



### Goliath Can Wait

Usually, the entry of None of the Above into nomination is the expression of the Libertarian right to be a wisenheimer. Not this time. *Editorial.* **2**

### Campaign Post-Mortem

Last of 1991's self-analyses: Dave Harnett takes a lucid and candid assessment in his race for Dutchess County Legislator. **3**

### Health Care "Town Meeting"

Two New York Libertarians attend an open forum where all opinions are welcome—as long as they're socialist. **5**

# If We Could Turn Back *Time* MAG CALLS LaROUCHE "WILD-EYED LIBERTARIAN"

Reaction by New York Libertarians was swift and voluminous to the potentially damaging faux pas committed by *Time* magazine in its January 13 issue, if the mood during the State Committee meeting Sunday the 12 is any indication.

The "American Notes" section, on page 21 of the issue, was written in the usual soft news/factoid tone. The first item, titled, "Who Needs Cuomo?", featured several short profiles of some of the 62 filers for the New Hampshire primary: New Alliance Party's Lenora Fulani, personal-bankruptcy-recovering comedian Pat Paulsen, *Billy Jack* actor Tom Laughlin, candidate-till-death Harold Stassen. No mention of Libertarian nominee Andre Marrou.

Not in so many words.

Among them, without an accompanying picture, was Lyndon LaRouche.

The single-sentence mention refers to him as a "wild-eyed libertarian." [See inset, right.]

#### FACT-FINDING MISSION

Robert Goodman, LPNY member and good friend of FREE NEW YORK, first got the hint from Boston's David Brudnoy, whose show is heard on clear nights on the AM band, at least in the Bronx. Brudnoy raged, complaining of the "incompetence and indifference" on the part of the *Time* staff.

After studying a copy over coffee the next morning, Bob's first call of protest was to editor Ursula Nadasdy de Gallo at *Time* headquarters in New York City. Turns out the piece was written by David Ellis, and he would be out until January 20 on a two-week

vacation. (later calls to his answering machine suggested a three-week vacation, to end on the 27th.) According to Ms. Nadasdy, Mr. Ellis was responsible for all checking of facts for such a short piece.

The frustrating part of it is that later on the same page, in a factoid about protests over California's new helmet law, California writer Scott Brown uses the word libertarian correctly in describing the angry bikers. And once again later in the issue, the word accurately describes a viewpoint of writer/scholar Camille Paglia in a feature profiling her.

**Lyndon LaRouche.** The wild-eyed libertarian, who has also run for the White House before, sent in the form from the Federal prison in Alexandria, VA, where he is serving a 15-year sentence for mail fraud.

#### THE GAME'S AFOOT

After further calls, a pattern began to form. An editor of the Orange County, California chain of newspapers, known for their libertarian editorial leanings, suggested that the *Time* staff uses much wire copy for sections like American Notes, with little paraphrasing. Mark Montoni of the LP National staff saw this story nearly verbatim in another newspaper, with the same candidates mentioned and the

same excluded, before the primary. The LaRouche item, Montoni remembered, was nearly identical—except, of course, for the four damning words. Richard Winger, Libertarian from San Francisco, remembered seeing many similar oddball-angle stories regarding some candidates, though not verbatim. Some included Andre Marrou, and all that did correctly identified him as a Libertarian.

One pictures the wire copy on Mr. Ellis' desk. One visualizes the haste he must make, the pressure he must feel.

One wonders what would possess him to discard the paragraph describing Andre Marrou, which was in all likelihood included in the wire piece—all but the word libertarian, mind you—and insert this word under Lyndon LaRouche's name.

(Okay, Lyndon is occasionally wild-eyed. Granted.)

Jim Turney, audio recordist of LP events, spoke to the chief editor of *Time's* Nation section, in search of an explanation. Said the editor, "But LaRouche is a self-avowed libertarian." Mr. Turney replied, "No, he's not. He's a self-avowed Democrat." The editor then concluded with, "Well, we'll have to check on that." (Nice timing, *Time*.)

Perhaps Mr. Ellis has heard of Mr. LaRouche's fondness for pseudonyms, that

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KEEP THE DATE OPEN!

1992 New York State Convention  
Friday, May 1—Sunday, May 3

## Goliath Can Wait

When the State Assembly in the 60s wanted advice about this new ecology thing, they called upon my father, a famed hunter, fisherman and conservationist. He was asked how Albany might clean up the Hudson—a daunting and politically slippery job.

His plan went like this. The agency, whatever it was, would start at the north end of the pond from which the Hudson officially originates. Foot by foot, both shores of the lake, and then the river, would be inspected for pollution sources, working its way south.

Its first violator—a paper mill, storm drain, or just some guy emptying his coffee pot—would have the untempered wrath of the whole Empire State on his ass, and the action wouldn't let up until the violator did. Then it would make its way down the river to the next victim, where the process would repeat.

By the time these bureaucrats would get to the really big badboys—the industrial centers—so much momentum would build up from this political bandwagon that these new obstacles would be a breeze. Soon, *voilà*: a clean Hudson.

While the wrath of the Empire State causes a surge of indignation in most Libertarians I know (to say nothing of fear),

the underlying idea is sound: there are times when you put all your eggs in a very small and concentrated basket. Call it the principle of leverage.

Now to my point.

The goal of any political party is, or ought to be, to elect officeholders who bring about positive change in government. Not just to *run* them, mind you, but to *elect* them.

Does it not seem too broad an effort to run a candidate for U.S. Senate, with as untempered a party and alien a philosophy as ours? Isn't this like trying to clean up the Hudson by passing a law saying it's illegal to dump in it?

Imagine instead, if you will, a candidate of ours in some strategically vulnerable race, in a district across which s/he could drive in minutes, and whose basic campaign s/he could fund almost out-of-pocket. Picture the great need this area has for liberty—its appetite growing by the day, if only by a few well-placed letters to the editor.

Now visualize the whole psyche of the Libertarian Party of the State of New York behind this one person, its resources concentrated, like a squad of Visigoths with a battering ram, breaking through the statist battlements, and setting our loved ones free—or starting the process.

But no. We have three candidates against Senator Pothole. *Three!*

Somebody hand me a pea-shooter.

I admit, there is comparatively little glamour in running for or holding a seat on a city council, a county board of legislators, or a school board. But ain't nobody in this world gonna get more than one percent of the vote by running against Al as a Libertarian. (Maybe as *anything*.) And at the end, where will New York be? Where it is now: zero Libertarian officeholders. Republicrats chuckling in their mahogany.

But a large statewide race, I hear you say, would raise awareness in the Party. Let's say it does. Don't we have plans to turn around a year later and run a gubernatorial candidate, for the same purpose *as well as* to get our 50,000 qualifying votes? Couldn't that race do the consciousness-raising *and* get us qualified, simultaneously? I just picture trying to reconvene all those pooped volunteers, after their two-fisted petition drive—Marrou in one hand, our Senatorial nominee in the other. (Hell, I picture *being* one of those pooped volunteers.)

Until that day where we rejoin the quest for quality governmental seats, let's not give short shrift to quantity.

Despite a previous commitment to assist in a campaign (which I intend to honor fully), for Libertarian candidate for U.S. Senator this newspaper's editor must endorse None of the Above.

And, for the best of intentions, hopes for a landslide. ★

## The Galiber Narcotics Bill: PROBABLY BETTER THAN REPEAL

by Robert Goodman

As chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives committee on narcotics, Charles Rangel of Manhattan posed several questions in a hearing on proposals to end Prohibition in 1988. Basically, the questions were taunts intended to make fun of critics, but also to divide opponents of Prohibition by demanding they give specific answers as to who would be allowed to buy and sell which drugs, and under what circumstances. Libertarians are used to getting such questions in response to blanket proposals to abolish some state function and our usual rejoinder is, in the words of Leonard Read, "anything that's peaceful;" it's not our job to specify who, what, when, where, and how—that's our point!

New York state senator Joseph Galiber of the Bronx thought over Rangel's questions, and came up with a different answer: treat all currently proscribed recreational substances, except for cannabis, the same as alcoholic beverages in legal terms. (For cannabis, the senator has introduced since the 1970s bills whose combined effect could leave reefer less regulated than booze.)

Galiber crafted a bill to establish a controlled substances authority, parallel to the state liquor authority, to oversee the licensing of establishments to dispense such substances to adults on a non-medical, no-prescription basis. The original bill, S. 1918, would've limited eligibility for such licenses to doctors' offices and pharmacies; its successor, S. 4094 in the current session of the New York state legislature, does not.

S. 4094 has potentially dangerous flaws not in the original. I've called these to the attention of Galiber's advisor in these matters, Nathan Riley. The details need not concern us until the bill appears closer to passage. For now, the question is, how enthusiastic should a libertarian be over the general idea of Galiber's bill? Do we want another taxing and regulating authority like the state liquor authority? With the current momentum against prohibition, shouldn't we try for better, as when, in 1923, New York state senator Cuvillier's bill to repeal New York's alcohol prohibition as adopted? To the contrary, I think Galiber's legislative program is probably better than a bill to repeal all New

York drug edicts, leaving New York statutes silent on the subject.

It's not that I think a licensing bill could necessarily be easier to pass than simple repeal. The apparent compromise nature of Galiber's bill, though it might placate and even enthruse some control freaks, will be seen by many, with some justification, as state approval, by means of sanction, of intoxication. S. 4094, by allowing other businesses to apply for a dispensing license, doesn't even offer a potentially lucrative oligopoly to an established line of business, as its predecessor did to pharmacies, thus forsaking a potential political power bloc toward passage. No, the reason for S. 4094's superiority has to do with the power relationships between the state and national government under the federal drug statutes and relevant portions of the U.S. Constitution. Besides invoking putative treaty obligations (see the second paragraph of Article 6 of the U.S. Constitution for a chill), federal drug prohibition has been based, in part since 1965, and exclusively since 1970, on Congress' power under Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution to "regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes." This despite Federalist Paper Number 42 (probably James

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# "Third" World

## LPNY ON YESHIVA U.'S THIRD PARTY BALLOT ACCESS PANEL

by Robert Goodman

On November 19, 1991, thanks to David Greene's referral to student George Brieger, I took part in the Panel on Ballot Access for Third Parties, held by the Cardozo Law and Politics Society at the Benjamin Cardozo School of Law of Yeshiva University in Manhattan.

The audience of about 20 half-filled the seating of the moot courtroom where this, the second event of the new society, was put on and videotaped. The other panelists were Howard Lim, New York county chairman of the Conservative Party; Fran Reiter, state chairwoman of the Liberal Party; and Lina Harknet, state chairwoman of the Right to Life Party. (We each received a \$50 honorarium, which was a pleasant surprise to me.)

### PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES

First we took five minutes apiece to explain our parties' "purposes and principles." The Conservative and Liberal speakers saw no need to explain conservatism or liberalism (so called), but gave their parties' histories. Lim said his party's purpose was to give conservatives a choice. Reiter said her party's purpose is "to keep the Democrats honest and the Republicans liberal" (thereby necessitating the Conservative party, I guess), and not to run their own candidates. Harknet took her time to describe her party's stand against abortion, euthanasia, and assisted suicide. Playing on the names of the other parties represented, I alternately titled the Libertarian Party as the Right to Life, Liberty and Property Party, explained that we'd still be known on the European continent as liberal, and read our Statement of Principles. I explained that, while the other parties represented were in New York only, we're nationwide and in some other countries.

### BALLOT BATTLES

Next, we spend five minutes apiece on "the struggles experienced by each party in placing candidates on the ballot for state and Presidential nominations."

The other speakers represented state-established parties, who needn't submit the huge petitions we do as an independent body. Lim described the innovative technique the Conservative Party uses in New York County, where a single signature, or a relative handful, is usually enough to designate a candidate. They use a computer database to mail to each of their 3000 enrollees a petition sheet for each office they're eligible to sign for, which they sign before notaries public and mail back. The Conservative, Liberal and Right to Life speakers were now interested primarily in their right to freedom of association, against takeover by Democrat and Republican operations. When I mentioned the difficulty of legally cancelling enrollment of a voter in a New York State

established party, Reiter contradicted me by saying she'd recently dis-enrolled six voters—as if it were easy to find these individuals and prosecute their non-liberalism before a judge! I cited the maze of barriers to Libertarians and other "upstarts" around the country, in contrast to other countries' relative electoral freedom, and in contrast to state-established parties. The only other speaker to that problem was Harknet, whose Right to Life Party was the most recent to clear the 50,000-votes-for-Governor hurdle, and which accepts no patronage. Their independent nominating petition was stored in a bank vault and driven to Albany for filing with a back-up car following, in case the first broke down.

### SUGGESTION BOX

Then we gave five minutes apiece on "suggestions for changes in present election laws."

The other speakers wanted to allow the regular party organization to designate candidates without the five-percent petition requirement. (At present, this option is available only in state-wide, special, and some village elections.) I'd like to see this reform, too, but wonder whether the other advocates would begrudge independent bodies like LPNY this privilege; I didn't get to ask. The minor parties also want equal representation, instead of just the Top Two, on boards of elections. I read the LP's platform plank on election laws, adding that many of us, as an alternative to having no names printed on the ballot, would accept very easy, equal ballot access. The Society's faculty advisor, who moderated the panel, tried to elicit everyone's agreement that there should be some restriction on ballot access; I didn't go along. The other speakers all rejected None of the Above votes—especially Reiter, who implied an obligation of us to pick our poison.

A short question-and-answer period followed, discussing Louisiana's election laws, voter registration, and other topics. In contrast to Reiter's advocacy of easier registration and her all-but-stated idea of an obligation to vote, Lim pointed out that there's no such thing as non-partisan registration efforts (as exemplified by Governor Cuomo's desire to conduct voter registration in welfare and unemployment offices), and that some people are more qualified than others to participate in politics. Reiter was very strident (as on all other topics) about the right of a political party to exclude outsiders. I didn't have time to bring up the News Election Service. We were all asked about candidates we'd elected.

I also learned we may soon be joined by two law students who'd been members of the LP of Massachusetts. Also, we may be invited back to speak at Cardozo soon, and our literature will be offered in connection with voter registration there. ★

## CAMPAIGNS

# I Ran for Dutchess County Legislature

by Dave Harnett

November 5, 1991 I received 11% of the vote in a two-way race for a seat on the Dutchess County Legislature. I polled 60 votes against 489 for the Democratic incumbent in a heavily Democratic district.

Apparently I did some things right.



I chose a low-level office where door-to-door campaigning could take the place of expensive mailings. I petitioned effectively, using lists of registered voters to target people qualified to sign. I talked to people, and

emphasized that I offered a real choice. I showed sincerity and earned respect, even from people who disagreed with my views. I attended two candidate forums where I gained experience at public speaking. Candidates for other offices and some voters were impressed by some libertarian ideas. My appearance at one forum led to my appearance on a local radio talk show, hosted by an almost-libertarian. At every opportunity, I emphasized my opposition to the drug prohibition war, a hot topic in this district, well known locally for violent crime and drug arrests.

Unfortunately, I did many things wrong.

I had no real campaign plan. I spent less than \$100, so my important message was delivered on poorly printed material. I emphasized issues, while I allowed my opponent to evade most issues without challenge. I had no history of participation in community affairs, an issue raised by more than one voter. I failed to solicit the support of community leaders. I neglected to promote myself through the local newspaper. When I got the opportunity to provide information for their Voters Guide, I declined to identify my employer and instead described myself as a troubleshooter. On two occasions, the paper referred to me as someone "who describes his occupation as troubleshooter." That statement, along with my grim bearded visage, did not look good in print.

I learned a lot. Despite the hard work, I enjoyed myself.

Next time, I will seek a less politically homogenous district, one where people are less dependent on government services and government jobs. Though a few people were aware of the Libertarian Party and our basic platform, many seemed to think that I represented an affront to the traditional two-party system of government. Only time and perseverance will alter that perception. ★

he had run for office once under the name Lyn Marcus. Perhaps he heard some similarity in the names—LaRouche, Marrou—and concluded of Lyn was back to his old tricks.

Some among us, however, suspect deliberate intent.

We LPers are a pretty thick-skinned lot, by and large. We're used to the total omission of the Libertarian guy in the political write-ups. News about our presidential nominee has to be found between the lines, and in the pie charts as ever-growing slices marked "other." Not unlike how the Soviets used to conclude that bread would be scarce whenever the TV news boasted about record harvests. It's a fact of life in a party that is perceived as being small by the media, and as a result, remains small.

## Chime In

It's not too late to register your complaint, too. So here's an address and a fax number. Give 'em hell. But remember, the media naturally seeks the man-bites-dog stories, and letters to the editor are no exceptions. If you sound like a raving goofball—a "wild-eyed libertarian"—that's the one they'll print.

Then where will we be?

**Time Letters**  
**Time-Life Building**  
**Rockefeller Center**  
**New York, NY 10020**  
 fax: (212) 522-0601

But this is not a simple sin of omission. It's too hard to believe that our good name could find itself beneath the name of this lunatic accidentally.

### THE EMPIRE (STATE) STRIKES BACK

So, the State Committee Meeting and Westchester Regional Convention on January 12 saw Lou Vogel buttonholing attendees with papers and pens, urging them to write a reaction letter then and there, promising he would mail them the next day. No doubt he has. And no doubt our counterparts in other states are blitzing the *Time* offices with letters, calls and faxes as well.

No letters in either *Time's* January 20 or 27 issue deal with this business, as the reactions are still piling in, I'll bet.

And what's not to find fault with?

At least they spelled it right. ★

sion, wherein the feds supersede more stringent state restrictions on commerce. In other cases, states have been merely indifferent to federal restrictions on intrastate commerce. In the case of narcotics, the feds and states have been on the same side.

But how will it turn out if a state ever tries to defend the liberty of an individual within its jurisdiction against a putative power of Congress? This situation could well arise if some states try to get rid of Prohibition, while Congress still stands with it.

Those who think the feds would prevail may therefore think the Galiber bill would be ineffectual. But not so. The U.S. Controlled Substances Act defines anyone licensed by a jurisdiction to dispense controlled substances as a "practitioner." Although the statute lists examples of health professionals as "practitioner" when it includes "other person" as a "practitioner" doesn't say this has to be some kind of health pro. Therefore those licensed as dispensers under the Galiber bill would also be recognized by the feds as allowed to dispense any controlled substances pursuant to their practice, which would be defined by the state—the Galiber scheme again. (The situation is different regarding prescription of drugs to be dispensed by pharmacists.)

In other words, the national edict specifically authorizes state set-ups such as Galiber envisions. Contrast this with the alternative of repeal of all New York edicts referencing drugs. That choice would mean that newly licensed doctors in New York would be unable to prescribe any of a variety of drugs without violating federal statute. Etc.

Maybe *worse* than the status quo!

The cooperation of the feds will be required for the Galiber dispensaries to obtain their stocks. However, the dispensaries will be legally entitled to such cooperation, provided they meet federal security and record-keeping requirements. In cases where the preparations they obtain are in the form of prescription drugs under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, dispensers will have the choice of filing a prescription every time they dispense, or re-compounding the material so that it will no longer be a drug (medicine) as defined by that Act. They'll probably choose the former, since it's simpler, and the latter will entail record-keeping anyway.

Assuming the defects of S. 4094 are corrected or come to nothing, what's the worst that could result? A few more bureaucrats draw on the taxpayers, they license nobody, and the "drug problem" gets no better, no worse. The best? Drugs are regulated like alcohol, and New York's "drug problem" becomes like the "liquor problem."

And I think the best is more likely. ★

## The Word Gets Around

Here's where things like this lead.

This Friday, January 17, on Channel 13's 8:59 p.m. *Bulldog Edition* (a summary of news headlines), staff announcer Lewis Dodley read essentially the same story, only with an even less defensible editorial goof:

"Lyndon LaRouche, *head* of the Libertarian Party, filed his papers today. . ."

January 21 (pressday plus one), Lou Vogel will have led an LP leaflet campaign in front of WNET offices in New York City.

Will it work?

Only *Time* will tell.

## Galiber Bill

Madison), which makes clear that such power was sought only so that the feds could veto trade barriers erected by the states against each other, as could the German empire over its constituent principalities. Amendment 10 says in part, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution . . . are reserved to the States." This would seem to preclude any meddling by Congress into commerce within a given state. However, federal courts have upheld Congress for decades in their claim that the Article 1, Section 8 power "to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for calling into execution the foregoing powers" provides an excuse or such meddling when it's inconvenient for enforcement purposes for the lazy feds to distinguish intrastate from interstate commerce, or when commerce within a state affects commerce between them. Such is claimed by the federal Con-

trolled Substances Act.

The situation was similar in 1923 when New York repealed its state alcoholic beverage prohibition, and in 1929 when a bill to bring it back was defeated. Governor Al Smith made clear that the U.S. Constitution and Volsted Act still applied to New Yorkers. State and local police no longer attempted to enforce Prohibition, but the federal T-men and J-men in New York still tried. Some heat thereby was taken off, but not to the point where the business could emerge from "underground."

Since the decision in 1975 that the privacy provision of the Alaska constitution gave persons there the right to cultivate their own cannabis, there's been a conflict with federal statute. Feds could've asserted the supremacy under Article 6 of federal law pursuant to the U.S. Constitution over a state constitution, and tried to prosecute Alaskans growing their own. But they haven't. It would be interesting. Article 6 has long been cited in conjunction with Amendment 10's other provi-

# Nita & Friends

New York Libertarians Blay Tarnoff and Bob Goodman were among the attendees to the Westchester session of the National Health Care Town Meeting, 200 others of which were simultaneously held across the nation, at 8:00 in the evening of January 16 at the White Plains Hospital auditorium. To hear their account, it seems they witnessed one step in the decline of the "town meeting" in America's political vocabulary.

Predictably, the gathering was billed as an open forum, during which Ms. Lowey's constituents were invited to share diverging ideas. Equally predictably, ideas diverging little from a nationalized insurance system got first and best attention.

The event, carried live in some locations on C-SPAN, had the stamp of the Democratic National Committee firmly affixed, said Blay Tarnoff. "It was a blatant attempt to sink pilings into the earth for the health care package they (the Democrats) were pushing," he said.

The first item on the bill was a twenty-minute speech from Rep. Lowey regarding the problem, the challenge, and what her administration has done with regard to paving the way for Socialism. Ms. Lowey's seat is challenged this November by her Republican predecessor, Joe DioGuardi, who announced his candidacy recently. Whether Mr. DioGuardi was in attendance that evening was not clear at press time.

This was followed by what Blay called "a slick, slick video" produced by the DNC, a direct appeal to the emotions (since an appeal to reason was no doubt beyond the budget of even the Democrats). The bulk of the shots were interviews of people from the heartland wringing their hands, fighting back tears, and lamenting how bad the economy has been, and how awful life would be for them not to get free health care. The sight of 200 well-fed Democrat-types wagging their heads and tisking filled Blay with ennui.

Next came a full hour of "invited speakers," whose appearance at the microphones was enlisted weeks in advance. Indeed, a woman who sat near our two emissaries was promised by mail six weeks previous as being the sixth speaker. She was eventually thirty-sixth. To a person, these speakers, among whom were sympathetic doctors, labor union dignitaries, and the usual Left entourage, praised the different features of the plan in its current form, followed each time with polite,

Politboroesque applause.

Except for heckles and politically incorrect applause (at all the "wrong" times) from what one fellow guest called "some off-the-wall fringe group" called the Libertarians.

"It was embarrassing to find myself heckling," said Blay. "It's not the polite Libertarian thing to do. And it's increasingly obvious that the Democratic Party is simply a sub-division of the Government, I don't begrudge the DNC the right to peaceably assemble. But this thing was so fixed from the beginning, that the only way I knew to get a word of dissent in was by just piping up."

At one point, Ms. Lowey spoke of the importance of preventive medicine (and, of course, how it should be insured too, "without cost"), and how money is saved "when we catch the diseases early." This, to Bob Goodman, was funny. When eyes turned at the laughter, he explained, "You said, 'when we catch the diseases!'"

The congresswoman retorted, "Just wanted to see if you were paying attention."

On the table were three different plans, which appeared equally statist to our LP frontmen. The first plan had every citizen eligible for Medicare. The second, called Play or Pay, gave the "choice" to employers to either provide health care insurance of a certain set of criteria or submit to a tax to help pay for Medicare. The third, and one which carried the most favor here, was called Single Payer—that payer being government, which ensures all health care with participation of existing carriers.

All three plans propose to cut administrative overhead by consolidating their bureaucracy. All three plans also made mention of cost-containment measures; without specifying what they would entail, each plan stressed the importance for the existence of such measures. Kind of like how President Bush made sure his Civil Rights Reform Act wouldn't be a quota bill—by having a clause in it saying, "This is not a quota bill."

It was evident to Blay what cost containment would mean: "Fee schedules, medicine charts, and bureaucratic handbooks replacing the expertise of the doctor, and second-guessing his experience."

Bob's speculation is that the Democrats have already made up their mind as to what combination of the plans they will introduce as a bill, which they will claim, would not be possible without the input from the town meetings in January. He says they will plan for passage in both houses of Congress, only to be vetoed by President Bush. Said Bob, "They know how stupid and destructive this whole scheme is, but they'd rather have the political pie on the President's face."

The bewitching hour, about 10:45, saw about 80% of the house empty out fairly swiftly, because now the doctors were getting the microphone. They lamented the visions of the bureaucratic requirements, the forms, the rigid laws and regulations, and other obstacles uniquely in the way of the health professional. In other issues in other town meetings it's easy to picture them taking the statist side against some other infringed professional group; for now, the defense of theirs was paramount and understandable. But by that time, they were preaching to the converted.

There was moving testimony to be heard here, too. A pediatrician (speaker 36 from above) told how her practice would be dam-

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## Lucky You Weren't in Queens

The Town Meeting on Medical Insurance held simultaneously in the borough of Queens, according to a conversation Bob had with one Libertarian who attended, was even more rigged than Westchester's. The host, Congressman Manton, asked that questions be submitted in writing. He gathered them together and proceeded to read them and answer them, promising not to pick and choose the questions, but

obviously doing just that. The screams of indignation from the whole audience—evidently even pro-statists—were more in keeping with a Big Apple municipal hearing. Questions were being yelled, but Mr. Manton just kept barking, "You want to answer a question, submit them!" To which the crowd, as one, yelled, "We did!" Petitions many signatures long could be seen waving in the breeze.

The Libertarian's question

missed the scrutiny of the congressman. It went something like, "Are you aware that the FDA is suppressing many useful treatments? Wouldn't it be better if government got out of the way?"

Mr. Manton, after a pause, deftly reformulated the question into one he'd rather she asked, and proceeded to answer it. The Libertarian restated the question, saying she meant it as she wrote it.

Wordlessly, Congressman Manton went on to the next question.

## Health Care

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aged from the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act (CLIA), soon to go into effect. She held up some petri dishes containing tests similar to those being conducted on any given day in her alma mater, the Bronx High School of Science. Under CLIA, in order to do the same tests she's done for years herself, she will have to register as an official medical laboratory. The hours of paperwork she envisions, the intrusions from inspectors, the expense of compliance and even greater expense for less than strict adherence to regulations, are all designed to bully her and her practice into farming out tests to a few powerful labs, who can now set their astronomical prices with impu-

dence. To this physician, CLIA was obviously designed to create a medical lab cartel.

Her final comment, as emotional as the subjects of the videotape, was damning: "If you want to lower health care costs, then get out of my office!"

Finally, Bob Goodman and Blay Tarnoff got up to speak. They had hours to practice their statements, and I'm sure their eloquence was beyond reproach.

They were, respectively, third to last and second to last to speak.

Whether the bureaucrats flanking Ms. Lowey were stifling yawns could not be ascertained from the speakers' view. ★

## MEDIAWATCH

### At Issue

with Ron Paul  
6:30 am Sundays  
CNBC

### David Brudnoy

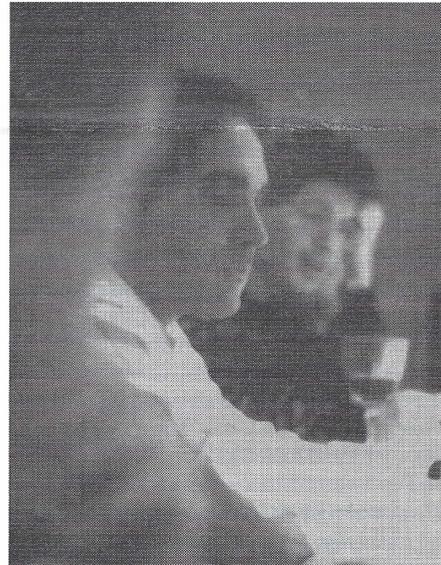
7 to midnight, Monday through Friday  
heard from Boston (on a clear night) on  
WBZ 1030 AM  
Talk: (617) 254-1030

### Gene Burns

WOR 710 AM  
new hours: 3 to 6pm, Monday - Friday  
Talk: (212) 398-9404

### Talk of the Nation

on National Public Radio  
with host John Hockenberry  
heard in New York City on  
WNYC 82 AM  
2 to 4 pm, Monday through Friday  
Talk: (800) 989-TALK [8255]  
Recent guest: David Boaz, Cato Institute



**Clay Conrad**, the tireless director of our membership drive for the past year, ended his tenure officially during the State Committee Meeting on January 12. He follows his fortunes to Enfield, CT, where he's found employment. It's our loss, and the Connecticut LP's gain. Don't be a stranger, Clay!

## CALENDAR

### JANUARY 25:

**Marrou/Lord Joint Appearance**  
Washington DC  
Call the Marrou/Lord Campaign HQ  
(707) 434-6362

### FEBRUARY 1:

**Seminar: "Medicine and Freedom"**  
Pascack Valley Hospital, Westwood, NJ  
\$25 includes dinner and course materials  
Sponsored by the Association of American  
Physicians and Surgeons, Tuscon AZ  
headed by Libertarian Jane Orient  
Info: (800) 635-1196

### FEBRUARY 7:

**Connecticut Tax Protest**  
State Capital Building, Hartford  
sponsored, among others, by the  
Connecticut Libertarian Party;  
petition drive needs your assistance  
Info: (203) 649-2274

### MARCH 7 AND 8:

**New Jersey Libertarian Convention**  
among the speakers: Dr. Nancy Lord  
LP Vice Presidential Nominee  
Pines Manor, Edison, NJ  
(near the intersection of Routes 287 and 27)  
Info: (201) 444-2846

### MARCH 14 AND 15:

**Pennsylvania Libertarian Convention**  
among the speakers: Dr. Nancy Lord  
LP Vice Presidential Nominee  
Info: (215) 543-8930

### APRIL 11 AND 12:

**Libertarian National Committee Meeting**  
Ann Arbor, MI  
Call National HQ: (202) 543-1988

### MAY 1 THROUGH 3:

**New York State Libertarian Convention**  
Watch this space!



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