

Libertarian Party

Walker Wins Seat on Nevada City Council

Ernest Walker, a long-time friend and member of the Libertarian Party of Nevada, was elected to the Sparks City Council in early June.

Walker received over 55 percent of the vote in his election to the city council's Ward 2 seat. Walker received 5,310 votes to his opponents' 4,318.

Sparks is Nevada's fourthlargest city with a population of approximately 60,000 and has a five-member city coun-

Although the race was nonpartisan, Walker ran a strict Libertarian campaign, infusing Libertarian values, ideas, and principles into debates, literature, and media interviews. Starting before the primary and continuing through the general election, Walker ran a picture-perfect campaign.

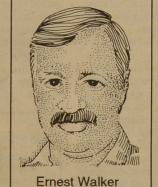
Walker campaigned on such themes as: eliminating the parks and recreation department-relying on private lawn companies to provide maintenance; privatizing the public works department—bidding out such things as street maintenance; and keeping government out of charity alto-gether—"Charity should always come from free will and not government plunder,' Walker said.

"I think they are ready for a fresh approach to dealing with various problems,"

Walker said. "I see these problems as opportunities. There's a new volunteerism, a can-do approach.

This was Walker's first run for public office, but his campaign was very professional. With the help of his wife, children, and members of the Washoe County LP. over 200 signs were placed and door-to-door canvass-ing spread over the 30 precincts in his ward.

Walker attended every debate and candidates night meeting. He was endorsed by the candidates he defeated in the primary, including the councilperson who Walker has replaced, and his campaign received several donations from non-libertar-



NEWS Graphic by Mary Kelley Crawford

ian sources.

"If you will pardon the expression, this was a collective effort—a volunteer effort, but still collective," Walker said.

Walker, 40, is married and has two sons, ages 11 and 8. He has been a Sparks resident for 12 years and is a lab worker at St. Mary's Regional Medical Center. Walker served as a hospital corpsman in

Walker will be the keynote speaker at the Nevada LP convention on July 13-14,

C-SPAN to Provide In-Depth Look at LP

"The Chicago convention will be the most widely covered single event in LP history," according to Nick Dunbar, LP national director

As announced in last month's issue, C-SPAN, Cable—Satellite Public Affairs Network, has greatly increased its commitment to full coverage of the LP national convention in Chicago, Aug. 28-

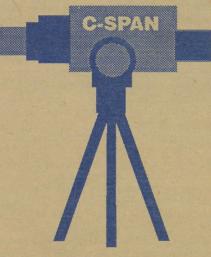
In recent meetings with LP officials, C-SPAN said its 1991 convention coverage will go far beyond its coverage of the 1989 convention in Philadelphia.

"I'm so excited, Dunbar said. "America is going to receive the most comprehensive exposure to the Libertarian philosophy it has ever had. The idea that Libertarians are Larouchies is about to die," Dunbar said.

C-SPAN coverage of the 1989 LP convention is credited with bringing the LP over 1,800 phone calls and over 1,400 prospect names and addresses.

With proper funding and follow-up this year's coverage will solidify our place in the 1992 elections. We're making plans now to assure that the thousands of inquiries we will receive are promptly answered, and plans for media follow-up are also underway," Dunbar said. C-SPAN officials have said they plan

to move their entire operation to Chicago for the convention week, building the week's programming around the convention. The network has already re-



served 12-15 rooms, as well as a large suite to turn into a mini-studio for inter-

In addition to covering convention business sessions, panels, and speakers, C-SPAN will be putting together talk shows for evening broadcast from Chicago

C-SPAN's network covers all 50 states, including every state capital, and reaches a potential audience of over 55 million viewers. In addition, C-SPAN is picked up by the United States Information Agency and is beamed through them to embassies, military bases, and countries around the world.

Bush (Ken, That Is) Guides MO Ballot Bill Through Legislature

On May 17, the last day of the legislative session, the Missouri legislature passed the Senate Committee Substitute for HB 184, an omnibus election bill that includes the Fair Ballot Access Act.

"If this goes into effect, it will make ballot access less difficult for third parties and independents," said Ken Bush, 35, director of press and public relations for the Missouri LP and chief lobbyist for the

Bush said when he was lobbying he was acting on behalf of "the Missouri Coalition for Fair and Democratic Elections, a group consisting of the Missouri LP, the Rainbow Lobby, other minor parties, independent candidates, and fair-minded Democrats and Republicans."

The ballot access improvements in the bill will reduce the signature requirement from the present 1 percent of the gubernatorial vote (currently about 22,000 signatures) to a flat 10,000 signatures.

The bill also "eliminates the so-called geographic distribution requirement, or what's called the districting requirement," according to Bush. In the past, "all of your signatures had to be evenly spread over all nine congressional districts.

It was the third attempt to get a ballot access bill passed in Missouri.

This time around, a bill was introduced in both the state senate and house. The senate bill failed to be addressed, but the house bill was incorporated into an omnibus election balk

Everything didn't go smoothly, however. On May 16, the state senate voted to delete all ballot access improvements from the omnibus bill.

"The Fair Ballot Access Act was stripped from HB 184 primarily as a result of two senators that were rather vociferous against it," Bush explained. "They would

say things like, 'The voting machines will clog up and it will cost the state time and money to fix them.' They said, 'So what good are third-party people anyway, they're the types that probably like to play Nintendo," Bush recalled. "They also said that 'America was meant to be a two-party system, that's the way our country was supposed to be."

Some senators rose to the defense of the act, however, much to the credit of one of its sponsors, Sen. Frank Flotron. Flotron compared Missouri's requirements with those of the surrounding states, which have a requirement of about 5,000 signa-

The supporters "pointed out that it was easier to get on the statewide ballot in Nicaragua, Poland, and Czechoslovakia than here in Missouri," Bush said. Those against the bill, though, accused the sup-

continued on page 4



Ken Bush

Crime Bill Correction

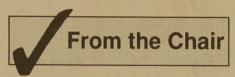
The article entitled "Bush's New Crime Bill" in the June 1991 NEWS mistakenly noted the bill as HR 4079. That was the number of the crime bill introduced in the 101st Congress. The "new" crime bill, which was described in the article, is numbered HR 1400.

Perceptions Count: Let's Improve Image

As much as we may not like it, perceptions count. People frequently support or oppose ideas, people, projects, etc., not because they have logically thought about all the pros and cons, integrated them with their own desires, and weighed the ends and means against their own moral code, but because of perceptions about the kind of people who support the project, or advance the idea.

A constitutional scholar who dressed like Madonna would probably be considered a bimbo, not a candidate for the Supreme Court. An Italian gentleman dressed in a black shirt and white tie might be thought a gangster rather than a member of the College of Cardinals. Dan Quayle is considered a nitwit, even though it could be argued he is no worse nor better than virtually all of the other fools in the federal government.

Unless people can be persuaded to get behind the perceptions, individuals—such as illustrated above—will have a hard time selling whatever ideas and values they are interested in selling. For 20 years, Libertarians have been fighting negative perceptions and have found the going rough. Obviously, our opponents are going to focus on the most unpopular platform planks we have. But Libertarians sometimes aid and abet these characterizations by focusing on such issues. Michael Emerling dubbed such behavior "macho flashing." This is the deliberate, and proud, calling of attention to those aspects of our philosophy most calculated to outrage and shock large segments of the population. Emerling and Marshall Fritz, among others, have spent much of their libertarian careers trying to persuade libertarians to stop



Dave Walter, LP National Chair

shooting themselves in the foot. While this behavior has declined, some are still heard to answer questions like "What would happen to the disabled in a free society?" with "If you wish to help them, you will not be stopped." A correct answer? Absolutely. The kind of answer that will impress and convince even those who mostly agree already? Certainly not.

These kinds of perceptions can be changed by individuals, candidates, and party spokesmen honing their arguments to appeal to non-believers-telling the truth without turning them off. The statists learned this lesson long ago. How many Democrats are apt to add this to the end of an appeal for, say, national health insurance: "And we are going to set loose the federal cops to come and hold guns to your head if you try to withhold the money to fund our pet project."

Other kinds of perception involve the behavior of Libertarians.

At the end of August, approximately 500 delegates and several hundred other Libertarians, will gather in Chicago to select our presidential standard-bearer for 1992. I think most delegates know that this selection is more than a popularity contest on which candidate has the deepest knowledge of libertarian principles. Much of the debate I've heard between partisans of Mr. Marrou and Mr. Boddie

these principles to the voting public, which is likely to have the most access to the media, and how the public might perceive the taking of matching funds. Delegates must put a premium on the perception issue when deciding who to elect as the LP's presidential candidate.

As you all know by now, C-SPAN has promised extraordinary coverage of our convention. For hundreds of thousands of viewers, perception will move beyond our candidates in 1992 to include our delegates and speakers at the 1991 convention. For that reason, I hope that all delegates carefully consider how they choose to be perceived while C-SPAN's cameras

Without going into a lot of explanation, this may include how the delegate chooses to dress, how the delegate chooses to behave, how punctual the delegate intends to be for sessions, and how the delegate chooses to participate in floor debate. Those states still choosing their delegates may want to decide if they can best be represented by a delegate who is likely to wear a torn T-shirt and cutoffs and jumps up and down during platform debates objecting to the placement of a semi-colon; or a delegate who spends all of two minutes on the floor, thus contributing to a sea of empty seats as C-SPAN pans the crowd. (I know some of you are saying "I'll come dressed like Bozo the Clown if I like, and Walter is being anti-libertarian for objecting. I say that turning the Chicago convention into a freak circus would be the last thing on earth that would advance libertarianism even though we are the only party in the U.S. that tolerates the decision of individuals to choose any lifestyle they like.)

Another perception issue is how Libertarians are seen in their community. In many cases, the LP is invisible. Not too many voters will remember one candidate on the ballot every two or four years. We need stronger parties running full slates in every election, and much stronger parties with permanent ballot status. We need other kinds of community visibility-Libertarians speaking out at town council meetings or school board sessions, letters to the editor, participation in service organizations, marching in the town July 4th parade, etc. Non-libertarians have to see Libertarians as caring, PTA-participating, regular guys and gals. Two good projects that Libertarian local clubs could join are Habitats for Humanity and choosing to adopt-a-highway programs that involve picking up trash along a 2-mile stretch several times a year. And they erect a yearround sign to alert all motorists to the fact that the Libertarian Party is the good guy cleaning up that stretch. Visibility; good

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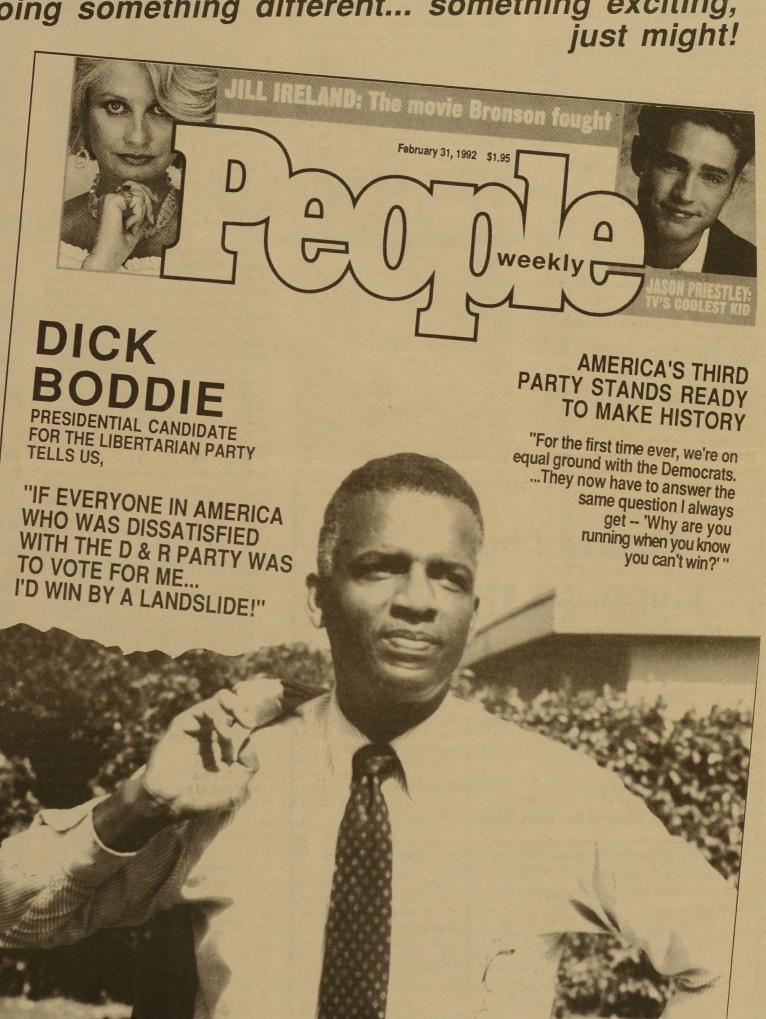
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Gun Ownership Case Threat to Control Laws

By Bob Weber

Libertarians believe that if the Constitution is to be of use in defending freedom, then the grants of power it makes to the government must be interpreted as narrowly as possible, while the guarantees against government interference which it grants to the individual must be interpreted as broadly as possible. Unfortunately, the Second Amendment is one guarantee against government power which some people would like to interpret as narrowly as possible.

Since the 1939 Miller case, the Supreme Court has refused to hear any challenges to gun control laws. Lower courts have usually ruled along narrow lines in gun control cases, or dismissed suits on the grounds that the plaintiff "lacks standing." (Miller was also a narrow ruling.)

Now, however, there is a case in the federal courts which is an absolutely airtight, direct challenge to the federal gun control laws-the National Firearms Act of 1934, the Gun Control Act of 1968, and the machine-gun ban amendment to the Volkmer-McClure Act of 1986.

Under Connecticut law, all "unorganized militia" groups must register with the state government. Douglas Oefinger formed his own group, the "Free Connecticut Militia," registered it with the state of Connecticut, and applied to the federal

government for permission to import M-14 selective fire service rifles (formerly used by all the branches of the armed forces, currently used by the Navy) for sale to members of his group. Naturally, the federal government refused.

Oefinger responded with a lawsuit. The U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut, has already ruled that Oefinger has legal standing and that the case is ripe for review. The court will either have to rule that the federal gun control laws are un-constitutional, or perform an incredible feat of legal gymnastics and rule that the Second Amendment doesn't mean what it

If the court rules in Oefinger's favor, it will probably also deal a fatal blow to state laws such as California's anti-semi-automatic Roos-Roberti law.

The Gun Owners Foundation, a taxdeductible legal defense fund sponsored by Gun Owners of America (GOA), is backing Oefinger in his lawsuit. GOA is hardcore on the gun issue, and its director, Larry Pratt, is fairly sympathetic to Libertarians. Every friend of liberty should con-

Send your tax-deductible contribution to Gun Owners Foundation, 8001 Forbes Place, Springfield, VA 22151. Write "Oefinger Case" on the memo line of your check and your contribution will go strictly First Jury Rights Day

The Fully Informed Jury Association (FIJA) has announced the first annual Jury Rights Day will be celebrated Sept. 5, 1991

A major rally will be held at the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, DC, and many demonstrations are being planned for this day at local courthouses around the country

The DC rally will include a national news conference. Speakers who have been invited or have accepted include Don Ernsberger, LP NatCom; Larry Pratt, Gun Owners of America; Red Beckman and Larry Dodge, FIJA; Nadine Strossen, ACLU; U.S. Rep. Wil-liam Jefferson, D-LA; and Sam Smith, Progressive Review

September 5 was chosen as the date

to commemorate the day, 321 years ago, when Edward Bushell and his fellow jurors refused to convict William Penn, arrested in London for preaching an illegal religion (Quakerism) to those who voluntarily—but also illegally-listened. Nine weeks later, after Bushell and three others had been imprisoned, the English Court of Common Pleas voted to release them, and without forcing them to change their

This was a major milestone in English-American legal tradition because it not only established the power of the jury to find whatever verdict it wishesand to do so without fear of punishment—but also it established the rights of free speech and peaceable assembly.

MO Ballot Access Bill

porters of "trying to substitute a foreign government for America's system," Bush said. "They said things like, 'Look at the senator[Flotron] here, he's trying to get us to adopt the system of these petty dictators and Banana Republics.' The senator countered by saying that 'that is outrageous, I'm just pointing out that it is sadly ironic that it is easier to get on the ballot in these other countries than in Missouri.' Then the opponents said, 'See what the senator just said, he'd rather have their system adopted here in Missouri," Bush said.

"I think the readers will find that unbe-

lievable," Bush said.

Bush, Flotron, and others tried to do damage control, explaining that "America is not supposed to be a two-party system, and that the ballot access requirement

before 1953 in Missouri was zero (0)."

The Coalition flooded the offices of the state senators who had spoken out against the bill with angry phone calls.

The ballot access provisions were placed

back into the omnibus bill. The house approved it and the senate took up the bill. With only seven minutes left in the legislative session, the bill passed.

"I was the one that originally wrote the bill and was its chief lobbyist," Bush said.

"One of the things that helped us here was the hotline," Bush said. "We had a dedicated hotline, called the Fair Elections Hotline. People can still call to get a sample of how the hotline works-it's 314-997-9876. We had that going for about a year and a half.'

"Credit should go to Sen. Frank Flotron, Rep. Sheila Lumpe, the Rainbow Lobby, and the Missouri LP. They were most responsible for getting this bill through," Bush said.

"I was disappointed this year that no help came from 51-'92 [Project 51-'92, the Libertarian PAC], nor the national Liber-

tarian Party," Bush said.
The governor has until July 14 to either sign or veto the bill. If it is signed, it will go

into effect in September. "Readers might write the governor a short letter supporting the bill," Bush said. Write to Gov. John Ashcroft, Jefferson City, MO 65101.] "They can also call the hotline number and leave a message if they would like to get one of the lobbying kits for a sample," Bush suggested.

Bush said that now the state LP will start collecting the signatures needed to get Libertarians on the ballot, but the Coalition will keep working to get other aspects of the ballot access law changed.

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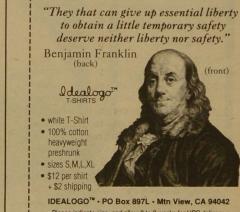
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By Jim Lark

Libertarian student activists at the University of Virginia (UVA) recently concluded another successful semester of promoting libertarian philosophy at "Mr. [Thomas] Jefferson's Academical Village." Members of Students for Individual Liberty (SIL) and University Libertarians (UL), two groups for which I serve as advisor, have worked very hard to make libertarianism the dominant philosophy in the UVA-Charlottesville community. While we still have a long way to go, we are making progress.

In mid-January, a much improved "SIL Bulletin" was introduced. Boris Starosta, a graphics artist at UVA, volunteered his skill and expertise to turn the Bulletin, currently published three times per semester, into a slick four-page publication.

On Jan. 23, SIL sponsored an address by Tom Palmer of the Institute for Humane Studies concerning the case for staying (and getting) out of the Persian Gulf conflict. This address was part of an ongoing campaign, spearheaded by SIL members Bill Olinger and David Brown, to explain and promote (particularly among left-liberal anti-war groups) a libertarian foreign policy. This work allowed us to promote understanding (and gain a great deal of respect) among many people who were reflexively hostile to libertarianism.

In February, SIL sponsored addresses by Dr. Yuri Maltsev and Richard Sincere. Dr. Maltsev, a libertarian emigre from the Soviet Union who was a member of Gorbachev's economics advisory team, spoke on the topic of economic change in the Soviet Union. His address was cosponsored by the UVA Economics Club. Mr. Sincere, editor of "Public Affairs," a publication of the Center for Strategic and International Studies, spoke on the topic of promoting free enterprise in Africa, Eastern Europe, and the Third World. In addition, he addressed a meeting of the Lesbian and Gay Student Union at UVA on the topic of running for office as an openly gay candidate. Sincere, an LP member, ran for a Virginia House of Delegates seat in January, 1991.

In April, SIL sponsored an address by Prof. Patrick Michaels of the Environmental Sciences Department at UVA. Michaels, who is the state climatologist, spoke on "The Politics of Global Warming." He pointed out that scientific evidence for an ecological catastrophe due to global warming is virtually nonexistent. He suggested that proposed "remedial" changes embraced by people such as Sen. Al Gore would be extremely expensive, in terms of both resources and personal liberty.

We also continued our practice of sponsoring information tables, writing letters to local newspapers, participating in issue forums, and offering speakers to local high schools. Hans Bader, a member of SIL, served as a regular op-ed writer for "The University Journal." This continued a four-year tradition of having at least one SIL member write op-ed articles for the Journal. Also, campus libertarians became more involved with local government issues. In particular, Boris Starosta is working against a proposed zoning ordinance, and I worked successfully for a reduction in personal property and real estate taxes.

It is exciting to note that campus groups at other Virginia colleges are springing up. John and Susan Kell, Joy Stewart, and Vernon Beaty are doing splendid work to build SIL at Virginia Tech (Blacksburg).

The William and Mary College Libertarians (Williamsburg) and the ISIL chapter at George Mason University (Fairfax) have sponsored events this year. Groups have formed or are in the process of forming at James Madison University (Harrisonburg), Washington and Lee University (Lexington), Virginia Commonwealth University (Richmond), and Ferrum College (Ferrum). I plan to meet this summer with representatives of these groups to coordinate activities for the 1991-92 school year.

Next year holds much promise for us.

We are planning several major outreach activities at UVA, such as: 1) a Fully Informed Jury Amendment campaign before and during the trial of the "Charlottesville 12"—the 12 UVA students arrested on drug charges (see June, 1991, LP NEWS); 2) a series of lectures on the Bill of Rights; 3) a Free Market Earth Day event; and 4) visits by the LP candidates for president and vice president.

While we may not yet be ready to defeat the statist team, through hard work and a little luck the game is slowly turning in our direction. At the very least, the statists know they face a tough fight from us.

Jim Lark, who received a Ph.D. in Systems Engineering from UVA in 1990, founded Students for Individual Liberty in 1987 and University Libertarians in 1988. Readers who are interested in campus organizing or who wish to contribute to SIL and UL should contact Jim Lark at 725 F Mountainwood Rd., Charlottesville, VA 22901, or call 804-295-3801.

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A New Way to Look at Taxes

By George O'Brien **Internal Education Chair**

Immediately after the November election an unidentified social democrat made the statement: "People are not opposed to higher taxes per se, but they need to feel they are receiving increased services.

This statement suggests an interesting issue. Why do the voters feel they will not receive more services with higher taxes? One answer may be that they see most of the money going into transfers.

For the purpose of this discussion, it is necessary to define the terms "service" and "transfer." Service may be defined as an expenditure where there is a high correlation between the beneficiaries of the expenditure and the source of the funds. For example, highways are primarily financed by users through the gas tax and road use taxes (trucks). In general, services generally are "perceived" to have very broad usage either directly or potentially by the funding source.

Transfer is an expenditure that has a very low correlation between the source and the beneficiaries. Generally, transfers are "perceived" to have a fairly narrow beneficiary base compared to the funding source. Examples of transfers include agricultural subsidies, research grants, arts projects, welfare, corporate bail-outs, etc.

It is important to emphasize that these concepts of service and transfer are perceptual. Some expenditures may empirically have a high element of transfer yet continue to be perceived as services. Likewise, a true service may be perceived as a transfer due to ideology. (Police protection in the inner city, for example.)

Empirically it will be found that all government expenditures involve some "degree of transfer." However, some transfer expenditures for parks, street repairs, libraries, garbage collection, etc., frequently are perceived to be true services. The level of transfer may generally be considered acceptable. One of the reasons for this is that service functions may be perceived to be balanced with the transfers being offset.

This approach of looking at expenditures as either transfers or services can give some helpful observations:

1) Beneficiaries generally support transfers and sources oppose them.

2) Transfer beneficiaries usually have a higher incentive to propose, support, and defend their particular transfer than the sources have to oppose the transfer.

3) In a conflict between beneficiaries of low transfer services and high transfer expenditures, the high transfer beneficiaries will generally be better organized,

funded, and motivated.

4) If there is resistance by the sources to increased tax/fee payments, there will be a tendency for a greater proportionate drop in low transfer services than in high transfer expenditures. (Libraries will be cut before welfare.)

5) The higher the "transfer to service ratio," the higher the degree of social and political conflict.

6) The greater the social, economic, racial, religious, and ethnic differences between the sources and beneficiaries, the higher the social political conflict.

7) The higher the transfer/service ratio, the more significant the role of ideology and/or religion in the political process both for and against increases in government expenditures

8) The higher the transfer/service ratio, the greater the incidence of corruption, tax evasion, black market activity, and political resistance of all kinds.

9) To the degree transfer and service functions are lumped together, the more likely the service element will deteriorate.

10) The higher the transfer/service ratio, the greater the political incentive to distortinformation about sources and ben-

11) Privatization of services happens only when there is resistance to new taxes and cutting services creates too many political problems. (Privatization permits using the remaining tax funds for trans-

12) Increasing centralization will tend to increase the transfer/service ratio. Likewise, true decentralization will tend to limit increases in the transfer/service ra-

13) Traditional service functions will be perceived increasingly as a transfer function as the power of the public employee union in the area concerned becomes powerful and visible.

14) The degree to which politicians choose to privatize service functions to protect transfer functions, the higher the transfer/service ratio and the risk of a tax revolt, (i.e., reducing low transfer services has the same effect as increasing the level

This model may help to explain a number of apparently incongruous political

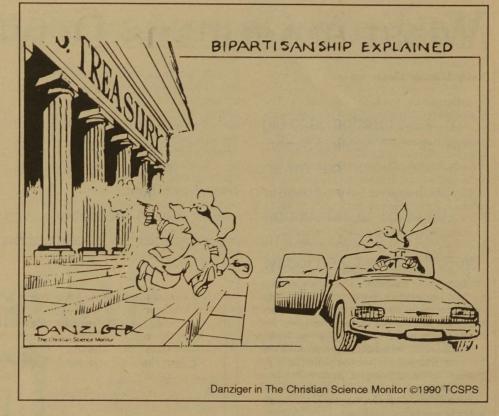
A. Why does socialism work better in Sweden than Britain? From all indications, in spite of Sweden's exorbitant tax rates, the Swedes perceive their system to have a relatively low transfer/service ratio. This can be partly explained by the fact that their country is amazingly homogeneous. Britain has a number of social classes, religious groups, racial groups, etc. The transfers are not only real but apparent. (There is evidence that a new class system is developing which is breaking this down.)

B. Why does Switzerland seem freer than the U.S. in spite of higher taxes? The Swiss apparently have a low perceived transfer/service ratio due to decentralism and extensive referendums.

C. Why are all the major U.S. cities visibly deteriorating in spite of high taxes? The answer is that the transfer constituencies have become strong enough to crowd out the low transfer service constituencies. Low transfer service constituencies tend to move to the small suburbs where the transfer/service ratio is lower. This means not enough people care about litter

D. Why have public schools declined and yet vouchers are opposed? The answer is that public schools have increased their transfer/service ratio much faster than expenditures have increased. This has followed centralization of unified districts and state funding. The school bureaucracies and teachers unions have grown into major transfer constituencies.

E. Why a tax revolt follows deterioration of services as often as it follows major increases? The service function is an issue of value received by the sources. This means that a tax increase or a decline in service has the same reaction. (As a side note, a



key to the American Revolution was not simply representation but transfer of wealth from the colonies to England at the same time the "threat" from the French was eliminated.)

F. Why is welfare considered a service in Europe and a transfer in the U.S.? In part this relates to social homogeneity. It has to do with the perceived likelihood of participation. In Europe, most people think they might someday be on welfare in much the way Americans treat unemployment insurance. In the U.S., most welfare recipients are viewed as quite different from middle America.

G. Why are budget deficits and inflation preferred by politicians over taxes? The impact of budget deficits and inflation is to reduce the direct payments made by sources. This means the system can temporarily sustain a higher transfer/service ratio than it might otherwise

H. Why does the U.S. tax its corporations and capital gains more than Europe? The key issue here is the distinction between the "incidence" and "impact" of taxes. The incidence of a tax is who handles the payment. The impact is who actually pays. (For example, sales taxes are collected by sellers but are actually paid by the buy-

The higher the transfer/service ratio, the greater the incentive to cloud the true impact of taxes by taxing business. European countries have less need to do that and can support the "value added tax" as a major revenue source.

To libertarians this distinction between services and transfers seems unnecessary since they each require looting the taxpayer to pay for them. However, from a strategic standpoint it has several implications for libertarians:

1) Privatization of services may be more feasible than was originally estimated due to the crowd out effect of transfers.

2) Privatization has the strategic impact of exaggerating the transfer/service ratio making change more feasible.

3) As sources are educated to the true incidence of taxes and the degree of transfer in the system, they will become less supportive of the status quo.

4) Transfer beneficiaries may be "bought off" such as with the privatization of public housing in Britain. Also, in the short run, they may welcome the reduced competition for tax dollars.

5) Charity can be promoted as the preferred method of transfer because it permits targeting deserving beneficiaries versus creating blank check entitlements.

6) It may be predicted that the absorption of East into West Germany will create a major political crisis in the German welfare state as resistance transfers develop.

7) Libertarians can use the transfer/ service ratio to explain why cities are falling apart and conflict is increasing.

8) Since a libertarian society has a minimal transfer/service ratio, it means there are more resources for services and voluntary transfers, not less. Libertarians can show that privatization is the only way to ensure services will not be cut.

9) In the long run, the focus of debate can be switched from the "need to provide essential services" to the moral legitimacy of involuntary transfers.

If this analysis is correct, privatization of services is not simply an interesting exercise, but could become a center point of libertarian strategy. Privatization comes through creating a coalition of interests:

A) Service beneficiaries who are tired of watching their services (infrastructure, education, etc.) deteriorate while their taxes keep rising.

B) Politicians who cannot resist the transfer constituencies, cannot raise taxes, and are afraid of the consequences of cutting services any more.

C) Transfer constituencies who perceive less competition for tax money.

D) Government employee unions for the transfer functions who face either having their jobs cut or having the functions

E) Libertarian candidates who can have something to talk about other than the immorality of taxation.

The transfer/service ratio model provides a new way to address some recurring issues. One virtue appears to be that it is relatively "objective" and does not require accepting libertarian views on force and taxes. It is relatively simple to understand, yet permits a fairly sophisticated analysis of a wide variety of situations. It is consistent with public choice theory and Austrian economics without requiring understanding or accepting their approaches.

The transfer/service ratio analysis is more than an intellectual exercise. It offers insights into both short-term tactics as well as long-range strategy.

Most Americans Don't Support Free Speech

By George Garneau

Press freedom is in big trouble—not in the courts but in the court of public opinion, concludes a new study.

It also found that Americans love freedom of speech—except if you say something they don't like.

The study found support for free speech protections was so weak that the First Amendment would fail a ratification vote if it were taken today.

It found that more than two-thirds of voters do not support unqualified press freedom. Two out of three citizens favor limits on basic press rights: to endorse candidates, to criticize government and the military, to report on politicians' past mistakes, and to depict images of violence.

About one of every four people said the media should receive no protection at all in those areas

The 280-page study, "Free Expression and the American Public," was commissioned by the American Society of Newspaper Editors (ASNE) and Middle Tennessee State University to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights this year. But its contents come as a frightening reminder to First Amendment supporters that there is a wide gap between constitutional rights and how they are perceived.

"I think the reaction of a lot of editors is that some of their worst fears are confirmed," said Paul McMasters, who is deputy editorial director for USA Today and is active on press freedom for ASNE and the Society of Professional Journal-

Nearly two out of four citizens would give no protection to reporting about public figures' sex lives, classified information, or national security information.

Citizens said they would give far more protection to the rights of individuals to speak out about government.

Americans "do believe that they believe in free expression but, in fact, those same Americans most often believe in regulating, limiting, or suppressing expression," concluded Robert O. Wyatt, the Middle Tennessee journalism professor who supervised the study.

Just one-third or less would protect at all times the right to buy books and magazines containing pictures of naked people, to speak offensively about racial or ethnic groups, or to burn the flag in protest. Nearly six out of 10 people said flag burning should receive no protection.

Nearly half of those asked would give no protection to advocacy of homosexual behavior or satanism, public discussion of other people's sex habits, or slang sex references. Only about two out of 10 people would protect speech on such issues at all times.

"Many people believe that whatever offends them personally should be restricted or prohibited, that they have a legal right to protect themselves from offense," Wyatt said.

In their readiness to limit the speech of others, Americans have outlined a new "right," he said: the right not to be offended

fended.

"The bottom line is that there is a terribly troubling trend by the American public to disregard the free speech rights of anyone but themselves," said McMasters.

"When two-thirds of the American public can't fully support a newspaper's right to editorialize on political campaigns, I think our democracy is on shaky footing," McMasters said. "It's time that we started paying more than lip service to free speech in this country."

1st Amendment Under Attack

He said the press has "squandered its franchise. It needs to make more efforts to be fairer, less arrogant, more responsible, and, most importantly of all, do a better job of telling individuals how important free speech and a free press are in this country."

For example, instead of whining when officials lock a reporter out of a meeting, newspapers can do a better job of showing how readers are affected by the action.

However, McMasters also blamed schools for not instilling the values of the Bill of Rights and politicians for trying to abrogate press rights to gain public support.

The study indicated newspapers have failed to inform citizens adequately about the role of free expression in a democracy, according to Burl Osborne, outgoing ASNE president and Dallas Morning News president.

dent.

"We have a great deal of work to explain to people what we do and why it is being done," he said, arguing that newspapers must "cause people to understand the First Amendment is not a license for some people but has applications for everyone."

He suggested that remedying the problem has much to do with perceptions, a newspaper's tone, how it explains the intention of news stories.

In his departing speech as ASNE president Osborne identified two major areas where freedom of expression was taking a beating: the Persian Gulf war and college campuses.

The press failed to persuade the public that fast, firsthand reporting best serves the public interest and that the press understands the need for military security.

Television depicted reporters as asking adversarial and petty questions of military leaders.

The public supported press restrictions because it perceived the press as "asinine," according to a general who received hundreds of letters from citizens about his press briefings.

On college campuses, where there has

been a growing trend to limit speech to that deemed "politically correct," Osborne said that censorship "has become the strategy of choice of well-intentioned people reacting to views they find repugnant."

But it is "just plain wrong to try to protect democracy by denying its principles or to protect the flag by denying the rights that it stands for," he said.

The survey polled 1,508 adults, and, in a later sampling of 1,040 during the war, found greater concern for national security.

About one-half to three-quarters of those surveyed would give no protection at all to graphic sex or nudity on television, to recordings with sex, drug, or cult themes, or to supplying classified information to foreign governments.

"What we have not done well is explain why we do what we do," Osborne said, advocating that newspapers keep asking tough questions of public officials but explain to readers why.

"If we explain what we do and why, I think people will understand that," he said

But the study indicates the press has a

long way to go.

"If the First Amendment bestows extraordinary privileges upon the press because it is essential to the workings of a democratic republic, that point seems lost on most members of the public," the study

concludes

This article is reprinted with permission from the April 20, 1991, issue of Editor and Publisher, 11 W. 19th St., New York, NY.

George Garneau is an associate editor for Editor and Publisher.



Graphic for The Libertarian Party NEWS by Mary Kelley Crawford

From the

Libertarian Party Platform . . .

Freedom of Communication

We defend the rights of individuals to unrestricted freedom of speech and freedom of the press. It is particularly important in any society, including our own, to guarantee the right of the individuals to dissent from government itself. We recognize that full freedom of expression is only possible as part of a system of full property rights. The freedom to use one's own voice; the freedom to hire a hall; the freedom to own a printing press, a broadcasting station, or a transmission cable; and similar property-based freedoms are precisely what constitute freedom of communication. At the same time, we recognize that freedom of communication does not extend to the use of other people's property to promote one's ideas without the voluntary consent of the owners.

We oppose all forms of government censorship, whatever the medium involved. Specifically, we oppose all laws against obscenity or commercial advertising. . .

We support the repeal of the Intelligence Identities Protection Act, which classifies information as secret that should be available to taxpayers, violates freedom of speech and press, and prohibits public discussion of covert government paramilitary activities and spying abroad.

We also oppose the government's burgeoning practice of invading news-rooms, or the premises of other innocent third parties, in the name of law enforcement. We further oppose court orders gagging news coverage of criminal proceedings—the right to publish and broadcast must not be abridged merely for the convenience of the judicial system. We deplore any efforts to impose thought control on the media, either by the use of anti-trust laws, or by any other government action in the name of stopping "bias" . . .

To complete the separation of media and State, we support legislation to repeal the Federal Communications Act, and to provide for private homesteading and ownership of airwave frequencies, thus giving the electronic media First Amendment parity with the other communications media. . .

We shall not be satisfied until the First Amendment is expanded to protect full, unconditional freedom of communication.

By Carolyn S. Treynor

At LIBERTY TRIUMPHANT, the LP presidential nominating convention in Chicago Aug. 28-Sept. 1, we will give special recognition to the state parties that have worked hard and successfully to bring new people into the party.

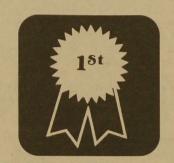
The Robert E. Lehman Award is an award which will be presented to state organizations that have achieved the most recognizable recent membership growth. The prize will be awarded according to a formula which takes into account both the increase in raw membership and the percentage increase in membership, so that both small and larger state parties have a fair chance at winning.

The award is named in memory of Bob Lehman, an activist known to Libertarians across the country, who died three years ago from brain cancer. He held many offices in both the Ohio and California Libertarian parties.

Increasing party membership was one of Lehman's great passions, and in a letter and legacy he sent to many of his friends shortly before his death, he challenged them to focus their membership recruitment efforts, to remember that "your pri-mary target should be registered Libertarians who vote, because they are 10 times more likely to become active in the party!"

Spreading the word about freedom is an important part of what we are all about as Libertarians. We take advantage of each opportunity to tell potential new members about the party of liberty. But do we go far enough? Do we actively enlist each of them to unite with us in The Cause, to become members of the Libertarian Party? It has been said that the real "business" of the party is getting new members. And that means that we all have work to do.

In some states, there are active recruitment campaigns; through the Robert E. Lehman Award, those state parties and their members will be formally recognized



for their efforts which have resulted in increasing the number of people who have joined us in our fight for freedom.

When Lehman was active in the party in Ohio during the mid-70s, one of the first things he did was recruit his parents, LaVonne and Robert, Sr. (who by the way have continued their affiliation with the LP ever since Lehman said, "Forget the Democrats and Republicans; here's how you can really make a difference."

When Lehman moved from Ohio to California, he continued his work in the libertarian political movement. He personally registered over 1,000 Libertarian voters during the 1979 voter registration campaign, and he was the originator of LONG ACTIVE, an outreach program for motivating Libertarian voters to find potential Libertarians in their own neighborhoods.

After receiving the coveted Karl Bray Award and soon after learning of his illness, Lehman left California to be with his family in Florida; however, even this crisis did not divert him from his activism. He immediately became involved in Florida's 1988 ballot drive.

Presentation of the Lehman Award promises to be a highlight of the Presidential Banquet at the convention, and we hope you will join us and give applause to those activists who have made special membership achievement.



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Doris Gordon, National Coordinator

Convention Notes

Dear Fellow Members of the National LP,

Here's the list (see page 9 - as composed by Mary Alice Strzalka, LEI's Chief Scheduler) you have been waiting for of speakers for the 1991 National Convention. Now, it's time to go out and buy several cartons of 8-hour VCR tapes. C-SPAN coverage will begin live Thursday morning and will end on Saturday, but be prepared for interviews, panels, speakers, etc., which will be taped for later broadcast, and for interviews which will be aired Monday-Wednesday of convention week, Aug. 26-28.

LIBERTY TRIUMPHANT would also

like to announce that people who volunteer to help us will get all or part of an Activist Package, depending upon the amount of work performed. Jobs that need filling include, but are not limited to: typing, security, registration, bus supervisors for Friday, and of course—gofers, gofers, gofers! To apply just write, phone, or fax

me before Aug. 1.

LIBERTY TRIUMPHANT'S ROOM
BLOCK GOES OFF Aug. 5, 1991, and then
rates go back up to as HIGH as \$200 a
night for a hotel room. So box your room reservation NOW! as the Marriott has informed us that the weekend will be a sellout and confirms that other nearby hotels are experiencing the same thing.

If you have questions, please feel free to call me at 708-475-0391 between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. (central time) or fax me at 708-475-3776.

See you in August!

Yours for Liberty,

Sue Walton **Executive Director**

Hemp Rally Planned

Convention week in Chicago will feature a number of other events in addition to the LP presidential nominating conven-

A rally calling for the legalization of trade in hemp futures is planned for Friday afternoon, Aug. 30, in front of the Chicago Board of Trade.

The movement for legalization of hemp (marijuana) has been "growing like a weed." Rallies with crowds in excess of 5,000 have been organized in Madison, WI, Ann Arbor, MI, and Atlanta, GA. In some cities

Ready-to-Use Literature

the rallies have become an annual event with bands, parties, workshops, and other events included to produce a weekend cel-

The rally in Chicago is expected to attractalarge crowd, and a number of prominent speakers are expected to attend, including Timothy Leary, Robert Anton Wilson, Jack Herer, Dick Boddie, Andre Marrou, Larry Dodge, and others.

Representatives from the ACLU, NORML, AIDS Brigade, and other organizations are also expected to attend.

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LIBERTY TRIUMPHANT **Sneak Preview**

Tuesday, August 27

Watch the soft-spoken, well-mannered, passive, and dignified Platform Committee as they calmly discuss the 1991 Libertarian Platform.

Wednesday, August 28
You have another chance to visit with the Platformers today! Or, if you prefer, stop in on the Council of State Chairs, the Credentials Committee, or see Chicago's newest zoo . . . the NatCom meeting!

While you're in a party mood, stop at 200/20 Bill of Rights and Libertarian Party Birthday Bash. Munchies, sweets, refreshments, and, of course, a birthday cake.

Thursday, August 29

CONVENTION OFFICIALLY BEGINS with KEYNOTE address at 11:30 a.m. Why so late? Who can argue on an empty stomach? Besides, this gives LEI, Ltd. a chance to welcome you to the convention at a tasty breakfast before anyone starts to complain!

For those who do not spend all their time on the Convention Floor, the day is chock-full of panels, speakers, and workshops. Just want to listen? Stop in on a panel or speaker: topics include The Bill of Rights, European Capitalism, the U.S. Police State, and Drug Legalization. Plan on participating? The workshops are for you: "So You Want to be a Candidate?," "Advocates Part II," "Get on the

Ballot," and "Build Your State Party."

The evening promises a bellyful—food and laughs. "A Taste of Chicago" with Chicago style pizza, hotdogs, and Polish sausage nourishing the body and the Second City Touring Company nourishing the soul.

Friday, August 30

Start off a provocative day at breakfast with Karl Hess. Following Karl are the featured speakers of the day, Joe Sobran and Richard Dennis, appearing on the Convention Floor, speaking on the topic "From conservative to Libertarian and from Liberal to Libertarian." A perfect balance for our C-SPAN viewers! Other speaker topics include The Anti-Tax Movement, LP Activism, and Privatization. Workshops will continue to provide training in areas such as "Get Your Campus Active," "Marketing and Fundraising, A Tough Job," and "Get on Cable TV." But whatever you choose to do—DO NOT MISS the Presidential Candidate Debate scheduled for 4:30 p.m. on the Convention Floor

Hopefully you are not worn out yet! Friday night is always a hectic night at Conventions, and Chicago will be no different! We have two different Chicago tours available, each stopping at a Libertarian tent at the Lakefront Jazz Festival. We will provide soft drinks, munchies, and conversation while some of the world's most talented jazz artists and Chicago's own Buckingham Fountain, with its colored light show, provide the entertainment. Buses will be available for transport back to the hotel and the hospitality suites.

Saturday, August 31

We know Friday night always lasts too long . . . or is it Saturday morning comes too soon? That's OK—brunch doesn't start until 11:00 a.m.! Haven't decided who to vote for yet? Join the Presidential Candidates for brunch and listen to their thoughts on "The Future of the Libertarian Party." Of course, there are early risers who can start their morning on the convention floor, listen to an Alternatives in Education panel, or take part in a FIJA workshop.

AND NOW THE BIGGIE . . . WHAT YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR Presidential Nominations take place at 1:00 p.m. In the true Chicago spirit, vote early, vote often! Then join in the celebration at the Presidential Banquet! A truly elegant affair, NOT serving chicken, and serving champagne! After dinner, dance the night away to your favorites from the '50s, '60s, '70s, '80s, and '90s. (When was the Beer Barrel Polka written, anyway?)

Sunday, September 1

Thank God (or whomever) this is almost over! Start your day with a breakfast of champions (not guaranteed to cure your Friday over-indulgences). If you miss the breakfast, start your day learning about Initiatives or FIJA. But be sure to wake up in time for the nomination and election of the new NatCom at 3:00 p.m.

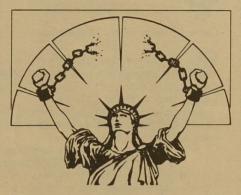
Finally, to close the festivities, join the old and new NatCom at the DieHard Libertarian Dinner. Information on this event to be forthcoming as soon as we hear from the current NatCom!

WHAT A CONVENTION!! HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!

*Disclaimer: As this IS a "sneak preview," we hereby declare that the above schedule is still tentative. Some speakers may be replaced, topics may be changed or re-arranged. SO WE DON' WANT NO FLACK IF DA FINAL PROGRAM AIN'T DA SAME!!

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☐ Attendee — Exhibits, floor access, convention program	\$ 10	\$ 10	
* Check here to receive more information about these separate-registration, additional-cost events: ☐ Heartland Institute Dinner with entertainment (August 28) ☐ Diehard Libertarian Dinner (Sept. 1)			
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Republican Reponds to Marrou Article, Lots More

Misquoted

I attended the Georgia Libertarian Party convention in April to educate myself on the philosophy and beliefs of the LP. I enjoyed meeting and conversing with a number of members about similar and differing personal views. I held discussions with both Mr. Marrou and Mr. Boddie

On that Saturday I was actually trying to decide whether to declare my switch from the Republican to the Libertarian Party.

I now see in the June, 1991 Libertarian Party NEWS an article by Mr. Marrou that completely fictionalizes our conversation. I not only was not there to recruit members to the Republican Party but after seeing how Mr. Marrou manufactures conversations I would never recruit him (or vote for him) for anything. I wonder how many of your members he will misquote to further his needs?

Our conversation ended when I said, "I enjoyed our conversation, Mr. Marrou, but you are missing the luncheon. Thanks for your time." I was attempting to be polite. I guess it doesn't always pay to be polite.

Earle R. Smith, Jr. State Chairman Republican Liberty Caucus

Editor's Note: The following letter is a response by Andre Marrou to Earle Smith's letter printed above.

Marrou Responds

Mr. Earle Smith's letterhead indicates that he is a member of the Republican Liberty Caucus. He conveniently neglected to mention this fact when we met in Atlanta. He gave me his business card-he is a government bureaucrat—and introduced himself as a member of the Georgia State Central Committee of the Republican Party.

The Republican Liberty Caucus seeks to reform the Republican Party by recruiting and converting Libertarian leaders. If successful their efforts would drain and destroy the Libertarian Party.

Mr. Earle Smith fits in well with these people.

My article is true. His letter is false.

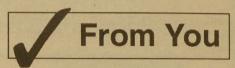
Representative Andre Marrou Las Vegas, NV

Reges and Rights

I found your article "Battling the War on Drugs on CA Campus" (June, 1991, NEWS) most disturbing. Whilst I cannot condone the actions of the State in persecuting individuals who pursue alternate lifestyles, it would seem to me that there is a much more important fundamental issue at stake here. Mr. Reges states that "Stanford is not an entirely private institution." That sounds to me just about as clear as the old quip about being "just a little bit pregnant." Either one is or isn't. Surely the institution is either private, in spite of receiving State funding, or it is owned by the State. The point is that without a proper determination of the ownership of the property, one cannot conclude just what are the rights of the parties involved.

Even though there may be no mention of property rights in the U.S. Constitution, if Stanford is a private institution, it would seem to me that Mr. Reges should be willing, if not anxious to accept that the University should have the right to regulate the behavior of individuals within their terms of employment. Instead he went out of his way to not only break the law, but to rub the noses of the Stanford administration into the mess

Whilst I sympathize with Mr. Reges and



Letters from members and readers

the position he is now in. I think it is important to differentiate between working to change laws that are repugnant to us and flouting laws in order to challenge them.

Even more important, to my mind, is the need to respect property rights even when it does not suit us to do so.

Bill Tomlinson North Vancouver, BC, Canada

Stuart Reges is more of a liability than an asset to the LP. While it is unfortunate that the federal government played a role in his ouster from Stanford, it would have been a wise move on Stanford's part to have reprimanded him for encouraging students to take drugs. It would have been very consistent with Stanford's policy of "respecting the privacy of students, faculty, and staff unless individuals behaved irre-

The most libertarian approach would be for universities to publicly state their policies to the public. I highly doubt that most parents knew that their sons' and daughters' "education" consisted of encouragement to use the same drugs that most parents think should remain illegal.

We have a hard time dealing with antilegalization hysteria, and already have enough enemies trying to portray us as the Free Drugs Party. Yet with "friends" like Reges, who needs enemies?

Jeff Bishop San Diego, CA

Absolute Freedom

As a Libertarian residing in California, I would like to take strong exception to the views expressed by Pat Wright in the June

It is encouraging to see the LP growing in this most socialistic of states, but the "party of principle" is quickly becoming the "party of compromise and lukewarm rhetoric

More people may join the LP through this approach, but what type of people will they be? Accepting matching funds is condoning the existence of the FEC, which is clearly an anti-libertarian stance.

If the individuals residing in the prison of America are ever going to build a state-free environment for themselves or their descendants, we need leaders with enough courage to "just say no!" to the FEC, IRS,

It is my sincere hope that those of us dedicated to the principles of no government will not need to remove our allegiance and strength from the LP in favor of starting an organization with more commitment to absolute freedom.

> **Doug Sandlin** Sunnyvale, CA

Nez Perce Nation

This letter is to inform you of the progress that we are making here in the Nez Perce Nation toward the legalization of marijuana. I am a 36-year-old college senior and a legal researcher for the Nez Perce Tribal Court. I am currently working on an extensive overhaul of the Law and Order Code, which is the basic lawbook here on the Reservation. I am writing three laws for submission to the Nez Perce Executive Council (NPTEC) concerning the possession, use, and cultivation of marijuana. One law is a decriminalization measure, the second provides for the legal use in case of medical necessity, and the third provides for legal cultivation for personal use. Quite naturally. many of us hope that NPTEC and the whole tribe in General Council in May will approve the third option, that of legal cultivation. Native Americans have always believed in a bare minimum of governmental intervention into personal affairs.

At any rate, win, lose, or draw, I am also interested in working to further the interests of Libertarians both on and off the Reservation.

As a citizen of the State of Idaho, I would like to invest my time in our future by promoting our political philosophy here in this stronghold of Fascism. I am also interested in a Libertarian candidacy here in the State of Idaho for the state legislature..

Here in the Nez Perce Nation we are making daily progress in changing people's

Please keep me informed, and if possible, supplied with printed material during the coming presidential election. We can deliver some votes here in the Nez Perce Nation.

James A. Sorenson Lapwai, ID

Federal Spending

Your June 1991 NEWS page one article, "LP Tax Day Protests" says incorrectly that in 1991 the U.S. government will spend one million dollars every five seconds. I'm the last guy to defend government spending, but let's at least get the numbers right.

If we assume the federal budget is \$1.4 trillion, and there are 31.536 million seconds per year (60 sec./min. x 60 min./hr. x 24 hrs./ day x 365 days/year), then the federal government spends \$44,394 per second, or \$221,970 every five seconds, or \$1 million every 22.5 seconds, or \$2.663 million per minute, or \$159.8 million every hour, or \$3.835 billion every day. To approximate the rate of government spending at all levels, including money from licenses, fees, etc. double the above numbers.

Although the numbers in the article are overstated, the correct numbers are still astonishing and still serve to make our point: the government spends too much

Eric C. Banfield Westmont, IL

A Pledge

While reading the current NEWS I was inspired. The following is A Libertarian View of the Pledge, for the 200th Anniversary of the Bill of Rights: "I pledge allegiance to the flag; and to the Constitution for which it stands; a nation of free individuals; with liberty, justice, and respect for all.

David A. Saxe Los Angeles, CA

Welcome Aboard

I was a member of the Republican Party from 1934 until December 1990. Then changed my registration to the Libertarian Party. I could no longer countenance the lack of principle in the Republican Party.

Mildred A. Westlund Portland, OR

Another Name

It's high time we change our name to the much simpler "Liberty Party." The word Libertarian is a bit cumbersome for most voters, and changing our name to a simpler, more recognizable word is an excellent way

to be more practical and accessible to people without compromising any of our values.

Robert Kellogg Los Angeles, CA

CATS

I have been a member of the LP for a couple of years now and I have recently joined a group that other libertarians should be made aware of. It is called Citizens for an Alternative Tax System (CATS), and its proposal is to replace the personal and corporate income tax (and consequently, the IRS) with a simple national sales tax that raises an equivalent amount of revenue. It would be a retail (not value added) flat tax and some of the benefits include: 1) No more income tax complexities and inequities; 2) No more IRS; 3) Greater power of choice and control over personal income—you receive all of the money you earn; and 4) Incentive to work, save, and invest.

I know that this is not an ideal libertarian solution since government still gets all its money, but it is definitely a step in the right direction. Given that our freedoms were taken away a step at a time over decades, I sincerely believe they are only going to be won back a step at a time. For more information, write CATS, 1321 Greenbriar Rd., Glendale, CA 91207

> **Keith Marcoux** Springfield, VA

Guns

I have a question. On page 3 of the April, 1991 NEWS concerning assault rifles, you without widespread ownership of firearms the people would have little defense against oppressive government.'

My question: Where do we draw the line that says we should start shooting these guns? Do we go by the rate of inflation? Who do we shoot? If I don't pay my taxes and they come to get me, can I defend myself with a gun? What travesty will have to occur before people get pissed off enough to rise up? Or. Are our guns as utile as our flags? Just a

My gun has a name. It's Ralph.

I'll not sign my name to this because the paranoids are out to get me. But please address this issue.

> Mr. XY No Address

Opinion Sought

I've come upon an organization which registers and encourages more people to vote, and prides itself in "putting on" public debates between Depublicans and Remocrats. Billing itself as educational and non-partisan, this outfit avoids taxable status. But the more Replicratic thinking that is thus pushed onto the electorate, the less thinking that's likely to be done along libertarian lines.

Therefore, should we warn them that we will protest their non-tax status if they don't include libertarians in future debates? Or should we go ahead and actually contest that status, hoping to use our enemy the IRS as our ally in the matter?

But are there also libertarian entities with non-tax status which would similarly be endangered? Or should we just pester the socialists anyway, with rallies outside their halls? Or should we do nothing, because if we pester or force our way into acceptance in their debates, other slighted parties may also get in, thus risking debates which give the public too broad and confusing an array of ideas? Or should we politely do nothing?

Could readers lend their thoughts on this

Redondo Beach, CA

Gunn Keeping Promises in LA

Arizona

Gay Lynn Goetzke, the LP's Tucson mayoral candidate, received excellent media coverage of the announcement of her candidacy. She is already busy pushing the libertarian message to small business owners like herself.

California

In three special elections for state senate and state assembly seats, Libertarian candidates made significant showings. Eric Sprik received 2,968 votes, 5.7 percent, and Gary Dusseljee received 2,667 votes, 2.3 percent, in the state senate races. Debra Klohs DeZarn received 1,246 votes, 2.5 percent, in her race for state assembly.

The state party's "Libertarianism in the Media" award was presented to KFI Radio's Tom Leykis Show. Leykis is a Los Angeles area radio personality who has regularly allowed Libertarian viewpoints to be expressed on his show, and during the 1990 election provided LP candidates with extensive coverage.

Roger Bloxham, chair of the Orange County LP, has been selected to write a weekly column with a Libertarian viewpoint for the Orange Coast Daily Pilot.

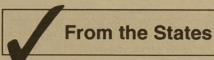
Fred Heiser is now publishing a newletter entitled "The Nuditarian." According to the newsletter, "Nuditarians have two things in common. We are in basic agreement with most of the principles of libertarianism and we all share a love of some type of clothing optional lifestyle. . . It's time to get Big Brother, big taxes, and big government off our backs." For more information write 1118 W. Magnolia, #230, Burbank, CA 91506.

Colorado

The race for the Denver Election Commission did not turn out well for the two Libertarian candidates, incumbent Doug Anderson and Mike Zink. With the top two vote-getters winning seats, Anderson and Zink finished third and fourth.

Hawaii

State chair **Blase Harris** and party activist **Ken Schoolland** have been very active in a citizens' group, Committee on Sensible Transit (COST), that is opposing a proposed government-funded rail sys-



Activities noted in newsletters and news releases

tem. According to Larry Bartley, state party treasurer, "COST is a sharp thorn in the side of the power-brokers of Hawaii and is gaining the LP respectability among activists."

It is also worth noting that the party's ballot status seems secure through the 1996 elections.

The party's convention will be held July 13-14. For more information, see "Upcoming Events" on page 12.

Illinois

Ken Prazak and a number of other libertarian activists have been busy spreading the libertarian and FIJA messages at rallies across the state. Hemp legalization rallies have attracted good crowds on college campuses, and libertarians have made good use of the events to inform students about freedom issues. Other activists involved included Bill Klein, Mike Linksvayer, Dirk Van Cleave, and John Moser.

Louisiana

Steve Gunn, whose victory in the Montgomery Town Council race was noted in the February NEWS, is obviously a man of his word. Gunn had campaigned on a promise to lower citizens' utility bills.

With just a few months in office, Gunn researched the utility revenues and discovered cuts were possible. He recommended, and the entire town council approved, cuts which included: 1) reducing the natural gas basic minimum by 10 percent; 2) reducing the homeowners' deposit from \$125 to \$75; 3) enabling homeowners to cut off natural gas during summer months without having to pay a previous fee of \$10, and; 4) reducing water rates for town customers from \$8 to \$5.

Gunn is also questioning the fact that the town is charging 11.5 mills to property owners in the form of town taxes, when the law he studied said the rate should be seven mills.

Gunn's actions to save the taxpayers

money shows his, and the LP's, commitment to principle. Elected Libertarians at the local level really are making a difference. Way to go, Steve!

Minnesota

Ted Ellingson got the endorsement of the White Bear Press newspaper in his bid for city council of White Bear Lake. Unfortunately, Ellingson lost in the primary. Ellingson did, however, get a brochure outlining his libertarian program into every house in his voting district.



New Hampshire

The LPNH will begin **Project 20,000** on July 4. The project will be the largest, most ambitious outreach effort in the state party's history. LPNH members plan to distribute 20,000 pieces of Libertarian literature, convince thousands of state residents to register Libertarian, and gain hundreds of new party members.

"Political activity tends to wane on offelection years," according to **Brad Dorsey**, one of the project directors. "This is a way to keep our presence strong."

Wisconsin

The state party's mailing to libraries offering free vertical file material on the LP was a big success. Over 50 state libraries responded, and each was sent a packet containing, among other things, a copy of "America's Libertarian Heritage," by David Bergland.

Wyoming

The state LP turned in an initial batch of 2,300 petition signatures in May to the Secretary of State's office. The 8,000 valid signatures that are required will qualify the LP and any candidates, including the presidential ticket, that it fields.

Jury Rights Activists Rally in CA

Dixianne Hawks, an LP member from Butte County, CA, was arrested and charged with five counts of "jury tampering" in late August of last year for passing out Fully Informed Jury Association (FIJA) leaflets about "jury rights" to jurors hearing her son's drug case.

Hawks has admitted passing out leaflets to members of her son's jury, but she said she just wanted the jurors to be "fully informed" about their rights.

In early May of this year, when Hawks was scheduled for a pre-trial hearing, local Libertarians, national FIJA representatives, and members of such groups as the National Rifle Association were on hand at a rally to support Hawks. The rally was covered by three television stations and many newspapers, including the Sacramento Bee.

The case has been posponed, but local FIJA activists intend to pass out more literature to everyone coming and going from the courthouse whenever Hawks' case is being heard.

For more information write Dixianne Hawks, c/o 937 W. 9th St., Chico, CA 95928.

In a related incident, LP member Ron Tisbert was charged with "solicitation" at the Los Angeles Municipal Court in March after he attempted to gather signatures inside the courthouse for both the FIJA and hemp initiatives.

Tisbert had informed the sheriff's office and other officials that he would be collecting signatures inside the courthouse, and he was allowed to do so for several hours before being arrested.

"Under *Pruneyard vs. the State* I have the right to circulate petitions anywhere the public gathers," Tisbert said. "A courthouse is supported by tax dollars 100 percent. Therefore, I considered it within my rights to circulate the petitions."

For more information write Ron Tisbert, 1332 East Ave., #R-3, Palmdale, CA 93550.

Libertarian Party Membership

Address	
Telephone: Day _	Evening
	GOVERNMENT MANDATED NOTICES The United States Postal Service requires that we notify you that LP NEWS subscription cost of \$25 is included in your membership dues. The Internal Revenue Service requires that we print "contributions are not tax-deductible" on all fund-raising appeals. Coming Soon! Paperwork Reduction Act Notices?

national member. I understand \$25 of my membership fee goes toward my LP NEWS subscription. I wish to join in the category indicated $\Rightarrow \Rightarrow \Rightarrow \Rightarrow$
"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
(required for membership only)
☐ Yes! I want to help support the national Libertarian Party with a contribution of: ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$

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will be sent each month.				

LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS • 1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE • Washington, DC 20003

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Upcoming Events

July 13-14, 1991:

Tonopah; 702-482-8429.

July 13, 1991:

Hawaii LP Convention, Waikiki; 808-536-0790 or 808-845-7900. Speakers State Park; 207-874-6992. include Dick Boddie and Andre Матои

July 19-21, 1991:

Missouri LP Convention, Fontbonne College, St. Louis; 314-997-8585.

July 20, 1991: Louisiana LP Convention; 504-924-

July 27, 1991:

Mississippi LP Convention; 404-957-

Nevada LP Convention, Miztah Hotel, South Carolina LP Convention; 803-755-2405

August 24, 1991:

Maine LP Picnic, The Pavillion, Reed

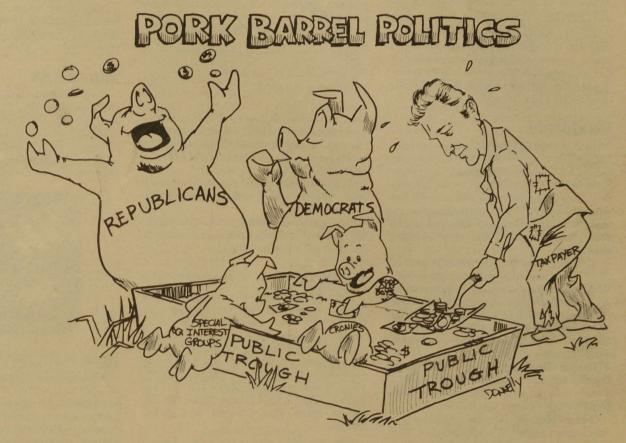
August 28-September 1, 1991: "Liberty Triumphant," LP Presidential Nominating Convention, Chicago Marriott Chicago: 708-475-0391.

September 5, 1991:

Jury Rights Day, Jefferson Memorial, Washington, DC: National News Conference and Rally at Noon; 406-793-

February, 1992:

California LP Convention; 800-637-1776.



NEWS graphic by Tom Donnelly

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