



The Illinois Libertarian

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF ILLINOIS • BOX 1776 • CHICAGO 60690

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HARD CORE LEADERSHIP: Requirement For Success

by Milton Mueller

The biggest issue facing the Party today is the development of a strong nucleus of hard-core libertarians committed to political action. In fact, I would go so far as to say that unless the Party successfully accomplishes this task soon, we may as well call it quits. That's how strongly I feel about it.

A number of glaring problems indicate the need for leadership training. There is our perennial difficulty in finding candidates who are capable of effective communication on all the issues. Another painful symptom was the article by the former chairperson of the LPI, which showed a failure to grasp the very definition of libertarianism. Also, there is a tendency of libertarians to come up with excellent analyses of the issues swirling around them, arguments that could be very effective if the trouble were taken to propagandize them. Yet too many libertarians remain in their armchair while rightists or leftists take the initiatives and define the issues. This is due in part to another problem we have: there is a lamentable absence of the technical skills of organizing, a shortcoming that lessens the scope of our activities to a great degree.

The first problem listed is my pet peeve. The continued lack of effective libertarian agitators is severely limiting our potential for success. There are people who can speak effectively about economics. There are those who can discuss civil liberties with great fervor. There are even a few people in Illinois (too few, by the way) who can articulate the case for a non-interventionist foreign policy. But when these issues are taken discretely, the battle lines are already drawn for them, on the basis of the obsolete left/right spectrum. Thus, we find ourselves trying to cash in on pre-existing liberal or conservative sentiment, rather than building libertarian sentiment. As an example, libertarian interface with free-market groups in Illinois has not led to their being exposed to our anti-imperialist stance on foreign policy. Why should we slavishly respect the old left/right divisions like this? Why can't businesspeople be told that nothing has contributed more to the decline

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77 Convention

Features McCarthy & MacBride

by Jeff Smith

Remember when you were afraid that nobody in the world thought the way you did? And then remember the excitement of meeting your first fellow libertarian? Suppose somebody had told you then that before long you would have the opportunity to meet a whole hotel full of libertarians, many nationally prominent in their fields, but still eager to mingle with as many libertarians as they could find. And suppose someone had told you that a libertarian political party would emerge from this assembly as the strongest third party in at least 50 years, and that the Chicago Tribune would suggest seriously that this party might replace the Republicans. Would there be any doubt in your mind that you had to be there?

Of course I'm talking about the 1977 LP National Convention in San Francisco July 14-17. Its location is not an excuse to avoid going; the convention is an excellent excuse to see San Francisco. The cost of the convention itself are not great for events of its kind, and certainly the proceeds go to a good cause. By now you should have received details on the appearance of Eugene McCarthy and a galaxy of libertarian speakers at the convention, so I don't have to sell you on those. So now that we've overcome all your excuses for not going, what can you expect to find when you get there?

The most important change for most libertarians from previous business conventions is that this year the attendance will justify a complete program alongside the business sessions. This means that if you don't get excited by business sessions you can still fill your time from Thursday through Sunday with libertarian activities. It also means that you'd better get there a couple of days early to see some of the city. You can break up your sightseeing by sitting in on platform and rules committee meetings, which begin Tuesday the 12th.

Exhibitors will be displaying libertarian books, periodicals, and even arts and crafts, as well as promoting libertarian and para-libertarian organizations. The exhibit area is an excellent place to go when you have a few minutes to kill. If you're worried about not knowing very many people at the convention, you can always hang around the exhibit area and strike up a conversation about the displays. You'll soon make friends with the exhibitor and whoever else is standing nearby. One warning: leave enough room in your suitcase to bring back plenty of books, handouts, and other souvenirs.

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of the free market and the expansion of government control over the economy than foreign interventionism? War means higher taxes, an excuse for rationing resources, inflation and its corollary, price controls, and a flurry of nationalism often leading to outright nationalization of businesses.

What we need are people who have a strong feeling for libertarian ideology as a whole, so that they can destroy the old political categories. We need people who understand how all freedom is interrelated, whether it is freedom from coercion in trade, speech or war. An effective libertarian agitator should be able to link the concerns of special interest groups (like gays, business people, draft and tax resisters) with the need for a wholly libertarian society. This approach is infinitely more potent than any attempt to pretend that we are "left-wing on some issues and right-wing on others."

The reader may think, "everyone agrees with that." And it's true, most libertarians would probably agree with the verbal assertion--and ignore it in practice. As a case in point, I believe that the Illinois Party activists' concerns are unbalanced in favor of economic concerns. A thorough education in all other areas of state power, and how they mesh with economic freedom, is essential.

So much for the need for ideological education. The need for instruction in how to organize, write press releases, research issues and run campaigns is so obvious as to require no justification here. But I want to stress the desirability of imbuing ideological people with organizational skills, and not trusting the pursuit of freedom to non-ideological "technicians." Only an overall libertarian awareness can tell an organizer what groups to approach, how to tie in their interests with libertarianism, how to distinguish a libertarian candidate from a liberal or conservative opponent in the minds of the public, and so on. Only an awareness of our ideological goals can make a proper selection of tactics possible.

Now, what is our plan for creating libertarian activists? Unfortunately we cannot manufacture them, like incipient Dr. Franksteins, out of normal people. We must rely on less interesting methods.

One potential area for activism and training centers on Carter's energy initiative. The National LP has developed an excellent "Issues Kit" on energy, with all sorts of research and organizing materials. This was done because it is crucial that the free market, libertarian interpretation emerge as the alternative to Carter's program, not the muddled reaction of special interests and the Republicans. Because of the importance of quickly educating the Party about energy and about Carter's plan, I am offering to make a presentation of the key ideas in the Issues Kit at every local club meeting, especially those with potential for a Congressional candidacy. Take me up on the offer, please! Copies of the research materials will be available, as well as information on how to organize coalitions, set up speaking engagements, lobby congressmen, etc. In short, all the materials necessary for political activism on this issue will be at the disposal of interested parties.

But the backbone of our training effort will be the state and congressional campaigns of '78. The State campaign will be useful in training the eight candidates involved in it, but the congressional campaigns will provide the best opportunity for developing autonomous activists, since both the petition drive and the campaign will have to be run locally. Therefore, we must rev up our local clubs, start having meetings again, and select candidates and campaign managers. Petition drives can start as soon as a candidate is found.

After all the candidates for statewide office have been selected, the most important part of our leadership training drive can begin. Two Activist Training Seminars will be held, one for the Chicago area and one for "downstate" people. These will be intensive programs for candidates and serious activists only. The seminars will provide a weekend of training in BOTH political skills and the libertarian ideology pertaining to the congressional issues. Look for these seminars sometime in August or September.

If our goal of a political nucleus is realized, we will have an indestructible basis for drawing new people into the Party and training them, and we will be able to send speakers to practically any group. To paraphrase Lenin: if there are seven people, seven people who understand, the revolution is won.

A Word Of Thanks

The Vavra campaign was torpedoed by the delay tactics of the Chicago Election Board and the Courts. Ballot status was not attained, and by the time the case was settled, we wouldn't have had time to mount much of a campaign even if we had been put on the ballot.

Those people who worked hard on the campaign deserve all of our appreciation. Gregg himself put an immeasurable amount of time and effort into being a candidate, in the process of risking the wrath of his employer. For this, he should be strongly commended. His willingness to do detailed research on the issues should be a model for all future candidates and activists.

I wish it were possible to thank individually every person who obtained petition signatures. I'll have to be content with singling out a few of the more devoted workers: Mark Travis, wherever you are...; Jim Edminster, who set up the most effective night of petitioning I've ever seen; Bob Osterlund and Merrilyn Sweet, who held Hyde Park together; The DuPage people and especially Ray Birks, who gave more help than we deserved from them; Alida Jatich for her hard work at Headquarters; Rich Homa for his consistent work downtown.



GOVERNMENT WEIGHS HEAVILY ON FRENCH

By BONNIE KAPLAN

The weight of government is heavy in France. Although a modern country, France is saddled with an old political structure that makes America, the land of blue jeans and astronauts, seem to a French visitor a surprising and sometimes disturbing example of freedom. For French Journalist Danielle Brison, American freedom of speech, expression, and the media are especially important. Ms. Brison, assistant to the editor for international affairs of Les Dernieres Nouvelles, a large newspaper in Strasbourg, recently visited the United States on a Journalism fellowship. Near the end of her stay she spoke to None of the Above on French life and government. Although it is especially in the media that Ms Brison notices the difference made by greater freedom, she spoke also of education, business, and social welfare. Everywhere the government is felt.

French government was centralized in Paris by Napoleon, and France is still run from there. The educational system is completely controlled by the central government. Everyone in the country follows the same curriculum, uses the same books, and takes the same examinations. The course of study changes little from year to year. All teachers are trained in the same manner by the Ecoles Normales, but the best teachers are sent to the larger towns. Government supervision is used to restrict what a teacher may say in class. Since the 1840's, education has been free, except in the universities, which charge an administrative fee of \$20 per year. The first year of university is a nightmare; 70% fail the year-end examination. The riots of May 1968 produced hopes for more freedom in education, but no one seems to know how to achieve this. Ms Brison considers the outcome uncertain.

Trade education is controlled not by the unions but by the government; there is no limit to how many can attend trade schools. However, members of the professions are licensed by the Chambers of Commerce and Chambers of Industry, but the licensing examinations and the number of new licenses are controlled by the professions themselves. There is now a severe shortage of plumbers and electricians.

Business is heavily regulated. There are compulsory automatic salary increases every five years at a wage rate determined by law. Vacation, too, is compulsory, which everyone takes at the same time in the summer. There are plans to add a winter vacation. Should you wish to run a business, you would need a permit to build a factory or parking facilities. If your business is one the government wants to develop, water, land, and electricity costs will be subsidized. In order to apply for a job, you will customarily be asked to present a birth certificate and a document proving you have never been outlawed. Journalists, doctors, and lawyers are legally required to produce such affidavits.

Six percent of one's pay is taken for health, unemployment, and pension insurance. To collect full wages while ill, the unannounced visits of physicians sent by the government must also be suffered. Retirement is compulsory by law, at age 65 for men and 60 for women. Retired people receive a government pension based on their last year's salary. People who have no family with whom to live may stay free in a hospital. People whose pension is inadequate set an extra governmental subsidy.

Every town has a Prefect appointed by the national government, and everyone must be registered with the police and Prefecture so each citizen may be billed for the city tax. Everyone also pays regional and national progressive income taxes, including a value added tax of 33%. Because the tax is determined by so many factors, no one really know how his tax is calculated. French citizens receive a tax bill from the government, which computes the amount for them from information they are required to submit. Tax rates are not published.

As in the United States, the government runs the postal service. There are many postal regulations; service is expensive and poor. The post office also controls telephones, providing service so bad that jokes about it are common. Phone installation, which can take up to two years to obtain, costs \$120. In addition, there is a \$12 monthly rental charge (the phone belongs to the government), and a \$.10 charge for each call. It is much cheaper to call France from the United States than the US from France.

The government also owns the trains, buses, and airlines. There is one internal airline. Prices for foreign flights, on Air France, are much higher than rates charged by other airlines.

PROTECTIONISM: A Few Notes

By George O'Brien

In recent months there has been a rise in "Protectionist" sentiment in the United States. While the "Anti-Japanese" drive has had an underlying tinge of racism, there is no question many people believe tariffs and quotas actually do something for their country.

It should go without saying the primary effect of tariffs and quotas is to raise domestic prices. Tariffs do this by adding a tax to the price of goods, Quotas raise prices by restricting the supply of goods available.

The advocates of protectionism claim these measures are necessary since foreigners are taking away domestic jobs. This fallacy is so common it is almost universally unchallenged, yet it fails to perceive the whole picture.

LAW OF COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE

To understand the case for free trade it is useful to understand Ricardos' Law of "Comparative Advantage". Simply stated, "A country should produce those goods it is most relatively efficient at producing (in input/output terms) and trade for those goods it is relatively less efficient at producing.

For example, let us suppose there are two countries X and Y. They can only produce two goods, A and B. Now suppose X is a very efficient country capable of producing 100 units of A or 50 units of B if all its resources are applied to either product. Now Y on the otherhand is relatively inefficinet, capable of producing only 50 units of a or 40 units of B. (For purposes of this discussion it is assumed the tradeoff of A to B stays in the same proportion.)

Each country uses both A and B. In order to meet consumer demand, each country must either produce or trade for these products.

To see how the law works, suppose X has a relatively inelastic demand for B of about 25 units. Now X has the option of producing all 25 units of B. leaving resources available to produce 50 units of A. Therefore, any trade arrangement which obtained 25 units of B and left more than 50 units of A would mean an improved consumption range for X.

If Y trades 25 units of B to X, it can get up to 50 units of A in exchange. This means while using only 62% of its productive capacity it can obtain nearly all of its entire potential output of A. So while X is at a point of indifference, Y gains tremendously. If all Y produced was B and it received 49 units of A from X, it would have 15 units of B left for domestic consumption. (The actual exchange ratios will depend on the relative elasticity of demand for A and B in both countries.)

Both countries gain and neither loses from trade. In this model the tendency will be for X to produce only A and Y to produce only B, since this maximizes total output. Any restriction on free trade or free flow of capital and labor within each country will creat unemployed workers and underemployed capital, and result in a lower total output.

Now let us suppose there is a strong B producers lobby in X which wants to restrict the importation of B to 10 units, with the other 15 units to be produced in X. (The tariff works the same way.) The net result would be a lower standard of living in X since it can get relatively more B by trading for it. The other effect is, there will be lower "sales" to y. This is for two reasons, first Y has less "credit" available since it cannot sell as much B. Second, since it is not using all of its resources for producing B, it will release resources to produce A. (This factor reduces the use of gold or credit to make up the difference.) Thus in order to "protect" the producers of B in X, the rest of the people must pay a higher price (or exchange ratio) and face reduced sales. Thus protectionism is doubly disastrous for people in net export industries, even if there is no retaliatory barriers in Y, which is probable.

THEORY AND PRACTICE

While this model is self evidently simplistic, it does show the basic factors involved. The task of understanding how Ricardos' Law of Comparative Advantage works in modern terms requires one additional complication: Money.

FREE TRADE AND MONEY

Historically the state has favored a "favorable balance of trade", meaning its country exported more than it imported. The reason it desired such a policy was in order to obtain gold; which is used to pay taxes. Kings and Prime Ministers desired gold to pay for wars. Gold could be used for arms and equipment as well as for paying soldiers.

Every effort was made to stimulate exports and discourage imports. However, as long as gold was the medium of exchange, the efforts were typically self defeating.

A country which exports goods and imports gold ends up with relatively few goods at a high price in gold. Other countries with little gold have comparatively low prices in gold. This price differential was substantial enough to overcome tariffs (thus reducing the amount of net exports). However, other devices such as smuggling also served to restore world prices to equilibrium. (These factors combined to thwart the economic development of Spain which received gold without producing exports.)

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Eliminating the gold standard did not end the "military value" of exports. "Credits" could be used to purchase military goods the same as gold. Thus attaining a favorable balance of trade still benefits the state.

INFLATION AND TRADE DEFICITS

In the past World War II period monetary expansion has been the major source of trade unbalances. As governments have found it easier to pay for its idiocy by the use of fiat money, it raises domestic prices in relation to foreign prices. Imported goods, are "cheaper" and thus more attractive, since people trade worthless paper for real goods. As happened in Spain with its windfall of gold, money is more effectively used to buy imports than to invest. In order to "really" stop the trade deficit, either government or consumer consumption must be reduced. If consumers vote they won't let that happen; and who ever heard of a government cutting spending. So the inflation goes on along with the trade deficits.

The problem such countries have is that unemployment of resources becomes rampant as domestic industries are at a perpetual disadvantage. Investment funds go abroad along with the purchasing power.

(It should be noted at this point in a perfectly free floating exchange rate system this price differential effect would not exist. But in the current "dirty float" manipulated by the various central banks it does.)

The motivation of the net importing countries should be obvious, to trade bad money for good products. The motivations of net exporting countries is more interesting. Why do they give away goods? The answer is politics.

In every country there is a certain amount of "malinvestment" of resources. In order to prevent a reallocation (with all of its political problems) these industries are subsidized to maintain the status quo. But since real domestic demand for these goods is limited, it is necessary to export them.

As long as this country maintains an exchange rate which makes its goods seem "cheaper" to importers, then it can avoid the "liquidation process". Since sales are high, there is a tendency to invest more and more in these export industries. Thus to return to a balanced situation would cause a major economic upheaval. It appears politically better to "give away the stuff".

In order to maintain this relative price position, it has been necessary to fudge the exchange rates. By maintaining a lower rate of inflation, this has not been very difficult.

"END TO TRADE DEFICITS"

Any country desiring a balance in imports to exports on an average should first eliminate inflation without gimmicking the exchange rates. This will lead to a liquidation, but if the government stays out of the picture, it will be brief. After that, there will be a much higher level of productivity as resources are much more efficiently allocated according to the law of comparative advantage.

The fears of "dependence" on foreigners for goods is typically overstated. The age old method of "stockpiling" can deal with short term pressures, and could be done by private speculators. The economic costs of tariffs, quotas, subsidies, etc., is much higher.

Free trade is the best alternative. Far from hurting people it helps everyone, but only if the state stops screwing it up.

FROM PAGE 1

The business sessions themselves are definitely worth attending. Although we won't be choosing national candidates this year, we will be electing party officers and revising the platform and by-laws. The party is now mature enough and the platform and by-laws solid enough to avoid the hair-splitting parliamentary haggling and endless sessions of past conventions. Nevertheless, any single issue, such as a platform plank, a by-law dealing with, say, delegate apportionment to future conventions, or the selection of the national chairman could be explosive and fun to watch. Be prepared also for some sleeper issue such as selection of an animal for the official LP emblem to provide a great deal of amusement.

Although parliamentary procedure won't be as important a concern as in past conventions, a basic knowledge of the subject will be very helpful in following events on the floor. And remember that all LPI members attending the convention are entitled upon request to alternate status, and so can become delegates when elected delegates leave the floor.

Last, but certainly not least, are the extracurricular events. Parties range from elaborate hospitality suites to simple open houses with beer for sale to nights on the town to bull sessions in the exhibit area after it closes. Meals are often a good time to meet people, except that nobody involved at all in convention events has more than a few minutes to eat. The moral of this paragraph is that you should get plenty of sleep before you leave.

Anyone interested in flight arrangements or rides to the convention or looking for a roommate should call a party officer or write to the Post Office Box.

TAXPAYERS GETTING ORGANIZED

by Jim Tobin

One of the more heartening developments for libertarians is the recent organization of hundreds of taxpayers groups across the U.S. Even more reassuring is the recent establishment of full-time taxpayer organizations in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Virginia.

Last year tax limitation proposals were defeated in six states primarily because government education and employee associations spent millions of taxpayers' dollars for advertisements which often spread flat misstatements about the proposals. In Michigan a tax limitation amendment holding taxes to a maximum 8.3 percent of the personal income of Michigan residents came close to passing a statewide referendum last November. Not content with the mass production of economic illiteracy, the Michigan Education Association spearheaded the opposition reportedly raising a \$300,000 - \$500,000 slush fund at taxpayer expense through its union membership. The protax groups first victory against proposed state tax limitation occurred in California in 1973.

Consistent defeat of relatively mild proposals to limit state taxes to 7-9 percent of aggregate personal income may lead some taxpayers to correctly conclude that libertarian fiscal policy will never prevail as long as special interest groups outspend concerned but unorganized taxpayers by at least \$8-\$10 to \$1. However, statewide organizational and funding to provide Massachusetts taxpayers with a higher (progressive) state income tax advanced by protax advocates in that state was overwhelmingly defeated last November. Such organizations as Mass. Fair Share with its \$200,000 plus grant from the Washington based Campaign for Human Development and the Mass. Law Reform Institute, a federally funded group with grants of more than \$300,000 were thoroughly trounced by a 75 to 25 percent vote. Massachusetts new full-time nonpartisan antitax group, Citizens For Limited Taxation (CLT) was the main force responsible for the defeat.

In its anti-graduated tax effort, CLT spent \$44,000 in a media blitz that included TV, radio and newspaper advertising and harped on the fact that a progressive tax actually meant a higher tax for everyone. Assembling 500 statewide volunteers, the group set up a speaker's bureau and distributed 150,000 pieces of literature. By the end of the campaign, 43 of 46 newspapers took official editorial positions opposing the measure.

CLT now believes a modest budget of \$40,000 - \$50,000 annually will provide quarters for the central organization in Boston. The group hopes to organize and coordinate 50 - 100 town and city antitax groups, in order to develop a statewide network of people interested in reducing taxes and fighting tax hike proposals. Local chapters would eventually provide manpower and financial assistance to appropriate candidates running across the state and for statewide office.

CLT is now preparing to take the offensive by enlisting support for legislation to abolish a series of state agencies - all with multi-million dollar budgets. Included among those in the condemned category are the Governors Commission on the Status of Women, the Office of Children, the Mass. Commission Against Discrimination and the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission.

Of course Massachusetts is smaller in size with a greater population density than most states. However, the overwhelming success of the antitax campaign in Mass. indicates that if taxpayers can organize statewide and reduce the funding differential to at least \$5 - \$6 to \$1 taxpayers can emerge victorious. Such organizational and funding activity would ultimately require at least one full time state antitax organization to coordinate scores or hundreds of local volunteer taxpayers associations to limit and dismantle government.

The grassroots nonpartisan antitax movement should be cheered and encouraged by all libertarians. Such organizations provide a natural audience for libertarian speakers and libertarian candidates for political office.

The following volunteer taxpayers groups operate in Illinois outside the Chicago Area: Clinton County Taxpayers Association, est. 1976; Jo Daviess County Taxpayers Association (JDTA), est. 1975; Ogle County Taxpayers Association (OCTA), est. 1965.

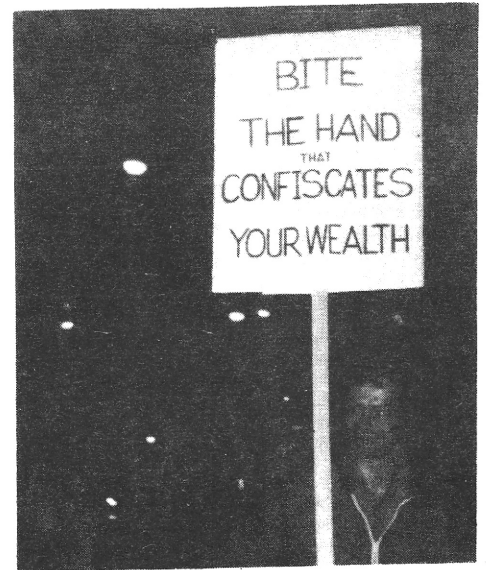
In an article in the April 1977 issue of the quarterly "Private Property/Free Enterprise" (cir. 8,200) published by OCTA's parent organization, Mr. Glenn L. Lyons, President, JDTA, stated he believes taxpayers' Associations should band together so their weight can be felt more in Springfield.

If you are aware of such associations in your area please provide me with the name, address, and phone of a contact for the group. If you are interested in forming a libertarian antitax group for your area you may also contact me for information at 5048 W. Augusta Blvd., Chicago, IL 60651 (312/287-0969).

EDITOR'S NOTE

by George O'Brien

I want to take this opportunity to thank Melissa Cournoyer, Doreen Kaplan, Elaine Theroux, and of course, Milton Mueller for their help with putting together these first two newsletters. While their help has been invaluable, we do need more people to help with typing, copy editing, layout, titles, and gathering News and Notes items. If you can help, please call me at 595-4277 (home), or 834-7800 (work). I am also anxious to receive articles and letters to the editor. Send them to 120 East George St. #516, Bensenville, IL, 60106. Also, if anyone has pictures of Libertarian activities, I would appreciate receiving copies at the same address. I will do my best to get them back to you promptly.



FRANCE (CONTINUED from Page 3)

Although nominally free, the news media are also controlled by the national government. Because many newspapers were financially pressed after World War II, the government instituted subsidies based on circulation. That system continues. No major paper can be self-supporting; any paper carrying more than 50% advertising must, by law, be given away, not sold. Although there is an underground press and some free papers, they cannot really compete with the heavily subsidized sensationalist dailies. (Serious newspapers receive little subsidy money because few people buy them.) Additional subsidies come in the form of a 30% tax deduction for journalists ("it's a way to buy the press," Ms Brison said,) and reduced postage and phone rates for newspapers. The government also controls the quota of imported newsprint allotted to each paper.

The radio waves belong to the government, which owns 43% of the stock in the three stations. Two years ago television was given autonomy in an attempt to cut costs, but it is still government controlled. The three channels (one network, "in Paris, of course"), which are supposed to be competitive, share their programs. TV time is free for political parties, in proportion to the size of the party. Governmental ministers appear daily, whereas representatives of minor parties are seen only during campaigns. About ten minutes per day is spent on commercials. TV owners pay a tax which is given to the TV industry.

In all media, comments about the government and its officials must be favorable. By law, obscene songs cannot be broadcast before 10 PM; and in France, "obscene" means anti-authority. Ms Brison told of an incident at her newspaper, which she described as "one of the freest in France." When a government minister considered a photograph unflattering, the paper had to print an approved picture of him.

Most French people know the media are controlled by the government, so they don't believe what is reported. They tolerate the situation because they don't care. Ms Brison believes that a long tradition of monarchy (and De Gaulle was "probably the biggest king we had in France since Charlemagne") is to blame.

There is now some desire for less government, a trend started by the ecology movement. Ms Brison, who calls herself a socialist, said that the French consider their present system capitalism. She thinks that a socialist government will eventually be elected, partly because it is the only real alternative presented. Socialism promises solutions to the problems of unemployment (one million in a population of 52 million, 24 million of whom are workers) and inflation (11%). Although socialists propose more control of such industries as oil, chemicals, and food, they favor more free enterprise than the communists, who want the government to control everything, and they advocate more civil liberties than allowed under the present government.

BOOKS FOR LIBERTARIANS

DEFENDING THE UNDEFENDABLE

(The Pimp, Prostitute, Scab, Slumlord, Libeler, Moneylender, and Other Scapegoats in the Rogue's Gallery of American Society)

By Walter Block
Forward by Murray N. Rothbard
Illustrations by Rodrigues

For all too long, oppressed minorities (racial, ethnic, the handicapped), have received all the attention from those who defend victims of unfair attacks. There are, however, other groups who have been denigrated unjustly and denied an advocate. DEFENDING THE UNDEFENDABLE is dedicated to correcting this imbalance.

Dr. Block's list of "undefendables" reads like a rogue's gallery--from the blackmailer to the drug pusher, the moneylender to the prostitute, the employer of child labor to the strip miner--all the object of universal revulsion. They are accused of perpetuating evils, but are really scapegoated by the very people who try to suppress them.

Many of these extreme case studies of the reviled and scorned in our society have considerable shock value. The author fearlessly and with trenchant logic demonstrates their considerable economic and social merit, and forces the reader to think and rethink his initial response. The book, with its provocative and genuinely challenging claims, demonstrates that these so-called "scoundrels" never engage in reprehensible acts of initiatory aggression.

Although written in a lively and humorous style, Dr. Block proves the serious political-philosophical point that in a just society all deviant but non-aggressive behavior should be permitted.

"Looking through DEFENDING THE UNDEFENDABLE made me feel that I was once more exposed to the shock therapy by which, more than fifty years ago, the late Ludwig von Mises converted me to a consistent free market position. Even now I am occasionally at first incredulous and feel that "this is going to far." but usually find in the end that you are right. Some may find it too strong a medicine, but it will still do them good even if they hate it. A real understanding of economics demands that one disabuses oneself of many dear prejudices against other occupations, and in showing the falsity of these stereotypes you are doing a real service, although you will not make yourself more popular with the majority."

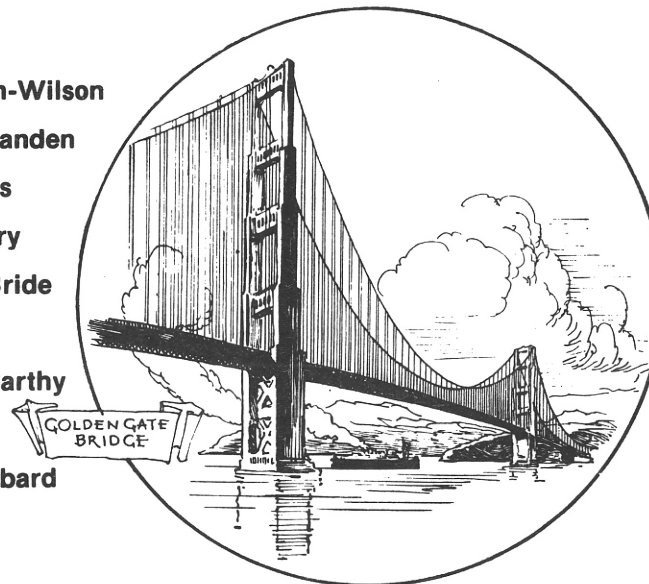
F. A. von Hayek, Nobel Laureate
Institut for Nationalokonomie

TURNING POINT – 1977

6th Annual National Libertarian Party Convention
Sheraton - Palace Hotel
July 14th through July 17th

FEATURING

- ★ Robert Anton-Wilson
- ★ Nathaniel Branden
- ★ John Hospers
- ★ Timothy Leary
- ★ Roger Mac Bride
- ★ John Marks
- ★ Eugene McCarthy
- ★ Earl Ravenal
- ★ Murray Rothbard



- Bay Cruise
- Speakers
- Seminars
- Parties
- Workshops
- Exhibits
- Entertainment
- Films
- Surprises Galore

Local Club News

NORTH SIDE

Joe McCaffrey
1960 N. Lincoln Pk. Chicago, 60614
312/ 528-9083

SOUTH SIDE

Elaine or David Theroux
5616 So. Blackstone, Chicago, 60637
312/ 955-2442
The South Side club met May 16 to discuss the possibility of running a congressional campaign there. A local club newsletter was established. The next meeting will be June 13. Call for time and place.

NORTHWEST SIDE

Wayne Openlander
3132 N. Lowell, Chicago, 60641
312/ 283-1690 (home)
312/ 966-4752 (work)
The Northwest side club organized a meeting for libertarians in MENSA. The meeting was a success, with many libertarian MENSA members becoming acquainted with each other and engaging in lively discussion.

NORTH SHORE

Michael Hepple
312/ 328-3654
The North Shore Club met May 26th. Results of the meeting are unavailable at press time. Call Mike for information--the 10th District is a prime spot for a congressional race.

WEST SUBURBAN

Tom Cain
163 N. Harvey, Oak Park 60302
312/ 383-8359 (home)
312/ 236-1996 (work)

SOUTH SUBURBAN

James C. Jones
11123 St. Lawrence Chicago, 60628
312/ 468-8805

LAKE COUNTY

Marji Kohls
1002 Valley Dr. Wildwood 60030
312/ 223-8417 (home)
312/ 546-8215

The Lake County Club meets the first Sunday of every month in the Lakehurst shopping center, at 1:00. This month's meeting is June 5th.

MCHENRY COUNTY

Robert Randall
91 East Street Crystal Lake, 60014
815/ 459-4929 (home)
312/ 276-8500 (work)

DUPAGE COUNTY

Ray Birks
4718 Lee Ave., Downers Grove 60515
312/ 968-6006
The DuPage County Club met May 25th at the home of Don Parrish. Congressional campaign and the DuPage County fair were the main topics. The Club plans to have a booth at the fair. Next meeting is June 29th.

METRO EAST

Bill Brockus
117 S. Kansas, Edwardsville 62025
618/ 656-4351

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

Bill Mitchell
618/ 439-6004

ROCKFORD

James Dunkel
5462 Rickwood, Rockford, 61107
815/ 877-6321
The Rockford Club held a press conference featuring Scott Ottenberg, their former candidate for the School Board, to oppose the new school bond issue. The Rockford club is also gearing up for a congressional race, and hopes are that Ellyn Powelson will be able to run.

DEKALB

Marc Swanson
815/ 758-4073

TRI-CITIES

Richard Wetzell
309/ 764-7049

PEORIA

William Scudder
113 Pebble St. East Peoria, 61611
309/ 699-0922

CHAMPAIGN/URBANA

Jeff Dehn
217/ 359-3583
Milton Mueller and Mike Hepple plan a trip to the U of I campus near the end of June.

SPRINGFIELD

Gary Burpo
2528 Manchester Springfield 62704
217/ 787-1451

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& news & notes

GAYS PROTEST CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

WITCH HUNT.

Most people in Chicago are familiar with the Chicago Tribune's sensationalized series on child pornography in Chicago. In its aftermath, politicians, editorial writers, and practically everyone else are literally standing in line to be able to condemn this "outrage," this "disgusting exploitation," etc, etc, etc.

The Tribune articles, moreover, constantly lumped gay people together with child molesters, rapists, and in the Tribune's vocabulary, "perverts." As a result, the gay rights bill before the Illinois Congress was shelved and homosexuals are being harassed by police in the Lincoln Park and New Town areas.

The Committee for Gay Rights was hastily formed to fight back. It is a coalition of several gay rights groups, from the Revolutionary Students League to the Libertarian Party. The first action taken by the group was a protest demonstration at the Chicago City Council hearings on May 24th. The LP provided its media list for the press releases. Alderman Burke provided a clear indication of the anti-homosexual reaction generated by the issue when he invited Anita Bryant to testify at the Chicago hearings. (Incidentally, alderman Block, the Republican mayoral candidate and alleged liberal, accused Mayor Bilandic of being a "Johnny-come-lately" in the fight against porn. Get on the old bandwagon, Dennis.)

On Saturday, May 28th, the Committee organized a march in the Lincoln Park area. The marchers rallied under the statue of Alexander Hamilton (??) and listened to speakers from RSL (after they spoke all the reporters left), The Libertarian Party, the publisher of Gay Life, and others.

Looking back, the reaction of the gay community has been disappointing in some respects. There has been too much talk about how revolting and disgusting child pornographers are, and not enough distinction made between the coercive and non-coercive activities of the pornographers. It is important to stress that the motive of the Tribune in raising the issue

seems to be that they have finally found an issue that "even the most ardent civil libertarian" will be reluctant to defend, as one of their pompous editorials said. What is happening is a deliberate attempt to discredit freedom of choice in sexual matters by taking the most extreme case possible, and lumping it together with rape, child molesting, and other coercive activities. The appropriate response is a principled defense of consenting individuals' right to do as they please, not the duck-and-take-cover strategy of some gays.

SENATOR WILLIAM PROXMIRE will personally accept a fiscal integrity award from National Taxpayers United of Illinois. The presentation will be made at the Illinois Taxpayers' Rights Conference, 1:00pm to 3:00pm on Sunday, June 12. The Windsor Inn, 6565N. Mannheim Road (SE corner of Mannheim and Higgins) will host the Conference. Also present will be Jim Tobin, president of NTI, and James Dale Davidson, chairman of the National Taxpayers Union.

JUNE 15 IS TAX FREEDOM DAY!

The last day of the portion of your working year devoted to the payment of taxes will be celebrated with a demonstration. For information, call the National Taxpayers United of Illinois, c/o Jim Tobin, at 287-0969.



"I finally taught my son the value of a dollar. Now he wants his weekly allowance in Swiss francs."

NOTA TALK JUNE 26 at 2:30pm.

"Eskimos as anarchists" is back, presumably by popular demand. Anthropologist Joe Maxwell will show how Eskimo communities have operated without political institutions or organized coercion. The implications for anarchist theory will be considered. At Christ Church of Chicago 701 W. Buckingham. Everyone is invited to dinner afterwards at Naniwa, a Japanese place at 923 W. Belmont. Dinner starts around 5:30

LIBERTARIAN PARTY. No, not the political organization. A real party for libertarians, fellow-travelers, and friends will be held at the home of Milton Mueller, 1864 N. Sheffield, 1st floor, Chicago, 525-6231. Pot Luck dinner starts at 7:30--come early enough to re-heat or set up your contribution. BYOB. The date is June 18th, a Saturday.

LPI NEEDS NEW VICE-CHAIR. The present vice-chairperson of the LPI, Jeff Smith, has obtained a teaching job in Philadelphia and will be leaving us soon. Nominations for a replacement will be accepted by mail, by phone to a Party officer, and at the SCC meeting in June. The July newsletter will carry ballots for approval by the membership.

Jeff Smith has been extremely valuable to the Party, and we all hate to see him go. His work has always been both intelligent and thorough, and his "act" will be a hard one to follow.

SCC MEETING FOR JUNE will be held at the home of Elaine Theroux, 5616 So. Blackstone, Chicago. The date is June 19th, the third Sunday of the month--remember? Representatives and Party members are all welcome; the meeting will begin at 2:00. The SCC meeting for July, due to the National Convention, will have to be pushed back a week to the fourth Sunday--July 24. Location to be announced.

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