



the ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN

DON'T
MISS IT!
1981 IPI PICNIC
JUNE 27
See IPI CALENDAR, P.5

Volume 7, Number 5

June 1981

PROTECTIONISM EXPOSED PART II

BY SHELDON RICHMAN

nobody, in his or her role as a consumer, believes imports are bad. (When U.S. Steel recently needed to buy steel, it turned to Japanese companies.) Intuitively, most people realize that what counts are products, not money, not even jobs. They are means. The end is a desired good or service. Conventional economics holds that exports are beneficial, imports detrimental. This is like saying that for the individual, only selling is beneficial while buying is detrimental.

Obviously, something is amiss. Why would anyone sell if he or she didn't intend to buy? What confuses most thinking here is money. In barter, selling is buying. If international trade were conducted by barter, none of these fallacies would arise. But international trade would be severely limited, if not impossible, were we confined to barter.

So let's talk about money. Money brings about indirect barter. As a common medium of exchange, money facilitates trade between individuals who otherwise couldn't trade with each other. If Jones has butter and wants shoes, and Smith has shoes but doesn't want butter, money enables them to trade because Smith can then use it to get what he or she wants. Despite this indirectness, buying and selling remain two aspects of the same act. No one wants money for its own sake. It is accepted only because the seller believes he or she will later be able to trade it for products he or she wants. The fallacies melt away with this understanding.

This brings us to the "balance of trade". Many people anguish over the fact that Japanese purchasers, for example, bought \$8 billion less of American products in 1980 than Americans bought of theirs the year before. They call this a "trade deficit". Why is this bad? As former Rep. Charles Vanik of Ohio put it, "We sent them \$8 billion of our wealth." Of course, this is absurd.

The wailing about trade deficits is full of problems. First, Americans trade with many people. Why focus on one group arbitrarily? Second, why focus on one arbitrary 12-month period? People trade continuously; there is no reason to believe that freezing the film at an arbitrary date gives us an accurate picture.

But there are deeper problems. How can a trade deficit or "negative trade balance" ever occur? Aggregate trade statistics for Japanese and Americans are ultimately reducible to transactions between individuals. When individuals voluntarily agree to trade, they all expect to benefit, or they would not trade. But if all parties benefit, how can a negative balance result? All must experience a "positive" balance. If its is true for individuals, it must be true for the groups they make up.

Individuals can experience a "negative" balance only in the sense that during the same period, they can spend more than they earn, either by reducing their cash balances or borrowing. But that obviously will be made up later by buying less so they can rebuild their cash balances or repay the loan. Again, net benefits accrue to each party or the transaction would not occur.

The people who lose sleep over trace "imbalances" with Japan need only ask themselves: What will the Japanese do with eight billion Federal Reserve Notes? Eventually, the notes will be traded for American products. Japanese holders of the notes will either send them back or sell them to someone else who will send them back in the form of a purchase payment. We can be assured that no one wants the notes for their own sake. (Do you?)

What worries the mercantilists is the thought that the Japanese might never let the dollars be traded for American goods. How ridiculous! What will they do—burn them, dump them in the sea or stuff their mattresses? If so, all the better. Americans will have gotten Japanese products for free. (Next year we can send them one note with lots of zeroes.) So while we may hope that foreign sellers will never redeem paper dollars for goods—to the mercantilists' horror—we can count on their doing so.

However, even if they burn their dollars, it would be wrong to say that the U.S. has a trade imbalance or is'nt exporting anything. We'd be an exporter of green pieces of paper with presidents' pictures on them.

Incidentally, if foreign sellers could redeem their dollars for gold, as in bygone days, the analysis here is not changed materially. The mercantilist fear of an uncontrollable gold outflow is groundless. Each

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Letters

Ross Overbeek's letters on the LP membership pledge (in the February-March ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN) raise some provocative issues, and his questionnaire provides a useful exploration of a seemingly simple and clear-cut stand. The last time I recall any public discussion of this issue within the LPI was the 1975 State Convention where a member requested clarification of the meaning of the pledge and the definition of the word "force". The issue was dropped then because LPI meetings were not considered an appropriate place for such "philosophical" concerns. I hope the article is a harbinger of a new spirit of inquiry within the LP.

Unfortunately, however, Overbeek feels his questioning may class him "as an eccentric, or, even worse, an irritant," and that it "has seriously disrupted [his] relationship to the libertarian movement." This is a loss, both for Overbeek and for the movement. It is also unnecessary. The movement, unlike the Party, requires no pledge, for two reasons:

First, Overbeek says people believe the oath is designed to prevent a takeover of the Party. In the movement there is no danger of a takeover because there is no controlling organization or person to be taken over.

Second, the libertarian movement has no one dogma, ideology or politics. Rather, it represents a diverse group consisting not only of LP members and sympathizers, but of many other libertarians, including those whose viewpoints differ enough from the LP's definition of "libertarianism" to make them unwelcome or uncomfortable in the Party.

Overbeek's concerns would surely find a home in the libertarian movement, and should he (and his ten acquaintances who won't join the LP because of the pledge) wish to identify with it, he would be part of it.

□ Bonnie Kaplan, Niles

Although Dan Hansen's letter in the May issue of the ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN raises some interesting and thought provoking points of interest to libertarians, he does not respond to any of the issues originally raised in my letter. Also, many of Dan's remarks may be viewed as personal attacks on me. Although Dan is certainly within his rights as an individual to level personal attacks on whomever he chooses, I do not have to dignify such remarks by responding to them. One must wonder, however, if the newsletter editor should use his position for personal attacks on a co-libertarian.

Let me be the first to state that in a political organization there is nothing wrong with "internal power strategies and political machinations", as Dan so crudely put it. Or to put it more favorably for those of tender sensibilities, there is nothing wrong with competition among members of an organization. Competition and, yes, let me say it in writing, controversy are necessary for the continued health and growth of an organization, especially one as young as the Libertarian Party. Too often, persons throw out red herrings such as "political infighting" and "nonlibertarian behavior" in an attempt to turn our eyes away from the issues.

Clearly, no one wants to fight just for the sake of fighting; one should not fear different points of view raised in a public forum. Who wants activists in the Libertarian Party who aren't willing to work or fight for their positions? Those who would enter the political realm, in whatever capacity, should not have such thin skins that they overreact to the first negative word.

□ Jeannette M. Walder, Chicago

HANSEN REPLIES

1. "...he does not respond to any of the issues raised in my letter." I did not intend to. While recognizing the proxy issue as an important one, my purpose in writing a response was that I was disturbed by the fact that we had an individual serving on the LPI State Central Committee who believes that freedom of association means that a voluntary private organization is obligated to put bad internal policies into effect, or to avoid

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THE ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN

EDITOR: Daniel R. Hansen

THE ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN, Volume 7, Number 5, June, 1981. Published by the Libertarian Party of Illinois, Post Office Box 313, Chicago IL 60690. Annual subscription price: \$8.00, free with membership in the Libertarian Party of Illinois. Advertising rates are available on request. Send all correspondence to THE ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN at the above address. Articles and Letters to the Editor (typed, double spaced) are welcome (see Guide for Authors).

Guide for Authors

Readers of THE ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN are encouraged to submit manuscripts for publication in the newsletter. If accepted for publication, articles become the property of the Libertarian Party of Illinois. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, length and style.

Almost any topic relevant to libertarianism is fair game; news articles, interviews, book and film reviews, letters, articles dealing with current events and historical issues, and regular columns are welcomed. Articles should be typed, double spaced, and should be mailed to arrive no later than the twentieth of the month for the following month.

From the Chair

ray birks

Last month I reported that H.B. 1162 in Springfield was ready to be passed in the Illinois House of Representatives, requiring the LPI to hand in its 25 - 40,000 signatures in December, 1981, eight months earlier than was previously mandated by state election law. Well, there's good news and bad: the good news is that H.B. 1162 was not voted on before the deadline for passage (midnight of May 20th). With the RTA troubles and the House's heavy workload (who knows what else they've done to us by now!), the bill never came up for a vote. This no doubt caused its sponsors, Penny Pullen (R-Park Ridge) and Sam Vinson (R-Clinton) much distress and gnashing of teeth. As far as I'm concerned, let them gnash. It will get them in practice for spring.

And that's where the bad news comes in. H.B. 1162 is already on the calendar to be considered in Spring, 1982. When the House re-convenes, the bill will be up for its "second reading" which basically means that no further hearings or discussion are required and it can be brought up for a vote if its sponsors so choose. If this happens, there are several courses we may follow which I will discuss in a future column (are you listening, Penny?).

What you can do in preparation for this issue (and others) is to learn the names and addresses of your State Senator and three State Representatives in Springfield. Call your local library, village hall, county courthouse, the State Board of Elections ((312)793-6440 or (217)782-4141), or, if you have trouble, call the LPI at (312) 248-2250. We'll be letting you know when we need your help.

A WORD OF THANKS: The Fourth Annual Libertarian Picnic was scheduled for June 27th at Bruce and Lorraine Green's in South Elgin. I'd like to thank the many people who helped get out the picnic announcements: Stephen Boydston, John Tsarpalas, Steve Nelson, Joe Maxwell, Bonnie Kaplan, Nancy Bunting, Sue Parpart, Dan Hansen, Mike Hepple, and especially Kris Warmoth, one of the fastest col-laters I've ever seen. It was a good time folks - thanks!

Here are two important upcoming events you should be aware of:

First, Cato Institute is once again sponsoring its Summer Seminars in Political Economy. The program offers twenty lectures by prominent scholars in ethics, economics, domestic affairs, U.S. history, and foreign policy. Described as "living in a libertarian society for a week," and as a "working vacation," these seminars are one way to expand the breadth of your knowledge of free market economics, the course of American history (both domestic and international) and the

foundations of individual human freedom. The two seminars are held at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire July 4-11, and at Stanford University in Stanford, California August 8-15. For more information call Robin Fightmaster at (415)433-4316.

The second event is one you have been hearing about: the 1981 Annual Convention of the National Libertarian Party. Set for August 25-30 at the Denver Hilton in Colorado, we will be celebrating the Libertarian Party's tenth birthday while reviewing our Platform, Constitution and By-Laws.

I am reminded of my first National LP Convention. It was September, 1976, a mere six months after discovering and joining the Libertarian Party. I can remember walking around the Statler Hilton in Washington, D.C. in total amazement that there could be so many libertarians! It was there that I first met-face to face - some of those trailblazing libertarians I'd heard so much about: Murray Rothbard, Nathaniel Branden, Roy Childs, Ed Crane, Tom Palmer, Peter Breggin, Tibor Machan, Sharon Presley ... and the list goes on. After that, I knew I was hooked.

I had to miss the 1977 and '78 National Conventions, but then came September, 1979. What a week! Hundreds of libertarians appearing on the streets of downtown Los Angeles; working on the Convention floor - now as a delegate from Illinois - to amend and improve the platform; the thrill of seeing television cameras recording the balloting for our presidential candidate; the giant disco party on the roof. Don Parrish, longtime libertarian extraordinaire, is right: National Conventions are radicalizing events." That 1979 Convention revved me up for the 1980 campaign, and in the ensuing eighteen months I was active as never before.

So here we are with the 1981 National Convention ready to go. The twenty-six delegates from Illinois have been elected and are making preparations right now. We'll be hearing and meeting Ed Clark, David Koch, Roger MacBride, David Bergland, John Hospers, Tonie Nathan, Dick Randolph, Murray Rothbard, Michael Emerling, Karl Hess, Joe Sugarman, David Friedman, Ken Fanning, Roy Childs, Bill Evers, Jenny Roback, Joan Kennedy Taylor... once again the list goes on. And this is nothing compared to what happens when they all get in a single room together!

If you want more information on the Convention and a possible group airfare discount, call the LPI at (312)248-2250.

Won't you join us?

□

Women & Militarism

Get in touch with Bonnie Kaplan if you're interested in attending or helping to organize the Midwestern Conference on Women and Militarism this September 11, 12, and 13. Write to Bonnie at 6925 Rosemary Lane in Niles, 60648, or call her at (312)647-8684 or 842-5911. □

From Page 1

transaction with gold meets the same standards as other transactions; each party expects to benefit. The gold outflow stops when the holders of gold decide they prefer large cash balances to smaller ones.

Finally on this point, let's imagine the worst case of all from the mercantilist view, namely a situation where the U.S. imports everything and exports nothing. Suppose Japanese producers send us all the goods we want at no charge. The ultimate dumping! Only a practicing ascetic could object. Not only would we have all the goods the Japanese send us, but all our productive resources would be available to produce other things we want. Fear of this situation rests on the fallacy that there is only a limited amount of wealth possible and only a limited amount of work. Were that true, it would follow that goods produced abroad take away work from people here. But human wants are limitless. There are arrays of items we'd all like but can't afford. Labor and capital are perpetually scarce relative to people's desires.

This is the answer to those who ask what will happen to steel- and auto-makers if imports increase. Should those industries become obsolete, valuable labor, capital, land and entrepreneurship will be available for things we can't afford now. Of course, some people will have to adjust to new conditions. But they knew of that risk when they entered their lines of work. There is no right to a frozen station in the economy regardless of consumer valuation and desires.

Moreover, the intricate network of worldwide exchange that results from free trade is a great force for peace; war is less likely with so much to lose. That is the answer to those who fear for national security under free trade.

State action to protect so-called mature industries has several harmful effects: First, by design it increases costs to anyone buying the products involved. Ironically, one of the things that raises American automakers' costs is protection for the steel industry. Second, protectionism harms the workers in the protected industry because their employers are sheltered from the need to find better production methods. They are also harmed because consumer prices are kept artificially high and new job opportunities are prevented from emerging on the market. American exporters are hurt because foreigners can't afford to buy their products if they can't sell. Besides this, foreign nations may retaliate (in more ways than one!).

A new, more sophisticated argument for protectionism has lately been making the rounds. Stumped by the arguments just outlined, the neomercantilist answers, "Sure, I'm for free trade, as long as it's fair trade and the conditions are the same for everyone." Since conditions are never identical, they have an easy time finding excuses for import quotas, "orderly marketing" agreements, trigger-price mechanisms, countervailing duties, etc.

Dumping is the most egregious offense for the neomercantilists. But precisely what dum-

ping is they haven't said. We may deduce that dumping occurs when a foreign seller charges prices below costs of production, fair-market value or home-market prices. Let's assume for the moment that these criteria are meaningful: the neomercantilists have never showed that dumping is inconsistent with fair competition. Competition is not a game in which the players agree to abide by arbitrary rules. It is a process in which the producers are left free to satisfy consumers in non-coercive, non-fraudulent ways. Nothing about it excludes dumping from fairness. The charge of dumping simply masks the envy of sellers who can't price as low as their rivals.

The only criterion of a fair price is the consent of buyers and sellers. The inability of competitors to meet a given price signifies nothing in the realm of ethics. The criteria of dumping not only have nothing to do with fairness, they are invalid as pricing standards of any kind: all costs, including costs of production, are opportunities foregone; they are subjective, ephemeral, unquantifiable and inscrutable to others. Fair-market value is meaningless apart from the real market activities of real people. Home-market prices may be the result of conditions different from those of export markets, and so cannot be used to judge the fairness of prices.

The upshot is that whatever prices emerge on the free market are fair. Dumping is a red herring.

The neomercantilists may concede all this, but then charge that the market isn't free. "Japan," they say, subsidizes its industries; under-pricing by its firms is not the result of superior productivity. That's unfair competition.

At first glance, there seems to be some merit to this. The governments of Japan and other nations do force their citizens, directly and indirectly, to aid certain industries. The issue, however, isn't so simple. Regulations accompany subsidies, and they may do more harm than subsidies do "good". Moreover, some alleged subsidies — tax credits, faster depreciation, etc. — are not such because they merely allow producers to keep their own property.

But even if there were genuine subsidies, the case for protection is'nt helped. Obviously, the neomercantilists are not concerned about foreign citizens being forced to subsidize business. If they were, they wouldn't advocate the same treatment for Americans. More importantly, even large subsidies don't make competition unfair. To be sure, foreign citizens are victims, but no one is being unfair to American firms.

The subsidy issue is another red herring. Free market advocates, of course, hope that foreign citizens throw off the yoke of protectionism and subsidy in their own countries. But the U.S. government has neither the responsibility, the ability nor the right to do anything about it. To try would be hypocrisy for it would harm American citizens and grant special privileges to American industries.

One final issue: Many people who claim to be free traders qualify their position by demanding that we not drop our trade barriers

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local club news

BY GERRY WALSH

LAKE COUNTY

Lake County Libertarians had a turnout of about thirty six for their May 17 brunch at the Cabriolet Restaurant. About one third of these were non-libertarians. Jim Tobin of National Taxpayers United of Illinois spoke about tax issues of interest to Lake County residents. Tony Leisner spoke on Joe Sugarman's battle with the FTC (Note: Sugarman, a resident of Northbrook, is a featured speaker at the National LP Convention in Denver this August).

Don't forget the July 5th SCC Meeting in Lake County (site yet to be determined), followed by the Independence Day parade in which Lake Co. Libs will march and a barbecue at Tom Burckhalter's.

DUPAGE COUNTY

DuPage had a showing of The Incredible Bread Machine film on May 11th; about twenty five people attended.

DuPagers are seeking staffers for their booth at the DuPage County Fair the last weekend in July. Call Pat Peterson at (312) 830-8468 if you can help.

DPC meetings are held the first and second Monday of the month at the College of DuPage at Lambert and 22nd in Glen Ellyn, and the fourth Wednesday of the month at Don Parrish's, 5207 Florence in Downers Grove. Contact Pat P. for further information.

KANE COUNTY

Keep June 27th open for the Annual Bruce Green Libertarian Picnic at Bruce & Lorraine Green's home, seven miles south of the Northwest Tollway on Rt. 31 in South Elgin. The picnic begins at 1 p.m., with dinner at 4. Contact the LPI at (312) 248-2250 for more information.

COOK COUNTY NORTHWEST

Members of the Northwest Side Club are finding out when parades occur in their areas and are investigating the possibility of entering them. The May 17 meeting included information about House Bill 1162 (ballot status petition filing date for third parties) and HJR CA3 (the balanced budget amendment).

The June 14 NWSC meeting will be held at Rich and Mary Price's, 5812 W. Giddings in Chicago. No meeting is scheduled for July so that NWSC members may attend the July 5 events in Lake County.

COOK COUNTY NORTH

The June 14 meeting of the Northside Libertarian Club was held at Jim and Tina Johnston's home in Wilmette. Northsiders viewed a film from Milton Friedman's FREE TO CHOOSE series.

PEORIA AREA

The Illinois Valley and Prairie Lands libertarian clubs jointly sponsored a picnic at Lake Dawson on June 13th. Business meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 104 Holland in Washington, Illinois. Call (309)444-3315 for directions. Study group meetings are on the third Wednesday at the Universalist/Unitarian Church in Peoria.

QUAD CITIES

The Rock Island County Libertarians have their business meetings the third Wednesday of each month. They have just added a study group on the fourth Wednesday to discuss philosophical issues. Meetings are held at the Davis Chiropractic Building, 2325 16th St., Moline, Illinois. Call Lynn Davis at (309)762-8737 for details.

CORRECTION

We've been informed that the correct subscription prices for The Libertarian Review and Update are \$15.00 and \$8.00 per year, respectively, not \$12.00 and \$6.00 as reported in Bonnie Kaplan's review last month. □

LPI Calendar

See THE DIRECTORY on page 8 for a listing of people to contact for information on the activities listed below.

JUNE

- 27 Annual Bruce Green Libertarian Picnic, Rt. 31, 7 miles south of the Northwest Tollway in South Elgin. Picnic begins at 1:00, dinner at 4:00. Tickets \$10 - \$25 depending on number of people in your party. Contact Bruce & Lorraine at (312) 888-3079 or the LPI for more information. Rain date Sunday, June 28.

JULY

- 1 Rockford Area Meeting
Illinois Valley Business Meeting, Washington
- 2 South Suburban Cook County Meeting
- 4 Illinois Valley/Prairie Lands Parade, Meeting location to be determined; Contact Scott Tillman
- 5 LPI State Central Committee Meeting, Independence Day Parade and Barbeque, Hosted by Libertarians of Lake County
- 6 DuPage County Study Group, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn
- 12 Lake County Study Group, Waukegan
- 14 North Side Cook County Meeting, Home of Earl & Val Kitover (tentative).

*The Tenth Anniversary
Convention
of the
Libertarian Party*

*August 26-30, 1981
Denver, Colorado*

The Libertarian Party has come a long way since its beginnings ten years ago. And this summer, we're meeting in Colorado — birthplace of the party — for a grand celebration and a flying start into our second decade.

Highlights of this historic gathering will include panels, workshops, a reception in honor of our three past presidential candidates, a trip to an old gold mining town, a great debate on the future of the party, and a gala 10th Birthday Banquet that will be talked about for years to come.

For veterans and newcomers alike, LP/10 will be an exhilarating and memorable experience. Plan now to be there.

Details to follow.



LP/10

Here To Stay

Libertarian Convention Committee
1041 Cherokee Street, Denver CO 80204
Phone (303) 573-5229

LETTERS, From P. 7

of the movement in circulation, and continue to have prominent libertarians (you missed Murray Rothbard and James Martin and regular columnist Robert LeFevre) is as high or higher ratio as Reason and LR, not to mention the Freeman. (Inquiry is, of course, non-Movement and says so.) And we have been around since 1970, longer than any save Reason's earliest incarnation as an objectivist fanzine of Lanny Friedlander.

Frankly, I don't know whether it's your partyarch bias or that Illinois is that out of touch with the Movement (which is overwhelmingly anti-Party still, about 2 million to 20,000 ratio), but on the wild chance that you simply don't know the facts, here they are. Best

SPEAKERS BUREAU

The Illinois Libertarian Speakers Bureau needs your help in lining up speaking engagements. Are you a member of a fraternal organization, business association, or other social service group? If you would like to help the Speakers Bureau in this way please contact Bob Costello at (312)864-4382. The Speakers Bureau also needs local coordinators and volunteers to help with phone calls and mailings; if interested, please call Bob.

FOIA & PA INFO

Interested in learning how to obtain information from various government agencies? Want to find out what the "Feds" may have on you? The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) was designed to help you (subject, of course, to nine exemptions designed to keep the agencies happy). Unfortunately, Illinois does not have its own FOIA or PA (Privacy Act), nor does the City of Chicago. So state and local secrets are still such. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) published several good books on how to proceed with an FOIA or PA request:

Using the FOIA: A Step by Step Guide, available for \$1.50. A good manual for the non-lawyer. Contains sample letters and lots of addresses of agencies to write.

1981 Edition of Litigation Under the Federal Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act; 6th Edition, \$25.00 for attorneys, government, \$10.00 for C3 and C4 groups, law students and faculty. An excellent technical manual and basic reference work on the full range of FOIA/PA issues.

Both books can be obtained from the Center for National Security Studies, 122 Maryland Ave., Washington DC 20002.

□ Jeannette Walder

wishes anyways.

By the way, NL remains always willing to trade with the "enemy," in classical laissez (sic) faire fashion, so should IL wish, we'd be glad to trade subscriptions. We also publish partyarchs, regardless of my disapproval or that of my co-editors, and I'm glad to see that at least one party journal that follows a similar open policy toward us agorists.

□ Samuel Edward Konkin III, Editor
New Libertarian

THE EDITOR REPLIES:

With the exception of the addition of subscription information for certain of the publications reviewed which was added at her request, Bonnie Kaplan's article was printed in our May issue with no editorial changes. We apologize for the typographical error involving the spelling of Mr. Konkin's name.

□ DRH

LETTERS, cont'd.

good ones (i.e., that it would be "unlibertarian" (Walder's use of that "red herring", not mine) of us to limit the use of proxy votes, that we are restricting people's "freedom of association" if we do). The freedom of association I believe in states that if you belong to a voluntary group, you may: (a) go along with it's rules, (b) persuade other members to change them, or (c) remove yourself from the group; do the Libertarian Party members on Cook County's Northwest side want someone representing them who doesn't understand such a basic libertarian principle?

2. "...the newsletter editor [used] his position for personal attacks on a co-libertarian." For some strange reason my letter ran as a letter to the editor from an individual member of the LPI; I wonder why?

3. "...in a political organization there is nothing wrong with 'internal power strategies and political machinations' [competition among members of an organization]." May I rephrase this?: "The ends justify the means; while X is out making preparations for a convention and administering the daily affairs of the LPI, let's spend our time gathering proxy votes. He doesn't have time to do both." Don't anyone confuse that attitude with one desiring health, constructive discussion of Party issues (see my "Letter from the Editor" in the November - December, 1980 issue of the ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN).

4. "Those who would enter the political realm, in whatever capacity, should not have such thin skins that they overreact to the first negative word." So true, especially of SCC Representatives. If Walder believes this, why won't she explain how she managed to get her definition of freedom of association reversed? Or perhaps she doesn't feel she should be accountable to her LP constituents. □

Those of us in the Campus Libertarians group at Northwestern University wish to express our immense gratitude for [the LPI's] loan to us of \$100 which was used as advance money for our fundraising showings of the movie of Ayn Rand's The Fountainhead. Our two showings on April 15 brought almost 300 patrons and generated over \$125 clear profit - as well as some name recognition - for our campus group. We now have a treasury sufficient for our activities during the coming academic year.

We are glad that we could satisfy the LPI's LPI's confidence in us, both in turning a profit and in making a prompt repayment of the loan. Hopefully, we will be able to continue this pattern of co-operation and mutual assistance in the future - and we also hope that similar assistance can be extended in the future, both in time and money, for judiciously planned activities of other Illinois campus groups. Thank you for your confidence in us!

□ Stephen Reed, Treasurer
Northwestern University Campus Libertarians,
Evanston

Ms. Kaplan took the trouble to send me a copy of your "reviews" of libertarian periodicals, which she originally wrote. I gather from the high level of inaccuracy that it must have been heavily edited. Even the KGB would not stoop to that level of disinformation for fear of loosing (sic) all credibility. Even my name - which Ms. Kaplan is very familiar with - is misspelled. Considering that Kaplan is the best-known libertarian in Illinois outside of Friedrich Hayek and Joe Cobb, your cavalier treatment of her writing does you no credit.

Your attempt to cast New Libertarian into "Other" Darkness falls on the sharp rocks of Reality. We remain the fourth-largest magazine

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YES! I Want To Help The Libertarian Party.

Here's my contribution: \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25
Here's my monthly pledge: \$100 \$50 \$25 \$10

- Attached is a list of people who might be interested. Send them information.
- I want to organize in my community.
- I want to volunteer to work on special projects.

name _____
address _____
city _____ state _____ zip _____
home phone () _____ / _____
office phone () _____ / _____

- I want to join:
- 1981 National, Illinois & local club \$25* (*participating clubs only. \$15 student)
 - 1981 National membership \$8 (\$2 discount)
 - 1981 Illinois membership \$10
 - 1981 Illinois patron membership \$30
 - Illinois Life membership \$100
 - Illinois Life-Patron membership \$500
 - Enclosed is \$8.00 for a 1-year subscription to THE ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN.

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

signature (not valid unless signed) _____ date _____

From Page 4

until our trading partners do. This also has some surface plausibility, but it withers upon examination. If free trade is good, one-sided free trade, while not as good, must be better than fully controlled trade. Goods are what count! This is true even if foreign governments insist on staunching the flow of goods to their citizens. Rather than making Americans chumps, unilateral free trade would be a shrewd move that would enhance our well-being. In short order, other nations will realize what we've done and rush to do the same. Demands for reciprocity are akin to two persons strangling themselves and each declaring that he or she won't stop until the other one does.

None of the arguments for protectionism

succeeds in shrouding the real motives for its imposition. All of these measures have but one purpose, the granting of special privileges to certain interest groups at the expense of everyone else. We are all ultimately impoverished by these coercive political acts. But more importantly, protectionism breeds international hostility. So it is not only in defense of our prosperity that we oppose protectionism. It is in defense of our peace and liberty as well.

[Sheldon Richman, a long-time libertarian activist, is the Research Director of the Council for a Competitive Economy. He is chair of the 1981 Libertarian Party Platform Committee that will meet in Denver at the National Convention in August.

THE DIRECTORY

Libertarian Party - Illinois

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