

FREE LIBERTARIAN

newsletter of the Free Libertarian Party

February 1980

BALLOT DRIVES GET QUICK START

90,000 Californians Register Libertarian

INSIDE: STATE CONVENTION INFO

Senate Candidate to be Selected

DINNER CLUB: SUCCESSFUL START

Talk on Nuclear Power Featured

Government Elimination Is Goal Of Libertarian Party's Candidate

By WARREN WEAVER Jr.

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21 — Most Presidential candidates this year are talking about reducing the cost of government. Many are talking about reducing government itself. Edward E. Clark is different. He is talking about eliminating government altogether.

The elimination would be accomplished gradually as the public school system was replaced with private facilities, the courts eliminated in favor of private fee-charging arbitration companies, the antitrust laws abolished and all political boundaries between states and localities wiped out.

Mr. Clark, a 49-year-old company lawyer from California, is the Presidential candidate of the Libertarian Party, a relative newcomer to national politics that regards virtually all government activity as an unwarranted intrusion on the personal freedom of the individual.

Private Highways and Streets

"Ultimately," the Libertarian said at a news conference here today, "we believe in the complete privatization of society," with a "vastly restricted" government and a corresponding huge reduction in the taxes that finance that Government.

Mr. Clark told a questioner that eventually he advocated returning highway and street systems to private ownership, "the way they used to be" under Colonial toll-road practices.

In foreign affairs, the Libertarian candidate advocates a "noninterventionist policy," letting other nations defend themselves, reducing defense expenditures substantially and withdrawing from the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, while maintaining extensive social and cultural relations abroad.

174,000 Votes in 1976

The Libertarian Party, founded in 1972, ran its first Presidential candidate, Roger MacBride, in 1976, and he got 174,000 votes in 32 states. Mr. Clark said he expected to be on the ballot in at least

46 or 47 states and to receive "several million votes," or more than the difference between the two major party candidates.

Mr. Clark ran for Governor of California on the Libertarian ticket in 1978 and received 378,000 votes, or more than 5 percent of those cast.

One of his major goals for 1980, the Libertarian candidate said, is to be able to participate in Presidential debates between the major party nominees. Federal Election Commission regulations on debates, now pending before Congress, leave the question of including third-party contenders largely up to the sponsoring organization.

In a "fact sheet" distributed today, the party acknowledged that obtaining "more extensive and serious national media coverage" of candidates was a major 1980 goal, replacing past experience of "'feature' or 'human interest' stories, if they are covered at all."



The New York Times

Edward E. Clark

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1980

The New York Times

The cops versus the gays — and vice versa

DAILY NEWS
11/79

By LARRY EICHEL
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

SAN FRANCISCO — On the night of March 31, about 15 young men, most of them rather burly and rather drunk, brought their bachelor party to Peg's Place, a lesbian bar in the city's Richmond section. As they stood on the sidewalk outside Peg's, some of them were overheard talking about "getting the dykes."

Several employees of the bar, all of them women, met the men at the door and asked them to go away. An argument ensued, and one of the men started beating one of the women in the chest. The women threatened to call the cops.

"We're the cops," said the man doing the beating, "and we'll do as we damn please."

The men, in fact, were off-duty members of the Vice Squad of the San Francisco Police Department. One of them would be convicted of battery for his behavior that night. He would be sentenced to three years' probation, fined \$1,000 and called a "bully" by the judge.

But that would not be punishment enough in the eyes of this city's liberal and politically minded gay communities. They had another idea: Get rid of the Vice Squad altogether.

And so on Tuesday, San Francisco voters will be asked to answer "yes" or "no" to a question that has never been put on a ballot before: "Shall the Vice Squad of the Police Department be abolished and future creation of any such entity be prohibited and shall various vice ordinances be repealed?"

The ordinances to be repealed include those banning lewd behavior, obscene language, fortune telling and gambling and the penalties for all these "victimless crimes." The proposition would not revoke vice laws concerning minors.

According to the proposition's backers, a "yes" vote would eliminate "an anti-gay terrorist squad, an armed morals squad (that has) busted gay bars, bathhouses and adult entertainment enterprises," a squad peculiarly out of place in a city that "has always prided itself on being tolerant, unique and open." Backers include the president of the Board of Supervisors (San Francisco's city council) and three members of the Board of Education.

But its opponents, who include the mayor, the district attorney, the police and the Chamber of Commerce, warn of disastrous consequences.

"If this passes, San Francisco will be the whorehouse of the nation," said Capt. George Eimil, who heads the 25-member Vice Squad.

The proposition, and the campaign against it, marks another round in the continuing struggle here between the gays and the police and other conservative elements.

It has already been a spectacular fight. First there was the murder last November of the liberal-

mayor, George Moscone, and the gay supervisor, Harvey Milk, by a former supervisor and ex-police man, Dan White. Then came the violent gay riot on May 21, the day White was sentenced to less than eight years in jail. That was followed by a rank-and-file rebellion in the Police Department against Chief Charles Gain on the grounds that he had been "soft on gays" the night of the riot and for years before.

The current round in the battle actually began before the incident at Peg's Place. Members of the Libertarian Party, perhaps America's most successful minor party, already had been circulating petitions to put the Vice Squad question on the ballot.

Supervisor Harry Britt, who is gay, had already called for eliminating the squad, saying he was receiving hundreds of complaints about the police "snooping into private sex acts committed by consenting adults."

"For Libertarians, who believe government shouldn't tamper with individual liberties, it is a gut issue, an issue of principle," said Robert Costello, the party's executive director in California.

It also is a matter of priorities and economy, the Libertarians say. Prosecution of victimless crimes costs up to \$5 million a year. Instead of hassling gays, raiding Chinese gambling halls and invading black discos, police could better spend their time and the public's money pursuing murderers, robbers and rapists, they say.

THEIR ARGUMENT about the state having no business in these areas is appealing," Capt. Eimil concedes. "But that's not what we do here. What concerns me is what flows from those victimless crimes—the interference in the enjoyment of a neighborhood by those who already live there, the assaults against prostitutes, the kids involved in this kind of stuff, the rolling (robberies) of tricks (customers), the narcotics usage."

To do away with the squad, argues Mayor Dianne Feinstein, who is up for election, "is to invite murders, loan sharking, criminal rackets and violence of a type and magnitude never before known here."

"Having participated in a lot of vice, I know that people are doing a lot of outrageous things in this town, and they're not going to stop," said Justin Raimondo, a Libertarian homosexual. "That's why we live here, isn't it?"

The most certain result of passage of the Vice Squad proposition would be a court fight. With the Vice Squad gone, police would try to conduct anti-vice activity out of local police stations instead of with a citywide squad. With the local ordinances gone, they would try to enforce similar state laws instead. And the Libertarians would run to court to claim that the will of the people was being perverted.

Taxes in U.S. up 59% over 5 years

WASHINGTON (AP) — If you have the feeling that taxes have been steadily gobbling up more and more of your money, a new Census Bureau report shows vividly that you are right.

The just-released 643-page "Compendium of Government Finances" discloses that in the five-year period from the fiscal year 1971-72 to 1976-77, taxes collected by all forms of government in this country increased by 59.4 percent.

And collections from income taxes — individual and corporate — climbed an enormous 70.6 percent.

Because comprehensive tax figures after 1977 are

not yet available, the report did not reflect the impact of the "tax revolt" which made itself felt in June 1978 when California voters approved a proposition limiting local property taxes. Since then, a number of states and localities have adopted measures to limit taxation or spending.

The income tax collections were pushed upward primarily by the jump in personal income over the same period.

With income rising 78 percent, Americans paid taxes on more money and also edged into higher tax brackets, meaning they paid a larger share of their increased income.

4 The Sacto Weekly News November 29, 1979



Libertarian Party Presidential candidate Ed Clark

Jeffrey Schwarz

SPEAKING OF DINNER By Steven J. Schneider

Building on the success of the Winter Solstice Party held in December, the New York City FLP hosted the first in a series of dinner clubs at the Rogers Townhouse on Saturday evening, January 19. As was true at the December party, the food was delicious, thanks to the culinary wizardry of Steve Daniels.

About 40 people gathered for the evening to hear Chuck Pike, environmental engineer, founder of the Long Island Committee to Repeal the Price-Anderson Act, and western vice-chair of the Suffolk County FLP, speak on the issue of nuclear power, which has recently come to the forefront in debate among libertarians.

Chuck began with a history of the nuclear power industry, pointing out that it was created at the urging of the federal government through its "Atoms for Peace" program. Congress created the Atomic Energy Commission which had the dual (and contradictory) purpose of promoting and regulating nuclear power plants. But no company wanted to build nuclear power plants because if an accident occurred the companies would be liable for billions of dollars in damages and private insurance companies would only insure them up to \$60 million. To "remedy" this situation Congress passed the Price-Anderson Act in 1957 which, among other things, guaranteed that the government would pick up the tab for any damages over \$60 million...today we have 70 nuclear reactors on line.

Chuck then discussed the hazards connected with nuclear power: radiation leaks, waste disposal, missing uranium and plutonium, the rise of cancers due to radiation, etc. He spoke about Dr. John Gofman's studies on the damage caused by low level radiation and the controversy revolving around those findings.

At that point people in the audience started asking questions and the talk covered such issues as how dangerous nuclear power really is, is it worth the risk, would it be safer in a free market than under government control, would the repeal of Price-Anderson result in the shutdown of all nuclear plants, and where libertarians are or should be on the issue of nuclear power.

Chuck spoke about his activities within the anti-nuclear movement. He found people who were libertarians but didn't know they were. The mediastars of the anti-nuclear movement are liberals, he noted, but the rank and file activists are decentralists and distrust big government as much as they distrust big business.

I cannot think of a better way to spend an evening. Good food, good company, and a stimulating discussion of an important issue. The next dinner club meets on leap day. Will I see you there?

LITERATURE AVAILABLE FROM THE FREE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

(Single Copy Price, for Bulk Rates Contact FLP Office)

FLP Introductory Brochure	25	Inflation by Murray Rothbard	15
FLP Political Review #1 (Energy, Subways) ..	50	LP National Platform	15
FREE LIBERTARIAN Back Issues	25	Clark for President Newspaper	50
New Political Times	15	Clark for President Brochure	15
Libertarianism by R.A. Childs	15	LR Interview with John Gofman	
		(Nuclear Power)	50

WESTCHESTER MEETS A NEW BEGINNING By Steven J. Schneider

On Friday evening, January 18, a spark was struck in the effort to light the fire of liberty in Westchester County. Nine libertarians answered the invitation to a Wine and Cheese party in Yonkers. All were enthusiastic about a libertarian organization being created in Westchester.

Gary Greenberg, our state chairperson, gave a talk on the past and present activities of the national and New York Libertarian Parties and where we stand on the issues. Many questions were asked by our guests and there was a spirited debate on foreign policy, along with a discussion on how to present libertarian ideas to people without turning them off.

Dan Feldman, our roving county organizer, talked about what was needed to put a county organization together, and why such an organization is important to the 1980 election effort. He also laid plans for a future meeting in late February-early March, and all those present indicated their continued interest and participation in future libertarian events.

LIBERTARIAN HAPPENINGS

In South Carolina, Ed Clark received 5.5% of the vote, as a write-in, in the Clemson Tiger, student paper of Clemson University. Over 800 persons voted in the poll. . . OUI magazine, February 1980 issue, featured an article on the LP . . . The November 1979 issue of Hustler endorsed the LP presidential candidate . . . Articles are expected shortly in the New York Times Magazine, Penthouse and Saturday Review . . . By now you may have seen a full page ad of Clark in the N.Y. Times . . . Milton Friedman is currently doing a weekly series on the Public Broadcasting System called Free to Choose. It is a defense of Capitalism . . . Robert Straub is the new chairperson of Suffolk County FLP (516-422-0147) . . . Columbia University Libertarians are setting up an SLS chapter . . . Brian Erikson is the new President of the Genessee Region Society for Individual Liberty . . . Albany Libertarians are busy planning our state convention . . . Genessee Libertarians (Rochester) run an active dinner club and educational lecture series . . . NYC Libertarians now do likewise . . . RUGBY magazine did a feature article on the Vice-Presidential candidacy of former Rugby star, David Koch.

BALLOT DRIVE UPDATE: 50 IN 80 POSSIBLE by Steve Schneider

LP National headquarters has raised its sights and now believes it is possible to achieve ballot status in all 50 states by election day 1980. No states are being written off as impossible. As of this writing, 21 states have already surpassed the legal requirement for ballot status, and efforts are currently under way in eleven more.

According to Howard Rich, who is coordinating the petition drive effort, we are way ahead of 1976 because we started much earlier this time around. There are three full-time field coordinators moving from state to state assisting the state LP's in getting on the ballot.

(continued next page)

BALLOT DRIVE (continued)

In Maryland, one of the question mark states, 100,000 signatures are needed to get on the ballot. Not much hope was held out at first for success. But three or four dedicated people in Maryland are determined to get on the ballot. They raised close to \$20,000, National sent in a field coordinator, and in the first week they gathered 3,000 signatures. They need 45,000 by the March 1st cutoff and are confident they can do it.

Other formerly impossible states are now on the agenda. Georgia, which needs 100,000 signatures; Wyoming, where the 10,000 signature requirement is one and a half percent of the entire state population; Michigan, where the petition drive gets you on the primary ballot and then you have to receive 3/10th of a percent of a vote to qualify for the November ballot; and West Virginia, where only a successful court challenge will get us on the ballot, all wait in the wings.

Across the country most of the petitioning is done by people residing in those states. But as always there are the drifters who follow the petition drive from state to state. Occasionally you will see a notice on the FLP office bulletin board. Petition drive workers wanted for Conn., Florida, etc., contact National office. At a party you might hear someone ask "What happened to Don, haven't seen him for awhile?" "Oh, he went off to gather signatures for Clark."

One of our greatest successes to date has been California. Over 90,000 people registered libertarian in time to meet the December 31st deadline of 72,000 registrations. The California LP is now a full ballot qualified party in the state. The California LP expects to field over 100 candidates in the 1980 elections. The California Secretary of State joined the LP for a press conference to confirm the ballot status.

STOP THE DRAFT by Gary Greenberg

As this is being written (January 29, 1980) preliminary plans for a massive national draft protest are being made in response to the President's call for a renewal selective slavery system. One January 24, Carol Moore represented the FLP at a Foley Square rally in concert with Rock against Racism and the War Resisters League. Several reporters were present and Carol was interviewed by Newsweek. On January 28, several FLP members participated in the planning session of the Coalition Against Registration and the Draft (CARD). Though several socialist and leftist groups argued that the upcoming demonstrations should demand that war spending be diverted to government planning for job programs, FLP members lobbied against the proposal. The final demands were limited to an end to the draft, registration and the U.S. war drive. Toward that goal, a series of protests are being planned, beginning with February 9th, the day Carter announces the details of his registration plans. It is hoped that we can assemble over 1000 people on February 9, at the Times Square recruiting booth, to be followed by speakers and then a march on Carter Campaign Headquarters.

Students for a Libertarian Society (SLS) has designated the week of Washington's birthday as the Draft Protest week to commemorate Washington's warning against foreign entanglements. FLP and SLS are working together on this project. Next issue we will let you know if the Coalition held together and how the February 9th demonstration went.

The March 29-30 State Convention of the FLP is the annual business convention. In addition to the great entertainment value of the convention (see the enclosed brochure for program and logistics information), the members will be asked to select a candidate for U.S. Senate, elect state officers, and pick a slate of presidential electors to run on behalf of Ed Clark. By-laws changes and resolutions may also be part of the agenda.

Among the party officers being selected at the State Convention are the Chairperson, 2 Vice-Chairpersons, Secretary, Treasurer, and 5 State Committee Representatives-at-large.

One of the peculiarities of American Politics is that there is no direct election for President. A candidate has to run a slate of electors in each state and the winning electors in each state subsequently choose the President. In 1972, the Democrats received 17 electoral votes and the LP received 1 electoral vote. New York is entitled to select 43 presidential electors and we will select up to 43 candidates for that position at the convention.

Jacob Javits' Senate seat is on the line this year and the FLP will select a candidate for that race in order to back up the Presidential ticket.

If you wish to vote at the convention you must be a 1980 dues paying member. If you wish to be considered as a party officer, elector, or Senate candidate, contact the state office as soon as possible in order to be included in time for our next newsletter. The deadline is February 25, 1980. That will be the last issue to be mailed out before the convention.

City debates how to spend development money

By Larry Hertz
Journal staff writer

The Poughkeepsie Common Council and about 75 city residents took the first step Tuesday night in deciding how \$1.6 million in federal Community Development (CD) money will be spent in the year starting July 1.

The council conducted a public hearing at city hall and drew comments from 10 people regarding current or proposed programs which, the speakers said, should be funded in the next fiscal year.

Mayor Thomas Aposporos acknowledged that the council faces a particularly tough task in deciding what programs to fund this year because the city's block grant will be reduced from \$4.1 million in the current fiscal year to less than \$1.7 million next year, the final year of the CD program.

"I hope the public bears in mind," the mayor said, "that this is the end

of an era. The days of the \$10 million grants are over, and it is now the responsibility of the CD board and the Common Council to divide the \$1.6 million as equitably as possible."

Some of the requests at Wednesday night's public hearing were for familiar programs such as libraries and senior citizen activities, which have been funded partially through Community Development grants for the past five years.

Other requests were new.

Marty Fishgold, president of the Hamilton Manor Tenants' Association and a resident of the city for the past six months, asked the council to consider using a small portion of the CD grant to fund a citywide tenants' association.

Fishgold said he believes the current housing shortage, particularly in rental properties, can create abuses by certain landlords unless tenants learn their rights.

He said educated tenants can work with their landlords to identify and remedy code violations which may be missed by what he called an "overworked" city code enforcement department.

The council also heard another viewpoint on the philosophy of accepting federal grants from Sanford Cohen, a member of the CD board and an unsuccessful Free Libertarian candidate for U.S. Congress in 1974 and 1976.

Cohen said he has voted against every expenditure proposed by the CD board since he has been a member and vowed he would continue to do so.

Cohen said he believes federal spending is the major cause of inflation and that he believes the CD board does not have the right to spend money raised through taxation, a process which he labeled a "form of stealing."

Other speakers included:

LIBERTARIAN PARTY DINNER CLUB

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1980 at 7 PM

SPEAKER: John Chodes

**TOPIC: Molineaux: The Freedom Theme
in American Theatre**

**LOCATION: 352 Riverside Drive
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PRICE: \$10 (includes Buffet Dinner)

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LIBERTARIAN PARTY

Membership Application

COMBINATION STATE & NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP. I enclose \$15 to pay for a combination one year membership in the Free Libertarian Party of New York and the national Libertarian Party. I am in substantial agreement with the statement of principles and objectives of the Free Libertarian Party as set forth below and I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature

Date

STATE MEMBERSHIP. I enclose \$5 to pay for a one year membership in the Free Libertarian Party of New York. I am in substantial agreement with the statement of principles and objectives of the Free Libertarian Party as set forth below.

Signature

Date

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP ONLY. I enclose \$10 to pay for a one year membership in the national Libertarian Party. I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature

Date

Make all checks payable to the Free Libertarian Party and mail to Free Libertarian Party, 15 West 38th Street, New York, NY 10018.

Name _____ Occupation _____

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Phone (Home) _____ (Office) _____

PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE FREE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

The Free Libertarian Party is a political organization which has as its primary objective the extension of individual freedom to its furthest limits. To that end the Party affirms the following principles:

1. That each individual possesses the inalienable right to life and liberty and to justly acquired property.
2. That no person or institution, public or private, has the right to initiate the use of physical force against another.
3. That all individuals are entitled to choose their own life styles as long as they do not forcibly impose their values on others.
4. That the only moral basis of politics is the preservation and protection of individual rights.
5. That the voluntary exchange of goods and services is fundamental to any socio-economic system which provides for the harmonious integration of divergent value systems.

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