



NED HUTCHINSON

Robert Meier Appointed As Hutchinson's Successor

Newly-appointed National Director of the Libertarian Party, Ned Hutchinson, suffered a fatal coronary while playing tennis in Sacramento in late March. Hutchinson, who was a member of former Gov. Ronald Reagan's staff prior to joining the LP, received nationwide publicity when he bolted the Republican party to become the LP's National Director.

Hutchinson worked primarily with the state LP chairpersons around the country, assisting them with their organizational efforts and particularly with their attempts to gain ballot status. "Ned was a man of great integrity who was

committed to the libertarian cause," said National Chairman Ed Crane.

The National Executive Committee of the LP voted in early April to fill the vacancy left by Hutchinson by appointing Bob Meier, former National Finance Chairman, as the new National Director. Meier will move to San Francisco in June and will work out of the Party's national headquarters there.

"We are very fortunate to have an individual of Bob's ability," said Crane. "Bob has been active in the LP since its founding and now he will be able to devote his full-time efforts toward furthering the development of the

Libertarian Party." Funding for the National Director's salary will come from the National Headquarters Fund rather than general party revenues.

Meier, 29, has been a member of the Executive Committee since 1972 and was co-chairman of the highly successful 1975 Conference on International Liquidity and Monetary Reform, held recently in New Orleans. Contacted at his financial counselling office in DeKalb, Ill., Meier said he was "excited and honored to take on the job of National Director. The opportunity that we have to make a major impact on the political process in this country immediately would have been inconceivable only two years ago," he said.

Meier will concentrate his efforts in the area of organizing state parties and fundraising. "I'm anxious to begin a major direct mail campaign as well as begin a systematic program of contacting individuals with the financial wherewithal to give the LP major assistance," he concluded. Meier's responsibilities will also include coordinating the efforts of the newly formed LP Board of Economic Advisers and working with Crane on the Party's suit against the Federal Campaign Finance Act.

Reviewers Praise Nozick Book

Editor's Note: After this article was written, as the LP News was going to press, we learned that Prof. Nozick's book had received the prestigious National Book Award in the category of philosophy and religion.

Massachusetts LP member Robert Nozick, a professor of philosophy at Harvard University, has received widespread acclaim and attention for his new political theory book, *Anarchy, State and Utopia*.

The Jan. 17 Times Literary Supplement, the most important book review journal in Britain, published an essay review by philosopher Bernard Williams (an important philosophical defender of egalitarianism).

Williams calls Nozick's book "original, remarkable, and strikingly intelligent." Williams praises Nozick's section on the decentralized utopian possibilities of libertarianism: "The book ends with an engaging sketch of a pluralistic, libertarian Utopia, which has the unusual property of

really carrying through the libertarian ideal by not laying it down even that people should live in a libertarian manner.

"The libertarian arrangements exist at the higher-order level of permitting a large number of very various communities between which people may move — they are all ordered within the merely Lockean framework, but in themselves they may be as restrictive or unpermissive as you (or rather they) like."

Ironical Twist

Williams also compliments an ironic twist used by Nozick in his argument: "There is ... a bravura short chapter in which it is argued that the modern state *might*, after all be justified (that is, in Mr. Nozick's terms, could come into existence without violating anyone's rights). However, the squeamish reader should be warned against pressing this argument against the general tenor of Mr. Nozick's conclusions.

"For the construction proceeds via everyone's selling himself into slavery... It is typical of this structurally sophisticated

and self-aware book that the reader [by which Williams means the reader of social democratic sympathies] should find himself in an ironical stand-off with Mr. Nozick on this way of getting into the modern state."

Caricaturing somewhat, Williams' criticisms of Nozick are that Nozick

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MacBride Throws Hat In Ring For 1976 Race

SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA—The first candidate for the LP Presidential nomination has thrown his hat in the ring. The prospective standard-bearer is Roger MacBride, the Virginia elector who left the Republican party to cast his electoral college ballot for 1972 LP nominee John Hospers. MacBride announced his

candidacy to the cheers of his audience at the annual convention of the California LP.

MacBride promised a vigorous campaign if nominated. He said the Libertarian Party must offer itself as a new political party in the great American tradition, with answers to the problems of inflation, depression, and other social maladies.

Libertarians must be confident, MacBride argued, that the electorate can be convinced. MacBride said that in traveling around the country he has seen the "real willingness of almost all libertarians to throw themselves into the work that must be done." This helped inspire his decision to run, he added.

Convince The Public

In 1976, LPers should concentrate on convincing the American people that the party has reasonable answers to current problems, according to MacBride. "We shall never compromise one iota of our principles, and with that as our burning guide, we will woo liberals, we will woo conservatives, and we will woo non-politicals. If we cannot win them entirely to our libertarian philosophy and party, we will make them supporters of our cause."

MacBride pointed out that some pessimistic libertarians see the task ahead as hopelessly impossible. But these pessimists are usually thinking about the difficulty of converting 40 million people to a full mastery of libertarian philosophy

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MAC BRIDE ANNOUNCES—The crowd at the evening banquet of the California LP convention listens as Roger MacBride announces his bid for the 1976 Presidential nomination, promising a vigorous campaign if nominated.

—Photo by Bryan Remer

From The Chair

Some Reasons For Optimism On LP's Future

Ed Crane

It has been demonstrated many times in the pages of the LP News that the time is ripe for a new political movement in the United States. The opinion polls indicate this, columnists write about it and logic would seem to confirm it. Nevertheless, there is nothing like actually witnessing political events first hand to get a true appreciation of where things stand.

During the past two months my travels around the country on behalf of the Libertarian Party have provided me with an excellent opportunity to view both the current state of conservative politics and the progress being made by the LP.

I suppose there's no way to prevent my analysis of the situation from being biased, but I have become more convinced in the past several weeks that the future belongs to libertarianism than I can recall ever having been in my generally optimistic life.

First, I'm convinced that the conservatives are not prepared to meet the market demand for a new party. A contingent of libertarians, myself included, represented the LP at the much ballyhooed 1975 Conservative Political Action Conference in Washington, D.C., Feb. 13-16. The event was attended by about 500 conservative activists from around the country and was billed (implicitly) as the organizing convention for a conservative third party. Not quite.

At a time when the Republican Party has taken Sen. Howard Baker's advice and is doggedly pursuing a non-ideological, non-partisan base-broadening drive to oblivion, the conservatives showed virtually no enthusiasm for their cause or appreciation for the opportunity that the times afford them. Twelve years ago, when the conservatives still had some allegiance to principles (albeit inconsistent ones) they would have shaken the rafters of the Mayflower Hotel.

Nixon-Endorsers

Now, the conservative movement that has endorsed Richard Nixon and Spiro Agnew as brothers in the fold and that hailed the ascendancy of a Jerry Ford to the Presidency has no principles left to rally around. The only thing that could get the adrenaline flowing in this group (very few of whom were under 40) was criticism of Nelson Rockefeller.

The only statement that could muster a standing ovation during the entire conference was when Meldrim Thompson, the good ol' boy from New Hampshire, called for an interventionist foreign policy because "God wills America to be number one!"

So in my view the conservative movement doesn't have the energy left to start a new party. It certainly can't be done without the support of the leaders of that movement — former Gov. Ronald Reagan, Sen. James Buckley and Sen. Barry Goldwater. All three men have been outspoken in their desire to work within the Republican Party. Reagan may well end up challenging Ford, but he will not head a new party movement.

Even though they clearly don't agree with our platform, it was interesting to note the high degree of recognition the LP has achieved with those gathered at the CPAC. The delegates were anxious to get information on the Party and many had questions concerning our activities and plans ("Would you join a conservative coalition?" "No, we're not conservatives.") Two of the more articulate speakers at the Conference were Yale Brozen, a member of the LP's Board of Economic Advisers, and Jim Davidson, a libertarian and head of the American Taxpayers Union.

I was encouraged to note that several of the younger state legislators present seemed to have strong libertarian leanings. Woody Jenkins from Louisiana and Butch Otter from Idaho are two who already qualify as libertarians and are active in rolling back the government in their respective states.

In sharp contrast to the reception the LP received from the political conservatives in Washington, D.C., was the reaction to our presence by the economic conservatives at the 1975 Conference on International Liquidity and Monetary Reform, held in New Orleans, March 13-16.

Significant Achievement

This conference, which was sponsored by the National Committee on Monetary Reform with assistance from the LP, was

attended by 1000 persons. In addition to being the largest event of its kind ever held and a major financial success for the LP, it also proved to be a significant political achievement for us. The LP suite was a major focal point throughout the Conference and numerous LP members (including an active group from the Louisiana LP) were busy proselytizing into the small hours of the morning.

Ray Cunningham, West Coast coordinator for the newly formed Presidential candidacy of Roger MacBride, sent hundreds of "MacBride in '76" buttons to the Conference and by the time MacBride spoke to the Saturday night banquet the buttons could be found on about every other delegate. MacBride's speech was a hardhitting analysis of the inconsistencies of the conservative movement and the need to undertake a "second libertarian revolution" that would reject all government interference with voluntary human action.

MacBride received a very sympathetic response from the general conservative audience. "The Libertarian Party," he said, "will radically change the direction of political debate in this nation. The question will not be 'Shall the budget deficit be \$50 billion or \$100 billion?' but 'Shall we cut the budget by \$100 billion or \$200 billion?' The question will not be 'Shall the Federal Reserve increase the money supply by 16% or by 5%?' but

'Shall we shut down the Fed's printing presses this Friday or this Thursday?'"

Standing Ovation

MacBride received a thunderous standing ovation for his no-compromise speech, and he was the center of attention at a three-hour cocktail party held in his honor following the banquet.

Our experience in New Orleans made it clear to me that intelligent individuals, regardless of their previous political affiliations, can be attracted to the LP if only we will take the time and effort to reach out to those millions of Americans who are seeking an alternative to the disastrous state of Republican and Democratic politics. I'm encouraged to report that there is a growing recognition of the potential for libertarian political action on the part of many LP members.

During the last two months I was fortunate to be able to attend LP state conventions in California, New York and Florida. In each case I was struck by the fact that the individuals participating in these conventions were on the whole quite serious about the work they were undertaking. These are bright, energetic, committed libertarians who have gained experience and confidence after three years of organizing the LP in their states. The American public is ready for libertarianism, and the Libertarian Party is steadily building its capability to bring its message to America.

Thoughts Of An Editor

Building An Information Arsenal

Bill Evers

The key to political organizing is mobilizing popular support for principled action on concrete issues, all such issues being chosen for their utility in shifting attitudes in the direction of a larger social transformation.

Libertarians usually have a good grasp of principles; but often they are weak in their knowledge of the factual circumstances that surround current issues and have brought such issues to public attention.

Of course, it is difficult to keep track of the massive number of political events that occur. But one advantage of working in an organization like the Libertarian Party is that large and difficult tasks can be divided up to be worked on. Through organization we can multiply our strength.

Filing System

Every state organization and important county organization should have a filing system in which it collects information on political figures and issues in its area.

In every state there is some major newspaper which offers the best coverage of what is happening in that state's capital. This newspaper should be subscribed to, diligently read, and clipped. Some states have specialized magazines devoted to state

politics. Two examples are the California Journal and the Empire State Report.

In 1975, the California Journal has had articles on such topics as the prospects for lessening marijuana penalties, the state educational bureaucracy, how and where students are voting, and what it takes to launch and float a third party. Knowledge of such subjects is the stock in trade of day-to-day serious politics.

Long-Term Issues

In clipping and filing articles, libertarian activists should watch especially for what are likely to be long-term issues, e.g., land-use controls or the legal rights of homosexuals.

In the U.S., national issues intermingle with local and state issues to a very large degree. Excellent coverage of national policy disputes can be found in the National Journal Reports and the Congressional Quarterly Weekly Reports.

Major national newspapers like, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Washington Post are also valuable on national issues, as are political opinion journals like The Nation, Human Events, and National Review.

Voting Evaluations

Local LP organizations at the state and county level can and should assemble tabulations which evaluate the voting records of legislators, Aldermen, city council members, county supervisors — all have made policy decisions. The systematic gathering of these decisions into a coherent record permits an evaluation of that record.

Once this sort of down-to-earth information is put together in a filing system from which it can be retrieved, it becomes useful in political organizing and publicity work.

Libertarianism is both a philosophy and a movement for social change. Philosophy is not only to be used to understand the world, it is also to be used to change it. We have to take our rational political

principles and apply them to current issues. We have to anchor our agitation and propaganda in real events.

On Firm Ground

With information on political controversies assembled and ready to be used, local LP units will be on firmer ground in putting out replies broadcast on radio and TV stations. The local speakers' bureau will be able to offer speakers who have the facts at their command. Letters sent in to newspapers can reflect a knowledge of the past history of controversies. State party platforms can bring libertarian principles to bear on the issues being debated in that state. Local LP units can issue a steady stream of press releases on current events, press releases that will be respected by the news media because they will reflect a thorough knowledge of the situation.

Similarly, any efforts at rallies or protests or organizing will be aided by a knowledge of what are the popular discontents and who are potential allies and foes on given issues.

Without in any way minimizing what has just been said about putting together available knowledge on the present political situation, remember that local LP units derive a good part of their reason for existence and their impact from their place in the electoral process. All local LP units should be on the ballot.

Ballot status gives us legitimacy in the eyes of the news media and the broad middle classes. It adds to our own coherence of purpose and keeps us oriented toward social change via practical politics and publicity.

No matter who you are in your state or local organization, make sure that information-assembling and a ballot-status drive are in the works in your state. If they aren't in process yet, get your friends together and notify others that some people are now ready to begin work on these necessary projects.



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LP Position Paper

Getting At The Roots Of Inflation

Murray N. Rothbard

Editor's Note: This article is available from national headquarters as an LP position paper for public distribution.

Inflation, in the popular terminology, may be defined as a persistent rise in the cost of living, or in the level of consumer prices. Looking at it another way, inflation is a persistent decline in the value — the purchasing power in goods and services — of the dollar or other currency unit.

Inflation has been an acute social problem since at least the Roman Empire, and has been a chronic and accelerating problem in the United States and most other countries since World War II. In the last few years, inflation has become frightening and "double-digit," i.e., consumer prices have been rising at a rate of ten percent or more per year.

What is the cause of inflation? Many contrasting causal theories have been offered, to explain both the current inflation and the numerous inflations of the past. Merchants, speculators, big business, aliens, unions, consumers — these are some of the groups that have been offered up as scapegoats for public condemnation.

Unions Blamed

[Conservatives who blame unions for inflation strike a particularly bizarre note, since (a) wages generally lag behind consumer prices during inflations, as they have done during the current inflationary crisis; and (b) there weren't any unions at all during the numerous inflations before the twentieth century.]

In order to understand inflation, and to make some sense out of the chaotic welter of explanations offered, we must step back and analyze what a *price* is. A price is the amount of money paid for a specific amount of a certain product.

The two major elements of the transaction, then, are money and goods, each of which bid against the other — or rather, are bid by buyers and sellers — in arriving at the market price of any good. The more money bidding against goods, the higher the price, and *vice versa*.

Supply And Demand

In the time-honored but correct cliché, "prices are determined by supply and demand." If, for example, there is a particularly good corn crop this year, more corn will pour on the market and the price of corn will fall; if, on the other hand, there is a poor crop, the supply of corn will drop, and the price of corn will rise on the market. The price of a product tends to move inversely to its supply on the market.

It is for that reason, for example, that TV sets have fallen drastically in price — while the quality of the product has risen — from the late 1940s to the present in spite of the sharp rise in general prices. The fall occurred because of the enormous expansion in the supply of TV sets as they reached a mass market during this period.

Natural Price Fall

Left alone, the general trend of the capitalist economy will be for a fall in prices, as the supply of goods expands — TV sets being a striking example. Why, then, has the general trend over the centuries been an inflationary rise in prices?

If we look at the collection of all goods and services, it should be clear that for inflation to be caused by the *supply* side, there would have to be a steady and persistent *fall*, year after year, and decade after decade, in the production of the economy. Obviously, the facts have been happily just the reverse; except for a few brief years during depressions, the supply of goods and services goes up, year after year, and decade after decade.

If inflations, then, cannot be accounted for by cuts in the supply of

goods, the cause must be from the demand side: that consumers have more and more money, year after year, to spend on goods and services, thereby bidding prices up and up.

And if we check the facts, that's what we will find: long-term inflations are accompanied by long-term increases in the supply of money, briefer but acute bouts of violent and runaway inflation are fueled by rapid and accelerating increases of that supply.

Beneficent Angel

Suppose, for example, that the Angel Gabriel descended upon us tonight and magically, overnight, doubled everyone's stock of money, of dollars: doubled everyone's bank account, money in purse or wallet or under the floorboards. What would happen the next morning? Everyone would *think* themselves twice as well off, would bless the Angel Gabriel, and rush out to spend the new money.

But the stock of capital equipment, of resources and goods and services in the economy, would not have changed. So, while the supply of goods and services remained the same, the doubled supply of dollars would quickly bid all prices to roughly twice the height that they were before the bonanza. As a whole, we would be no better off. Except: that those people who rushed out early in the morning to spend the cash would benefit, while those who waited until prices rose, would lose out during this interim period.

The culprit, then, is the money supply. Where does it come from, and who controls it? In the free-market economy, money is invariably a supply of a useful commodity, almost always a precious metal such as gold. The supply of money is whatever gold has been dug out of the ground, and the currency unit is some unit of weight of gold. (Thus, in the nineteenth century, "the dollar" was roughly equivalent to — another name for — one-twentieth of an ounce of gold.)

Gold Is Rare

It is true that sudden gold discoveries can increase the supply of money and send prices upward, but generally gold is a costly and rare metal, as well as a durable one, so that the annual production of gold is a small fraction of the accumulated stock in the economy. Generally, too, the free market increases the production of goods and services faster than new gold is mined, so that the trend of unhampered capitalism is a gently falling price level.

So how come the persistent tendency

through history of inflation? The answer is that governments persist in tinkering with the supply of money — indeed, have managed to seize absolute control over the supply of money. Governments are now able to increase the supply of money at will, now that "dollars" are no longer pieces of gold metal but instead are pieces of paper issued by the central government and must be legal tender for all debts (in the United States, it is the federal government's Federal Reserve System that prints the money).

Governments, in short, print as much money as they want, and — the nature of man and of power being what it is — they therefore tend to print as much as they can get away with. The reason is simple: government is the operator of a giant counterfeiting operation; indeed, it has taken care to give to itself a compulsory monopoly of the counterfeiting "business." And if you had the absolute power to print as much money as you wanted, to spend on yourself or your friends, or to lend out to favored groups, you would do it too.

Simpler Than Taxation

Counterfeiting is simpler than taxation, and the governments have seen to it that the process is now so complex that only economists can understand what is going on. In the present day, legalized government counterfeiting is not nearly as crude as in the Revolutionary War, when massive printing of "Continental" paper money led to runaway inflation, or in the Civil War, when both North and South inflated rapidly through printing "greenbacks."

Nowadays, the government does its counterfeiting through the banking system, by "printing" new bank deposits via its absolute control of the nation's banks. In practice, it does so partially by "lowering reserve requirements," and largely by the Federal Reserve's purchasing of assets. The way the system is structured, every time the Fed buys \$1 billion of assets (nowadays, government bonds) it generates rapidly a roughly \$6 billion in checking deposit money, and still more in savings deposits.

Even as you read these lines — and whenever you read these lines — the Fed is busy pumping new reserves, and therefore new money, into the system, while assuring businesses, unions, those in the housing market, and consumers in general that it will "furnish an adequate supply of money," will ease anyone's "liquidity crunch," etc.

Whatever the rationale, it means that the Fed is going to keep inflating the money supply, and thereby accelerating the inflation menace. Part of that menace results from the fact that the government is *not* even as beneficent as the dubious Angel Gabriel: for when *it* inflates money, it doesn't double everyone's coffers, but ladles the money out to itself and to favored political and economic groups, with the average person suffering from getting the new money last, and sometimes never. The upshot will be an eventual acceleration of inflation to the runaway stage, and the total collapse of the dollar and the monetary system.

It is, of course, no accident that all sorts of groups are blamed — by one faction or other in the government — for the inflation. For this diverts the attention of the public from the *real* culprit: that supposedly heroic fighter against inflation: the government itself.

How to stop the disastrous inflation should now be crystal clear, though not so simple in practice. It is to *stop the government* from counterfeiting and increasing the money supply.

Forbid Fed Action

In addition to the importance of educating the public to what's going on, one immediate way to do this would be to pass a law or a constitutional amendment forbidding the Fed from lowering reserve requirements or from buying new assets ever again. A more fundamental reform would be to eradicate all influence or control by the government over the supply of money, by for example: abolishing the power of the federal government to print dollars, by abolishing the Federal Reserve System, and by returning to the dollar as a definition of a weight of gold and forcing the government to disgorge the hoard of gold which it seized from the public during the "depression emergency" of 1933 and has never relinquished. It is not enough to allow private citizens to own gold, has now been done; we must also have the right to redeem our private property, the gold that was seized from us by the government in 1933 and never returned. These libertarian reforms would put an end to the menace of inflation. And while this subject is too complex to go into here, it would end recessions and depressions as well, for they are the result of previous inflationary booms in bank credit, made possible by the counterfeiting activities of the federal government.



ROTHBARD MAKES POINT—Prof. Rothbard gesticulates in conversation with Reason co-editor Manny Klausner, at left, at California LP convention. On right is Roger MacBride.

—Photo by Bryan Remer

From Fair Booths To TV Replies...

ALASKA

The party is now chaired by Maxine Kelley (3790 Winterset Dr., Anchorage, AK 99504). Jill Rodgers is the new vice chairwoman. Paul Beaird, the former state chairman, is in charge of the petition campaign to obtain 3000 signatures to place the LP's presidential nominee on the state ballot.

ARIZONA

Members of the state LP met recently with Barbara Hutchinson, founder and leader of the Association of Concerned Taxpayers, headquartered in San Diego. Discussion centered on Hutchinson's experiences with the IRS over the last 15 years. The meeting also considered plans for National Tax Protest Day activities in Phoenix.

ARKANSAS

The new and lively newsletter of the state party has been excellent at directing attention to local and national issues. Arkansas LPers have been keeping track of recent gun control legislation, a new "search and seizure" bill, a bill to make it a felony for state employees to hold communist beliefs, and an effort at calling a new state constitutional convention.

The March meeting of the party was devoted to summary presentations of facts about different aspects of taxation, in preparation for National Tax Protest Day. The LP is negotiating with state government officials on their ballot status petitions while the collection of notarized petitions goes on.

CALIFORNIA

The dramatic highpoint of the state convention in Santa Monica in March was Roger MacBride's announcement of his candidacy for the national LP presidential nomination for 1976.

MacBride made his announcement in his address to over 200 delegates and observers. (For further coverage of MacBride's remarks, see story on page one.)

At the same banquet to which MacBride spoke, economist Murray Rothbard gave a speech which defended political activity and criticized those whose present strategy calls either for solely educational work or for retreating to hideouts in the hills.

"The impulse to avoid the responsibility and the burden of steady, persistent, and long-term social and political activity toward libertarian goals," said Rothbard, "is a copout that won't work."

"The Libertarian Party," Rothbard continued, "is not only an educational device and a way of organizing libertarians, but also a way of eventually dismantling the state apparatus."

"The key problem is to remain pure and consistent in principle, while at the same time attracting a lot of voters."

"It seems to me," said Rothbard, "that if the Party doesn't get votes, we're never going to be around long enough to educate anybody."

Rothbard chided those who advise against political action and instead urge us to hoard up canned goods in a cave, build up Swiss bank accounts, buy gold coins, or retreat to some island to ride out the holocaust.

"I would plead with libertarians to worry less about what to invest your capital in, on poring over the latest news from the gold and silver markets, and spend a little more time and energy to try to save our economy and our civilization."

"Only he who dares and risks can succeed at a task," concluded Rothbard, "including the glorious task of the victory of the libertarian ideal."

Bernard Siegan, author of *Land Use Without Zoning*, also addressed the



SUSAN LOVE BROWN

convention. New officers were elected. Bill Westmiller, Secretary of the national LP, was selected as chairman. To handle the geographically dispersed activities of the state party, the convention chose Ray Cunningham as vice chairman for the northern part of California, and former Kentucky LP chairwoman Susan Love Brown, as vice chairwoman for the southern part.

LPers on the San Francisco peninsula are assembling material for county fairs in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties and for the International Women's Day fair at Stanford University.

LPers in the Los Angeles area joined with Young Americans for Freedom and the Church of Scientology in setting up a full schedule for National Tax Protest Day.

In San Francisco, Lloyd Taylor has announced his candidacy for the county board of supervisors. Taylor is directing his campaign at local issues. For example, he is telling voters that the one percent gross receipts and payroll tax is a major cause of unemployment in the city and should be repealed. He proposes drastically reducing the city payroll. He has taken a strong stand opposing a controversial local urban renewal construction project.

Taylor favors confining law enforcement to violent crimes and crimes against persons and property. He favors the repeal of all zoning laws, but the strict enforcement of antipollution and antinoise laws.

To improve urban transportation, Taylor is proposing unlimited issuance of taxi and jitney licenses. He also calls for demunicipalization of the bus system and sale of the regional rapid transit system to private enterprise.

Statewide, California LPers are working on increased registration and a proposed "None of the Above" initiative petition.

A new libertarian reading room has opened in Venice, outside Los Angeles. It

is located at 1333 W. Washington Blvd. Its purpose is to offer material to the public on free market economics and revisionist history.

COLORADO

Aside from its news notes and announcements, the state LP newsletter recently ran an instructive article by national LP co-founder David Nolan on how to reach potential new members.

CONNECTICUT

The state party is expanding beyond its original hard core. Activists are developing specialization of tasks and a committee structure to make the party organization more effective and its impact greater. Activities planned for 1975 include completion of a constitution and by-laws, a state convention in June, a membership drive, a booth at five fairs, and support for a bill in the legislature which would give the voter the option of pulling a lever marked "None of the above are acceptable."

"Preview," a weekly newspaper (circ., 30,000) published an interview with state co-chairman Bob Loomis. Loomis discussed the LP position on public education, taxes, the postal service, and other issues.

FLORIDA

The LPF held its annual convention April 5-6 in Orlando. Featured speakers included National Chairman Ed Crane, Louisiana state legislator Woody Jenkins and nationally-syndicated columnist John Loughton. Crane urged the gathering of about 70 LPers to become activists and, in particular, to get the LPF on the ballot in 1976. Jenkins spoke of his success in helping re-write Louisiana's constitution into a more libertarian document. Loughton, in a humorous address, described some of his experiences in dealing with the bungling bureaucrats on Capitol Hill.

Judith Miley is editor of the Florida Libertarian, the new, improved version of the LPSF newsletter. The most recent issue contains several interesting editorials and numerous news stories including a piece on the educational Libertarian Institute for a Free Economy (LIFE). John Bailey, LPSF president recently organized a mailing of LP literature to the Reason list for south Florida.

In April, the Gainesville Sun took front-page notice of Wayne Harley's LP campaign for the Gainesville City commission. In the article, Harley points to a local incident to illustrate libertarian opposition to governmental interference.

Harley cited the struggle in Gainesville between the city and a gas station owner over the owner's right to rent U-Hauls.

"By what right does the city tell a man that he can't rent U-Hauls on his own property?" asked Harley. "If ownership means anything at all, it means the right to use your own property in any way that does not injure someone else. Renting U-Hauls certainly seems to fall in that category."

Harley is the third candidate sponsored by the LP organization in Alachua County. Earlier candidates were Brian Donerly for city commission in 1974 and Catherine Micheline ran for school board last November.

The executive committee of the South Florida LP has set forth some suggestions for building a broader base in the state. It suggests a combination of educational work and political action that will alert likely prospects to the Party's existence.

Recent editions of the South Florida newsletter have contained investigative analyses of the sugar cartel, governmental medical care, proposed federal accreditation of all colleges, nationalized rail transport, the crisis in the social security system, and the "crowding-out" effect of government bonds in the capital market.

Members of the South Florida LP picketed the Post Offices in Ft. Lauderdale and Miami on National Tax Protest Day.

GEORGIA

Recent meetings of the state organization have focused on both internal education and practical political action. For example, economist Paul Craig Roberts spoke to the group in January. In March, Ken Trobaugh, a defeated candidate for the state legislature talked about his political plans for the future and the prospects for organizing the LP in Brunswick. In April, a meeting was devoted to planning for National Tax Protest Day.

The state Party is co-sponsoring the Southern Libertarian Conference in Atlanta on May 3. Scheduled speakers include Roger MacBride, historian Leonard Liggio, and Rep. Larry McDonald (D-Ga.).

IDAHO

Libertarians are well along in the process of establishing a state organization. Fifty persons attended a recent organizational meeting in Boise, at which Roger MacBride spoke. A press conference given by MacBride was attended by all four area TV stations, three radio stations, and the Idaho Statesman. MacBride was also a guest on a news radio station's talk show.

Preliminary work for the organizational meeting was coordinated by Allen Dalton with help from Bob Meier. Dalton is the new temporary chairman, James Jones is vice chairman, and Dale Green is secretary. The group is already working on a ballot status drive.

NEW YORK

At the recent state convention of the Free Libertarian Party, Gary Greenberg was selected as chairperson. His first priority is a membership drive. The new vice chairpersons are Charlie Blood, the Tuccille campaign's statewide coordinator, and Susan Corkery, leader of the Tuccille petition drive.

The state convention passed resolutions calling for the repeal of the Rockefeller drug laws and naming the porcupine as the state party's mascot. The Free Libertarian Party has chartered new local units in Albany and Suffolk County.

Bill MacReynolds, an assistant professor of economics at Cornell, is writing a position paper on the energy crisis for the state party.

ILLINOIS

Party members have been extremely active recently throughout the state. A political race of note was for the mayor of Carbondale, where libertarian Irene Altschuler managed to stay in the race despite incredible electoral manipulations by the city Establishment. Other political battles are in the works.

Libertarians are pleased over the decision of the Des Plaines City Council to reject a public housing proposal, which had been attacked vigorously and publicly by LPers.

IOWA

Welcome to the newly-formed Libertarian Party of Iowa! They have drafted a constitution and elected officers during a meeting in Ames. In addition, they have received some media coverage and plan to get much more.

KENTUCKY

The new LP Chairperson here is Bobbie Jahn, who replaces Paul Siegler, a recent emigrant to California.

LOUISIANA

The Party is growing steadily, with Dr. Jeremy Millett recently elected the new State Chairman.

(Please turn to page 5)

...State Parties Spread The Word

(Continued from page 4)

The Louisiana party was of great assistance during the International Liquidity and Monetary Reform Conference, held in New Orleans in March. Special thanks go to Sparky Hall, Michelle Fry, and David Theroux.

MASSACHUSETTS

The Third Annual State LP convention is scheduled for April 26 in Boston, featuring an address by Fran Youngstein. Massachusetts Libertarians are busy distributing a hard-hitting leaflet commemorating the Boston Tea Party, introducing the public to libertarian ideas. A new member of the MLP is Robert Nozick, author of the highly acclaimed *Anarchy, State and Utopia*. Nozick and Roger MacBride were also scheduled to address the convention.

MICHIGAN

Vital LP organizations are busy in various sections of Michigan. Fifty people turned out for a Libertarian speaker at Michigan State University; tapes of Nathaniel Branden and Murray Rothbard are circulating; and a celebration of Paul Revere's ride took place in Ann Arbor.

The drive for LP ballot status is scheduled to begin on July 4, and the hundreds of party members in Michigan are expected to devote full time to this effort.

MINNESOTA

The party has been a great deal of activity lately, centered around appearances by Roger MacBride, economist Ed Contoski, and tax resister Jerome Daly.

A major effort is under way to spread libertarian concepts into the high schools, under the direction of a School Presentation Program.

NEVADA

The biggest news from Nevada is the entry of James Burns into the race for mayor of Las Vegas. Burns received major newspaper coverage of his press conference announcing the campaign. Burns has come out against business licensing, zoning laws, building codes, and anti-pornography campaigns by the police.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

The LP has gained publicity since an

article about it was printed in the Manchester Union-Leader, the state's most influential newspaper.

New Hampshire LPers are starting several serious campaigns for state and local offices, and feel they have a chance to do very well. The drive to achieve ballot status will be under way shortly.

NEW JERSEY

The party in the Garden State has been extremely active, with members appearing on numerous media programs. The LP has been at the forefront of anti-taxation campaigns in numerous elections, and has inaugurated a "One Percent for Freedom" campaign, proposing a one percent per year reduction in the state budget until freedom is attained. A concentrated media effort has spread libertarian ideas to many of New Jersey's newspapers, TV, and radio stations.

NEW MEXICO

Efforts are under way in New Mexico to get the LP off the ground and organized. Research is being conducted to achieve ballot status for state and local elections. Progress in the state has started to accelerate under the new LP leadership.

NEW YORK

Cohen is back as a candidate! But this time it's Carol Cohen, wife of Sanford Cohen, last fall's most prominent LP Congressional candidate, running for Mayor of Poughkeepsie, New York. She has entered the Conservative Party primary as well, while her running mate for County Executive, LP'er Ellen Davis, has entered the Democratic primary. Both will be on the Free Libertarian Party ticket.

Cohen and Davis are running hard already, lining up speaking engagements and issuing press releases. They have received good coverage in the local papers.

OREGON

LPers here have increased their efforts since their convention, featuring Sandy Cohen, a few months back. They are heavily involved in Tax Protest Day, and have distributed a number of anti-taxation leaflets. Research and organizational programs are running smoothly.

PENNSYLVANIA

Two LPers recently spent four hours on a radio talk show in Chester, Pa. The response and level of interest generated by their appearance was quite high.

The LP has made it a primary goal to monitor every piece of legislation that comes out of state capital. Party members are encouraged to make their views known to legislators and through the media.

RHODE ISLAND

Another state heard from! A Party organization is starting up in Rhode Island, under the temporary leadership of Jim Frazer at Brown University.

TENNESSEE

The LP held its convention in March, electing officers and creating a constitution. The speaker was Roger

University campus. Other Houston activities include letters to local newspapers, tax-related propaganda, and organizing and funding a mailing to those at Houston-area colleges.

The party has changed its name from the Texas Libertarian Party to the Libertarian Party of Texas in order to improve its position on the ballot. New party groups are growing in Lubbock, Graham, and Corpus Christi.

UTAH

The Utah LP newsletter, "Freedom Express," includes a number of well-written articles on the importance of rational communication, inflation, and other topical issues. LPers report that they are nearing their goal of achieving ballot status, and are forming a group to monitor state and federal legislation.



—Photo by Jack Sanders

JOURNALISTS CONFER—LP News Editor Bill Evers talks things over with Reason co-editor Lynn Kinsky during the California LP convention in Santa Monica.

MacBride, who congratulated state party chairman Jim Forrester for his good work over the past year. MacBride garnered a great deal of media coverage during his stay including a one hour stint on the area's leading radio talk show.

As in Pennsylvania, the Tennessee Party keeps well informed of legislative proposals. One of the more recent was a bill to permit a "no" vote to appear on the ballot after the names of candidates.

TEXAS

The state LP is initiating a fund-raising effort to fuel its 1976 campaign activities. At the state convention some months ago, the LP's constitution and rules were brought into conformance with the state election code. Louisiana state legislator Woody Jenkins spoke to the convention on the horrors of campaign spending reforms.

LPers were at the Ft. Worth gun show in late March talking about libertarianism. LPers proselytized heavily at a Young Americans for Freedom regional gathering in Houston.

In Dallas, the LP group passed a resolution opposing the creation of a state utilities commission and proposing that competition in utilities be legalized instead. The resolution was sent to the local press and to all Dallas County legislators. Replies were received from several legislators.

Libertarians in Texas are planning to prepare an analysis of the voting records of state legislators — an important way of keeping track of the current political scene.

A Houston-area commercial artist has been working on expanding the successful slide-show orientation program used by the Harris County LP on the Rice

WASHINGTON

LPers in this state made an all-out effort to defeat the Seattle School Tax levy at the polls. Other activities include a ballot initiative to remove the sales tax and Business and Occupation tax from basic necessities. Organizational and fund-raising efforts are under way for these programs, and many more. Newly elected state chairman Richard Dymant recently spoke at a political symposium at Washington State University.

WISCONSIN

The Libertarian Party has received an impressive amount of media coverage in connection with its efforts to implement right-of-privacy laws. These efforts centered around two ballot referenda, but also included the spreading of libertarian ideas through letters to the editor, etc. Activity was especially heavy in the Madison (University of Wisconsin) area. Libertarians have appeared on several talk shows recently, and party membership has grown.

CANADA

A new libertarian organization, Ottawa Libertarian Associates, has been formed in Canada's capital. It plans to function as a resource group working with the federal and provincial LPs whenever either one is contesting an election, and working independently on municipal elections and educational programs. The new group is headed by Bob LeBer.

The newsletter of the Ontario LP reports that former Canada LP chairman Steve Jarvis spoke in London on regulation of the trucking industry, and Phil Spicer addressed students in Ancaster.

Best Letter To Editor

The LP News awards \$10 to the author of the best recent letter to the editor published in a newspaper. The letter must mention the Libertarian Party and should list the local or national address or telephone number of the Party.

Runner-up letters were by N.L. Moser in the Feb. 25 Las Vegas Review-Journal and by James Burns in the Mar. 12 Winnemucca (Nev.) Humboldt Sun. The best letter appeared in the March 15 New York Times:

To the Editor:

Your two-part editorial of Feb. 23, "The Need to Plan ... For Economic Policy," correctly admits that the Government is now enormously involved in the marketplace "through taxation, public expenditures, regulation, subsidies and foreign economic policy. Government is involved, in fact, in virtually all aspects of the economy in this country...."

The Times' solution to our economic ills is to turn over full control of the economy to the very institution which has caused our

problems — through taxation, public expenditure, regulation, subsidies and foreign economic policy.

The seeming naivete of the assertion that "industries would still be free to make their own investment decisions, but they would do so on the basis of more complete information about long-term trends as affected by government policies" is astonishing. No civilization in history has operated under such a system.

Nobel Prize-winning economist Friedrich von Hayek, in "The Road to Serfdom," wrote: "Planning leads to dictatorship because dictatorship is the most effective instrument of coercion and the enforcement of ideals...."

Rather than giving Government more control over the economy, which it is already destroying, we must insist that Government completely withdraw from intervention in the marketplace so that it can function in a healthy manner. We need more freedom to regulate our own lives, not further steps toward totalitarianism.

ANDREA MILLEN

Vice Chairwoman, Libertarian Party
New York, Feb. 25, 1975

Roger MacBride Tosses Hat In Ring



—Photo by Bryan Remer
ALLIANCE OF TYPEWRITER AND AIRPLANE—Roger MacBride was on the dias with economist Murray Rothbard when California LP leaders gathered for the evening banquet at the annual state convention.

(Continued from front page)

in all its details and ramifications. "That indeed would be a mind-boggling task," said MacBride.

Instead MacBride foresees a 1976 campaign strategy built around persuading the American public of the viability of libertarian solutions. "Our job is to convince Americans that we do have the answers. That is a far easier task and one well within our means."

"It's not necessary for them to come to a complete intellectual grasp of the libertarian position — it's enough that they learn about our approach and in effect say, 'Hey, that makes sense.'"

Ripeness Of Situation

MacBride emphasized the ripeness of the situation for libertarian political action as well as the urgency of such action in the present crisis. "The situation today is such that our ideas, although gaining increasing acceptance by academe as well as popular journals, probably cannot be published widely enough, and later acted upon, until too late to save our liberty."

"We are living in the real world. Our highest and best hope lies in our willingness energetically to advance through the political process."

A prerequisite of the advancement of liberty through the political process is serious political standing in the eyes of the populace and the news media. "Scant attention will be paid to our views in the Presidential campaign of 1976 if we are not on the ballot in many of the major states of the union, and hence in a position to take advantage of the 40 percent of American voters who are looking for an alternative."

Ballot Status

"No reporter for any newspaper, or for any radio or television station will take our

ideas seriously if we present the image of a of a quixotic tiny minority. To avoid that the LP must have ballot status in as many states as our energies permit." Such ballot status drives will require enormous effort, MacBride said. But with "a joyous dedication to a cause whose time has come," the effort can succeed.

MacBride asked the California LP delegates: "Shall we passively allow those with the conviction that the state ought to control every aspect of our lives to replace what freedom we have with total regimentation?"

MacBride's answer is no, and we can stop them if we make use of the political process and make the LP an effective political vehicle. "The Libertarian Party gives us the opportunity to say what we believe without fetters. Use of the LP as a vehicle allows us to act to convince those enormous groups of non-politically oriented people that we can provide solutions to the problems that vex us all."

MacBride concluded his speech by commenting that though the struggle ahead may be protracted, and success not immediate, still we can realistically be infused with a will to win.

"In our personal lives we all know that success never occurs instantly; it is achieved over a period of time. In conducting this revolution of ours we must keep this perspective, and remember that that is also so in political life. But: we shall carry our cause to the enemy, and in end, victory is certain..."

"We stand on the threshold of the most glorious political opportunity ever offered to a generation of Americans. Our cause is just, and the prospect for its victorious realization... is within our grasp. To achieve that, we must act, and we can, and we will."

Sordid Background Of Fairness Doctrine

By BILL EVERS

In an article published in the March 30 *New York Times Magazine*, former CBS news president Fred W. Friendly details a coordinated, secret campaign by the Kennedy and Johnson administrations to suppress anticommunist fundamentalist Christian radio commentators through the use of the regulatory policy known as the "fairness doctrine."

The fairness doctrine (which has a certain amount of ideological self-advertisement built into its name) is a rule promulgated by the Federal Communications Commission, the national regulatory agency controlling broadcasting.

Under the fairness doctrine, stations that occupy and use the airwaves are compelled to present what the government considers to be the relevant viewpoints on what the government considers to be important issues.

Secret Monitoring

Beginning in 1963 during the national debate over the nuclear test ban treaty, the White House and later also the national Democratic party secretly used paid professionals to monitor radio stations that broadcast ultraconservative commentary.

These persons then engaged in a concerted effort to demand that unpaid replies to the ultraconservative commentators be aired. Not only did the White House successfully intimidate, in this roundabout way, stations into running thousands of replies, but the constant harassment of the stations and the expenses to them of running the replies led hundreds of the stations to drop the ultraconservative commentators.

In part, the White House effort was designed to discourage stations from broadcasting commentary friendly to Sen. Barry M. Goldwater (R-Ariz.), who was the 1964 Republican party presidential nominee.

An important spin-off from this White

House effort at censorship and intimidation was the so-called "Red Lion" decision, in which the U.S. Supreme Court approved what Friendly calls "the power of the government to intervene directly into the content of broadcasting."

The Red Lion case (named after the broadcasting company involved) arose from a demand by Fred J. Cook to reply to criticism of him by the Rev. Billy James Hargis of the Christian Crusade.

Cook, in the words of a March 31 follow-up story in the Times, "was, at the time, a participant in the White House efforts to suppress the voices of the right on radio."

Rights Abridged

The Supreme Court decided in the action initiated by Cook that the government had the right to intervene directly into radio programming. Thus, the

Supreme Court ruling denied broadcasters their first amendment rights of freedom of speech and of the press.

Friendly pinpoints the political importance of this new knowledge about the origins and uses of current fairness doctrine policy: "The story of the fairness-doctrine effort during the 1964 campaign... illuminates... the subtle and fascinating interplay of power politics and regulatory policy."

"In the Red Lion case, for example, many of the agency bureaucrats, Government lawyers, and judges tended to dismiss the broadcasters' claim that freedom of expression might be 'chilled' by court decisions extending Federal regulatory control over the content of radio and television programs — little realizing that at the time, they were

granting implicit legal sanction to an unsavory project of political censorship by the Democrats."

Media Manipulation

This power to control broadcasting was the cudgel that Nixon administration spokesmen were able to wield quite effectively, prior to the Watergate scandal, in efforts to intimidate and manipulate the media.

Unfortunately, Friendly, a long-time ideological proponent of regulation, can only see in the Red Lion case an exception in which men and priorities went wrong.

But the real lesson of this and other government regulation scandals like the milk price-support bribery is clear enough that libertarians should have little trouble conveying it to the public at large: Such scandals are bound to continue unless we get the government out.

The broadcasting frequencies should become private property, justly, honestly, and absolutely held. In general, those presently occupying the various frequencies are the just owners in terms of their "homesteading" by way of regular broadcast use. Libertarians should argue for securing them in their entitlement to the frequencies.

Some present license holders may have usurped the rights of previous occupiers via political intrigue. If this can be established, libertarians should press at least for the minimal justice of depriving these thieves of their plunder.

With private ownership, broadcasters could join with newspapers in standing behind the first amendment and defending the media against governmental intrusion.

As things are now, government supervision is the sword of Damocles constantly suspended over the head of broadcasters. The inevitable result is censorship of the sort practiced by the Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon administrations.

Broadcasting Readings

The following items provide a representative sample of current criticism of government policy on broadcasting and the problems associated with the fairness doctrine.

Les Brown, "Reported Political Use of Radio Fairness Doctrine Under Kennedy and Johnson Is Causing Concern," *New York Times*, May. 31, 1975.

*R.H. Coase, "The Federal Communications Commission," *Journal of Law and Economics*, Oct. 1959.

*Arthur S. De Vany, et al., "A Property System for Market Allocation of the Electromagnetic Spectrum," *Stanford Law Review*, June 1969.

Ted Frech, "Free Speech and Government Control of Broadcasting," *New Guard*, Dec. 1972.

Fred W. Friendly, "What's Fair on the Air?" *New York Times Magazine*, Mar.

30, 1975.

Milton Friedman, "How to Free TV," *Newsweek*, Dec. 1, 1969.

Michael Gartner, "A New Cloud for the First Amendment," *Wall Street Journal*, July 30, 1973.

Nat Hentoff, "The Fairness Doctrine," *Civil Liberties* (published by the national American Civil Liberties Union), May 1973.

Harry Kalven, Jr., "Broadcasting, Public Policy, and the First Amendment," *Journal of Law and Economics*, Oct. 1967.

Bill Monroe, "The Captive Medium," *Vital Speeches*, Feb. 15, 1971.

Jerrold Oppenheim, "Let's abolish the Fairness Doctrine," *Chicago Journalism Review*, July 1973.

*Murray N. Rothbard, *For a New Liberty*, pp. 109-116.

*Indicates important article.

The Party Line

What's Happening Inside The LP

The national Executive Committee will hold its first meeting of 1975 on May 24-25 at the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago. A Saturday night cocktail party and banquet will be held and any LP member wishing to attend should contact Steve Nelson, 4825 Linscott, Downer's Grove, IL 60515 ... Openings are still available on both the Platform Committee and the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules Committee for the national convention in New York this summer. Most selections will be made by the Execom in Chicago so send your name to national headquarters as soon as possible if you're interested ... LP members and supporters are reminded that they need not

be an official delegate to the national convention in order to attend. We expect several hundred interested observers to join the delegates on the convention floor.

* * *

National Chairman Ed Crane visited Washington, D.C. on April 14 to give a deposition to lawyers from the U.S. Justice Dept. and Common Cause (intervening defendants) in connection with his affidavit submitted on behalf of the LP as co-plaintiff in the major constitutional challenge to the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (as amended). Partial text of the deposition will be printed in the next issue of the LP News.

For now, consider the following exchange: Justice Dept.: "Is the Libertarian Party an outgrowth of a predecessor political movement?" Crane: "Yes, the American Revolution." ... Please note that there are three new items on our LP order form: "Vote Libertarian" sticker for envelopes, foreheads, etc.; LP position paper No. 1 on inflation (Text on page 2); and our new introductory brochure/membership application, "There Is No Middle Ground" ... Speaking of threes, there are now three different ways for you to put your money where your principles are: Libertarian Party (general expenses, literature, fundraising, LP News, etc.); Headquarters Fund (primarily salaries of headquarters staff); and the Liberty '76 Fund (see page 8). Contributions to any or all of these funds are urgently needed and sincerely appreciated.

* * *

Some LP members apparently are still not aware that membership can be effected at both the state and national levels. If you are a member of your state LP but have not yet joined the national LP send for your membership application now ... Hot Idea of the Month Dept.: Libertarian supper clubs seem to be springing up all over the country recently. Newest ones are in San Francisco (where over 200 gathered to hear Dr. Murray Rothbard at their first meeting), Atlanta and Cambridge ... If you live in Wyoming, North Dakota, South

Dakota, Montana, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Vermont or Maine and would be interested in organizing the LP in your state, please contact the national headquarters ... What do you think of the Libersign? The Execom will consider the future of this semi-official symbol at its May meeting. Comments or suggestions for the LP symbol are invited.

* * *

Congratulations and thanks to Canadian Libertarian activist Marshall Bruce Evoy who recently became a Life Sustaining member of the LP. "I cannot tell you with what pleasure I enclose my check in the amount of \$250 to become a Life Sustaining member of the LP," writes Bruce ... Thanks also to Roy Duboise of Port Heiden, Alaska who is our newest life member (\$100). Says Roy, "The Libertarian Party Holds the same creed that I have held since I can remember." ... Sandy Cohen (Box 1776, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601) is offering a new service called the Nitty-Gritty TAPED Magazine, which features expert advice from leading libertarian activists. \$25 for twelve tapes ... Tax resister and Execom member Karl Bray has lost his appeal of a six month sentence for "illegal possession of IRS insignia." Libertarians who are familiar with the background of this case may wish to write to a Supreme Court justice urging review of Bray's conviction. ...

News Media Recognize LP Achievements, Goals

"Partly as an aftermath of Watergate, a new political party may be showing up on presidential ballots across the United States next year — the Libertarian." This was how the Christian Science Monitor began telling its nationwide audience about the national Libertarian Party. The Monitor talked about the party's effort to increase its strength in the upcoming presidential election. It noted that the party is now undertaking "a broad fund-raising and promotional campaign to attract new members."

Then the article goes on to discuss the political base and principles of the Libertarian Party. Libertarians, the article said, come from widely divergent political backgrounds — anything from conservative Republicans to liberal Democrats. But they have as basic beliefs support for individual freedom, economic self-sufficiency, limited government, and a stress on voluntarism.

"For political liberals, the party embraces broad speech freedoms; ... repeal of 'victimless' crime laws; ... and in common with conservatives, it preaches against government regulation of the economy; ... it opposes price supports and public subsidies; ... mandated health care and compulsory education."

In other news coverage, the LP received wide-spread publicity in an article appearing in the Los Angeles Times (March 16, 1975).

The article pinpoints freedom as the central tenet of the libertarian philosophy, and goes on to succinctly characterize libertarianism as "an uncompromising philosophy" with a "consistent application both economically and on social issues."

Describing the party as one of principles, the article explains the fundamental axiom of libertarianism: "no human being has the right to exert force on anyone else."

It goes on to discuss the political and economic implications of that concept — that the unrestricted free market provides the medium by which individuals can exercise the maximum self-determination in their lives; and that laws attempting to regulate morality, restrict freedom of speech, or in any other way interfere with the individual's right to his life and his earnings are inherently coercive.

The article then considers how it came to pass that a group of people committed to "minding our own business" became involved in the political sphere — "Libertarians, by nature, are not political" — "but [they're] rational enough to realize that [they] have to work within the system in order to change it" and goes on to outline the specific ways that the Libertarian Party can work to get big government out of individuals' lives.

Generally, the press coverage received by the LP has been accurate in depicting the party as favoring civil and economic liberty. Publicity generated by press coverage has noted the party's accomplishments. More significantly, media publicity underscores the party's improving potential as popular disillusionment with the two major political parties increases.

Reviewers Laud New Nozick Book

(Continued from front page)

ignores Williams' favorite sociologists and psychologists and that there are virtues other than justice that have a proper claim to figure in the content of public policy in a way that may override justice under some circumstances.

The March Harper's had a review of the Nozick book by Marshall Cohen, professor of philosophy at the City University of New York. Cohen begins his review with high praise for Nozick's intellectual ability. "His eagerly awaited first book will interest anyone who wishes to observe a first-rate philosophical mind at work. In my opinion, no contemporary philosopher possesses a more imaginative mind, broader interests, or greater dialectical abilities than Robert Nozick."

Cohen notes that Nozick "presents a searching critique" of the "widely admired" theory of justice of his Harvard colleague, John Rawls.

However, Cohen remains convinced that it is possible to have a coherent, defensible concept of the public interest and that this public interest should govern certain things, such as broadcasting.

The March 6 New York Review of Books had a review by philosopher Peter Singer entitled "The Right to Be Rich or Poor." He says Nozick's book "consists of rigorous argument and needle-sharp analysis with absolutely none of the

unsupported vague waffle that characterizes too many philosophy books." He characterizes the appearance of Nozick's book as "a major event in contemporary political philosophy."

Singer also says: "The devastating critique of Rawls in Anarchy, State and Utopia, directed especially at the case for redistribution ... must very nearly complete the demolition of Rawls' impressive structure."

Singer almost contends flatly that there are only two plausibly supportable positions in contemporary moral and political philosophy: Nozick's property rights position and some sort of utilitarianism ("the greatest good for the greatest number"). And Singer himself supports utilitarianism.

The March 15 issue of Forbes contained an interview with Nozick. In it Nozick speculated that some businessmen who support government planning do so in the belief that the government has better information. Businessmen who believe this, according to Nozick, don't understand that the price system is the best information-processing system to sort out decentralized knowledge.

Nozick also made an important point about the history of big business support for regulatory legislation: "One of the contributions of radical historians has been to point out that much of the legislation of

the progressive era, though introduced under a patter of being antibusiness, was supported by many industries and by leading firms. These firms saw these laws as a way of protecting themselves against competition and new entrants into the market."

The March 31 Newsweek called Nozick's book "a shrewd defense of laissez faire and a theoretical buttress for the growing libertarian movement." The magazine's full-page story also said: "Nozick is convinced that voluntary philanthropy is a freer, more efficient way of helping the poor than government-enforced welfare, and it is here that this theory may well find support among non-philosophers."

The publication of Nozick's book has moved libertarian political thought into the spectrum of plausible alternatives in academic circles. Libertarian ideas now have an opportunity to be seriously debated and discussed in scholarly journals. The book's favorable reception in academic circles has already percolated downward, helping to make libertarianism something to be considered in popular magazines. Both these effects are important breakthroughs.

The natural liberty of man is to be free from any superior power on Earth, and not to be under the will or legislative authority of man, but only to have the law of nature for his rule.

Sam Adams, 1772

* * *

Millions entertain no other idea of the legality of power, than that it is founded on the exercise of power. They voluntarily fasten their chains, by adopting a pusillanimous opinion "that there will be too much danger in attempting a remedy."

John Dickinson, 1768

* * *

Justice is as strictly due between neighbor nations as between neighbor citizens. A highwayman is as much a robber when he plunders in a gang as when single; and a nation that makes an unjust war is only a great gang.

Benjamin Franklin, 1785



ROBERT NOZICK

World News Notes For Libertarians

ANYBODY HAVE CHANGE FOR A COUPON?: You probably remember the energy crisis and the gasoline shortage — you know, before it was discovered that we actually had a surplus of oil? And you probably remember those gas ration coupons that the government printed up, at a cost of \$12.5 million?

Well, it turns out that those coupons can never be used, because they're the same size as a \$1 bill, bear a picture of George Washington, and will fit into any bill-changing machine. Nice work, feds.

ASHES TO ASHES: Some enterprising folk in California have started "Cremation Clubs," which provide cremation and scattering of ashes at sea at a far lower cost than regular funeral homes. Fine, so far.

But a bill passed the California legislature that required such clubs to be licensed by their arch-rivals, the state-appointed Funeral Directors and Embalmers Board.

The expected rise in cremation fees really burns us up.

THE MAILMAN WHO CAME IN FROM THE COLD: The U.S. Postal Service, according to columnist Mary McGrory, is now monitoring the mail of 4,400 citizens — at the request of other government agencies. Postal workers write down where letters to these citizens come from and the date they were sent.

One of these agencies is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, apparently, guesses McGrory, in an all-out attempt to catch dangerous salmon-poachers and their ilk.

Meanwhile the Postmaster General promises that first-class mail will cost 12 or 13 cents. At the same time, the Postmaster has stressed that it would be "unthinkable" to let private firms carry mail at less than the postal monopoly's rate.

HELPING THE NEEDY: A woman in Massachusetts was found guilty of welfare fraud and ordered to pay a fine. However, the judge further ordered that her welfare payments be increased so that she could afford to pay the fine.

NAME, RANK, AND SERIAL NUMBER: Frances Knight, director of the passport office of the State Department, has proposed that every United States citizen should carry a National Identity Card. She admitted that this suggestion is "political dynamite." Let's hope so...

REGULATING THE STARS: A California legislator has proposed that a five-member examining board of astrologers be

established, and that practicing astrology without a license be made illegal. The reason: "Astrology is now big business."

LAW N' ORDER DEPARTMENT: It is illegal in Ketchum, Idaho, to kiss anyone while wearing a hat... An elderly couple who have raised rabbits for food for twenty years have now been prohibited from doing so by the government... A California town has banned curbside mailboxes... The police in North Little Rock, Arkansas, arrested two men, one for selling a can of black spray paint, the other for selling a woman's sweater to a man. They were charged, not with interracial transvestitism, but with selling these items on a Sunday... It is illegal in Philadelphia to own a cat unless it is pedigreed... Hang glider enthusiasts are being fined for "staging an exhibition without a permit" and for "use of an unauthorized aircraft."

HAZARDOUS TO YOUR SANITY: Bureaucrats in the Department of Agriculture are reconsidering existing allotments that define how many acres of chewing tobacco may be planted. It seems that chewing tobacco is becoming more popular, and the feds are concerned that the supply might not meet the demand.

"We want the allotment to stay in force," responds one tobacco grower. "We do not want them lifted. If allotments are lifted, anyone can come into production. We want to feed the market; we don't want to glut it."

Yeah, 'cause if you eliminated the allotments, prices might go down, and wouldn't that be terrible?

IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR SOME GOOD NEWS: Wisconsin's Senator William Proxmire continues to make headlines with his attacks on outrageous government programs. The latest: his well-publicized crusade against a government grant of \$84,000 for a study of love, and an additional grant of \$260,000 for a study of "passionate" love (apparently the latter is more costly than the former). Proxmire defended his position — imagine having to "defend" an attempt to save taxpayers' money — in a letter to the New York Times, specifying the absurd features of the studies.

Further encouraging signs from Proxmire include his article in the April 12 edition of *TV Guide*, in which he calls for the abandonment of the so-called "Fairness Doctrine" and even mentions the possibility that the Federal Communications Commission be done away with completely.

EVEN MORE GOOD NEWS: A federal judge in Alabama is making waves with his rulings against mental health treatment given without the consent of the patient. Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr. says that judges have no choice "but to invoke and require adherence to the Constitution" in mental health cases.

Johnson has aroused the ire of state doctors and health directors, but his decisions have been credited with reducing the patient population in Alabama mental health institutions by 60%.

BACK TO THE BAD NEWS: An Associated Press column in the Miami Herald reported that the fastest rising expense for middle-income people since 1967 has been taxes. Income and Social Security taxes have gone up 65%, while costs of food, housing, and other goods have risen "only" 35%.

ALERTNESS COUNTS: Recently, the Indiana Senate reading clerk was running through a long list of motions. In a moment of Yippie inspiration, he read out:

"I move that two all-beef patties, lettuce, cheese, pickles, onion on a sesame seed bun." In his usual, almost automated way, alert Lt. Gov. Robert Orr intoned: "All in favor of the motion say 'aye.'" "Aye," replied a chorus of equally attentive legislators.

CLICK, WHIR, BUZZ: Horace Hampton, a telephone monopoly executive who implemented all FBI "national security" wiretapes in Washington, D.C. for 22 years, testified under oath that about 100 such wiretaps were in operation in the Washington area at any one time throughout most of the Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon administrations.

SENATOR BAYH CALL YOUR OFFICE: The latest data is in on murders committed with deadly weapons. A German study shows that the favorite weapon of female murderers has been the frying pan. As *National Review* commented: "Next thing you know 'Saturday night skillet' will be banned and you'll need a permit to flip your flapjack."

1976 is too late to begin raising money for the 1976 Presidential campaign.

It's going to take about \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 to conduct an effective campaign in 1976. And our chances of raising that kind of money are directly proportional to the amount we start out with in September of 1975.

A realistic estimate is that we'll need a minimum of \$50,000 by Labor Day if we're going to raise the rest in the following fourteen months.

That's why the national Libertarian Party has established the Liberty '76 Fund... to serve as an accumulation point for that \$50,000. All money contributed to the Liberty '76 Fund — above the expenses incurred in raising that money — will be put into a special account, and turned over to our national candidates' campaign fund in September. It will not be spent on anything else.

If every state and national LP member will contribute just \$10, we'll have \$50,000. But since some folks are simply unable to help, we're asking you to contribute \$25... either all at once, or \$5 per month, April through August of 1975.

Do it today! Make your checks payable to Liberty '76 Fund, and mail them to LP national headquarters, 550 Kearny Street, San Francisco, CA 94108.

Libertarian Party 550 Kearny Street, Dept. A San Francisco, CA 94108		<input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed is a one-time contribution to the Liberty '76 Fund, as indicated.	
<input type="checkbox"/> I hereby pledge to contribute the following amount to the Liberty '76 Fund each month, from now through August, 1975. Enclosed is my first month's contribution.			
NAME _____		<input type="checkbox"/> \$500	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250
ADDRESS _____		<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25
CITY _____		<input type="checkbox"/> \$5	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10
STATE _____ ZIP _____		<input type="checkbox"/> \$5	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10
OCCUPATION _____		<input type="checkbox"/> \$5	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10

Liberty '76 Fund.

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