

Libertarian Partu

NEWS

Volume 2, Number 3

Liberty Enlightening the World

May/June 1987

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Campaign Staffs Announced

Marrou

dential nomination, has appointed Perry Wil-

lis, former national director of the Libertarian

Others whom he lists as having "given firm

or tentative commitments to help out" are Michael Emerling, Las Vegas political con-sultant; Murray Rothbard, the widely respected

libertarian economist; David Bergland, former

LP presidential candidate; Sharon Ayres, Costa

Mesa (CA) member of the LP's national

committee; Alexis Thompson, LP fund raiser, Tucson. Willis now lives in Tucson also.

Marrou's report of his campaign plans: "The prime aim of my campaign, besides

"Tentative slogan for the campaign is 'From

trying to get votes, will be to build up the LP

"Response to my campaign for the VP nomination has been strong—in fact, even

enthusiastic in some places, such as Oregon and California. Here in Las Vegas we're trying

to rejuvenate the LP and have had two local

meetings so far. Currently, I'm trying to recruit

getting started, having sent out our first letter

about a week ago. Campaign debts (principally owed to me and to Perry Willis) probably total about \$1,000—mostly my travel and both our

"My schedule, from mid-May, is May 16-17,

Washington state; May 23-24, Fort Collins,

CO; May 29-31, Cincinnati, OH; June 5-6, Oklahoma City, OK; June 6-7, Birmingham, AL; June 12-14, Houston, TX; July 18-19,

Missouri, and then the national convention,

Marrou's home address is 1630 Ottawa Dr.,

Regarding fundraising, we are just now

candidates for local municipal elections.

Party, as his campaign manager.

By Andre Marrou

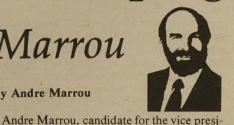
the Grass Roots Up.

phone calls.

1988 Ballot Access

September 2-6, Seattle.'

Las Vegas, NV 89109.



By Kevin Southwick

Paul

The Ron Paul Campaign has been in full swing since he announced last February that he would seek the Libertarian Party's nomination for President of the United States. As of April 6th, the campaign has raised over \$63,000 from 468 contributors—an average of more than \$133.00 each. And our organized fundraising hasn't even started. Major mailings begin in the middle of April to Ron's own list of 130,000 supporters, and then to outside lists as

The Ron Paul for President staff consists of: • Sharon Ayers, honorary co-chair, Costa Mesa, CA. Sharon is vice chair of the Libertarian Party and a member of the National

• David Bergland, honorary chair, Costa Mesa, CA. David, an attorney and author, was the 1984 Libertarian Party nominee for President. He is a member of the National Committee and an expert on communications.

• Burton S. Blumert, chair, Burlingame, CA. Bert is chairman of the Center for Libertarian Studies, president of Camino Coins, and well-known for his financial skill.

• Ed Clark, honorary co-chair, Los Angeles, CA. Ed, a corporate attorney, was the 1980 Libertarian Party nominee for President. He won more votes than any Libertarian nominee.

 Jack Dean, consultant, Los Angeles, CA. Jack, an outstanding media, marketing, and PR expert, is head of the California LP's Tom Paine Society and has been active in the Samuel Adams Society for six years.

• Nadia Hayes, consultant, Houston, TX. Nadia has had 14 years of political experience on the local, state, and federal levels, including running Ron's four successful congressional races. She has been a frequent faculty member at national campaign management schools.

Means

By Honey Lanham



When Kathleen Harroff was the I candidate for U.S. Senator against John Glenn she asked one non-Libertarian why he was supporting her. He said, "Above all, I heard freedom in you. I heard that most clearly." We now have a candidate for the Libertarian presidential nomination who evokes that same enthusiasm from Libertarians and non-Liber-

Russell Means' travels across the country have been re-igniting "burned-out" libertarian activists and inspiring many new people to join the party. As he said, "Freedom is for everyone. It's only a seven-letter, two-syllable word—and there are lots of people who don't know anything about it that I can reach.

Harroff also learned something else from her campaign that many of us have noticed with regret. In her words, "It is easier to make a Libertarian out of an activist than an activist out of a Libertarian.

Russell Means has never been one to just sit around talking with the already-convinced. He spent nearly twenty years as a leading national spokesman for the American Indian Movement, working tirelessly to oppose government violations of both the personal and economic liberty of Indians. Recently, he told the press 'The only thing that has changed is the scope of my goal. I now realize that all Americans, not just Indians, desperately need to regain control of their lives.

But Means is more than just an energetic speaker and experienced organizer. He not only supports the entire Libertarian Party Platform—he helped write part of it, even before he formally joined the party. In the early 1980's he helped Montana LP Chair Larry Dodge draft the plank on Indian rights which was adopted by the national convention in

on the ballot in as many states as possible, state ballot drives sacrificed by any abandonment of a 50-state strategy will necessarily be chosen from states for which a successful ballot drive will require (1) a relatively high number of petition signatures and (2) a relatively high proportion of funding from the LPBAF. At the time any decision to abandon a state ballot drive is taken, the state ballot drive abandoned will be the one then projected to be the most expensive state for the LPBAF to complete. The states currently at risk on the basis of high signature requirements are Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Missouri, North Carolina, Oregon, and Pennsylvania. The state LP affiliates in these states are encouraged to begin to organize as soon as possible to improve their

Strategy Explained

position relative to other at-risk states.

In allocating LPBAF funds, consideration will be given by the BAC to the amount of contributions received by the LPBAF from contributors residing in the states at risk. This policy is designed to provide an incentive for state LP affiliates to cooperate with the LPBAF

in joint fundraising efforts.

Based upon 1986 election results, the LP's presidential ticket is now qualified to appear on the general election ballot without further petitioning in 12 states: Alaska, Arkansas, California, Delaware, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, South Carolina, Texas, and Vermont.

Some states provide alternative routes to the ballot, in one case permitting a party to qualify

and then nominate candidates, in the other case nominating candidates directly. The number of signatures required can be grossly disparate. In Ohio, for example, over 50,000 signatures are required to qualify a party, but only 5,000 are required to qualify a candidate. States targeted for current ballot drives include those states in which the advantage of early party petitioning outweighs the disadvantage of comparative candidate petition requirements.

The BAC has identified four target states for current ballot drives: Alabama, Arizona, Hawaii, and Maryland.

Next comes the time frame spanning the 1987 petitioning season and ending with the presidential nominating convention in Seattle.

Continued on page 6

Chairman, Ballot Access Committee

It is conceivable that the Libertarian Party Ballot Access Fund (LPBAF) will not be able to finance successful ballot drives in all 50 states. Its long-term fundraising potential is unknown. Fortunately, whether the Ballot Access Committee (BAC) ultimately adopts a 40-state strategy or a 50-state strategy or a strategy falling somewhere in between, its recommendations through the late summer of '87 are parallel. No decision to implement or abandon a 50-state strategy need be made until then—when the long-term fundraising potential of the LPBAF is better known.

Because the primary goal of the BAC is to be

Letters to the Editor

Limited space prevents publication of all the letters received by the NEWS. The letters printed are selected so as to provide an honest cross-section of opinion. Usually, only one letter will be selected to represent a subject on which, in fact, many letters may have been received. Where several letters pertain to the same topic, it does not indicate a greater interest in the particular topic but only the editors' judgement that important separate points are being made. Writers whose letters are not published often are angry. That's understandable. But, please, understand our problems of space and, admittedly, judgement—and continue to write!

Recruit

The Libertarian Party presidential campaign should devote 90 percent plus of its efforts to recruiting new Libertarians into the Party.

Suppose the LP presidential candidate spends four million dollars, gets two million votes and a handful of new members. After the election, what do we have in the way of a return on our investment? Yellowing newspaper clippings, empty wallets, and worn out, burnt out activists.

Suppose the LP presidential candidate spends four million dollars, gets 40,000 new members and a handful of votes. What's the return on our investment? One new activist per 6,250 people in each state. In California, that would be 4,000 new activists; in Arizona, 400 new activists; in Nevada, 160 new activists. Plus the new activists recruited by state and local LP candidates.

Which will it be: dried up newspapers or living, breathing Libertarian activists

Michael Emerling Las Vegas, NV

Nobody

Nobody would be the Libertarian Party's best candidate for President. As the advocate of a balanced budget, he can be the object of a militant keep-home-the-vote campaign. Turnout for the last three presidential elections has been between 53 and 54 percent of the voting age population. A drop below 50 percent would be hard to ignore.

Ron Paul and Russell Means should know better than to run against Nobody. Little else does more to grant government legitimacy than to have its critics on the ballot. Until the Electoral College is more than a rubber stamp, it will be an endorsement of mass majority coercion for Libertarians to seek the White House. This has been the Party's Achilles Heel from its inception.

The League of Non-Voters was a media success in 1972. The follow-up is a non-party so committed to a balanced budget that it refuses to nominate anybody. If the gluttons for

punishment on the National Ballot Access Committee shoot this down, fine. Whoever loses the presidential nomination can still be the project's spokesperson

Charles S. Kennedy Libertarian Party of Indiana

Privacy
I really liked the article "Reagan's War on Privacy." Reagan institutes all these policy changes in American banking, then his National Security officer and aide evade them by using Swiss accounts. We can't make cash deposits or we suddenly become drug dealers, while they transfer millions by wire and no one knows anything about it.

Kyle Chafin Hamilton, OH

Weekly

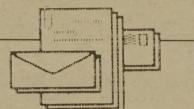
Two of the biggest problems faced by the LP are: lack of publicity and lack of funds. A neighborhood weekly in the Greater Houston area may help correct both of those within its

The Westside Record is owned by Lela Elliott, who, while not a joiner, considers herself a libertarian. She wants to help spread the news about the LP and its philosophy, and she wants to donate money to the Party's candidates in Texas.

To do that, she needs subscribers and advertisers. In a recent meeting with Joe Lusardi, Jeff Daiell, and Kevin Southwick, officers of the Harris County (Houston) LP, Lela noted that she needs a base of 5,000 subscribers (at \$24/year) in order to be able to maintain her intended weekly schedule, secure a secondclass mailing permit, and join the press association (membership in which would open some major advertising doors currently closed to her). This would in turn enable her to expand greatly her distribution area.

The Harris County group has insufficient personnel to generate that kind of subscriber base within the Houston area alone. However, she is more than happy to receive subscriptions from anywhere in these United States—or elsewhere. Should LP efforts garner her that subscriber base, she has pledged to contribute 10 percent of the paper's profits to the LP (the publication is a sole proprietorship, and thus not subject to bans on corporate contributions). Also, she wants to cover LP news far more than most other general-circulation periodicals, and wants a libertarian to write editorials promoting the freedom philosophy.

Anyone wishing to subscribe and thus to help reach thousands of voters on a weekly basis—in a format that people of all sorts will happily take into their homes, a plus that specific-interest publications don't have—should send a check for \$24 (payable to Westside



Record) to the Harris County Libertarian Party, c/o Jeff Daiell, 4745 Kingfisher, Hous-TX 77035. Anyone wishing to advertise should contact the paper directly at 20214 Braidwood, Katy, TX 77450.

Jeff Daiell

states that he is unable to make a full commitment to libertarianism because of his belief that many libertarians are atheists.

May I remind Mr. Ayres that libertarianism has nothing to do with religion. The fact that libertarians may be atheistic, agnostic, or devoutly religious is immaterial. What is important is the fact that libertarianism allows each individual to formulate and pursue his/ denies the right to forcibly impose one's

A commitment to libertarianism does not imply a denial of religion; it demonstrates

William B. Allard

Abortion

threatened by the pregnancy, only a small minority of "pro-life" people (and unfortunately some people are only "pro" the life *they* decide should be saved) would argue her right to protect herself from death.

Second, I think it is imperative that we come to grips with the fact that some of us are never going to see eye-to-eye on this issue and that some sort of compromise is necessary. The LP platform could state, perhaps, that "recognizing that we can never agree as to whether the right of each person to sole and absolute ownership of his or her own body supersedes the right to protection for all viable human life, we do agree to the need for developing a society where abortion is unnecessary

I could live with that. Could the pro-choice

Margaret Mathers Farmington, NM

Houston, TX

Atheism

Richard Ayres (March/April LP NEWS)

her own religious beliefs. Libertarianism also religious views on others.

support for freedom of choice

Tacoma, WA

I have two comments on the abortion issue raised in Carol Moore's letter in the March/ April issue of LP NEWS.

First, she doesn't state if she had a choice as to whether or not to become pregnant. If it was a careless accident (or any other kind of accident), it seems cruel to take it out on the baby, who was, to all intents and purposes, an innocent bystander. If indeed her life was

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Abortion

The controversy surrounding abortion is not likely to be resolved in the Libertarian Party (or anywhere else) in the foreseeable future. And certainly my input to the debate which rages around this question will not alter opinions.

However, as a fundamentalist Christian who believes strongly that abortion is morally bankrupt under any circumstance, I feel compelled to defend the Libertarian Party on the issue. That defense is based on practical, personal experience.

Rather than rely on ethical, scriptural, or medical imperatives which are all open to interpretive understanding (or misunderstanding). I'd like to relate an incident which has helped me come to grips with abortion at a personal level.

This occurred more than 10 years ago. My wife and I were anxiously anticipating the arrival of our second child. It was still early in the pregnancy but we were counting the weeks until delivery day.

That day never came. A miscarriage in the first trimester left us despondent and sorrowful.

To compound the natural misfortune which had befallen us, there came a letter from our insurance company. The medical claim filed by our doctor had been denied because neither voluntary sterilization nor abortion was covered by our policy. You see, the medical term used to describe a miscarried pregnancy is "spontaneous abortion.

Some witless idiot at the insurance company had seen "abortion" and automatically denied benefits. With assistance from a local agent, the hospital, and our doctor we were able to resolve the matter. But the additional, needless grief we bore is still with me today.

A decade and two uncomplicated deliveries cannot take away the memory of that letter and the subsequent inquiries. I can't help wondering how it could have been if the inquiry had come from the pregnancy police instead of an

insurance company.

I am repulsed by the thought of government, at any level, becoming involved in such delicate matters. And I know that once legislation is on the books, common sense and tact go out the window. Each "abortion" would have to be checked out to determine if it was voluntary, induced, or spontaneous. God protect us from such "protection."

For me the question of abortion is a closed one. But I have no desire to see the government or political expediency determine individuals' actions in these matters.

Frank Gilbert Fort Smith, AR

Continued on Page 10

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Technological Alternative to Welfare

By Karl Hess

Libertarian Party members now are headed into their period of maximum political rhetoric as they encourage their favorite candidates toward the Party's presidential nominating convention.

Because this paper, and its editors, will not endorse or encourage any particular candidate, until the nominee is chosen, other sorts of activity will be emphasized in this space. Last issue it was the importance of elementary school education as a focus of libertarian attention. This issue, I'll describe another area in which libertarians generally, and Libertarian Party members in particular, can play a special role in presenting an active, practical alternative to statist politics.

The area is poverty.

Socialism, globally, has failed to do much more than equalize poverty. Welfarism, as in this country, has been most successful in providing the elevated salaries of people who administer the system.

Although American liberals still snicker fashionably at the notion, the hard and material fact is that poverty is alleviated by the creation of wealth—the work at which both socialism and welfarism have dismally failed

Libertarian Party political rhetoric stresses opportunity over welfare. It calls, in particular, for eliminating the many licensing, zoning, and other regulatory barriers which inhibit all people, but particularly poor people, from the market activities which can create wealth. It also recounts with great accuracy the adverse impact upon the poor of many measures intended to help them, such as the minimum wage law which simply prices the poorest young people—as an example—out of the employment market.

But, beyond politics, there are things that libertarians can do to prove their points about productivity, work, individual initiative, and responsibility. There are things that libertarians can do to help poor people become un-poor without state help. Every such effort makes the libertarian point in unmistakable, clearly seen, material terms.

Technical assistance to the poor strikes me as a prime area of activity which would offer libertarians a dynamic opportunity to catch the public eye, to demonstrate libertarian principles, and to achieve in at least single instances the libertarian dream of liberty unfettered by traditional politics.

What sort of technical assistance? Economic, entrepreneurial, legal, and technological advice-to individuals and to self-help groups.

The areas of advice represent what many libertarians do in their everyday lives. Their purpose in getting in politics at all probably is formed from their concern over state restrictions of what they do. To be sure, winning an elective office would offer the chance to strike directly at restrictive laws. But there are ways to do it beyond politics and I honestly believe that technical assistance to the poor is one of

Technical assistance to the poor provides a platform of public attention on which to discuss the negative impact of state programs by contrasting them with the positive aspects of free market activities. It provides a platform of public attention from which libertarians can enunciate, through practical demonstrations, their contention that economic and cultural solutions are preferable to political solutions.

But why should libertarians bother to help others? Isn't it enough to help themselves? Not quite. One of the great constituencies for the very political power that harasses and hampers many a libertarian entrepreneur is the constituency of professional poverty professionals

The major purpose of libertarian politics is to diminish political power. Diminishing any particular constituency for political power is in the long-term self-interest of libertarians. Technical assistance to the poor, as a purely voluntary activity, fits roughly into the same category as the voluntary devotion of time to politics or any other public activity which a libertarian feels is in the interest of liberty. Libertarians spend their time doing many things in hope that the investment will yield later dividends in increased liberty.

Or, technical assistance to the poor could be seen by some libertarians simply as an act of private charity. Whatever.

Publicly, such assistance would have to be seen as an activity in which libertarians put their "money where their mouths are" or, rather, put their time where their theories are

Projects of technical assistance that occur to me are these:

• A central problem in many poor neighborhoods is the lack of privately-owned housing. The lack subjects the people in the neighborhood to constant dislocations, prevents the development of the sort of self-esteem that can ensue from property ownership, and is a factor in turning many poor neighborhoods into tragic

Much of the housing in poor neighborhoods is available to developers at fairly low costs. But people in the neighborhoods also could buy property, perhaps with money pooled for the purpose, using one purchase as the lever for others, the way any developer might approach the project. Technical assistance here could be in guiding people through the intricacies of leveraged real-estate development, in techniques of property management if any is to be made available for rent, and so forth. And, remember, there is discretionary money even in poor neighborhoods as witnessed by substantial whiskey and cigarette sales.

 Small business which could become the base of a sorely needed local economy surely could use the advice of libertarians who have been successful in their own businesses. Even the most energetic poor person trying to start a business is faced with a world of red tape and of financial planning that is bound to be be-

Needless to say, libertarians successfully advising the formation of such businesses might themselves want to become involved in the future profitability of a neighborhood moving from poverty to production.

• Technologies appropriate to poor neighborhoods could be the subject of libertarian technical assistance. Could personal computers be of practical use in the enterprises of poor neighborhoods? Computer programming is probably the largest single occupational area of Libertarian Party members. Others, myself included, have had experience in inner city agriculture or gardening, and in alternative sources of energy.

• Healthcare is another area in which libertarian expertise abounds and which could be of intense interest in poor neighborhoods. Medical self-help courses and nutrition counseling are certainly areas of technical assistance that would assist poor people in developing awareness of individual possibility and re-

• Education is, of course, crucial in a poor neighborhood as in any other. Libertarian technical assistance for anyone in a poor neighborhood attempting to start a private school to help break the poverty cycle would be most helpful, as would libertarian advice on later curriculum choices

Libertarian technical assistance as an alter-

native to the welfare state could be a project of single or a few libertarians or it could be a project of an entire state or local party. No matter which, a strong public announcement of the assistance program would be, at the very least, a good opportunity to command public attention through press releases, press conferences, public meetings with groups in poor neighborhoods, television and radio interviews.

Libertarians know that liberty and the free market work. Here is an instance in which libertarians could provide practical demonstra-tions of both liberty and the free market in an area that is bound to command public attention and respect.

Let's Party in Seattle

Murray Rothbard, Jim Peron, Norma Jean Almodovar, Bruce Evoy, Don Ernsberger, Karl Hess, Robert Poole Jr., Walter Block, Tonie Nathan, Marshall Fritz, David Bergland, Alicia Clark

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leans

1985

Means is dedicated to using his fame, contacts, and many talents to advance Libertarian principles and positions in all areas. As he put 'I hope to show all Americans that the 'failure of socialism' which Secretary of Interior James Watt pointed to on American Indian reservations is a universal problem, and that voting Libertarian is a very important way for people of all races to say 'We've had enough. Give us back our freedom.

This exciting advocate of liberty has taken his message to 13 states in just nine weeks. The first presidential candidate for 1988 to join the Libertarian Party and the first to announce, Means is leading a grass roots campaign.

With the help of Larry Dodge, I began recruiting Russell Means last December. He and Dodge met with me in February for a "testing the waters" tour of Texas. The next stop was the California state convention where we recruited our volunteer mailing list and computer director, Alexia Gilmore. Mike Rother, Kate O'Brien, Chris Prael, Brian Morris, Sam Grove, and Rich Duenez joined the campaign at the convention, helping with media and introducing Means to delegates.

From California, Means and Richard Winger flew to Michigan to testify before the Michigan House Elections Committee against a bill to increase signature requirements for ballot access. Local Libertarians arranged a successful press conference at the Capitol, radio and television interviews, and a fundraiser on two days notice.

His trip to the Arizona convention was coupled with visits with leaders of the Navajo, Hopi, and Apache Indian Nation, to consider registration of Indians as Libertarians for ballot access. He has since attended two American Indian conventions in Denver where support of his campaign has been overwhelming. From all strata of Indian society, there is a real sense of pride for Russell Means for President.

During our visit to the Atlanta National Committee meeting and Georgia convention, Means was invited to join the memorial service for the nineteenth anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. On the dias with Coretta King, Means was introduced as the next Libertarian President of the U.S.

Means has attended conventions in New Jersey, New York City, Pennsylvania, and Oregon. Extensive campaign arrangements have been coordinated in Colorado by Mary Margaret, Brian Fox, and Dave Daniels; in Pennsylvania by Toni Black; in Florida by Harry Reid, Phil Blumel, Dorothy Black, and John Wayne Smith; in Texas by Margaret Werry, Greg Clark, Bruce Baechler, and John Marcus Cashin. Liz Barthlow, of Houston, has been named national media coordinator.

The goals of the Means for President nomination are to visit every state before the Seattle convention, to attend every state convention that is logistically possible, to work for ballot access, to gain maximum media attention, to take the libertarian message to new audiences, and to bring them to the Party. Russell Means is well on his way to achieving all of these

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Reagan War on Privacy Escalates

By R.W. Bradford

"McAllen, Texas-A Texas woman who bought \$3 worth of diet pills in Mexico to shed weight instead lost her 2,700-pound car to U.S. Customs officials.

"Sandra Galvan failed to declare the prescription pills she obtained from a Reynoso doctor when she crossed the bridge that links Hidalgo, Texas, with Reynoso, Mexico. A Customs official found the pills in her purse.

Strict new regulations permit Customs officials to seize vehicles carrying even traces of any controlled substances. Such cars, trucks, planes, and ships become the permanent property of the U.S. government."—Reuters diserty of the U.S. government. patch from McAllen, Texas, Nov. 3, 1986.

This little adventure in American justice does more than illustrate the ferocity with which the American government uses the new powers obtained in the name of fighting organized crime and the war on drugs. It also illustrates for all to see just how much every American is threatened by the Reagan Administration's attack on financial individual privacy.

In an earlier article, I detailed 17 different ways that Americans have lost their rights to privacy during the first five years of the Reagan Administration. I have received letters from some readers arguing that the rights lost are relatively unimportant. After all, they argue, how important is the right to leave the country without being subject to Customs' search, or the right to withdraw cash from one's bank account without the bank reporting it to the IRS? Most Americans rarely leave the country, and when they do they are not trying to take anything illegal with them. And when was the last time you wanted to withdraw \$10,000 in cash from your bank?

Thus most Americans do not object when the power of the police is increased, especially if the increases are made in the name of the "War on Even those who oppose the loss of freedom in principle see little reason to object strenuously when the freedom lost is one they

see little need to exercise.

I do not know Sandra Galvan. But somehow, I suspect that she is not one of the "major drug dealers" who might get off scot-free if the police lack the power to confiscate her car for drug smuggling. Presumably, most major drug dealers do not get their drugs from doctors. I can't imagine diet pills are a big item among drug addicts. Nor do I think major drug smugglers import drugs \$3 worth at a time. And I doubt they "smuggle" by putting a bottle of drugs in their purses.

In fact, I suspect most major drug smugglers have ways to avoid the random checks of Customs agents: They fly their drugs in, or conceal them in commercial cargoes, or pay off the agents. But Ms. Galvan had no such ways of evasion. And now she doesn't have a car either. Neither does Lamar Hoyt, pitcher for the San Diego Padres. Customs officials confiscated his new Porsche when they caught him trying to smuggle Valium across the border.

And neither do the middle class suburbanites who enter the inner city to buy small quantities of recreational drugs. "We don't care if you're on a 10-speed bike or a skateboard," said Joel Gilliam, head of Detroit's Narcotics Squad.

We are going to take it, and keep it."
A total of \$5,300,000 worth of property has been confiscated in Detroit since 1982. That's a lot of skateboards.

There are two reasons that the rights we surrender or lose today are important to us even though we may not be actively exercising those rights today. First, we must recognize that the future is profoundly uncertain. The rights we have little need for today may be very valuable tomorrow.

The right to own gold probably meant little to most Americans in 1910, when the dollar was redeemable in gold and the economy strong. But by mid-1937, when the value of the dollar was declining and the economy was in shambles, the right to own gold would have been very valuable to most Americans. Alas, they had lost that right in 1934.

More importantly, the attacks on financial privacy by the Reagan Administration are a threat to ordinary citizens today. The Controlled Substance Forfeiture Act was passed by Congress to take a bite out of the organized drug business. But organized criminals are too intelligent to fall victim to it. So the law is used to confiscate the station wagons of middleclass matrons and the new Porsches of hard luck big league pitchers who buy diet pills in

The raft of anti-drug legislation has even taken from Americans the right to defend themselves in a court of law. Under the law, the government can confiscate any assets of the accused that the government argues were earned via criminal activity. The accused can get his assets returned if he is found not guilty. That's a pretty big "if," however.

The accused has to defend himself against a huge and powerful government, against police with extraordinary powers, and against an army of government attorneys. Yet once his assets are confiscated, he cannot even hire an attorney unless he managed to hide some assets. The unfortunate person whose property is confiscated under the law must attempt, without a cent, to mount a defense against the full power and resources of the U.S. government. Only if he manages to win his case against these odds can he attempt to get his property back.

Thus the power of the government to confiscate the property of the accused prior to trial effectively denies the accused the right to defend himself.

Even this power is not enough. Under "antilegislation passed last year, if the accused manages to hold on to enough assets to hire his own attorney but is convicted anyway, his attorney can be found guilty of a felony. The attorney can be convicted of the crime of "money laundering," of accepting money from someone who earned it illegally.

In sum, the accused can defend himself, but only if he has assets that are not confiscated. And if he is convicted, his attorney can be sent to prison for 10 years and fined up to \$250,000. Otherwise, they can depend on the free legal help of public defenders; i.e., lowly paid attorneys hired by the government to provide defense for the indigent.

This blatant attack on the right to a fair trial has not gone unnoticed. So far, most complaints come from lawyers who see the risk of defending unpopular criminals. The ultimate victims of the measure—anyone henceforth accused of any criminal act-haven't been much heard from.

According to the Wall Street Journal, the Justice Department has indicated that it will enforce the anti-"money-laundering" law selectively. A memo sent to federal prosecutors cautions against wholesale indictments under the law and orders that prosecutions must be cleared with headquarters.

At first, presumably, the law will only be used against high-priced criminal lawyers with particularly unattractive clients. Only after it is well established and the precedents are set will it be administered consistently.

Last fall, HR-5484, a mammoth bill titled "Omnibus Drug Enforcement, Education, and Control Act of 1986," was introduced with Administration support for consideration by

The 365-page measure contains numerous provisions offensive to human liberty. But let us consider only one small section, "Subtitle us consider only one small section, A-Money Laundering," 12 pages from the middle of the measure.

The subtitle begins by providing a fine of up to \$1 million and a prison term of up to 20 years for the individual who "knowingly engages or attempts to engage in a financial transaction in criminally derived property..." Sounds fair

enough on the surface; after all, only people who "knowingly" deal in criminal funds are covered.

It goes on to provide that the government can seize without compensation "any property constituting, or derived from, any gross receipts a person obtains, directly or indirectly, as a result of [such money laundering]."

Three pages later is the kicker: "In a prose-

cution for an offense under this section, the government is not required to prove the defendant knew that the offense from which the criminally derived property was derived was a designated offense.

George Orwell has nothing on the Administration. Under the measure, the government can convict you of "knowingly" dealing in criminal funds whether you know the funds are criminal or not.

HR-5484 passed. It is now Public Law 99-

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National LP Goal:

1000 Monthly Pledgers by the end of the year.



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Access Bill Returns With New Number

By Richard Winger

On March 12, Rep. John Conyers re-introduced a congressional bill that would remove many barriers which now make it difficult for new parties to achieve ballot status. Last session, the bill was designated HR 2320. This year it is HR 1582.

Conyers did more than re-introduce the bill. He, his staff, and the Rainbow Alliance organized a press conference to launch HR 1582 Speaking strongly in favor of the bill were Ralph Nader, a Rainbow representative, and a

YOU, ALIVE IN 2287? The Cryonics Experiment aims to put patients in biostasis at today's "death", so tomorrow's medicine can revive them to youth wealth, health and the good life. FREE INFORMATION Charles Howard Hartman Over A Decade, Arranging/Funding Member, Principal Societies Cryonix C. Hartman, Inc. 514 N.W., Stuart, Iowa 50250 WRITE OR CALL TODAY! (515) 523-1116 representative of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC). Conyers told the press that he hadn't worked very hard for last year's bill but that he would for this year's.

The new bill is almost identical to last year's. It would not supplant state election laws, but it would ban all devices used to keep new parties and independent candidates for federal office off the ballot, except that it would allow a petition. However, the petition could not exceed a number of signatures equal to one-tenth of one percent of the number of registered voters, or 1,000 signatures, whichever is greater. As of March 12, HR 1582 has 15 co-sponsors: Cardiss Collins (Illinois), Major Owens (New York), Mervyn Dymally (California), Charles Hayes (Illinois), Ronald Dellums (California), Robert Kastenmeyer (Wisconsin), Julian Dixon (California), Wayne Dowdy (Mississippi), Edward Roybal (California), Mike Espy (Mississippi), Louis Stokes (Ohio), Edolphus Town (New York), Walter Fauntroy (DC), Charles Rangel (New York), Floyd Flake (New York).

If you live in a distict represented by Congressman Conyers or any of the members of Congress listed above, write him or her a thank-you note. If your congressman is not listed above, write and ask him or her to cosponsor HR 1582. This bill, if enacted, would save the Libertarian Party \$500,000 per election year. It would enable the Libertarian Party to run candidates for Congress in a majority of districts for the first time (no third party has run candidates for Congress in a majority of districts in the USA since 1920). It would open the door to a golden age for building the Party. ****

The Idaho legislature has passed the Libertarian Party's proposal to ease ballot access. HB 302, by Representative Elizabeth Allen, would change the wording on the party petition from "We, the signers, have affiliated for the purpose of forming such party" to "We, the signers, desire to place the proposed party on

The bill does not lower the number of signatures (currently 8,223) but at least it will be easier to get signatures on the petition with the new wording.

The bill also improves the deadline for an independent presidential candidate, from June 25 to August 25. The deadline for a new party was already favorable, August 30, and the bill

Delegate Breakdown

Allocation of delegates to the upcoming Libertarian Party presidential nominating convention in Seattle is based on a formula that takes into account the two delegates that each state is assured, plus additional delegates based upon the number of members of the national LP in a state and the number of LP presidential votes recorded in the state during the last presidential election.

A table of the preliminary allocation of delegates based on those factors is presented here to give what amounts to a broad view of the bare-bones status of the LP in the 50

In viewing the figures, it should be borne in mind that the number of people voting for Libertarian Party candidates at all levels is many times greater than the presidential totals and the number of people who regard themselves as libertarians is, also, far greater than any of the vote totals.

LP 1987 Convention Delegate Allocation (Preliminary)

State	Rank	Nat'l. Memb.	# Dels.	1984 Vote	# Dels.	Total Dels.
Alabama	26	51	2	9504	Deis.	Deis.
Alaska	24	61	3	6378	3	8
Arizona	14	107	5	10585	1	
Arkansas	49	7	0	10383	0	8 2
California	1	1280	64	49951	1	
Colorado	9	153	7	11257	1	67
Connecticut	23	62	3	204	0	10
Delaware	46	13	0	268	0	5 2
Dist. of Col.	40	17	0	274	0	2
Florida	7	164	8	754	0	10
Georgia	22	63	3	159	0	
Hawaii	41	15	0	2167	1	5
Idaho	35	27	1	2823	1	3 4
Illinois	4	210	10	10086	0	
Indiana	20	65	3	6741		12
Iowa	28	50	2	1844	0	5
Kansas	20	65	3	3329	- 0	4
Kentucky	39	19	0	3329	0	5 2 3 2
Louisiana	32	38		1076	0	2
Maine	43	14	1	1876	0	3
Maryland	13		0	5701	0	2
Massachusetts	14	110 107	5 5	5721	0	7
Michigan	6	169		10055	0	7
Minnesota	14	107	8	10055	0	10
Mississippi	43	14	5	2996	0	7 2
Missouri	25	59	0	2336	0	2
Montana	38	21	2	5105	0	4
Nebraska	43	14	1 0	5185	1	4 2 4 3 8 5
Nevada	33	34	1	2079	0	2
New Hampshire	34	28	1	2292	1	4
New Jersey	10	131	6	735	0	3
New Mexico	31	41	2	6416	0	8
New York	3	308	15	4459	1	5
North Carolina	19	85	4	11944	0	17
North Dakota	51	5	0	3794	0	6
Ohio	8	162	8	703	0	2
Oklahoma	26	51	2	5886	0	10
Oregon	18	92	4	9066	1	5
Pennsylvania	5	195		376	0	6
Rhode Island	49		9	6982	0	11
South Carolina	30	7	0	241	0	2 4
South Carolina South Dakota	47	46	2	4359	0	4
Tennessee	29	11	0		0	2 4
		49	2	3072	0	
Texas Utah	2	327	16		0	18
Vermont	36 36	22	1	2447	0	3
Virginia		22	1	1002	0	3
Washington	12	125	6	0011	0	8
	10	131	6	8844	0	8
West Virginia Wisconsin	48	10	0	1000	0	2
Wyoming	17	96	4	4883	0	3 8 8 8 2 6 3
	41	15	0	2357	1	3
Totals:		5075				347

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Chair's Column

By Jim Turney National Chair, LNC

Do the delegates to our national conventions know what they expect from the National Committee when they elect its members? Do the NatCom members know what is expected of them?

Are the NatCom members elected to represent their regional interests, their factional interests, or their personal interests? Or are they the activists of the national Party who make it all work in the weeks and months between meetings?

There seem to be two basic ways of looking at the duties of NatCom members. One view is that they are selected for their competence and dedication (previously proven at state and local levels) and are expected to use those attributes to promote the national Party. They encourage national membership and contributions in their region or provide special skills to the national Party (ballot access, fund-raising, etc.), or, at least, are the motivated, organized, and reliable types who can make things happen by "hands on" leadership. In short, they are elected because of the benefit they can bring to the national LP.

The other view is that the NatCom member is one who is selected for their



wisdom, experience, and allegiance to function in a judicial capacity—to oversee the performance of the paid staff and officers, to make policy decisions on how they should carry out the bylaws created in conventions, and to represent the interests of their region or faction in these matters.

There is no doubt that any structure for the NatCom will require of its members a role in overseeing the actions of staff, officers, and committees. To assure a truly national Party, regional representation is an important characteristic of the NatCom.

I want to make a case for an activist NatCom. Who should the members of the Party rely on more than NatCom members to be our organizers and **doers**? The infra-

structure and leadership of many state parties has deteriorated or disappeared. Can't regional representatives be our field organizers? It would be great to have paid professionals (like unions) but shouldn't NatCom reps care enough to be at least in constant contact with local activists, ready to provide moral support and practical suggestions? Let's elect regional representatives who are willing to do the hard work of organizing.

When I was elected chair, I intentionally did not appoint many regional reps to chair committees because I wanted them to be free to devote themselves to their regions. I have tried to get all "at-large" members to accept major committee assignments. Very few current NatCom members seem to share my view of the NatCom as an "activist" committee. At the first regular meeting (1985) this NatCom deleted a previous requirement that all committee chairs be selected from among NatCom members. It is true that in general LP members have been more reluctant than ever to devote themselves to the Party at even local or state levels. It was a surprise to me that this was so prevalent at the NatCom level. What can be done about it?

Most important is for the delegates in Seattle to elect people who promise action and have a track record to prove they are capable of it. But a structural change may help too. Why not a specific commitment to activity at the national level as a require-

ment to serve on the NatCom?

I propose a new NatCom structure made up of (1) officers (same as now), (2) regional reps (probably fewer) with a **bylaw** defining their role as representatives of the national Party to their region as well as regional reps to the NatCom, and (3) a team of "at-large" members, each of whom is elected to chair a specific action committee (Outreach, Finance, etc.). This would mean that the delegates could choose candidates who had committed themselves to a specific activity and plan of action.

NatCom meetings should be more frequent and should be an occasion for members to report on what they have been doing as well as for checking up on what others have done. Hopefully, factionalism will subside in an environment where everyone is working and there is a common challenge of growth for the national LP.

In the past it has been common to select NatCom members in haste and without the serious consideration of candidates the committee deserves. After all, there is often only one candidate, and even that one may be "drafted" for lack of interested parties. It is not only expensive to be a party leader but also a rather "thankless" task. Even though the presidential nomination campaigns have captivated the attention of LP'ers lately, we must remember that the leadership of the national Party is also to be decided in Seattle

Let's give these elections the important attention they deserve.

Ballot Access Strategy in Place

Continued from page 1

The BAC has identified four possible target states which are clearly suitable for ballot drives prior to the convention: Michigan, North Carolina, Utah, and Wyoming. The BAC has identified five other possible target states in which the benefit of a party petition must be weighed against a lesser signature requirement for a candidate petition: Idaho, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

Of these states, the BAC anticipates that ballot drives will be completed in at least six prior to the Seattle convention: Michigan, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. Additionally, ballot drives may be organized, underway, or completed in five other states: Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, and North Carolina.

First Watershed

The summer of '87 will mark the first real test of the ability of the LP to simultaneously sustain fundraising and ballot drive activities at a level sufficient to complete all 50 states. With Texas out of the way early, there is no necessity to abandon a 50-state strategy prior to the summer of '87, when a decision on a North Carolina ballot drive becomes imperative.

Although Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota will have somewhat lower petition requirements after the presidential nominating convention, the period just before the convention actually represents our best opportunity to conduct ballot drives in these three states. Also, this is perhaps our only opportunity to launch a successful ballot drive in North Carolina for the '88 presidential campaign based upon current fundraising projections.

Successful ballot drives in Maryland and North Carolina are pivotal. A failure to complete Maryland's ballot drive or a failure to make a strong start on North Carolina's ballot drive before the Seattle convention will dictate a substantial revision of BAC '88 campaign projections. Successful ballot drives in Alabama, Arizona, and Michigan are important indicators of the BAC's ability to stay on schedule.

Based upon 1986 election results, the BAC

currently projects that the LP's presidential nominee will be qualified for the ballot in not less than 22 states prior to the Seattle convention. Pre-election projections were that 20 to 25 jurisdictions would then be qualified. This will compare favorably with the 17 states qualified at the time of the '83 convention in New York City.

The objective during the time frame beginning with the presidential nominating convention and ending Thanksgiving Day 1987, is to complete a number of low signature requirement states immediately after the Seattle convention to ease administrative compliance problems later in the campaign.

The BAC has targeted five possible jurisdictions for ballot drives during this time: District of Columbia, New Hampshire, Iowa, New Jersey, and Tennessee. In the event Kansas was not undertaken earlier, Kansas would also be targeted for this period. This also contemplates the completion of an ongoing ballot drive in North Carolina. Ideally, BAC petitioners would begin petitioning in the northern states and travel south, ahead of winter weather.

The next phase covers the time frame beginning Thanksgiving Day '87 and ending the first week of January '88.

The BAC has targeted one state for this period: Georgia. It also contemplates completion of the Alabama, Arizona, and Hawaii ballot drives if they have not been previously completed.

Next is the time frame beginning the first week of January '88 and ending in late March '88. This time frame represents the only real opportunity to make a decisive start on a Florida ballot drive.

Second Watershed

Early January '88 will mark the second test of the ability of the LP to sustain a 50-state effort. In order to continue successfully at that pace, the LPBAF must be able to commit funds to the Florida ballot drive not later than the first week of January. In the event that available LPBAF and Florida LP resources on hand the first week of January are insufficient to com-

plete the Florida ballot drive, NatCom policy and BAC policy will dictate the abandonment of a 50-state strategy.

As of the first week of January 1988, the LP presidential ticket should have qualified in these 30 jurisdictions: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, District of Columbia, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Maryland, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Nebraska, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, and Wyoming.

If these conditions are substantially achieved by January '88, the 50-state strategy should be pursued. It is anticipated that, during the course of the Florida ballot drive, the LPBAF will be able to rebuild its resource to adequately fund the time frame spanning the balance of the 1988 petitioning season. For simplicity of presentation, projections for this period are subdivided into a regional format. In this period, petition filing deadlines and permitted petitioning periods become an important consideration.

New England: The BAC projects that four ballot drives will remain to be completed in the New England region: Connecticut (from the Seattle convention through Aug. 30), Maine (Jan. 1-May 14), Massachusetts (Feb. 8-Aug. 2), and Rhode Island (June 1-Aug. 26). The tentative progression of ballot drives in New England is Maine, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts. It is anticipated that BAC petitioning will begin in the New England region not later than April 1.

East: The BAC projects that four ballot drives will remain to be completed in the East region: New York (Aug. 9-Sept. 20), Pennsylvania (Feb. 17-Aug. 1), Virginia (Jan. 1-Aug. 26), and West Virginia (Seattle-Aug. 1). The tentative progression of ballot drives in the East is Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New York, following warm weather north. It is anticipated that BAC petitioning will begin in the East region not later than April 15.

Midwest: The BAC projects that seven ballot drives will remain to be completed in the

Midwest region: Illinois (May 8-Aug. 8), Indiana (Seattle-July 1), Kentucky (Seattle-Aug. 30), Minnesota (July 5-Sep. 13), Missouri (Seattle-Aug. 1), Ohio (Seattle-Aug. 25), and Wisconsin (June 1-Sep. 6). The tentative progression of ballot drives in the Midwest is Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. It is anticipated that BAC petitioning will begin in the Midwest region not later than March 1.

West: The BAC projects that five ballot drives will remain to be completed in the West region: Colorado (Seattle-Aug. 2), Idaho (Seattle-Aug. 2), Oklahoma (Seattle-July 15), Oregon (Seattle-Aug. 30), and Washington (July 23 only). The progression of ballot drives in the West region will be Colorado, Oklahoma, Oregon, Idaho, and, on July 23, Washington. It is anticipated that BAC petitioning will begin in the West region not later than April 1.

Third Watershed

Assuming that the 50-state strategy has survived—i.e., assuming that North Carolina was successfully completed in the 1987 petitioning season and Florida was successfully completed in the early spring of 1988—the BAC must make a final determination in May or June 1988 as to its ability to complete all 50 states. As programmed by the BAC's projections, the choice will devolve to which combination of very difficult states can be successfully completed. It will not be an easy decision but it will be a necessary one if the BAC is to fulfill its commitment to achieve ballot status in as many states as possible.

Conclusion

This report is not engraved in stone. It is, instead, written in the shifting sands of capricious courts, vindictive legislatures, arbitrary bureaucracies, and unknown fundraising potential. Accordingly, the projections of the BAC are subject to revision.

Nonetheless, it should be emphasized that, given sufficient funding, a 50-state strategy is well within the abilities of the LP. Ballot access for the LP's presidential ticket is an achievable and realistic goal.

Convention Update: Excitement Builds

By Richard Shepard

Major accomplishments are being made, and excitement about the Seattle Convention is building all over the country. We are going to have an extraordinary event!

We have two announced candidates for President, Russell Means and Ron Paul, and one candidate for Vice-President, Andre Mar-Marshall Fritz, David Bergland, and Philip Mitchell will be presenting their new communications workshop at the convention. There will be many additional speakers and debates on the program. Dave Jones and his program committee are now making the final schedule decisions.

brand new boat, called the Spirit of Seattle, has been reserved for Friday night's Puget Sound cruise. The outing will include dinner and dancing. Tina Carter has been handling the boat. I have been looking into the costs of D.J.'s and live bands.

Karen Allard obtained permission from Sea-Tac International Airport to post "Culture of Freedom" information signs in their terminal. Karen has also been planning for our on-site signs, and searching for an appropriate convention souvenir.

We are setting aside space for a libertarian art gallery. Libertarian artists who want to show their work at the convention should contact Tom Tanaka or watch for our ad in the next LP NEWS.

Plans for the Registration Tabloid are beginning to take shape. Joe Dehm, Jo Deforest, and Tonie Nathan, all from Oregon, have agreed to write articles and biographies for the package. Marshall Fritz and the Advocates for Self-Government are providing an insert about their workshop, "How to Be a Persuasive Libertarian Communicator." Tom Tanaka is

working on the layout for the package. So far the package will go to everyone on the mailing lists of the national LP and the state parties of Oregon and Washington. Ruth Bennett is looking into the possibility of getting other lists.

The Convention Services Group has decided to provide incentives for full participation in the convention. The first 10 states to register a full delegate count will win a prize. More details on this, and more surprises, later.

We have made a lot of progress in the last few months and we have a long way to go. We must acknowledge our accomplishments and then move forward to the next tasks. We are doing a great job! Our commitment is showing up in our results, and it is looking to me like a

big convention! Let's keep up the good work.
As these new tasks and considerations appear, we need to think about how to address them. If you, upon reading this, have an idea or suggestion about these or other concerns, please contact me so that we can discuss the particulars and see whether we have a match

We need:

- -Advertisers for the Registration Tabloid, and possibly an on-site newsletter.
- Exhibitors (contact Howard Cherry for
- -A word processor for use at the convention for preparing at least two 10-page committee reports overnight.
- Someone with theater experience who can direct the banquet floor show and fund-
- An audio-visual company interested in recording the convention activities under
- A high-volume photocopy machine for use at the convention.
- More fun (I just wanted to see if you were

Director's Column

By Terry V. Mitchell
National Director, LNC
As National Director of the Libertarian Party I bear the responsibility of seeing that the daily business operations of the national office continue unimpeded, regardless of circumstances. I am directly responsible to the Chair and report to the National Committee.

The recent mechanical failure of the LP's computer illustrates how an unexpected 'crisis' can be overcome with preplanning, a cool head, and teamwork

When the computer "went down" it was regarded by some as not only an office crisis but an organizational crisis as well, evoking a wide range of (often highly) emotional responses, even though a computer is, at best, only a machine—and no more aweinspiring than a good copier or high-tech mailing equipment.

Analysis of past computer problems showed that preparation was the key to handling unexpected "down time" and qualified service personnel was the key to getting "up" again. Service documentation and back-ups of important lists and labels are kept both on-site and off to protect the database and the continued business operation of the LP.

While the computer-and more importantly, the database—are essential for the LP's daily operation, there are many other important functions of the national office that you may not be aware of:

• Maintenance of the monthly Pledge Program involves more than just daily data entry (the funds come in many forms-bank transfer, credit cards, checks, and good of cash); production of statements, production of Liberty Pledge News, and the actual collation and insertion of the mailing are handled at the national office.

Liberty Pledge News is one of my personal prides. Out of print when I first tackled it, the Pledge now gives not only monthly pledgers but state chairs and National Committee members the latest news from the clipping service (special thanks to David Saum for underwriting that subscription) and material of special interest that crosses my desk-such as the latest in campaign software to help the novice candidate, affordable list brokers and kinds of lists available, updates on LP acquisitions, and updates from libertarians overseas.

This is part of a program to increase effective communications between national headquarters and state and local activists.

• Information packets are mailed (daily or weekly, depending on the demand) to those who call or write in to learn more about the LP. In the last 90 days requests have risen from approximately five per week to 30-probably because of all the good press our presidential contenders are generating—and the pack itself is now lighter (read less expensive) than in the past. If you know someone you think is ready for the LP, send us their name and

we'll send them one.

• Monthly membership renewals—this process has recently been streamlined to the point of mere label production and forwarding to the printer/mail house.

Currently, this is a year-round process, unlike California's all-at-once January membership renewal system—a program I would like very much to see used here.

• Material orders are very time-con-

suming: it takes virtually the same amount of employee time to process a \$2 order as one for \$50. I am pleased at the interest in

spinning off the retail operation.

When the LP offices were located in D.C., there was a staff of eight. Today we have a staff of four, including the Director. Not one of the present staff is responsible for only one job—by necessity we all handle a variety of tasks. The most recent change was the combining of the Financial Entry and Computer Operations positions. This combination works well and the previous single function positions will probably not be available again.

The quest for the Super-Efficient Office is an ongoing process, and many of the previous steps have been made possible by technological advancements.

Others wait for the necessary financial support to come in.

Last issue I asked you to join with me and help purchase the equipment we need to tool up for the upcoming campaign-many of you did, and we raised over one third of the amount we need to bring a new computer network on line. This time let's go for the throat—and finish the job

Join in and help me put the finishing touches on a revitalized and revamped national office-your lean, mean, liberty

Candidates Address The Tough Questions

Major contenders for the Libertarian Party's presidential nomination faced up to their individually toughest questions during the Georgia State LP convention in April.

For Russell Means, the question was whether he would be able to broaden his campaign beyond the tightly focused issue of the freedom of native people, to embrace the broad span of libertarian economic and social issues.

His candid answer was that he had a lot of studying to do to become wholly familiar with libertarian issues—but that he was now doing it and would, as soon as possible, begin issuing position papers on all the issues

He did remind members of the convention, however, that he already has had extensive foreign policy experience through dealing with foreign governments and the United Nations on issues dealing with the freedom of native populations. And he expressly committed himself to bringing American troops home from all of their overseas assignments

Ron Paul was met by questions regarding what some see as the most controversial part of his political commitment—his opposition to

His explanation, based on obviously un-shakable moral grounds, was that his commitment to the protection of life, which he views as thoroughly libertarian, has led him to believe that a fetus, before delivery, deserves the same sort of life protection that it does after delivery. He says that he feels "very uncomfortable" with the present Libertarian Party platform affirming the right of women to the choice of abortion.

In his campaigning, he said, he would simply state his own view on abortion as just that—his own view-and would emphasize his agreement with other parts of the platform. He did say, however, that he would not oppose the use of drugs which permit a woman, on her own, to prevent implantation of fertilized ova.

He, too, candidly admitted that he had more studying to do to become familiar with libertarian positions and research on a wide range of issues, his own specialization so far having been on economic matters where he has long been regarded as a champion of the free market. In particular, he said, he would be studying libertarian solutions to problems of

On the question of what the candidates would do if they did not receive the nomination, Russell Means said that he would return to his own homeland, or reservation, and work to make it the first libertarian "nation." He would not, he stated emphatically, accept the vice presidential nomination. Ron Paul, also, said that he had no interest in the vice presidential nomination but would, if he lost the nomination, continue as he has in the past to attend libertarian gatherings and speak out for the cause of liberty wherever and whenever

Paul on Tariffs

Here is an example of the sort of regular comments on current events that Ron Paul plans to put out for the general press during his campaign for the presidential nomination of the Libertarian Party. This release was

dated April 2, 1987.

"Last week's news about Japan's 'dumping' of microchips on the U.S. market has more U.S. high-tech manufacturers arguing for protectionist legislation," says former Congress-man Ron Paul, candidate for the Libertarian Party nomination for President of the United States

"But protectionism punishes the U.S. consumer with higher prices that only benefit inefficient but politically influential corpora-

"Why not prevent K-Mart from 'dumping'
"Why not prevent K-Mart from 'dumping' sales items to lure customers into their stores? Doesn't that hurt Walmart?

"What is seldom mentioned as Japan's trump card is that American taxpayers are forced to foot the bill for Japan's defense. This tips the market in favor of the Japanese microchip manufacturers who never need to pay for their defense budget.

"Already strapped with a national debt that threatens disaster for our economy, Americans

Japan or any other country and compete effectively in the world market. Were Japanese competitors paying for their own defense, they would have no advantage over their American

Protective tariffs against Japan will not end Japan's trade advantage. An end to our giveaway of \$40 billion a year to Japan would mean that they would have to compete without what is in effect an American subsidy of Japanese microchips, stereos, automobiles, and other goods. Americans would have that much more to spend while Japanese consumers would have that much less.

'Americans should argue for an immediate repeal of this giant subsidy, not for protectivist legislation.

AYN RAND'S UNFINISHED NOVEL? No, but nearly everything else. Write for our FREE catalog. Laissez Faire Books, 532 Broadway NY, New York 10012

Gleanings

Chilling response to a libertarian who had written to the religious program, "Focus on the Family," asking why they had criticized someone for being libertarian: "[he] appears to link himself to those who would oppose the enforcement of laws that defend basic morality... Government is ordained by God, and it has no higher calling than the defense of morality and goodness.'

Business Week, counting off the ways privacy is being invaded, included these examples: "Increasingly the IRS is exchanging data with state and local tax authorities...Your Social Security number—the code that third parties need to tap into information on you—is available to at least 125 government and private agencies...About 40 states will sell direct-mail firms the information you provide when registering a vehicle or applying for a license...the [FBI's] National Crime Information Center has more than 10 million centrally stored records of criminal histories—all available to state and local authorities...Some states are computerizing court documents-making it easier to monitor everything from eviction to criminal proceedings...Most banks are allowed by law to give out information on customers' accounts and credit histories to state government investigators."

New Jersey LP chair Rich Duprey, plans to seek upgrades of membership contributions by offering such premiums as Robert Ringer's Restoring the American Dream, statues of liberty, and Adam Smith neckties.

Libertarian Club of DuPage (IL) spreads its net for new members with this tempting bait: ...the only organization in DuPage that works actively in your interest for: local Libertarian candidates and issues... Tax cuts and monitoring local governments...Local educational support (speakers, information, films, etc.)...Freedom movement networking (meetings, newsletters, parties, support groups)..." It's a bright reminder of just how much local libertarian groups can do.

An important part of the recent Minnesota Libertarian convention was a workshop on how to communicate libertarian ideas to

Retiring after five outstanding years as editor of Free Vermont, the LP state tabloid: Jim Hedbor. Taking his place: Jack Simons, of Sheffield, VT. From a hand-folded, photocopied leaflet with a circulation of 30, the publication has grown to its present goodlooking tabloid format with a press run of 15,000 copies.

Missouri Libertarian Party members have targeted as their highest priority activities for the coming year the raising of \$20,000 to finance a petition drive to get on the state ballot and a search committee to find top candidates.

The LaRouche confusion isn't over. New Mexico LPers report that popular association of the LP with Lyndon LaRouche damaged their campaigns. Speakers at the recent Georgia state convention reported similar concerns. Explanations for this incredible mistake range from the simple fact that Libertarian and LaRouche both begin with "L" to the idea that LaRouche's identification as a third-party candidate—despite his insistence that he's a Democrat—has rubbed off on everyone who isn't a member of the two old parties. At any rate, suggestions for ways to end this terrible confusion should certainly be welcomed.

Free New York, the state's LP newsletter, uses this striking set of facts to show how big government really is: It accounts for 25 percent of U.S. economic activity (although it doesn't produce anything); it owns 744 million acres of

land, a third of the U.S. landmass; it loans more money than the nation's 70 largest commercial lenders combined; it owns 437,000 non-military vehicles; it spends about \$8 billion (of your money) every day. And that's just at the federal level. Put all government spending together and it is expected to rise to \$7.4 trillion a year over the next 14 years—an amount equal to \$107,636 per year for every American household.

The Michigan Libertarian newsletter draws some libertarian conclusions from the rampant pirating" of computer software by people who buy a program, then copy it for their friends: "If you own it, it's yours... If you give it away that's no concern of the original seller. Recently software giants Ashton-Tate and Microsoft have severely curtailed their use of copy protection schemes. In true capitalist tradition they have yielded to market pressures. Given two competing products, the buyers will purchase the product which is copyable...It is no accident that the term 'piracy' is attached to the copying of software. In days of old pirates derived their income only in part from looting ships. Much pirate activity was given over to smuggling...Piracy died when free trade made it unprofitable.

Anyone who wants a catalog of the sorts of materials that political pros use (everything from buttons and straw hats to sophisticated computer software) can call 1-800-243-4401. That's the toll-free number of Aristotle Industries, a major supplier.

Heartland Institute, the mid-West's outstanding free market research group, has issued a study on the dubious economics of publicly-financed sports facilities. With 20 of the 60 largest metropolitan areas now planning to renovate an old stadium or build a new one, the group's research indicates "that building or renovating a stadium does not improve city income when compared to the income of its surrounding region. In fact, the presence of professional sports consistently correlated with a decline in the city's percentage of regional income." The 28-page study is available for \$3 from Heartland, 59 E. Van Buren, Suite 810, Chicago, IL 60605.

Expanding an obvious trend in libertarian meetings, Libertarian Party members in Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana will hold a regional convention, in Cincinnati, on May 30 and 31. Featured speakers are Norma Jean Almodovar, Peter Breggin, and Rebecca Shipman. Contact: Ann Leech at 513-489-7644 or Steve Schulte at 513-923-4299.

Tom Tanaka, urging a change in libertarian strategy in "Northwest Libertarian," newsletter of the Washington state LP, says that Americans veer sharply between outrage, when a scandal is exposed, to a comfortable assumption that, otherwise, the "government is dutifully performing its proper task of up-holding liberty and justice." During such periods of lull, he says, "It does no good to sound alarms. Those are periods when libertarians should work on gaining public trust and bolstering our image as tolerant, concerned individuals. Social events may make more sense than tax demonstrations. In my own experience I have not converted anyone to libertarianism whom I did not first befriend.'

American Association of Retired Persons has taken a partly libertarian look at licensing regulations and concludes that instead of protecting the public, some state licensing laws and boards protect the professions they were established to police...In examining 'business practice' or 'marketing' limitations placed on occupational groups, AARP found that such restrictions can prohibit professionals from advertising, offering discounts, sharing their practice with others to economize and teaming up with large retail firms to deliver their services. These restrictions generally have little, if anything, to do with the qualifications or competence of service providers.

Santa Clara (CA) libertarians have started a monthly pizza party, at a local pizza parlor, to meet new friends, talk politics and philosophy—and eat pizza.

New project for eastern Pennsylvania libertarians (announced in the state's party newsletter, "Libertarian Penn") is the Liberty Society. "The purpose of the Liberty Society [which will meet monthly at the Engineers Club in Philadelphia] is to bring together people who are, or may be, interested in general libertarian ways of thinking. We are separate from formal libertarian organizations, and our only interest is in facilitating social interaction between people interested in preserving individual liberty," according to John Famularo, convenor of the group. First meeting had 35 in attendance. Contact Famularo at 1420 Locust St., 36-D, Philadelphia, PA 19102-4221. Phone: 215-735-6416

New Jersey's Libertarian Party is getting ready for a gala celebration of its 15th anniversary on October 3. How's that for a reminder of how long libertarians have been sticking to their guns?

The new Index/Directory of Women's Media lists 525 periodicals, 112 women's presses and publishers, 13 women's news services, 46 regular broadcast programs, 22 women's video and cable groups, 86 women's bookstores. And more! Price is \$12, from Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press, 3306 Ross Place, N.W., Washington, DC 20008.

Last year there were \$23 billion worth of classified programs asked for in the defense budget. They can't be debated on the Senate or House floor. This year the total is \$25 billion. Commented Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee: "The procurement process in the Pentagon has become so onerous that there is a tendency to go 'black' [classified] more than they should. There needs to be rigorous scrutiny and there ought to be a caution light on black programs."

Great and resounding statement of liberty in an unexpected place: David Bunnell, editor of the glossy, respectable computer magazine Macworld, used his editorial space in November to attack Georgia anti-sodomy laws. And what does such a law have to do with computers? As Bunnell explained it: "...the law conflicts with the very vision that compelled the growth of personal computers. The original vision of the personal computer world was based on the principle of a progressive, laissezfaire capitalist society. One that allowed for more personal expression and gave people greater decision-making power. A society where people were judged by their contributions and not their lifestyles.'

One of the most impressive cost/vote ratios reported by LP NatCom member Honey Lanham in recapping her recent statewide race for Texas Land Commissioner: 68,000 votes, total expenses of \$4.

Liberty-leaning conservative John Mc-Claughry, after a stint in the Reagan White House, is now author of an exemplary study, "Educational Choice in Vermont," detailing the success of private schools in the state. Available for \$1 from Institute for Liberty and Community, Concord, VT 05824.

**** Current issue of "New Libertarian" (1515 W. MacArthur Blvd., Costa Mesa, CA 92626, \$2.95) carries late Robert LeFevre's last article, his war memoirs, plus the expected wide range of other articles.

Wayne Bartling, new chair of the Connecticut Libertarian Party, announcing his strategy: "Many people will support gradual reduction in government in most areas but very few will support abolishing all of it at once. We must tailor our product to the market we seek. We can get the vote, we can elect libertarians, but first, we must stop spouting radical, abstract theories that scare people, and advocate gradualist positions, interim improvements." Also on his agenda: More eye and print-catching events such as an annual Jesse James Award to the worst offense against state taxpayers, more letters-to-the-editors of local papers, more libertarian social events, and more networking with other, non-party groups that may share some, if not all, LP goals.

At a well-attended press conference, Arizona LP chair Peggy Jeney announced a ballot access drive, to collect the 17,340 signatures needed to qualify LP candidates for the 1988 general election. With more than 8,000 signatures already collected and with the drive set to be completed by May, Jeney says the Arizona LP will be the first new political party to qualify for the 1988 ballot.

South Carolina libertarians, aiming at more direct democracy in the state, have prepared a pamphlet entitled "Initiative, Recall and Referendum: A Primer." For any other libertarians interested in the same thing, write the SCLP at P.O. Box 50643, Columbia, SC 29250.

An absolutely top-notch recruiting letter is now being sent out to Montanans by state chair Larry Dodge. Starting with a bang, it asks the recipient to "name me a government program, at any level (federal, state or local) that works." It also includes an open door invitation: "You don't need to agree with the Libertarian Party platform in every respect to be a valued member... Even if you only agree with the libertarian position on a few topics of importance to you, you'll be 'welcome aboard.' So, if you (1) value your personal freedom, (2) are disgusted, frustrated, or angry with the behavior of today's major-party politicians, (3) are upset with the prospect of ever-increasing taxation, and/or (4) want to do something to make things better, I urge you now to give our membership invitation your serious consid-

**** Paul Panichelli, now working in New Zealand, writes back to friends in the "Free Marin" (CA) libertarian free market newsletter: "Q. What's the difference between America and [socialistic] New Zealand? A. America has Ronald Reagan, Johnny Cash, Bob Hope, and Stevie Wonder. New Zealand has David Lange, no cash, no hope, and no wonder.'

Jim Burns, "trouble maker from way back" for Libertarians of Greater Cincinnati, is at it again, putting together a video-camera tour of the city to show scenes which portray the sad difference between dismal government projects and bright business ones.

Free Kansan, newsletter of the LP there, reports that a survey of 3,600 businesses in the Hunan Province city of Xiantang, in the People's Republic of China, shows 87 percent of state-run enterprises, 92 percent of collective enterprises, and an even higher rate of individual traders, have failed to pay up under China's new tax system.

Illinois Libertarian Party members, joining other states which issue "awards" for antiliberty legislation or red-tape, has announced a "Bureaucratic Bungle of the Month." Regular press releases on the bungles will be another outreach technique for the party.

Rick Henderson, dropping out of local libertarian activities in Henderson, NC, "for awhile," explains that he wants to return to school, needs to work hard and profitably to do it and, except for continuing his monthly publication, Deregulator, intends to spend all his time doing just that.

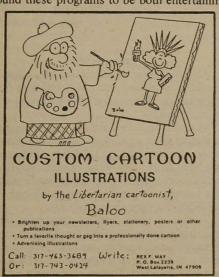
Libertarian Party of Wisconsin has chosen a nuts-and-bolts local theme for its annual convention in June: "Privatization in Wisconsin."

TV 'Letters'

Libertarian activists are always talking about the effectiveness of a "Letters to the Editor" campaign. Well, I have discovered a new and. I think, more effective way of getting the Libertarian message across to the American public.

Any Libertarian who subscribes to cable television has probably watched C-SPAN (Government Access Channel) at one time or another. This network, which is totally devoted to coverage of politics and the operations of our government, gives a good amount of its air time to what are called "viewer call-in" shows. During these programs C-SPAN viewers are given the opportunity to call in and talk to a variety of different political figures such as congressmen, administration officials, bureaucrats, and a host of political advocates.

As a regular viewer of C-SPAN, I have found these programs to be both entertaining



and informative, but more importantly I have discovered that the viewer call-in programs are the ideal forum for expressing a particular Libertarian viewpoint on a particular subject, to a national audience. More than once I have called up these viewer call-in shows, and have learned that while the shows' guests and host are at first surprised, and sometimes even shocked, to hear a Libertarian viewpoint on a particular issue, such as legalizing drugs or prostitution, or lowering the drinking age, or cutting back our military presence in Western Europe, for the most part they seem to welcome the different perspective on the issue that the Libertarian viewpoint gives. I have found that a good number of the guests and hosts on the shows are somewhat tired of the same old liberals and conservatives who constantly call in with their predictable comments. This is why I would strongly urge all Libertarians who have C-SPAN access to call in at every

A few suggestions: Always keep comments brief and to the point; and be sure you know what you want to say before you get on the air. Always mention the word Libertarian in some context—and it certainly doesn't hurt to mention that you are a member of the LP. Try to call at the beginning of the program so you can make sure you will be on the air. The number is 202-628-2525. Get a telephone with a redial button. Finally, if you can't get through on C-SPAN, switch to CNN. They have plenty of viewer call-in shows, too.

Just imagine what could happen if Libertarians across the country started calling C-SPAN on a regular basis. The word Libertarian could become a household word. Maybe we could even convince these networks that there are a good number of people around the country who subscribe to the Libertarian point of view rather than being liberal or conservative. They might even respond to such a number of calls by covering the upcoming LP

Charles Manhart of the Florida LP and Joseph W. Dehn III of the Oregon LP are both interested in ways to finance new issues of the LP NEWS's outreach issues which have been cut due to budget restrictions. One suggestion: direct orders for such a publication from state parties. If enough state parties are interested in guaranteeing bulk purchases it could be enough to cover production.

Long-time South Carolina libertarian activist John Harllee is responding in typically spirited fashion to the fact that he got absolutely no entries in a widely-publicized high school and college contest asking for essays on the subject "How to Reverse Governments' Awful Worsening Programs." His next essay subject: how to induce students and schools to participate in academic competitions.

**** Rochester Libertarian, newsletter of the Society for Individual Liberty there, is tapping a wonderful but overlooked source of infor mation by reprinting sections of Fight, Flight, and Fraud: The Story of Taxation by Charles Adams. The big, lavishly illustrated and formerly \$35 book is available from the National Taxpayers Union, 325 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E. Washington D.C. 20003, for \$8.95 plus \$2 postage and handling.

**** Showing the power of the "op ed" space that so many libertarians are taking advantage of these days: A major movement against a new tax-supported civic center for Philadelphia was begun by a single "op ed" piece by Linda Paustian, former editor of the Pennsylvania LP newsletter.

**** Georgia Libertarian Jim Aiken, writing in the party's newspaper, has this greeting for the Democrats who will hold their presidential nominating convention in Atlanta:..."Georgia taxpayers will be forced to cough up some \$13 million for the privilege...early completion of the...airport rail line...and other public work projects has become a priority. A new hotel-motel tax is being discussed. Some Atlanta streets may be widened and spruced up. There

Pop Music Anarchist

By Gary Bradley

You may not see just where the sense is In the actions of the state. You may not know the consequences Of their actions till too late.

—Al Stewart, "Night Meeting"

In Al Stewart's most overtly political album to date, he demonstrates that the anarchist leanings that have run undercurrent in his lyrics since 1974's Past, Present and Future have come to the fore. Half of the recent album Russians and Americans is devoted to politics, probably the reason the publicity accompanying its release was negligible. The good news is that it can often be found in the cut-out bins these days. The better news is that he may even be a libertarian. Certainly on foreign policy issues one can find few songwriters who so consistently enjoy using the lessons of history to remind us of the mistakes we insist on repeating. Most of all, Al Stewart is a thinking person's songwriter which should be a libertarian virtue even if you disagree with his politics.

One of the major appeals of the Scottish soft rocker is the image of his speaking from a declining empire to the ascending ones to the east and west. The title cut of Russians and Americans is, in essence, an exhortation to the peoples of two countries formed in revolution to resist the temptations of empire proffered by leaders out of touch with the countries they lead. Admittedly his outlook for reform is bleak and songs like "Night Meeting" and "Rumors of War" are dark visions of the future but the final note of the album is more upbeat as The Candidate" is abandoned by voters with better things to do like going to the movies.

For those not familiar with Stewart's work, the best but least historically influenced album is Year of the Cat from 1976. This contains his most consistent combination of superior lyrics and music. His other albums, while good, often contain tracks that could just as well be skipped. For those interested in the historical side of Stewart, the previously mentioned Past, Present and Future is his album. A concept album, it was intended to have a song for each decade of the 20th Century ('80s and '90s courtesy of Nostradamus). The first decade got lost and the future got lumped but the album remains interesting. The choice of the WW II Russian front for the 1940s piece is very well done while the sense of history about to repeat in "The Last Day of June 1934" is the lyrical apex of the album

Stewart generally gives one the sense of being pop music's singing anarchist but his lack of economic stance leaves us with insufficient information for our completely claiming him as a fellow libertarian. The only economic reference that comes to mind is the slightly favorable attitude to activities "On the Border"

The fishing boats go out across the evening

Smuggling guns and arms across the Spanish Border

The wind whips up the waves so loud The ghost moon sails among the clouds And turns the rifles into silver on the border.

Reprinted from "Michigan Libertarian."

Gleanings

Ventura County (CA) LP chair George Hasara, typical of libertarians who are beginning to gear up for July 4 celebrations of liberty and independence, says, "Not only is it a day for barbeques, picnics, and going to the beach, it happens to be a day for us champions of individual liberty to make a statement on what independence means to us." He points out that all civic celebrations on that day offer an opportunity for a libertarian presence and presentation. His LP group will, for instance, have a table at the county's Fourth of July Street Fair.

Illinois Libertarian, newsletter of the state LP, is now using an eye-catching slogan on its literature. Referring to the LP in general, the slogan is: "The Fastest Growing Party in the U.S."

Uplifting anecdote from Montanan Linda Hoffman, who won 25 percent of the vote in her bid, as a Libertarian Party candidate, for Yellowstone County Treasurer: "A volunteer and I were going door to door. One gentleman refused a leaflet because he said he was a strong Republican and swore his vote would go to my opponent. After urging from the volunteer he accepted a leaflet reluctantly. When the volunteer made the return trip down the other side of the street, the man rushed out and asked for several more leaflets. He said he had read it and totally agreed with it. His vote belonged to me and he wanted to show the leaflet to many of his friends.

One of the more dramatic anti-tax protests: San Antonio (TX) libertarian Bob Willcot running (literally) for 10 hours and 40 minutes (1040) "to get the IRS off my back" and draw attention to LP's anti-tax positions. For less leather-lunged party members there was an option of joining him for 10 minutes and 40 seconds!

is renewed talk of driving vagrants and the homeless off downtown streets. Atlanta's already harried taxi industry may be further regulated. It would be difficult to think of a more appropriate way to welcome the Democrats: loot Georgia citizens, create new taxes, impose further burdens on local businesses, deprive citizens of their civil rights, and engage in gigantic public works boondoggles.

Big Water (UT) mayor Alex Joseph has won state approval for a scheme under which he would be able to buy some Utah public land and trade it for federal land within the Big Water corporate limits, which the newly libertarian town would then sell off to private ****

American Defense, journal of the Libertarian Defense Caucus (Box 7761, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359), presents in its February issue a tough-minded disputation of the ability of the U.S. to monitor Soviet troop and other movements from spy satellites. Only on-site inspection, the group says, will do.

Westchester & Putnam Libertarian Party News (NY) reports on a bureaucratic horror story involving the possibility of having music at a private party. One regulation says you have to get a license from the Town Clerk. The clerk says you have to go to the police. The police say see the clerk. The clerk checks more closely and writes: "A concert in a private residence is not permissible under our zoning code..." (A similar law in Connecticut was ruled unconstitutional when the purpose of the music was for a prayer meeting.) Any crazy laws in your town?

**** The new University of Washington Libertarian Discussion Group got off to a flying start with a public lecture by Dr. Walter Block of Canada's free market Fraser Institute. The group has planned three more public meetings during the spring quarter and is offering "associate memberships" to people off campus. Particularly needed are libertarians who will volunteer to do organizing and other on-campus

work for the new student group. Address: Will Hafer, advisor, Libertarian Discussion Group, 207 Student Union Bldg., Box 176 FK-30. University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195

New Age newsletter New Options, explaining why it likes Reason magazine even though it is libertarian: "It's because you can't deny that the magazine is on to a Big Truth: Decentralization and self-reliance...have got to be a part—a very big part—of the 'humane, sustainable' future. All Reason's articles hammer home this Truth: whether it's...making a plausible case for a free-market approach to land reform in Guatemala, or the exciting review of an Ayn Rand autobiography...We wonder how many first-time readers of *Reason* will say something like this: 'There are ideas and passions here I haven't pursued since adolescence. Why?' "

Alabama state chair Frank Monachelli describes a significant new undertaking: an allout effort for a tuition tax credit law in the state. With 10 LPers already pledging \$1,000 to the effort, the basic plan is to contact all private schools, get such statistics from them as test scores and costs per pupil, use that information to back-up the legislation, write letters seeking support to everyone who can be identified as having a child in private school, then raise new funds for a major statewide campaign.

★★★★
From a New York Times report on a Soviet factory, full of affluent workers, which is taking advantage of new policies permitting profit: "'We work for profit, and it feeds us,' said Aleksandr N. Dyachenko, the plant manager. Officials here say this businesslike philosophy has displaced the more cynical Soviet blue-collar aphorism: 'We pretend to work, and they pretend to pay us.

**** Free Forum Books, now describing itself as "the only libertarian storefront bookstore in the United States," has issued its new catalog. Address: 1800 Market Street, San Francisco,

Letters to the Editor

Politicians

Do a group of freedom-loving people who gather together with a mutual goal of changing the face of government necessarily have to be called a political party?

There is absolutely no question that the past and present policies of the two older parties have given the words "politics" and "politicians" a meaning of deceit and distrust in the minds of most Americans.

As Libertarians, we would do well to disassociate ourselves from politics and politicians as much as possible. After all, politics is merely a matter of definition and interpretation. Unfortunately, the older party politicians have managed to cast an image of skullduggery, mistrust, dishonesty, corruption, and coerciveness over the entire political arena.

Having conducted three vigorous campaigns for elective (not political) office (State Senate, State House and U.S. Congress), the single thing I've resented most is to have been called a 'politician.'

In my opinion, whenever someone tags a Libertarian candidate with such a label, they've placed them in the same category as the older party candidates who've been responsible for causing our many problems. It's difficult enough to make people listen and understand that Libertarians represent freedom instead of political force. It becomes even more difficult when a Libertarian candidate must continually disavow any association with the political policies of the establishment politicians.

Politics can best be defined as a game that is played between the politicians of the two older parties. Their game is nothing more than a facade for the special-interests and power seekers, who, through their own individual greed, would seek to control every powerful position in American government for their own benefit.

I have no desire to be even remotely connected with the disastrous political policies that have been forced on the American people by self-serving politicians. As Libertarians, we should be telling the American people that we are dedicated to a total dismantling of current political policies that are designed to make the politicians the primary benefactors.

I'm convinced that a Libertarian can be a "citizen candidate" or a "statesperson for the people" when running for elective office instead of becoming a politician.

Let's leave politics to the politicians. Someday soon we'll be able to get our message across to the millions of people who've become disenchanted with the entire political structure and they'll start electing Libertarian candidates. Until then, we can continue our growth as the third largest party. But instead of being the third largest "political" party, we can quickly emerge as the *only* party of "freedom."

Dick Whitelock, Chair Ionia County (MI) Libertarians

Internationalism

Despite my past critical comments about "internationalism" in LP NEWS, I was pleased to see "Libertarianism in Poland" in the March/April 1987 issue. I have to admit to an ethnic bias since, as a third generation Lithuanian-American, I know that stories of government oppression handed down via oral tradition carry far more emotional appeal than anything that can ever be put in print.

Most American libertarians believe we have much to offer the Polish by helping them spread the message of liberty. I believe the Polish have much to offer Americans, by helping us to recognize the premeditated machinations of oppression that are being brought to bear against us more and more every

For example, a Polish-speaking friend who has been active for many years in resisting the advancement of regionalism in the United States (regional government, regional zoning, etc.) had the opportunity awhile back to talk

with a Polish national visiting in this country. The visiting Pole and my friend were equally shocked to learn that exactly the same tactics are being used to move government out of the control of the people here as were used in Poland. Local government and control of public services were slowly and quietly moved to 'regional" authorities beyond any hope of responsiveness to the people. In Poland as in the United States, the same arguments were used-greater efficiency, "regional interdependence," and an end to "fragmentation" of government. People in each locale were told their desires weren't shared by the majority of the people of the "region."

When I was a kid playing with my shortwave radio, I always thought the jamming signals were by somebody else, trying to keep their people from learning what was happening here. Now I wonder.

> Andy Barniskis Levittown, PA

Felon

I want to be a member of your party. The LP may just be the last hope of America. Government control of the people must be stopped. This can only be accomplished by having an informed public. I want to help inform them.

Why did I become a libertarian? It is because I have first-hand knowledge of what horrors the government can and will inflict on its citizens in order to control them. The feds saw fit to send me to one of their political prisons because I believed I had the right to do what I want with my body without interference from others. This interference to date has cost me the respect of my peers, my job, my retirement, my wife and kids, and two years of my freedom. Not to mention my self-esteem from having to survive on welfare for a year. (Try applying for a job when you have a drug conviction.) I will carry the title of ex-felon for the rest of my life.

Along with what I have already mentioned I lost my right to vote while I was on probation. I can no longer hunt because I can no longer use a gun of any kind (another right interpreted away by our supreme court).

How much more should I suffer for my

Robert D. Stone Charleston, WV

Theft

I am one of those 54,000 "known tax protesters," and I won't pretend that I am not afraid. The IRS is a vicious destroyer of individuals and is building a special army to fight protesters. Besides, the IRS intentionally generates a climate of fear to exploit it; e.g., to force employers to do the actual dirty work of collecting (stealing) taxes.

Theft is theft. How does this particular theft become "taxation"? I think that we allow the transformation when we submit all those damned forms. In keeping with this belief, my mode of protest has been a refusal to file or sign any tax forms. (Also, when my "legal dependents" were taken away by divorce about five years ago, I did not notify my employer of this change.) Eventually, the IRS came to inquire and to threaten, so I know that I am a "known

I could deal with the new W-4 form by continuing to claim my "illegal dependents. But I prefer not to sign the new form at all, so that I can be morally sure that the confiscation of my property is clearly theft, even though the amount will increase. The amount of the theft is not as important as the clarity of its name.

Thomas R. Lawrence Durham, NH

Destroying

There are among us too many who give the appearance that the main purpose of the Libertarian Party is to make the world safe for prostitutes, gays, and atheists. This is a fact, and it is destroying us.

Stop kidding yourselves! When Norma Jean appears on the Joan Rivers Show as a libertarian hooker, we lose people. When a Libertarian candidate for governor marches in a gay parade, where there are open signs of affection among the marchers, Mr. & Mrs. America turn away. They can no longer be reached. Years of work explaining our basic ideas are lost.

The problem is that gays run as gays, rather than as Libertarians. They are attempting to turn the Party toward their special interest.

Another problem within our Party are the atheists, who seem determined to turn away people by insisting that atheism is part of Libertarianism. One such incident occurred in our chapter last year, when the statement was made by one of our members to a new, prospective member, "...you can't be a Libertarian if you're a Christian." What on earth does that have to do with obtaining liberty? What happened to the Libertarian idea that each person is entitled to their own belief?

Libertarians must concentrate on the main ideas of reducing the size and power of government and exposing the destructiveness of government. The media is not doing us in, they just happily report on the things some Libertarians do that turn off the majority of voters.

Richard J. Savadel Massapequa, NY

Defense

In the "Viewpoint," Jan/Feb 1987, national defense was described as not principled because it is tax-supported. But many pro-defense libertarians also oppose taxation, so there is no necessary link between defense and taxation. The issue of funding defense is part of the broader issue of funding a libertarian government or equivalent, and several means have been suggested in the literature: contract fees, an endowment, government enterprises, and donations.

My own proposal, published in American Defense and The Pragmatist, is to have a "site protection fee" based on the value of the land being serviced, which ties national defense to local protection. If this is not paid, the owner does not get protected and can make his own arrangements. The federal government can also obtain its funds from the states rather than individuals, letting each state come up with its own way of raising voluntary revenues. Defense and public revenues are two separate issues, and defense by itself violates no libertarian principles.

Fred Foldvary Berkeley, CA

Sticker

"Legalize Freedom" seems inherently angry to me. I propose a positive slogan such as "Be A Freedomphile. VOTE LIBERTARIAN."

J. Martin Clauder Houston, TX

Democracy

In the Detroit area, libertarians occasionally encounter those who draw a false distinction between democracy and constitutional republic. Such types recognize the might-makesright philosophy of democracy by appreciating the joke, "Democracy is two wolves and a sheep voting on what to have for lunch." But when it comes to the Constitution, they suddenly are blind to the fact that we are still talking democracy.

I propose this addition: "If democracy is two wolves and a sheep voting on what to have for lunch, then a constitutional republic is two wolves and a sheep voting on a menu which tells them that they can vote on what to have for

An inconvenient time lag (for the wolves) is the only difference; thus lunch is put off until dinner, but the main course is the same. Besides, in the meantime, the sheep may grow slightly fatter because it has a little more time to consume a meal or two extra.

Lawrence M. Ludlow Mt. Clemens, MI

Infanticide

Abortion after about the 22nd week of gestation is indeed not much different from baby-killing. But so what? What's wrong with killing babies?

Most civilizations have allowed infanticide, including those of ancient Greece and Rome. Only with the spread of Christian superstition did infanticide come to be condemned. Even so, infanticide was regularly practiced until the last century, and, even where prohibited, not considered a very serious offense.

Studies of infant brain development show that brain areas required for thought, selfconsciousness, speech, etc. are primitive at birth and not fully developed until perhaps age one (see Michael Tooley, Abortion and Infanticide, Oxford University Press, 1983). Infant EEGs resemble those of frogs.

Prohibition of infanticide leads to a situation where deformed infants must be left to die slowly as a result of withholding exotic medical techniques instead of being painlessly put to death. We treat dogs and cats better than this.

To treat human infants in a radically different manner from other dumb animals is nothing more than speciesism based on theological gobbledegook about members of our particular species having "souls" and so forth.

I hope to see a statement in the LP platform endorsing the legalization of infanticide, and a presidential candidate who will support it.

Indeed, we should have a broader statement recognizing fetuses and infants as property, and thus recognizing surrogate childbearing contracts and the sale of infants as valid.

Richard Sharvy Eugene, OR

Paul

Continued from Page 1

• Emile Franzi, consultant, Tuscon, AZ. Emile is an experienced Libertarian and Republican political consultant and officeholder. He has long been active in LP affairs. He has special ability in delegate hunting and floor management.

• Jim Hedbor, consultant, South Hero, VT. Jim, a long time Party activist, is a certified life underwriter and financial planner. He authored Doing Politics, a report on his own LP campaign for Vermont's congressional seat, and edited the "Vermont Libertarian News.

• Jan Kessman, acting manager, Houston, TX. A former city councilwoman, Jan has been active in politics for more than 10 years. She brings to the campaign wide-ranging business experience and expertise in dealing with the Federal Elections Commission.

• Matt Monroe, treasurer, Houston, TX. A practicing physician, Matt is a member of the Party's National Committee and is an experienced fundraiser and activist at the state and national levels.

• Lori Paul Pyatt, scheduler, Lake Jackson, TX. Lori has helped with her dad's campaigns

• Llewellyn H. Rockwell, Jr., consultant, Houston, TX, and Washington D.C. Lew is founder and president of the Ludwig von Mises Institute. A leading direct-mail expert, he was Ron's chief of staff in Washington, and finance and issues director for his campaigns.

• Murray N. Rothbard, consultant, Las Vegas, CA. Murray, a professor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, is a foremost Austrian economist and scholar of liberty.

 Kevin Southwick, press-issues coordinator, Houston, TX. Kevin, active in the LP for the last four years, was the Austin, TX, area coordinator for the Ron Paul Campaign for

• Jeffrey A. Tucker, consultant, Fairfax, VA. An economics graduate student and journalist, Jeff was a coordinator in the Ron Paul for Senate Campaign.

In addition to Texas-based staff, a number of volunteers come to the office each day to help with mailings and other work.

See you in Seattle in September! Libertarian Presidential Nominating Convention Seattle Sheraton Hotel - September 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1987

The Wrong Solution

Leon and Frances Kendall Louw, it could be argued, may become the most concretely influential libertarians (indeed, anarcho-capitalists by their own definition) in the entire world. Their work in framing the free-market constitution of the Ciskei, in South Africa, already has produced a dynamic example of the sort of progress that can follow the reduction of barriers against trade and enterprise. And currently, they are receiving worldwide praise for their book South Africa: The Solution (soon to be published in this country). Were the Louws' solution to be adopted, there would be a real opportunity for an actual laissez faire capitalist region to develop in a reconstituted South African policy. Even so, there are libertarian criticisms of the book. One such dissent, by Jorge Amador, a Pennsylvania activist and publisher of The Pragmatist, is presented here. Following it, there is a rebuttal by Vince Miller of the Libertarian International.

By Jorge Amador

It takes no special expertise in international affairs to know that major problems beset South Africa.

It takes a bit more digging to determine the nature and origins of the problems that confront that country, and to offer appropriate solutions. At bottom the problems are racism and nearsighted economics, and the exercise of power to earry out the policy prescriptions these attitudes indicate.

South Africa: The Solution is really two works, an economic history and a political

Each part contains its own set of solutions to the South African crisis. The first part argues for market-oriented reforms. The second urges a decentralized political system. The two sets

are independent and often clash to the point where one wonders why Louw and Kendall offer them under the same cover

The book opens with a description of traditional Bantu tribal life and how the natives adapted to the brief period of economic opportunity they enjoyed late in the 19th Century. When black South Africans first came into contact with the market economy...they responded so enthusiastically that within a few decades they were extremely successful farmers, transport riders, artisans and traders

So successful were they, in fact, that many whites felt threatened enough to support a series of laws explicitly aimed at curtailing their competition. Whites also wanted a source of cheap wage labor, which they could not obtain so long as blacks were self-sufficient.

Cecil Rhodes' 1894 Glen Grey Act divided black reserves into 10-acre plots, too small to support a man and his family. The Native Land Act of 1913 went further, designating some 8 percent of South Africa's land area as "Native Reserves" and keeping the rest for whites. It forbade blacks from buying, sharecropping, or renting land in "white" areas and from buying land in the "black" areas. "Eventually all these laws achieved their ends. Sharecroppers and lessees were evicted. Black farmers became wage labourers.

The authors recognize that some of South Africa's greatest problems are of an economic nature. Whites' economic activity "is extremely heavily regulated and controlled, and if all racially discriminatory legislation were repealed tomorrow, the people of this country would still be far from free, and South Africa's problems would still be a long way from a satisfactory

Chapter 10, "A Free Society," describes the vision that inspires them. "In the simplest terms, a free society is one in which all individuals are free to do as they choose without fear of coercion or the threat of coercion by others...A free society has a free economy, governed only by market forces.

The three "political prerequisites" for a free society are "democracy, limited government, and decentralization of government." How limited should this government be? "Within the limits of a clear conceptual framework the 'legitimate' functions of government might or might not (according to various limited government advocates) be extended beyond policing, judiciary and national defense to include, for example, contagious disease or pestilence control, basic welfare, elementary education, infrastructure or immigration control.

That's rather a wide berth for a "limited" government, and it comes as a shock following the market proposals of the first nine chapters and the general portrayal of freedom presented at the beginning of the same chapter.

The Swiss system is "so extraordinarily appropriate for South Africa...that we could take their constitution, almost verbatim, and transplant it into South Africa." markably apt working model" of a free society, Each canton organises its administration in its own way but the usual divisions are Interior, Justice and Police, Military, Finance, Economy, Health, Social Care, Education, and Public Buildings and Works. The cantons finance their activities primarily through income and property taxes levied on their own citizens and

In later sections the authors propose to give local and canton governments power over newspapers, radio and television, fire and police protection, sewers, garbage collection, health, schools, taxis and transportation, zoning regulations, building codes, street lighting and even shopping hours. Readers will be forgiven for dissenting from the view that this constitutes a free society or a limited government.

The cantons would be supplemented by a federal government that would be "so limited that there would be almost no power to share.

It would hold a monopoly on foreign policy, defense, and money; exercise environmental, immigration, and customs controls; be responsible for railways, power supplies, and pipelines; impose import duties and excise taxes; and keep a central registry of everyone's birth and marriage records. Far from a "depoliticized" free society, the authors prescribe a society where government has pervaded every aspect of life. Given such ubiquitous control "the people of this country would still be far from free, and South Africa's problems would still be a long way from a satisfactory solution.' How, then, could they endorse such a govern-

The authors take no position on how to staff the national military. Canton governments would simply "decide together whether servicemen should be volunteers or conscripts.'

The new constitution would contain a "Bill of Rights" listing certain "fundamental and inviolable rights of citizens and cantons." To protect against confiscation of property, an "unambiguous anti-expropriation clause" is included which declares it unlawful for government to take private property, "except for bona fide infrastructural purposes or national defence and security...

The private property clause, "All citizens of South Africa may own, acquire, use and dispose of property," would "in its literal sense" make "all government intervention unconstitutional." The authors hasten to clarify that "This is not our intention.

A "Civil Liberties" article guarantees "freedom of speech and freedom of the press, subject only to considerations of public decency and safety according to the norms of the canton or community concerned." Thus would be entrenched a constitutional subterfuge for the suppression of dissent. If "safety," "decency" or a canton's "norms" involve prohibiting pornography, newspapers, advertising or pubgatherings, that's fine by the Louw-Kendall Bill of Rights.

On the Right Road

By Vincent Miller

In response to Jorge Amador's critique of South Africa: The Solution, let me say that I am surprised that Jorge, who publishes The Pragmatist newsletter, has taken what I prefer to call a "27th Century anarchist" view in analyzing the proposals of Frances Kendall and Leon Louw. It is all the more curious when you consider that both Kendall and Louw are taking a pragmatic approach in order to deal with the real world of today-a world of imperfect people and far less perfect institutions.

The intent of the Kendall/Louw propositions in The Solution is not one of imposing an across-the-board market order, or a utopian libertarian society, on the people of South Africa—and this is not to question the morality or efficacy of free markets which Louw, as president of the Free Market Institute of Southern Africa, surely understands. The ques-

tion we need to ask ourselves is: Do we in fact have the right to force other people to be free? Besides being impractical, impossible, and unlibertarian, I don't think so. Indeed the primary virtue of and reason for the interest in the canton system in the first place was that it will permit people with a diversity of ideologies and often conflicting value systems to find a place where they can voluntarily live in peace under their own chosen systems. Whether we personally like those systems is irrelevant.

So the objective of Kendall and Louw in The Solution is not to create a libertarian anarchocapitalist "utopia." This is just not one of the options available to us at this time nor is it likely to be in the foreseeable future. The vital short term goal is to seek real-world mechanisms to diffuse an extremely explosive and dangerous situation—one that has the frightening potential to degenerate into chaos, savagery, and the wholesale slaughter of millions of innocent people.

What Frances and Leon Louw are trying to do, as a first step, is to go to the heart of the problem and seek the break-up of a powerful, authoritarian, and dangerous central government—decentralizing it down into manageable bites. Whatever form of government (or nongovernment in the case of a libertarian "Galt's Gulch" canton) the inhabitants of each of these autonomous units adopt will be a voluntary choice-whether they be Marxists or free

The most intriguing part of this scenario of course is that it will present mankind with an unprecedented living-laboratory experiment in competing social systems. With adoption of a minimal bill of rights, provisions of which will prohibit the passing of racially discriminatory laws and guarantee the unimpeded movement of both capital and people as conditions of cantonhood, it doesn't require much of an imagination to predict which systems will ultimately prosper and prevail.

Can and will it work? There is a very high probability that it can—and will. Already, 25,000 copies of this book, originally published in English, in the Republic of Ciskei, have been sold in South Africa; there is now a Swedish version; and an English version will be published in the United States in a few months. Enthusiastic support for the ideas has been forthcoming from leading figures from across the entire political spectrum. Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, tribal leader of the 6,000,000 Zulus, says, "Amid a sea of anger and tension, The Solution may prove to be a rational, workable answer to South Africa's unique problems." Even Winnie Mandela (whose Even Winnie Mandela (whose granddaughter is being taught in the Louw's private Montessori school) remarks, "The book offers a broad alternative we have all been looking for.

Leon Louw remarked in a recent Time magazine article, "If we can get the crowd moving in the right direction, the politicians will have no choice but to get out in front of it.' And the amount of pressure on the politicians at home in South Africa is mounting. Internationally, following The Libertarian International's World Conference in Stockholm (at which time we presented both Frances Kendall and Leon Louw with our "Freedom Torch' gold medals in recognition of their work) we launched the "South African Peace Project" a world-wide letter-writing campaign and press release program designed to concentrate world pressure on Prime Minister Pieter Botha to adopt the measures in the Kendall/Louw proposition. LP NEWS subscribers are now invited to join in this effort. Obviously the more world opinion we as libertarians can generate in support of this project the better. We may have it within our power to prevent another tragedy like Cambodia.

Sorry, Jorge, no utopia-not yet. But a giant step in that direction.

"Regulars"

Last week I received a telephone call from the National Libertarian Party asking me to agree to contribute \$25 a month to the effort to unseat establishment politicians. That seems a lot of money, but it's clear that we're going to have to start commiting ourselves heavily to the concept of liberty or else lose the rest of it, shortly, I fear.

The Libertarian Party may put up Ron Paul for President in 1988. Paul is a medical doctor who has served in Congress before being ousted by Phil Gramm, co-author of the Gramm-Rudman act that purports to balance the budget of the central government. Gramm himself has a reputation for sound-money, freedom-based political positions, yet his record remains inconsistent. But there's no doubt where Ron Paul stands, and it's with the regulars" of the world, real people and wage earners, not the establishment now in place.

I still don't like the name of the Libertarian Party, although it's right on target, philosophically. But that's part of the problem right there—it's a philosophical group. The name itself is too complicated. I'd prefer something like the Liberty Party, or even the Liberal Party, if we could adequately educate the public about the ruination and distortion of the term "liberal." Today's liberals are liberal only with other people's money and liberties.

Hinds is a retired military historian. This article is reprinted from the Lebanon (IL)

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