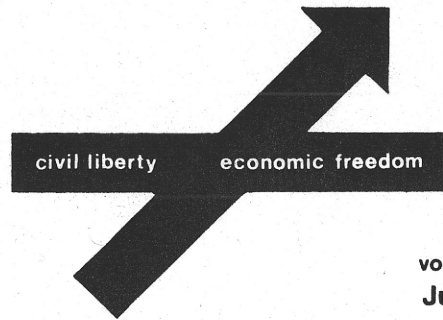


The Illinois Libertarian



vol. 1, no. 7
July 1975

A CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW

LONG-SOUGHT ACCOUNT OF CARBONDALE

ELECTION PROBLEMS!

Just how libertarian is my Congressman? or how statist? How did he vote on wage and price controls? investigating the CIA? foreign aid?

by John Hiland

To answer these and similar questions and to provide a rough measure of our legislative representatives' dedication to the principles of individual liberty, we are pleased to inaugurate what hopefully will become a regular (biannual) feature in these pages, "The Illinois Libertarian Index of Congressional Performance."

As you are well aware, the election for Mayor of Carbondale was not an outstanding success for us. This is a report of the chief problems.

Our problems were of three types: Internal Conflicts; Lack of Publicity; and Opposition.

Any two of these problems could be handled. With all three of them to deal with, the situation was hopeless. I put my head down and ran for yardage, ignoring or bypassing difficulty.

I shall review each category of problem separately.

Internal Conflict

Internal conflict within the Jackson County LP took two forms--Ideological and Personal.

Ideological conflict was the old issue of idealism vs. practicality. The consensus of the group was to run a campaign along traditional lines--deriving issues and our stand on them from the libertarian philosophy. In addition, it seemed best to avoid national issues and focus on local ones.

The problem of personal conflict was never solved. Something about politics stimulates the system and sets the hormones flowing--including sex hormones. There was some of what discretion leads me to call "random cross-pollination." I hardly need to describe what sort of discord this sort of thing leads to.

There was surprisingly little struggle for power; however, there wasn't much power to struggle for. I would have welcomed someone

The idea for this is not new, of course. Many groups, from the ADA (Americans for Democratic Action) to the ACA (Americans for Constitutional Action), regularly distribute Congressional ratings. There has even been a libertarian rating, "The Royce Report on Congress" (now defunct, it would seem), to which we owe our inspiration if not our particular format. But the Illinois Libertarian Index is (as far as we know) the first Illinois-only rating of Senators and Representatives from a strictly libertarian viewpoint.

Basically, we have measured every Illinois Congressman's voting record on 10 selected issues against a pure libertarian standard and from the comparison rated each Congressman from -10 (least libertarian/most statist) to +10 (most libertarian). The usual practice is to rate from 0% to 100%. We, however, have chosen a rating system that allows for negative scoring to emphasize not just our disappointment with a non-libertarian voting record but more our outright disapproval of a statist one. We are neutral towards non-voting; not voting, for whatever reason, earns a zero. (Thus we are not stuck with having to score a (hypothetical) habitual non-voter at 50%.)

(continued on page 2)

(continued on page 8)

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW (Cont'd from page 1)

We said the the Index will provide only a rough measure of our legislators' adherence to the principles of individual liberty as indicated by their voting records. This is because crafting a balanced and comprehensive--and ideologically significant--list of bills isn't all that easy.

First, there is the problem of quantity: There simply may not be that many important bills voted on in the time period covered (in this case, January-July, 1975--the 1st Quarter of the 94th Congress). The list must be pared of all ideologically insignificant and/or ideologically muddled bills. (For example, a bill providing \$22.9 billion in 1974 tax refunds and 1975 tax reductions plus a \$50 "bonus" for Social Security recipients--what is the proper libertarian response? The bill would cut taxes (good) but would be inflationary (bad). Should we follow Murray Rothbard's rule of thumb to always and everywhere favor a tax cut, no matter what the consequences? But what about that \$50 Social Security "bonus"? Should we go on record as favoring giveaways? And on and on....) Then we must discard bills with special political complications (such as veto overrides, often tests of party loyalty, and votes on Presidential appointments, which usually defer to Executive Privilege).

Second, and more controversial, is the problem of proportion: Of the 10 bills, how many should be on economic issues, how many civil liberties, and how many foreign affairs? Based on our readings and on our observations of the concerns and interests of libertarians as evidenced in personal discussion, letters, and journals, it is our subjective opinion (can there ever be an objective opinion?) that certainly half of the 10 should be devoted to "economics" (keeping in mind that the distinction between economics and noneconomics is often blurred). Perhaps it is merely an accident of history or sociology that libertarianism has been so heavily economics-oriented [or perhaps my personal bias--the Editor's field is economics--has narrowed my perspective]. What is the primary orientation of libertarianism (as opposed to libertarians)?

The bills selected were compiled from "How

LPI GENERAL MEETING FOR JULY

* Special Election Meeting *

We will meet on Sunday, July 27, 2:00 PM, at the University of Chicago Center for Continuing Education, 1307 E. 60th Street (between Kimbark & Kenwood Aves.) in Hyde Park (south Chicago). The bulk of the meeting will be devoted to selection of 10 delegates, an unlimited number of alternates, and one Platform Committee member to the Libertarian Party National Convention in New York City, Aug. 28 - Sept. 1. All LPI members and National members in Illinois are eligible to vote. Nominations (beyond those in the mail ballots) are still open. (Bill Brockus added himself to the mail list of delegate nominees just after the deadline.) Those who have voted by mail may vote again in person. No doubt candidates will be touting themselves before the voting, so come prepared to hear some possibly lively oratory and debates. (Come hear them try to justify themselves!)

Illinois Congressmen Voted," a feature appearing the first Sunday of every month in the Chicago Tribune. Thus, we derived our summary list from another summary list, which contributed still more to the subjectivity of the Index.

And as if that weren't enough, there is our estimation of the proper libertarian response to each bill. We have derived the "correct" response from our understanding of the 1974 Platform of the Libertarian Party. The votes follow the "hard line." (Special care was taken with foreign affairs; it is not often clear where defense leaves off and offense begins.)

* * *

After that lengthy introduction: For better or for worse, the Index follows. The bills are listed on page 3, in chronological order of their consideration, ten for the Senate and ten for the House, each with proper libertarian response and outcome included. The voting records and scores of the Congressmen follow on page 4. (There should be 24 Representatives, but Rep. John Kluczynski died last winter and his seat has only recently been filled.)

SUMMARY OF SELECTED LEGISLATION*

January-June, 1975

UNITED STATES SENATE:

1. Establishment of a special committee to determine if the CIA, FBI, and other federal intelligence and law enforcement agencies have engaged in "illegal, improper, or unethical activities." YES. (Approved 82-4.)
2. Bill to provide additional \$347 million in operating grants and federally-guaranteed loans to Northeast and Midwest railroads. NO. (Approved, 62 to 30.)
3. Bill providing \$3.9 billion for foreign economic and military aid in 1975 fiscal year. NO. (Approved, 57 to 40.)
4. Bill providing three-year increases in price supports for wheat, feed grains, soybeans, and cotton, and one-year price support increase for dairy products and tobacco. NO. (Approved, 57 to 25.)
5. Bill requiring the President to set a ceiling price for domestic oil at a level no higher than the price at which that oil sold for last Jan. 31, the day before the import fee of \$1 a barrel went into effect. NO. (Approved, 54 to 31.)
6. Bill providing \$100 million in fiscal 1975 for South Viet Nam evacuation contingency fund; \$150 million for humanitarian assistance; and clarifying the President's authority to use American troops to evacuate American citizens, their dependents, and South Vietnamese. NO. (Approved, 75 to 17.)
7. Bill providing emergency housing industry aid, including home purchase subsidies and loans to jobless homeowners unable to meet mortgage payments. NO. (Approved 64 to 26.)
8. Bill to give Council on Wage and Price Stability authority to require private companies to report price, wage, cost, profit, and productivity information. NO. (Approved, 49 to 39.)
9. Consumer Protection Act of 1975, establishing independent agency to represent consumer interests before other federal agencies and courts and to collect and disseminate consumer information. NO. (Approved, 61 to 28.)
10. Amendment to prohibit spending \$109 million in fiscal 1976 to develop American nuclear "counterforce" ["first-strike"] capability with missiles powerful and accurate enough to destroy Soviet Union missile sites. YES. (Defeated, 52 to 42.)

U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

1. Bill to establish the House Select Committee on Intelligence, to determine if the CIA, FBI, and other federal intelligence and law enforcement agencies have engaged in "improper or illegal" activities. YES. (Approved, 286 to 120.)
2. Amendment to Regional Railroad Reorganization Act providing additional \$347 million in operating grants and federally-guaranteed loans to Northeast and Midwest railroads. NO. (Approved, 270 to 137.)
3. Resolution calling on Federal Reserve Board to conduct monetary policy during first half of 1975 to encourage lower long-term interest rates [and inflation]. NO. (Approved, 367-55.)
4. Bill appropriating \$5.9 billion to create as emergency unemployment measure 900,000 full-time jobs and 1 million part-time jobs for youths and college students. NO. (Approved, 313 to 113.)
5. Bill appropriating \$3.5 billion for foreign economic and military aid in 1975 fiscal year. NO. (Approved, 212 to 201.)
6. Bill requiring states to set and enforce federally-approved safety standards for youth camps. NO. (Approved, 197 to 174.)
7. Bill providing \$327 million in fiscal 1975 for South Viet Nam humanitarian and evacuation programs and clarifying the President's authority to use United States troops to evacuate American citizens, their dependents, and South Vietnamese. NO. (Approved, 230 to 187.)
8. Bill adopted by Senate-House conference raising target prices and loan rates on 1975 crops of wheat, cotton, corn, and other feed grains and setting dairy price supports at 80 percent of parity, with quarterly adjustments. NO. (Approved, 248 to 166.)
9. Amendment to military procurement bill to reduce U.S. troop strength overseas of 416,500 men by 70,000 as of Sept. 30, 1976. YES. (Defeated, 311 to 95.)
10. Provision in energy bill to impose tax on "gas guzzling" automobiles. NO. (Defeated, 235 to 166.)

* Compiled from "How Illinois Congressmen Voted," appearing monthly in the Chicago Tribune.

THE ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN INDEX
OF CONGRESSIONAL PERFORMANCE
January-June, 1975

Representative (and party)	Bill No.										ILI Score
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Metcalfe (D)	+	-	-	-	-	0	+	-	+	0	- 2
Murphy (D)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	- 6
Russo (D)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	- 4
Derwinski (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+ 4
Hyde (R)	0	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+ 1
Collins (D)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	- 2
Rostenkowski (D)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	- 6
Yates (D)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	- 4
Mikva (D)	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	0
Annunzio (D)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	- 6
Crane (R)	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+ 4
McClory (R)	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+ 2
Erlenborn (R)	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+ 4
Hall (D)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	- 6
Anderson (R)	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	0	- 1
O'Brien (R)	+	-	-	-	0	0	-	+	0	+	- 1
Michel (R)	0	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+ 1
Railsback (R)	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	- 4
Findley (R)	+	+	+	-	-	0	-	+	-	+	+ 1
Madigan (R)	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	- 2
Shipley (D)	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	- 2
Price (D)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	- 6
Simon (D)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	- 7
LIBERTARIAN (LP)	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	+10

LIBERTARIAN (LP)	Stevenson (D)	Percy (R)	Senator (and party)	Bill No.						ILI Score
				1	2	3	4	5	6	
Y	+	+	1							
N	-	-	2							
N	-	-	3							
N	-	+	4							
N	-	+	5							
N	+	-	6							
N	-	+	7							
N	-	-	8							
N	-	-	9							
Y	+	+	10							
+10	- 4	0	Score							

Key to Symbols:

- + "Correct"
- "Incorrect"
- 0 Not Voting
- Y Yes (correct)
- N No (correct)

Best Legislators:

Edwin J. Derwinski
Philip M. Crane
John N. Erlenborn

Worst Legislator:

Paul Simon

SHORT-RUN GOALS AND LONG-RUN OBJECTIVES

by Joe Cobb

You have heard the saying that "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." The Libertarian Party is founded on an idealistic statement of principles which, if we don't betray ourselves in the climb to the thrones of power, will culminate in the end of government power as we know it today. This is the "anarchist libertarian" position--that society can be organized in a cooperative, free system without the coercive monopoly of police power, known as the modern State. The theory behind the Libertarian Party is that rulers do not voluntarily give up. They must be dislodged. Further, that the seats of power do not vanish when they are unoccupied, because power-seekers find them and occupy them. Instead, the chair of power must be captured and held by a libertarian who knows why it is wrong to exercise power over others.

The strength of the Libertarian Party today, as opposed to the myriad conservative movements in the past fifty years, is that we are committed to a long-run objective of abolishing authoritarian domination of people's individual lives. No conservative has ever been in favor of that. Some specific conservative movements have been in favor of laissez faire capitalism, freedom of individual choice, abolishing this or that government program, but the absence of any long-run theoretical perspective has made the conservative movements worse than ineffective--"worse" because on top of their lack of success, they have presented the believers in government action with a handy set of "dirty old men" to represent as the enemy. A defender of the status quo is at a disadvantage vis-a-vis the advocate of "reform, revolution, and utopia" because anyone can discover ugly spots in the status quo but very few people can discover ugly spots in the vision of utopia. Visions are notoriously vague and unspecific. Yet visions inspire activists, and activists bring about political change. At best, conservatives preserve the status quo.

The Libertarian Party intends to shake up the status quo and make political inroads in the direction of "reform, revolution, and utopia." Let's be more specific,

however. On that journey of a thousand miles, what will be the first dozen steps? It is probably not important to agree on the particular first step, or even the first dozen steps; but it is important to think in terms of the first dozen steps--and to stop wasting time dreaming about the last dozen steps. There will be time enough for planning the last dozen steps when the day arrives to implement the penultimate phase of the program. For the short-run, however, let's consider some goals. We can make a list of items to be achieved in the first 100 days of a Libertarian Party legislative program. We can make a list of specific taxes to be abolished, and a list of specific programs of the Federal, State, and local governments to be cut and eliminated in the first four years of a Libertarian Party administration. It might be useful to identify the pressure group constituencies of the particular programs in order to focus voter attention on the great rip-off, in terms of who is receiving the fruits of the system. Everybody hates a group which lives off of exploitation. It should be our task to point the finger at the milk producers' cartel, the managers and unions who thrive on economic regulation, the bureaucrats and monopolists who operate the government, and the various absurd schemes to control everything in sight.

The job should be easier than it would seem at first. There is a wealth of books, articles, pamphlets, and research materials about the government and the economics of regulation. Much of this material has been developed by conservatives, but you can find material written by liberals in areas of social oppression and denial of civil liberties. The strength of the libertarian position is that we never have to say, "Yes, but . . ."

There is no moral imperative which says that you must expose your entire hand of cards at one time. If you are opposed to taxation, you should say, "Abolish the property tax." Only if questioned further, to be honest, should you go on to advocate abolition of another tax, and another, and another. Never lose sight of the ultimate goal--but don't spend all of your time defending the ultimate when you can attack the immediate!

BOONDOGGLE BUREAUCRACY

If a man came to your door solicitng voluntary contributions for a study of the frisbee, would you contribute? How about a research project into the history of comic books? What would be your reply to a stranger who asked you to give him \$570 so that he could take a cruise around the world? To most individuals, who have more important ways in which to spend their money, the above requests would be viewed with contempt, and rejected. The U.S. Government, however, has spent millions of tax dollars for precisely these purposes.

Why does the government spend large sums of money on activities that would be spurned by individual taxpayers? The simple answer is that value is not a consideration in government spending, whereas it is a primary consideration to the individual. The government does not earn its income, and is not even required to confine its spending to an established budget. Is it any wonder, then, that the bureaucrats have developed spendthrift habits with your money? Consider the following brief list of bona fide boondoggles that have been uncovered by the National Taxpayers Union:

\$300,000,000,000 given away in foreign aid since 1945.

\$41,000,000 to maintain the Selective Service, even though no one is being drafted.

\$161,000 to refurbish Rep. Carl Albert's office in Washington, D.C.

\$311,000 for a zero-gravity toilet.

\$375,000 to study the frisbee.

\$59,000 annually for upkeep on the government's cache of three million pounds of feathers.

\$19,000,000 to subsidize around-the-world cruises for 33,278 passengers aboard four U.S. luxury liners.

\$179,000 annually just to pay employees at an exclusive Alaskan resort for high-ranking government officials.

\$117,250 annually to pay the Board of Tea Tasters. There is also a Board of Tea Appeals.

75,000 government employees drawing two

federal paychecks simultaneously.

\$23,000,000 spent on manpower training in Washington, D.C., for which "No one knows how many people are being trained, for what occupations they are being trained, or the impact of the training on the demand for skilled workers." (Quotation from an official of the Government Accounting Office.)

\$20,000,000,000 for a host of similar "training programs" since 1964.

\$250,000 annually to pay for the Interdepartmental Screw Thread Committee.

\$60,000 to study the cultural impact of "Rural Road Construction in Yugoslavia."

\$46,089 for a dictionary of witchcraft.

\$576,969 for a study on teaching mothers how to play with their children.

\$458,000,000,000 "NATIONAL DEBT" (and it gets bigger every year).

\$57,000 PER MINUTE TO PAY INTEREST ON THE "NATIONAL DEBT."

The list goes on and on. It is estimated that the average household pays approximately \$5,000 annually in taxes. Would you, as a taxpayer, voluntarily contribute \$5,000 of your hard-earned dollars to support even one of the above activities? \$5,000 could no doubt be put to better use by you than financing 5 seconds worth of the interest on the national debt.

Does the government have the right to force you to support expenditures of which you may not approve? Does your elected representative ever consult you on federal spending programs? Does Congress have the right to spend without limit? Do you wonder why taxes are the largest single expenditure in the average family's budget? Do you just keep on paying while the government keeps on spending, without so much as saying "thank you"?

Think about it. And remember--it started out as your money.

[The preceding is a portion of the tax protest pamphlet compiled by Bob Randall and Jeff Smith and handed out at the demonstration in front of the Main Chicago Post Office last April 15 (see page 10). In a future issue, we plan to excerpt their "Moral Argument Against Taxation."]

MINUTES FROM JUNE MEETING

I. Announcements.

A. The Treasurer's Report was waived due to the absence of the Treasurer. The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was also waived, with the exception of a discussion of item III.A.6.(iv) regarding the prominence afforded to the notification appearing in the newsletter.

B. Bonnie Kaplan wished to announce a correction to the announcement in the newsletter to the effect that she is running for both delegate and alternate, rather than just alternate.

C. NOTA is forming a fund to assist delegates. Contributions can be made for specific individuals or to the fund in general.

D. NOTA is having a fund-raising outing at Ravinia Park, time and date to be announced.

II. Old Business.

A. It was moved and passed: that the August General Meeting be held on the 17th rather than the 24th so as not to conflict with the Convention.

B. Delegate and Officer Nominating Procedure. With one month remaining before the election, it was deemed necessary to communicate information about the nominating process and encourage maximum participation by the entire state party membership.

1. It was moved and passed that: two mailings would be made; the first being informational and requesting nominations, and the second containing a ballot which could be mailed or delivered to the next General Meeting in person.

2. The above motion was friendly amended to the effect that nominees would be required to pay for qualifying statements at a rate of one penny per word (over and above their name, address, and telephone number) to cover printing costs. The qualification statements will be included in the second mailing.

3. An amendment to make the payment of the above fee voluntary was defeated.

C. YAF Convention Report. Joe Cobb advised that the hospitality suite at the McCormick Inn for August 15 and 16 would cost about \$150, but that the possibility of renting a meeting room (rather than a suite) was being considered to reduce this expense. The exhibit booth cost is \$100. The rest of the funds (\$250) are expected to be used for subsidizing refreshments.

III. New Business.

A. It was moved and passed: that the floor leader at the Convention be required to substitute alternates for delegates according to rank as much as possible when the need arises.

B. Getting Presidential Candidates to Speak in Illinois. It was suggested that in lieu of raising funds for personal appearances by one or more candidates, such communications could be taped telephone conversations. Steve Nelson agreed to do the taping.

(There followed a recess to discuss the candidates for the Presidency, namely: Roger MacBride, Kay Harroff, and Guy Riggs.)

C. A resolution was proposed which would put the Party on record as opposing the practice of signing up members of LPI as members of other politically oriented organizations without the knowledge and consent of the individual in question. The resolution was tabled for referral to the By-Laws Committee.

D. It was moved and passed: that a delegate be chosen to report on the Convention at the General Meeting following the Convention.

E. A resolution was proposed which would require consideration to be given to free meeting places for General Meetings, rather than continually renting the same facilities in the three areas.

1. The resolution was friendly amended to the effect that the same meeting place in a given area would not be used twice in succession.

2. The resolution was passed as amended.

F. A report on the expenditures made from the Discretionary Fund was requested. Funds spent in June: for Platforms and bumper stickers, \$25.00; for meeting room, \$25.00; for copies of the Statement of Principles, \$15.00 (figures are approximate).

G. A motion to adjourn was defeated.

H. A point of information was raised about the approval of expenditures from the Discretionary Fund; in particular, what if an expenditure is deemed inadmissible by the body?

1. The issue was not satisfactorily resolved with regard to the disapproval of certain expenditures.

2. An objection was registered to the expenditure of Party funds for the meeting room when free facilities were available.

I. A motion to adjourn was passed.

Robert Randall, Secretary

CARBONDALE (cont'd from page 1)

else becoming County Chairman, but no one else wanted the job and the people seemed to be confident of me (or felt no one else would do better).

Regrettably, I didn't have time to do the things a county chairman really should do. I had to spend all the time I had keeping the organization together and doing jobs other people said they would but failed to do. I would have liked to have gotten involved in the mayor's race in Murphysboro --which would have made us an actual county organization, rather than just a Carbondale one.

Needless to say, a recruiting drive was, under the circumstances, out of the question. Prospective members who came to one meeting or two quit showing up.

Lack of Publicity

In a sense, we were ignored to death. The media was not on our side. There are two daily papers here, the Southern Illinoisan (an area daily) and the Daily Egyptian (the Southern Illinois University school paper).

I understand the incumbent mayor owns a part-interest in the Southern Illinoisan. In any event, it is staffed by politically conscious liberal hacks--who are allergic to any opinion not their own. When we picketed the local office of the I.R.S. back in December to kick off the campaign, they gave us only a few inches on an inside page. During the campaign, I am sure the write-ins got better coverage than Mrs. Altschuler.

The Daily Egyptian gave our picketing of the I.R.S. fine coverage--then someone there remembered the Altschulers had openly opposed the campus radicals a number of times, so things there dried up for us.

We also damaged ourselves when one of our members made it a point to tell the reporters very frankly what he thought the shortcomings on their stories were. I think one or two others also called up the editor of this paper and raised Cain. No doubt this resulted in them deciding it would be safest to have little or nothing to say about us.

The directorship of the Daily Egyptian also changed. It had been headed by Dr. Long, a rational, progressive conservative--a per-

sonal friend whom I was leaning towards libertarianism. Most of the control passed to Ralph Johnson, a borderline statist remarkable for his personal bias against those who disagree with him.

A Marion radio station was quite helpful and still is. I am grateful.

Not being able to get suitable amounts of free publicity through the press and with little hope of the local radio stations making up for it (the former manager of the campus radio station ran as a radical write-in), the only other choice was to buy advertising. We didn't have the money for that, although the people up North were a great help. It was actually their support, financial and spiritual, which made what we did accomplish possible.

We handed out heroic amounts of literature, stuck up bumper stickers, and knocked on doors. Irene spoke to as many groups as possible and personally knocked on a phenomenal number of doors.

Opposition

As for the write-ins, they swiped most of our platform--and seemed to have about as much money as we did. I still have not found out who funded them.

I am enclosing a separate statement on the difficulty we experienced with N.O.R.M.L. and its local chieftain, "Buzz" Talbot.

Regardless of all of this, our real opposition was the incumbent Eckert administration. Eckert is a popular Walker Democrat with an effective Democratic organization. He would be tough competition for any challenger.

We would have fared better if the election had "heated up" and generated more interest. We had to win voters over to a third party --running the first woman for Mayor of Carbondale (a place where this would make a difference). The women's libbers wouldn't support us because we wouldn't promise them public funds for their local group. They supported one of the radicals.

In any case, I think we did as well as a Republican would have. That will do as a start.

* * *

(concluded on next page)

CARBONDALE (cont'd from page 8)

C A L E N D A R

The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws caused us somewhat of a difficulty.

Bruce ("Buzz") Talbot, a non-student provocateur, former narcotics agent, and a Democratic precinct boss--remember that the incumbent mayor we ran against is a Demo?--is the reasons we found N.O.R.M.L. to be a problem.

Talbot showed up at one of our meetings prior to the primary. He insisted we had to make a radical statement endorsing an irrational position he claimed N.O.R.M.L. advocated. He claimed the other candidates had already gotten behind it.

This position was that the city govt. had to enact an ordinance making a slight fine the only penalty for possession of a small amount of marijuana. What was wrong with this was (1) the city attorney had indicated the city could not legally do this; (2) the local police as a matter of policy seldom make arrests for small amounts of pot--they must be irritated by an individual to make an issue of this (the attitude of the cops is best expressed by the fact that some of them seem to smoke grass themselves); (3) while it might be a small fine--we could not endorse any fine for having marijuana; and (4) the alleged N.O.R.M.L. resolution, while not making the weed legal, also failed to allow a legitimate source for it. We indicated we thought more of having it wholly legal--with legal sources of supply.

We also indicated to Talbot that we felt marijuana was not nearly as important an issue as outrageous taxes and the clearly excessive power of government.

For all of the above reasons, we told him "no sale" on his dopey proposal. We did mention that if we were in power, enforcement of victimless-crime laws would be officially discouraged.

We read the official Libertarian position to him from the party platform. Each member at the meeting explained their personal view--in general agreement with the Party ideology. The candidate also tried to come to terms with him, but he was so belligerent that she finally told him there was no way to do business with him.

I trust this may answer some of your doubts.

- 26 July (Sat.), Ravinia Park (in Highland Park, Ill.). NOTA PICNIC OUTING AND CONCERT. The CSO under James Levine and guest soloist Alexis Weissenberg will perform Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 5 ("Emperor") and Symphony No. 3 ("Eroica"). Bonus: 11 PM, The Travel Light Theatre Company presents an Evening of Contemporary Theatre. Homemade dinner is \$2 per person (proceeds go to NOTA). For reservations, call Bonnie Kaplan, 967-1339; Kathy Kostka, 248-2280; or Carolyn Randall, 973-2199. Admission to Ravinia is \$3 (\$1 for children). Buy a ticket and meet in front of Murray Theater at 5:30-6:00. (Rain date is Aug. 3 for the CSO playing music by Glinka, Tchaikovsky, and Rimsky-Korsakoff.)
- 27 July (Sun.). LPI GENERAL MEETING (see page 2).
- 30 July (Wed.), 8:00 PM, 5536 East Lake Drive A, Lisle, Ill. A meeting of the LIBERTARIAN CLUB OF DUPAGE.
- 31 July (Thurs.), 8:00 PM. Yes, Virginia, there is a LIBERTARIAN SCIENCE FICTION CLUB. For meeting place and more info, call Bonnie Kaplan, 312/967-1339.
- 2 August (Sat.). NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.
- 5 August (Tues.). LPI OFFICERS MEETING. For time and place, call Chairman Steve Nelson at 312/969-1088.
- 7 August (Thurs.), at the residence of Bob and Carolyn Randall, 1536 W. Farwell, 2C, Chicago (973-2199). A meeting of the NOTA CLUB (north Chicago and north/northwest suburban libertarians). 8 PM business, 9 PM socializing.
- 9 August (Sat.). Publication date for THE ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN (moved forward).
- 17 August (Sun.). LPI GENERAL MEETING (moved forward from Aug. 24--see p. 7).
- 28 August-1 September, New York City. LP NATIONAL CONVENTION. (Be there!)

(If you know of any happenings or events in the area that would be of interest to libertarians, please send notice of them to the Editor (address on last page).

D
NEWS NOTES
A

APPEARANCES: LPIer Anne McCracken went before the camera July 10 and 11 to reply to a Channel 5 (WMAQ-TV) Editorial on the Chicago City Council's proposed revision of the Municipal Code. Ms. McCracken, who has recently taken up the post of LPI's Financial Chairperson, proposed that every ordinance automatically lapse after ten years so that, over time, we are not burdened with a lot of unnecessary, outdated regulatory "garbage."

In other appearances before the public, Bernie Sommer and LPIer Jeff Smith spoke at the recent RTA hearings in Skokie and Waukegan, and Joe DeJan pitched libertarianism to a class at Roosevelt University.

* * * * *

LAURELS: The May-June issue of LP News (\$3/6 issues, \$5/12 issues; 550 Kearny St., San Francisco, CA 94108) had this to say about the job done by Bob Randall and Jeff Smith on our anti-tax literature: "The Illinois LP tax protest literature handed out at the demonstration is the best-researched and most attractively presented quick overview of the subject that we've seen." [Take a bow, fellas.]

* * * * *

WHAT ME WORRY?: The House passed on June 24 a bill to increase the federal debt limit by \$46 billion (to \$577 billion), after only 23 minutes of "debate." At \$2 billion per minute, who says "talk is cheap"? ("But don't we owe it to ourselves?") Meanwhile, latest figures from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis show the money supply growing at a 12% per year clip (after last year's lull). Weimar Germany, here we come!

* * * * *

A HEARTBEAT AWAY: Joe Cobb has proposed that at this year's convention the LP choose its Vice Presidential candidate before selecting the Presidential standard bearer. This to liven up the convention proceedings and help ensure that the Party get the best possible persons for the two top jobs. (The Vice Presidential winner would not be excluded from trying for the Presidential candidacy; indeed, he/she would be encouraged to so try--but she/he might lose!)

* * * * *

BETTER DEAD THAN RIGHT: In a recent newscast, ABC's Harry Reasoner described Socialist Indira Ghandi's outlawing of opposition political parties in India as a "move to the Right." What is little reported, however, is that the crackdown included all parties but the communists', who--witness the Soviet Union--aren't exactly noted for their political toleration. Perhaps Reasoner meant to say, "move against the Right." Anyway, there's one more Reason to style ourselves as far as possible away from The Right. We are not Conservatives. And the LP would not abolish any opposition parties, not even the Communist. But, in fact, in a libertarian utopia, of what use would they be? [Aha! Publish newsletters!]

* * * * *

THE POT CALLING THE KETTLE?: The former head of the predominantly black Cook County Bar Association, James D. Montgomery, has called Sen. Charles Percy a racist for preparing to nominate a Waukegan attorney to fill a vacancy on the federal bench. When asked what is wrong with the potential nominee, Montgomery said nothing is, "except that he is white." We quote from the 1974 Libertarian Party Platform: "Equality of the rights under law should not be denied or abridged by the United States, or any political subdivision thereof, on account of sex, race, color, creed, age, national origin, or sexual preference. We shall oppose any governmental attempts to regulate purely private discrimination. However, we condemn bigotry as irrational and unjust." And, we might add, bigotry is bigotry, no matter from what quarter.

* * * * *

SPEAKERS WANTED: By NOTA, on libertarian issues. Call Bob Randall, 312/973-2199.

The ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN is published monthly by the Libertarian Party of Illinois, P.O. Monopoly Box 1776, Chicago, IL 60690. Subscription is "free" for all current LPI members (and other worthies); for nonmembers (and unworthies) it is \$6/yr. Submissions (due a week before publication) are welcome. The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of LPI, its officers, or the Editor, who by the Grace of the Chair is

Robert Osterlund, Editor
5301 S. Kimbark Avenue, 3D
Chicago, Illinois 60615
312/752-6866