

Libertarian Party

NEWS

March 1994 Vol. 9, No. 3

LP hit with FEC fine

The Federal Election Commission (FEC) has notified the national Libertarian Party of violations in filing procedures and instituted a civil penalty of \$13,700, nearly two years after some of the violations occurred.

The penalties stem from delayed filings of disclosure forms during 1992. The national party acknowledges the delays, but is arguing that mitigating circumstances should be considered, and that the fines are out of proportion with the minor infractions.

The FEC has specifically noted delays in filing quarterly reports in 1992, a time when the LP was deeply involved in both ballot access drives and a presidential campaign, as well as dealing with a complete turnover of headquarters and presidential campaign staffs.

The following filing delays were noted by the FEC: April 1992, 12 days late; July 1992, 40 days late; October 1992, 29 days late; December 1992, 29 days late.

Throughout this time period, the LP "never intentionally or willfully determined to file a Commission report late," according to LP legal counsel William W. Hall. "In addition, the Commission's practice of sometimes, but not always, sending brief notices of late filings, but never taking any further action, convinced the [LP] that the Commission considered late filings

see **Fines** on page 12

Phone number

The NEWS telephone number listed in the February issue was incorrect. Our correct telephone number is 404-536-5243. Our fax number was correct: 404-287-0800. Of course, you can still reach us on CompuServe at 71610,3614. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Breakthrough

Endorsement and debate are highlights

Project Healthy Choice scored several critical breakthroughs last month, including an unprecedented on-air endorsement from a influential radio talk show host and a public debate with a Democratic congressman who supports the Clinton plan.

In addition, the national LP headquarters blitzed important political, business, and medical organizations across the country with special packages about the Libertarian Alternative Free Market Health Care Proposal.

"It is widely reported in the media that Clinton's plan is losing momentum. I like to think that we are playing some small part in that," said Bill Winter, LP director of communications, who is coordinating the Project Healthy Choice effort from the party's Washington, DC, headquarters.

Here are some highlights from around the country:

In Atlanta, GA, popular radio talk show host Neal Boortz reportedly read the entire "highlights" brochure on the air, and then enthusiastically endorsed the plan on Feb. 3. The endorsement came just a week after the LP headquarters sent Boortz an information package about the plan.

"I can't understand why the government hasn't adopted it already," said Boortz, according to listeners.

"We immediately rushed more Project Healthy Choice materials to the Georgia LP, so they could take advantage

PROJECT
HEALTHY
CHOICE

The Libertarian Party's Alternative Free Market Health Care Proposal

of this publicity breakthrough," reported Winter.

In Clackamas, OR, it was the Libertarian plan versus the Clinton plan at a breakfast debate sponsored by the local Chamber of Commerce, where former state chair Dr. Paul Smith was to debate Rep. Don Wyden (D-OR) on Feb. 17.

"Wyden is very liberal," said current state chair Richard Burke. "He's probably in favor of a single payer plan, but has endorsed the Clinton plan." Details of the debate were unavailable at press time.

"This debate is exciting!" said Winter. "Do you have any doubt that our plan can knock the socks off Clinton's plan?"

see **Breakthrough** on page 10

Davidian trials

Libertarians and FIJA activists protest

Last month the NEWS reported on protests by Libertarians and members of the Fully Informed Jury Association (FIJA) over DEA actions in Georgia. A brief follow-up on that story is on page 2.

In January the two groups—many individuals are both LP and FIJA members—joined forces once again, this time to call attention to the trial of the 11 surviving Branch Davidians. The protests took place in San Antonio, TX.

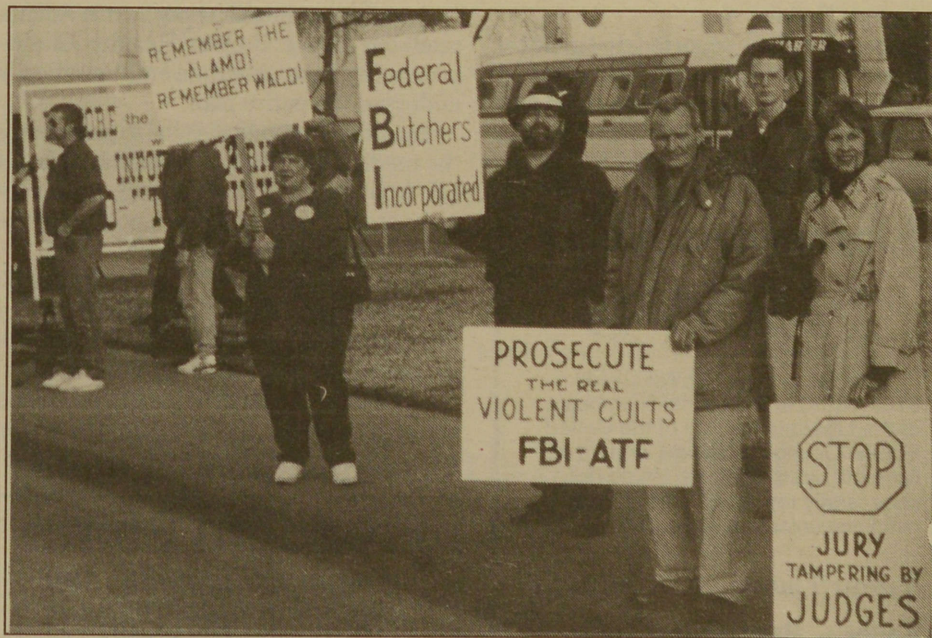
On page 18 you will find some highlights of the FIJA actions surrounding these events.

On page 19 you will find an eyewitness account of the action from Larry Nickerson of Fort Worth, TX, one of the participants in the protest.

The following column by Vin Suprynowicz calls on the federal government to open up the proceedings and "air the government's dirty laundry."

By VIN SUPRYNOWICZ

While the nation's press corps, always quick to defend its prerogatives by invoking the public's "right to know," concentrates on breathless up-to-the-minute coverage of the trial of Ecuadorian bombshell Lorena Bobbitt on charges of severing her husband's penis, don't expect any equivalent coverage of a trial that got under way the same day (Jan. 10) in San Antonio, TX, weighing whether 11 survivors of the fatal firestorm in Waco, TX, should be held responsible for the deaths of the four federal agents who



NEWS photo by Larry Dodge

PROTEST - Libertarians, FIJA members, and others demonstrated outside the John Wood Federal Courthouse in San Antonio, TX, on Jan. 10, during the Branch Davidian trial.

met their well-deserved ends while launching a paramilitary raid on a peaceful Texas church on Sunday morning, Feb. 28, 1993, enforcing the Alice-in-Wonderland regulations of a federal agency whose very existence is an affront to the Bill of Rights. (Is it a machine gun? It will be by the time we get it back to Washington.)

The drawn out and complicated legal battles in San Antonio are expected to take months, and are hardly the fodder of 30-second sound bites, especially without the far more saleable personality of cult leader Vernon Howell, aka David Koresh, who was inconsiderate enough to

see **Questions and Answers** on page 19

Building credibility

"ROCHESTER, Minn. (UPI) — Libertarian Party leader Lyndon LaRouche will be released from the federal medical facility at Rochester, Minn., Wednesday, a spokesman for the Bureau of Prisons said Tuesday."

Yes, it had happened again. Lyndon LaRouche had been falsely linked with the Libertarian Party. By Wednesday afternoon (Jan. 26) we had reports that the Lyndon LaRouche-Libertarian story had been repeated by ABC Radio, the *Detroit News*, and a Sacramento TV station.

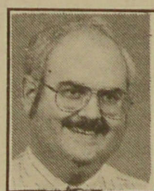
This isn't the first time we've been falsely linked with LaRouche. During the 1992 campaign, Time magazine identified LaRouche as a "libertarian." What's worse, they refused to correct the error. They continued to insist that LaRouche was a "libertarian" even if he wasn't connected with the LP. The most they would do was publish a letter to the editor from Andre Marrou denying the connection.

This time, thanks to your support, the story had a happier ending.

HQ staff contacted UPI and ABC Radio News. Both removed the Libertarian reference from their stories. However, that didn't repair the damage that had already been done. Nor did it deal with news outlets (like the *Detroit News*) that had spread the false story. We decided that we needed to push for published retractions.

National Director Perry Willis drafted a letter requesting a published retraction, which was sent to UPI, ABC Radio, the *Detroit News*, etc. ABC Radio News responded and broadcast the following retraction on Friday:

"Two days ago we reported that political extremist Lyndon LaRouche was released from prison. We mistakenly identified him as a Libertarian. Lyndon LaRouche is not in anyway identified with the Libertarian



From the Chair

Steve Dasbach
National Chair

Party." The *Detroit News* also published a similar retraction.

Prompt action by Perry Willis and Communications Director Bill Winter not only got the error corrected; it also resulted in published retractions. But how do we prevent this problem from reoccurring? Credibility.

The more credible the Libertarian Party becomes, the more the media and the public know who we are and what we really stand for, the easier it will be for people in the media to realize that Lyndon LaRouche couldn't possibly be associated with the Libertarian Party.

And we're beginning to build that credibility.

USA Today called us for an opposing viewpoint to federal intervention in the American airlines stewardess strike. The result was a front page article that included quotes from our Shadow Cabinet Transportation Secretary and Communications Director Bill Winter.

Our 1992 nominee for vice president, Nancy Lord, has appeared on "CNN & Company" numerous times since the election. Recently, she testified before a Pittsburgh commission on the subject of drug legalization (the commission is recommending to the city council that drug crimes be made the lowest police priority).

A popular radio talk show host in Atlanta read our entire Project Healthy Choice brochure on the air—then enthusiastically endorsed the entire plan.

Building credibility is vital to preventing the media from linking LaRouche with the LP. It is also vital to shielding our candidates from the vicious attack politics of the Democrats and Republicans.

An article appeared in Campaigns & Elections magazine in early 1993, warning Democrats and Republicans about the upsurge in support for third-party candidates. They said that Democrats and Republicans could no longer afford to ignore minor party candidates. They counseled candi-

dates to identify weaknesses, collect negative facts, and attack, attack, attack.

The results were evident in the 1993 elections. In Virginia, Republicans posted signs reading "Vote John Buckley—Legalize Drugs" in front of churches, two days before the election. The signs were made to look like real Buckley campaign signs, complete with the same color scheme and typeface.

In New York, Rebecca Wilber was elected to the Woodstock Town Board. During a candidates' forum prior to the election, her Democratic opponent attacked the LP as "far to the right of the John Birch Society," "radical right-wing hippies," and "crackpots who would give crack to your children."

These attacks are not isolated incidents. Reports poured in after the 1992 elections of similar assaults in Arizona, Alabama, Missouri, Montana, and Pennsylvania. Almost half of the Libertarians running for office reported such attacks.

In years past, they would just ignore us. Now, they devoted considerable resources to discrediting us.

For Democrats and Republicans, lies and distortions are simply campaign tactics. They are willing to do whatever it takes to stay in power.

Credibility is our best weapon against these attacks. The more credible we become as a party, the harder it will be for Democrats and Republicans to successfully attack our candidates. Sure, they'll keep slinging the mud. After all, they sling it at each other all the time. But it will become harder and harder for them to make it stick.

Campaign '94 has already begun. Libertarian candidates are volunteering their time, energy, and enthusiasm to advance the cause of liberty.

Only by building the credibility of the LP will the media and the public know that Lyndon LaRouche couldn't possibly be a Libertarian. Only by building our credibility will the media and the public recognize the lies and distortions of the Democrats and Republicans—and ignore them.

In the months ahead, we must do what we can to build the credibility of our party. Our candidates are depending on us. Let's not let them down.

Georgia update

In last month's NEWS, we reported on the Drug Enforcement Administration's case against Gary and Joanne Tucker, owners of the Southern Lights lighting store in Norcross, GA. The case against the Tuckers, as well as Gary's brother Steve, went to trial in early January. A jury found the Tuckers guilty of conspiracy to grow marijuana.

Joanne Tucker is free on bond, but Gary and Steve Tucker are being held in the federal prison in Atlanta. All three await sentencing in March to a possible prison term of 10 years to life.

Nancy Lord, the Libertarian Party's 1994 vice presidential candidate, served as defense attorney for the Tuckers.

According to Ron Crickenberger, a Libertarian Party national committee representative who attended the trial, the defense "didn't have a chance to present much of a case." Judge William O'Kelly refused to hear from most of the defense witnesses. "It was very much a kangaroo court," Crickenberger noted.

Libertarian Party NEWS

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- There is freedom of choice. . . for every choice but mine. . .
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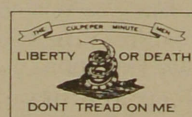
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Please Help Now. We Only Have 82 Days Left To Save The Libertarian Party \$68,602 & Give Us Permanent Libertarian Ballot Status

We have registered 5,497 Libertarian voters in Arizona.

We only need to register 7,882 more Libertarian voters to achieve Permanent Libertarian Ballot Status in Arizona. The legal deadline is May 21, 1994.

7 VITAL REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD HELP

1. Permanent Libertarian Ballot Status Saves Money.

In 1992, we had to collect 30,487 petition signatures in Arizona to put the Libertarian Party on the ballot. It cost \$18,292.

In 1994, we'll have to collect another 30,487 petition signatures to get on the ballot. It'll cost another \$18,292.

And we'll have to do it again in 1996. Another \$18,292. And 1998. Another \$18,292.

Or we can register 7,882 more Libertarian voters by May 21, 1994 - and never have to do another Libertarian petition drive in Arizona again.

Registering 7,882 Libertarian voters costs \$22,858. (\$2.90 per registrant times 7,882 registered Libertarian voters equals \$22,858.)

\$22,858 once or \$18,292 every two years. During the next 5 Congressional elections, the Permanent Ballot Status Alternative will save us \$68,602. (\$18,292 X 5 elections = \$91,460. Subtract \$22,858 for a one-time Permanent Ballot Status cost. Net Savings = \$68,602.) From then on, we save \$18,292 every two years.

\$18,292 could elect another Bonnie Flickinger in California. Another Sandi Webb. Another Tom Tryon. Or two more New Hampshire Libertarian legislators to help out Cal Warburton, Finlay Rothaus, Don Gorman and Andy Borsa.

Would you rather rent temporary Libertarian ballot status or permanently own it?

2. Permanent Ballot Status transforms Arizona Libertarians from fund-raising consumers to producers, from importers to exporters, from petitioning overhead into ballot drive income.

After May 21, 1994 - after we've achieved Permanent Libertarian Ballot Status - you'll never need to give Arizona another dime for ballot drives. We'll be able to help your state's Libertarian ballot drives...until your state achieves Permanent Libertarian Ballot Status. Then we'll work together to help the next state LP do the same. Then we'll help the next one. We can build a permanent foundation for an enduring liberty.

3. Arizona is Fertile Soil for Libertarian Candidates.

We elected Dr. Murray Feldstein to the Flagstaff City Council twice. Because of his principled opposition to government growth and higher taxes, the press dubbed him "Dr. No."

We elected Eric Ewing to the Marana School Board. He champions educational choice and home schooling.

We elected Paul Brick to the San Pedro Valley Conservation District.

Per capita, only Alaska and New Hampshire have elected more Libertarians to office than Arizona.

4. More Registered Libertarians on the Voter Rolls Means More Libertarian Votes on Election Day.

Who's most likely to vote for a Republican candidate: a registered Democrat, Independent, Libertarian or Republican? Obvious, isn't it?

Who's most likely to vote for a Libertarian candidate? The voter committed enough to register Libertarian.

5. More Libertarian voters and more Libertarian votes on election day makes it easier to recruit credible, competent, consistent candidates. This means less media attention given to 'kook' or 'flake' or 'Macho Flash' marginal libertarians who sometimes get on the ballot as paper candidates. It means more electable Libertarian candidates in winnable races.

More Miriam Luces and Dr. Jimmy Blakes.

As Michael Emerling noted, we create a **Reverse Gresham's Law of Candidates: Good Libertarian Candidates Drive Out the Bad.**

6. Every elected Libertarian is living proof that we are reasonable and responsible people.

When a Libertarian candidate looks like he might actually win, some Democrat and Republican opponents try to slander and smear him with charges like: "You want to cut off Social Security payments to the elderly" or "You're in favor of Drugs" or "You support kiddie porn" or "You condone prostitution...you even ran a prostitute for office in California."

When a Libertarian candidate looks like she might actually get elected, some newspaper and television reporters stoop to sensationalism, sleaze and shock stories about us and our political ideas. Stuff like: "Libertarians defend assault weapons - and claim the NRA is too compromising", "Libertarians would abolish welfare" or "Libertarian Party filled with anarchists."

Every elected Libertarian is an antidote to the slander and smears. What we are will speak so loudly that voters will hear every word we say.

7. Registered Libertarian voters can be converted into dues-paying, contribution-giving Libertarian Party members.

In 1991 and 1992, California Libertarian State Chair Pat Wright doubled dues-paying LP membership from 2,000 to 4,000...by sending letters to registered Libertarian voters and asking them to join.

The California Libertarian Party was able to persuade 1 out of 17 registered Libertarian voters to become dues-paying LP members.

The San Diego Libertarian Party was able to persuade 1 out of every 10 registered Libertarian voters to become dues-paying LP members.

Last November, Libertarian Ken Smalley ran for the Tucson City Council. Inside the Tucson City Limits, we have 620 registered Libertarian voters. 134 of them contributed to Smalley's Libertarian campaign.

21.6% of the registered Libertarian voters contributed to this local campaign. The average donation? \$25.90.

The person most likely to become a dues-paying National Libertarian Party member is a registered Libertarian voter.

The more Libertarians we identify and register to vote, the more Libertarian Party members we'll have.

What We Need to Do Now

We have already registered 5,497 Libertarian voters in Arizona.

We only need to register 7,882 more Libertarian voters to achieve

Permanent Libertarian Ballot Status in Arizona. The legal deadline is May 21, 1994.

We've retained Alexis Thompson & Associates to help us finish the job on time. In addition to telephone fund-raising for the Libertarian Party, Alexis Thompson & Associates have successfully run several Arizona ballot Initiatives.

We need to raise the money to pay the voter registrars. It costs \$2.90 per registration.

Will you contribute \$29 to register 10 new Libertarian voters?

Will you contribute \$58 to register 20 new Libertarian voters?

Or will you contribute \$87 to register 30 new Libertarian voters?

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Thank You.**

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- ☐ \$58. Register 20 new Libertarian Voters.
- ☐ \$87. Register 30 new Libertarian Voters.

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- ___ LP Platform, \$1 each or \$25/100
- ___ Literature Sample Packet (one of each above plus one America's Libertarian Heritage), \$2
- ___ Literature Starter Kit (small supply of each of above), \$20
- ___ LP NEWS back issues, sold singly \$1 or \$15/100 (Please call for availability!)
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- All buttons are \$1 each or 75¢ for 5 or more..**
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 - ___ Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian, 1-800-682-1776
 - ___ Vote Libertarian, 1-800-682-1776
 - ___ Beware: The Government is Taking Over the Country
 - ___ VOTE LIBERTARIAN/Liberty Harmony Abundance
 - ___ VOTE LIBERTARIAN/Peace Prosperity Freedom
 - ___ Question Authority
 - ___ Bill of Rights - Void Where Prohibited by Law
 - ___ Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything, 1-800-682-1776
 - ___ Taxation Is Theft
 - ___ Democracy is Three Wolves and a Sheep Voting on What to Have for Lunch
 - ___ Freedom Wasn't Won With a Handshake (with a picture of a gun pointing at YOU)

Bumperstickers - \$1 each, \$5/10, \$30/100

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- ___ Legalize Freedom - Vote Libertarian
- ___ Vote Libertarian/1-800-682-1776
- ___ Libertarian Party - Defenders of Liberty
- ___ Bring U.S. Troops Home
- ___ I'm Pro-Choice on Everything
- ___ Vote Libertarian - Peace, Prosperity, Freedom

Tools for Campaigns

- ___ LP Statue of Liberty Logo master on paper, \$1
- ___ LP Statue of Liberty Logo on MS-DOS 5-1/4 or 3-1/2 floppy, \$3 (Circle your choice)
- ___ Newsprint Ad (Set of 7), \$3

Books

- ___ Healing Our World, 2nd. ed. (Ruwart), \$14.95
- ___ Libertarianism in One Lesson (Bergland), \$8 or 5/\$25
- ___ Restoring the American Dream (Ringer), \$10
- ___ America's Libertarian Heritage (Bergland), \$1

Misc.

- ___ National LP Bylaws and Convention Rules, 50¢
- ___ LP Statement of Principles on "antique" paper, \$2
- ___ Bill of Rights original text on "antique" paper, \$1
- ___ "Bill of Rights—Void Where Prohibited By Law" poster, \$10

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- ___ Small (12"x 5') LP Banner, one line "Libertarian Party", \$20
- ___ Large (18"x5') LP Banner; white on blue; first line "Libertarian Party", second line with your choice of following—"1-800-682-1776"; "Defenders of Liberty"; "Freedom is the American Way"—circle choice, \$30

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GOVERNMENT MANDATED NOTICES
The United States Postal Service requires us to notify you that LP NEWS subscription cost of \$25 per year is included in your membership dues. The Internal Revenue Service requires us to print "contributions are not tax-deductible" on all fund-raising appeals. Federal Election Commission requires us to ask for your employer and occupation.

LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE • Washington, DC 20003

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Name withheld by request

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

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

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

"God Bless you, Michael."

B.L., New York, New York

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

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

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

R.S., Los Angeles, CA

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

T.L., Toronto, CANADA

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

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

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

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

R.J., Madison, WI

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

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

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

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

Name withheld by request

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

"For 3 months I got nowhere. One afternoon, I listened to your *Essence of Political Persuasion* tapes again.

(I bought them a year ago.)

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

B.N., Orange County, CA

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

A.J., Denver, CO

Why don't more people seriously think through the libertarian arguments and evidence you give them?

Why don't they take your ideas to heart?

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You're telling them the opposite of everything they heard in school, church, on TV and from their family and friends.

2. THEY DON'T TRUST YOU.

What have you personally done to earn their confidence?

3. THEY DON'T LIKE YOU.

You've criticized their beliefs and values - and the beliefs and values of their family and friends.

4. THEY DON'T THINK IT'S IMPORTANT ENOUGH.

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Affiliates

Blake making impression in AL; 'assault raffle' in AZ

Alabama

LP member and city councilman **Dr. Jimmy Blake** quickly made his presence felt on the Birmingham City Council. At his first council meeting, Blake irritated some of his colleagues by asking questions about how the city spends its money. Blake voted against some normally routine appropriations, saying he didn't know enough about them to approve the expenditures.

An editorial in *The Birmingham News* stated:

"Isn't that what elected officials are supposed to do? Shouldn't they all try to learn about things before they vote on them? Shouldn't they all ask their questions in public so we the unelected can learn a bit? Shouldn't they all irritate their colleagues now and then?"

"Of course. But that's not always the way it works. Not on the Birmingham City Council, not in the Alabama Legislature, not in the U.S. Congress. Going with the flow—while occasionally pretending you're not—has become the favorite political pastime.

"If Jimmy Blake is still acting like this four years from now, he will rightfully be accused of political posturing. But for the moment, he looks like a public servant just doing his job."

Meanwhile, state party members have been meeting with members of various groups to find common ground for working together. Groups LP members have met with include: Advocates for Better Government, Citizens Against Government



National pulse

News from the states

Waste, Taxpayers Defense Force, and others.

Arizona

To demonstrate the uncompromising support the LP has for the Second Amendment and to raise money for the Maricopa LP headquarters, the Libertarian Second Amendment Caucus, headed by **Mike Dugger**, is conducting an "assault raffle." Prizes include: a Colt AR-15, a Norinco MAK-90, and a Chinese SKS. The raffle has generated a lot of media coverage, and sales are going well. State chair **Rick Tompkins** went to the state capitol and said he "sold a number of tickets, including some to legislators. That same afternoon, a prominent Republican activist called me and ordered \$40 worth."

California

Gene Burns' libertarian radio talk show is still on KSFO, 560-AM, in San Francisco, but is now heard from noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Florida

A new affiliate party has formed in **Volusia County**, encompassing the cities of Daytona, Daytona Beach, and New

Smyrna Beach.

In early February, state chair **William Bragg** spoke to the Jacksonville Broadcasters Association regarding state ballot access laws.

Michael Miller, Michael Kerner, and Paul Crumrine have announced their campaigns for the state house.

Crumrine recently toured the Florida State Prison in Starke. "The tour was a sobering experience," said Crumrine. "I believe that we must seek alternative methods of punishment for non-violent offenders. If a person who has made a mistake and broken laws does not present a violent

threat to other people, why should we put him in a place where he can only become deeply embittered against all other people?"

Libertarians have been involved in several rallies in the state capital of Tallahassee recently—one to support property rights and another to protest a severe gun control bill currently under consideration by the state legislature.

Hawaii

Libertarian producer **Roger Taylor** continues to spread the Libertarian message

see **Affiliates** on page 7

Local activism

FL Libertarian using laws to gain credibility and attention

A Florida Libertarian is using the state's open records law to not only keep an eye on local government officials, but also to gain credibility for the state Libertarian Party.

Dean Crumly, the Okaloosa County LP chair and state LP vice chair, has been very active in local politics in Fort Walton Beach during the past year, using the state open records law to obtain information from local officials and using the information to critique local spending practices and to offer alternative policies.

Recently, Crumly delved into five years of billing invoices from the county attorney to the county commission. Crumly then requested a copy of the county's contract with the attorney, only to discover that no contract existed between the two.

Local media attention over the lack of a written contract, as well as the unusual coincidence of several specific monetary amounts, down to the dollar, recurring on invoices, led to a considerable public outcry. Crumly also discovered that the attorney,

who billed the county by the hour, was not listing the amount of time spent on telephone conferences, legal research, and personal meetings concerning county legal business.

Crumly's exposure of these practices led to public pressure on the county commission to negotiate a written contract with the long-time county attorney.

"Libertarians aren't considered a 'fringe element' around here," Crumly said, "because we've gotten involved in local issues, participated in hearings—not just to 'yell and scream', but also to offer evidence for our positions and to provide alternatives."

Crumly said that most states have some sort of open record/open meeting laws, "and if Libertarians want to build credibility and occasionally even accomplish something tangible, use those laws and get involved in local politics! It's a whole lot easier to shame local government bodies into doing the right thing—or at least stop doing the wrong thing—than it is to affect the course of state or national policies. It's also a great deal easier to earn media attention and respect when 'Joe Q. Citizen,' local resident, speaks before the local commission, has something intelligent to say about a local matter, and doesn't mind speaking to the local media about his position."

"Local government is filled with all sorts of mischief," explained Crumly. "Sweetheart construction deals on 'public' projects, spending money on lavish furnishings when surplus military furniture would suffice, commissioners having real property in areas targeted for 'community redevelopment,' you name it—and all we Libertarians need to do is start focusing our intelligence and energy on local issues in order to build credibility to address state and national issues."

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Affiliates

continued from page 6
through airings of television programs on a local cable access channel. In January alone, programs aired on local issues such as a convention center, and national issues of "Healthcare—A Free Market Alternative." In addition, highlights of the state convention and a program on basic libertarianism were aired.

Pennsylvania

The Montgomery County Libertarians have streamlined their organization by cutting the number of their committees to four. The new committees and chairs are: election, **Tom Radomski**; outreach, **Doug Leard** and **Brian Oxenhandler**; media,

Tim Moir; and fundraising, **Chris Boehm** and **Tom Radomski**.

Stephanie Kalina of Harrisburg has been chosen as editor of the state party newsletter. She is a professional newsletter editor with a degree from Penn State University. Kalina "brings to her new task the ability and the determination to help make everything we publish look more professional and more valuable as the prime means of communicating with a membership which continues to grow," said state chair **Ken Sturzenacker**.

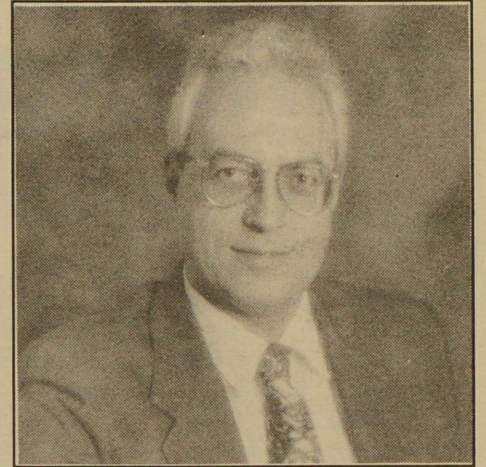
Texas

The state party has already identified

more than 40 LP candidates for local, state, and federal campaigns this year. Three candidates have announced their intentions to run for the U.S. Senate.

Washington

Members of the Libertarian Marijuana-Liberation Caucus plan on doing all they can to get Initiative 613 on the ballot this year. "This is the best petition I've seen in Washington in a long time," said caucus chairman **Robert Hill**. "Not only will people be released from prison and jail whose only offense is cannabis-related, but their criminal records will be reopened and cleared." For more information call 202-759-1584.



CANDIDATE - LP member **Paul Crumrine** has announced his candidacy for the Florida State House of Representatives, District 49.

National director cites HUD for 'mild outbreak of Libertarianism'

The Libertarian Party congratulated Henry Cisneros, head of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, for a "mild outbreak of Libertarianism" at his agency.

"The acknowledgement by HUD employees that private, voluntary compassion and charity works better than impersonal, coercive government programs warms the heart of this Libertarian," wrote Perry Willis, LP national director.

Willis was reacting to a dinner sponsored by HUD workers for people from local homeless shelters in Washington, DC. HUD employees volunteered to cook, serve, and clean up, and all the food and supplies for the dinner were also donated, according to new reports.

Wrote Willis to Cisneros: "Libertarians have always argued that private, voluntary charity is more compassionate, effective, and meaningful than government welfare. This mild outbreak of Libertarianism in your agency proves that even the multi-billion dollar government compassion industry is starting to recognize this, too."

Willis noted that churches, the Red Cross, and private shelters do a much better job of helping those who need it.

"They tend to be much closer to the people than your highly paid bureaucrats are, and better understand the problems and how to solve them. Private charities are more concerned with helping people become more self-sufficient," he wrote to Cisneros. "Quite simply, private charity works; government welfare doesn't."

Willis said it was ironic that the department's community relations director Donna Abbenante said about the dinner: "The HUD people will get to see some concrete results of their work for a change."

"We Libertarians haven't seen much concrete results from HUD's work either,

except more homelessness, devastated inner cities, run-down public housing, and corruption," he wrote to Cisneros.

Willis said he hopes this trend of voluntary, private compassion spreads to other government agencies.

"We'd love to see employees at the Department of Agriculture volunteering to help family farmers, workers at the Department of Health & Human Services volunteering at local hospitals, and Department of Commerce bureaucrats volunteering to help fill out some of the paperwork that they deluge small-business owners with," he said.

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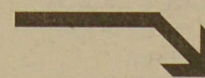
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page 4

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Talking points

Items you can use in speeches, letters, etc.

Cliches and uninformed statements are easy to dismiss as senseless prescriptions from political outcasts and fringe ideologues. Libertarian advocates—be they candidates, state officers, speakers, pamphlet writers, or other spokespersons—may gain credibility for Libertarian ideas by presenting facts and quoting expert opinion that bolster LP positions. This column will provide the ammunition you can use to confound the skeptics and impress those searching for answers by citing mainstream publications and recognized opinion leaders (for and against individual liberty). Send in your submissions, with a clipping to verify the statement and the source, for inclusion in future issues of the NEWS.

1. Libertarian candidates debating an end to welfare benefits may want to challenge their older party opponents to at least introduce some substantive measures to reduce eligibility periods. A poll for U.S. News & World Report found that 65 percent of Americans believe the time limit on remaining on welfare should be two years or less. Ten percent would end it after six months.

U.S. News and World Report, Dec. 13, 1993.

2. One may gauge the seriousness of Vice President Al Gore's initiative to "reinvent" government by noting what Forbes published from a Time magazine report: "According to an internal memo from the

Libertarian talking points

Dave Walter
Editor

Government Printing Office, printing costs for . . . Gore's report on saving money in government were three times greater than those for most other federal documents. Using glossy paper and three colors of ink, the booklet cost \$168,915, while printing it on uncoated paper in black and white would have cost just \$54,091." It sure is a lot harder to recycle glossy paper, too.

Forbes, Nov. 8, 1993.

3. Saying the Democrat Party is filled with a bunch of socialists is not just a Libertarian rant. According to Reason, the Competitive Enterprise Institute analyzed the 1992 congressional votes on economic matters and found that "160 (of 268) Democratic representatives supported free-market policies less often than Bernie Sanders (I-VT), the only self-declared socialist in the House." On 117 House votes, the average Democrat scored 20, while the average Republican scored 71.

Reason, November 1993.

4. Arguing taxes with a non-libertarian, or a businessman seeking handouts, often meets the assertion that "I'm just getting something back." Here's what a college president, George Roche of Hillsdale Col-

lege, in Michigan, has to say: "The worst part of the whole tax-thy-neighbor system is that it is so addictive—it feeds on itself. When so much of our money is taxed away, we feel cheated and lose all our moral qualms about getting to the trough ourselves, one way or another, to get it back. That's only fair, isn't it? No, it isn't. All we are doing is resorting to the same means that cheated us in the first place and we are giving overweening government its strongest hold on us."

Imprimus, July 1993.

5. However mean-spirited it may sound, Libertarians are firmly against many foreign aid programs. We believe they may actually harm the recipients. That sounds so improbable to those who open their wallets generously to organizations "feeding the poor." Yet, the reality is much different, as reported by Michael Maren, a former Peace Corps, Catholic Relief Services, and U.S. Agency for International Development worker.

"Yet most food aid has little to do with need and everything to do with getting rid of surplus food. Kenya was not a country facing starvation when I worked there. Many of the projects I started were in the rich agricultural land of the central and western parts of the country. In fact, around the world, only about 10 percent of food aid is targeted at emergency situations . . . Harmless as this might at first sound, sending food to areas where there is already food creates serious problems. It decreases demand for locally produced commodities, subsidizes the production of cash crops, and fosters dependence among those who receive the aid. Since private voluntary organizations (PVOs) can only operate with the approval of the host government, they typically end up supporting the government leader's political goals, rewarding the government's friends, punishing its enemies, and providing fodder for a vast system of political patronage.

"That's exactly what happened in Somalia, where the government and the generals had been playing games with food aid for more than a decade before the Marines arrived. I was working for U.S. AID in Somalia in 1981, when we started pumping food into that country. It was clear to many of us, even then, that the program was working to prop up a corrupt dictator and turn nomads into relief junkies. Refugees poured over the borders and into camps, where they were fed day after day, year after year, by PVOs, while little effort was made to break their growing dependence. In 1987, a World Food Program report stated that Somalia had actually produced a surplus of food that year, yet PVOs continue to distribute free food and collect U.S. government money for administering the delivery. Inevitably, indigenous food-distribution networks withered and died. The country's economy adapted to foreign aid—not to production. Meanwhile, the PVOs and corrupt government officials got fat and rich."

Maren's speech to a group of Cornell University graduate students can be found in Harper's magazine, August 1993.

Counting the Cost of Chicanery

All data are from the Treasury Department of the United States, unless otherwise specified.

• **U.S. federal deficit for 1992: \$290.3 billion.**

• **U.S. federal spending for 1992: \$1.381 trillion.**

• **U.S. federal deficit for 1993: \$254.9 billion.**

• **U.S. federal spending for 1993: \$1.4 trillion.**

• **Number of U.S. taxpayers in 1991 making voluntary contributions on their 1040 forms to decrease the federal debt: 275.**

• **Number of U.S. taxpayers in 1992 making voluntary contributions on their 1040 forms to decrease the federal debt: 361.**

6. While deregulation has helped many industries in interstate commerce, there are still states that insist on regulating intrastate activities. Here's one example of how such regulation hurts consumers, businessmen, and those looking for work:

"Competition doesn't exist in intrastate trucking in Texas. Trucking is regulated by the Railroad Commission. It sets the prices that truckers can charge. Its regulations are such a burden that it took United Parcel Service about 19 years and \$20 million just to get approval by the Railroad Commission to do business in Texas. Higher costs for trucking force businesses to raise the prices of their products. Businesses are moving out of our state and are avoiding Texas as a distribution center. It's cheaper to move across the state line and ship back into Texas from a warehouse in New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, or Louisiana."

Carole Keeton Rylander, former three-term mayor of Austin, TX, in the Houston Chronicle, June 20, 1993.

7. Statists are rather fond of quoting Justice Holmes' observation that "taxes are the price we pay for civilization." Libertarians have long thought the opposite and have been joined in their assessment by the respected and widely-read investment guru Mark Skousen, editor of *Forecasts and Strategies*: "Taxation is the price we pay for failing to build a civilized society. The higher the tax level, the greater the failure."

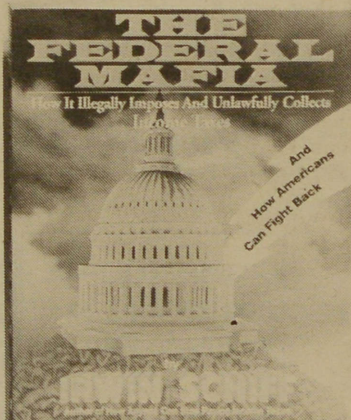
Forbes, Feb. 1, 1993.

8. The next time you have a speech to a conservative audience, you might want to mention that even George Will, *The Washington Post*, see **Talking points** on page 9

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Talking points

continued from page 8

ington Post's most respected conservative columnist, is beginning to come around. In a Feb. 4, 1993, column, he praised the actions of "libertarian lawyers" at the Institute for Justice in Washington for defending a Houston jitney driver who ran afoul of archaic, protectionist laws. Will noted, "The world is divided between those who do and those who do not understand that activist, interventionist, regulating, subsidizing government is generally a servant of the strong and entrenched against the weak and aspiring. The world is divided into two kinds of people, those who prosper by competing, and those who want to prosper by getting government to cripple their competitors. America is divided between genuine entrepreneurs and those persons whose entrepreneurship consists of turning government into a dispenser of privilege and injustice."

Will's column in the Daily Local News, Feb. 4, 1993.

9. One would suspect that scientific truth is taking a beating compared to popular perception, at least when it comes to environmental issues:

"In a 1991 Greenpeace survey of scientists on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, only 13 percent of the respondents said that continuing the same energy mix would result in a runaway greenhouse effect. Yet in a similar poll of 1,000 Americans, a majority of those who responded said they believed most scientific experts would say the evidence supports global warming. Somewhere between the scientists and the public, the real message was lost."

Tim Brown, Brookes fellow at the Cato Institute; article in Insight, Oct. 11, 1993.

10. In addressing young people, it may be well to get them thinking about the consequences of not reforming the Social Security System. Retirement may be 30 or 40 years off for most of them, but unless something is done now, they may face big trouble then. Carolyn L. Weaver is the director of the Social Security and Pension Project at the American Enterprise Institute. In a *Wall Street Journal* column recently, she said, "the surpluses we hear so much about today give way to deficits in 2016, just after the baby-boom generation begins retiring." Some optimistic assumptions push the date out to 2036, but even so "it would take an immediate 25 percent increase in the payroll tax—or a comparable reduction in benefits for people on the rolls—to make ends meet at the time. By contrast, a 10 percent reduction in the growth of future benefits, if enacted today, would virtually eliminate the long-range deficit." In addition to scaling back benefit increases, Weaver would allow workers more flexibility to invest privately for their retirement needs. It should enlighten (and scare) our boomer friends to learn that "in a study of implicit rates of return on taxes, economist Michael Boskin and his colleagues found that most workers born after 1945 will suffer wealth losses under Social Security" and that "reforms must be enacted in the 1990s if baby-boom workers, who will begin flooding the Social Security rolls in 15 years, are to be given the lead time necessary to avoid serious disruptions in their retirement plans—and if their

children are to be protected from tax increases that could preclude retirement savings by all but the wealthiest in society."

Weaver in the Wall Street Journal, Aug. 26, 1993.

11. More money for education! More and better-paid teachers! Smaller classrooms! Cries heard by every school board across the land that is struggling with its 1994 budget.

How has it worked when the cries are heeded?

"(Washington,) DC schools now spend an astonishing \$9,300 a year per public school pupil. They also have the nation's lowest pupil/teacher ratio in the nation.

For all that, DC ranks 49th in its SAT scores. Its dropout rate is so high that one of its high schools recently had a graduating class of only four seniors." Admits school superintendent Franklin Smith, "We've got to change the way we do business in public education." According to an editorial in the *Wall Street Journal*, "Smith has just announced that he plans to ask the local school board to turn over the management of up to 15 struggling city schools to a private firm. Education Alternatives, Inc., which has been put in charge of failed schools in Baltimore, is a leading contender."

Many other school districts are trying a similar approach: Minneapolis, Milwaukee,

Atlanta, Little Rock, Albany, Denver, Phoenix, San Antonio, and Austin. In Michigan, the legislature is debating a reform package "that would allow teachers and corporations to establish charter schools to compete with traditional public schools." Education Reform—no longer just another utopian Libertarian dream.

Wall Street Journal, Dec. 17, 1993.

Thanks this month for contributions submitted to "Talking points" by Bill Williford, Houston, TX; Keith Constantine, Newtown, PA; Ward Bond, Honolulu, HI; and Melissa Ryan, Chicago, IL.

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The Life Extension Foundation has compiled the sources, the doctors and the information to enable Americans to obtain life extension drugs from around the world. These drugs have been safely used in France, Germany and other countries for years, but until now, have been denied to Americans.

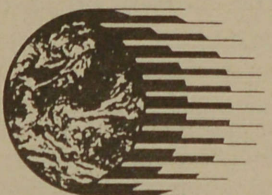
Europeans are using these drugs to improve their mental condition to unprecedented levels. Now Americans can gain access to advanced life extension therapies such as **Piracetam**, **Centrophenoxine**, **human growth hormone**, and a new memory-enhancing product that is *four times* more effective than **Hydergine**.

As a member of **The Life Extension Foundation**, you will learn about the scientific basis for using these life-enhancing therapies, their side effects, and how you can get them!

For just \$50.00, you will receive *Life Extension Report* and *Life Extension Update* each month plus:

1. **The Directory Of Life Extension Doctors.** A nationwide directory of doctors who are knowledgeable about these advanced therapies and may be willing to prescribe them for you.
2. **The Physician's Guide To Life Extension Drugs.** The first book ever published to provide American doctors with information about safe and effective "unapproved drugs". This book is referenced to enable the lay person to understand and find therapies for specific purposes.
3. **The Directory Of Innovative Medical Clinics.** If you were told you had an incurable disease would you believe your doctor? A disease your doctor says is "untreatable" may already have a cure that the FDA has not yet "approved" of. There are scientists with impeccable credentials who are effectively treating so-called "terminal" victims of cancer, Alzheimer's Disease, etc. You can now access these advanced research centers with *The Directory Of Innovative Medical Clinics*.
4. **Discounts of 25% to 50%** on your vitamin purchases. Members buy name brand nutrient supplements and advanced life extension formulas at super discount prices.
5. **Discounts of 20%** on all your prescription drug purchases including popular life extension drugs such as **Hydergine** and **Eldepryl**. THE MAIL-ORDER PHARMACY saves members hundreds of dollars a year on their prescription drug purchases.

The Life Extension Foundation is the only organization in the world that tells you how to obtain the most advanced life extension therapies in the world...long before they are "approved" by the FDA. You will be the first to find out about products that will enhance your life.



Mail to:
Life Extension Foundation
P.O. Box 229120
Hollywood, FL 33022

To join, use the coupon or call: **1-800-841-5433**

Enclosed is my \$50.00 membership. Please enroll me in your life extension program which includes two newsletters each month and the three directories of life extension doctors, drugs, and clinics and the super discounts on my vitamin and prescription drug purchases. LM

Name

Address

City State Zip

Credit Card # Exp Date

Clinton plan in trouble

Over the past month or so, a number of important developments have occurred that have damaged the momentum of the Clinton health care "reform" plan and seriously jeopardized its chances for success:

- Three major business groups rejected the Clinton plan. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Business Roundtable, and the National Association of Manufacturers all called for more "market competition reform." (Unfortunately, none of the three groups rejected outright all government intervention in the health care system; they just called for a somewhat reduced amount.)

- A public letter signed by 562 prominent economists - including two LP Shadow Cabinet members, Richard Vedder (Labor) and Thomas Gale Moore (Transportation) - was printed in the *Wall Street Journal*, warning against the consequences of the Clinton plan. The letter said the president's plan will cause "lower-quality medical care, reduced medical innovation, and expensive new bureaucracies to monitor compliance."

- New numbers from the Joint Economic Committee of Congress reveal that the Clinton plan will increase the federal deficit by at least \$918 billion over the next six years. Worst-case scenarios run as high as \$1.8 trillion.

- There is increasingly negative publicity about the restrictive legal measures the Clinton plan mandates. A recent article in the *Wall Street Journal* revealed, for example, that "bribery in connection with health care" will be punishable by 10 years in prison. Other violations are punishable by \$1 million fines, life in prison, and property forfeiture.

- There is increasing political outcry against Clinton's plan to keep the financing and cost of his health care plan "off budget." Clinton has argued that because businesses "contribute" the mandated cost of workers' insurance to quasi-private "Regional Alliances," it isn't government spending. If the Clinton plan were added to the federal budget, it could constitute the largest government spending increase in American history.

SD state chair considered for commission

South Dakota LP state chair Gus Hercules is one of four citizens being considered for an appointment to the Pennington County Commission.

The commissioners will be selecting a new commissioner to replace a member who has moved from the area.

Hercules has been active in local politics and was the LP's candidate for the U.S. Senate in 1992.

A decision was expected in mid-February.

Breakthrough

continued from page 1

To drum up publicity about the event, the Oregon LP held a press conference in the state capital on Feb. 14, where Dr. Smith answered questions about the LP plan and handed out copies of the "Briefing Paper" to journalists.

In Pasadena, CA, noted Libertarian author Mary Ruwart distributed literature about the LP plan at a regional conference of the National Health Federation (NHF), attended by an estimated 1,000 people over the weekend of Jan. 22-23.

The NHF was founded in 1955 to promote "freedom of choice in health care" and has 16,000 members nationwide. "We're the only consumer group organized around this issue," said Dr. Jonathan Wright, a NHF board member, who helped coordinate the conference event.

Meanwhile, at the LP headquarters in Washington, Winter received a letter from Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-SC), thanking him for his copy of Project Healthy Choice. A package about the LP plan had been sent to every member of the House and Senate. Thurmond promised to give the plan his "most careful consideration and study."

"Sure, we don't know that he actually read it," admitted Winter. "But at least we know Congress got it. They don't have an excuse to say that there isn't a good free market plan out there."

The national LP headquarters also shipped out more than 60 information packages to important journalists, medical groups, business associations, and sympa-

thetic groups around the country.

The wildly divergent list included the American Medical Association, the Young Entrepreneur's Organization, the National Federation of Independent Business, the American Chiropractic Association, the National Taxpayers Association, and the Association of American Physicians & Surgeons.

Other groups and individuals on the list were the American Legislative Exchange Council, the American Hospital Association, the American Insurance Association, the National Alliance of Business, Rush Limbaugh, Gene Burns, and David Brudnoy.

Packages about the LP plan were also sent to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers the week before they both publicly rejected the Clinton plan.

"It would be presumptuous of me to suggest that we had something to do with their decision, but the fact remains that they received the LP free market health care plan shortly before rejecting Clinton's socialist plan," said Winter. "Maybe it's just a coincidence—but what a nice coincidence!"

Winter said the HQ is still receiving suggestions from LP members about individuals and groups to send the plan to. "We're shipping them out as fast as we get those suggestions," he said. "Keep them coming, we appreciate the help!"

Winter also said the office has received

“

Do you have any doubt that our plan can knock the socks off Clinton's plan?

— Bill Winter

”

copies of numerous letters that LP members have sent to their representatives and senators in Washington. "These are well-written, hard-hitting, persuasive letters," he said. "Our members are really doing a great job."

Meanwhile, state organizations are remaining active in the publicity effort for Project Healthy Choice, said Winter, with Connecticut being one of the most energetic states recently.

The Connecticut LP: 1) Mailed the two-page "fact sheet" about Project Healthy Choice to its members; 2) Is in the process of mailing 2,500 copies of the "highlights" brochure to prospects; 3) Sent personalized letters to all eight members of the state's congressional delegation; and 4) Is faxing a press release to over 100 media outlets around the state.

Libertarian health care alternative

The Libertarian Party has developed a comprehensive proposal for health care reform that will reduce health care costs, while extending access to care. Our five-point plan:

1. Establish Medical Savings Accounts.

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

2. Restructure Tax Policy.

As a second consumer-based reform, taxes should be restructured to establish equity in the treatment of employer-provided health insurance, individually purchased health insurance, and out-of-pocket medical expenses. All health care expenditures should be 100% tax deductible. This

the 5-point plan

will add a measure of fairness to current tax policies that penalize the self-employed, part-time workers, and employees of small businesses, while subsidizing health care for the most affluent in our society.

3. Deregulate the health care industry.

There should be a thorough examination of the extent to which government policies are responsible for rising health costs and the unavailability of health care services. America can help lower health care costs and expand health care access by taking immediate steps to deregulate the health care industry, including elimination of mandated benefits, repeal of the Certificate-of-

Need program, and expansion of the scope of practice for non-physician health professionals.

4. Replace the FDA.

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

5. Privatize Medicare and Medicaid.

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

Project Healthy Choice lobbying kit available

Want to participate in Project Healthy Choice Task Force in an informed, articulate, effective way? Order the Lobbying Kit!

"This comprehensive lobbying package provides you with the intellectual ammunition and lobbying skills to convince your legislators in Washington to vote against the Clinton health care plan," said LP national chair Steve Dasbach.

"Unfortunately, this is an expensive project, so we can only send the lobbying kit if you contribute \$25 or more."

The lobbying package includes:

- A scholarly eight-page "Briefing Paper" explaining problems with the Clinton plan, and illuminating in greater detail, with backing statistics and evidence, the Libertarian free market alternative plan.
- A short brochure summarizing the five-point Libertarian health care plan.

- 10 reasons to oppose the Clinton plan.
- 12 reasons to support the Libertarian plan.
- A list of the official Washington, DC, telephone and fax numbers for senators and U.S. representatives.
- A list of other plans being considered in Washington that are less dangerous than the Clinton plan.
- An expanded list of expert lobbying tips, to make Libertarians more persuasive and effective.

Send donations to the national LP headquarters: 1528 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20003. Include a note explaining that the donation is for the Project Healthy Choice lobbying package.

LPMN aims at term limits

Minnesota State House Minority Leader Steven Sviggum and State Rep. Connie Morrison met with members of the Libertarian Party of Minnesota on Jan. 18 and accepted petitions to place term limits for state and local officials on the November ballot.

Sviggum is the leader in the House of the drive to let the electorate decide on adding a term limits amendment to the Minnesota Constitution. Libertarians Bill Loyd, Charles Test, Carl Boone, Jack Stecher, Brian Fisher, and Casey Bowman presented Sviggum and Morrison with the petitions, which contained signatures from 400 Minnesotans.

"I commend the Libertarian Party," said Sviggum in reference to these petitions, adding "the efforts you have displayed in gathering these signatures will send a message to the leadership of the Minnesota Legislature that they should send a term limits amendment to the citizens of Minnesota."

The petitions were collected at the Minnesota State Fair last fall. The State Legislature returned to session on Feb. 22, and will remain in session through April.

Although the legislature meets for such a short time, a full seven State Representatives on the 20-member House Committee that is voting on this measure consider themselves "professional legislators." The total years of service of members on this committee is a whopping 256 years. In the State Legislature as a whole, more than two-thirds of the members serving consider this their full-time job. Of course, professional legislators have every incentive to increase the power of the government over the citizenry, and to see more money taken from the people and spent on government.

While Minnesotans overwhelmingly support term limits—73 percent according to one recent poll—there are powerful lobbies such as labor PACs and the Tobacco Institute that are desperately fighting to make sure the average citizens never get to have their say.

The Libertarian Party of Minnesota anticipates more activity on this issue. Former Executive Committee Chair Bob Kuhn has joined the Advisory Board of Minnesotans for Term Limits, a non-partisan organization. Pat Awada, the executive director of Minnesotans for Term Limits, expects her group to hold a rally at the State Capitol sometime in early March.

THE FREEDOM CHANNEL

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

With your help, The Freedom Channel will soon be on the air.

Are you sick of what the television networks are serving up for public consumption? We are.

Are you angry because pro-government propaganda passes for both news and entertainment on America's airwaves and cable systems? We are.

Are you willing to do something to get liberty into the mainstream video marketplace? We are.

We all know that the libertarian movement offers real solutions for the mess our country is in. You and I know that real personal and political freedom is the answer. But our neighbors don't know that. They don't know that there's an alternative to the mind-numbing pablum that passes for public political debate.

It's time for us to change that.

Libertarians are well represented in the marketplace of ideas. Our scholarly journals, think tanks and academic research are all the best in the market. But our ideas are not represented where it counts most with the masses today. We're not on television.

We're about to change that. The Patrick Henry Foundation has been established as a non-profit agency to set up a freedom-oriented cable television network. We're not talking about a "talking heads channel." We're talking about a professionally produced entertainment channel to intelligently present freedom to the television generation.

You may not like television. You may not even like the kind of people we're trying to reach. But unless the libertarian movement reaches these people with a message they can understand, our freedom will be lost forever.

How are we going to do it? There are two phases:

Phase 1: We set up a facility to produce libertarian video programming to be used by libertarians and LP groups on local cable public-access channels across the country. The material produced during this phase would form a library of material to be used on our own channel.

Phase 2: We go online with a satellite uplink which would tie us into any cable system willing to provide the programming to its customers. In the "500-channel future," systems will need original programming. The channel will also provide low-cost national access for freedom-oriented groups to push their own organizations.

We've studied the techniques used by other non-profit broadcasters, and we know this channel will work. But it's not going to happen without your financial support.

Right now, we need the money to begin Phase 1, to buy minimal equipment and begin production. Your gift of \$500, \$100 or even \$50 will help get us moving toward putting our message on the air.

Please be a part of this historic effort by sending your gift today. Together, we can make a difference, for all of us.

Please send your contribution today. Thanks.



With your help, libertarian ideas will soon be transmitted via satellite uplinks such as this one.

☒ **Yes, I'm willing to help put The Freedom Channel on the air!**

Here's my contribution of \$ _____. Send me more information.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

THE
Patrick Henry
FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 20863, Birmingham, Ala. 35216
164 Charleston Way, Trussville, Ala. 35173
205/655-4425 ■ Fax 205/655-4645 ■ CIS 75450,3334

Dangerous activity

Peaceful protest leads to arrest of LP member in AZ

They were there. Several Libertarians employing their rights to freedom of speech and assembly, holding up a few signs.

Officials at South Mountain High School, along with Phoenix, AZ, police, couldn't allow such dangerous activity to go on, of course. Not when such important and universally respected personages as U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno, Sen. Dennis DeConcini, and U.S. Attorney Janet Napolitano were scheduled to appear for their dog and pony show.

After all, the signs our friends were displaying carried such horribly subversive messages as, "Legalize Freedom, Register Libertarian," and "Libertarian Second Amendment Caucus," and "Allow Concealed Weapons." So, when Maricopa County LP chairman Ernest Hancock chose to stand up for his (and our) rights, refusing to put the signs down, he was arrested.

Hancock, Lisa Flynn, and Tim McDermott were displaying the signs. Some of them were taped to Hancock's car. Several men, including a police detective and the assistant principal of the school, told Hancock to take the signs down from his car.

Hancock said, "No."

One of the men then proceeded to rip the signs off the car. At this point, Hancock turned to a group of high school ROTC cadets standing nearby and told them to take a good look at government in action. He told them to observe and remember how people's rights get trampled on. The "offi-

cial" didn't like that much. Flynn, McDermott, and Hancock then picked up the signs and held them up so people could see them. The officials then threatened them with arrest if they would not either leave or put down the signs. Interesting—they could stay, but not with the signs. It was the signs that were "offensive."

Hancock again said, "No."

As Hancock was handcuffed and placed in a police car, LP state chair Rick Tompkins arrived and was told what was taking place. He and other witnesses asked what the charge was. "Disorderly conduct," said the cop. Really.

KPHO TV-5 was on the scene and filmed the arrest, after which they interviewed Tompkins on camera about the incident.

An outrageous violation of First Amendment rights? Obviously. No doubt the media would make an issue of it, right? Wrong.

Several calls to other television stations elicited yawns. Even KPHO, which had exclusive tape coverage, copped out on the story. Their news coverage that evening (Jan. 15, 1994) showed only that Hancock had been arrested for disorderly conduct. Not a word from Tompkins' interview, and not a peep about possible First Amendment issues!

The libertarian attorney that Tompkins contacted from the police station was nearly salivating on the phone with the prospects of getting this case into court, but he was certain that the police were talking to a county attorney, and that they would probably not be so foolish as to press the matter.

It turned out that Hancock was released with an hour, with the warning that if he returned to the school grounds, he would be arrested again, this time for "trespassing."

Hancock said, in effect, "see you there."

He and Tompkins returned to the school grounds, where the event was still in progress, only to be met by the police lieutenant and the assistant principal. After a short

conversation, the officials again exercised caution, deciding to let well enough alone. Hancock and Tompkins went on inside.

The police at the station, very uncomfortable with the situation, and realizing the potential for public reaction, filed no charges at all. It was refreshing, in fact, to find at least one police sergeant who spoke sincerely about his duty to defend the Constitution, and was concerned that Hancock's rights had been violated.

It remains to be decided what further action Hancock will take.

Following the incident, Tompkins sent out a press release that said in part, "We are . . . using our First Amendment rights to speak out in defense of the Second Amendment, and the government officials don't want us here. It will be a shameful tragedy if it ever becomes necessary for the people to use their Second Amendment rights to restore their First Amendment rights."

A call to violent revolution? Hardly. Libertarians disavow the initiation of force. But there are many in this country who are not so peacefully inclined, and as the government continues to close the doors on peaceful avenues of redress of grievance, the potential for violence increases.

Let us hope the "shameful tragedy" can be avoided. Let us hope that it is not yet time for, in the words of Thomas Jefferson, "the blood of patriots and tyrants" to flow again.

[UPDATE: A lawsuit has been filed on behalf of Hancock and the Arizona Libertarian Party against the high school official and the two policemen who were at the scene of the arrest. The suit asks for unspecified damages as a result of violations of the First and 14th Amendments. Hancock and the LP are being represented by a major Arizona law firm.]

This article is reprinted from Arizona Libertarian, the state party newsletter.

More Libertarian officeholders

This list of current Libertarian officeholders, both elected and appointed, is an addition to the list published in the February NEWS. The NEWS apologizes to those officeholders left off the list last month. Please send additions or corrections to Bill Winter, c/o LPHQ, 1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20003.

Maine

Arthur Geetersloh Greenville School Committee
and Greenville Planning Board
Warren Cochrane Greenville Board of Appeals

New Hampshire

Steve Davis Selectman, Town of Wentworth
Cecil Williams Selectman, Town of Litchfield
Paul Norris Selectman, Town of Elsworth
Charles Hampe Belmont Water District
Board Member
Bob Seaman Selectman, Town of Brookfield
Janet Strumpf Alton Conservation Committee
John A. Vitale Epping Budget Committee
Charter Weeks Barrington Planning Board

Fines

continued from page 1

only a minor matter, which could easily be justified upon a showing of exigent circumstances."

The national LP, while arguing that the delays were short and the violations old, and that if proven, the violations "would clearly qualify as insignificant under the Commission's own standards," has agreed to settle the matter by paying a civil fine of \$10,500. The LP is awaiting a response from the FEC.

In the meantime, the most current FEC report was filed five days early, and efforts are under way to automate the filing procedures so all reports can be filed in a timely manner regardless of extenuating circumstances.

"We will not be tardy again," said LP national treasurer Hugh Butler.

The reports themselves consist of a listing of all national party receipts and disbursements during a set time frame. The frequency of filing varies depending on election schedules. For example, during non-election years, reports are due every six months. However, during a presidential election year, reports must be filed quarterly, as well as additional reports immediately following the election. Only 15 days are allotted for completion of the reports, and the LP's procedure for filing has not been automated in the past. This meant LP staff had to go through an extremely time-consuming process to gather and tabulate the data.

In addressing the filing delays, the Libertarian Party brought to the attention of the FEC a number of mitigating circumstances causing the minor delays.

For example, during the first nine months of 1992, the LP's primary focus of activity was obtaining ballot status for the party's candidates, unlike the Republican and Democratic parties which "have enacted laws designed to ensure that their parties and candidates automatically qualify for placement on the ballot," noted Hall.

**"We will not be
tardy again."**

— Hugh Butler

At the time the July 1992 report was due to the FEC, for example, then national director Nick Dunbar was in West Virginia to personally supervise a ballot drive that by all accounts would have failed without direct attention.

Hall also noted to the FEC that the delays "had no impact whatsoever on the electoral process . . . There is no indication that any member of the public requested a copy of the [LP] reports during the short delays in filing."

Hall also called attention to the fact that the fines are clearly out of proportion with the alleged violations. By comparing budgets of the LP with the Republican and Democratic parties, similar violations by one of the older parties should result in a penalty in excess of \$800,000.

The FEC penalties come at a time when the LP is once again involved in ballot access drives across the country. Funds that were earmarked for ballot access purposes may have to be paid to the FEC, according to Butler. The national party is hoping to raise additional funds to offset this one-time penalty.

"The FEC is making a grab for our bank account—and has the political power to extort \$13,700 from us," wrote Butler in a fund-raising letter to national party members. "Isn't this a classic example of what the Libertarian Party is fighting against?"

Released

LP comments on national affairs in news releases

The following are excerpts from news releases recently issued by the national Libertarian Party:

The chairman of the Libertarian Party recently applauded a "courageous" Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders for suggesting that drugs should be legalized, saying, "This could be the first step towards a major reduction of crime in America."

Stephen Dasbach, the head of America's third-largest political party, said, "Instead of repudiating Elders' comments, the Clinton administration should thank her for suggesting a sensible way to end the violence caused by illegal drugs."

Dasbach said a study on the effects of drug legalization—as advocated by Elders during her talk at the National Press Club—would be an excellent first step.

"But we've already done a study on this—it was called Prohibition," he said. "When Prohibition was repealed, machine gun battles between rival bootlegging gangs vanished. Widespread corruption of policemen and judges ended. And millions of otherwise decent Americans were no longer forced to break the law."

"Alcohol prohibition was a failure. Drug prohibition is a failure. The sooner Bill Clinton follows the courageous lead of Joycelyn Elders, the sooner we can move towards a more peaceful, secure America," he said.

"Elders knows there is powerful evidence proving that crime declines and that drug use remains level after decriminalization," said Dasbach. "I'm astonished the Clinton administration denies this, or refuses to do further studies. Drug-related crime is a national crisis. How can Clinton refuse to examine any option that might make the situation better?"

"Elders is joining a long list of intelli-

gent, reputable Americans who advocate examining drug legalization," noted Dasbach. "Baltimore Mayor Kurt Schmoke, conservative commentator William F. Buckley, former Secretary of State George Schultz, and Nobel Prize winner Milton Friedman are a few of the others. This is no longer a radical idea. It's an idea whose time is coming."

Dasbach said the Libertarian Party does not endorse drug use. "But the Libertarian Party does support the relegalization of drugs to reduce crime and to end the ongoing assault on the Bill of Rights that is being caused by the War on Drugs," he said.

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

Hands off America's video games, the LP told the U.S. Senate recently.

"Doesn't the Senate have more important issues to worry about than Sonic the Hedgehog and Super Mario Brothers?" asked Stephen Dasbach, chairman of America's third-largest political party.

Dasbach was referring to the Video Game Rating Act, sponsored by Sen. Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) and Sen. Herb Kohl (D-WI), which would create a five-person federal commission, appointed by the president, to develop a uniform rating system for video and computer games.

"Censorship isn't the answer. The marketplace can deal with violent or bawdy video games more efficiently, cheaper, and with less danger to the First Amendment than a bunch of busybody senators can," said Dasbach.

As proof, Dasbach said, "The industry

leader, Nintendo, purged gratuitous sex and violence from its games years ago because they realized they could make more money that way. Sega has already started a three-tiered rating system for their games. It's clear that American parents—and the dollars they spend—have more power to positively influence video games than the U.S. Senate."

Dasbach noted that the commission created by this legislation could cost taxpayers up to \$1 million, and members would be paid \$400 per day.

"Do we need government bureaucrats earning \$400 a day to solemnly decide if Ms. Pac-Man should be rated G or PG?" he asked.

Dasbach said that regulating video games isn't the most destructive action the Senate could take this year. "But it is the silliest," he said.

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

The Clinton administration's proposal to increase gun dealer license fees is "an attack on the Second Amendment, an attack on small business, and a tax increase in disguise," charged the chairman of the Libertarian Party.

Stephen Dasbach said, "The intent of the Clinton administration is clear: They want to cripple the Second Amendment any way they can, using waiting periods, harassment of responsible gun owners, and

weapons bans. This tax increase—masquerading as a fee—is just their latest trick."

But the proposed increase—a dramatic jump to \$600 from \$10 two months ago—is a bad idea, said Dasbach.

"It won't stop crime, as Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen claims," he said. "To solve the problem of violent crime, we need to stop wasting resources on victimless crimes, and start capturing and punishing criminals who kill, rape, and steal. You don't stop crime by taxing mom-and-pop gun shops out of existence."

The proposed fee increase will also cost jobs, said Dasbach.

"Bentsen boasts that this tax increase will drive 200,000 federally licensed firearms dealers out of business," said Dasbach. "Has President Clinton already forgotten that job creation was supposedly his top priority? Instead of making it more difficult for people to start legitimate businesses, the government should make it easier by rolling back taxes, fees, and regulations."

Dasbach warned gun owners that they can't rely on Republicans to stop this tax increase in Congress.

"They sold you out on the Brady Bill, and the Republican Party will sell you out on this fee increase, too. That's why you need to help us elect Libertarians to Congress. Only the Libertarian Party is 100 percent in favor of the Second Amendment—and will fight to defend it," he said.

"Dear Taxpayer, ...

you are no longer liable for filing this tax return."

Yes, this new non-filing status is what Tax Abatement Group (TAG) clients receive from the I.R.S., Department of the Treasury. How is this possible? Meet Ken Hunter.

Armed with your Power of Attorney and three decades of deciphering the complex I.R.S.

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To receive an eye opening, 2-1/2 hour VHS video of Ken Hunter taped live July, 1993 near Boston, Mass., send \$29.00 today to:

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85 Sawyer Street, Box 1162
So. Lancaster, Mass 01561

1040	Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service	1993
U.S. Individual Income Tax Return		
For the calendar year 1993 or fiscal year beginning 1993, and ending 1993, ending	1993	OMB No. 1545-0047
Label	Your first name and initial	Last name
Your social security number		
1041	Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service	1993
U.S. Fiduciary Income Tax Return		
For the calendar year 1993 or fiscal year beginning 1993, and ending 1993, ending	1993	OMB No. 1545-0047
A. Type of entity	Name of estate or trust (greater than trust, see instructions)	C. Employer identification number
1065	Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service	1993
U.S. Partnership Return of Income		
For calendar year 1993 or tax year beginning 1993, and ending 1993, ending	1993	OMB No. 1545-0047
A. Principal business activity	Use the IRS	B. See separate instructions
1120	Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service	1993
U.S. Corporation Income Tax Return		
For calendar year 1993 or tax year beginning 1993, and ending 1993, ending	1993	OMB No. 1545-0047
A. Name of corporation	Use the IRS	B. See separate instructions
1120S	Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service	1993
U.S. Income Tax Return for an S Corporation		
For calendar year 1993 or tax year beginning 1993, and ending 1993, ending	1993	OMB No. 1545-0047
A. Name of corporation	Use the IRS	B. See separate instructions

Did you file any of these forms last year?
Would you file them again if the I.R.S. sent you a letter stating "Dear... you are no longer liable for filing this tax return."?

Enclosed is my \$29.00. Rush my package before my next filing deadline.

Name: _____
Address1: _____
Address2: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: (If we have questions regarding your order) _____

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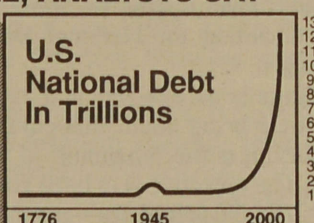
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BY DIEDRE DENNIS

Rep. Gary Condit (D-CA), no stranger to this column, has recently proposed a very positive bill. His "Federal Mandate Relief Act," HR 140, is fast gaining support from representatives of both major parties as well as numerous local and state officials. Although some, like Rep. James Moran (D-VA) claim that it is "impossible to have legislation without [unfunded mandates]," over 130 co-sponsors of HR 140 feel differently.

An unfunded federal mandate is a piece of legislation that places a legal burden on state or local governments but does not provide the funds to pay for that burden. The toll that these mandates, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act, take on our state and local governments are severe. Essential and legitimate roles of governments, like police protection, jails, and the court system, are cut to support programs that Congress does not even believe are important enough to fund federally. The federal legislative burden on the entire country spirals ever higher as the Congress signs feel-good bills that don't alter its own budgets.

This new bill, HR 140, renders unfunded federal mandates impotent and irrelevant by stating that any federal statute or regulation "shall apply . . . only if all funds necessary to pay the direct costs . . . are provided by the Federal Government."

At first glance, the bill seemed too good to have a chance. After all, HR 140 will force Congress to cut way back on its regulation and will increase pressure to make real spending choices. But it does have a chance. A good one. House co-sponsors are rushing to sign, and HR 140 has the support of state and local governments all over the country. The National Taxpayers Union has joined its voice to the call for passage. Now, I hope that members of the Libertar-



ian Party will join theirs.

The potential effects of this bill are immense. Reduced federal legislation, a return to legitimate roles for state and local governments, and less pressure to increase taxes may be just the beginning. Please write or call your representative today and find out if he or she is one of the co-sponsors of this important bill. If not, explain why HR 140 is so important to the welfare of the entire country.

Remember Rep. Michael Crapo's (R-ID) humble but positive "Make Our Cuts Count" legislation, HR 3145, introduced here in December? Well, Crapo—pronounced 'Cray-poe'—has transformed this beginning into a powerful demand for reform. The new bill, titled the "Truth in Voting Act," is a smorgasbord of good ideas.

Perhaps as you've listened to all the raving about a five-day waiting period on handguns, you've dreamily imagined such a waiting period on Congressional action. Well, Crapo's reasoning may not have followed this path, but he came to the same conclusion: Enact a five-day waiting period between the introduction of a bill and any vote on it. Although currently a three-day waiting period exists, it can be waived by a simple majority for even the most complex and serious legislation (like Clinton's budget). This bill will require a super-majority to waive the new five-day waiting period.

The Truth in Voting Act, HR 3633, also eliminates the ability of conference com-

mittees to rewrite legislation passed in the House and Senate. You see, when the Senate and House each pass a bill, a committee made up of members of both legislative bodies works out the differences between the two versions. The result of this work is the final legislation. Unfortunately, these committees often introduce entirely new material, not discussed in the House or Senate, that becomes law. HR 3633 requires conference committees to stay within the scope and spending levels of the original legislation.

The above mentioned aspects of the bill are but a sampling! HR 3633 also:

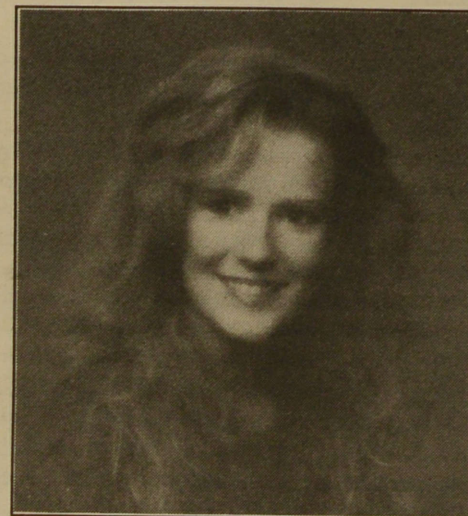
- Ends the "King of the Hill" rule that allows legislators to vote 'yes' on a series of bills, knowing that only the last will be enacted;
- Applies money saved through spending cuts directly to deficit reduction instead of new pet projects;
- Eliminates the automatic yearly percentage increases in spending;
- Applies the Freedom of Information Act to Congress;
- Mandates open committee meetings;
- And, requires any bill to include a cost impact study on not only the federal treasury and state and local governments, but also on the private sector. The unseen layoffs that result from regulation will come vividly and unavoidably to life for representatives and their constituents.

But wait! There's more! However, I can't fit it all in. So, if you want to learn more about this wonderful bill, contact your representative and ask about it.

Ask. Ask. Ask. Ask for information. Ask whether he or she has co-sponsored HR 3633. Ask why not? If the representative claims ignorance of the bill, enlighten him or her for the good of your country.

Ask. Persist.

Finally, Sen. Paul Coverdell's (R-GA) postal monopoly legislation has caught



Diedre Dennis

national attention. Introduced here last month, his proposal ends the U.S. Postal Service's practice of fining Federal Express, UPS, and Airborne customers for sending "non-urgent" mail through private overnight companies. As Coverdell's office jokes, "They Deliver For You . . . Or Else!"

Despite the introduction of S 1541, the USPS has persisted in the practice. Coverdell's Jan. 10 letter to Postal Service CEO, Marvin Runyon, asking under what authority he is conducting these audits remains unanswered. The battle is heating up and attention has been focused on the USPS practices.

Keep in touch with your senators on this issue. Find out where they stand and when they plan to co-sponsor the bill. If you live in Sen. John Glenn's (D-OH) district or Sen. Bill Roth's (R-DE) district, your input will carry special significance. Glenn and Roth are the leaders of the governmental affairs committee that is reviewing the bill. Encourage them to bring the bill out of committee and onto the floor.

Good Luck!

Resolution

Group calls for commission to revise current drug laws

BY ERIC N. HARLOW

Joycelyn Elders, the U.S. Surgeon General, opened the door for a commission to study the drug laws. This commission would be able to focus on the failures of prohibition—a public debate insures this. Now is our chance for Libertarians and liberty lovers everywhere to jump right in the middle of the effort to have Congress and the president empower this commission.

We are a public divided, disenchanted, and suspicious of the War on Drugs. We see it creating more problems than it solves—more use and more violence than it stops.

This war is seen as unwinnable and as a creator of vast amounts of crime, violence, and corruption. It is our disease. Over 60 percent of violent crime is committed because drugs are prohibited (illegal). Over 50 percent of prison space is occupied by

non-violent drug offenders. Over \$75 billion a year is wasted in the finding, trying, incarcerating, and then the probationing of non-violent drug offenders. Today there are 750,000 such offenders in our jails and prisons. Some call them our "Chemical Prisoners of War," whose numbers are expected to soar to 1.5 million by the end of the year 2001.

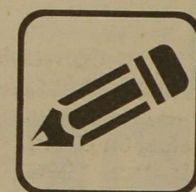
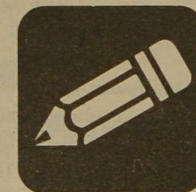
We lovers of liberty must lead the way out of this madness. We must realize that the authoritarians in this world are willing to take away our rights to solve the drug problem. It is a shame that they do not know that in the end, with their "solution," we will still have drugs but no liberty. This war is about control over your minds, your bodies, and your property. This is the choice—liberty with drugs or drugs with no liberty.

The solution to our present situation goes back to the idea of a commission to study the drug laws and recommend revisions to reduce the harm the present policies are causing.

A resolution for such a commission was started by prominent Americans in 1993. Since that time, over 2,000 other prominent Americans, including mayors and police chiefs, have added their signatures to the resolution.

The "Resolution for Peace" was created at the Hoover Institute in Stanford, CA, by the Coalition for National Drug Policy Change.

There is an effective and easy way we can help bring about this commission of inquiry. It is the "chaining" of the resolution. The objective is to have your friends, relatives, and neighbors—and their friends, relatives, and neighbors—sign a copy of the resolution once a month until the commission is called, and send the resolutions to the president and your congresspeople. These resolutions are doses of courage, give them enough.



Please do your part and bring peace to America. Start a "chain" Resolution for Peace on your block, at your club, at your office today.

For a copy of the Resolution for Peace—which appeared in the Sept. 1993 NEWS—or more information, write Save Our Liberties, 187 Acalanes Dr., #14, Sunnyvale, CA 94086-5520, or call 415-964-3655.

Eric Harlow is the activities chair of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara (CA) County.

Letters

Readers on convention plans, ratings, and more

Hamilton

Vin Suprynowicz's article on the pro-FIJA protest (Feb. 1994 NEWS) credited Alexander Hamilton with serving as the defense attorney in the celebrated Zenger case. Alexander Hamilton was a man of many talents, but I suspect that to participate in a trial in 1735 when he himself was not born until 1757 would have taxed even his ingenuity. The actual defense attorney in the case was Andrew Hamilton, no relation to Alexander.

Roderick T. Long
Assistant Professor
Chapel Hill, NC

Matching Funds

In the January 1994 Letters, Dan Karlan stated that "accepting matching funds is most emphatically NOT taking money from the government - it is taking money BACK" and that acceptance of matching funds "is an application of" fundamental libertarian principles.

I would agree with that only if the people "taking back" the money were taking back only their own. If they are taking back theirs plus someone else's money then they are participating in one of the many redistribution schemes administered by Washington.

Mr. Karlan sounds like a bureaucrat rather than a libertarian. I've heard far too many use that same logic in justifying feeding at the public trough. Shame, Mr. Karlan.

Doug Wansley
Atlanta, Ga.

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

The moral use of an oppressive government's money is to destroy that oppressive government. Every year we fail to accept matching funds is a year when thousands of innocent people will waste in prison. A year where thousands more will be killed or maimed in the drug war. Millions will go without hearing our message because we cannot afford to send it. The more money we spend, the more people we bring in. The more people we bring in, the more money we have to spend. It's a big multiplier effect. I'll donate ten times as much to candidates who accept funds!

Sean Worthington
Chico, CA

Convention concerns

I am writing to express my concern over the Libertarian National Committee's selection of Washington, DC, as the site for the 1996 Libertarian National Convention. Aside from the fact that this decision was made without consultation with local LP leaders or activists, the selection of Washington is inappropriate for several reasons.

First, the July 4 weekend is crowded with tourists. Delegates and others who make last-minute travel plans may have difficulty getting rooms or flights at a reasonable rate.

Second, unlike Dallas—which most of us assumed was the likely site of the 1996 convention—Washington is not the "hub" for any airline. There are many flights into and out of National Airport, but they lack the convenience provided by centrally-

located cities like Chicago, St. Louis, Memphis, Dallas, or even Atlanta.

Third, although one ostensible reason for selecting Washington is that the LP will be able to get long-desired media attention, this is a pipe dream. As a public-relations professional working "inside the Beltway," I know from experience that summertime in Washington is about the worst time to get any attention from the print and broadcast media. During the 4th of July holiday weekend, one would be lucky to find any important journalist in Washington—most reporters and producers are in the mountains or at the beach, many in Martha's Vineyard consorting with the power brokers.

Moreover, it is a simple fact that (non-power) politics in Washington is *not news*—an LP convention in DC will simply fade into the background like so much white noise. This would not be the case in any other large- or medium-sized media market.

Fourth, despite the valiant efforts of a handful of local LP activists, there is no local party to speak of in DC. Where will the volunteers for a host committee come from? Indeed, where will the host committee come from?

I am sorry that I have to raise these objections after the decision has already been made. I can, however, assure the LNC that had I or any other Northern Virginia LP activist been consulted before the fact, they would have been told exactly what I have said here.

Richard E. Sincere, Jr.
Vice Chairman, LP of Virginia
Fairfax, VA

Ratings

Maybe I'm just stubborn. Don Ernsberger's ratings of the six "scarce" libertarians on Capitol Hill (Jan. 1994 NEWS) left me scratching my head, wondering how lawmakers with only a 60 percent rating on personal freedom can be considered libertarian. Even 70 percent strikes me as pretty bad.

If 60 percent is the low-end rating on personal freedom among the six lawmakers we're supposed to love, does this mean that the ratings on personal freedom for the rest of the members of the House and Senate are all below 60 percent? Scary!

We libertarians need to make it absolutely clear that personal freedom is just as important to us as economic freedom. Otherwise, we will never win over the number of ACLU-style Democrats and liberty-hungry Independents we need to end our status as a "fringe" party.

Personal freedom is, in fact, what we should stress the most. . . It is really the only kind, if you think about it, since personal freedom includes economic freedom.

On any account, the bottom line is freedom, freedom in every area of our lives. Nothing works without it.

Joanna Parker
Ocean Shores, WA
◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

I was a strong supporter of Sen. Hank Brown (R-CO) when he first thought of running for office. I was pleased with the



Staying in touch

Letters to the editor

way he voted—until Nov. 17, 1993, when the U.S. Senate voted to add the Feinstein amendment to the Crime Bill (S-1607). Sen. Brown and our other Colorado senator, Ben Campbell (D-CO), both voted in favor of the amendment.

Sen. Brown had previously voted against gun control. His vote for the Feinstein amendment completely destroyed my confidence in him, and I think such a vote should not qualify him for any good publicity with the Libertarian Party (Jan. 1994 NEWS). I think these ratings are confusing, as is obvious from the Brown case, and do not rate front page coverage.

I am hopeful that you will look into Sen. Brown's vote for the Feinstein amendment and publish some kind of retraction of the good rating given him. I, for one, will vote against him, no matter who his opposition is.

Philip C. Freytag
Canon City, CO

No merger

I don't doubt that many Natural Law Party (NLP) members share some of our Libertarian beliefs (Feb. 1994 NEWS). However, I am strongly opposed to any efforts to merge our two parties. The NLP carries with it questionable baggage of an allegedly scientific nature. For example, Dr. John Hagelin was billed as the discoverer of unified field theory during his 1992 presidential campaign. This unified field theory was built around transcendental meditation and new age thought, not the science of physics. The NLP has proposed to stop crime through government programs that encourage transcendental meditation, not just for the good of the meditator, but for those around him who will be positively affected by the good vibrations. In a merger of the two parties, will we have to swallow these ideas, in whole or in part? They have nothing to do with freedom at all, but form an essential core of NLP thought and purpose.

We Libertarians are shedding our image as kooks with each electoral victory. I fear we endanger our image in the eyes of the press and the public by entertaining ideas of merging with the NLP. By all means, let's cooperate in ballot access and share ideas for mutually-beneficial projects; however, let's not throw away all we've built in an ill-conceived merger.

Brian Schar
Huntington Beach, CA

Weld report

The Massachusetts affiliate report about Gov. William Weld flip-flopping on gun control (Feb. 1994 NEWS) was adapted

from a press release for public consumption. Its goal was to portray libertarians as an attractive association of fair minded people. Good enough.

However, readers of the NEWS might be left with a wrong impression about our governor. Make no mistake, Weld is by no means a borderline libertarian with some silly quirk about gun ownership. Weld is a Plundercrat through and through. Take a look at the facts:

Weld has named a state drug czar to fight the war on drugs.

Weld has the annoying habit of creating ever increasing budgets—billions bigger than any Mike Dukakis ever signed.

A Weld budget that included a 13 percent pay raise for state employees was called "gluttonous" by the *liberal* media.

Voters approved a gas tax dedicated to road repairs. Weld successfully challenged the earmarking portion of the new tax in court and then spent the money elsewhere.

Weld added \$3.5 million in the 1994 budget to fund public art.

Weld has doubled spending to a whopping \$500 million to purchase land for state parks and "open spaces."

After flip-flopping on privatizing state convention centers, Weld has led the fight to build a new \$2.2 billion state owned megaplex convention/sports center.

Weld pushed through a crime package that gave police new powers to wire tap.

Nothing has changed since Weld took office. Taxachusetts is still heading in the wrong direction. Sure, things could be worse with a Democrat in office. But how much worse?

Jeffrey Chase
Boston, MA

[Ed. Note: Chase included 12 more examples of Weld's non-libertarian actions that we didn't have room to print.]

Petitioning

Regarding the article "No free speech in San Diego" (Jan. 1994 NEWS):

Petitioning 50 feet from a polling place, I was pushed by a burly poll watcher who said I had to be over 200 feet away. I raised my fists and tucked my chin, to defend myself; onlookers separated us.

see **Letters** on page 16

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Letters

continued from page 15

The judge ruled in favor of the 200 foot rule.

If we have to be 200 feet away, petitioners will be unable to reach voters who will by then have dispersed in various directions.

Petitioning at the county administration building for a law to require a referendum before our county can increase spending, I was threatened with arrest. I took [a friend] with a video camera and a local newspaper reporter [back] with me. No one bothered me.

The U.S. Constitution affirms our right to petition, but if we let police and others limit the places we can petition, that right will be vitiated. Think about it: We can't petition on the streets, we'd be killed by cars. Many won't let us petition on private property. Governments try to stop or inhibit our petitioning on public property. Where can we petition? We have to fight to retain our rights.

Richard Winchell
Columbia, SC

Dr. Blake

I am writing to congratulate Dr. Blake on his "stomping victory" to Birmingham's city council. We need more like him. I was encouraged by much of what he said (Dec. 1993 NEWS).

There is little question in my mind that Libertarian policy on the economy, health care, and education is superior to those of other parties. To get America moving again we must enact legislation along these lines. For these issues are undoubtedly the most important facing the nation today. They are also policies that if properly articulated and presented would draw significant support from the electorate.

We stifle our own success, however, by our strong stance on issues that are not of immediate or great importance to the future of our nation—prostitution, for example. Or the legalization of drugs. Not to mention the opening of our borders to all comers. The purpose of this letter is not to argue the moral merits of these policies, but rather to establish that they are currently policies that are un-electable.

I feel we must re-work our party platform to emphasize our commitment to reducing taxes, to sound economics, to reducing bureaucracy, and to more efficient health care. We must minimize our stand on un-electable issues. There will be time enough to come back to these after we have won the more pressing battles.

Some might argue that I am not a true Libertarian or that I am seeking to sell out the party. This is not so. Rather I am a man not only of conviction, but also of common sense. I would rather see some important Libertarian policy acted upon with strong results for all Americans, than to see none acted upon at all.

Garth Buckner
New York, NY

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Some comments made by Dr. Jimmy Blake (Dec. 1993 NEWS) were very disturbing to me. Specifically, he said that the LP platform planks favoring decriminalizing paid sex between consenting adults and the use of non-

prescribed substances were "crap."

I thought Libertarianism included a philosophy of individual liberty and privacy and upheld the right to practice any conduct that has no victim other than, as Hayek put it, "the voluntary adult actors." This is the main difference between Libertarians and Republicans. Real Libertarians will not legislate other peoples' sex lives or tell them what they can inhale!

I hope Dr. Blake doesn't seriously approve of the continued use of the criminal law as a tool of social engineering and/or "religious" evangelism. I hope he will support peoples' rights to make love as they choose and to use whatever medical or non-medical substances they desire.

Freedom from government coercion in matters of sexual habits and drug use is not "crap"; rather, it is a sacred, inalienable right, one I sincerely hope Dr. Blake will uphold and protect to the best of his ability.

Denise Ehrlichman
Tucson, AZ

Pledge

Two letters to the editor (Jan. 1994 NEWS) demonstrate the need for the membership pledge advocated by Christopher Faille (Nov. 1993 NEWS).

Ian Goddard's objection that he should not be liable for breaking the wallet thief's leg means that he could cause greater harm in the name of fighting a smaller harm. He would justify shooting a child for stealing your candy. Faille's new pledge would simply call for restitution of all harm done by everyone, and avoids the mess of having to determine who "initiated" what.

Apparently, the present pledge can be used to accept matching funds, as Dan Karlan argues—which again Faille's new pledge would not allow. If we were to take the funds we would beat out the Republicans and Democrats in hypocrisy!

Hans G. Schroeder
Forest Grove, PA

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

Ian Goddard (Jan. 1994 NEWS) missed Christopher Faille's point. Most people have no problem with the concept of initiation of force, having been taught it at an early age, but only with the words. Faille thinks, and may be right, that more people will recognize the concept if it's labeled as "liability."

Faille, Fred Cookinham, and probably many others seem to be of the opinion that as long as we, the initiates, understand a statement, that's sufficient. Code language is exploited by politicians to hide their ideas from some voters while conveying them to others. Probably at some point we should do so (to fool our enemies, who are mostly dumber than us), but not in the present context.

Robert Goodman
Bronx, NY

Taxes

Bill Williford (Oct. 1993 NEWS) misunderstands "the law" and what I say about it—but in this he has plenty of company.

I never for a moment suggest that "there are no laws that empower the government to levy taxes," even income taxes. All my books acknowledge that the Constitution gives the government the power to "lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises" and that a number of mandatory taxes (such as alcohol and tobacco taxes) are validity imposed in the Internal Revenue Code. However, my books also

explain how the Constitution limits that taxing power in ways few Americans know or understand. Indirect taxes (duties, imposts, and excises) must be imposed on the basis of geographic uniformity, while direct taxes must be imposed on the basis of state by state apportionment. And all federal taxes must be imposed on one basis or the other. However, the income tax is not imposed pursuant to the requirements of either class, and so can not be made mandatory on this basis alone.

The 16th Amendment was passed to circumvent the Supreme Court's 1895 *Pollach* decision, which held the income tax of 1894 unconstitutional for want of apportionment. However, the Supreme Court, in its bed rock decision on the federal income tax, *Brushaber v. Union Pacific*, 240 US 1, held that the 16th Amendment: 1) did not amend the Constitution; 2) gave the government no new taxing power; and 3) merely established the income tax as an excise tax. However, since the income tax is not imposed as an excise tax, it is imposed in defiance of the amendment.

In addition, the 16th Amendment only presumes to tax "income," without apportionment—and not anything else, such as: wages, dividends, alimony, interest, etc. So what constitutes the "income" that the 16th Amendment addresses? The word is not defined anywhere in the Internal Revenue Code (see *U.S. v. Ballard*, 535 F. 2nd 400)? And it does not mean what the IRS and/or your accountant tells you it means. The Supreme Court said it means corporate profits (see *Merchant's Loan & Trust Co. v. Smietanka*, 255 U.S. 509). So the alleged "income" tax is, in reality, a "profits" tax—which is another reason why it has not been made mandatory.

What a totally corrupt federal government has done (with the help of a totally corrupt federal judiciary) is to use the enforcement provisions of the Code that only apply to certain mandatory taxes (such as alcohol and tobacco) to illegally extort "income" taxes from a thoroughly uninformed and intimidated American public.

Irwin Schiff
New York, NY

Health care monopoly

The Sherman Anti-trust Act states: "Every contract... or conspiracy in restraint of trade or commerce... is hereby declared to be illegal. Every person who shall make any such contract... or conspiracy shall be deemed guilty. Every person who shall monopolize, or attempt to monopolize... or conspire with any other... to monopolize any part of trade or commerce... shall be deemed guilty. Every contract, combination in form of trust or otherwise, or conspiracy in restraint of trade or commerce... is hereby declared illegal."

The Clinton health plan, as written, violates the Sherman Anti-trust Act and the Clayton Anti-trust Acts. My lawyer friends tell me that we cannot sue the government without its permission. But we can sue Hillary Rodham Clinton, the Energizer Bunny of first spouses. Since Jan. 1993, Hillary has been using her unique position as first spouse to do things that her husband cannot do. Her 500 member Health Care Reform Commission and its ability to work in secrecy is a prime example.

Therefore, the LP should form a legal

class and bring suit against Hillary Rodham Clinton for violations of the Sherman Anti-trust, Clayton Anti-trust, and other pertinent acts. She is guilty as Hell! We should be able to enroll millions in the suit. Think of the publicity, the joyous noise, and the wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Colin Wilkinson
Hamel, MN

Polling

Twice in the last 18 months I have been surveyed on behalf of candidates in Missouri. Invariably the pollster would inquire about my political party and would offer one of three choices: Democrat, Republican, or Independent. I have argued that I am a Libertarian and a committeeman (which is an official position in this state) which means I cannot be anything else. They always apologize and list me as an Independent.

I have decided I will begin polling the voters in my district, since I am running in 1994.

I need to hear from any Libertarians who may have tried polling their districts. I need to know what questions or issues were hot and what methods succeeded or failed.

Responses should be faxed to 314-344-3323 or mailed to the Committee to Elect Dean S. Hodge, P.O. Box 3038, Bridgeton, MO 63044-0538.

Dean S. Hodge
Bridgeton, MO

Mascot

Unlike the two other major political parties, the LP lacks a symbolic mascot. True, we have the Statue of Liberty, but she has been co-opted so frequently that she is not an effective symbol.

To that end, I hereby propose the penguin, for the following reasons: 1) Penguins are popular; 2) penguins are perceived as personable, polite, and pragmatic; 3) penguins are principled—their plumage presents no compromise, no shades of grey; 4) perhaps penguins are perceived by some as pompous, yet penguins are capable of caprice and precipitous whimsy—a penguin at play is a picture of freedom; and 5) politics is not particularly pretty, but penguins are.

People are praying for a political party that—perverse, perhaps, as it appears—prefers to emulate the playful penguin rather than the elitist elephant or the duplicitous donkey. The polity is primed for the appearance of the Libertarian penguin upon the political proscenium.

In closing, then:

*It is only appropriate to propose
The Penguin—it needs no clothes!*

W. Luther Jett
Washington Grove, MD

Letters policy and address

The NEWS welcomes letters to the editor. Please keep your letters short, under 250 words, and to the point. You can send your letters to: NEWS, P.O. Box 3391, Gainesville, GA 30503, or fax to 404-287-0800, or e-mail to CompuServe at 71610,3614.

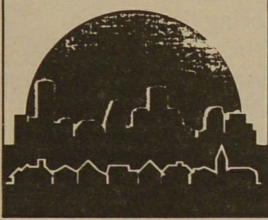
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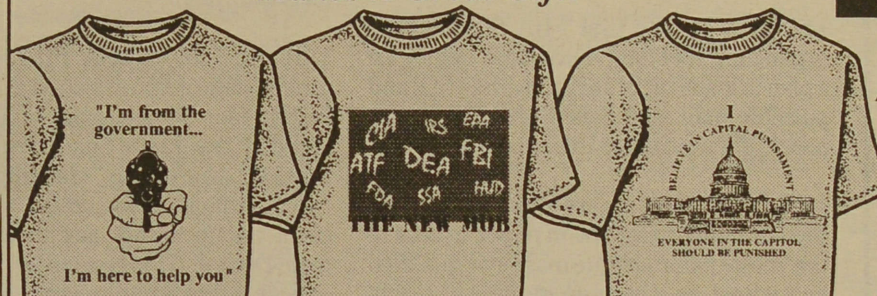


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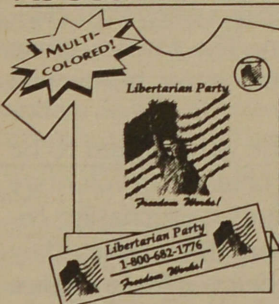
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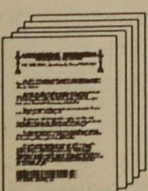
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Informed

Chronology of FIJA events in Waco trial

The following is a chronology of events relating to the Fully Informed Jury Association's (FIJA) attempts to "fully inform" members of the jury hearing the case of the surviving Branch Davidians in San Antonio, TX. Related stories appear on page 1 and 19. For more information on FIJA, call 800-TEL-JURY.

11/21/93: At the first FIJA San Antonio organizing meeting, discussion begins on a plan to leaflet at Branch Davidian trial and possibly mail materials to the jury venire panel, if it's available to the public.

12/5/93: Volunteers are found to research the law concerning lawful public access to the venire panel and the master or qualified jury wheel, as a back-up method of reaching jurors with FIJA information. (The law makes it clear that the judge can order that the names on the venire panel for a particular trial can be withheld from the public until well after the trial is over.)

12/6/93: Judge Smith issues sua sponte order for an anonymous jury, allegedly to protect the "privacy, integrity, and security of the jurors" from members of the public who "have expressed highly emotional reactions and attitudes toward the government agents and the Defendants."

12/10/93: FIJA volunteers make attempt to obtain the master jury wheel for the Western District of Texas, San Antonio Division, and are told by the clerk of the court that they can expect a call back "next week, when things are less busy," but the call never comes.

12/14-27/93: Some Branch Davidian defendants file objections to Judge Smith's order for an anonymous jury, claiming it will make them appear dangerous and therefore have an adverse effect on the attitude of the jurors.

12/30/93: Judge Smith issues Memorandum Opinion and Order overruling defendants' objections to anonymous jury, now citing as his reason protection from "an organization [presumably FIJA] which plans to attempt to hand out leaflets to potential jurors about how they should ignore the law and vote their conscience." In the same paragraph he states, "The Court is not as concerned about the possibility of the Defendants or their associates threatening jury members."

1/3/94: A volunteer attempts to get master jury wheel list from the district court clerk, but is flatly refused and told the judge's order for anonymity "covers the entire wheel," not just the venire panel for the Davidians' trial.

1/7/94: Libertarian Party member and FIJA national field representative Larry Dodge arrives in San Antonio and attempts to get master jury wheel. He is told Judge Smith's order for jury anonymity extends to the "entire wheel." Dodge argues the law with the clerk and is told he will have to file a motion with the judge.

1/9/94: Libertarian Party member Jay Manifold holds a party at the Marriott Hotel in San Antonio. Manifold and Dodge have sent out invitations by mail and on Internet; about 50-60 people attend. Dodge discusses with several attendees, who expect to demonstrate at the courthouse, plans to file motions, written with the help of a local attorney.

1/10/94: Libertarians, FIJA activists, and others stage demonstration at courthouse. Dodge files all necessary motions as provided by law. Judge Smith denies the "Motion for Leave of File," claiming Dodge has "no standing" in his court. Judge orders clerk not to accept any further motions from Dodge. (Dodge says he did not really expect Judge Smith to grant his motion to reconsider, but he had hoped that Smith would acknowledge to him—and instruct the clerk—that federal law indeed allows public access to the entire Master Jury Wheel, by anyone at any time.)

1/11/94: Dodge issues news release blasting the fact that not only were his motions and his standing denied, but that the judge had alleged—apparently without looking—that FIJA literature tells jurors how they "should" vote, which it does not do. With volunteers, FIJA then obtains the names of the venire panel by unofficial means (activists who, without instruction to do so, followed jury bus to its destination parking lot and copied license plate numbers of venire

panel). Volunteers then obtained names of registered owners of vehicles and mailed to each of them a FIJA educational materials—"Jury Power Information Kit," with a "Lone Star FIJA Jury Service Fact Sheet" brochure enclosed. No mention of the Davidian trial or how anyone "should" vote on any verdict is made in any of these materials.

1/14/94: Judge Smith warns the jurors at the close of court that if they "receive materials in the mail" they are not to open them, but instead must bring them to him. FIJA activists in court that day assume that at least one juror must have reported receiving his or her FIJA mailing to the judge.

1/18/94: Judge Smith questions jurors about materials they have received, confiscates materials from five jurors, and asks if any of them has been influenced by these materials. No one answers "yes," so Smith decides not to declare a mistrial. He warns jurors that other materials may arrive—and to ignore them as well. He then tells the jury, "By federal law, anyone can get the names of the entire master jury wheel," and that "if this national organization [obviously FIJA, but not identified by name] has the money to mail to all of the names on the wheel, it has the right to do so and no one can stop it." Just eight days earlier, "stop it" is "exactly what he did, with full knowledge that he was in violation of federal law," said Dodge.

Quote of the Month

The following quote is from an article by Canadian attorney/columnist Karen Selick. It was printed in the Dec. 1993/Jan. 1994 Canadian Lawyer magazine:

"The increasing polarization in our society stems not from sexual, racial, or other physical differences, but from ideological ones. The opposing camps are not male versus female, white versus black, straight versus gay, able-bodies versus disabled. They are individualist versus collectivist, capitalist versus socialist, libertarian versus authoritarian. The former camp believes in individual freedom and responsibility; the latter believes in coercion and central control. . .

In a capitalist, individualist, libertarian society, those who wished to be socialistic could band together and do just that. They could form voluntary mutual aid societies, workplace co-ops, residential co-ops, purchasing co-ops, or full-blown communes, religious or secular. Among themselves, they could choose to equalize their incomes, redistribute their wealth, subsidize childbearing, adopt sexual or racial quotas in their business premises, ban dirty jokes and light switchplates, and so on. Capitalists would not stop them, because capitalists recognize that freedom includes the right to dispose of your energy and your property as you see fit, no matter how self-destructively that may turn out to be in some instances.

The reverse does not apply. In a collectivist society, capitalists are never permitted to opt out and deal with like-minded capitalists without interference. The collectivists insist that everyone pay for collectivist social programs, even if they don't use them. Transactions of certain kinds of goods and services are forbidden, even among consenting adults. Everyone has to participate in the quotas, the price-fixing, the regimentation, like it or not.

Submitted by Daniel F. Walker of Tallahassee, FL

Questions and answers

continued from page 1

perish with the bulk of his followers.

Yet America's "right to know" why these 10 men and one woman are facing conspiracy-to-murder charges for defending their home against an armed assault—even providing any can be shown to have taken up arms—while no government official has been indicted despite Justice Department findings that ATF agents leading the raid doctored documents and lied to their superiors, is surely more important in the long run than our idle curiosity about Mr. Bobbitt's penis. (Reattached, it is now functional for urination, though doctors say it may be two years before they can tell whether full sexual function has been restored—OK?)

Most Americans grew up believing military equipment and tactics could never be used to police minor legal infractions on American soil. Yet both the initial ATF raid, and the CS nerve gas (not tear gas) assault with modified M1 battle tanks that ended in the fiery conflagration 51 days later, had all the trappings of military assaults, when the only alleged violation of law was a possible failure to pay a license fee of a few hundred dollars to manufacture automatic weapons. (Texas authorities had already found "no cause" to pursue child abuse allegations, and the ATF has no charter to enforce either that law or the Texas bigamy statute.)

Of even more concern is the fact that federal Judge Walter Smith in San Antonio appears reluctant to enforce subpoenas on former ATF chief Stephen Higgins and other high-ranking officials, since he is "reluctant to put the government's tactics on trial."

This is disturbing because a federal judge is intended to belong to different and *competing* branch of government from an executive agency like the ATF. It is precisely the job of his court to look into and expose executive "tactics" that resulted in the largest massacre of civilians in American history (always excluding such heroic "battles" as Tippecanoe and Wounded Knee), including undeniably innocent women and children. Once such a judge takes it upon himself to limit the defense that the Waco 11 can present in order to spare "the government" embarrassment and inconvenience, we are dangerously close to the "consolidated" government that the Founders feared, and the kind of kangaroo proceeding familiar from less free societies, wherein jurors are given no leeway to learn what really went on in any meaningful context.

Judge Smith should err on the side of admitting all information of even tangential relevance, and allow the defense to subpoena anyone who had even the remotest connection to the government's actions, up to and including William Jefferson Clinton. The jury can then decide for themselves what is relevant.

Let the defense call 77-year-old survivor Catherine Matteson to see if she will repeat under oath her account of seeing and hearing government helicopters open fire on church leader David Koresh's room—a prominent fourth-story tower and the highest point in the area—before the gunfire began at the front of the building Feb. 28—before any warrant could have been announced.

Koresh attorney Dick DeGuerin should

be called to see if he will repeat under oath statements he made at September's Soldier of Fortune convention, that he "counted eight or nine bullet holes in the ceiling" of Koresh's room, "holes from bullets coming in that had to be bullets from helicopters. I saw blood where people died shot from helicopters."

The government should explain why an ATF agent "went ballistic," in DeGuerin's words, when a neighboring gunsmith called Koresh in the presence of the agent and conveyed Koresh's invitation for the ATF to "come on out" for a look at his weapons. "We don't want to do it that way," the agent reportedly shouted.

ATF officials should be asked under oath why Koresh was not arrested or served his warrant at the nearby Chelsea Pub or the corner Exxon station, each of which we now know he visited while the massive ATF force was in town planning their raid. Was it because ATF chief Higgins had been warned he would soon lose his SWAT team if he did not justify its existence to congressional bean-counters, as DeGuerin alleges?

Was a Florida firearms dealer with knowledge of Koresh's gun purchases placed in ATF protective custody and told not to speak to the press or the FBI as DeGuerin says?

Why did the raid proceed after under-

cover agent Robert Rodriguez, found out by Koresh, left the church 40 minutes beforehand, tripping his car alarm four times in a prearranged signal and further warning ATF supervisors orally that "They know we're coming"?

("Even the doughnut lady who served refreshments to the agents knew the element of surprise had been lost," reports Ronald K. Noble, Lloyd Bentsen's assistant Treasury secretary for enforcement.)

And since a previous Koresh arrest on the far more serious charge of attempted murder had been handled peaceably when the local sheriff simply telephoned Koresh to say he was coming out with a warrant, to which Koresh responded by welcoming him and turning over his arsenal without hesitation (it was later returned after he was exonerated), why were local law enforcement agents whom Koresh knew and trusted not used again?

Why did the FBI turn down offers of independent negotiators, like the ones who brought the standoff at Ruby Mountain, ID, to a peaceful end?

Since it was the FBI that shut off the Mt. Carmel church's utilities, and since they knew church members then switched to highly-flammable kerosene lanterns and space heaters, why was the final grenade attack launched on an unusually windy day, and why were no fire engines posted

nearby? Why was the press moved so far away?

And how could sanitary concerns resulting from the water shutoff justify the high-risk final raid, as Janet Reno has claimed, when the FBI had it in their power to restore water service at any time?

Why were the ruins bulldozed so soon after the fire, destroying their forensic value? And finally, whatever happened to the promised congressional inquiry? Surely no one believes that self-serving reports by the very executive agencies involved will ever put this matter to rest.

The function of the courts in a free society is not to railroad surviving victims by limiting the questions to which the jury can get answers, but precisely to serve as a public forum for airing all the facts under the proper safeguards of sworn testimony and cross-examination. That is Judge Smith's real job, not protecting the "dignity" of a second-rate hit squad like the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms.

Vin Supryniewicz is the assistant editorial page editor of the Las Vegas Review-Journal. His column appears regularly in daily newspapers of the Freedom chain in Texas, California, and North Carolina. Hometown editors wishing to subscribe to his twice-a-week column should write Mountain Media, P.O. Box 4422, Las Vegas, NV 89127, or call direct at 702-383-0276.

Eyewitness

Demonstrator describes day of protest

By LARRY NICKERSON

It was a cool Texas day on Jan. 9, 1994, a good day to demonstrate in San Antonio.

The night before we had participated in an animated meeting with some 50 or 60 others at a downtown hotel. Now we walked in the cool morning breeze with our messages held high for the morning rush hour traffic and the video cameras that represented an alphabet of news organizations.

We were there at the downtown federal courthouse along with a law enforcement palace guard of all brands. Like them, we were there to see that justice was done in the trial of 11 Branch Davidians. Unlike many of them, we knew that a sleight of hand was being used by the federal government to stage an abortion of justice. We were supporters of the Fully Informed Jury Association (FIJA), although we came from such diverse groups as the Libertarian Party, abortion rightists, pro-lifers, atheists, devout believers, a genuine crackpot, and other unidentifiables.

We hit them in the eyes with "Is your church ATF approved?", "The jury can nullify bad laws," "Government coverup," and "Stop jury tampering by judges."

We saw some scowls and headshakes, but then we saw many thumbs up and approving nods. Sometimes the thumbs up would be accompanied with a vigorous tooting of horns. We gave out FIJA pamphlets to all takers, and sometimes we were drawn into discussions by interested passersby.

I was at the entrance to the federal court-



house parking lot when the two chartered jury buses arrived. I was three feet away as they slowly rounded the corner, and I saw many of the prospective jurors reading my sign. They were then whisked into a closed courtroom where only a handful of reporters stood between our American heritage and a throwback to the days of the Star Chamber.

News reporters were tripping over themselves, and their frustrations with the special government restrictions were obvious. Soon they were interviewing some demonstrators and rolling local and national news footage of the demonstration.

Pandemonium broke out as a relative of a Branch Davidian member was turned away from the courthouse. Later more were turned away, including Darren Borst, whose mother was one of the slain Branch Davidians. He spoke of the horror he felt as he saw the tragedy on television. He also spoke about a wrongful death suit that he has filed against the government.

A woman named Frances began talking

about going into the courtroom to observe jury selection, and she inquired if anyone was willing to participate in some civil disobedience. There were not many takers since most of us felt we were doing a good job of getting the message out with relatively little interference from authorities. Later I heard that Frances Sommers had indeed been arrested.

Later as our small Tarrant County contingent drove back home, we talked with pride of what we had done to help freedom ring. This was something I had never done before. Someday I hope to tell my grandchildren about how I helped make history when I chose a good day to demonstrate on the streets of San Antonio.

Larry Nickerson, 50, is a Libertarian Party member and computer programmer living in Fort Worth, TX.

One week after his first demonstration, Nickerson participated in another demonstration with Libertarians and FIJA activists—this time in Dallas during a visit by U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno.

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

March 11-13, 1994:

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

March 19-20, 1994:

Nevada LP Convention, Continental Hotel/Casino, 4100 Paradise Rd., Las Vegas; for more information call 702-482-5604. Speakers include Cheryl Godfrey.

March 26, 1994:

Georgia LP Convention, Cobb-Galleria Center (US 41/I-285), Atlanta; for more information call 404-888-9468. Speakers include Carole Ann Rand.

April 16, 1994:

Kansas LP Convention, Topeka; for more information call Dale Wilson at 800-762-6822. Speakers include Richard Boddie.

April 16, 1994:

Indiana LP Convention, Holiday Inn at the Airport, Indianapolis; for more information call Barbara Bourland at 317-463-6601 (h) or Steve Dillon at 317-923-9395 (o).

April 16, 1994:

New Mexico LP Convention, Santa Fe; for more information call Mary Warner at 505-471-6928.

April 16-17, 1994:

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

April 17, 1994:

First New Mexico Hemp Rally, Santa Fe; for more information call Cinco Mandeville at 505-835-3205.

April 22-24, 1994:

Illinois LP Convention, Quality Hotel Woodfield, Palatine; for more information call 708-776-8090.

April 23-24, 1994:

New York State LP Convention, Ramada Inn, Albany; for more information call 518-439-4612.

More upcoming events

April 29-May 1, 1994:

Liberty Campaign Workshop, Best Western, Harrisburg, PA; for information write Dan Karlan, 97-A Manhattan Ave., Waldwick, NJ 07463.

May 7-8, 1994:

Alabama LP Convention, Montgomery; for more information call 205-265-1770 or 800-207-1770 or write P.O. Box 210939, Montgomery, AL 36121. Speakers include Jacob Hornberger and Birmingham City Councilman Jimmy Blake.

May 14, 1994:

Hawaii LP Convention; for more information call 808-597-8008. Speakers include Mary Ruwart and Virgis Daukas (Lithuanian Free Market Foundation).

June 11-12, 1994:

Texas LP Convention, San Antonio; for more information write Roger Gary, 723 Aganier, San Antonio, TX 78212.

Aug. 20-21, 1994:

Libertarian Party National Committee Meeting, location to be determined.

Send upcoming event notices **early** to: NEWS, P.O. Box 3391, Gainesville, GA 30503.

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