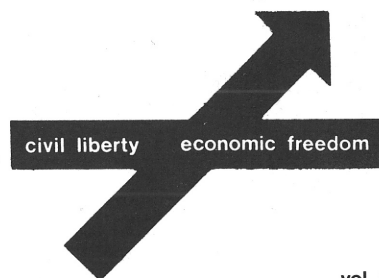


The Illinois Libertarian

Libertarian Party of Illinois • Box 1776 • Chicago, 60690



vol. 1 • no. 11
November 1975

CONVENTION '75

It's that time of year. The time for falling leaves and rising taxes. When the cold, arctic wind sweeps in from the plains, carrying with it a hint of the state-induced heating oil shortage sure to come. When linebackers tackle, cabinets shuffle ("This is my Own Team, these are My Guys."), and everybody loses. Count we our Blessings ("Pass the cranberries." "Don't have any." "Huh?" "The State's gone and declared 'em unsafe." "Oh... Well, pass the turkey then." "We couldn't afford one." "What?! Damned inflation!" "There, there, dear. Have a biscuit."), Oh let us Give Thanks. Yes, it's that time of year--high time for Illinois Libertarians to gather around the Ol' Yule Log and roast the state but good!

The Libertarian Party of Illinois will hold its annual convention and 1975 Midwest Libertarian Conference at the Bismarck Hotel, 171 W. Randolph Street, in Chicago December 6th. The convention will feature the selection of party officers and adoption of bylaws, and the Conference will feature an appearance by the Libertarian Party Presidential Candidate for 1976, Roger MacBride.

Convention

The state party convention is due to begin at 10 o'clock in the morning. The first item on the agenda will (at long last!) be the adoption of party bylaws. For a general discussion of the issue, we refer our readers to the article of Bylaws Committee member Jeff Smith in the April 1975 issue of this publication. In all probability, the Bylaws Committee will propose a new party structure to be centered around the concept of a state central committee, with the central committee members chosen in some fashion by the local party organizations. This new structure will supplant the somewhat less than representative "general" meetings, which have guided the party's fortunes, both in policy and administration, in the past several years.

The next item on the agenda will be the selection of party officers for the coming year. There are four positions open--Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. Chairman of the Convention Nominations Committee Don Parrish reports that the following people have expressed an interest in the offices: Richard Suter, for Chairman; Jeff Smith, for Vice Chairman; Will Kinney, for Secretary; and Mike Kostka, for Treasurer. Of course, nominations are still open; indeed, additional nominations are encouraged. If you are considering running for any party post, or if you can suggest anyone else, call Don at 312/852-2844 or 312/690-3943 or simply make your nomination at the convention.

Contrary to earlier expectation, the general convention will not select the state and local candidates who will

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CAMPAIGN '76: Progress Report

BY RICHARD SUTER

The Illinois Libertarian Ballot Committee has been meeting weekly since its inception a little over two months ago. Here is a rundown on the Committee's activities to date:

Libertarian Party of Illinois Chairman Steve Nelson has contacted a complete slate of electors for MacBride/Bergland. J.D. Webster is now going through the tedious task of checking that the names and addresses of all 26 electors conform to their registrations with the various county election boards.

Don Parrish is busy sorting out all the possibilities for various state offices. If you would like to run for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Comptroller, University of Illinois Trustee, a Congressional seat, or any state senatorial or representative seat, be sure to contact Don Parrish (312/852-2844 or 312/690-3943) immediately.

In order to popularize Libertarian ideas, Mark Wallace has undertaken to contact all the business and professional groups in Illinois, as well as Chambers of Commerce across the state. Mark has obtained a mailing list of over 1,000 organizations and is systematically contacting each one to place Libertarian speakers before their meetings. If you would like to be included in the Libertarian Speakers Bureau, or if you know a group that could use a Libertarian speaker, give Mark a call at 312/664-2343 or 312/431-3285.

J. D. Webster is working to create the grassroots precinct organization necessary to promote Libertarianism on the neighborhood level. If you would like to be a precinct captain, or just help out as necessary with either the petition drive or campaign work, contact J.D. Webster (312/386-6148) as soon as you finish reading this.

Jeff Smith is Inside Coordinator for the upcoming petition drive to get the Libertarian Party on the ballot in 1976. He is making plans to handle all the paperwork necessary to accomplish this goliath feat.

Joe Cobb is arranging for printing the petitions. In order to ensure their validity, legal research is required, as well as underground political work through the catacombs of Springfield.

Mickey Propadovich is designing Committee letterheads and layouts for the campaign literature.

Will and Marybeth Kinney put together a very fine 14-page press kit which was distributed to 75 major editors, producers, news directors, etc. around the state. Will has also been "runner" for the Ballot Committee; he has

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CONVENTION '75 (continued from page 1)

run with Roger MacBride; that is more properly the task of the state central committee. Nevertheless, Nominations Chairman Don Parrish has been contacting people to run. Ideally, LPI should have a full slate of state-wide candidates, each waging full-time, active campaigns; failing that, we should have candidates willing to answer occasional questions from the press and perhaps make an appearance every now and then. The Nominations Committee is continuing to seek out active candidates.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR OFFICE, OR IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO MIGHT MAKE A GOOD CANDIDATE, CONTACT DON PARRISH (phone numbers above), OR JOE COBB (312/288-2270), JEFF DEHN (815/932-2471), OR RON HARRISON (312/244-5646).

The Nominations Committee is developing a list of distinguished local Libertarians who have agreed to run inactive campaigns for the purposes of the petition drive; but it will enhance our credibility as a significant political force on the state and local scene--and contribute to the showing of the MacBride Campaign--if the party can have full-fledged candidates (Irene Altschuler and Paul Stout have earned our gratitude for being the very first Libertarian candidates in Illinois). Think about it, please.

Following the election of party officers, there will be an hour-long recess for lunch, from noon to 1:00 PM. Chicago's Loop is, of course, filled with many fine eating places. (But be sure to save enough room for the evening Banquet!)

Conference

The 1975 Midwest Libertarian Conference will begin at 1:00 PM with a panel discussion on the award-winning, much lauded book by Harvard philosophy professor Robert Nozick entitled, Anarchy, State and Utopia. The panelists will include: Dr. John Cody, Professor of Classics at Northwestern University for the last seven years (his latest book is Horace and Callimachean Esthetics), currently working on a literary study of the novels of Ayn Rand; Dr. Joseph DeJan, creative writer, artist, philosopher, and anti-politician, educated at the Sorbonne, Paris, who spoke at last year's Conference on "The Political Philosophy of Rousseau--Origins of the Omnipotent State"; and Roger Pilon, Doctoral Candidate at the University of Chicago, whose articles have appeared in The Alternative, Law and Liberty, and National Review (among others), and whose dissertation topic is Freedom, Rights and Obligations--A Theory of Limited Government.

After the panel discussion, Russ Meek, one of Illinois' foremost opponents of gun control and instructor at his own Karate school, will speak on--what else?--gun control and the individual's right to defend himself.

Then, at 3:00, a special treat: "Weird Harold" Rubin, businessman, freedom fighter, and concerned citizen, will have a word or two to say about victimless crimes. "Weird Harold" used to run an "adult bookstore" on Chicago's Near Northside until the police closed him down. Then he opened a massage parlor (behind his re-opened bookstore), and the cops closed that down too. Finally, his landlord, apparently under pressure from City Hall, refused to renew his lease. Mr. Rubin regularly devotes 1/3 of his income to legal fees in his running battle with the blue-shirted bluenoses. Reportedly, "Weird Harold" plans to run for Mayor of Berwyn next year, and if he should lose--he intends to open a massage parlor there.

At 3:30, a panel discussion on the Theory and Practice of Political Action. This is a must-see event. Panelists will include: our own LPI Chairman Steve Nelson;

Joe Cobb (who also needs no introduction); Dale Hemming, Region 4's representative on the Libertarian Party's National Executive Committee and "Libertarian activist extraordinaire"; Mark Q. Rhoads, Executive Director of the Illinois Conservative Union, campaign press secretary for Congressman Henry Hyde in 1974, and former Legislative Assistant to Congressman Edward J. Derwinski and State Senator W. Russell Arrington; and--a special guest--Woody Jenkins, Libertarian legislator from Louisiana, the only genuine Libertarian in office anywhere, who yet runs unopposed (!). [I had a chance to talk with Woody at the LP Convention in New York: a most interesting man.]

Banquet

Beginning at around 5:00, there will be a reception (with cash bar) for the Libertarian Party's Candidate for the Presidency in 1976, Roger MacBride. Here is your chance to meet The Candidate They Can't Ignore.

Following the reception, at 7:30 PM--the Banquet finale to the day's activities. The Featured Speaker will be Roger MacBride. The Special Guest Speaker will be Woody Jenkins on "What Is Possible to Achieve--Much More Than You Think." (Buy a Gold Table ticket and dine with The Candidate!)

That, then, is the plan for the Illinois Libertarian Event of the Year. Do reserve the 6th of December. Do come!

And do send in your reservations, with payment, by the 4th of December (postmarked by that date; sorry for such late notice). The price schedule is as follows:

The Convention (morning session) will cost \$1 for LPI members, \$2.50 for nonmembers at the door. The Conference (afternoon session) will cost \$9 for members (\$10 at the door), and \$12 (\$15) for non-members. The Banquet will run \$20 (\$25) for regular seating, and \$45 (\$50) for a seat at the Gold Table (where you can eat with Roger MacBride and other luminaries).

And of course we want to encourage everyone to join or rejoin the Libertarian Party--the Party of Principle! Memberships are for one year, are \$8 Regular, \$12 Sustaining, and \$6 Student. A newsletter subscription alone (included with membership) will run you \$6 (for which I will continue to do my humble best). Send all reservations and payments to: LPI, Box 1776, Chicago, 60690.

CAMPAIGN '76 (continued from page 1)

put hundreds of miles on his Bug with trips to printers, county election boards, and various other places.

The Ballot Committee has appointed Marybeth Kinney to be Official Harasser. The Official Harasser calls up all concerned to get with it and complete their assigned projects. But there is a problem: it seems that Marybeth doesn't have enough things to be bugging people about. So, if you want to find out what's happening, if you have an idea for the campaign or can't reach any of the other activists mentioned above, just call Marybeth (312/774-4105 or 312/736-9572) and you'll get action, believe me.

My chief function has been coordinating: deciding what needs to be done, who I can "stroke" into doing it, and determining priorities of action. Next month in this space I'd like to list your name too.

Needless to say, campaigning is not just a fall occupation. We must lay the groundwork this winter, and for that we need your help. I hope you will give us a call.

Civil Liberties

BY RALPH RAICO

Most people, on first hearing the name "Libertarian," probably sense that this point of view stands in some special relation to the idea of personal freedom. That intuition turns out to be correct. As Friedrich Hayek, the Nobel Prize-winning Libertarian economist, once wrote, the most conspicuous feature of our position "that distinguishes it as much from conservatism as from socialism, is the view that moral beliefs concerning matters of conduct which do not directly interfere with the protected sphere of other persons do not justify coercion." But the person who comes across this philosophy for the first time may well be surprised at the consistency of Libertarians on issues of civil liberties, at the extent to which we hold to the principle of individual freedom of lifestyle. Here, we must sadly confess, we are "extremists."

In brief, Libertarians maintain that there should be no interference by force (that means, primarily, through government action) in the right of adult men and women to live their own lives in their own way, so long as they themselves refrain from coercion. Period. No government official has the right to interpose himself in a situation freely chosen and structured by one or more persons who are not violating the equal freedom of others. The Libertarian viewpoint may be called the simple system of natural liberty, applying to the field of personal conduct the term that Adam Smith used to denote freedom of economic enterprise.

Libertarians think that if this principle were applied across the board, not only would a vast weight of oppression be lifted from the everyday lives of millions of Americans, but, in addition, we would be on the way to building the most richly diversified and most creatively experimental society that history has ever known, a civilization that would dignify all who had a hand in it. The reader is invited to consider what she or he thinks of the following positions:

Freedom of Speech

Total freedom of speech and the press, subject only to libel and slander laws, narrowly defined, and laws regarding situations of immediate "clear and present danger" to life and property. In particular, we look on police interference with the sale of "pornographic" materials as an insolent meddling in the private concerns of free men and women. Furthermore, in a nation conceived in liberty, there must surely be a stop to government harassment of publications and their readers because of the publications' political content, as well as to police surveillance of legal political organizations and activities. In all these questions, the spirit of the Bill of Rights, interpreted in the broadest sense, should prevail.

Sexual Freedom

All laws regarding the private sexual conduct of consenting adults (with the age of consent reasonably defined and identical for males and females) should be repealed. Prostitution should be legalized and brought under the ordinary commercial code (this is another example of a "problem" whose solution lies simply in the government getting its nose out of people's personal business).

The group of citizens most directly affected by legal freedom of sexual conduct would be gay Americans, who for many years have been subjected to oppression at the hands of the government and its agents. We believe that

they should now be emancipated and enjoy the same rights as other citizens. While we oppose measures which penalize anyone for not associating, in social or economic life, with gay people, we do favor all means of liberating homosexuals consistent with the equal rights of others.

Drug Control

Total freedom of cultivation, manufacture, sale and use of drugs by adults. They would include the end of medical prescription requirements for obtaining drugs, vitamins and similar substances (although manufacturers who fraudulently label their products would be subject to prosecution), and, naturally, the abolition of penalties on the pleasure drugs used by so many millions of Americans. Our position is that we neither recommend nor advise against the use of any chemical substance, since this is simply not a political question. Rather, part of the signity of a free, self-determining adult is the acknowledged right to ingest whatever materials one chooses.

Two points to notice, however: first, as with alcohol use, persons will still be held responsible for actions committed under the influence of drugs; and, second, no one is to receive drugs free of charge (as in heroin-"maintenance" programs)--just as nicotine "addicts" do not receive free cigarettes.

Responsible freedom in the areas of drugs, it should be pointed out, will also lead to a reduction in the number of crimes committed by some drug users to pay the artificially high prices caused by drug prohibition.

Everyone agrees that drugs are a serious "problem" in the United States--much as conflicting religions were in Europe a few centuries ago. The Libertarian Party is the only political party which says that the solution to this "problem" lies in freedom of individual choice.

Women's Rights

Libertarians are individualists, and respect for people as individuals is for us a very high value. Thus, cultural movements that aim to liberate individuality tend to be welcomed as allies. Specifically, we favor full equality of rights for women (but not of onerous coercive obligations--such as "equality" in subjection to the draft) and the abolition of the residues of centuries-old government-sponsored discrimination, including unequal access for women to the protection of the criminal justice system.

Unjust Imprisonment

The immediate release of all persons presently detained or imprisoned for victimless crimes, that is, for crimes in which the rights of no other individuals were violated. There are many thousands of such persons in the United States today, and the continuing deprivation of their liberty, since the "crimes" they committed are purely fictitious, is a terrible injustice.

Involuntary Hospitalization

The immediate end of involuntary mental hospitalization. The Libertarian position here is similar to that of Dr. Thomas Szasz. Like him, we think that government-promoted psychiatry by and large functions as a method of social control over behavior deemed "undesirable." The Libertarian view is that people have a right to be just as unconventional as they wish, so long as they do not infringe on the rights of others. Those who do so infringe ought to be dealt with according to established legal methods of handling infractions of the criminal code, with the legal safeguards for the accused built into those methods.

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Behavior Modification

The end of government-funded "behavior modification" research and programs. We feel that the spontaneous and natural reaction to such programs--that they are an overture to 1984--is certainly correct. In connection with this, we favor an end of psychological manipulation in prisons. Instead, on the request of a prisoner, the services of a clergyman or therapist of his choice should be provided, but the decision to use or not use these services ought to have no bearing on the prisoner's status. Human dignity for convicted criminals requires sure, humane, and determinate punishment, not the engineering of their souls by government psychiatrists.

Compulsory Education

Abolition of compulsory education laws. The freedom of children is inevitably restricted in many ways; laws compelling them to undergo formal education are a completely avoidable restriction. Here the Libertarian approach comes close to that of "New Left" educational theorists such as Ivan Illich and John Holt. Like them we emphasize that real learning and growth cannot flourish in an environment where the alternative to going to school is going to jail.

Gun Control

Gun control is an abrogation of the individual's right of self defense, and a disarmed public is at the mercy of criminals or a criminal government. Therefore, libertarians oppose gun registration or confiscation.

The Draft

Repeal of the Selective Service Act, complete dismantling of the Selective Service System, and immediate unconditional amnesty for draft-evaders and deserters. In the last decades, thousands of young Americans were victims of the draft, which we look on as a form of involuntary servitude within the meanings of the Thirteenth Amendment. Their impressment into the armed forces, therefore, had no standing in law or morality, and any penalization of these persons for not having consented to their own enslavement would be a macabre injustice and twisting of the knife.

These, then, are some of the specific areas in which we believe that the principle of personal liberty is at stake and must be defended. But the goal and the wider vision should not be lost sight of. Great social forces appear to have converged on the point, in contemporary America, where, for the first time in human history, there exists the opportunity to create an authentically free society for personal life-styles, if only we can learn to tolerate the peaceful choices of others. After millennia of oppression, after whole civilizations have come and gone grimly set on repressing the individuality in each of us, after the endurance of a mass of private suffering one would not choose to tally if one could, there is finally the chance for a different world--one of unimagined richness of actualized possibilities, discovered and explored by free individuals in voluntary association with others, each learning from other experimenters, and all under the law of equal freedom.

The Libertarian Party is the first in America--and, I think, anywhere--to raise the banner of this new world. Our task is to identify the concrete institutional changes that are its prerequisites--to translate "the simple system of natural liberty" into practical legislative proposals--and to fight for them and see them through. It is for your deepest freedom--and ours--that we are struggling. [Libertarian Party Position Paper #3]

DAVID BERGLAND: A Profile

Dave Bergland, the new Libertarian Party Vice Presidential candidate, is a successful attorney, a law school professor, and self-made man.

David P. Bergland was born June 5, 1935 in Mapleton, Iowa into a Norwegian-American family. He left Iowa with his family at age three and settled in Long Beach, California, where (except for a few years in Santa Cruz) he lived until entering the armed forces. He was one of six children in a soon fatherless family, and he worked at part-time jobs throughout his youth.

Bergland was educated in the public schools in Long Beach and graduated a year early from high school. In high school, he was sports editor of the school newspaper. In the fall of 1952 after graduating from high school, Bergland did not have the money for college so he worked in logging camps and saw mills in Oregon and northern California.

Then he returned to Long Beach to work in a machine shop and later in the municipal life guard service. In the fall of 1953, he entered the Army after having been turned down by the Marine Corps and the Air Force because of a knee injury.

Bergland attended Long Beach City College from 1955 to 1957. He was an English major, editor of the college newspaper, and an honors graduate.

In November 1957, Bergland married his first wife, Carol Diane Gilbert of Seal Beach, California, and moved there. After working at various jobs for a while, he went to work in the spring of 1959 for the Los Angeles municipal fire department.

In the fall of 1962, Bergland went back to college on a part-time basis at UCLA, finally graduating in January 1966 with a B.A. in English, minoring in economics. During this time, he continued to work for and advance in the ranks of the fire department.

Bergland worked in the 1964 Goldwater Presidential campaign. At that time, he considered himself a conservative. He had first come across libertarian political literature in 1961, and by the mid-1960s, he called himself a libertarian.

After graduating from UCLA, Bergland entered USC Law School in the fall of 1966, on a full scholarship. He graduated as a member of the Order of the Coif, which is the national law school honor society analogous to Phi Beta Kappa. Bergland edited the Southern California Law Review during his final year in law school.

After finishing law school, Bergland took a position with the prestigious Los Angeles law firm of O'Melveny & Myers, working there until the spring of 1972 in the litigation department. This involved trial work with a primary emphasis on business litigation.

In 1970 Bergland had joined the faculty of the Western State University College of Law. Since then, Prof. Bergland has taught courses on evidence, civil procedure, and conflict of laws on a part-time basis.

Upon leaving O'Melveny & Myers, Bergland joined the law firm of Rutan & Tucker in Santa Ana, continuing to work in the litigation field. Bergland's first wife died in June 1973 after a long illness.

In February 1974, Bergland left Rutan & Tucker and joined two other attorneys in forming the partnership of Bergland, Martin & McLaughlin in Newport Beach.

In early 1973, Bergland was enlisted into the LP by those then setting up the Orange County regional organ-

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October Meeting Minutes

BY BOB RANDALL

I. Announcements

- A. Fran Holt will not run for re-election as Treasurer.
- B. Bob Randall will not run for re-election as Secretary.
- C. The minutes of the September Meeting were not approved. It was moved and seconded that the wording of the statement: "Under the NLP bylaws, all state parties and presumably individual members of state and local parties, must support the national ticket or be thrown out" be changed to the specific wording of the NLP bylaws, to wit: "No affiliate party shall endorse a candidate for President and Vice President of the United States other than those elected to candidacy at a regular convention of the party. The autonomy of the affiliate parties shall not be abridged by the Executive Committee or other committees of the party except as provided herein." The motion passed, and the minutes stand as revised.

II. Old Business

- A. The Chairman has not yet mailed a letter of refusal to NLP concerning the use of the LPI mailing list due to the relocation of NLP headquarters to Washington, DC. The letter will be mailed as soon as possible after the move has been completed. The new NLP address is: Libertarian Party; 1516 P Street, NW; Washington, DC 20005.
- B. The letter from Fran Griffin to Illinois YAF'ers has not yet been submitted.
- C. Convention backers, so far, are as follows: Milton Mueller, Joe Cobb, Mike Kostka, Douglas Bragan, Steve Nelson, Richard Suter, and Anne McCracken.
 - 1. A poorly-attended backers meeting was held on October 10. Tentative plans call for holding the convention at the Drake-Oakbrook Hotel on December 6 and 7. Total cost for publicity, literature, speakers, and facilities is estimated at \$1,600. There will be a registration fee of \$2.50 for the convention [see pages 1 & 2].
 - 2. Committees for the convention are: Credentials--Bob Randall; Nominating--Ron Harrison, Joe Cobb, Jeff Dehn; Rules & Agenda--Steve Nelson, John Cody, Carolyn Randall, Mike Kostka, Stephen Boydston.

III. New Business

- A. Letters will be sent to members whose membership expires prior to the convention, reminding them to renew before the convention.
- B. J.D. Webster is organizing a party for the CEMB (Committee to Elect MacBride) with the object of attracting precinct workers. No time or date yet.
- C. Dr. James Dunkel has advised that his health does not permit him to run for Governor on the LPI ticket this election. Dr. Dunkel has been racing on the Formula 5000 circuit for many years, passing out Libertarian literature to thousands in the process. This summer he was involved in a crash at Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin, in which he received a severe scalding.

It was moved and passed that: LPI formally express its appreciation to Dr. Dunkel for his efforts on behalf of the Libertarian Party during his racing career.
- D. It was moved that: Only eligible candidates should be nominated for elective office on the LPI ticket. The motion was tabled and referred to the Rules & Agenda Committee.
- E. It was moved that: A Social Chairman be elected or

appointed for the purpose of arranging meetings, special events, notifying members of meetings, greeting new members, etc. The measure was seconded, but was defeated when the Chair voted against to break a tie.

F. It was moved that: LPI have an official office responsible for finding meeting locations and notifying the membership. The motion was friendly amended that: a notice would appear in the next issue of the Illinois Libertarian to the effect that such a position is open. The motion was friendly amended that: If a volunteer is forthcoming, the office will then be created. If no volunteer is forthcoming, the office will not be created. The motion was passed as amended.

G. It was moved and seconded that: Any insertions mailed with the Illinois Libertarian be subject only to the discretion of the Editor. The motion was tabled.

H. It was moved that: (1) nominations of candidates and officers may be made by mail; (2) that voting for candidates and officers may be done by mail; and (3) that proxy voting not be allowed. A motion to table was defeated. A motion to divide the original motion was defeated for lack of second. The motion was defeated by the body.

I. A motion was made and passed that: Proxy voting be allowed for candidates and officers. The motion was friendly amended that: the mechanics be worked out by the Rules & Agenda Committee.

J. It was moved and passed that: Mail nominations be allowed for candidates and officers; that a flyer be inserted into the next Illinois Libertarian to this effect; that the flyer be in the form of a coupon for the recipient to fill out; and that the Nominating Committee be required to report to the convention all the names submitted for nomination. The motion was finally friendly amended that: a special mailing will be necessary due to the deadline for the Illinois Libertarian being already upon us. The motion was passed as amended. (After reviewing Joe Cobb's "Rotation in Office" flyer in the last issue, it has been administratively decided that a special mailing for this purpose would be redundant and therefore not justified.--Bob Randall)

K. A motion to adjourn was passed.

BERGLAND PROFILE (continued from page 4)

ization. He became the regional treasurer that first year. In 1974 he was elected regional chairman.

At the LP state convention in Berkeley in February 1974, Bergland was selected as the LP candidate for state attorney-general. His campaign was conducted mainly on college campuses and emphasized civil liberties.

Since early 1975, Bergland has been working on the California LP's "None of the Above" initiative. With one of his law partners, Bergland did the legal research and drafted the proposed legislation which the initiative would mandate.

Bergland is the author of a recent law review article, "Value Analysis in the Law of Evidence," published in the Western State Law Review. He also has had an article on tax law published in Reason magazine. Together with a law partner, he is currently writing a law review article on the IRS Narcotics Project.

Bergland now resides in Huntington Beach, California with his present wife, Nicole, whom he met during the course of his attorney-general campaign, and two of his three daughters from his first marriage. [from the LP News]

news and notes

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW: The new Freedom of Information Act entitles "any person access to any information on him" held by the Federal Government so long as such access does not injure national security, privacy, or the confidentiality of intragovernmental communications. The Illinois chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union has established a program to assist the public in the use of the law. The ACLU headquarters at 5 S. Wabash, Chicago 60603 will be open from noon to 5 PM, Tuesdays through Thursdays to help with request forms and appeals and to provide lawyers for court tests, if necessary. All services are free. For more information, call or write Ms. Joan Ashley (née Crawford) of the ACLU, 312/236-5564.

GUN CONTROL: A recent Chicago Tribune poll showed that: (1) 86% of all respondents (from the Chicago metropolitan area) favor "strict control and registration of handguns in this country," while only 11% oppose; (2) requiring a police permit to buy a gun is favored 82% to 15%; (3) "Congress passing a law that requires the licensing of all gun owners" is favored 87% to 11%; (4) "Congress passing a law that requires registration of all handguns" is favored 88% to 10%; and (5) a law to forbid the possession of pistols and revolvers by anyone "except the police and other authorized persons" is opposed by the slim margin of only 50% to 45%. Those compromisers within the movement who would have us tailor our message to public opinion, please take note. The Tribune further polled Illinois Congressmen and found that seven--O'Brien, Crane, Findley, Hall, Erlenborn, Michel, and Shipley--are generally opposed to gun controls, whereas the following seventeen Congressmen are generally in favor--Yates, Murphy, Collins, Annunzio, Metcalfe, Rostenkowski, Price, McClory, Mikva, Anderson, Hyde, Percy, Russo, Stevenson, Derwinski, Madigan, and Railsback (the Congressional results were in the Nov. 5th Tribune).

GUNDOGGLE: Speaking of guns, the House has removed from the defense spending bill an appropriation of \$233,000 for the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice, an army-supported civilian rifle training program that has been in existence since 1903. Rep. Sidney Yates (D., 9th Dist.), who led the move to delete the appropriation, called it merely a NRA "boondoggle." Can't have it both ways, you gun nuts: Freedom is indivisible. Neither can you, Rep. Yates (see preceding note).

YES, WE HAVE NO BANANAS: It's illegal to sell bananas in Council Bluffs, Iowa unless buyers are warned against throwing peels on the sidewalk. Out East, the House has passed, 299 to 95, a measure directing the Agriculture Department to provide technical assistance to roadside produce sellers and to survey the fruit stands' affect on "food costs and quality." Next thing you know they'll require to be stamped on every banana, "WARNING: The Surgeon General Has Determined That Bananas Are Dangerous to Your Health." And a boon to bananacrats, we might add.

WESTERN UNION: Don Parrish suggests that the next time you get angry over the state of the world, rather than taking it out on your spouse or kids--direct your anger at Washington! Western Union has special, low rates for political messages sent to any public official in the nation's capital or in your home state. Simply call the toll-free (no-charge) number, 800-325-5100, any time of the day or night; supply the name (or names) of the public official(s)--WU knows the address; and choose from one of three ways to get your opinion across: (1) Public Opinion Message (telegram), \$2.00 for 15 words, sent immediately; (2) Mailgram, \$2.50 for 100 words (or less), \$2.00 for additional copies sent, arriving in the following morning's mail; or (3) Night Letter, \$4.20 for 100 words, read over the phone the next morning. Personal copies are \$1.00 per, and all charges are billed to your home phone number (separate billing if you request). Just the thing for the lazy libertarian. Make yourself heard!

RUBS THE WRONG WAY: In what he calls a "high priority matter," chief Chicago city ordinance enforcer Alan Lane has obtained court orders closing 19 massage parlors in the city in the last year and expects to have the remaining six closed by early next year. The latest FBI crime statistics are out and report genuine crime up sharply for the umpteenth year in a row. (Is there a connection, we wonder.)

POTPOURRI: Speaking of victimless crimes, the FBI crime reports also show 1974 marijuana arrests up 6% over 1973, this despite the relaxation of pot laws in half a dozen states. In early December, the Palatine, Ill. village board will consider whether to reduce the charge against first-time offenders of the anti-possession law to a mere "violation," which is similar in effect to an expensive (\$100) traffic ticket; attend the village board meeting and press for a further reduction (to, say, out-and-out legalization?). Finally, local authorities in Carbon-

dale have threatened to arrest Dr. Harris Rubin of SIU if he goes ahead with his state-funded experiments to measure the effects of marijuana on male sexual response (Your Tax Dollar at Work).

RIGHTS & DUTIES: Richard Epstein, Law Professor at the University of Chicago Law School, spoke on rights and correlative duties in a laissez-faire society before the UC Libertarian Club November 21.

TAX STRIKE: Speaking of speaking, the LP of Indiana has an interesting idea--party members are being urged to protest the 7% telephone excise tax as an infringement of their First Amendment right to freedom of speech.

GOOD GRIEF!: First, the good news: Governor Walker has successfully vetoed a bill to change the Illinois primary election from March to May. And now, the bad news: Ronald Reagan has declared for the Presidency (Rockefeller is said to be waiting in the wings), George McGovern appears ready to take the plunge into the ridiculously overcrowded Democratic Presidential pool, and--to make matters worse--spirited battles are shaping up for the Democratic and Republican gubernatorial nominations. Since any signer of our own nominating petitions who votes in other-party primaries thereby invalidates his signature--clearly we have our work cut out for us. (Hit the streets!)

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The December issue of the Illinois Libertarian will be published on (or about) Dec. 20; the deadline for submitting articles is, therefore, Dec. 10. The next issue will also be the last for many of our readers--unless they renew their party membership (\$8/yr. Regular, \$12/yr. Sustaining, \$6/yr. Student) or resubscribe (\$6/yr.). (The date of the last issue you are to receive under your present membership/subscription is given on your mailing label.)

The ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN is published monthly by the Libertarian Party of Illinois, P.O. Monopoly Box 1776, Chicago, Ill. 60690. Member, Libertarian Press Service (LPS). Subscription is "free" for all current LPI members (and other worthies); for nonmembers (and unworthies) it is \$6/year. Submissions (due 10 days before publication) are welcome. The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of LPI, its officers, or the Editor, who by the Grace of the Chair is: Robert Osterlund, 5301 Kimbark, Chicago, IL 60615 (312/752-6866).