

CLARAT

BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

IN GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

HEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes need far for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Easts, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinion of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them

Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opiner of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.

Was hold these Truths to be self-evice, that a gen are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with cortain instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Castley and the Pursuit of Happines—That to secure their Rights, Governments are lends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abelian it, and to institute of the covernment, laying its Poundassion on such Principle. The trade of the security of the sec

Vol. 2

No. 1

DECLARE YOUR INDEPENDED

Libertarians in Oklahoma believe that our's is the party of principle. We think honesty is the only policy in speaking to the people of Oklahoma. An honest political party is possible, if they clearly state their principles and how those principles apply to contemporary issues. We have made an honest effort to say what we mean in our platform. But only you can judge that we honestly mean what we say. We ask for your judgment and we are confident of your verdict.

We are in fundamental disagreement with all political parties or individual politicians who believe that any end justifies the initiation of force as a proper means of securing that end no matter how noble or popular that end may be. We believe that no person, no self-annointed group and no government has the right to initiate, to start, the use of force against the person or justly acquired property of any individual. We are done with violence and coercion as actions proper among human beings. Until force and coercion are renounced man's inalienable rights will remain in perilious jeopardy and fear will rule the lives of us all.

We are a philosophical party. We are committed to the idea that every human being is competent to choose his values in life and that he must be free to act on those values. To hold otherwise, we believe, is to degrade you and all of us to the status of fools or automatons. Man is not a fool by nature nor an automation. Only force and fraud can make us appear silly or incompetent puppets. We are all human beings with equal right to the dignity that our own free choices can bring us. Libertarians are not haters and dispisers of the spirit of man. We think we're OK and we think you're OK. We think freedom is OK.

Every specific stand we take on the issues, no matter how remote they may seem or how unique, is directly tied to our basic principle of the individual's right to life in a society

without the initiation of coercion. But lest we be misunderstood, let it be known that we are not pacificists. If human beings have the right to exist, they have the right to retaliate, to defend their lives. But we see that this is a dangerous and morally hazardous course for any individual to pursue as the urge may move him. It is wiser for men accept that reason is a better guide to insure justice than is the heat of passion for swift justice.

The rule of law is the means of securing the most certain justice. We uphold the right of human beings to refrain from retaliating to the unjust act of coercion by applying reason to establish law and a peaceful order. Just as an honest political philosophy is possible, so is a just government with rational laws which protect the unqualified liberty of all human beings. If it is possible for us to be honest with ourselves, then it is possible for us to be just with one another.

But, today in the United States of America, and even more so in other countries, we see dishonesty, fraud, injustice, force, torture, killing and horrible suffering. We see it in Oklahoma when we have the courage to look. We believe that you see it, and we want to see an end to it. There can be an end to it. We still have all the freedom that we need to be even more free than we are now. You are not a fool. You are not a puppet. You are a human being and an American. The power to be free and happy and prosperous in a peaceful community is still within you. You are free and independent. Declare your independence from lies and violence and fear. Claim your inherent nobility. Look into the eyes and the ideas of those who would crush your spirit and see that they are empty of reason and have no power except power that you may give by your own submission. There need be fear only in the lives of those who fear to look. When you look, you will think. When you think, you will feel your freedom.

Declare Your INDEPENDENCE

Published by

Libertarian Party of Oklahoma

P.O. Box 25517 Oklahoma City, Okla. 73101

Thomas J. Laurent, Chairman
Dr. Michael Steelman, V. Chairman
Sam H. Hays III, Treasurer
Judy Owen, Secretary
Brent Miller, Secretary
D. Frank Robinson, Past Chairman
and National Executive
Committeeman at-large

PRICE CONTROLS DON'T WORK

By Anthony Harrigan

In the early days of the Jamestown settlement, Acting Gov. Sir Thomas Dale conceded in a statement to the settlers that "martial law did not grow corn." What he meant is that government laws and controls have no power to create production.

The controllers persist in refusing to learn from experience. Controls failed during World War II, at a time when the U.S. government was fighting a global war that had tremendous popular support. They are failing today. Indeed, controls have failed whenever and wherever they have been tried, for they are cosmetic measures that provide no real or lasting remedy to economic ills.

Yet modern governments, including the U.S. government, continue to impose controls. They issue vast quantities of money to "stimulate growth" and then vainly seek to prevent runaway inflation by imposing price freezes and ceilings.

Writing in *The Freeman Magazine*, Mr. Hazlitt has explained:

"If the legal price for any commodity, whether it is bread or shoes, is held by edict substantially below what the free market price would be, the low fixed price must over-encourage the demand for it, discourage its production, and bring about a shortage. The profit margin in making or selling it will be too small as compared with the profit margin in producing or selling something else."

(Continued On Page 5)

WHO IS A LIBERTARIAN?

Prof. Dean Russell

Who Is a Libertarian? first appeared in the May 1955 issue of Ideas on Liberty. At that time Dean Russell was, and has been for several years, a resident member of the senior staff of the Foundation for Economic Education. He continues to serve as a consultant and contributor.

Those of us who favor individual freedom with personal responsibility have been unable to agree upon a generally acceptable name for ourselves and our philosophy of liberty. This would be relatively unimportant except for the fact that the opposition will call us by some name, even though we might not desire to be identified by any name at all. Since this is so, we might better select a name with some logic instead of permitting the opposition to saddle us with an epithet.

Some of us call ourselves "individualists," but others point out that the opposition often uses that word to describe a heartless person who doesn't care about the problems and aspirations of other people.

Some of us call ourseves "conservatives," but that term describes many persons who base their approval of an institution more on its age than on its inherent worth.

Many of us call ourselves "liberals." And it is true that the world "liberal" once described persons who respected the individual and feared the use of mass compulsions. But the leftists have now corrupted that once-proud term to identify themselves and their program of more government ownership of property and more controls over persons. As a result, those of us who believe in freedom must explain that when we call ourselves liberals, we mean liberals in the uncorrupted classical sense. At best, this is awkward, subject to misunderstanding.

Here is a suggestion: Let those of us who live liberty trade-mark and reserve for our own use the good and honorable world "libertarian."

Webster's New International Dictionary defines a libertarian as "One who holds to the doctrine of free will; also, one who upholds the principles of liberty, esp. individual liberty of thought and action."

In popular terminology, a libertarian is the opposite of an authoritarian. Strictly speaking, a libertarian is one who rejects the idea of using violence of the threat of violect—legal or illegal—to impose his will or viewpoint upon any peaceful person. Generally speaking a libertarian is one who wants to be governed far less than he is today.

A libertarian believes that the government should protect all persons equally against external and internal aggression, but should otherwise generally leave people alone to work out their own problems and aspirations.

While a libertarian expects the government to render equal protection to all persons against outright fraud and misrepresentation, he doesn't expect the government ot protect anyone from the consequences of his own free choices. A libertarian holds that persons who make wise choices are entitled to enjoy the fruits of their wisdom, and that person who make unwise choices have no right to demand that the government reimburse them for their folly.

A libertarian expects his government to establish, support, and enforce the decisions of impartial courts of justice—courts which do not recognize or refer to a person's race, religion, or economic status, If justice is to be rendered, the decisions of these courts must be as binding upon government officials and their actions as upon other persons and their actions.

A libertarian respects the right of every person to use and enjoy his honestly acquired property—to trade it, to sell it, or even to give it away—for he knows that human liberty cannot long endure when that fundamental right is rejected or even seriously impaired.

A libertarian believes that the daily needs of the people can best be satisfied through the voluntary processes of a free and competitive market. And he holds the strong belief that free persons, using their own honestly acquired money, are in the best possible position to understand and aid their fellow men who are in need of help.

A libertarian favors a strictly limited form of government with many checks and balances—and divisions of authority—to foil the abuses of gearful power of government. And generally speaking, he is one who sees less, rather than more, need to govern the actions of others.

A libertarian has much faith in himself and other free persons to find maximum happiness and prosperity in a society wherein no person has the authority to

(Continued On Next Page Col. 1)

Atoka Dairyman Battles Bureaucracy

By Porter Davis

"Somebody, some way has got to put a stop to all these governmental interventions into our daily lives and our daily business transactions," declares J. Jene Mungle. He is protesting a suit initiated against him by an agency of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture for refusing to file certain monthly reports.

Mungle, who already deals with 47 government agencies, claims the federal regulation has the effect of forcing him into a milk marketing pool which requires him to charge a minimum price for his milk. (But Mungle wants no part of subsidies, price supports, or any other form of regulation that infringes upon the free enterprise of an unwilling party.)

Pleading his case Sept. 5th before U.S. Dist. Judge Luther Bohanon, Mungle said that he represents not just himself, but "the entire agriculture industry whose load of governmental intervention is slowly choking it to death."

Mungle has asked several elected officials from the President to his Congressman for help, but none has given any real support. Most referred him back to the same department that is suing him.

"Somebody, some way has got to put a stop to all these governmental interventions..."

JOIN THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

WHO IS A LIBERATARIAN

(Continued)

force any other peaceful person to conform to his viewpoints or desires in any manner. His way of life is based on respect for himself and for all others.

A libertarian doesn't advocate violent rebellion against prevailing governments—except as a last resort before the concentration camps. But when a libertarian sees harm rather than good in certain acts of government, he is obligated to try his best to explain to others who advocate those measures why such compulsory means cannot bring the ends which even they desire.

The libertarian's goal is friendship and peace with his neighbors at home and abroad.

WE'VE GOT A SECRET

WAY TO END DIRTY MONEY IN POLITICS

By D. Frank Robinson

Some kind of political campaign financing reform will almost surely be enacted in this session of Congress. It will almost just as surely fail to correct the intended abuses and further erode the public confidence in the competence of the present Congress. The fault lies, I believe, in the fact that our legislators have lost sight of their proper objective. Libertarians contend that all laws must demonstrably act to protect the rights of individuals. What measures may be enacted, if any, which will further safeguard our political liberties?

In considering laws to alter campaign practices we must keep in mind that the advocacy of political ideas is essentially a First Amendment freedom to speak and publish without prior restraint by government. A candidate is an advocate who is also asking for the legal right to exercise public authority as an elected official of the government. He does not lose his First Amendment rights as a citizen by becoming a candidate, however, because has chose to put himself forward for public office we may as voters, require that he conduct himself differently than the private citizen.

To impose any financial limitiation on the advocacy of ideas ia a violation on the citizen's rights under the Constitution. There should not be any legal financial limitaiton on the amount any citizen may choose to spend to exercise his right to freedom of speech. Nor should there be any limit on the amount he can persuade others to contribute to pay the expenses of exercising that right. Should these attempts to impose a form of prior censorship by economic maneuvers be enacted into law Congress, then we can expect them to be tested in court and at the polls in future elections.

The need for reform to correct abuses and corruption is real and legitimate. It can be done without violating anyone's rights. I believe the plan I recently proposed will do this.

The secret voucher plan would prevent candidates knowing who their financial contributors were. They could not be influenced by any contributor. It would be much like our present method of voting. No one knows who you vote for? You can tell anyone how you voted but you can't PROVE how you voted. It's secret.

There would be no limits on how

much anyone contributed. There would be no need to limit contributions, since no one could use his contribution to bargain with.

How much the candidates received and what they spent it for would be a matter of public record. There would be a full disclosure of campaign expenditures. There need be no contribution limit that would undermine the public's right to learn about the candidates.

The secret voucher would shield the individual contributor from political reprisals and shakedowns by government officials. It would shield the candiate from those who would expect favors for their contributors because could truthfully claim ignorance of any basis for such expectations. The secret voucher would further protect the individual from non-government coercion by employers, labor chieftians and others. NO ONE would know who gave how much, if any thing, to any political candidate or party.

Finally, the secret voucher whould not require an expensive new bureaucracy to administer. Those who choose to contribute would finance the cost of their protection by having about 3% deducted from their contribution for overhead cost of printing, accounting, and storage of funds. The cost of the plan would not be financed by any revenue from general taxation. It would pay for itself.

This idea is vastly more just than the proposal to make all taxpayers underwrite the cost of all political candidates. It is questionable why any honest candiate would want to run for public office with stolen money, because that is just what he would be doing under a system of public financing of election campaigns.

The details of the secret voucher plan to reform political campaign financing can be obtained by writing to:

DIRTY POLITICAL MONEY FUND P.O. BOX 25517 OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA. 73101

Be sure to enclose One dollar. We are a NOT tax supported and subsidized public leech. There ain't no such thing as a free lunch, podner.

Remember that any government which gets so big that it can give you everything you want will also be so big that it can take everything you've got. — William Miller

A HISTORY OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

The Libertarian Party, currently ranked third among America's six significant nationwide minority parties, was founded in Colorado in 1971. It was established to provide a political platform for Americans who believe in the supreme importance of individual liberty and that no other political party is consistently pro-freedom (both economic and civil).

The Libertarian Party candidates for President and Vice President in the 1972 election were John Hospers and Toni Nathan. They received one Electoral Vote from a Républican Elector in Virginia who could not bring himself to vote for Nixon. The LP was the only minority party to receive any Electoral Votes in 1972.

The LP will field numerous candidates throughout the country in 1974. LP leaders believe the party can become a major political force in the United States by 1980.

Plans for the Libertarian Party were first discussed formally at a meeting held in Westminster, Colorado, in July of 1971.

During the summer and fall of 1971 the group grew to nearly 100 other people around the country and the decisions was made to go ahead and launch the new party. The name Libertarian Party was selected because its members wanted to stress their primary concern with individual liberty.

The new party made its debut in January 31, 1972, with 250 members. When its first national convention was held in Denver that June the membership had risen to nearly 1,000.

The Convention was attended by about 100 members who nominated Dr. John Hospers, Director of the School of Philosophy at the University of Southern California, as their Presidential candidate and Ms. Toni Nathan, a broadcast journalist from Eugene, Oregon as their Vice Presidential candidate. Ms. Nathan was destined to become the **first** and **only** woman in American history to receive an Electoral Vote.

Oklahoma was one of ten official state delegations at the Convention. Oklahoma libertarian D. Frank Robinson was Chairman of the Constitution/By-Laws Committee and was elected one of four at-large members of the party's national executive committee.

By virtue of its late start, the LP was able to get on the ballot in only two states (Washington and Colorado) in 1972. Nevertheless, Hospers and Nathan criss-crossed the country in their four month campaign. Dr. Hospers visited Oklahoma City and Tulsa in September of 1972.

By Election Day, the Libertarian Party had grown to nearly 2,000 members; in the two states where Hospers and Nathan were on the ballot, they received more votes than the Communist and Socialist Workers parties combined.

The climax of the '72 campaign came six weeks after Election Day on December 18 when Roger Lea MacBride, a Nixon Elector from Charlottesville, Virginia, announced that he was putting "principle before party" and casting his Electoral College vote for Hospers and Nathan. MacBride, a life-long Republican, believed the GOP had "lost its way". In a syndicated interview with Washington Post columnist Nicholas von Hoffman, MacBride said he was indicating his dismay with the fact Nixon was "moving the government towards evergreater control over the lives of us all."

Since the '72 elections the LP has grown to over 3,000 dues-paying members around the country. There are party organization formed or forming in 32 states. Membership is expected to reach 6,000 by years end double again to at least 12,000 by January 1976.

The Libertarian Party of Oklahoma began in April of 1972 when former state chairman D. Frank Robinson and two other Oklahoma libertarians traveled to Denver to confer with national party leaders. Robinson, a former Oklahoma County Republican Party official, was soon joined by several dozen other people across the state. A state convention was held in August of 1972 in Oklahoma City. The LPO was successful in bringing Presidential candidate Hospers to Oklahoma that fall even though it was legally impossible to place Hospers' name on the Ballot in Oklahoma in 1972. The LPO has vowed to gain a place on the ballot for 1976, if not in 1974.

There are currently six minority parties in the United States who seem to merit some national attention, and whose vote-getting potential can be considered significant. These are the American, Peoples, Libertarian, Socialist Workers, Social Labor and Communist parties.

Of the six, LP is currently number three in actual votes received. It is behind the American and Peoples parties, but ahead of the three far-left parties. An analysis of the minority party vote patterns in the 1972 Presidential election showed that had all six of the parties been on the ballot in all 50 states, they would have received approximately the following number of votes: American-1,500,000; Peoples-300,000; Libertarian-250,000, Socialist-Workers-150,000; Socialist Labor - 100,000) and Communist-50,000. Ranking in terms of membership would indicate the same order.

In philosophy the LP overlaps partly with the American Party (on economic issues) and the Peoples Party (on civil liberties issues). The Libertarian Party is diametrically opposed to the other parties on practically every issue.

The LP expects to run a strong third party race by the 1980 Presidential election and win some Congressional seats by then as well as some state offices. To gather the support enabling them to do this the LP believes it will be necessary to strike down discriminatory ballot laws which make it virtually impossible for the American voter to elect any candidate other than what the two major parties offer them. Recent studies have shown an increase in independent voters and some political scientists not libertarian have claimed that the two major parties are splitting up. Many observers agree that a major political realignment is taking place or could take place within the next 6 years.

The general public seems very concerned with economic issues like inflation at the present, but a strong concern with protecting civil liberties from infringment by Big Government also exists. The Libertarian political philosophy is very strong on these issues. While the Libertarian Party position on civil liberties issues are widely, if not generally accepted, the Party's stand one conomic policy is at odds with policies "espoused" by the two major parties. Libertarians often stress economic freedom as co-equal with, and indispensable to, the exercise of individual civil liberties.

The LP presently draws most of its support form middle-class workers (skilled labors, technical, clerical, lower to middle management) and professonal class people in the 20 to 40 age bracket. These people are intensely concerned with inflation. They are the most heavily burdened with taxes. They are dissatisfied with the failure of public education and seem to be increasingly suspicious of bureaucratic government, large corporate enterprise and the giant labor unions.

WHERE DO LIBERTARIANS STAND? Statement of Principles

Adopted unanimously by the delegates to the first national convention of the Libertarian Party, on June 17, 1972.

We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state, and defend the rights of the individual.

We hold that each individual has the right to exercise sole dominion over his own life, and has the right to live his life in whatever manner he chooses, so long as he does not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live their lives in whatever manner they choose.

Governments throughout history have regularly operated on the opposite principle, that the State has the right to dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor. Even within the United States, all political parties other than our own grant to government the right to regulate the life of the individual and seize the fruits of his labor without his consent.

We, on the contrary, deny the right of any government to

from the National Platform

INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AND CIVIL ORDER

The protection of individual rights is the only proper purpose of government. No conflict exists between civil order and individual rights. Both concepts are based on the same fundamental principle: that no individual, group, or government may initiate force against any other individual, group, or government. Government is instituted to protect individual rights. Government is constitutionally limited so as to prevent the infringement of individual rights by the government itself.

TRADE AND THE ECONOMY

Because each person has the right to offer his goods and services to others on the free market, and because government interference can only harm such free activity, we oppose all intervention by government into the area of economics. They only proper role of government in the economics realm is to protect property rights, adjudicate disputes and protect contracts, and provide a legal framework in which voluntary trade is protected. All efforts by government to redistribute wealth, or to control or manage trade, are improper in a free society.

FOREIGN POLICY

The principles which guide a legitimate government in its relationships with other governments are the same as those which guide relationships among individuals and relationships between individuals and governments. It must protect itself and its citizens against the initiation of force from other nations. While we recognize the existence of totalitarian governments, we do not recognize tham as *legitimate* governments. We will grant them no moral sanction. We will not deal with them as if they wery proper governments. To do so is to ignore the rights of their victims and rob those victims of the knowledge that we know they have been wronged.

do these things, and hold that the sole function of government is the protection of the rights of each individual: namely (1) the right to life — and accordingly we support laws prohibiting the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right to liberty of speech and action — and accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property — and accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and emiment domain, and support laws which prohibit robbery, trespass, fraud and misrepresentation.

Since government has only one legitimate function, the protection of individual rights, we oppose all intereference by government in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. Men should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left free by government to deal with one another as free traders on a free market; and the resultant economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of man's rights, is laissez-faire capitalism.

from the Oklahoma Platform

THE ONLY FUNCTION OF GOVERNMENT CONSISTENT WITH LIBERTARIAN PRINCPLES IS TO OFFER PROTECTION OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS TO LIFE, LIBERTY AND PROPERTY.

We favor a moritorium on any further government spending programs.

We favor the repeal of all legal tender laws and an end to government manufacture and control of currency.

Just as the taking by force of any portion of an individual's property is theft, so is the forced "sale" of land or goods under the so-called "right of eminent domain" and is firmly opposed by the Libertarian Party.

The Libertarian Party opposes any form of censorship of the media such as pornography laws, FCC regulations and licensing of airwaves, sedition acts, or any sequestering of private property such as equal time or space laws (in print media).

Since no acts can be considered crimes in the absence of force (or fraud) we oppose any laws regulating the sexual behavior of consenting adults.

The taking of an individual's property by force whether done by individuals or groups (such as governments) is theft. The Libertarian Party therefore opposes all taxation.

PRICE CONTROLS DON'T WORK

(Continued From Inside Front Page)

The application of controls, on the other hand, only thwarts the operation of the law of supply and demand with resulting distress for the whole economy. Increased production is the natural curative process in a time of rising prices, but price controls only lead to a rationing of scarcity.

These truths must be stressed time and again because economic error is frequently presented as an economic wisdom and translated into law and public policy. Where price controls are applied, freedom is diminished and opportunities for economic growth and improved living are drastically reduced. In short, the controls, the freezes and the ceilings only result in private loss and public distress.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAMEADDRESS				
			□ Regular (\$6)	TYPE OF
CITY	STATEZIP		□ Sustaining (\$12)	MEMBERSHIP:
PHONE (Area) _			- T'C' (0100)	
			☐ Life Sustaining (\$2	250)
I wish to inform other	ers about the Libertarian Party.	I enclose	\$2.00 for a public inform	ation kit.
What experience have	you had in political organizatio	nal work?		
What organizations an	nd publications do you have influ			
Are you interested in	running for office as a candidate	e of the Libe	rtarian Party?	
Yes No	If yes, what office(s), and	when?		
On what level(s) would	d you be willing to serve as an o	officer of the	Libertarian Party?	
National	State Local	None		
Who or what persuade	ed you to join the Libertarian Pa	nrty?		
Are you willing to confor 1976?	ntribute to a fund to aid the Lib	ertarian Party	in securing a place on the	e ballot
Yes	No		TREASURER	
I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of forces as a means of achieving political or social goals			LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF OKLAHOMA P.O. BOX 25517 OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA. 73101	
Signature				