

FREE LIBERTARIAN

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newsletter of the Free Libertarian Party Editor: Fred Cookinham

DRAFT UPDATE ENERGY

THE NEW YORK TIMES, FRIDAY, JULY 6, 1979

Six Lies On Energy

By Yale Brozen

CHICAGO — The war against energy, the automobile and a free enterprise economy is being supported by a propaganda war of startling dimensions. The following are among the more blatant untruths being propagated in support of higher energy taxes and tighter controls over voluntary market choices:

1. *The world will run out of oil in the 1980's.* Actually, there is, in the non-Communist world today, a record 36-year supply of proven reserves already staked out and producible at today's prices, plus another 20- to 50-year supply that remains to be discovered. Even at the lowest estimate, today's real prices need not change for the coming half century to induce a supply of petroleum sufficient to meet demand. At prices 50 percent higher than today, producible reserves in sight more than double. It would then become worthwhile to extract oil from shale and tar sands, or to squeeze more out of existing wells using costly enhanced recovery techniques.

2. *The United States balance-of-payments deficit and declining dollar were caused by the rising price and volume of oil imports.* If oil imports caused an adverse balance of payments, then Germany and Japan should be in much deeper trouble than we, since they import all of their crude oil and natural gas. Yet their payments balances are positive. The real cause of the United States imbalance and the decline of the dollar is the flood of dollars created to finance the unprecedented peacetime federal budget deficits since 1973.

3. *The reason for those long lines at gasoline stations in 1974 was the Arab embargo.* All during the period of the embargo, our stocks of gasoline, crude oil, and other petroleum products in storage kept increasing. The embargo made only a small difference in the volume of imports. But the Federal Energy Office overemphasized heating oil production at the expense of gasoline, then underallocated gasoline to metropolitan areas, and overallocated to rural areas.

4. *We are increasingly vulnerable to an Arab oil embargo.* The experience of 1974 shows that we are more vulnerable to Energy Department blunders than to a possible oil embargo. During the Arab embargo, we imported from other sources and indirectly from Libya and other Middle East countries. There are more alternative sources available today than there were in 1974. Mexico, China, Nigeria and the Canadian Arctic are among the actual or potential suppliers of more non-Arab oil.

5. *U.S. taxpayers must finance a \$25 billion oil stockpile to reduce our vulnerability to an embargo.* There are less expensive ways of providing a ready reserve than building a taxpayer-financed stockpile. We could expand capacity of our naval reserves, such as Elk Hills. We could also end the threat of mandatory reallocation, thus improving the incentive for increasing private storage ("hoarding") against emergencies. There is no need to pump Arab oil above ground, ship it here, and then pour it back into the ground.

6. *The Government must plow billions of dollars into energy research if new energy technology is to be developed by the time the oil runs out.* First, let's recognize that any shortage is a business opportunity. If anything in demand is likely to run short, its price

will rise. Anyone developing a substitute or an additional supply will find plenty of eager customers.

With the increase in the price of home-heating fuels, suppliers began offering automatic damper controls that cut the use of fuel by 20 percent. When fuels were cheap, the capital it would have taken to produce damper controls was more productive in producing natural gas than in saving gas. Production of the controls would then have been a waste of metal, plastic, and time. The rise in the price of energy is inducing the production of energy-saving motors, engines, generators, cement kilns, furnaces, boilers, refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, and water heaters.

The energy price increase is also attracting substantial private research investment. Currently, private expenditures on energy research and development are near the \$2 billion level. This may seem a pale effort compared with the \$4 billion that the Federal Government is laying out on nuclear and solar research, but examination of past private and governmental research efforts suggests that we will get a much higher return from each private research dollar. The Federal Government has spent \$4.2 billion on developing a liquid metal, fast breeder reactor. It achieved so little that it is giving up the effort.

The private market does a superior job in allocating resources to their most productive uses, including choosing among alternative conservation, production and research strategies. If the Government wouldn't try to do so much, we would get more accomplished. And energy would be far more plentiful than it is now.

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LIBERTARIAN ATTACKS KOCH'S \$5 MINIMUM GAS PURCHASE PLAN AS WASTEFUL AND DANGEROUS

NEW YORK, June 22, 1979 -- Gary Greenberg, Libertarian State Chairman of New York, issued a statement today criticizing Mayor Koch's minimum gas purchase plan as encouraging excess usage of gas and endangering the safety of New York citizens.

The Koch plan would require a \$5 minimum for every gas purchase, even though someone might buy less than \$5. Mr. Greenberg said, "One would think that after observing the disastrous impact of government regulation of the energy industries, the last thing we would want is further government intervention. Mayor Koch's plan is an example of the silliness that permeates the bureaucratic mind. It not only encourages people to drive their cars unnecessarily and waste gasoline, but it may seriously jeopardize the safety of New Yorkers."

Mr. Greenberg pointed out, at a news conference at the Free Libertarian Party headquarters, that "many New Yorkers, in order to get around the minimum purchase requirement would siphon gas out of their tanks and store the surplus gas in their garages and homes. Unsafe gasoline

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storage is recognized as a major source of accidental fires.

Encouraging citizens to engage in such action borders on criminal recklessness. The summer months make New York City especially susceptible to damage from fire and any steps that can be taken to minimize such threats should be exercised."

"Equally foolish," Mr. Greenberg continued, "is the mayor's inducement to waste gasoline at a time when shortages are causing so much inconvenience to the American motorist. The motorist who presently uses his or her car less frequently in order to save on gasoline costs would, under the Koch plan, find it desirable to use his or her car on many occasions in which he or she would ordinarily find other means of transportation. Since it would cost just as much to purchase 5 gallons as it would to purchase 1 gallon of gas under Koch's arbitrary plan, there is no reason why the motorist would not use the extra 4 gallons before he or she buys gas. This plan also discourages the use of car pools since there is now an incentive to drive one's own car to use gas rather than ride with someone else and save him or her money."

Mr. Greenberg said, "If Koch's plan is a sample of what we can expect from his future pronouncements, New Yorkers are in for a long, hot, dry summer."

In addition to being the newly-elected Libertarian Party State Chairman, Mr. Greenberg was the 1978 Libertarian candidate for Governor of New York State. He is a practicing trial attorney in New York City.

The Libertarian Party, during the last few years, has become America's third largest political party and expects its 1980 presidential slate to be on the ballot in all 50 states. The Libertarian Party is dedicated to the principles of individual freedom and believes that government regulation of the economy is the main cause of the energy crises.



Young Libertarian Alliance

DRAFT UPDATE

Bills to reinstate Draft registration have left both the House and Senate Armed Services Committees. Both will come up for vote on the floor of Congress in July!

Details on the proposed legislation:

In the House: In an unprecedented move, the House Armed Services Committee passed a draft registration bill, not as separate legislation but as an amendment to the \$41 billion Defense Authorization Bill, H.R. 4040. The amendment orders the President to commence registration on January 1, 1981. Registration would be mandatory for all males turning 18 after December 31, 1980. The President would also be required to report to Congress his recommendations on such issues as the possible conscription of women and whether to conduct registration face to face or through ransacking of school records and other sources after a waiver of the Privacy Act. Note that this cowardly legislation would reinstate draft registration two months after the 1980 elections and would apply only to individuals who would not be eligible to vote in those elections.

In the Senate: On June 11th, S. 109 left the Senate Armed Services Committee for consideration on the Senate floor. An attempt by draft proponent Senator Sam Nunn to copy the House and attach S. 109 to the Senate's Defense Authorization Bill was headed off by draft opponents Senators Mark Hatfield and George McGovern. S. 109 directs the President to begin draft registration on January 2, 1980, of all 18-26 year old males. Classification and examination would begin on January 1, 1981.

It is important to act now. The House bill will likely come up for vote during the second week in July, immediately after summer recess which ends July 9th. The Senate bill will be voted on shortly thereafter.

It is still not too late to strike the draft registration amendment from the House Defense Authorization Bill. Lobbyists for the Committee to Stop Registration and the Draft (CARD) report that the vote will be very close with a large number of Congressmen still undecided.

A letter or a telegram from you now stating your opposition to draft registration would make a difference - possibly the difference between passage or defeat. You would not be alone. The thirty-five organizations which originally founded CARD, the LP among them, have been joined by sixty coalition groups from around the country. Each of these organizations are contacting their mem-

bers and urging them to write in an effort to swing a Congressional vote against draft registration and strike the amendment from H.R. 4040. A defeat of draft registration in the House would likely be reflected in the Senate's vote. It is very important to let them know where you stand.

I have enclosed a "swing list", prepared by CARD, of Congressmen who, with enough persuasion, could be brought to our position. These people need to hear from you to be persuaded, but please do not confine your letters only to Congressmen on this list. Every letter or telegram counts.

Other Developments:

* The Carter Administration announced for the first time its opposition to the reinstatement of draft registration. Defense Secretary Harold Brown stated that "the critical step toward achieving our goals is not immediate collection of names through reistration".

* Frighteningly enough, the acting Director of the Selective Service reports that with an exemption of the Privacy Act and computer tie-ins, the SSS could learn the whereabouts and "register" two million 18 year olds in five days. This fact is being used as an effective pragmatic argument against the House and Senate draft registration bills. Politics makes for very strange alliances.

* There is somewhat of a war hysteria brewing in Washington. The Defense Dept. announced it is working on legislation that would authorize the drafting of up to 100,000 Army veterans "as replacements for troops felled in the first days of a war". The War Dept. is also working on the development of a "Unilateral Force" composed of the 82nd Airborne and other units that would be specially trained to "strike anywhere in the world". Much of their training, not coincidentally, with the "energy crises", is focused on desert warfare.

For your information, a fact sheet on the All Volunteer Force is enclosed. These are just the pragmatic arguments - useful for debate. However, libertarians in the LP, the Students for a Libertarian Society, and in other organizations, are the most vocal individuals objecting to the draft on moral grounds, in war as well as in peacetime. In testimony before Congress, libertarians have made opposition to the draft as slavery as the principle argument. Our position on the draft united with our opposition to America's interventionist foreign policy will take on greater significance as time goes by and as the available pool of 18 year olds diminishes in the 1980s. In the ensuing debate someone is eventually going to have to give, and it will not be libertarians.

Remember, get out those letters and telegrams. If you are writing a Congressman address it to House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515; a Senator, address it to Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510.

The anti-draft movement needs your help. You can make a difference.

wpix editorial

EDITORIAL FEEDBACK: WORKING PAPER CLINICS
WPIX EDITORIAL #79-85 MAY 24, 1979

The Executive Director of the Free Libertarian Party in New York sent along a response from *P.W., a 10 year old, who saw the whole subject from a completely different perspective. Here is what he wrote, and I quote: "I want to reply go a WPIX editorial about working papers for children over fourteen years old. WPIX said that the government should pay for physical exams for children so they can get government working papers. WPIX has missed the point. The government has no business telling children they can't earn money. My parents can help me decide if I want to take a job and earn spending money. At home I do the dishes and get an allowance. Do I need the government's permission to do the dishes? Of course not. And I shouldn't need the government's permission to get other jobs either. My parents and I can work it out for ourselves. Children are people too and we have rights also. My father doesn't need permission from the government to get a job. WHY SHOULD I?"

*The P.W. in the reply is P.J. White, son of Judie White, our 1978 candidate for Comptroller.

REMINDER! 1979 LIBERTARIAN PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATING CONVENTION:
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO LP NATIONAL CONVENTION BROCHURE

1. Delegate's Package: designed for people spending most of their time on the Convention floor; package includes all four breakfasts, the Presidential Banquet, Celebrity Cocktail Party, the Three Party Party, and Disneyland Special--but no other speakers or workshops. Price: \$110.
2. Individual item prices for various events include \$5.00 each for the non-food speakers and workshops; breakfasts @ \$10.00 each; the Presidential Banquet for \$25.00; Disneyland Special for \$18.00; Celebrity Cocktail Party for \$25.00.
3. Discounts for Packages are good only if you mail your check to Libertarian Party National Convention, 1620 Montgomery St., San Francisco, CA 94111 by July 15. Prices will increase if you wait until the Convention to pay. Specify what you are paying for when you send in your check.

REGISTER NOW!! for what promises to be the largest Libertarian gathering ever---over 25 speakers featuring Roger MacBride, Eugene McCarthy, Roy A. Childs, Murray Rothbard, Dick Randolph, Robert Nozick, Paul Gann, Sharon Presley, Nicholas von Hoffman, Nathaniel Branden, Dr. Thomas Szasz, and many others. There will be 14 panels and workshops to study important issues and practical action aspects of political organizing; topics will be on the Draft, feminism, gun control, marketing and promotional strategy, the Tax Revolt, futurism and the free society, private education, campaign management, and more and more and more! AND the Saturday, Sept. 8 exciting state-by-state roll-call vote of the delegates on the convention floor to select the 1980 Libertarian presidential ticket of either Bill Hunscher or Ed Clark! SO, start saving your money and making your plane and accommodation reservations NOW!

*****LIBERTARIAN PARTY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION*****

COMBINATION STATE AND NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP: I enclose \$15.00 to pay for a combination one year membership in the Free Libertarian Party of New York and the national Libertarian Party. I am in substantial agreement with the statement of principles and objectives of the Free Libertarian Party as set forth below and 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 _____ date _____

STATE MEMBERSHIP ONLY: I enclose \$5.00 to pay for a one year membership in the Free Libertarian Party of New York. I am in substantial agreement with the statement of principles and objectives of the Free Libertarian Party as set forth below.

signature _____ date _____

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP ONLY: I enclose \$10.00 to pay for a one year membership in the national Libertarian Party. 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 _____ date _____

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE FREE LIBERTARIAN PARTY and mail to;
Free Libertarian party, 15 West 38th St., New York, NY, 10018

Name _____ Occupation _____

Address _____ County _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Office) _____

PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE FREE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

The Free Libertarian Party is a political organization which has as its primary objective the extension of individual freedom to its furthest limits. To that end the Party affirms the following principles:

1. That each individual possesses the inalienable right to life and liberty and to justly acquired property.
2. That no person or institution, public or private, has the right to initiate the use of physical force against another.
3. That all individuals are entitled to choose their own life styles as long as they do not forcibly impose their values on others.
4. That the only moral basis of politics is the preservation and protection of individual rights.
5. That the voluntary exchange of goods and services is fundamental to any socio-economic system which provides for the harmonious integration of divergent value systems.

NEWS NOTES - Compiled by the staff

There will be a meeting of the FLP State Committee on Sunday, August 19 at the home of Mike Kessler, 4 Sugar Plum Ridge, Clifton Park, NY 12065, 518-371-1718. State Comm meetings are open to all members... Dick Savadel and Mike Hansen, of the Nassau Co. FLP, have announced their candidacies for the Glen Cove City Council. They will hold a fundraising cocktail party on Sunday, August 5 at the home of Edward Moses, 10 Norgate Drive, in Brookeville. For information contact Dick Savadel, 516-671-9261 or write to him at box 453, Glen Head, NY 11545... Alaska state representative Dick Randolph (LP-Fairbanks) introduced bills to repeal all laws against gambling, prostitution and narcotics. He drew 14 cosponsors on gambling, 11 on prostitution, and 9 on narcotics, out of 40 members of the Alaska H. of R.... California LP is undertaking an effort to register 73,000 individuals with the CLP. This is one of the methods enabling an organization to qualify for permanent ballot status. So far, they have 10,000 registered Libertarians. This plan is in addition to their lawsuit against the State of California, claiming that Ed Clark's 5.5% of the vote entitles the CLP to permanent ballot status... along with the draft data reprinted in this issue the YLA says that the following uncommitted NY congressmen can be persuaded to vote against the draft: Downey, Cong. Dist. #2; Wolff, 6; Addabbo, 7; Ferraro, 9; Biaggi, 10; Schever, 11; Solarz, 13; Zefferetti, 15; Garcia, 21; Fish, 25; McHugh, 27; LaFalce, 36.... A petition has been filed with the NYC Board of Elections calling for the right of recall... An organization called V.O.T.E. has been formed to seek the right of statewide initiative. Contact: V.O.T.E., 375 Park Ave, NYC 10022, 753-1085... This is probably the last newsletter issue that you will receive prior to the national Presidential Nominating Convention. The next issue will be put together in August and received in early September. We will probably not work on the subsequent issue until the beginning of October and will have the convention wrapup.... For a bumpersticker reading "Energy Crisis-- Made in Washington DC" send \$1 to the state office.... Those not going to the National convention in LA: come to the office on Saturday morning, September 8, and we will attempt, telephonically, to be the first to find out who got the nomination. We can also tune in a news radio station to hear whether they report it. Hopefully we will get some calls from the NYC media at the same time. We can have our own little party and celebrate the start of the LP's greatest campaign. NEXT BIG FLP FUN EVENT-- a PICNIC IN CENTRAL PARK! Come to the Delacorte Outdoor Theater in the park, find us by the lake, enjoy an FLP picnic, and later, attend the free SHAKESPEARE PERFORMANCE. August 26 (Sunday), 3pm. Bring food, frisbees, footballs, or whatever your thing is. Get off the 6th or 8th ave. IND subway at 81st St. Contact Ann Jackson for details at 533-8840. ... This is not to mention the Genesee Region FLP picnic on August 4--contact Jim Philips, 315-589-5511, and the Mid-Hudson Re-organizing Picnic in September, time to be announced, contact Tom Goonan, 914-986-6068... Live in Suffolk? Help Bob Myhre in his race for County Exec. Contact Alex or Virginia Walker at 516-749-2394. You Central New Yorkers! Don't feel left out-- your job is to help Dick and Dave Saum give NBC hell for cancelling Atlas Shrugged. If enough letters are written to reverse Fred Silverman's hasty decision, the movie might still be produced and aired-- and to say that it will increase public interest in libertarianism is putting it mildly. So keep those cards and letters coming in-- to Fred Silverman, NBC, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, NYC, 10020, telling him how much you would like to see that movie. Buffalonians! I understand that Erie County claims to have the country's biggest county fair-- how about distributing some LP literature there? We want to report local activity in this newsletter, from all around the state. Waddaya say?

Jeff Rikkenbach, of Libertarian Review, had an article "In Praise of Decadence" in the Sunday, June 24 NYT...The Binghamton Press, on the same date, had a readers' opinion piece entitled "Prostitution Ought To Be Legalized", consisting of two letters, one from Craig Russell, who is in the FLP, and the other from a young lady who ought to be. When a Binghamton paper prints a headline like that!... Allan Vogel, LP candidate for mayor of Hous- ton and later, for governor of Texas, is being put forward by Texas support- ers for the LP Presidential nomination. Among his selling points are his contention that he represents no wing or faction and so will be acceptable to all LPers, and his willingness to devote full time to the campaign. So now we have a dark horse, in addition to a favorite son (Dick Randolph), to spice the stew in LA... Your editor is happy to report that the Roches- ter SIL (an FLP front) had as its latest speaker Patricia Brennan, famous for the Supreme Court case on her private 1st class mail service, and with whom yours truly made first contact two years ago in Rochester...Allan Burris, of Rochester, told me at the Albany con that the FLP group in that city is motivated for its tremendous rate of activity partly by a desire to "shame you New York City people into action." All right, Burris-- if it's a race you want, it's a race you'll get! ...I hope. — F. C.

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