt like he didn't really love me anymore.

"I talked with him. I read a few books on relationships and communication. I went to a counselor. (He wouldn't come.) I tried everything. Nothing worked.

"I was ready to give up. One night, while he was at a libertarian meeting, I saw your *Essence of Political Persuasion* Tapes on top of his book shelf.

"Maybe I could persuade him to talk to me...I listened to side 1 of the first tape. Your recipes for quickly creating rapport made sense to me. So did your keys to powerful communication...

"When my husband got home, I told him I had listened to side 1 of your first tape and asked him to practice your rapport recipes with me. We practiced for about 30 minutes. The next thing I knew we were talking about us, our relationship, our marriage and our life together. We talked 3 hours. It seemed like minutes.

"We have listened to your tape set 8 or 9 times. We practiced all the skills you teach. We started listening to and talking with each other. Now we really communicate.

"I finally understand why my husband is a libertarian. I've read 8 libertarian books in 6 weeks and discussed them with my husband. Now I'm a real libertarian, too.

"Michael, your *Essence of Political Persuasion* Tapes saved my marriage.

P.S. "We are expecting our first baby late this year."

Name withheld by request

"I'm a Christian Libertarian. While I've always felt uncomfortable discussing my Christian beliefs with libertarians, I've felt even more uncomfortable discussing my libertarian beliefs with my fellow Christians.

"Your *Essence of Political Persuasion* Tapes gave me the confidence and skills I needed to bring libertarianism to my church. Your story on 'the Judas Bargain' hit me deep. I'm getting powerful results with your 'Political Cross-Dressing' and 'Words Are Weapons' techniques.

"Liberty cannot triumph in America without the support of millions of my fellow Christians. Reaching them will be my special libertarian 'ministry'.

"God Bless you, Michael."

B.L., New York, New York

"...Michael, your Persuasion Tapes earned me \$12,000. I was 1 of 4 candidates for a promotion in my company. I was the least qualified. I don't socialize with the boss. Nobody figured I had a real chance.

"When I went in for the interview, I started off with your Rapport building methods, then I used your 'Intellectual Judo' to turn objections to promoting me into reasons why I was the best candidate. I used your 'Isolate the Concern' tactic to handle the final issue.

"After 35 minutes, my boss said, 'Communication is very important to this job and so is poise under fire: Congratulations, you've got the promotion.' Your *Essence of Political Persuasion* Tapes earned me a \$12,000 a year promotion in 35 minutes."

R.S., Los Angeles, CA

"My letters-to-the-editor used to make people angry. Since I started using your Political Persuasion methods, people started sending in letters agreeing with me."

T.L., Toronto, CANADA

"...anyway, I got fed up listening to my sociology professor praise welfare statism. One day, after class, I got him alone and used your 'Welfare Junkies' argument on him. It stopped him cold! He asked if I could recommend any books on the subject. I told him I'd bring one by later.

"Michael, that's when I called you. I followed your advice to the letter. I bought a copy of Charles Murray's *LOSING GROUND* - and sold it to my professor. You're right, if I'd given it to him I'd be practicing intellectual welfare, encouraging him to believe in something for nothing and he'd have had no financial investment in reading the book.

"Well, he read the book and asked for more. I gave him a Laissez Faire Books catalog (he bought several books over the phone while I was there) and a CATO catalog.

"My professor is on his way to becoming a libertarian. Think of how many thousands of students he will influence with libertarian ideas - thanks to your *Essence of Political Persuasion* Tapes."

R.J., Madison, WI

"...I'm a competent, trained Psychiatrist, but I was stuck. He was the most resistant depressive I've ever treated.

"In frustration, I tried your 'Intellectual Judo' method on him. I agreed with his depression. I embraced his position. I added to it, accelerated it and re-directed it.

"He started laughing. We talked. Then we started making progress..."

"Michael, your persuasion techniques are powerful. I regularly use them with clients, colleagues, friends and family. Your methods have improved all my relationships."

Name withheld by request

"...I was one of the thousands of aerospace workers laid off. Not only was I out of work but I was competing against these thousands for a shrinking number of jobs here in California.

"For 3 months I got nowhere. One afternoon, I listened to your *Essence of Political Persuasion* tapes again. (I bought them a year ago.)

"I starting using the Rapport building steps, the Onus of Criterion and Political Cross-Dressing during every interview. In 2 weeks, I got 4 job offers. I'm now back at work. Michael, tell libertarians that your Persuasion tapes aren't just for politics...they got me a job."

B.N., Orange County, CA

"I'm a 74 year old retiree. I call in to several radio talk shows. People used to tell me that my libertarian ideas were crazy...Now they ask me to tell them more - thanks to your *Essence of Political Persuasion* Tapes."

A.J., Denver, CO

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Arizona

The state executive committee has decided to open Libertarian Party primary elections to independent/non-partisan voters.

State and local election officials, along with the media, were notified that until further notice the state LP will allow registered voters who do not belong to a party that has ballot status to vote in their primary elections, as is the party's right under the constitutions of the U.S. and Arizona.

"People who are registered to vote as independents have long complained about being barred from primary elections which they have to pay for through taxation," said state chair **Rick Tompkins**, "but they've been complaining to the wrong people. It is, and always has been, the prerogative of the qualified political parties to allow others to vote in their primaries. The Republicans and Democrats in Arizona simply have refused to do so."

Michigan

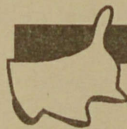
The state party completed its ballot access petition drive on Oct. 18 with a total of more than 40,200 signatures, well in excess of the 26,000 signatures required. The drive was completed six weeks ahead of schedule, thanks to the work of the ballot access committee—**Scott Boman, Barbara Vozenilek, Emily Salvette, James Hudler, Mark Hiselman**, and others.

On Oct. 2, the state party presented its first annual Freedom Fighter Award to **Dr. Jack Kevorkian**, the famous "suicide doctor," at the annual Libertarian Week Banquet before a packed house. The award was made to Kevorkian "in honor of his battle for liberty and rational humanitarianism."

Minnesota

Frances Bauer was appointed to the School District 196 Curriculum Advisory Council covering the towns of Eagan, Rosemont, and Apple Valley. Bauer was one of 60 applicants for eight slots. The appointment is for a three-year term.

Bauer's appointment raises the number of Libertarians in public office in the state to four. **Donald Salyards** was just re-elected to another term on the School District 861 School Board in Winona, **Paul Streeter** is a member of the Minnetonka Charter Commission, and **Brad**



National pulse

News from the states

Eichstadt was appointed in June to the Minneapolis Advisory Committee on Drug and Alcohol Problems.

In Minneapolis, LP candidate **Eric Nelson** finished 11th in a field of 17 candidates for mayor.

Emmett R. Smith is organizing a new local party in Mankato in Blue Earth County.

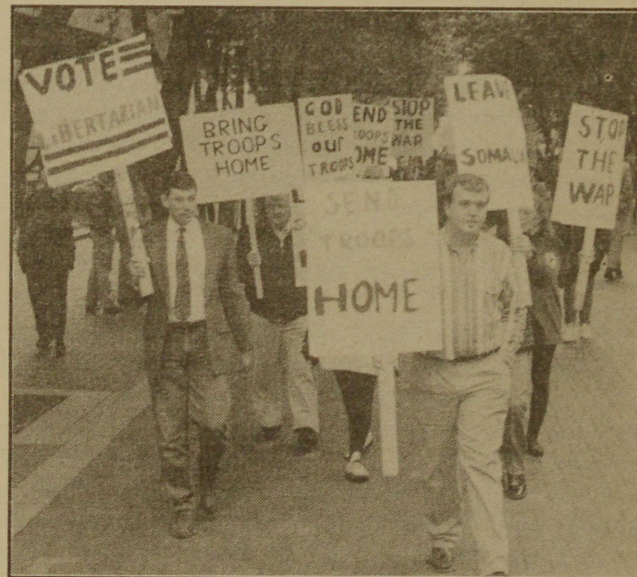
New Hampshire

Libertarian legislators will be introducing new legislation in the state house during the next session. One bill, introduced by House Libertarian Leader **Don Gorman**, will seek to repeal the new Business Enterprise Tax (BET), the centerpiece of Gov. Steve Merrill's tax policy. Gorman said the news of his bill shocked House Republicans, but that, "From the reactions I'm getting, I'd say the governor could have a fight on his hands."

Pennsylvania

The number of registered Libertarians in Montgomery County has increased 400 percent in the last two years, up to 403 from 101. While a very significant increase, local activist **Lee Hustead** said, "We need to increase our registration to several thousand, and that is our primary and general objective at this time."

To help increase Libertarian registration, the local group



PROTEST - Libertarians and supportive bystanders took part in a demonstration on the Market Street Mall in downtown Wilmington, DE, against U.S. involvement in Somalia in mid-October. Among those participating were **Tim Moir**, left, of Montgomery County, PA, and **Dave Shanklin**, Delaware state chair. The event was covered by radio, television, and newspapers.

sponsors open meetings every other month to discuss current topics. In November, **Lois Copeland**, president-elect of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, spoke on the topic of "Libertarian Alternatives to Government Control of Health Care."

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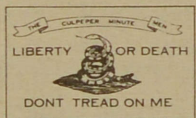
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Blake

continued from page 1

we spent a lot of money and put a lot of time into it."

Blake said he thinks his campaign did everything it could. "We had car-top signs, 700 yard signs, we built over 2,000 signs during the campaign, we sent out over 80,000 pieces of literature, we did radio and TV." Blake was also endorsed by the biggest paper in the state, *The Birmingham News*.

Blake's campaign centered on a number of Libertarian issues, even though the city council position is non-partisan. "We talked about school choice, we talked about rolling back the recent sales tax increase, and people voting on future tax increases," Blake said. "We talked about economic development and said there wasn't any way Birmingham was going to have anything but less and less jobs because we have the highest occupational tax and the highest sales tax of any of the surrounding communities. We pushed that the first priority of city government should be public safety, making us safe in our neighborhoods. We pushed school choice rather hard, and by the way, people are buying it, too."

In fact, the campaign was far from non-partisan. "I was labeled chairman of the Alabama Libertarian Party in every place. It did the Libertarian Party a tremendous amount of good, I can tell you that," Blake said.

But Blake said his Libertarian Party connection also caused difficulty in his campaign. "Prostitution, drug legalization, and all that crap was thrown at me the whole

way through," Blake explained. "But we had laid down such a ground fire of solid-citizen-type PR that they weren't able to blast through it. We basically said, the Alabama platform is different from the national, and we don't have anything to do with that. Frankly, I don't. I think the national platform is an outrageously stupid political document. We are going to see people sink until we wise up and start running a voter-friendly platform that still has all the principles in it, just like my campaign did."

For example, Blake said he has been on the radio a number of times debating the topic of drug decriminalization. "It's not something I could deny. Obviously I said this is something we ought to talk about. I've been very, very up front on this issue."

Blake chaired the group of Libertarian Party activists that met in Atlanta last year and offered the original recommendations to change the party platform and eliminate the membership statement—issues which were debated and voted on during the recent Libertarian Party national convention. Blake, himself, did not attend the national convention, although he wanted to be in attendance. Instead, Blake opted to stay in Birmingham and work on his election campaign.

But Blake is still outspoken in his beliefs in the need for change to the Libertarian Party national platform.

"There is absolutely no question that if we really want to be a political organization, then we need to have a topical platform

that's limited in scope to what the issues are at a particular election. This was supposed to be a non-partisan office, and if not but for the national platform I would have won 2 or 3 to 1, there's no question about it. We probably outspent the other side 2 to 1," Blake said.

"Sometimes you can't get to 'ought' from 'is' in a direct line, and that's what we try to do in the Libertarian Party, and it's silly. It doesn't mean we need to jeopardize our principles or our direction at all," Blake said explaining his strategy. "It simply means we have to be market oriented. I just very much want to see the party be market oriented. If somebody asked me if I changed any of my principles during this campaign, I said, 'Hell, no.' What we are really talking about is what direction are we going—we don't have to necessarily paint the picture of where we are finally going. It worked here."

"I don't mind being very outspoken about it. These people who say they're standing on their principles and anybody who says we ought to be market oriented is somehow violating the principles. . . , unfortunately we are the ones who are serious and they're just mentally masturbating, as far as I'm concerned. The whole issue is winning elections and changing the way the political world is going," he stated.

"I'm going to stay chairman of the [state] party and be up front from that standpoint, but in a partisan race we'd still have a lot of trouble," he said. "If we could get rid of the baggage of the national platform. . ."

Blake hopes his victory will be a motivating factor for getting others to run for office in both Alabama and around the country. "I'm sure hoping it will be," Blake said. "We have a couple of people who are probably going to run for the school board [in Alabama]."

"This has been an incredible ordeal, but damn it, we won, and we won big," he said. "It was a nice one, and it got everybody's attention around here, I'll tell you."

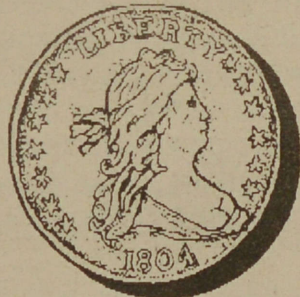


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1993 Libertarian Party election results

The following are unofficial, incomplete results from last month's elections:

Alabama

Birmingham City Council
Jimmy Blake 2,906 55.5% **Winner**

Arizona

Tucson City Council
Ken Smalley 6,146 15.23%
Jim Mabry 2,080 5.26%
Alice Bangle 2,983 7.57%

California

State Senate, District 11
Jon Petersen 5,218 3.29%

Illinois

Crystal Lake School Board
James Young 4,042
Chris Parker 3,410
Mike Krech 3,173
Lenny Grom 2,902

Massachusetts

Cambridge City Council
Galit Dukach placed 20th of 30 candidates

Minnesota

School Board Director, District 861
Donald Salyards 79% **Winner**
Minneapolis Board of Estimate and Taxation
Peter Kauffner 17%

Missouri

State House
John Duckworth 333 10.4%
State Senate
Corky Lewis 727 3.17%

Montana

Missoula City Council, Ward 1
David Harrison
Missoula City Council, Ward 2
David Cox 6%
Missoula City Council, Ward 3
Wyatt Vaught 20%

New Hampshire

Manchester Alderman
Erich Zimmermann 11%
Manchester School Board
Gus Morin 13%
State House
Eric Postpischil 224 21% (3-way)

New Jersey

Governor
Ken Kaplan 8,500
State Senate
Roger Bacon 7%
William Dundas 18% (2-way)
Virginia Flynn 1.5%
Barbara Jones 1.5%
Joe Ponczek 1.5%
State Assembly
Ben Grindlinger 1%
Keith Quarles 1%
Sussex County Clerk
Ed Weissmann 2,300

New York

NYC Mayor
Joseph Brennan 2,425 .135%
NYC Public Advocate
Bob Falk 5,879 .385%
NYC Comptroller
Vicki Kirkland 5,383 .335%
Manhattan Borough President
Ludwig Vogel 1,810 .54%
Woodstock Town Board Member
Rebecca Wilber 70% **Winner**

Ohio

Piqua City Commission
Bob DeBrosse 2,507 59% **Winner**

Pennsylvania

North Catasauqua Borough Council
Ken Sturzenacker **Winner**
Keystone School Board
Berlie Etzel **Winner**
Ashland Township Tax Collector
Berlie Etzel **Winner**
Montgomery County Inspector of Elections
Danielle Cauley **Winner**
Tim Moir **Winner**
Bucks County Inspector of Elections
John Pata **Winner**
School Board
Dan Moan 1,598 10%

Texas

Eules City Council
Larry Barthel 12%

Virginia

State House
John Buckley 2,100 11%
Richard Sincere 1,446 10%
William Redpath 12%
Robert Finnegan 515 3%
Tim Southern 150 1%
Gregg Harmon 1,000 4%
Reed Halsted 5,000 2%

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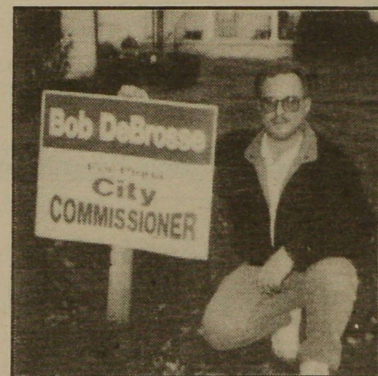
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District 861 School Board. In addition, Frances Bauer was recently appointed to a three-year term on the School District 196 Curriculum Advisory Council covering the towns of Eagan, Rosemont, and Apple Valley.

In Virginia, Rick Sincere, John Buckley, and Bill Redpath had very successful showings in races for the state House of Delegates. All three gained double-digit percentages in three-way races. Both Buckley and Sincere were endorsed by local newspapers.

In Arizona, three Libertarian Party candidates ran as a full slate for the Tucson City Council in partisan races. Local activists concentrated on the campaign of Ken Smalley, who raised more than \$25,000 from about 350 contributors. Smalley qualified for city campaign matching funds and received about \$12,000. Smalley also received a donation from and the endorsement of the Southern Arizona Homebuilders PAC. The efforts paid off as Smalley received more than 15 percent of the vote—more than double the vote total for the other LP candidates.

All in all, the 1993 election season proved to be very successful for the Libertarian Party.



Bob DeBrosse was elected to the Piqua City Commission in Ohio.

From the chair

continued from page 2

when all signs point to the coming collapse of the old system. Studies show that 60 percent of the American people believe the two-party system has failed. Libertarians running for lower offices have racked up higher and higher vote totals with each passing election. We've seen victories in the state legislature in New Hampshire and a probable victory in Nevada (stolen by fraudulent absentee ballots).

Ross Perot cannot reap all that the Republicrats have sown. He's only one man. It will take a full-blown political party, one with members in every precinct and candidates in every race, to fully realize the

opportunities of the next decade.

With your help, we can build that Party!

The national party is prepared to do its part. Our 1994 strategic plan makes relentless outreach a top priority. We intend to begin by developing and testing direct mail membership appeals, aimed at people we already know are libertarians. We are redesigning and strengthening our inquiry response packets. And, we'll be reaching out to those Libertarians who have let their memberships lapse.

But most of our inquiries and new mem-

berships are the result of local activity. It is Libertarian action in the community that drives membership growth. Whenever you work a fair booth or a gun show, campaign for office or speak out at a public forum, organize monthly meetings or speak to community groups, you are helping to build the Libertarian Party.

We're committed to ensuring that you have the professional tools you need to make your local efforts successful. By working together, we can double our membership by July 1995 and build a solid founda-

tion for our 1996 campaigns. Let's make it happen!

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see page 4

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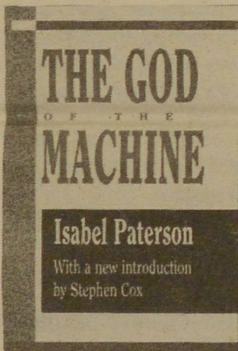
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I am as refreshed by the individualist philosophy of the book as I am impressed by its logical yet unpredictable move towards resolution. I wholeheartedly share nearly all the convictions and policy proposals espoused in the book (free market, legalization of victimless crimes, equal rights [not privileges] for individuals without regard to gender, race or sexual orientation).

Be that as it may, I loved Mr. Borough's book, and it came at the right time. As a second-year at The University of Pennsylvania Law School, my instructors are generally effective lecturers, talented writers, and sometimes quite personable folks -- but they are also almost universally biased to the left. I remain here because it is one of the ten top law schools in the nation, because I have friends and colleagues here, and because I enjoy Philadelphia. But common-sense books like Mr. Burrough's are a welcome respite from the statist garbage which we must endure in our classes from Constitutional Law and Torts to Remedies and Corporations.

I'll sign off now. I look forward to receiving two more copies of this superb novel.

John Michael Brendel
432 North 34th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-2447
(215) 662-1516

Sincerely,

John Michael Brendel
John Michael Brendel

P.S. The two books will be Christmas presents for two women of whom "Katy Jenkins" would be very proud:
-- my mother, who taught art & then math at every grade level and now administers the math curriculum of a pub. school district
-- my elder sister, Nancy, promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force just last week).

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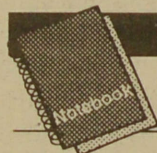
Notebook

More on Clinton's proposed health care reform

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: Health care reform Part II

Many analysts believe that the real problem with American health care is the way it is financed—by employers with pre-tax dollars. This creates the illusion that someone other than the recipient is paying, therefore too little attention is paid to the price. One "simple solution" would be to change the tax code so that individuals buy their medical insurance with pre-tax dollars, from medical IRAs or savings accounts.



Activist Notebook

Dave Walter
Editor

"Such tax-code reforms would cut an enormous expense by reducing the paperwork of routine claims and, more important, by encouraging consumers to comparison shop . . . Hospitals would learn to quote prices in advance for elective surgery and other medical procedures. Health care providers are more likely to overcharge insurance companies or the government than they are individuals. With free-market forces in operation, we would make more effective use of our nurses, who can provide us with most forms of routine care. During hospital stays we would have fewer high-fee, two minute 'consultations' from so many physicians.

"There is a myth that free enterprise can't operate in the medical field because people can't substitute their judgement for that of a doctor. But you don't have to be a farmer to buy food; a carpenter, a house; an aeronautics engineer, an airline ticket. Obviously, a heart-attack victim isn't going to negotiate prices in an emergency room,

but an insurance policy can do that in advance. Most health-care consumption, moreover, is not emergency-related. With consumers realizing that it's their money that buys health care, they would effectively regulate, stimulate this market just as they do others, including the most basic one of all—food."

The above quotes are from an editorial by Malcolm S. Forbes, Jr., editor-in-chief, Forbes magazine.

Mr. Forbes also notes that some alleged faults of the American medical system are "bum raps": "Our mediocre infant mortality numbers result from the high incidence of teenage pregnancies in our distressed areas, particularly inner cities, and because we count very low weight babies as live births, whereas many countries do not." Also, medical care is available to anyone who goes to an emergency room: "This is a critical reason why U.S. hospitals are stuck each year with more than \$10 billion worth of unpaid bills." And the 37 million uninsured: "Over 50 percent have insurance within four months of losing it. More to the point, with the tax changes mentioned above, health policies would belong to individuals and be portable. If people lost their jobs, they could tap their medical savings accounts to pay the premiums."

Forbes sums up his view, "That we devote more of our economic resources to health care than do other nations is held against us. Why? Does anyone, other than investors or those directly involved in the

see **Notebook** on page 19

Counting the Cost of Chicanery

• **Number of new bureaucracies (state, regional, federal) created by proposed Clinton health security plan:**
71 (minimum)

• **Clinton health security plan alleged "maximum first year" administrative costs for the 71 (minimum) bureaucracies:**
\$1 billion

• **Clinton health security plan alleged "maximum out year" administrative costs for the 71 health security bureaucracies:**
\$2 billion

• **Social Security system administrative costs:**
\$5-10 billion

• **Marginal cost of hiring one additional minimum wage employee, if the new hire puts employer over threshold for "capped/reduced small business" Clinton health security system premium payments:**
\$59,400

Compiled by Bob Waldrop

Get the kit!

The Project Healthy Choice Task Force has assembled a comprehensive lobbying package to provide Libertarians with the intellectual ammunition and lobbying skills needed to help convince their legislators in Washington to vote against the Clinton health care plan.

"We're trying to make this Project Healthy Choice lobbying information as widely known as we can—like in these articles in LP NEWS," said Steve Dasbach. "But, because of limited resources, we can send the actual lobbying kit only to people who contribute \$25 or more to this project. We'd love to send it to everybody, but we just don't have the money right now."

Dasbach said the lobbying package includes:

- A brochure summarizing the five-point Libertarian health care plan.
- An eight-page "Briefing Paper," complete with footnotes, itemizing objections to the Clinton plan, and laying out in greater detail, with backing statistics and evidence, the Libertarian free market alternative plan.
- A list of 10 reasons to oppose the Clinton Plan.
- A list of 12 reasons to support the Libertarian Plan.
- A list of the private Washington, DC, office telephone and fax numbers for every senator and U.S. representative.
- Information about other plans being considered in Washington that are less dangerous than the Clinton Plan.
- An expanded list of helpful lobbying tips, to make Libertarians more persuasive and effective.

Donations can be sent to the national LP headquarters at: 1528 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20003. Be sure to include a note explaining that the donation is for the Project Healthy Choice lobbying package.

Lobbying tips

Here's how to contact your U.S. representative or senator in Washington, DC:

Write to your U.S. Representative at: The Hon. _____
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Write to your U.S. Senator at: The Hon. _____
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The telephone switchboard for all members of Congress is 202-224-3121.

A few tips when writing:

- 1) Use the proper form of address. Letters should be addressed to "The Honorable . . ."
- 2) Keep it short. Letters should not be more than one page long. State your point in the first paragraph.
- 3) State exactly what you want your representative or senator to do. Leave no doubt what course of action you are requesting. And make sure they know you're a constituent.
- 4) Always be courteous. Being abusive only hurts your credibility.
- 5) Specifically request a response to your letter, so your representative will have to explain his or her position in writing.

A few tips when calling:

- 1) Be brief. Get to the point right away—within the first minute of your call.
- 2) Always identify yourself. Anonymous phone calls will be ignored. Make sure they know you're from the state or district of the politician you're calling.
- 3) State exactly what you want your representative or senator to do. Leave no doubt what course of action you are requesting.
- 4) Stay calm. Personal insults, threats, or yelling will be discounted.
- 5) Specifically request a written response to your call. This forces your representative to explain his or her position in writing.

Health care

continued from page 1

cine are worse than the disease. The Clinton plan would increase costs, destroy jobs, impose broad new taxes on the American people, destroy consumer choice, and lead to the rationing of care."

Dasbach also spoke in blunt terms about the danger to liberty posed by the Clinton plan. "Bill and Hillary's plan—if passed—could herald the most massive infringement of personal liberties in the 217 years of American history," he warned. "It will create the foundation for a system of total control over what you eat, what you do for recreation, who you sleep with, what you smoke, how you defend yourself, and more."

Specifically, he decried the proposed Health Security Card, with its embedded computer chip that could contain 1,600 pages of your permanent medical record.

"Where will this lead?" asked Dasbach. "Every important medical fact about you could be instantly accessible at future government-controlled hospitals and by government bureaucrats. This really is a 'lifestyle control card.' What Bill and Hillary want is a privacy-free zone of national health care reform."

The Libertarian plan to fight the Clinton proposal has seven steps, said Dasbach:

1) A special Task Force in the Libertarian Party has already created a short, simple Libertarian Alternative Health Care Plan, with concrete proposals to make health care more affordable right now—and empower citizens, not government bureaucrats. (And there is a longer "Briefing Paper" with facts and figures supporting and explaining the plan.)

2) The Task Force has already created a lobbying "how-to" packet containing Project Healthy Choice details. It includes the name and address of every senator and representative, gives specific problems with Clinton's plan, and provides lobbying tips. (The lobbying package is available for a donation of at least \$25. See related article on page 10

for details.)

3) The Libertarian Alternative Health Care Plan has already been sent to more than two dozen organizations fighting Clinton's proposal. The intent is to put powerful free market ideas in the hands of the movers and shakers in this debate.

4) The Task Force has already identified key members of the House and Senate on the most influential committees.

5) The Task Force will try to get Libertarian experts—including members of our prestigious Shadow Cabinet—on Capitol Hill to testify before House and Senate Committees.

6) The Task Force will be sending lobbying information to every Libertarian state organization, so this campaign can be mounted in all 50 states.

7) The Task Force will be sending the same information to all Libertarian candidates running for office in 1994. We'll make sure that every Libertarian candidate can offer the same solutions, and speak in a unified voice.

"Is this an ambitious plan?" asked Dasbach. "You bet it is! But doesn't it make you proud that we can do it? Aren't you proud that we've matured as a party, and amassed the political organizing and lobbying skills so that we can actually make a difference on this issue?"

"Keep in mind—most Americans genuinely want health care reform," he said. "They want a system that everyone can afford, that is efficient and compassionate. We Libertarians have a simple plan to demonstrate how the free market can address those concerns—at a lower cost, and without destroying our liberties."

"Now is the time to turn the Libertarian Party into a potent lobbying force for liberty," said Dasbach. "It's time to show Bill and Hillary Clinton that Americans will not go gently into their Health Police State. It's time to show that the Libertarian Party is a powerful, principled political force! Let's make this happen!"

Libertarian plan: Way

Here are six reasons why the free market-based Libertarian Party Alternative Health Care Proposal is a good idea, and should be supported:

1) The LP health care program would lower the cost of health insurance. By allowing people to pay for routine medical expenses with funds from a Medical Savings Account and making out-of-pocket expenses fully tax deductible, we would make it possible for people to purchase less costly catastrophic coverage to protect themselves against major health care expenses. This will greatly increase the number of people able to purchase health insurance.

2) The LP health care program would slash the administrative costs of health care. Because we currently rely on third-party payment for most medical bills, unnecessary, burdensome, and costly paperwork is created. The administrative cost to process a \$50 claim is nearly as much as the claim itself. Under the LP plan, such small claims would essentially become cash transactions, eliminating insurance and administrative costs.

3) The LP health care program would give consumers a wider range of health care choices, including non-traditional health care.

4) The LP health care program would eliminate the fear of losing your health insurance if you lose your job. Medical savings accounts are completely portable. An individual who loses his job can continue paying his insurance premiums out of funds in the account.

5) The LP health care program would preserve the American tradition of individual liberty and responsibility. It contains no mandates on either individuals or businesses. At the same time, individuals would be responsible for their own health care and lifestyle decisions.

6) This is a workable, realistic program. The LP health care program is backed up by proven research from such groups as the Cato Institute and the National Center for Policy Analysis. Major components of this plan are supported by such groups as the Council for Affordable Health Insurance, Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, American Legislative Exchange Council, and others.

LP comprehensive health care plan

What will it take to fix America's health care problems? We Libertarians know that the only health care reforms likely to have a significant impact on the situation are those that draw on the strength of the free market. That's why our Project Healthy Choice Task Force has developed a comprehensive proposal for health care reform that will reduce health care costs, while extending access to care. This comprehensive market-based program will take America's health care system off the critical list.

Our five-point plan:

1) **Establish Individual Medical Accounts.** One key to controlling health care costs is strengthening the role of the individual health care consumer. As part of this process, an individual should be exempted from taxes on money deposited in a Medical Savings Account (MSA), in the same way that he currently pays no taxes on deposits to an IRA. Money could be withdrawn from an MSA without penalty to pay medical expenses. This would increase consumer responsibility, while increasing access and controlling costs.

2) **Restructure Tax Policy.** As a second consumer-based reform, taxes should be restructured to establish equity in the treatment of employer-provided health insurance, individually purchased health insurance, and out-of-pocket medical expenses. This will also add a measure of fairness to current tax policies that penalize the self-employed, part-time workers, and employees of small businesses, while subsidizing health care for the most affluent in our society.

3) **Deregulate the health care industry.** There should be a thorough examination of the extent to which government policies are responsible for rising health costs and the unavailability of health care services. America can help lower health care costs and expand health care access by taking immediate steps to deregulate the health care industry, including elimination of mandated benefits, repeal of the Certificate-of-Need program, and expansion of the scope of practice for non-physician health professionals.

4) **Replace the FDA.** The Food and Drug Administration is clearly an unnecessary burden on the American health care system. There is no evidence that the agency offers Americans any real protection, but there is massive evidence that it is causing great harm—driving up health care costs and depriving millions of Americans of the medical care they need. The agency should be abolished and replaced with certification by a private-sector organization, similar to the way Underwriters Laboratory certifies electrical appliances.

5) **Privatize Medicare and Medicaid.** The current Medicare and Medicaid systems have clearly failed. Costs are skyrocketing. Patients are receiving second-rate care. And, providers are being shortchanged. The time is ripe for drastic reform. The federal government should begin to restructure the system to give Medicaid and Medicare recipients more flexibility to purchase private health insurance.



Clinton plan: No way

Here are five major reasons why the Clinton plan won't work, and why it should be opposed by every voter and politician.

1) The Clinton plan mandates that all employers pay 80 percent of the cost of health insurance for all employees. This is essentially a tax on employment, and will cost millions of jobs. Small businesses will be particularly hard hit.

2) Patients will find their ability to choose their own doctor severely restricted. Although the plan allows traditional fee-for-service plans, they will be priced out of the reach of most Americans. Most people will be funneled into managed care programs where they will not be able to choose their doctor.

3) The Clinton plan is enormously bureaucratic, creating more than 70 new agencies, boards, and commissions. The Na-

tional Health Board alone is estimated to cost \$2 billion per year and have 50,000 employees.

4) The Clinton plan will require broad new taxes on the American people. Clinton's proposals to finance the plan are pure fantasy. For example, he expects to pay for part of the program through \$71 billion in new revenue from increased economic activity generated by the plan—a plan that is going to throw people out of work and reduce tax revenue.

5) The Clinton plan's "health security card" could pose a significant threat to individual privacy. The government could obtain access to personal medical records. Anonymous testing would be impossible. Already some anti-immigration groups are campaigning to make the health security card a national ID card.

How to grow

One local affiliate describes its membership drive

By TIMOTHY L. THOMPSON

The Libertarian Party of Orange County (LPOC), CA, recently completed a membership drive. To date, 88 new members have joined the party (with more than \$2,500 in new membership dues). In addition, the attendance at our monthly meetings has averaged 125 people since the membership drive began in August. Not only has our monthly attendance better than tripled, everybody is paying a \$5 admission. Prior to August, we didn't charge admission to our monthly meetings. In addition, we are establishing working relationships with the local media.

The first step in our membership drive was, of course, fundraising. We purchased a database from the local voter registrar's office that included all of the registered Libertarians in Orange County. We counted the number of registered Libertarians in each community of Orange County and calculated the cost of contacting each person twice.

First, we invited them to our monthly meeting. In the following month, we sent them solicitation letters asking them to join the party. Since the LPOC obtained a non-profit, bulk mail permit, the total cost of contacting each registered Libertarian by mail was only 25¢. We constructed a spread-

sheet that listed the number of registered Libertarians in each city and the cost of covering each community. These costs ranged from \$5 to \$95. Then, we mailed out an "Adopt-a-City" fund-raising letter. The total cost of the membership drive was approximately \$1,500. Thanks to the generous contributions of our members, we more than tripled our fund-raising target and raised more than \$4,700.

In August, we sent out invitations to all of the registered Libertarians in the county. Many of them reported that this was the first contact they had had with the LP in over a decade! More than 150 people turned out for our August meeting that featured a panel discussion of the voucher initiative. One of guest speakers at that meeting was Alan Bock, the senior columnist for the *Orange County Register*. In the subsequent months, Bock, with editor Ken Grubbs, have given us excellent free publicity by listing our meetings in the Sunday edition of the *Register*.

In September, we sent out the solicitation letters and scheduled a panel discussion on the Clinton health care plan and alternatives to socialized medicine.

In October, we scheduled a panel discussion on NAFTA, and one of the guest speakers was Virginia Postrel, editor of *Reason* magazine.

“Not only has our monthly attendance better than tripled, everybody is paying a \$5 admission.”

For each of these meetings we conducted additional target marketing based upon the topic under discussion. For example, in August, for the choice in education/voucher initiative discussion, we sent out flyers to dozens of private schools in the county. In

September, for the health care discussion, we invited representatives from Americans for Free Choice in Medicine, which publicized the event in its own newsletter.

Consequently, on average, nearly 40 percent of the people who attend our monthly meetings are non-Libertarians. We've acquired hundreds of inquiries from these meetings. In addition, we're establishing the LP as a credible organization. The local media is responding to our news releases, and we're finding it much easier to get commitments from excellent guest speakers.

This growth strategy has not been easy to implement. Mark Murphy, LPOC chair, has done a great job.

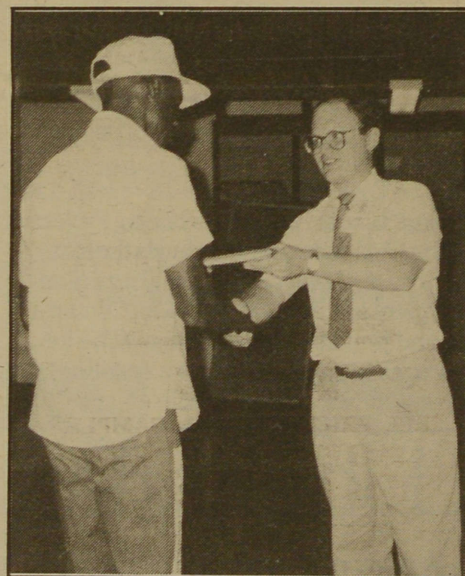
Tim Thompson is the director of the LPOC membership drive.

Freedom flourishes behind iron bars

In mid-July, 12 members of the Creative Attitudes Undertaking Self Education (CAUSE) in the Northeast Correctional Center in Mountain City, TN, started week one of a five-week Seminar 1 program to study libertarian ideals. The Advocates for Self-Government Davy Crockett chapter of Johnson City, TN, sponsored the program for CAUSE members.

Paul Schmidt, president of the Davy Crockett chapter, conducted the seminars. CAUSE members were divided into two groups of six participants each, and group leaders were Kenneth L. Bonner and Karim A. Rahim. This was the first time a Seminar 1 program had been conducted behind prison walls, and according to Bonner "there were a lot of positive results."

"Seminar 1 offered us valuable lessons in government, economics, crime, and en-



NEWS photo by Karim A. Rahim

GRADUATION - Paul Schmidt of the Advocates presents CAUSE president Kenneth L. Bonner with a certificate of achievement for completion of Seminar 1.

vironmental issues," said Bonner. The program "taught us more about politics than we have ever known in our lifetime," he added. "We are very grateful for the opportunity and experience of Seminar 1. It provided a new, fresh perspective into the problems that confront our world, and most importantly, it also provided what we feel to be a workable solution to those problems."

The success of the program was evident by the fact that at the end of the five-week period, "there were eight 'confessed' new libertarians and many expressed a sincere desire to become involved in free-world organizations such as the Advocates when released from prison," Bonner said.

For more information on Seminar 1, write the Advocates for Self-Government, 3955 Pleasantdale Rd., #106-A, Atlanta, GA 30340.

Nowhere else in America today is the climate so ripe for Libertarian success as it is in New Hampshire. The "Live Free or Die" state has long been a leader in the fight for Liberty, and we're poised for a banner year in 1994. Now is the time for you to become a part of it!

New Hampshire boasts a delegation of four Libertarian state representatives, a newly appointed Libertarian liquor commissioner, and major party status equal with Democrats and Republicans. NH Libertarians have been front page news in virtually every major newspaper in the state.

Each state affiliate party benefits from the credibility New Hampshire has established and the publicity New Hampshire generates. We need your help to keep the momentum going. We must elect at least four state reps in 1994. (Our goal is to at least double that number!)

Most importantly, we must maintain our ballot status, which means capturing required vote minimums in the '94 gubernatorial race. The '94 political races begin in only a few short months. We need to start now to seek out candidates, revamp our outreach materials, and expand our base of state party members.

It's critical that you take action now. Every state will benefit if the LPNH continues to expand. Every state will be set back if we lose our foothold here.

This is an exciting time in New Hampshire. What can you do to be a part of it? Become a member of the LPNH. Or subscribe to Libertarian Lines, the LPNH monthly newsletter. Or send a contribution to the address below. But do it today. Your state also benefits when you give to the Libertarian Party in New Hampshire.

- ☐ Enclosed is my donation to help the LPNH. ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$
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- ☐ \$12 Send me a one-year non-member subscription to the Libertarian Lines.

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Address _____

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*Optional. Federal election regulations require that we ask.

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LP HHS Sec. at KU

The Libertarian Party Shadow Cabinet's Secretary of Health and Human Services, Henry Butler, recently spoke at the University of Kansas, where he is a professor of law and economics, on behalf of the KU Libertarians.

Butler detailed to the audience the inherent failings of a centrally planned national health care program, such as the one proposed by the Clintons.

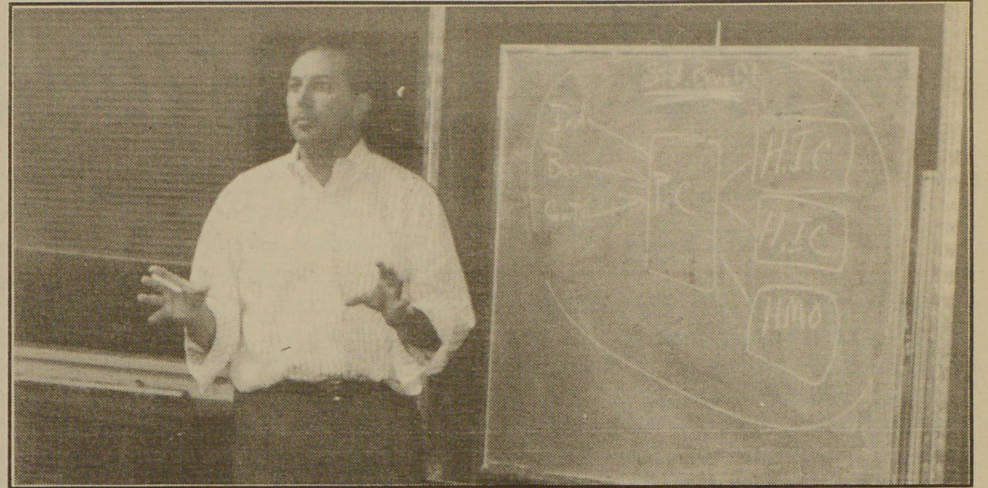
Butler noted that the Clintons' claim that their system is one of "managed competition" is impossible, since managed competition is a contradiction.

Butler articulated a fear that after the Clinton health care program fails, many politicians will then argue that we must turn to overt socialism as a last resort, because they mistakenly believe that the U.S. medical care economy is currently operating as a free market.

On the same day as the Butler presentation, Allen Tiffany, president of the KU

Libertarians, spoke before the Lesbian, Bisexual, and Gay Organization of Kansas. Tiffany explained that "human rights can be guaranteed only if the immutable sanctity of private property is guaranteed, and that human rights cannot be protected if force is used to implement passing notions of one person's 'morality.'"

Other proponents of freedom have spoken recently as the guests of the KU Libertarians, including Karl Peterjohn, executive director of the Kansas Taxpayers' Network, Jackie Bradbury, an LP activist from Kansas City, and Kansas state representative Kay O'Connor.



NEWS photo by Tom Oxley

HEALTH CARE TALK - Henry Butler recently spoke to a group at the University of Kansas on the inherent failings of the Clinton health care proposal.

A Feast of Freedom

"Liberty is a Glorious Feast." —Robert Burns

Every issue of *Liberty* offers a feast of individualist thinking designed to delight the most refined palate.

Hors d'oeuvres

To whet your appetite, we offer the provocative *Reflections* of *Liberty's* editors. A few selections from our current menu:

Doug Casey dines with Slick Willie, barely avoiding a body search;

Timothy Virkkala finds portents of Clintonism in the Book of Revelations;

Bill Kauffman praises a fiddle-playing Mountaineer's stand against Empire.

Entrées

The main course is a variety of controversial and thoughtful essays. A few entrées from our current offering:

Maverick attorney *Gerry Spence* tells why he defended Randy Weaver, the white separatist who holed up in the Idaho mountains until the government murdered his wife and son;

Chester Alan Arthur reviews America's 1993 elections — from coast to coast, how did freedom fare?

Fred Smith, James Sheehan, and Brian Doherty spar over NAFTA: does it bring us closer to free trade, or to international enviro-fascism?

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Liberty

January 1994 Vol. 7, No. 2 \$4.00

The Clinton Plan to Ruin Your Health

First They Came for the Fascists...

by *Gerry Spence*

NAFTA and/or Free Trade

by *Fred Smith, James Sheehan, and Brian Doherty*

Freedom at Midnight in Moscow

by *Ross Overbeek*

Feminists Against Choice

by *Wendy McElroy*

The New Conservative Welfare State

by *Jesse Walker*

My Dinner With Slick Willie

by *Doug Casey*

"Where Liberty lives, there is my homeland." —Algernon Sidney

Liberty presents a variety of penetrating reviews. A few examples from our current issue: *R.W. Bradford* visits America's wild and varied uninhabited places — but can't abide some of his fellow travelers;

Jesse Walker dissects the new conservative welfare state;

Clark Stooksbury takes an international look at gun control, gun culture, and the guns of the state.

Desserts

To top off your feast and satisfy your intellectual sweet-tooth, *Liberty* offers:

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Ross Overbeek reports from Russia, where political factions are fighting it out in the streets — while ordinary citizens are quietly creating a real revolution;

Scott Reid unravels Canada's most recent trip to the polls, while his country just unravels;

Wendy McElroy exposes the newest enemies of the pro-choice cause: radical feminists.

Potages

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R. W. Bradford
Publisher

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A call to pens (and phones, faxes, etc.)

By DIEDRE DENNIS

We won! HR 134, the bill to make discharge petitions public, passed 384 to 40! Many of those who kept this bill languishing in committee voted for it when the spotlight was focused on them. Congratulations! We are on the winning side of a good bill. Feels nice. And now, on to new challenges!

It's hard to say which is more offensive, the drug war or Congress's tax-and-spend policies, but this month you can attack both.

A new bill on asset forfeiture has been introduced by Rep. John Conyers (D-MI). It's even better than the Civil Asset Forfeiture Act that was discussed last month. Not only does HR 3347 include all the safeguards that HR 2417 required, it also stipulates that forfeiture can occur only after the owner of the property has been convicted of the crime upon which the forfeiture is based. Under this bill, the types of property that can be seized would be limited to drugs, weapons, and equipment used in a drug enterprise.

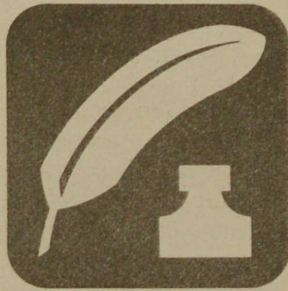
Also, forfeiture proceeds go directly to state treasuries, not to the agency that made the seizure, altering the incentive system for the better. Awards to informants are limited to \$250,000 per year, and strict reporting on the disposal of the proceeds is required. Finally, if it loses its case, the

government is not only responsible for returning the property in its original condition, but it must also pay market-rate interest on seizures of negotiable instruments.

HR 3347 was introduced in the last week of October. Since it is just getting off of its feet, it needs co-sponsors, co-sponsors, co-sponsors. I have no doubt that you know what to say if your representative has not co-sponsored this bill. But if your representative has already signed as a co-sponsor, suggest that he or she take one more step and call the Judiciary Committee, which is reviewing the bill, to urge a speedy passage. It's already too late for too many.

Now that your screen has the address of your Representative already typed, write one more letter. Rep. Mike Crapo (R-ID) and Senators Dirk Kempthorne (R-ID) and Paul Coverdell (R-GA) have introduced bills that require Congress to reduce its overall spending by the total of all cuts enacted. That sounds like a tautology, but unfortunately, it's not. Currently, when one program is cut, the Appropriations Committee simply shifts the savings to another, more pork-laden program. They are able to do this because their spending caps are not reduced when a cut is enacted. And you well know that the American Congress is never going to run under budget.

If House Resolution 3145 and Senate Bill 1514 become law, Congress will no longer brag about reductions in spending and then



quietly shift the money to other programs. Without these bills, real reductions in government spending are nearly impossible.

As of this writing, both the Senate and the House bills need more co-sponsors. Fortunately, we have allies in many taxpayer groups including Citizens for a Sound Economy and the National Taxpayers Union. Libertarians can contact their representatives (HR 3145) AND senators (S 1514) and urge, demand, and implore them to co-sponsor these bills.

Although we have our first win and no losses, all the other issues are still unresolved. The Dietary Supplement Act, HR 1709 and S 784, is still slogging its way through that labyrinth we call Congress. If you haven't contacted your senators and representatives, it's not too late. Do it right away! Those who have contacted their congresspeople and have not received a reply should pester those elected officials to take a stand. Even those who have received a reply that they didn't like can take

Congressional contacts

U.S. Capitol Switchboard:
202-224-3121

Addresses:

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

United States House of
Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

action. Send another letter. Make copies for friends and family to send. Bombard them with reason. (It's always worth a try.)

Another unresolved issue, Selective Service's budget for next year, is up for grabs. You may recall that the House cut Selective Service's budget to about \$5 million and that the Senate restored it to more than \$20 million. Disagreements between the Senate and House are generally worked out by the Joint Committee. In this case, however, both sides are fairly stubborn. The House approved the cut in two separate votes of the full membership and so they are pretty determined to have their way. On the other hand, the Senate wants to make Clinton look good when it comes to military tough-guy-ness.

At this point, the Senate is a lost cause. Libertarians should focus on the House and urge its committee members to stand their ground and insist that the cut be enacted. If you live in one of the following four districts, PLEASE contact your representative. The rest of us are counting on you. Stokes (D-OH), Mollohan (D-WV), Lewis (R-CA), and DeLay (R-TX) represent the House on the Joint Committee. If you live in one of the above states but not that specific district, write these people anyway. Politicians tend to be sensitive to the opinions of those whose votes they may need in future electoral bids.

In memorium

In the last month, the Libertarian Party sadly lost two long-time activists.

In Kentucky, state chair Jim Ridenour died after a long bout with heart disease. Although he was aware of his medical problems, Ridenour assumed the position of state chair "to build a strong state party," said new chair John Kilpatrick.

Ridenour had been active in the Indiana LP since the early 1980s. He was the LP candidate for governor of Indiana in 1984 and candidate for Indianapolis City-

County Council in 1987. He served as the Indiana state chair in 1985.

"He was a good friend and a valiant fighter for liberty," said Joe Hauptmann, LP national committee member.

In California, former state chair John Vernon died. Vernon had served in numerous positions in the state party and had also run for office as a Libertarian on many occasions. His most recent campaign was for U.S. Congress last year. Vernon received a special award at the LP national convention in Salt Lake City.

"He was a true proselytizer for the Libertarian Party, but was never abrasive or hostile. He had the ability to articulate libertarian ideas in an imaginative, yet matter-of-fact way, that helped clarify issues," said Tonie Nathan, former LP vice presidential candidate.

"Under John's leadership we believed that a peaceful and prosperous world was attainable and so we worked hard for our party because of John. We will have to work even harder now that he is gone," added Nathan.

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Join in NORML reaches out for Libertarian support

By RICHARD COWAN

I was a libertarian before I even knew what "marijuana" was, so I have always been opposed to cannabis prohibition. That is one of the advantages of being a libertarian. We don't have to change our minds every time there is "new data," since "old principles" remain the same. The only downside to this a priori commitment to freedom is that sometimes we may overlook some of the games that statists play.

When someone opposes drug prohibition on principle, then it is easy to miss the important difference between the prohibition of cannabis and the other drugs. Cannabis prohibition is not just bad social policy or an unjust interference in an individual's personal freedom, it is also a massive fraud. In fact, it is a fraud on a scale that even the most cynical of Libertarians may well find surprising. This fact makes cannabis prohibition different as an issue, which Libertarian activists can use to advance the Libertarian cause in general.

Quite often in debates I am asked if I oppose drug prohibition in general, or if my arguments for individual freedom apply only to cannabis and not to other drugs. Since the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) takes no position on anything other than cannabis, I try to focus on the great differences between the effects of cannabis and the other drugs, and second, consequently, are the resulting differences between the tens of millions of cannabis users and the users of "hard" drugs. The facts, not philosophy, will move more people in this argument.

From the non-libertarian "conservative" perspective one of the worst, but hidden, costs of cannabis prohibition is that it has

alienated a very large number of people from society and the democratic process. From the Libertarian activist perspective this alienation should also be seen as a great opportunity. First, as we know all too well, many Americans no longer believe in freedom and everyone seems to want something from the government, if only to get their "fair share" of the boodle. Although they are otherwise a highly variegated lot, pot smokers, as such, may be the largest identifiable group in America that wants literally nothing from the federal government. As such they are the perfect target for Libertarians.

I have often said that the "marijuana reform movement" can only succeed through the leverage of reaching out to others who agree with us. The same point applies to Libertarians. The cannabis community must reach people who will reason from their general principles to the particulars of our situation. For Libertarians the need is to find those who will reason from their particular situation to Libertarian general principles. In short the cannabis community and the Libertarians need one another. There are far more pot smokers than there are Libertarians, but pot smokers, as such, are (unduly) inhibited by the fear of being arrested, which is not yet a risk factor for Libertarians. The Libertarian banner would offer greatly appreciated protection.

It might seem that Libertarians would have to compromise their basic principles focusing their efforts on just one aspect of "drug" prohibition, but in reality this is not the case. This should rather be seen as a means to a very important end. The key point is that the "marijuana" fraud and its reefer madness ideology are as central to the narcocracy as anti-Semitism is to Nazism. Exposing the fraud on an empirical

I have often said that the "marijuana reform movement" can only succeed through the leverage of reaching out to others who agree with us.

basis, rather than attacking on philosophical grounds, does not require any betrayal of principles. Indeed, it will prove the very important Libertarian point that governments will go to really extraordinary lengths to get power and cover up their fraud.

The liberation of the cannabis community in which the Libertarian Party plays a prominent role could create a vast new constituency for libertarianism and force the media to take libertarianism seriously as a political force. Libertarianism would have made an important practical contribution to America's freedom. I would be the last person to minimize the importance of the contribution of the Libertarian philosophy to the public discourse, but it gets co-opted and often corrupted by conservatives who selectively graze in our fields.

In addition, the repeal of cannabis prohibition would free up a very large number of

Americans to speak out who know firsthand the ruthless methods of the narcocracy. Not all of them will oppose drug prohibition in general, but all of them will oppose the methods now used which are a threat to everyone's freedom, whether or not they use any illicit drugs. In any case, they will have an important story to tell the American people. It is up to the Libertarians to ensure that they draw the appropriate conclusions.

As I approach the bottom line of this piece, let me get to the bottom line of the proposition. I strongly urge Libertarians to form their own chapters of NORML in their own areas. We are encouraging the formation of NORML chapters by different groups, especially on college campuses around the country. Young Democrats are forming their own NORML chapters in some areas. When cannabis prohibition comes to its ignominious end, will those reaping the credit be liberals or Libertarians? Relativists or individualists? I hope that my fellow Libertarians make the right thing happen. Please write me and give me your thoughts, and work with us to advance the cause of freedom.

Richard Cowan is the national director of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, 1001 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 1119, Washington, DC 20036.

Bok work in NEWS

The work of editorial cartoonist Chip Bok now appears in the NEWS.

Bok began his full-time cartooning career at the *Clearwater (FL) Sun* in 1981. He has gone on to create biting and insightful editorial cartoons that have appeared on the pages of some of the most prestigious publications in America.

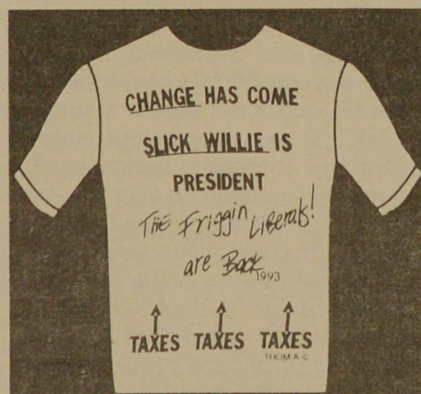
In 1983, Bok joined the *Miami Herald*, Dave Barry's employer. Bok created a weekly cartoon commenting on controversial issues and the south Florida lifestyle.

Bok became staff editorial cartoonist for the *Akron Beacon Journal* in 1987. Winner of the 1989 Fischetti Award, his work is regularly reprinted in *Newsweek*, the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *Washington Post*.

"Chip Bok is unique among editorial cartoonists," said Richard Newcombe, president of Creators Syndicate. "His work

is not only bold and incisive—it reflects a libertarian perspective. Editorial pages are filled with liberal cartoons and conservative columns. Chip Bok's libertarian viewpoint adds balance to any editorial page."

A graduate of the University of Dayton, Bok, 37, resides in Akron with his wife and three children.



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Letters

Readers on health care, defense, the NEWS, taxes, and more

Missed it

Did I miss something? I just read the extensive coverage of the LP national convention (Oct. 1993 NEWS), but I didn't see one word about the national television coverage that the convention generated.

For 90 minutes, four Libertarian elected officials appeared on C-SPAN, presenting to a national audience real-world, front-line representatives of the Libertarian Party. The LP program was preceded and followed by (unrelated) programs featuring the United States Secretary of State and editors of the New York Times and Boston Globe.

Wasn't that a bit of media breakthrough for the LP? Wasn't that event at all newsworthy?

We Libertarians are accustomed to being ignored by the statist press. But by the LP NEWS?!

Bonnie Flickinger
City Councilmember
Moreno Valley, CA

Health care

Thank you for the opportunity to address the federal health care plan. I have two questions: 1) On what basis does the administration and Congress presume to have the authority to involve the federal government, in any manner whatsoever, in this area of the lives of the citizens?, and; 2) Will I be forced to accept and fund this rape?

John Tyner
Raleigh, NC

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The sharing of wages to provide a socialist health package as proposed by the Clintons is a hypocritical political sham!

It is nothing but a naked grab for raw power. The power that is of the state to control one trillion dollars of the U.S. economy.

That, coupled with a compulsory health rationing card, would identify to the central state computer every aspect of an individual's health. This includes mental, sexual, addictions, marital counseling, pregnancies, venereal diseases, jobs, addresses, income sources, and phone number. This gives the state incredible coercive power over individuals only dreamt of by the defeated fascist dictators of yesteryear.

The nationalized health service proposed by the Clintons is as outrageously un-American as it is bogus. Deceptively pitched as a sop to emotional fears, it masks a Machiavellian shift away from the Bill of Rights toward a totalitarian state.

Chris Lyon
Corona del Mar, CA

Defense fund

People often ask how Libertarians propose paying for national defense without taxes. Rather than answering with a disingenuous, "Because enough people will think having national defense is important, they will simply pay for it," I instead suggest a solution called a National Defense Fund (NDF).

The NDF proposal calls for the U.S. to build a capital pool of invested securities, stocks, and bonds large enough that each year's interest and dividend earnings would



Staying in touch

Letters to the editor

pay for the next year's defense costs. Using an estimate of \$125 billion—which excludes billions spent defending other countries and limits the armed forces to a truly defensive role—and counting on a low yearly return of 3.5 percent (tax-free of course), the NDF would have to contain about \$3.5 trillion.

To raise this amount, the U.S. could do a number of things. It could sell off portions of the land and property it currently holds. Or, it could set up a voluntary tax system in which individuals could choose not to pay, but would then not be allowed to vote in federal elections. A combination of these or other techniques might also be used.

The NDF proposal has several advantages: 1) It negates the 'free lunch' issue; 2) It is based on solid financial principles; 3) It is a proposal which could be started tomorrow as a means of reaching a voluntary national defense payment plan; 4) Once established, the NDF provides a predictable revenue flow upon which research and spending plans can be based; 5) Because the NDF is geographically based, immigrants would not be required to pay before entry.

Ultimately, the concept of a National Defense Fund provides a concise, plausible answer to the question of how to pay for national defense without taxation. This is something few, if any, alternatives can claim.

Brad Eichstadt
Plymouth, MN

Credibility crisis

Libertarians are facing a huge credibility crisis, due to our contradictory stand on taxes.

On one hand, we proclaim that "Taxation is Theft," and praise tax protesters such as Irwin Schiff. On the other hand, we have Libertarian politicians in New Hampshire who get tax based salaries, and a candidate in Wisconsin who wants government matching funds.

We can't have it both ways! Either taxation is theft, and our Libertarian officials are receiving stolen goods, or taxation is tolerable, and our rhetoric is mere rhetoric.

As long as we straddle the fence, our enemies will have every excuse to brand us as hypocrites—and they might be right.

Don J. Cormier
San Jose, CA

Action

I saw an editorial in U.S. News & World Report (Oct. 25, 1993) about the situation in Russia, "Getting Russia Off the Ropes," it was titled. It went into detail about the civil plight and strife over there, and about the needy Russians.

The thing I want to know is this: You'd think that Milton Friedman or one of our great capitalist theorists would be over there doing something. They talk a great line, but when it comes down to brass knuckles, they sit back in their ivory castles, puffing on their pipes (and still spewing

tons of factory gases for miles around) while the rest of the world goes to hell . . . let's see some concrete action!

God knows that I don't have the brains nor wherewithal to be of any use, but jeeze, you'd think that someone could do something, sometime, somewhere.

David M. Thornburgh
Miami Beach, FL

No Rush

In response to the ad for bumperstickers on page six of the November NEWS, I would like to remind libertarians that we should not be endorsing Rush Limbaugh. I do have a small shred of respect for the man, simply because he has the courage to speak against the system. But we must not forget that Rush also backs up his biased, pig-headed opinions with mere half-truths and sometimes all out lies. No libertarian should don a bumpersticker with the logo "Rush 96" or "Die liberal scum." No logical man needs to be told why these two phrases do not fit into libertarian doctrine.

I am not suggesting that you pull ads of this nature from our newsletter, that would also be a gross infringement on libertarian principles. I would just like to remind everyone that movements such as ours have enough trouble being taken seriously without overblown Republicans and catch phrases which endorse hate and violence towards a group of people we should be trying to persuade.

Tad Salyards
Winona, MN

In the NEWS

I usually like to pass along my LP NEWS to other persons who might be interested . . . kind of a spread the word philosophy.

The paper is excellent for keeping members informed on what is going on within the party. Frankly, however, it does little to inform the non-members about what the LP platform is all about.

It is easy to see how potential readers and non-members might become bored, thus doing little to bring about someone's curiosity in the party.

Perhaps a good idea would be to have a page or two near the front of the paper that discusses a specific area of the Libertarian platform.

Tim Taylor
Sarasota, FL

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Every time I read an issue of the NEWS I become disheartened because of how much this important tool of advertising is being misused and underused. But I will not blame anyone for this because I too share the blame for not speaking out.

The NEWS should be not only a publication for internal consumption by party members, but also an active means for the release of national and international news approached with a libertarian focus. It should be a full-range monthly periodical with editorial pages, in-depth analysis of current events, etc., as well as a tool for the dissemination of party news. It should be sold at newsstands and bookstores, and, maybe, street corner paper racks, and priced at about \$3.

Everyone now working on some local or state publication should consider putting their money and effort into this project.

Count me to contribute if there are others interested.

Gonzalo Leon
Columbia, SC

Taxation

Bill Williford (Sept. 1993 NEWS) expressed confusion over the 16th Amendment and the legality of the income tax as brought forth by Irwin Schiff (Aug. 1993 NEWS). It seems to me that the U.S. Supreme Court has itself declared the tax illegal. I quote from *Stapler v. U.S.* 21 F. Supp. 737,739(19): "Income within the meaning of the Sixteenth Amendment and the Revenue Act, means 'gains' . . . and in such connection 'gain' means profit . . . proceeding from property, severed from capital . . ."

Wages, salaries, first time commissions, and loans are sources of investment income (capital) and the 16th Amendment prohibited taxing the source without apportionment, since the income tax is on income from the source, and not on the source itself.

To clarify further, I suggest obtaining a copy of the booklet, "An Introduction to the Return to Constitutional Government" by Dr. Robert B. Clarkson. It will explain in detail the various court rulings and you will see, as I did, that the income tax as we know it is both illegal and unconstitutional.

Ted Vaughn
Baker City, OR

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Income, in the legal sense, is corporate profits. The Supreme Court of the U.S., in *Burnet v. Harmel* (287 U.S. 108) states it in this way: "'Income,' as used in the revenue acts taxing income, adopted since the 16th Amendment, has the same meaning that it had in the Corporation Excise Tax Act of 1909. The Corporation Excise Tax Act of 1909 imposed an excise tax on corporations, measured by their income."

Congress (which includes the IRS) cannot define or change the meaning of income either. The U.S. Supreme Court expresses this point as follows, in *Eisner v. Macomber* (252 U.S. 207): "It becomes essential to distinguish between what is and what is not 'income,' and to apply the distinction, as cases arise, according to truth and substance, without regard to form. Congress cannot by any definition it may adopt conclude the matter, since it cannot by legislation alter the Constitution, from which alone it derives its power to legislate and within whose limitations alone that power can be lawfully exercised."

You may be asking, "If I do not have income, since I am not a corporation, then how is the IRS able to throw us in jail, confiscate our property, and ruin our lives?"

The IRS gets away with these activities by first exercising a power which it does not have under law. This power is the ability to assess you for this "tax" in the first place.

Nowhere is authority granted to the Internal Revenue Service to make assessments on income.

This is very important since if there is no assessment, then you have no liability (or obligation to make payment).

Daniel J. Goodman
Big Pine Key, FL

FEAR

Group seeks LP support in asset forfeiture battle

By JOHN PAFF

Asset forfeiture laws allow the government to confiscate property without paying compensation. Originally intended to deprive criminals of ill-gotten gains, forfeiture laws are now routinely used against innocent property owners.

Forfeiture proceedings declare property guilty of crime. The burden of proof is shifted from the government to the defendant property, forcing the owner into the untenable situation of trying to prove a negative—that something never happened, when no proof has been offered that it did.

It's easy for the government to forfeit your property because it doesn't even have to charge you with a crime, let alone convict you. In fact, 80 percent of property forfeited in the U.S. is seized from owners who are never even charged with a crime! You can lose your home or car through forfeiture because of a crime committed by someone else. Often the criminal will get off easier than you do.

We fear these laws because they give far too much discretion to law enforcement agencies. Since these agencies get to keep nearly all the forfeited property on a commission basis, officers often succumb to budget pressures and the temptation of bounty in the form of seized assets for their departments.

Police can seize and detain your property without a warrant. Forfeitures can even be based upon information received from

informants with extensive criminal records, who stand to gain 25 percent of your forfeited assets.

Many innocent people have forfeited property because they either: 1) lacked the financial means to obtain legal defense or to pay the "cost bond" often required to purchase their day in court; 2) were holding a mortgage which the proceeds of the government auction did not cover; 3) were unable to prove that a crime did not occur, or; 4) were unable to prove they diligently inspected their property to prevent drug transactions from transpiring.

Clearly, this is unfair. Forfeiture law allows government to seize property on mere suspicion, and then keep it without ever having to prove a case. Property is presumed to be guilty.

Bankers, landlords, restaurant and other business owners are losing valuable property because of something their mortgagor, tenant, customer, or a trespasser may have done. (Beware of contacting law enforcement if you suspect a tenant may be involved in illegal activities. Such a call may not get your tenant arrested, but could easily result in your property being forfeited. While the criminal conviction of your tenant requires proof, hearsay or even your reported suspicions provides all the evidence that is necessary to lose your property to the government!)

These outrageous precedents have been set due to the government's "War on Drugs," but forfeitures are rapidly expand-

ing into other areas of law. The Department of Justice is now using an "innovative" interpretation of forfeiture statutes to seize the assets of physicians suspected of "federal health care offenses." This frequently used tactic can cause physicians' entire assets to be forfeited based upon a single "fraudulent" billing due to a clerical error, or an "unnecessary" admission of a patient to a health care facility.

The proposed Crime Control Act of 1993 (SB 8) would extend forfeitures to homes used for organizational meetings for free speech events, if, for instance, a fist fight happens to occur at the demonstration—even if the fight is started by a government agent! Though this Act appears on the surface to target terrorist activity, this proposed legislation invites government intimidation of citizens exercising their First Amendment rights of free speech.

Forfeiture is a huge money maker for government. \$2.4 billion worth of assets have been forfeited since 1985, \$644 million in 1991 alone. It is going to be extremely difficult to separate our money-hungry government from its lucrative meal ticket.

For example, the Ventura County (CA) District Attorney officially blamed the lure of forfeiture revenue for the tragic slaying of an innocent 61-year-old millionaire. Yet less than a month later he testified before

the California legislature in support of proposed state forfeiture laws that would make it easier for law enforcement agencies to acquire assets through state forfeiture proceedings.

Law enforcement officials promoting expanded forfeiture laws comprise the overwhelming majority of lobbyists at hearings on forfeiture legislation. Until recently citizens had no organized voice defending their property interests in Congress and state legislatures.

Now, Forfeiture Endangers American Rights (FEAR) is here to provide that voice. FEAR lobbyists recently defeated police efforts to expand forfeiture laws in California, and we are close to success in achieving state level forfeiture law reform there. And FEAR is gaining momentum in forfeiture reform at the federal level.

There is much to do and time is short. Far too many people have already lost their cars, homes, or life savings because of unfair forfeiture laws. We need your help to stop this madness.

We at FEAR are dedicated to stopping the tyranny that unfair forfeiture laws allows. If you would like to assist us in our cause or learn more about us, write FEAR, P.O. Box 5424, Somerset, NJ 08875-5424.

John Paff is the chairman of Forfeiture Endangers American Rights (FEAR).

NAFTA endorsed

A decision on NAFTA will be made shortly after publication of this issue of the NEWS, but we thought readers would be interested in a news release sent out last month by the Libertarian Party headquarters:

The most aggressively pro-free trade group in America has endorsed NAFTA.

The Libertarian Party has reaffirmed its steadfast support of free trade with a formal endorsement of the North American Free Trade Agreement, and urged that NAFTA be expanded into full free trade with the entire world.

By a 12-1 vote, the party's national committee voted to encourage ratification of NAFTA by the U.S. Congress, despite some concerns. Overall, the party asserted that the controversial proposal would do more good than harm.

"Protectionists claim that the creation of a free-trade area will reduce American prosperity. That's simply not true!" said Williamson Evers, the national committee member who drafted the resolution. "The fact is, prosperity grows with the expansion of the market. It's trade protection that blocks prosperity and grants special favors to privileged industries and labor unions—at the expense of the rest of America."

Evers said NAFTA will reduce to zero tariffs on imports to the United States from Canada and Mexico, and noted that the national platform of the Libertarian Party

calls for the abolition of all tariffs. But Evers said the Libertarian Party doesn't want free trade to stop at the borders of Canada and Mexico.

"We oppose all efforts to turn North America into an exclusionary trading bloc. The party will try to expand the trade liberalization achieved through NAFTA into full free trade with the entire world," he promised.

Besides ideology, Evers said the party also had political reasons for endorsing the bill. "The defeat of NAFTA in Congress will set back the cause of free trade for decades, because American politicians would decide free trade is a lost cause and not worth their support," he said. "We can't have that happen."

But the party does have some concerns about the scope of NAFTA, said Evers.

"The Libertarian Party has always opposed international treaties that violate individual rights. So we will oppose any efforts to turn NAFTA into a vehicle for political and bureaucratic interference with property rights and manipulation of business firms, especially through continental regulations of working conditions or environmental policies," he said.

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Sue me!

Dave explains why we need lots of lawyers in the U.S.

I am sick and tired of all this lawyer-bashing. When I hear somebody say something bad about lawyers, it makes me want to walk up and spit in his face, thereby causing him to shove me, so I can fall down and file a \$17 million personal-injury lawsuit against him.

Because I happen to think lawyers are great. I am darned grateful that I live in a country that has, pound for pound, more lawyers than any other country in the entire world. We NEED a lot of lawyers, to protect all these rights we have as Americans, including—but not limited to—the rights to life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, job security, decent housing, affordable health care, the capture of happiness, a non-smoking section, a joke-free work environment, a smoking section, cable TV, a team that makes the playoffs, rain-free outdoor weddings, risk-free bungee-jumping, warning labels on everything including spiders, self-esteem, and a choice of low-fat desserts.

We have so many rights that we cannot possibly keep track of them all with our primitive non-legal minds. This is why we need all these lawyers out there fighting for us, even when we are not aware of it.

A fine example of this, brought to my attention by alert reader Leon Rothman, is the Case of the Denture Adhesive Menace, as reported in a *Miami Herald* story by Bruce Taylor Seeman. In case you missed



On the light side

Dave Barry
Columnist

this story, let me review the facts of the case:

From 1985 to 1990, a company named SmithKline Beecham manufactured denture adhesives sold under the names "Orafix Special" and "Brace." SmithKline recalled these products in 1990 after they were found to contain trace amounts of benzene, a carcinogen. SmithKline contends that the products were not harmful. There is no evidence anybody got cancer from using them.

Then a retired Philadelphia auto-supplies dealer named Meyer E. Duboff, who used SmithKline denture products, contacted his lawyer, Jay S. Cohen.

"He called me and said, 'I've been using this stuff for years. Can you check it out?'" Cohen told the *Miami Herald*.

OK, is everybody following this so far? ONE GUY has called his lawyer. This guy does NOT have cancer. NOBODY has cancer. Nobody is claiming ANYBODY actually got hurt.

So the lawyer told the guy: "Gosh, Meyer, nothing really happened. Why don't you



just forget about it?"

NO! Just kidding! That might happen in some backward, under-lawyered nation like Japan, but not here in the U.S.A.! What happened here, of course, was that Cohen and some other lawyers filed a class-action lawsuit against SmithKline on behalf of Duboff and all the other denture-adhesive users out there who, because of a tragic lack of legal representation, had not yet noticed that they were victims.

And of course SmithKline, to avoid the hassle and publicity and legal expense of a trial, settled out of court. Three groups got money in the settlement.

1. MR. DUBOFF. He got \$25,000. Fair enough. It was his idea in the first place.

2. THE OTHER DENTURE-ADHESIVE VICTIMS. They were notified of their victimhood via newspaper advertisements and direct mailings, paid for by SmithKline. About 650 people sent in proof that they had purchased Orafix Special or Brace; each of these people received \$7. Another 2,800 people—who did not have proof of purchase—filled out forms certifying that they had purchased at least one tube of either product; each of these people received a package of discount coupons for SmithKline products.

3. THE LAWYERS FOR THE PLAINTIFF. If you are a fan of Justice, American Style, you will be very excited when I tell you what the lawyers got, in expenses and legal fees.

They got \$954,934.57.

"It's a lot of money," said Cohen. "But there's also a lot of money that goes into these cases."

I am sure there is! A lot of money! Also a lot of work! It cannot be easy, taking a case wherein it appears, to the naked untrained layperson eye, that nobody has suffered any observable harm, and, using legal skills, turning it into a financial transaction that involves thousands of people and a million dollars! Plus coupons!

So the lawyers certainly deserved this money, although I'm certain that, for them, the really important thing was simply the satisfaction of knowing that all those victims are now finally able, at long last, to put this horrible denture-adhesive nightmare behind them and begin leading happier lives, possibly by applying their \$7 settlements toward world cruises, vacation homes, etc.

Yes, we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to these lawyers and the estimated 14.2 billion other members of the American legal community, many of whom, I am sure, will write to me on their official letterhead stationery to respond to this column. I look forward to reading these letters; I just hope that, in handling them, I do not suffer paper cuts, which could cause me, as a writer, to become incapacitated, not to mention pain and suffering.

And I'm not settling for any stinking coupons.

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Quote of the Month

The following quote comes from "Free To Choose," the 1979 book by Milton and Rose Friedman:

"National health insurance is another example of misleading labeling. In such a system there would be no connection between what you would pay and the actuarial value of what you would be entitled to receive, as there is in private insurance. In addition it is not directed at insuring 'national health'—a meaningless phrase—but at providing medical services to the residents of the country. . .

Two major arguments are offered for introducing socialized medicine in the United States: first, that medical costs are beyond the means of most Americans; second, that socialization will somehow reduce costs. The second can be dismissed out of hand—at least until someone can find some example of an activity that is conducted more economically by government than by private enterprise. As to the first, the people of the country must pay the costs one way or another; the only question is whether they pay them directly on their own behalf, or indirectly through the mediation of government bureaucrats who will subtract a substantial slice for their own salaries and expenses. . .

In our opinion there is no case whatsoever for socialized medicine. On the contrary, government already plays too large a role in medical care. Any further expansion of its role would be very much against the interests of patients, physicians, and health care personnel."

Milton and Rose Friedman

It's time to join
the party!
see page 4

Notebook

continued from page 10

industry, give a hoot how much of our gross domestic product is devoted to bananas or bras or cars or caterers, etc.? How people use their money should be their decision, not Washington's."

Forbes, Sept. 27, 1993.

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Health care, like any other good, is a scarce resource. As such, there are only two ways to ration it: by price or by queuing (which includes official favoritism that allows line jumping). Americans are not particularly fond of either method as it applies to health care. That's why the Clinton Plan tries to provide everything for everyone and attempts to hide the fact that price controls are the heart of the plan and that after a brief honeymoon, queuing will be the method by which increasingly scarce resources will be rationed.

A *Wall Street Journal* editorial addressed the fact that health care now accounts for 14 percent of gross domestic product. This fact has many convinced that the price rationing method doesn't work and that it is time to impose price controls. There ought to be room for savings in any industry that accounts for so large a percentage of GDP, "(e)specially so since it's easy to see that health care is larded with perverse incentives. The tax system creates incentives for employers and unions to arrange compensation in the form of health care rather than wages, and as a result employees have incentives toward overuse. Suppliers paid on a fee-for-service basis have incentives for more care. Uniquely American malpractice litigation creates incentives for more tests. The government has chosen to pay for care for the elderly and indigent, giving them incentives to seek care that have to be balanced by queuing in emergency rooms. Then it imposed price controls on this care, giving suppliers incentives to cover costs by boosting prices for private patients. Some potential patients, knowing that they will not be denied care in an emergency, find incentives to avoid the cost of insurance."

The editorial also notes that demand is driven because "many of our remaining health problems are the result of personal behavior—issues of weight, exercise, seatbelts, tobacco, alcohol, and drugs. Since this is beyond the control of medical science, it's far from clear that there would be great returns from continual increases in spending on health care."

They suggest that "If the government is serious about reforms, it has to try to create the right incentives, or more accurately correct the perverse incentives its programs have introduced, and leave it to consumers and suppliers to sort out the details... We do not need one grand scheme subject to vast unintended consequences, and subject to catastrophic failure if its designers are not the geniuses they imagine themselves to be. The Clinton proposal is shaping up as precisely this kind of arrogance, and is likely to be a danger to the health and well-being, not to mention the pocketbooks, of us all."

Wall Street Journal, Sept. 22, 1993.

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Elizabeth McCaughey, fellow at the Manhattan Institute in New York, analyzed the Clinton Plan, all 239 pages plus charts, and feels uneasy about much of it.

"Another rule, 'community rating,' requires insurers to offer the same basic package to everyone in the region for the same price. Smokers and non-smokers, drug abusers and non-users pay the same. Community rating means that the sick are not thrown overboard, but it also makes those who adopt healthy behavior subsidize those who do not, and it pushes fee-for-service insurance out of the reach of many Americans who can now afford it.

"Seeing a specialist and paying for it out-of-pocket will be almost impossible... Drs. David Himmelstein and Steffie Woolhandler, leading proponents of a Canadian-style single-payer system, warn that the plan will 'obliterate private practice.'" Should anyone try for better care outside the system, "the Clinton Plan anticipates the problem, with new criminal penalties for 'payment of bribes or gratuities to influence the delivery of health service.'"

Ms. McCaughey's bottom line: "The Clinton Plan is coercive. It takes personal health choices away from patients and families, and it also imposes a system of financing health care based on regional alliances that will make racial tensions faster and produce mean-spirited political struggles and lawsuits to shirk the cost of medical care for the urban poor."

Article in Wall Street Journal, Sept. 30, 1993.

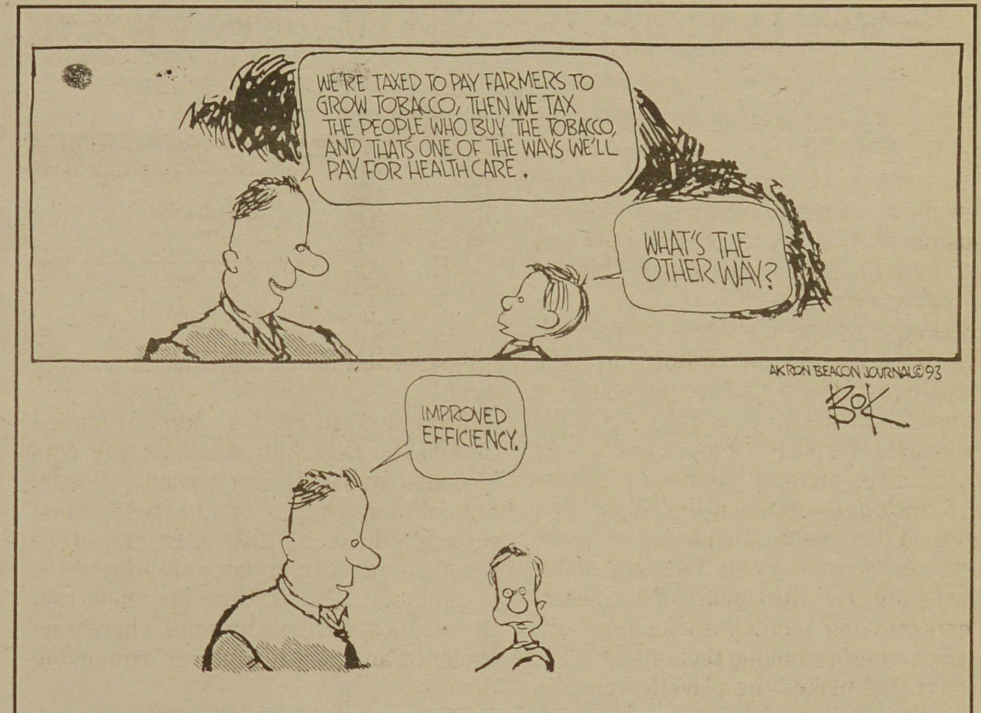
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The Clinton Plan, or some variation of it, will probably take until May 1995 to be enacted, guesses Ira Magaziner. Some opponents see serious problems that must be corrected first: State Sen. Nancy Johnson (R-CT) says, "Companies that invest in wellness and manage costs will pay the same as those who haven't managed their costs." Some reward for those companies that have addressed soaring costs. John Motley, VP of the National Federation of Independent Business, asks, "Why set up the employers as the middlemen in a system in which they have no control?" (Why, to deflect the blame for escalating costs, of course.) Sen. Johnson says, "We are reluctant to create dozens of new bureaucracies with unprecedented power over health care." Susan Foote, senior legislative director for Sen. David Durenberger (R-MN), acknowledges that "caps on premiums will only set up a situation where you reward the inefficient and punish the efficient," noting that Minnesota spends 15 percent below the national average for health care, while Los Angeles spends 78 percent above.

Quotes from an article by Michael Verespej in Industry Week, Oct. 4, 1993.

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Donald Devine, former manager of the Federal Employee Health Benefits pro-



gram, sees the Clinton Plan as "all pain and no gain" in an article in *Insight*. He's not the only one: "What if, as a *New York Times* editorial put it, 'trying to run the \$800 billion health industry by government fiat is folly? Price controls would spawn bureaucracies and wholesale evasion. Worse yet, they would rob health care providers of the drive to innovate that distinguishes the U.S. health care system,' according to the editorial."

Others whom you might expect to endorse the Clinton Plan are equally cautious. Devine writes, "No less than the creator of Medicare, Joseph Califano, Jr., now admits that controlling doctors' fees 'created gigantic insurance bureaucracies to play catch-up with doctors who simply created additional procedures and performed them more frequently.'" And, *Washington Post* humorist, Tony Kornheiser says: "Start chopping those exorbitant doctors' fees. Make America like China, where you can make as much money driving a cab as being a doctor—so when you have a suspicious mole on your back, you may as well pull into Jiffy Lube."

Devine cites Robert Reischauer, director of the Congressional Budget Office, as admitting "cost controls are likely to be more painful than many envision, requiring consumers to accept some real limits on the quality or quantity of health care." Adds Devine, "One survey of doctors found that half the physicians in the United States say they would consider retiring if Clinton's plan is too onerous."

Insight, Oct. 4, 1993.

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"A close analysis of the 239-page draft... reveals that the Clinton health plan would create 59 new federal programs or bureaucracies, expand 20 others, impose 79 new federal mandates, and make major changes in the tax code."

Congressman Dick Armey (R-TX) in Wall Street Journal, Oct. 13, 1993.

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"Worst of all, there is no plausible explanation of where the money is to come from to finance the vast bureaucracy that will administer the program..."

"It will swing into place the last big piece of social engineering needed to make America a fully functioning welfare state, socialist in everything but name. (T)he gradual coarsening of American medicine into a village idiot like the U.S. Postal Service... will begin to appear only in Mr. Clinton's second administration, when it's far too late to turn back, let alone retaliate against him."

"From now on you can expect the Democrats to come up with one law after another, 'mandating' that this or that 'benefit' shall be conferred on the voters by business or some other fall guy out there in the private sector."

"We are present at the birth of a great new popular myth. However big a disaster socialized medicine proves to be, history will credit Bill Clinton only with the 'vision,' not the results. Within a relatively few years, voters will begin arriving on the scene who have no personal recollection of what medicine in America used to be like, and of what, accordingly, has been thrown away. Then the liberals can inscribe in their hearts a new version of Milton Friedman's most famous maxim: 'There's no such thing as a free lunch—but if I have the votes I can make you pay for mine.'"

William Rusher, syndicated columnist, Daily Local News, Oct. 14, 1993.

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"The consequences of systematic abandonment of individual rights for the policy of forced sacrifice and redistribution have been disastrous for our country—an embittered underclass, mind-boggling deficits, rampant crime, institutionalized racism, a failing economy, and a declining standard of living. As this collectivist president prepares to seize more of our freedom in the name of the common good, now is the time to steadfastly resist and regain what has been lost of our precious heritage."

Richard Fisher, M.D., Sun City, AZ; letter in Wall Street Journal, Oct. 14, 1993.

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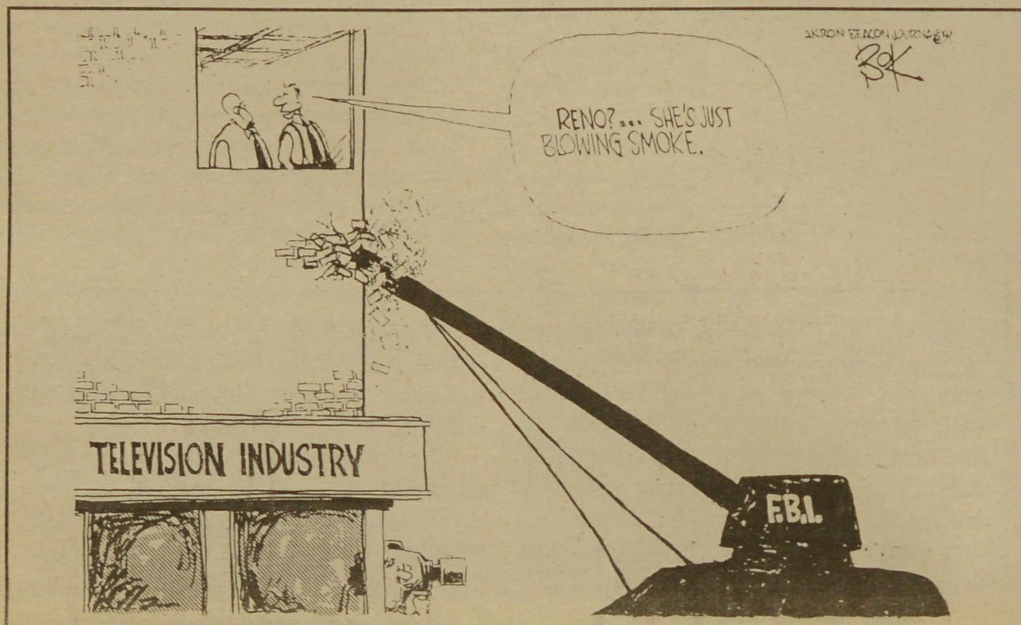
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Upcoming Events

Dec. 11-12, 1993:

Libertarian Party National Committee Meeting, Arlington, VA; for more information call 202-543-1988.

Jan. 29, 1994:

Stop Civil Asset Forfeiture Conference, Hastings Law School, 200 McAllister St., San Francisco, CA; sponsored by ISIL and California FEAR; for more information call 415-864-0952.

March 19, 1994:

Tennessee LP Convention, Wyndham Garden Hotel, Nashville; for more information call 615-773-7090. Speakers include Jacob Hornberger and Tamara Clark.

March 11-13, 1994:

Pennsylvania LP Convention, Best Western's Harrisburg - West Conference Center; for more information call 215-264-1921.

April 16-17, 1994:

Libertarian Party National Committee Meeting, Kansas City, MO; for information call 202-543-1988.

Aug. 20-21, 1994:

Libertarian Party National Committee Meeting, location to be determined.

To get your upcoming event listed, notify the NEWS early.
 Send notice to: NEWS, P.O. Box 780, Winchester, VA 22604.

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