

A look back at 1995

BY DAVE BARRY

If I had to pick two words to summarize 1995, those two words would be "reasonable doubt."

What I mean is, any reasonable person has to have serious doubts about whether this year should have been allowed to occur.

A big reason, of course, is that this was the year when we had to endure The Trial That Lasted At Least A Century. Don't get me wrong: I'm not complaining about the verdict. If a jury of 12 citizens, after thoroughly considering all of the evidence for approximately 20 minutes, honestly came to the conclusion that O.J. Simpson had not been proven guilty of committing the crimes in question, then far be it from me to point out that they have the collective intelligence of beef jerky. We operate under a jury system in this country, and as much as we complain about it, we have to admit that we know of no better system, except possibly flipping a coin. No, it was not the verdict that was the problem with this case. The problem was-and here I must

see 1995 on page 6

Abolish the FEC Or, at least, level the playing field

ongress should abolish the Federal Election Commission, a Libertarian Party representative advised an influential congressional committee-or, at the very least, raise legal contribution limits and reduce the regulatory burden on smaller political parties.

We want you to do something to help third parties in this country because America won't survive without its independent voters and third party candidates," former LP National Director Stuart Reges testified to the House Oversight Committee on Dec. 12.

At the hearing on campaign finance reformbroadcast live on C-SPAN-Reges joined the chairmen of the Republican and Democratic

National Committees in urging Congress to allow Americans to make larger contributions to political parties and candidates.

'The time has come for Congress to increase the amount of money individuals can donate to political parties and federal candidates. The best way to counteract any negative influence of PAC money is to allow individuals to give more money to the candidate and party of their choice," he said. "Congress has not adjusted the [contribution] limits in 20 years. If the figure were adjusted for inflation, individuals would be allowed to give over \$3,000 to federal candidates and over \$60,000 to political parties."



TESTIFYING - Stuart Reges, center, former LP national director, told Congress recently that the FEC should be abolished.

Current law limits contributions to federal candidates to \$1,000 and to political committees to \$20,000 per year.

But, unlike his Republican and Democratic counterparts, Reges said the real solution is to get the government out of the election business.

"We believe that federal involvement in elections has been far more harmful than helpful, and would prefer to see Congress repeal the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, eliminate all public funding of campaigns, and abolish the FEC. Since you're not likely to follow that advice, I'll outline some more modest suggestions for improvesee FEC on page 3

Stadium showdown

When the city of San Diego tried to sneak a \$60 million bond issue past the people of San Diego County, two Libertarians-San Diego LP Chair Steve Green and 1994 state LP gubernatorial candidate Richard Rider-stepped in to tackle the problem.

It all started when the San Diego Public Facilities Financing Authority, "a sham agency fronting the San Diego City Council," according to Green, filed a suit against all "interested persons." That means "all those who will be legally obligated to pick up the multi-million dollar cost of an ill-conceived financial venture to expand Jack Murphy Stadium" for the San Diego Chargers football team, said Green

This was a "validation" lawsuit, meaning that if no one responded, the authority and council would have the right to institute the bond issue without voter approval and without being challenged for the move at a later time.

But Green and Rider, along with former Republican City Councilman Bruce Henderson, filed a response to the lawsuit.

"Our main point," said Green, "is not necessarily that we're opposing the project. The issue is whether or not the California Constitution ought to be violated by the City Council going ahead without a vote of the people. Now if the people get a chance to vote, and they vote for the stadium subsidies, that's the end of it. I can live with it."

But the city doesn't seem to see this as a simple matter

of letting the people speak. In fact, according to Green, "the city threatened through its lawyer to destroy us all [three] financially. Why? Because we answered its quickand-dirty-fix lawsuit, we are delaying its hastily-planned stadium expansion project, and thus are somehow responsible for all 'damages' resulting from any delay in the project.'

Although the city views Green, Rider, and Henderson as "troublemakers," the media have viewed them in a very different light. The San Diego Union-Tribune recently ran an article headlined "3 critics are champions at challenging funding." The article noted that "history shows these three guys are quite capable of coming out of nowhere to change public policy-in explosive ways."

The newspaper then highlighted how Rider had challenged the 1988 half-cent sales tax that saved San Diego taxpayers an estimated \$1.6 billion. It also noted that the precedent may save state taxpayers up to \$8 billion more. That's right-billion.

Henderson was given credit for saving \$3 billion for city sewer ratepayers.

Green, who led the 1993 battle against a bond measure for schools in the Santee School District, was credited with saving taxpayers \$18 million.

"Our ideal Libertarian solution is to have the government give the stadium (with its attendant debt) to a private see San Diego on page 2

Amazing facts about the 1996 LP Convention

#1. Early registration for the LP National Convention has topped 33 percent of estimated delegate attendance, a new record for six months prior. (More than one-half of the Hyatt contracted room nights are already booked-call Hyatt now at 1 - 800 - 233 - 1234.

#2. The Hyatt-Capitol Hill Hotel is located within blocks of three of Washington, DC's, most famous Irish Pubs-The Dubliner, The Irish Times, and The Tiber Creek Pub. (It's only five blocks from Washington's Chinatown.)

#3. At the opening of the convention sessions, all the great buildings of Europe.) delegates will be able to vote approval or disapproval of each plank of the LP National Platform. (The next two days will see consideration of changes in the party platform.)

#4. Only four blocks from the convention site one can explore one of the most spectacular, yet infrequently visited, sites in Washington-the Pension Building. This structure built after the Civil War contains interior Corinthian columns that are among the tallest in the world. (Its Italian Renaissance design is reminiscent of

#5. Former LP National Chair David Walter, host of the Saturday evening banquet, has planned an evening of awards and entertainment that will make the 1996 banquet "the most spectacular ever held." (Dave has been contacting LP leaders from the past 25 years.)

#6. Yes, convention prices go up again on April 1, 1996. So reserve now: Gold - \$290; Silver - \$230; Bronze - \$140. (Next month's NEWS will feature a la carte pricing.)

Presidential campaign news

New faces

The NEWS has been notified of two new entries into the Libertarian Party presidential nomination race.

Doug Ohman, of California, will appear on the ballot in the LP presidential primary in California. He has been a guest speaker at several state LP conventions.

Ohman recently urged the Libertarian National Committee to have the LP join a coalition of organizations opposing the Comprehensive Antiterrorism Act of 1995 (HR 1710)

Dr. Calvin Ruskaup, formerly of Ohio State University, also has announced the formation of a presidential committee. Ruskaup said that from his experience with the party in its founding years in Tallahassee, FL, and Denver, he has learned the importance of coalitions.

Ruskaup said he believes the party should not go it alone in 1996, but should form a unity movement with all third parties. He said he finds no conflict between Libertarian principles and those of other third parties. He believes if he were the candidate of all third parties, he could iron out differences without compromising Libertarian ideals.

Ruskaup said he will ask the LP national convention to support his choice of a fa-

continued from page 1

sports association formed jointly by the Chargers and the Padres [baseball team]. It would be their stadium as long as they stayed in town," explained Green. "They could then run the stadium however they saw fit, receiving all the rental and concession revenues from all events, paying all expenses and bonds."

"We Americans preach democracy to all other countries of the world. Now let's practice what we preach. Put the bonds to a vote. It's the American way," he said.

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mous independent for vice president. His campaign proposals appear in the Letters section on page 12.

Tompkins on guns

Rick Tompkins recently responded to an article by Neal Knox of The Firearms Coalition urging a vote on HR 1488, "repealing the ban on large magazines and 'ugly' semi-automatic weapons.'

The article issued an ultimatum to Republicans in the House, saying a vote was necessary immediately.

Tompkins praised Knox for issuing the ultimatum, but went on encourage Knox to endorse Libertarians if the Republicans don't do the right thing.

"So the only way to make good your threat, to both punish Republican betrayal and help elect some REAL Second Amendment champions (forcing Republicans back to the Constitution if they want to survive), is to endorse the Libertarian Party candidate in every race where we're running a candidate in 1996-and that will likely include 200 congressional districts, or more!"

Schiff publishes brochure

The Irwin Schiff campaign has published a new four-color brochure entitled "Revive Constitutional Rights." The brochure features quotes from individuals and the media about Schiff. One example: "Mr. Schiff is as close to an intellectual light as anybody in the movement against the income tax. His confidence and seeming mastery of the most arcane details of tax law make him a hit. . ." said David Cay Johnston in The New York Times.

Browne plans for public presence

The Harry Browne for President campaign is gearing up to establish a more public presence, according to national campaign director Sharon Ayres.

"During 1995, Harry's focus was on going to state LP conventions to meet local Libertarians and build support," she said. "At the same time, the staff was working hard building our campaign organization, developing the campaign plan, and raising money to keep Harry on the road.

"Until now, our focus has been very much internal. Now we're getting ready to begin our external publicity program.

"We've had a number of supporters express their concern that they haven't seen Harry on the evening network news yet. The truth is, we haven't tried to get him there," she explained. "It's way too early for that

"We never planned to seek national publicity in a big way until after the book was in the stores, until after Harry had appeared on numerous radio talk shows across the country, and especially not until after the nationwide blizzard of state primaries during February and March was over. Trying to get serious media attention while the Republican candidates are spending tens of millions of dollars on advertising and publicity would be futile.

"We're actually way ahead of where we expected to be in getting print coverage at this point," Ayres said.

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FEC

continued from page 1 ment."

Reges then gave the committee a primer on how FEC regulations impose a staggering and unfair burden on third parties.

"Federal election law is now so complex and restrictive that third parties have to expect to spend 5 percent or more of their budget on compliance issues. In 1992, the Libertarian Party spent almost as much on compliance as it did on TV ads," he said.

"When it comes to handing out favors, third parties are almost always shut out. But when it comes to imposing burdens, suddenly politicians in the name of fairness decide that third parties must be treated equally. So third parties have to deal with an unlevel playing field where they have all of the costs and none of the benefits of being a major party."

Reges also noted, "When it comes to a [presidential] nominating convention, the Republican and Democrat can count on the U.S. taxpayers to cover \$12 million in convention costs. The third party would receive no funding for its convention. And in the general election, the Republican and Democrat would receive over \$60 million to pay for their campaigns.

"When it comes to reporting requirements, however, the third party candidate would have to follow the same federal regulations and prepare the same FEC reports as the major party candidates."

LP on two more ballots

The Libertarian Party has now qualified for ballot status in 28 states. Alaska and North Dakota were added to the "finished list" in December.

The party filed 8,100 signatures in North Dakota and 4,056 signatures in Alaska and was formally notified by the secretaries of state in both states that the LP would be on the ballots in 1996.

"We're on track to become the first third party in American history to be on the ballot in all 50 states for two presidential elections in a row," said LP National Director Perry Willis.

Record for LP primaries

The Libertarian Party has qualified to hold its own presidential primaries in more states than any other third party in U.S. history.

The states where LP presidential primaries can be held include AZ, CA, DE, ID, IL, MA, MT, NE, NH, ND, and SD.

At presstime, the following LP candidates were expected to participate in the following primaries: Browne in NH, AZ, ND, SD, MA, IL, and CA; Schiff in NH, AZ, SD, MA, IL, and CA; Tompkins in MA and CA; and Ohman in CA.

These listings could change prior to the actual primaries.



Part of the problem, he said, is that the FEC considers "what impact their actions will have on Democrats and Republicans, but it never seems to occur to them to consider what impact their actions will have on smaller parties like ours. We feel strongly that Congress should consider a different regulatory standard for new and minor parties."

Reges hastened to add that the Libertarian Party did not want the same government subsidies the major parties get.

"We don't want a hand-out and we don't want you to regulate us or our opponents to death. Just get out of the way by increasing contribution limits and decreasing regulatory burdens. We'll take it from there," he said.

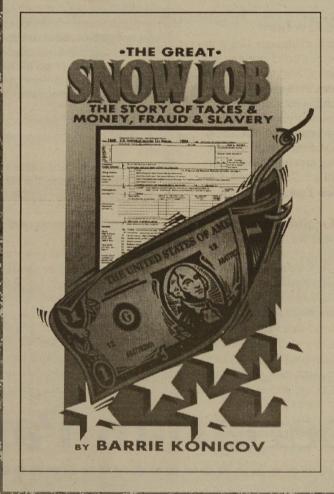
Reges also stressed to the representatives the importance of third parties in American politics.

"Third parties are an essential part of American democracy. They provide a vital link between established government and grassroots politics, allowing fresh ideas and fresh approaches to come to the surface. Congress has a responsibility, therefore, to make sure that in reforming election law it does not adversely affect third parties," he said. Afterwards, Reges said the committee seemed to be receptive to his message, and said he thinks he accomplished his goal at the hearing: "My goal was to try to get these legislators to consider third parties like ours, if they end up reforming election law. Their reaction was very positive."

Hopefully, he said, "They will use us as yet another argument to raise the contribution limits."

Reges was national director of the Libertarian Party from 1992 to 1993, and remains a consultant to the party on election law and FEC compliance. In 1993, he testified before the FEC on regulatory reform.

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February 1996

Affiliates MD LP candidate challenging ballot access law

Colorado

Former Illinois LP activist **Bob Hogan** has moved to Colorado and has formed a new group, The Libertarian Homeschoolers. Hogan works for AT&T and is in the naval reserve. For information on the new group, write Bob Hogan, 38 Blue Sage, Littleton, CO 80127, or call him at 303-978-9803.

Connecticut

In a special article on computer bulletin boards (BBSs), Connecticut Magazine recently featured "The Libertarian BBS" as "an entire board dedicated to news about The Libertarian Party." The board is operated by LP member and former Connecticut Vice Chair **Jim Hock**. It can be reached at 860-257-1960.

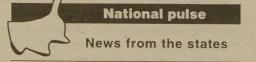
Delaware

Jack Dalton, Sussex County chair, has announced his candidacy for Bridgeville town commission. For more information, call Dalton at 302-855-6032.

Florida

In line with State Chair **Nick Dunbar's** goals, "Operation Politically Homeless" booths have been started by a number of local affiliates. Using the "World's Smallest Political Quiz," developed by the Advocates for Self-Government, these booths help identify individuals as libertarian, conservative, liberal, centrist, or authoritarian. At its nominating convention in November, the LPF held workshops on finding potential Libertarians through the use of OPH booths and on turning these newcomers into enthusiastic Libertarians.

The **Lee County LP** ran a booth at Edison Community College and one at a flea market. About 44 percent of those taking the quiz scored as libertarians.



The **Alachua County LP** had a booth at the county fair, where 38 percent scored libertarian. *The Gainesville Sun* also printed excerpts of the LP's press release on the event.

In **Charlotte County**, members set up an OPH booth at the Punta Gorda Business Alliance Fall Festival. Out of about 200 who took the quiz, 23 percent scored as libertarian (including a local newspaper editor and a high school civics teacher). Names of 34 new prospects were gathered.

The **Broward County LP** operated an OPH at a gun show where 53 percent scored as libertarians or borderline libertarians, and 38 people asked to be sent more information.

Georgia

➤ Libertarian Tom Ashton of Macon received 4 percent of the vote last November in a partisan three-way race for Macon City Council. He was listed on the ballot as an independent. His vote total was enough to force a run-off between the Republican and Democrat. Ashton has endorsed the Republican who has pledged to work to cut the city budget and cut taxes.

Ashton, a political newcomer, is a police officer and 12-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

➤ Woody Russell, Cobb County chair, has announced he will seek the LP nomination as a candidate for the Cobb County Commission. Russell is a computer systems analyst.

Maryland

In mid-December, the state denied bal-



CAMPAIGN TRAINING - Last year LP campaign managers Barbara Goushaw, front left, of the Jon Coon for MI State Rep. campaign, Scott Vorie, front right, of the Terry Savage for CA Assembly campaign, and LP Fresno (CA) City Council candidate Rodney Austin, back right, attended the Campaign Management Training Institute held at the University of California at Davis. Also pictured are seminar instructors Murray Fishel, back left, and Darek Hacket, center.

"I was not certain about running for council this year," said Austin. "I knew I needed a great deal more solid information about effective campaigning if I was going to run. Now I have the skills to go for it."

Goushaw quipped to the mostly Republican and Democrat attendees, "I'm here to learn your secrets, adapt them to my own purposes, and use them to kick your butts!"

lot access to **Robert Creager**, who as last month's NEWS noted, was running for U.S. Congress.

Although Creager filed papers on time and paid the \$100 filing fee, the state board of elections refused to accept his Libertarian candidacy. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) has agreed to take Creager's case to court.

Creager's legal challenge springs from the May 1995 U.S. Supreme Court decision issued in U.S. Term Limits vs. Thornton. In that ruling, the Court said that although states can regulate election "procedures," they cannot impose "qualifications."

According to LP State Chair Jesse Markowitz, Democrats and Republicans who filed papers have been qualified by the state. "Libertarians demand fair and uniform treatment," he said.

"This is a direct attack on the people's right to choose who they want representing them," said Creager. "By denying Libertarians the same right to get on the ballot that the Democrats and Republicans have, the state is discriminating against an entire class of people."

Creager, 46, lives with his wife and children in Burtonsville. He is a senior staff member for BDM, a systems integration company.

Missouri

Ken Petty of Jefferson City has announced he is running for state representasee Affiliates on page 5

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Affiliates

continued from page 4

tive, District 13. "We need to clean up this mess and get government back to doing its proper job-protecting our individual liberty," said Petty.

Petty is a 35-year-old entrepreneur who runs his own marketing consultancy. He and his wife, Martha, a Mexican national applying for U.S. citizenship, have two daughters and are expecting a son this month.

New Hampshire

"We have formed an ad hoc political committee consisting of Rep. Don Gorman, former gubernatorial candidate Miriam Luce, former State Reps. Andy Borsa and Finlay Rothhaus, LPNH State Chair Jeff Emery, and myself," said Steve Winter, political director for the state party. "The high priority task of this job will be to oversee the 1996 LPNH election efforts. I'm looking forward to a great campaign effort."

Oklahoma

The following state party officers were elected at the recent state organizational meeting: Mike Todd, chair; Randy Gann, vice chair; Michael Clem, secretary; Steve Galpin, treasurer. In addition, Everett Attebury, Charles Osborn, and Vicki Townsley were elected members-at-large.

LP presidential campaign contacts **Rick Tompkins, Libertarian,** for President 8129 N. 35th Ave., #2-262 Phoenix, AZ 85051 602-930-1268 602-930-1739 (fax) e-mail: tclark@indirect.com WWW: http://www.nguworld.com/rick96/ **Harry Browne for President** 4094 Majestic Lane, Suite 240 Fairfax, VA 22033 714-437-7911 714-432-1468 (fax) e-mail: campaign@HarryBrowne96.org WWW: http://www.HarryBrowne96.org/ anon.ftp at /pub/browne on ftp.rahul.net Schiff for President c/o Jeff Kanter P.O. Box 221440 Beachwood, OH 44122 216-248-9995 (mailbox #3) 216-248-9994 (fax) e-mail: kantnow@aol.com WWW: http://www.webpub.com/schiff **Doug Ohman for President** P.O. Box 1543 Danville, CA 94526 e-mail: DOhman@AOL.com **Dr. Calvin Ruskaup U.L.C. (Unity Libertarian Committee)** P.O. Box 10800 Hilo, HI 96721-5800 LP vice presidential campaign contacts Jo Jorgensen, Libertarian for Vice President 1754 Woodruff Rd., Suite 201 Greenville, SC 29607 302-737-3732 e-mail: 73140.2465@compuserve.com WWW: http://ares.ath.com/~dirasian/jo/

jomain.html

Oregon

Gene Nanni, of Portland, was chosen to be the LP's candidate for the special election to fill the seat of former Sen. Bob Packwood. For more information, call Nanni at 503-235-9810.

South Dakota

The state party got a favorable ruling and has "made provisions for independent voters to vote in our primaries," said Jim Christen, state party vice chair. This will mark the first time independent voters will be allowed to vote in any primary. The secretary of state said her office has been told by the state attorney general that a state law that prohibits independents from voting in a party's primary will not be enforced if that party allows for such inclusion in its party bylaws.

"Right now it is just the Libertarian Party, but this decision now opens it up to where other political parties can include independent voters in their primaries," said Christen. He noted that letting independent voters participate in primary elections will open up the system to a broader spectrum of electors.

"It always seems that Republicans or Democrats voted for some extreme candidate in their party," he said. "We need to get other voters in there and get candidates that are more palatable for everybody."

Tennessee

Anita Farley has become the first Libertarian to win election in the state. Farley was elected president of the Tennessee Tech Village Residence Association in Cookeville.

Washington, DC

The treasurer of the LP of DC, David Morris, was recently unanimously elected chair of the Logan Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission. Morris won election to the commission in 1994.

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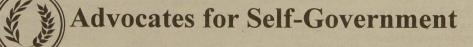
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(Quotes from attendees at the Advocates for Self-Government's 10th Anniversary Summit Conference)

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Titles: "Communicating Libertarian Ideas on the Campaign Trail" (Browne) . "How I Use Irreverence and Wit to Expose the True Nature of Government (Casey) • "The Masters Course on Persuasive Libertarian Communication" (Cloud) • "Mistakes I'll Never Make Again" and "Sin as Metaphor for Anti-Freedom Attitudes" (Fritz) • "What Rush Limbaugh and the Wall Street Journal Taught Me about Free Market Communication" (Fund) • "Closed Minds on Open Borders" (Homberger) • "Secrets of Effectively Promoting Libertarian Values to the Religious Community" (Mauren) • "Assertive Listening: The Ear Is Mightier Than the Mouth" (Rand) • "Economy as Ecosystem: Replace Their Machine-Age Statist Thinking with Bionomic Concepts" (Rothschild) • "Libertarianism Is the Most Caring, Compassionate Choice" (Ruwart) • "Education in a Post-Constitutional America" (Sobran)

1995

continued from page 1

search for precisely the right word to describe a very complex and subtle flaw in our current system—lawyers. There were way too many of them. There were at least six of Barry Scheck alone.

It's hard to believe that anybody is still sane after the year we've all just been through. Just in case you forgot what happened, let's swallow our anti-nausea medication and take a trip back in time.

January

As the nation rang in the new year, an estimated 25,000 newly elected Republican congresspersons, sworn to enact the Contract With America, descended on Washington, DC, and immediately began a series of marathon late-night sessions, passing over 200 major new pieces of legislation before it was pointed out that they would not legally take office until Jan. 4. Meanwhile, President For Now Bill Clinton, refusing to play "second fiddle" despite the GOP congressional takeover, met with a number of top world leaders to discuss possible ways in which they might get appointments with Newt Gingrich.

Elsewhere in the nation, millions of Americans flocked to conveniently located post offices to wait in convenient lines in an effort to obtain the 3-cent stamps needed to go with the convenient old 29-cent stamps to reach the convenient new first-class rate of 32 cents (sales slogan: "Buy Four For Only \$1.28!").

February

Meanwhile in Washington, the House of Representatives, continuing to take bold action, voted to repeal all the even-numbered amendments to the Constitution. In other political news, Dan Quayle, in a statement that shocked observers because virtually all the words were spelled correctly, announced that he would not run for president. Dozens of humor columnists committed suicide.

Elsewhere on the political front, President Clinton, in yet another politically questionable appointment, announced that his choice to head the scandal-plagued CIA was Mikhail Gorbachev.

On a lighter note: In Palm Springs, President Clinton plays a historic round of golf with former presidents Gerald Ford and George Bush, resulting in 17 deaths.

On the educational front, critics concerned about the "dumbing down" of America objected to a new version of Louisa May Alcott's "Little Women" in which the famous scene where Beth dies is replaced by a scene where Beavis sets fire to Butthead's shorts.

March

The United States, in another bold move to end the peso crisis, lent Mexico an additional \$60 billion, secured by what Secretary of the Treasury Robert Rubin described as "a real nice blanket." And in a true Latin American news item, the United States, which imports and consumes the vast majority of the world's cocaine, threatened,

ABORTION AND RIGHTS: APPLYING LIBERTARIAN PRINCIPLES CORRECTLY for a copy, send \$2.00 Libertarians for Life 13424 Hathaway Drive, #18 Wheaton, MD 20906; 301/460-4141 e-mail: Doris.Gordon@iad.blkcat.com with a straight face, to punish Colombia for not doing its part in the War on Drugs.

In federal action, President Clinton, seeking to end the baseball strike, threatened that if the owners and players did not resume serious negotiations, he would play golf with them. Meanwhile the House of Busy Beaver Representatives, on its 93rd consecutive day of legislating without sleep, voted to sell the Grand Canyon to Microsoft.

On the health front, researchers for the Center for Science in the Public Interest, who had previously issued scary reports about the fat content of Mexican, Italian, and Chinese food, as well as movie popcorn, announced that sandwiches also are dangerous. "Water is still OK," stated the researchers, "but we're keeping an eye on it."

April

In financial news, Lee Iacocca and billionaire Kirk Kerkorian tried to buy the Chrysler Corp. for \$21 billion, but the deal fell through in a dispute over whether the price included floor mats.

In a true April aviation-newsitem, a South African Airways airliner, heading from London to South Africa, was forced to turn back when its fire alarms were triggered by methane gas released by 72 pigs in the cargo hold.

In Washington, the House of Representatives finally decided to take a break after discovering that it had voted, without debate, in favor of amending the U.S. Tax Code to include the rules to "Chutes and Ladders."

May

A major blow against crime was struck in New York's Central Park, where two city police officers—this is a true item—cited a grandmother for allowing her 4-year-old grandson to urinate behind a bush. Thousands of joyful New Yorkers, at last free to leave their homes and walk the city without fear, danced in the streets, where most of them were killed instantly by taxis.

In international news, the Clinton administration toughened its policy regarding Cuban refugees, triggering an angry reaction in Miami, where protesters attempted to disrupt traffic, but were forced to give up when they realized that they couldn't screw things up any more than they already were.

In Washington, Sen. Bob Packwood, having been accused of trying to stick his tongue into the ear of every female in Washington, DC, for the past 25 years except Barbara Bush, found himself fighting for his political life when the Senate Ethics Committee, after a two-year investigation, released a report charging that the letters in "Sen. Bob Packwood" could be rearranged to spell "Do Neck, Paw Boobs." Elsewhere in the nation's capital, the Secret Service, increasingly concerned about protecting the White House, brought in highway-repair crews from surrounding states to resurface the driveway, thereby guaranteeing that no vehicle would ever be able to get through again.

June

Air Force pilot Scott O'Grady was rescued six days after being shot down in Bosnia, where he survived by eating insects. News of the rescue caused widespread rejoicing everywhere in the United States except the Center for Science in the Public Interest, which issued a report warning that insects contain a lot more fat than people think.

In Washington, the U.S. Senate, deeply disturbed by the proliferation of pornography on television and the Internet, voted to burn the Packwood diaries. Meanwhile Sen. Alan Simpson of Wyoming, taking on the extremely powerful senior-citizen lobby, held the first of what he promised would be several hearings on alleged abuses by the American Association of Retired People (AARP). Simpson's body was found the next day welded inside a 55-gallon drum filled with denture adhesive.

July

Forbes magazine released its annual list of the world's richest billionaires, headed for the first time by two Americans: Bill Gates, who controls a vast software empire; and Louise A. Sneeple, who was being paid by the word as a stenographer in the O.J. Simpson trial.

In government action, the House of Representatives celebrated the Fourth of July, as it has for the past 25 straight years, by passing an unconstitutional anti-flag-desecration bill. Congress also held hearings into the Whitewater scandal, which continued to burgeon and as of this writing has been traced back to before the Civil War. President Clinton came out against sex, at least on TV. Elsewhere in politics, Sen. Bob Dole, testily denying that he was too old for the job, announced that he would "seek the Republican nomination for, um, for, ummm, for. . . the whaddyacallit."

August

On the political front, President Clinton announced a major new administration initiative to combat teen smoking after Chelsea set fire to the Lincoln bedroom. Meanwhile, all 58 leading GOP presidential hopefuls trooped down to Dallas to appear before a big United We Stand convention and sincerely pretended that they don't believe Ross Perot is crazy as a chigger.

In fashion, Calvin Klein was forced to cancel a major new advertising campaign after many consumers objected strongly to the use of highly suggestive photographs of a semi-undressed Bob Packwood.

September

A beleaguered Bob Packwood, finally throwing in the towel, announced that he was resigning from the U.S. Senate to apply for a job as a waiter at Hooters.

In politics, Pete Wilson dropped out of the Republican presidential race, candidly admitting that his name could be rearranged to spell both "Penis Towel" and "We Pet Loins."

William Kunstler died, but immediately filed an appeal.

The Washington Post and New York Times published the Unabomber Manifesto, which was so lengthy, dull, and unintelligible that it will probably win several important journalism prizes.

On the educational front—this is a true item—a San Bernardino, CA, off-duty police officer accidentally shot a hole in the wall of an elementary-school classroom where he was giving a presentation on gun safety. Unfortunately, there is a tragic side to this story: The bullet, after passing through the wall, did not hit Mark Fuhrman.

October

In international events, the United Nations, celebrating its 50th anniversary, held a party that went on until 4 a.m., when police were called to break up a big fight that started when Sweden threw up on Cameroon's date. Brazil won the limbo contest.

November

Congress and President Clinton were unable to agree on a budget, resulting in a shutdown of the federal government that caused massive traumatic nationwide disruption for maybe eight ordinary citizens. The president announced that he was sending home 800,000 "non-essential" federal employees (Al Gore was halfway to Tennessee before he found out that this did not include him), with "non-essential" being officially defined as: "Any federal employee whom you can observe at work for several weeks without detecting a single clue as to what his or her job is."

The big stumbling block was a disagreement between the president and the Republican leadership over whether to pretend that the budget would be balanced seven years from now, or pretend that it would be balanced 10 years from now. The two sides were finally able to reach a compromise when they realized that they will all be safely retired, with pensions, before the public realizes that nobody is ever going to balance the federal budget.

December

Grateful taxpayers learned that over the past 20 years the CIA has spent \$20 million employing psychics to help gather intelligence. Although the psychics failed to sense that, for example, the Soviet Union was collapsing, they were credited by highlevel intelligence officials with helping field agents locate "at least six" lost sets of car keys.

On a far more serious note, President Clinton, in one of the most difficult and controversial decisions of his presidency, announced that he would deploy U.S. troops to prevent the Browns from leaving Cleveland. In other federal action, the nationwide speed limit of 55 miles per hour was lifted, although the odds are that nobody will pass this information along to whatever federal agency is responsible for procuring the "SPEED LIMIT 55" signs, the result being that the government will continue to purchase these signs by the millions for at least the next 40 years. They will be stored in the same facility used for the federal emergency helium reserve.

Anyway, as 1995 draws to a close, we need to remember that, despite the foregoing stories, it was not a total waste of a year. There were some positive developments. For example. . .let's see. . .Ok, I thought of one: Roseanne and Tom Arnold did not get back together. And I'm sure there were many other happy developments, including some, I hope, that involved you.

And so as 1995 staggers off into history, let's just be grateful that we got through it. And let's also hope that 1996 will be a whole lot better. Although we have every reason to doubt it.

for national convention

Q: What are the two most important days for your '96 Campaign?

A: The two days you'll spend with Sal Guzzetta at the National Campaign Institute!

In conjunction with the 1996 Libertarian Party National Convention, Sal Guzzetta, veteran of more than 200 political contests, will again present a two-day intensive course on professional campaigning. Full-day classes will be held on July 2 and 3, just prior to the start of the official convention activities on July 4.

"Sal's presentation of this course at the '93 national convention was universally acclaimed by the attendees," said Ron Crickenberger, campaigns chairman for the LP. "Guzzetta is a fountain of knowledge on campaign mechanics, and presents the seminar in a practical nuts and bolts manner. The usual fee for this course is \$385 per student, but Sal, a small-l Libertarian, has given us a special discount allowing us to offer the course for only \$150 per person (\$200 after June 1). This is less than the usual cost just for the manuals included with the course. I'm recommending that all campaigns register someone for the training now to get the manuals early, even if you are not 100

percent sure who in your organization will end up attending," he said.

Upon receipt of paid registration, all attendees will be sent copies of "The Campaign Strategy," "The Campaign Manual," and "The Finance Manual," more than 700 pages of valuable information in all. These textbooks, written by Guzzetta as the basis for the course, are also used in numerous university and college courses in political science. Registration gets you the manuals now, for the most benefit possible to your campaign.

The seminar will cover all basic aspects of campaigning, including general evaluation, election regulations, time management, planning, budgeting, and fund raising. As the seminar is being held in the political consulting capital of the world, Sal expects to bring in an expert friend or two for special presentations. Guzzetta has taught the course, with continual refinements, for more than 15 years.

Registration is separate from attendance at the Libertarian national convention. Seminar attendees should send the form below with payment to the Libertarian Party National Office, attention Tiffany, to receive their manuals ASAP

I want to run a more professional campaign in '96! Sign me up for the National Campaign Institute on July 2nd and 3rd, and send me my manuals right away. Make checks payable to the Libertarian Party in the amount of \$150 per person (\$200 after June 1).

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Campaign seminar set Time for change in IL

BY JULIE FOX

After voters approved a \$34 million referendum for school improvement in District 300, Illinois Libertarian Kathleen Polizzi's school taxes increased by more than \$300. Polizzi has been sending her two children to private school, which costs her \$427 each month. When her school taxes reached \$2,783 per year, she decided enough was enough and planned her own protest.

On Sept. 8, the last day to pay property taxes in McHenry County, Polizzi paid the \$2,307.16 installment of her property taxes with 9,200 quarters, 60 dimes, 23 nickels, and one penny. This amounted to five bags of coins weighing a total of 140 pounds. Fellow Libertarians Jim Young and I joined Polizzi at the McHenry County government building to help carry the bags and deal with the response from reporters, onlookers, and government officials.

The response from other taxpayers in line was positive, but the county treasurer was not amused. For the benefit of the reporters who were following us, the treasurer stated that he was proud to be a citizen of this wonderful country and that he considered it a "privilege" to pay taxes. A reporter from the Daily Herald quoted him as also saying it was "great fun" to pay taxes, although none of us present heard it-I think we got stuck on the "privilege' statement. Polizzi countered that she considered being robbed hardly a privilege. The treasurer refused to count the coins

on the spot, saying that workers would have to count each coin individually. He

chastised Polizzi for wasting other taxpayers' time and said, "I think it's ridiculous the way you're making fun of the system." He refused to give Polizzi a receipt and would not respond to her comments. When we refused to leave without a receipt, the treasuer called security. He initially even refused to return Polizzi's own portion of her tax statement to her. He eventually returned her statement to her, and we left when he threatened to make Polizzi take all the bags of coins back. Shortly after we left, the treasurer took the coins to a bank one block away.

Polizzi's protest was well covered in area newspapers. Her story and picture were on the front page of the Daily Herald and there was also an article in the Northwest Herald. The cover of the Algonquin Countryside featured a picture of Polizzi counting her coins, with an article on page one entitled "Libertarian delivers two-bit tax protest."

Polizzi has been active with the Fox Valley Libertarian Club since its founding last January, and she has been an LPI member since last summer. She has received quite a few positive responses to her protest and has heard from a number of people who would like to join her next year for something bigger and better. School District 300 covers a large area, including Elgin, Dundee, Carpentersville, and Algonquin. The large tax increase instituted this spring angered many residents and is an issue that should prompt more tax protests and more people to turn to libertarian alternatives

Julie Fox is the president of the Fox Valley Libertarian Club.

"What liberalism was to the 60s and conservatism was to the 80s, libertarianism may be to the youth of the 1990s."

USA Today, July 26,1995

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THE GENX PHILOSOPHY

July 3-7, 1996 🛠 Washington, DC More convention speakers announced

Three more speakers, including the keynoter, have Hornberger. David Nolan, the prime founder of the been announced for the 1996 Libertarian Party Presidential Nominating Convention.

JACOB G. HORNBERGER is familiar to many libertarians as a dynamic speaker whose presentation at their state conventions has been enthusiastically received. His keynote speech, which will be featured on C-SPAN's live, nationwide broadcast of the convention, will have as its general theme a review of the predictions, warnings, and solutions posed by LP presidential candidates from Hospers to Marrou. Mr. Hornberger will remind the voters how support of these campaigns could have avoided many of the crises and problems now generally acknowledged to be the result of "big government" and ask that, to avoid being fooled again, they now support the Libertarian Party and its candidates.

Mr. Hornberger, founder and current president of a national libertarian foundation, is the co-editor of two books, "The Dangers of Socialized Medicine" and "The Case for Free Trade and Open Immigration." Born and raised in Texas, he received his BA in economics from the University of Texas. He was a trial attorney for 12 years in Texas and was an adjunct professor of law and economics at the University of Dallas. From 1987 to 1989, he was

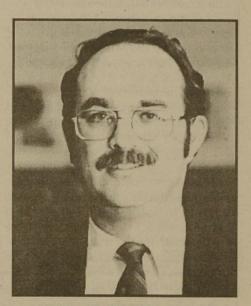


Jacob G. Hornberger

director of programs for The Foundation for Economic Education, Irvington-on-Hudson, NY. Twice he served on the Libertarian Party Platform Committee and has lectured on libertarianism on three continents.

Libertarian Party, will speak at the Saturday Awards and Honors Banquet. Also scheduled to be heard during The keynote speaker, sounding the Libertarian the convention is John A. Buttrick, a Phoenix attorney "charge" on Thursday morning, July 4, will be Jacob G. and the Arizona LP's 1994 candidate for governor.

> DAVID F. NOLAN was the prime mover behind the formation of the Libertarian Party in 1971. He holds a political science degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and his career has included work in publishing, advertising, and marketing. Aside from his role in founding the Libertarian Party, Mr. Nolan is best known as the originator of the "Nolan Chart" (used in the "World's Smallest Political Quiz"), a two-dimensional map that shows how different political systems relate to one another. Mr. Nolan was the party's first national chair and has served at times as editor of the NEWS, chairman of the LP platform committee, by-laws committee, and judicial committee. He is currently editor of California Liberty, a libertarian newspaper distributed throughout California, and co-host of an occasional radio talk show, "The Fourth American Revolution," which examines current events from a libertarian perspective.

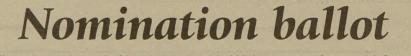


David F. Nolan

JOHN A. BUTTRICK was the 1994 Arizona LP candidate for governor and is partner in a Phoenix law firm. Born in Rhode Island, he served four years in the U.S. Army Security Agency, including tours in Turkey and Vietnam. He graduated summa cum laude at the University of Denver, majoring in philosophy with double minors in political science and history. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, he received his Juris Doctor degree from Harvard Law School in 1976. His speciality is business litigation and he has been admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court among others. Mr. Buttrick's speech will deal with libertarianism and aspects of the law



John A. Buttrick



Mail to: 1996 Awards Nominations, c/o Walter, 1505 Cotswald Court, West Chester, PA 19382. BEFORE 4/1/96

I nominate the following person for each Award: **Samuel Adams Award Thomas Paine Award**

Thomas Jefferson Award

You can help nominate LP award winners

Having reached its 25th Anniversary, it is appropriate for the Libertarian Party to recognize those members whose exemplary activities have contributed the most to the growth and development of the Libertarian Party.

At the "Awards and Honors Banquet" at the Libertarian Party National Convention on Saturday night, July 6, three awards will be bestowed. All readers of the NEWS will have the opportunity to **nominate** a candidate for each award. In May, all those registered for the convention will have the opportunity to **vote** for the award winners from among three nominees (those nominated most often) for each award. The winners will be announced at the Awards and Honors Banquet. It is hoped that these three awards will become a tradition to be awarded at every bi-annual Libertarian Party Convention.

Please use the ballot at left to nominate one person for each of the awards. Please vote only once and return the ballot **before** April 1.

Description of the three awards:

SAMUEL ADAMS AWARD - to the Libertarian Party member who has been the most effective activist in building the national, state, and/or local parties, organizing outreach projects, running as a candidate, or serving as a campaign manager.

THOMAS PAINE AWARD - to the Libertarian Party member who has been the most effective communicator of Libertarian ideas and values, through writing, publishing, or spoken communications.

THOMAS JEFFERSON AWARD - the Libertarian Party's highest honor, to the Libertarian Party member whose lifetime achievements merit the highest honors and that best exemplify outstanding leadership, character, and dedication to the goals of the Libertarian Party.

9

Declare Your Independence

Presidential and Vice-Presidential Nominations** and Debates George Washington's Farewell address 200th anniversary** Public readings of the LP program by selected Libertarians** "Liberty in Words and Music" at the Jefferson Memorial Free transportation to Jefferson Memorial event 25th Birthday Party for the Libertarian Party Major speakers and panels** Presidential candidate platforms** **Election of Party Officers** Platform committee and floor debate **Election of the National Committee** Meeting of the Council of State Chairs Candidate training sessions Three Breakfasts with Speakers Fourth of July fireworks at Washington Monument Special vendor and exhibit area "The Agora" Full C-SPAN coverage with tapes available Special Program Booklet and Souvenir Baby sitting service available "Room match" service available Presidential Banquet and Awards

1996 Libertarian Party Presidential Nominating Convention Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill July 3 - July 7 Washington, D.C.

**indicates C-SPAN coverage

The package prices below are lower than either the 1993 or 1991 conventions.
Register before April 1st, 1996 for the low current prices; after that date the prices will increase.
Bronze \$140 All panels, all speakers, floor pass, convention souvenir, program booklet, and the LP 25th Anniversary party. Excludes Breakfast meals, Presidential banquet and Jefferson Memorial.
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Our special room rates of \$99 per night are good from June 30th thru July 10th. Contact the Hyatt Regency directly at 400 New Jersey Ave., NW, Wash. DC., 20001 1-800-233-1234.

Reserve your rooms early since all indications are that this convention will be heavily attended.

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Bring your family for the entire week for a combination convention and historic sightseeing vacation.

Talking points Budget, corruption, immigration, and price supports

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.

Issue: The federal budget

Libertarians are accused of being "heartless" when they suggest taking a meat axe to the federal budget. The real heartless acts are perpetrated by the feds, as this anecdote from columnist Paul Craig Roberts shows:

"The U.S. Department of Transportation has given the Eugene (OR) city government \$1.3 million of our money to build a park. The city government is using our money to seize Marist High's (a private school with no through traffic or unannounced visitors) river frontage through eminent domain in order to accommodate a bike trail along the west side of the river [and] bring 4,000 to 5,000 people a day through the campus. There already is a bike trail along the west side of the river. [This] would never have come to pass except for the ability of the Transportation Department to take money from taxpayers in all 50 states to send to Eugene, OR, to build another bike trail for local cyclists. It is highly unlikely that U.S. taxpayers regard it as a legitimate use of their tax dollars for the Transportation Department to help build a bike path for the city of Eugene. The federal budget has utterly corrupted public morality. The prime function of every politician is to garner as much money as possible for local constituencies at the expense of taxpayers in general."

Paul Craig Roberts, Scripps Howard News Service, Daily Local News, Oct. 20, 1995. $\diamond \diamond + \diamond \diamond$

In fact, the cruelest course of action concerning the federal budget would be to permit its unchecked growth. Even if it were to merely remain at its current bloated size without getting any bigger, the federal budget would continue to cause serious economic distortions that reduce the quality of American life.

"The growth in the size and scope of our Federal Government has placed enormous tax and debt burdens on our economy, lowering living standards and limiting job opportunities for the American people. The federal budget in 1901 consumed just over 2 percent of total national income. Today, the government spends almost 25 cents of every dollar we produce. Measured against the size of the economy, the Federal Government is 12 times as large as it was at the turn of the century."

Sen. Spencer Abraham (R-MI), National Review, June 26, 1995.

Libertarian talking points

Charles D. Poe Editor

Issue: The corrupting influence of government

One of the most serious distortions that government power introduces into personal relations is to increase the likelihood of conflict and corruption far beyond what it would be in the context of non-coercive voluntary interaction. By forcibly taking wealth from those who created it and giving it to those who did not, government causes not only harm of the purely economic sort, but also injects a social poison into the human condition.

"Government allocation of resources always enhances the potential for human conflict; Medicare is just one example. The core problem is government can't give one person something without ripping it off from someone else.

"Neither can government confer a special privilege for one American without creating a disadvantage for another. Racial preferences are an example of the latter. When government tells one person, 'You can have this job because you're black,' it must say to another, 'You can't because you're white.""

Walter Williams, syndicated columnist, Nov. 19, 1995.

 $\diamond \diamond + \diamond \diamond$

Free enterprise, on the other hand, promotes social relations of the most positive sort because transactions in a market economy, being voluntary, tend to encourage virtues such as trust and charity.

"A free market is the only economic system consistent with individual rights,' said David Kelley, executive director of the Institute for Objectivist Studies, a think tank developing the ideas of novelist-philosopher Ayn Rand.

"In a free society, he argues, people must deal with each other only on a voluntary basis.

"The only social constraint that capitalism imposes is the requirement that those who wish the services of others must offer a freely accepted value in return,' said Kelley.

"When individuals in a capitalist society complete a transaction, the two may reach a mutually satisfactory result. If either is dissatisfied, the transaction does not occur.

"The way a salesperson in an American store greets customers makes the point: 'How can I help you?' The phrase startles foreigners,' writes Donald McCloskey, an economist at the University of Iowa.

"The high share of persuasion in a market economy provides a basis for virtue, argues McCloskey.

"One must establish a relationship of trust with someone in order to persuade him. The (personal) character that a speaker claims is the master argument,' he writes.

"While he, following Rand, rejects the idea that there is a moral duty to charity,



Kelley argues that nonetheless there is a selfish basis for some charitable activity.

"In light of the many benefits we receive from dealing with others, it is natural to regard our fellows in a spirit of general benevolence, to sympathize with their misfortunes, and to give aid when it does not require a sacrifice of our own interests,' said Kelley."

Charles Oliver, Investor's Business Daily, Aug. 1, 1994.

Issue:

Sugar price supports

Although Republicans took control of Congress claiming to oppose government spending in principle, in practice they generally oppose spending the taxpayers' money only when the expenditure benefits those constituencies likely to support the Democratic Party. When the shoe is on the other foot, Republicans are none too eager to eliminate spending programs such as agricultural subsidies in general and sugar price supports in particular.

"Washington cynics argue that Democrats and Republicans differ less on ideology than on constituency. The politics in this 104th Congress strengthens the cynics' case. Republicans tend to be gung ho for cutting urban programs but lukewarm about cutting rural programs that serve mostly Republicans: the Interior Department, crop subsidies, the Rural Electrification Administration, and many more.

"The Republicans are going to look awfully hypocritical if they cut urban programs for the poor and leave their own pet giveaways intact."

Robert H. Nelson, professor and senior fellow of the Competitive Enterprise Institute, Forbes, Aug. 14, 1995.

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"Because Washington restricts sugar imports, the price for U.S. sugar is kept artificially high.

"The 33 largest American plantations each receive more than \$1 million apiece in higher sales prices, and the cost is largely passed on to the poor.

"According to a Commerce Department study: 'Because sugar is an ingredient in many food items, the effect of the sugar program is similar to a regressive sales tax, which hits lower-income families harder than upper-income families."

Stephen Moore, director of fiscal policy studies at the Cato Institute, Houston Chronicle, April 6, 1995.

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"Dick Armey, now House majority leader, once described the Agriculture Department's network of subsidies, price supports, import barriers and regulation as 'Moscow on the Mississippi.' One program alone, which artificially raises domestic sugar prices, costs at least \$1.4 billion annually, according to the General Accounting Office. And, over the last decade, Americans have paid on average from two to seven times as much for sugar as the world market price."

Linda Chavez, USA Today, Feb. 22, 1995.

Issue: Immigration

Anti-immigration conservatives who have found a home in the Republican Party insist that it will do more harm than good to continue to allow substantial numbers of foreigners into the United States. This point of view, however, contradicts a large and growing body of evidence which demonstrates that America has been helped, rather than hurt, by the immigrants it has absorbed during the last several decades.

"In the inflamed debate about immigration, Californians and others angered about high levels of new arrivals often voice a central complaint: Immigrants are unwilling to learn English, are mired in poverty and are developing apart from the U.S. mainstream—in short, they are slow to embrace the time-honored tradition of assimilation.

"But a new study tracing the progress of Southern California immigrants between 1980 and 1990 challenges such stereotypes, concluding that new arrivals are assimilating—and improving their economic wellbeing—at a brisk pace.

"The lesson, said the study's author, Dowell Myers, a University of Southern California demographer, is that 'immigrants do not remain unassimilated and unsee **Talking points** on page 11

11

Why you should be an LP candidate in 1996

BY RON CRICKENBERGER CAMPAIGNS CHAIRMAN, LNC

Want to promote the Libertarian Party using other people's money? Would you like to be virtually guaranteed an interview with every newspaper in your area? How about a way to boost the legitimacy of your political views in the eyes of your friends and family? Want to recruit new members for the party in a fast, fun, and effective fashion?

These and other near miracles can be yours now, if you decide to be a candidate for the Libertarian Party.

But seriously, while there are many ways to promote freedom, running for office under an LP banner is the single most effective means of promoting Libertarian philosophy to the American public. Other people's donations will fuel your campaign efforts. The media and issue organizations will actually seek you out for your opinions. And by running for office yourself, you'll help our other candidates in your state and across the country.

Our past experience shows that the more candidates a state runs, the higher the average vote for all of our candidates, and the higher the top of the ticket scores. By running only a few candidates we aren't seen as much of a threat. With a lot of candidates, the media take us more seriously.

More importantly, our opponents begin to take us more seriously. And when they take us seriously, they have to respond to our agenda. They may attack us. But this just gives us a chance to respond in the media with ideas that make practical sense. Or they may start talking about how Libertarian they are on this or that issue. Ask most any experienced Libertarian candidate and they'll tell you they have seen an opponent move toward our position on at least some issues during a campaign. Sometimes you can get both opponents arguing over which is the more Libertarian.

But the most important reason you

Talking points

continued from page 10

changed. The speed of immigrants' upward mobility is striking—reflecting their rapid incorporation into the American economy and society.'

"While some conclusions may seem obvious—after all, people tend to fare better as time goes by—the results indicate that many immigrants are embracing the American Dream more quickly than casual observers and policy-makers might conclude."

Patrick J. McDonnell, Houston Chronicle, Nov. 3, 1995.

$\diamond \diamond + \diamond \diamond$

"Anyone walking the streets of our major cities sees that the majority of the shops are owned and operated by immigrant entrepreneurs-Korean grocery stores, Indian newsstands, Chinese restaurants. Most of these shops simply would not exist without immigrant families willing to put in long hours of poorly paid labor to maintain and expand them, in the process improving our cities. In Los Angeles, the vast majority of hotel and restaurant workers are hardworking Hispanic immigrants, most of them here illegally, and anyone who believes that these unpleasant jobs would otherwise be filled by natives (either black or white) is living in a fantasy world.

"Immigrants are crucial not just to industries that rely on cheap, low-skilled labor. Silicon Valley, which is home to my own software company, depends on immigrant professionals to maintain its technological edge. A third of all the engineers and chip designers here are foreign born, and if they left, America's computer industry would probably go with them. In fact, many of the most important technology companies of the 1980s, in California and elsewhere, were created by immigrants, including Sun Microsystems, AST, ALR, Applied Materials, Everex, and Gupta. Borland International, a software company worth hundreds of millions of dollars, was founded by Philippe Kahn, an illegal immigrant. These immigrant companies have generated hundreds of thousands of good jobs in California for native Americans and have provided billions of dollars in tax revenues. Without a continuing influx of immigrants, America's tremendous and growing dominance in sunrise industries would rapidly be lost.

"While several of the most parasitic sectors of American society—politicians, government bureaucrats, lawyers—are almost entirely filled with native Americans, each year one-third to one-half of the student winners of the Westinghouse Science Talent Search (America's most prestigious high-school science competition) come from immigrant families, often quite impoverished. Many of America's elite universities have student bodies that are 20 percent Asian, with immigrants often accounting for half or more of the science and engineering students."

Ron K. Unz, a Silicon Valley entrepreneur, National Review, Nov. 7, 1994. $\diamond \diamond + \diamond \diamond$

Thanks to the following for clippings used this month: Melissa Ryan, Chicago, IL; Dave Walter, West Chester, PA; and Research Etc., Princeton, IA.

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should run is so that you can say, "I didn't stand on the sidelines while my country went down the tubes. I was part of the driving force that turned this country around, and restored individual liberty in America." I know what you're saying about now, "Gee, Ron, I'm flattered that you'd like me to be a candidate. But my personal life isn't quite in order enough for me to do that now. My career might suffer. And I just don't have enough time or money."

Well, no one's life is ever perfect enough to run for office. It is likely that your career would be enhanced by a campaign. Most bosses and business contacts are impressed with someone who cares enough about the political situation to throw their hat into the ring.

Won't you help restore the spirit of the American Revolution by being a Libertarian candidate in 1996? If you'll make the decision to run, the Libertarian campaign committee will help you run a better, more effective campaign. The Libertarian Party has set a goal of running over 1,000 candidates in '96, and all of our candidates will receive a complete support package, including campaign manual, talking point papers, and reporting guidelines. We'll also send you a complete set of our position papers. We have samples available of TV and radio ads. We are providing professional training for our candidates at the national convention, and have other support materials either ready or on the way. If you make the decision to run, we'd like to encourage you to join one of two campaign teams.

The LIBERTY FARM TEAM. The Republican takeover of the U.S. House was not an overnight success story. Gingrich had pursued a decade-long strategy of grooming candidates for Congress, by helping them get elected to more easily winnable local offices. The LP must do the same. We want to encourage you to seek out the lowest level office you are eligible for, whether partisan or non-partisan, and do everything you can to get elected to it. Serving on your city council, or similar local office, is absolutely the best way to develop credibility and a support base for a run at higher office later. The LP's longterm success depends on this strategy.

The LIBERTARIAN CONGRESSIONAL MAJORITY TEAM. Due to our advances in ballot access in the past few elections, the LP has a unique opportunity for '96. We should be able to run enough congressional candidates, at least 218, to be able to offer the voting public a Libertarian majority in the House of Representatives. No third party has done this in more than 75 years. The '96 elections are likely to be nationalized, on an issues basis, even more than in '94. We'll be able to offer our own "Contract with America," one that will actually cut the federal government, and cut it big.

I realize that for many of you circumstances such as ballot access will dictate that you seek an office other than those above. But I encourage as many of you as possible to support our two-tiered strategy for maximum publicity in '96, as well as for long-term electoral success.

For more information on being a Libertarian candidate, contact your state party chairman, or the Libertarian Campaigns Committee, Ron Crickenberger, 5143 Rosestone Drive, Lilburn, GA 30247; 770-717-9287, or 74203.2314@compuserve.com

This book will convince you that FEDERAL INCOME TAXES ARE COLLECTED IN TOTAL VIOLATION OF LAW

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2. Get back all of the income taxes you paid in 1994 (if you haven't, as yet, filed a return for that year) and how you can get back all 1995 income taxes you might have already paid;

3. Immediately stop employers from withholding income taxes from your pay;

4. Remove IRS liens and stop IRS agents from seizing your property, since they have no lawful power or authority to do either; and much, much more.

Isn't it about time you stopped <u>voluntarily</u> subsidizing all of those government programs you know are unconstitutional and which only undermine America's standard of living? Isn't it about time you started to live like a free American, and stopped living like a medieval serf? Your money will be refunded if you are not *thoroughly delighted* with this book.

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Letters Readers speak out on endorsements, Browne, more

Endorsements

As a member of the National Rifle Association, I frequently get letters from their political action committees and lobbying groups asking for money. While I support the NRA 100 percent in their mission to defend our 2nd Amendment rights, I have written to let them know I will not be supporting their PACs unless they specifically endorse Libertarian candidates such as Harry Browne for president. I tell them I do not feel comfortable sending money to support candidates who may, or may not really support citizens' rights of self defense, depending on the direction the winds of public sentiment are blowing. The NRA endorsed candidate may even want to deprive us of other consititutional rights.

Before the 1994 elections, the NRA did recognize the Libertarian Party in a footnote to their list of endorsed candidates. They acknowledged that Libertarians as a rule always support 2nd Amendment rights.

I am also a union member and I intend to write letters to the leadership urging them to endorse the Libertarian Party. While it may seem futile persuading the collectivists who lead unions to endorse libertarians, perhaps if they get enough letters they may at least recognize the Libertarian Party as a political contender. This could be done with other

organizations that endorse candidates. If you are a member, they will be more likely to listen to your request.

Eric Johnson Lakeland, MN

Don't throw - veto

Perhaps we need a new line on the World's Smallest Political Quiz that goes something like: "Who should choose your political candidate? a) You; b) Not Sure; c) Government.'

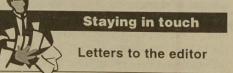
It seems a lot of libertarians now-adays would check the "Government" spot. Like most Americans, we libertarians recognize that something is broke and needs fixing. I think that many libertarians go along with the authoritarian concept of term limits because no one has come up with a satisfactory (i.e., libertarian) fix.

A wise man once told me that "any tersely stated problem has the seeds of a solution in each word." Having thought long and hard about the situation, I believe the problem that term limits is trying to fix is best described as a "SYSTEMIC BIAS FAVORING INCUMBENTS.

Let's see if that man is truly wise. Let's take each word one at a time and see if we can find a libertarian solution.

SYSTEMIC - When 90 percent of all incumbents get re-elected, one can be pretty sure that the problem in the system. This suggests that one way to eliminate the problem with re-electing incumbents would be to eliminate the elections system. Personally, I'd rather keep the system, though I'm not averse to modifying it.

BIAS - Human nature causes people to vote with a bias based on name recognition. Since incumbents usually have greater name recognition than challengers, they will tend to get a disproportionate number of the votes. Though we could solve the problem by waiting until we evolve out of our biases,



I'd prefer it happen a little sooner.

INCUMBENTS - If you are not permitted to re-elect the incumbent, there cannot be a disproportionate number re-elected. This is the path taken by US Term Limits and other such groups.

Effective perhaps, but I prefer choice. Yes I know that 'term limits' is a popular concept. But in 20 years I won't care how the government became empowered to limit the candidates; I will just care that it became empowered to do so. Turning such power over to the government is inherently an authoritarian thing to do and will inevitably produce undesirable results. How can I be so confident that it will? Authoritarian solutions always have.

So if neither systemic, bias, nor incumbent yields a desirable solution, we have only one left.

FAVORING - The only way I can vote now is to vote in favor of someone. Many of the legislators that voted against term limits used the excuse that if we wanted the incumbent gone, we could just vote them out of office. But that's not true! I can vote against a bond, I can vote against a referendum, but I can't vote against a candidate. I can only try to vote against a candidate by voting in favor of her opponent. It's just not the same. If I don't like the opponent either, I'm stuck! Many people solve this dilemma by not voting, which goes a long way to explaining low voter turnout. I'd like to solve the problem described as a "systemic bias favoring incumbents" by allowing people to vote either for or against any one specific, individual candidate. In this way, the voter's bias toward an incumbent's greater name recognition would yield more negative votes to balance the positive, and the worse the job done, the more negative votes garnered.

No, this is not the same as NOTA damn it. Every time I discuss this concept with libertarians, someone invariably pops up with "oh, you mean 'None Of The Above.' I am not proposing the general tantrum of NOTA; I'm proposing a very pointed, specific display of dissatisfaction. If incumbent A has represented me poorly, I want to be able to vote specifically against that candidate. Conversely, if opponent B is a crook, or has sunk to new depths of campaign sleazy, I'd like a way to specifically show my disapproval. I want to be able to send an unambiguous positive or negative message! I'm just libertarian enough to want the government to stay out of defining who I can send it to. I don't like it with ballot access restrictions, and I won't like it with term limits any more.

It's a strange language that has the word "yes", but not the word "no". Our election process, the language of representational democracy, should be changed to include that word. The Libertarian Party Platform should support this concept.

This will tend toward getting Libertarians elected because the incumbents and their main opponents will garner lots of negative votes due to past performance and

campaign practices.

Dana Johansen Virginia

New presidential candidate

I begin the Ruskaup campaign for president to heal the debate over whether a 5 percent retail sales tax to replace other federal taxes constitutes force. I support the tax because it is voluntary. No one has to buy the taxed items. Buy cars, furniture, farm products privately, and there is no tax. Businessmen send the tax to the Federal Reserve with a debit card through a phone swipe. No one wants taxes, but the national debt must be paid, and some activities continued.

State taxes can be eliminated. Instead of education vouchers involving more taxes, I would put states' one-year revenue for public schools in an Investment Trust Fund, and use the income to pay teachers' salaries, if they start their own free private schools. Parents would have a variety of schools to choose from. States collect \$300 billion a year for schools, with \$40 billion going to teachers' salaries. Those taxes would end.

Law enforcement uses the other half of state taxes. I'd let the public keep that money. I'd organize clusters of stores, and 100-family clusters to hire their own six armed security guards. A \$10-a-week contribution per family to its fund would give 24-hour coverage. Cellular phone companies would compete to connect each family to the guard. Opportunities for muggings, burglaries, car thefts would cease.

My health care plan would allow competition for insurance companies to bid for an ideal buyers' full coverage policy, at a premium below the current Medicare premiums. Best bidders would attract most customers. Worldwide pharmaceutical advertising would allow Americans to buy from abroad at lower prices.

My attorney general would issue an order abolishing ballot access restrictions. Another order, using the Constitution's language that required the first senators to surrender their seats, would prohibit reelection to a position. Do marriage contracts mention that with divorce, judges have authority to reassign property and children? Americans need a president who will stop government abuses. Vote for and contact me: Dr. Ruskaup, Unity Libertarian Committee (ULC), P.O. Box 10800, Hilo, HI 96721-5800.

Dr. Calvin Ruskaup Hilo, HI

FIJA

The best idea that the Libertarian Party has ever had, and the one most likely to restore liberty in our lifetime, is Fully Informed Juries. Every LP member should also be a Fully Informed Jury Association member.

Therefore, in every issue of the NEWS we should run the FIJA message as follows: "Restore the Bill of Rights with Fully Informed Juries - 800-TEL-JURY for message."

> **Tom Stahl** Waterville, WA

Democracy?

In his letter on "indirect minority rule"

Thomas Jones (Dec. 1995 NEWS) overlooked the historical reasons behind the bicameral legislature.

First of all, every good Libertarian should know that our system is not a democracy, our founding fathers put limits on democracy. Voters of a county cannot choose an official county religion, even if 99 percent agree on it. A neighborhood cannot vote to keep out minorities, even if everyone agrees. In a democracy, these things would be possible.

As an Alaskan I am, in Mr. Jones's opinion, way overrepresented in the U.S. Senate. This is as our founding fathers intended. The Senate exists to keep large states in the federal system from ignoring the views of the small states. The House exists to keep small states from being disproportionally powerful.

Furthermore, the "Great Compromise" which set up this system is the only part of the U.S. Constitution which is unamendable.

If Mr. Jones is worried about Alaska being too powerful, all he has to do is research the debate over natural gas drilling in the Arctic Natural Wildlife Refuge. Drilling is supported by the Democratic governor, the Republican congressional delegation, three-fourths of the people in Alaska, and the Alaska Federation of Natives, including the Inupiat Eskimos who live closest to the affected area. A measure to allow drilling passed the House and Senate, but was vetoed by Slick Willie. This made him look good to environmentalists in California, so he could easily sacrifice the three electoral votes in Alaska, which he had very little chance of winning anyway.

Winning the 12 largest states, including Mr. Jones's home state of Michigan, by one vote is more important to a presidential candidate than winning the other 38 states unanimously. I didn't see him complaining about that.

Michael Steele Anchorage, AK

Defaulters

The barrage of criticism for Harry Browne's fallback 5 percent sales tax is not only nonsensical, but also hypocritical. From a Libertarian point of view, the initiation of force is absolutely wrong. Also, the common LP cliche for taxation is that "Taxation is theft." And no true Libertarian would disagree with these statements.

But what exactly would the critics call defaulting on the debt? Under a Tompkins presidency, all those people who loaned the federal government money will be told that there's no money left to pay them back. Is this not theft? Is this not force? Yet, according to the criticism, this initiation of force is somehow better than Harry Browne's solution that the government pays its debt and then stops taxing!

This is a lose-lose situation. It's either force and theft, by levying a 5 percent sales tax to pay off the debt (and this is also assuming that the asset sale does not raise the required funds!), or force and theft, by telling millions of people that although they loaned their money to the U.S., they'll never get any of it back. It's ludicrous to assume that after the years of politicians who believed they had a right to

Libertarian Party NEWS

Beginner's Introduction to Libertarianism

A Liberty Primer by Alan Burris

Ken Schoolland

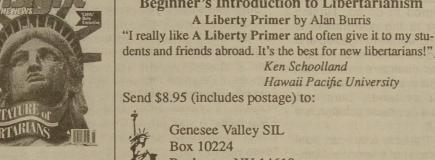
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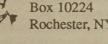
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Letters

continued from page 12

the people's money, we can escape from the tangled web of taxation without damage done

Ultimately it's Browne's plan that comes out on top. His proposal is fiscally sound, and just might bring the country through its transition from tyranny to freedom without a "thieving" sales tax. What's the counter-proposal? To stop taxing immediately, and if the government has stolen millions of dollars in the process, oh well? That should be just as repugnant to a freedom lover

Another election cycle cannot go by without a Libertarian breakthrough. The Democrats continue with their warmed over socialism, and the Republicans continue to flirt with fascism, with Buchanan borders and Flag worship. We have to show the American People that there is an alternative, before America and freedom become irreconcilable. Harry Browne is out there waving and shouting and screaming, trying to get people to see that there is another party, where people are debating the comparative merits of a temporary 5 percent sales tax, or no tax at all. He can and has brought publicity to the party. I can tell people to listen to a leading Libertarian on the most popular radio talk show in Boston. I have never been able to do that before! There is no way that the LP is going to win this election, but we have to bring more people to the fold. And using the same tactics that have been used for 25 years will quite simply fail, like they have done for as long as this party has been in existence. The Defaulters cannot claim the moral high ground here. Unless there is a solution that does not include the use of force (which defaulting requires, and Browne's plan may include), then the one that is more acceptable to the body politic is the one that Libertarians should be advocating.

> Nate Marini Leominster, MA

Pivoting

We were delighted to see the "Ransberger Pivot" mentioned not just once, but twice in the October 1995 NEWS.

Many Libertarians are no doubt using the Ransberger Pivot successfully in their outreach efforts. It's a wonderfully useful communication technique.

However, some of your readers may be wondering: Just what the heck is a 'Ransberger Pivot?'

The Advocates for Self-Government introduced this simple, easy, but very effective technique into the Libertarian movement several years ago. It is named after veteran libertarian Ray Ransberger, who pioneered the idea. The Pivot helps

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libertarians effectively and persuasively answer difficult questions. It establishes common ground by showing questioners that libertarians understand and share their concerns. It can create instant rapport even with people who are initially hostile or resistant to libertarian ideas.

February 1996

As part of our mission to help libertarians become more persuasive communicators

of the ideas of liberty, we have an audio tape available on how to use the Ransberger Pivot.

The tape is for sale, or as part of our 16tape comprehensive Liberty Communicator Course set.

Readers who want to learn about this and about our many other libertarian communication tools are invited to write or call for a free catalog to Advocates for Self-Government, 3955 Pleasantdale Road, #106-A, Atlanta, GA 30340; 800-932-1776.

Thanks for a great newspaper, and keep on Pivoting!

> **Sharon Harris Executive Director, Advocates** Atlanta, GA

Presidential hopeful Schiff on taxes

The following letter was received by the NEWS in May 1995. Because of Mr. Schiff's involvement in the LP presidential nomination process, the NEWS thought it was appropriate to run his letter at this time.

What with speaking each weekend at another Libertarian convention, having to contend with time consuming IRS harassment, and still trying to run a business, it has left me with little time to respond to Mr. Gardiner's letter which appeared in the April NEWS.

His letter contains so many false statements that a lengthy reply is called for, both to expose it and to demonstrate why lawyers are responsible for the government's success in extorting income taxes from the American public, when they should have been the ones to have stopped it. (The reason they haven't done so is because the income tax provides employment for half of the nation's overpaid lawyers.)

In his latest letter, Mr. Gardiner correctly states that "In his earlier letter, Mr. Schiff stated that the Supreme Court held in Brushaber vs. Union Pacific R.R. Co, 240 U.S. 1, 36 S. Ct. 236 (1916) 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." Mr. Gardiner quotes me correctly and then, incredulously, seeks to refute these claims with the following quotation which merely confirms them. "(Schiff's) first statement is clearly self-negating: as it was an 'amendment,' the 16th Amendment plainly Amended the Constitution. In the words of the Supreme Court:, 'the whole purpose of the Amendment was to relieve all income taxes when imposed from apportionment from a consideration of the source whence the income was derived.

So the "the whole purpose of the Amendment" was not, as Mr. Gardiner naively believes, to Amend the Constitution; but merely to clarify the meaning of "income" by "relieving" it from the requirement of "apportionment" by not considering the "sources" (such as wages, dividends, rents, etc.) "whence the income" came. And this only occurs when various kinds (i.e. "sources") of income are funneled through a corporate profit and loss statement and emerge as a "profit", unconnected from the "sources" that produced the profit. However, a tax imposed directly on wages, dividends, rents, etc. would be a tax imposed directly on those "sources" (i.e., would have "considered" them) and thus would be contrary to the stated "purpose" of the Amendment. Therefore, only corporate profits meet the criteria for what may constitute "income" under the 16th Amendment.

As illustrated above, Chief Justice

White had a deserved reputation for writing unintelligible prose, and what he did here (in a manner that almost defies comprehension) was to define "income", for tax purposes, to mean corporate profits, and allow the government to tax it as an excise, "without apportionment" as provided for in the 16th Amendment. However, since the U.S. Congress had already done this in connection with the Corporate Profits Tax of 1909, the 16th Amendment did absolutely nothing.

All of the above is confirmed in the following Supreme Court decisions, and in a recent report issued by the Congressional Research Report. "Whatever difficulty there may be about a precise and scientific definition of 'income' it imports. . . (a) gain or increase arising from corporate activities," Doyle vs. Mitchell, 247 U.S. 179, 184; "The Sixteenth Amendment must be construed in connection with the taxing clauses of the original Constitution. . ., "Eisner vs. Macomber 252 U.S. 189, 205; "The word (income). . .(has). . .the same meaning. .that it (had). . .in the Corporate Excise Tax Act (of 1909)"; Merchant's Loan vs. Smietanka, 255 U.S. 509, 518; ". . .the Sixteenth Amendment conferred no new power of taxation," Stanton vs. Baltic Mining, 240 U.S. 103, 112.

That report, issued by the Congressional Research Service, dated Nov. 17, 1989, and prepared by John R. Luckey (you can get a copy from your Congressman), states, on pages 4 and 5, that: "The Supreme Court (in Brushaber) .. .noted that the Sixteenth Amendment did not authorize any new type of tax, nor did it repeal or revoke the tax clauses of Article I of the Constitution [so the Amendment did not "plainly" amend the Constitution as Mr. Gardiner naively believes]. Rather, the Court found that the Sixteenth Amendment sought to restrain the Court from viewing an income tax as a direct tax because of its close effect on the underlying property. The Court noted that the inherent character of an income tax was that of an indirect tax, stating: (that a tax on income was). . .in the nature of an excise tax entitled to be enforced as such." (emphasis added)

The caption on the Report's next paragraph says, "WHAT DOES THE COURT MEAN WHEN IT STATES THAT THE INCOME TAX IS IN THE NATURE OF AN EXCISE TAX?; and then goes on to explain, "An excise tax is a tax levied on the manufacture, sale or consumption of a commodity or any of various taxes on privileges often assessed in the form of a license or fee.'

So, since the income tax is not imposed as an excise tax, it falls into none of the taxing clauses of the Constitution nor the 16th Amendment, and is one of the reasons why the tax cannot be mandatory.

Mr. Gardiner, however, in seeking to contradict all of the above, makes a number of ridiculous claims. For example, he says: 1) "An income tax could be an excise tax or a 'direct' tax, depending upon the source of the income, i.e., derived from employment or from property"; and 2) "Thus wages and alimony are taxable as excises and dividends and interest are taxable as direct taxes." [How can the same tax be imposed two different ways?]; 3) "The 16th Amendment does not impose any tax; it simply broadened the mode by which 'direct' taxes could be imposed.' [As already explained, the Amendment "broadened" nothing, and was held as not even applying to "direct" taxes.]

Mr. Gardiner next states that my offer "to pay (him) \$1,000 if (he could) 'produce' the laws 'requiring the payment of income taxes is. . a semantics game,"and "disingenuous." However, what is "disingenuous" about asking him to produce (for \$1,000, no less) the law that requires people to pay income taxes? Such laws abound in the Code in connection with other taxes. For example, Section 5703 states with respect to tobacco taxes that, "The manufacturers. . . of tobacco products. . shall be liable for the taxes imposed thereon. . .(and). . . Such taxes shall be paid on the basis of a return." While with respect to the taxes imposed on foreign insures, Section 4374 says, "The tax imposed by this chapter shall be paid on the basis of a return.

His claim, therefore, that Section 1 of the Code that "imposes" an income tax also automatically mandates its payment (and thus presumably satisfies my challenge), can be seen, based merely on the above two Code sections, to be false

In addition, the Privacy Act which is contained in every 1040 booklet, is supposed to tell you the Code Section that requires the payment of income taxes. However, it only mentions Sections 6001, 6010, and 6012 (none of which mention the payment of this tax) and never even mentions Section 1. So if Section 1 were relevant to the payment of income taxes, it would have been mentioned in the Privacy Act Notice along with those three Code sections.

So, while Mr. Gardiner makes no claim to my \$1,000 offer (because he knows he never met its terms), he seeks to pretend that he did, but that it would be fruitless for him to claim it, or try to collect it. Talk about being "disingenuous"!

And his further attempt to equate my offer to him with another dissimilar one I made involving \$100,000 and which another lawyer sought to collect but whose attempt to do so was rejected by two courts but which Mr. Gardiner suggests I should have, nevertheless, paid, is "disingenuous" in the extreme. **Irwin Schiff**

Candidate, LP presidential nomination Las Vegas, NV

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LP NEWS

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Alabama LP Convention, River Front Inn, Montgomery; for information call 334-265-1770 or 800-207-1770 April 27-28, 1996:

New York LP Convention, Westchester; for information call 914-679-8340 or e-mail: Audgeo@aol.com

April 27-28; 1996:

Washington State LP Convention, Ridpath Hotel, Spokane; for information call 800-353-1776. May 4, 1996:

South Carolina LP Convention, Quality Inn, Columbia; for information call 803-552-9991 Speakers include Jo Jorgensen and Rick Tompkins. May 25, 1996:

Missouri LP Convention, Ramada Convention Center, Columbia; for information call 314-874-3454 or 314-443-4883, or e-mail: hemerson@mail.coin.missouri.edu

June 8, 1996: Texas LP Convention, Lubbock; for information call 214-405-8634. July 3-7, 1996:

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