

## LP Shows Gains in 1977 Election Races

Libertarian Party members made impressive electoral showings in various races around the country this November.

An LP member was elected to a City Council seat in Ohio; another polled some 27,000 votes in Arizona; another put the LP "on the map" in Texas; a total of 29 Libertarian candidates made things interesting in New Jersey; and an LP candidate made an astonishingly strong showing in South Carolina.

Details of LP involvement in the November elections are as follows:

### OHIO

Elaine Lindsey, a member of the National Libertarian Party and an Ohio LP activist, won her race for the First District City Council seat in Circleville, Ohio.

Circleville is located approximately 25 miles south of Columbus in Pickaway County, and has a population of 15,000.

Lindsey ran as an Independent in the partisan race, and won nearly 63 percent of the vote. Her sole opponent was a Democrat.

Lindsey was supported by the retiring incumbent, a Republican, and a former may-



Allan Vogel, left, campaigns for Mayor of Houston as a Libertarian. Other LP candidates did well in the November elections.

or of Circleville, a Democrat.

Her campaign brochure included the phrase "Let's Discount the Cost of Government," and her statement in the local Voter's on Bulletin stressed the formation of voluntary organizations to solve municipal problems.

### ARIZONA

LP member David McNeill garnered over 27,000 votes in his race for a seat on the Phoenix City Council. This translated into 29 percent of the votes cast for six positions.

McNeill finished eighth in the field of candidates; the top six were elected. Although he ran in a non-partisan race, he was clearly identified as a Libertarian.

Arizona LP members actively campaigned on McNeill's behalf, distributing copies of "Arizona Liberty," their newspaper, at shopping centers, and posting signs which read "David L. McNeill, Libertarian for City Council," in central Phoenix.

McNeill's campaign budget was limited, resulting in an expenditure of only two cents per vote, much lower than all but one other candidate.

Media coverage of the McNeill campaign included a number of newspaper articles and television interviews, all of which mentioned his Libertarian affiliation.

McNeill proposed a number of Libertarian programs in his campaign, including: abolition of the property tax, and sales tax; private enterprise for municipal services; private ownership of undeveloped areas to ensure against development; refusal to accept federal to cities; and opposition to long-term funding of public projects through bond issues.

### TEXAS

Libertarian Party activity in Texas received an enormous boost from Allan Vogel's campaign for Mayor of Houston.

Vogel received only 846 votes, placing him tenth in a field of twelve candidates. His campaign, however, drew disproportionate attention from the voters of Houston, many of whom are now familiar with Libertarian positions.

Vogel contended with candidates who spent hundreds of thousands of dollars. One of these, who finished third, took strong pro-civil liberties positions, hurting Vogel's vote total.

"Many people said they would vote for me if this other candidate were not running," said Vogel. "But they thought he had a better chance, since he was spending so much money."

Vogel's campaign material included a professional-looking brochure and a series of press releases produced on specially-prepared stationery.

He also produced a film which was shown in a number of Houston theatres. The film stressed the Libertarian position on civil liberties.

Vogel also emphasized economic issues in his press releases and personal appearances, calling for the privatizing of fire protection services and transit, and denouncing further municipal expansion through annexation.

Coverage of the Vogel campaign by radio and television media was good. One station invited Vogel to be guest commentator for the election night report.

Vogel's analysis of the value of his campaign is as follows:

"This campaign was the first time in Texas that a ballot-status candidate has campaigned openly as a libertarian. I think it significant that we finished within the top three or four candidates in terms of 'cost per vote'. We obviously have a message to which people will respond; we must now begin to reach more of the public.

"Already I can see a response within the local party. Members I did not know three months ago are now taking a more active role. Planning for next spring's ballot drive is already underway. This race for mayor was only the first small step in the emergence of the Libertarian Party as a viable alternative in Texas."

### NEW JERSEY

Led by gubernatorial candidate Dr. Frank Primich, twenty-nine Libertarian Party candidates ran for various offices in New Jersey.

Primich finished with over 6,000 votes, the fifth-highest total in a field of 16 candidates for Governor. Two Independent candidates outpolled him by small margins; these were well-known and comparatively well-financed, in contrast to Primich.

Coverage of the New Jersey campaign was impressive. Well over one hundred

newspaper clippings, mentioning one or more LP candidates, arrived at LP National Headquarters. In addition, Dr. Primich appeared on television to promote his candidacy.

Many of the local LP candidates made a real impact on their races. Elizabeth Macron, an Assembly candidate, polled three times the number of votes which represented the margin of victory between the Democrat and Republican candidates.

Actual vote totals ranged from 107 for Mayor of a small township, to 1,584 for Lucille Bender, who ran for Freeholder. Percentages were in the one percent range, with some higher.

Local New Jersey LP candidates for State senate included Ken Kaplan, Ann Riecker, Jack Moyers, and Len Flynn.

For Assembly: Bob Shapiro, Charles Irwin, Ken Miller, Susan Raggi, Dan Bauch, Henry Koch, Bill Zelko, Betty Florentine.

Also: Dick Roth, Al Korby, Barry Siegel, Mike Fieschko, Bill Stewart, Russ Malta, Elizabeth Macron, Steve Enterline.

For Freeholder: Cal Beatty, Charles Hofker, Don Meinshouson, Lucille Bender.

For Sheriff: Walt Swirsky (NJLP State Chair).

For Township Office: Jeanne Macron, Mary Ann Herrmann, Bob Herrmann.

All of these candidates ran in the counties of Bergen, Essex, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, and Passaic, concentrated in the northeast part of the state near Newark.

According to Senate candidate Len Flynn, most LP members in New Jersey ex-

(Continued on page 3)

## New Tabloid On Campus

As of mid-December, copies of *Outlook*, the new recruiting tabloid newspaper for use on college campuses, had been shipped to all but a few states, plus Guam and the District of Columbia.

The total number of copies surpasses the 150,000 mark, not counting the thousands to be distributed by the California Libertarian Party. State Chairs have indicated a desire for at least that many more, to be distributed in the next few months.

Already, students have accepted the invitation on the back of *Outlook* to hear more about the Libertarian Party. And these are not idle requests: Further information costs a nominal amount of money, to help pay handling costs and to ensure serious inquiries.

Expressions of interest have come in from Arizona, California, Colorado, D.C., Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa. Also from Maryland, Massachusetts, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Wisconsin.

In addition, orders for *Outlooks* from individuals other than State Chairs have come in from Alaska, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, New York, North Carolina, and Washington State, as well as from states listed above.

"The coincidence of final examinations and Christmas vacation has given us a chance to catch up on the orders yet to be filled," according to Jay Hilgartner, Coordinator of the Young Libertarian Alliance (YLA).

"Many of the *Outlooks* we have already shipped, as well as new orders, will be distributed in the early spring," continued Hilgartner.

Hilgartner expects the total to near the million mark by the time serious political campaigns get underway in 1978.

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*From the Chair**David P. Bergland*

# National HQ And You

Since my election to the National Chair in July, 1977, I have covered a lot of ground and spent much time on the telephone and in written correspondence with people all over the country. I have received many inquiries which indicate the existence of certain misconceptions in the minds of many. Consequently, I think it would be useful to describe the National Party, its responsibilities, functions, etc. and a little about the people who are doing the work.

The National Libertarian Party is comprised of the National Committee, the National Headquarters office staff, and all of those persons who have "signed up" as National LP members. The great bulk of the LP political activism that occurs is conducted by members of state LP organizations and their regional subdivisions. The primary function of the National organization, in addition to presidential election campaigns, is to assist the state party organizations in a variety of ways; for instance, providing research, printed materials, and campaign expertise.

A state party, in order to call itself the "Libertarian Party," must affiliate with the National LP and confirm a commitment against the use of force as a means of achieving political or social goals. Beyond that, each state party organization has considerable autonomy. The primary tie between the state party organizations and the National is the requirement that at National conventions, delegates are chosen on the basis of *National LP* membership in each state.

The purpose and functions of the National LP, to a large degree, are a matter of evolution and current realities. The founders of the Party were truly visionary. They began it as a nationwide party, even though that geographical breadth made it incredi-

bly thin. The plan was to educate the populace to libertarianism through political activism.

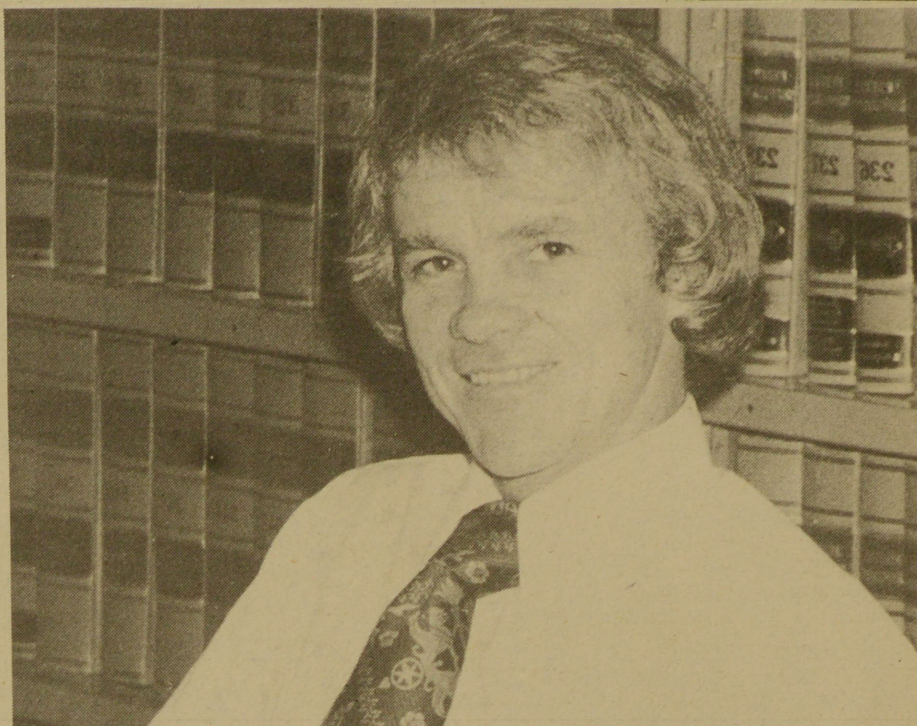
That remains the plan. Now, however, the state party organizations constitute the "troops on the line" who actually run the candidates for office, issue the press releases, send the speakers to the schools and civic groups, etc. National's function is to be a provider of campaign research materials, legal expertise, teaching materials for political activists, personnel with experience at petition drives and campaign planning, etc.

National also serves as a "clearing house" for valuable information in this vein that comes in from state parties around the country. In summary, National Headquarters is a depository and clearing house of the research and experience of Libertarian thinkers and political activists. Anyone out there who thinks they could use some help in any phase of libertarian political activity should call on National HQ.

The one political campaign that National does have the primary responsibility for is the presidential campaign. Also, National must, under its Constitution, have a national convention each year.

Speaking of presidential elections, the presidential candidate will be selected at the 1979 Convention which is slated for Los Angeles. The time for selecting the presidential candidate is really quite close as these things go. All of us should begin thinking immediately of who we would like to see carry the Libertarian banner in 1980. At the present time, there are no announced candidates.

I would like to say right now that I am taking myself out of consideration for the presidential nomination in the event that any of you were of the view that I had any thoughts of seeking that nomination.



DAVID BERGLAND

I consider the responsibilities of the Chair to be too substantial and crucial to the development of the Party for me to divert my attention to seeking the presidential nomination. I know there are many people in the Party who would make excellent presidential candidates and I urge everyone to begin discussing this subject forthwith so that potential candidates are identified and their qualifications well known by Party members well in advance of the 1979 Convention.

One of the more prevalent misconceptions that I have discovered is that many

people think that I, as the Chair of the Party, and other Party officers are full time employees of the Party. Not so. I, and the other Party officers and National Committee members, are all volunteers. The people who work at National Headquarters in Washington are paid employees.

Chris Hocker, our new National Director, is the administrative head of the office and is the major workhorse - with the assistance of secretarial help. In January, 1978, the Party hired a full time Young Libertarian Alliance coordinator, Jay Hilgartner. Other persons are hired from time to time as independent contractors to perform certain jobs, such as Bill Burt, who has produced the "Local Problems: Libertarian Solutions" booklet that is now in its final editing and production phase.

A major part of the responsibility for maintaining the relationships between the National party organization and state party activities falls upon the Regional Representatives of the National Committee. It is a good bet that many of the people in state party organizations are not aware of who their Regional Rep is.

They should be. The people elected at the National Convention to be Regional Reps undertook the responsibility of working with state party organizations to identify their problems and devise methods of assisting them. This responsibility differs from region to region because some state party organizations are well developed and other are still in relatively embryonic stages. Consequently, the nature of the problems is radically different.

However, the Regional Reps' function remains the same, i.e., to be primary contact between the National party organization and the state party organizations. If you do not know your Regional Rep, a telephone call will give you that information immediately.

The National Committee of the Libertarian Party is comprised of people who collectively have a wealth of information, experience and enthusiasm for the Libertarian movement. I find it a great pleasure working with each of them. It would be regrettable if libertarian activists everywhere did not take the fullest advantage of these "human resources" and the other resources that are available from the National party organization, particularly during the forthcoming 1978 election campaign activities.

Let us hear from you.

## Enjoy that One Per Cent

By Chris Hocker  
LP National Director

Scenario: You are a Libertarian Party candidate. You take a leave of absence from your job, spend \$2,000 of your own money, and raise another \$2,000 from personal friends. You design and distribute thousands of expensive, good-looking brochures. You send out press releases, do radio interviews, speak before community groups. In short, you do everything right, and you reach Election Day feeling tired, proud, and optimistic.

When the returns come in, you get one percent of the vote.

At this point in our history, the LP has seen many such situations. A significant number of LP candidates have run serious, professional campaigns and have ended up with one percent or less of the vote.

What attitude should we take when this happens? Does one percent mean that Libertarian ideas are wrong? Does it mean that people are just too traditional or statist or ignorant to accept what we have to say?

The candidates who have faced the situation in the above scenario have the same story to tell. Every one of them has been approached by dozens of people who have said: "You were the best candidate, with the best ideas. But I just couldn't vote for you; I wanted to vote for someone who had a chance."

That message is hard to swallow, but it reflects the way people feel. It also reflects an encouraging trend for the Libertarian Party.

Encouraging? Yes! There are three stages in the development of a new political

movement. We are now in Stage Two.

Stage One is the beginning, absolute ground zero. No one has ever heard of you, and, when they do hear of you, they think you're crazy. The LP left that stage in 1975, although vestiges still exist in pockets of the country.

Stage Two is recognition without acceptance, appreciation without reward. It is the situation which allows voters to say, "You were my second choice." It is the perceived dichotomy between the utopian and the practical which prevents them from voting their convictions, sometimes at the last moment. It is also the stage which leaves hard-working libertarians mumbling to themselves: "If only..."

If only what? If only you had not taken such a radical position? If only you had received better media coverage? If only the race between the two top candidates hadn't been so close?

There are hundreds of "If only's" and all of them are beside the point, which is: Today you are the second choice of a lot of voters. Two or three years ago, you wouldn't have been the twentieth choice in a field of nineteen.

Stage Three, of course, will occur when voters realize that our ideals are applicable to "real world" problems. The speed at which this will occur depends on us.

It will depend upon our willingness to continue running serious, credible candidates in professional campaigns, who can bring it home to the voters that *freedom works*.

The imminent approach of Stage Three is indicated by a phenomenon which has al-

ready occurred among some potential LP candidates. The phenomenon is this: When approached to run for office, they decline because they want to wait a few years for an election that they can win.

The long term implications of this are very encouraging, of course. These potential candidates have enough confidence in the future of the Libertarian Party that they think they can win an election some day soon.

But the short term implications are deadly. If our best people - our successful, articulate, dynamic members - are not willing to run *today* and get clobbered, then there won't be a tomorrow. Instead, there will be an overabundance of second-rate candidates, running second-rate campaigns, while our top people sit and wait for lightning to strike.

If you run your heart out in 1978 and finish with one percent of the vote, you will contribute an important part of the structure for success in 1980, or 1982, or 1984 - or whenever you think you can actually run and win.

If voters appreciate you enough to make you their second choice today, they will appreciate you enough to make you their first choice when they get the message that your programs are as practical as they are principled. But they'll never get that message if strong LP candidates are not willing to run professional campaigns which speak to the issues, regardless of vote totals.

So - be proud of that one percent. Be proud of each voter who says you were his second choice. And start making plans for your next campaign.



# November Campaigns Strengthen Party

(Continued from page 1)

pressed positive feelings about the campaigns. Many new inroads were made, especially with the media, and membership in the LP has increased.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

Charles Blackwell, former Chairman of the South Carolina LP, polled an astounding ten percent of the vote on a write-in campaign for the State Senate.

This was a special election to fill a vacancy, and only one candidate, a Democrat, appeared on the ballot.

Blackwell campaigned vigorously on an explicitly Libertarian platform in search of write-in votes. (Most write-in campaigns garner very few votes.)

The district-wide total for Blackwell was just under ten percent, and he polled over forty percent in his home town of York, where he campaigned extensively.

## OTHER CAMPAIGNS

Libertarian Party members also campaigned for offices in New York and Pennsylvania, with varying degrees of success.

The Free Libertarian Party of New York ran a slate of candidates for New York City positions and others, but did not equal their previous successes, due to lack of financing and campaign workers.

Among the FLP candidates were William Lawry for Mayor, Robert S. Flanzer for City Comptroller, and Leonard Rubin for City Council President.

Their respective vote totals were 1,118, 2,394, and 1,528.

Also running was William Savadel for

polled in Nassau County in 1976.

In Pennsylvania, Bill Lewis ran for the City Council in Elizabeth, a small town



David McNeill received 27,000 votes - 29 per cent - in his campaign for the City Council in Phoenix, Arizona. McNeill was consistently identified as a Libertarian, despite the non-partisan race.

County Executive in nearby Nassau County. Savadel received over 1,200 votes, fifty percent more than Roger MacBride

outside of Pittsburgh, and received ten percent of the vote. Lewis was the first Libertarian to run in this area, and felt that

his campaign was a valuable educational device.

According to Pennsylvania LP Chairman Tony West, the head of the Police Department in Elizabeth publicly stated that Libertarians were Communists. While this put Lewis on the defensive initially, it gave him an opportunity to explain Libertarian positions very completely.

## WHAT IT ALL MEANS

The various November elections, taken as a whole, show an encouraging trend for the Libertarian Party. In many places, public awareness of the LP is at an all-time high, and LP campaign activities are reported in the media as a matter of course.

In Arizona, for instance, where the LP has been very active for some years, voters show a willingness to support an openly Libertarian candidate who is politically unknown and underfinanced.

In New Jersey, LP candidates have shown that they can "make the difference" between victory and defeat, thus holding a critical balance of support.

In Texas, the Vogel campaign crystallized the LP, bringing renewed enthusiasm and awareness.

Clearly, running for office is a highly effective way to bring Libertarianism to the attention of voters, and to increase the size and spirit of local LP organizations.

The November elections proved that well-organized, professional campaigns bring positive results, and provide a solid foundation for 1978.

# Libertarian Feminists Attend Women's Conference in Houston

Libertarian Party activist Tonie Nathan joined hundreds of other woman activists in Houston as a delegate to the recent International Women's Year Conference.

Nathan is President of the Association of Libertarian Feminists (ALF), a former Vice-presidential candidate of the Libertarian Party, and a former candidate for Congress from her hometown of Eugene, Oregon.



TONIE NATHAN

Nathan won an electoral vote in 1972, becoming first and only woman ever to do so. On the basis of this and her other activities, she successfully sought appointment to the Women's Conference as an at-large delegate.

According to Nathan, the legislators and officials contacted to expedite her appointment showed increased awareness of the Libertarian Party and its stands.

Nathan hurriedly called together a contingent of libertarians to organize and staff a literature table at the Conference. Joining her in Houston were Nicole Bergland, wife of LP National Chairman Dave Bergland, and Linda Rader, both of Southern California; Sharon Presley, ALF activist, of New York; and a number of Houston-based LP members.

Nathan's attendance at the Conference

received considerable attention in the Oregon press, and was also the subject of news items in Los Angeles, Houston, and on the wire services.

Nathan wrote an article published in the Los Angeles Times (12-2-77) on the subject of decriminalization of prostitution. She also was interviewed by radio stations upon her arrival in Los Angeles after the Conference.

Nathan wound up her activity with appearances at the University of Oregon and Oregon State University, reporting on the Conference and injecting a libertarian message.

Nathan found other self-proclaimed libertarians to be in attendance at the Conference. They included a State Legislator from Oklahoma and the Co-Chair of the Iowa Women's delegation, who has since joined the LP. Many of the passersby at the information booths showed awareness of the LP, and all available literature, including Outlook, the LP campus recruiting tabloid newspaper, was distributed.

The reaction of the libertarian women to the Houston Conference was mixed. According to them, the advantages of attending made it worthwhile, but they generally found the delegates to be interested primarily in what the government could do for them.

According to Nathan, "The women had no sense of context. They looked at all is-

ssues from a standpoint of 'Can it win?'"

"Like women nagging their husbands for a new dress, they were nagging Congress for a new program or law," Nathan continued. "But they had no idea what the new program might cost."

Nathan concluded: "The women of real accomplishment and true independence were absent from this conference. Most of the women lacked understanding of economic theory; they didn't understand what production is or where money comes from. Perhaps libertarian feminists can enlighten them."

In addition to her activities as a libertarian delegate at the Conference, Nathan sponsored two resolutions favoring libertarian goals.

These resolutions were not brought to the floor, as the managers of the Conference had established a priority of items to be considered before the Conference started.

Nathan's resolutions included: 1) a move to repeal all laws banning the advertising of contraceptive devices, either through the mail or over the air; and 2) a call upon Congress to "cease its irresponsible spending" on behalf of social goals, including those favoring women.

Nathan suggests that support of these resolutions be communicated to Congress, which will consider all resolutions passed at the Houston Conference.

## Opportunity

Between elections, a number of opportunities arise for libertarians who seek to communicate with the public. Most of these opportunities bring little direct compensation. One new program, however, not only warns about the adverse effects of government, but provides libertarians with writing ability a chance to make \$1500 for their efforts.

Operating from Santa Barbara, California, the Sabre Foundation Journalism Fund solicits research plans for articles on the "direct and hidden costs of government." Twice each year, the Fund's advisory board — consisting of such writers as Edith Efron, Nicholas von Hoffman, Alan Reynolds, and Irving Kristol — sifts through the applications, looking for well-thought-out proposals that explore an aspect of government intervention in the economy or civil liberties.

The advisors select six of the best proposals from each round to receive grants, which consist of up to \$500 in advance for research expenses and a flat payment of \$1000 once an article has been accepted for publication. Periodicals receiving the articles include the *New Republic*, *Inquiry*, *Reason*, and the *Alternative*.

The deadline for the next round of applications is drawing nigh. "We're looking for article proposals by people with some previous writing experience," says *Reason* managing editor Mark Frazier, who is director of the program. "But we encourage people who are new to journalism to apply." He emphasizes that the Fund is seeking to support descriptive articles, rather than argumentative or philosophical ones. Applications must contain a 300-500 word description of the article idea, a research plan and estimated budget, a resume, and up to three samples of published writing. The next application deadline is February 1.

For further information, write the Sabre Foundation, 221 West Carrillo, Santa Barbara, CA 93101, or call Mark Frazier at 805/965-7947.



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David P. Bergland.....National Chairman  
Alan Bock.....Editor  
Chris Hocker.....Managing Editor



# State LP News From

## ALABAMA

State Chairman Harvey Crumhorn reports that the level of interest remains high in Alabama, despite a relatively small membership. He hopes to have candidates for the U.S. Senate and House in 1978, to take advantage of the LP's permanent ballot status. A new chapter of the Young Libertarian Alliance was recently formed at the University of Alabama.

For further information about the Alabama LP, contact Harvey Crumhorn at P.O. Box 3204, Huntsville, Ala. 35810 (205) 859-1705.

## ALASKA

LP members in the Anchorage area put on a terrific show in their attempt to repeal the personal property tax. Petitions were circulated to force the repeal onto the municipal ballot, and more than enough signatures were obtained. The municipality, frightened, attempted to keep the issue from the voters, but a successful legal action brought the repeal to the ballot.

After an extensive campaign-with the LP gaining impressive press coverage-the attempt to repeal the tax lost. The reason, as reported in the Anchorage *Daily Times*, was that the municipality convinced the voters that, if the personal property tax were repealed, another, heavy tax would be substituted for it. The *Times* noted, however, that the tax issue was not likely to go away, now that it has become a subject of debate.

In other Alaska news, LP leaders are weighing the possibility of engaging in a successful (i.e. victorious) campaign for the governorship in 1978. The decision to run rests on a number of outside factors which are yet to be made clear.

For further information about the Alaska LP, contact Chairman Tom Olson, 534 Craig Street, Anchorage 99701, (907) 452-5555.

## ARIZONA

As reported in the lead article of this issue, LP member Dave McNeill ran an excellent race for a City Council seat in Phoenix, finishing with 27,000 votes, or about 30%.

The attempt of the Arizona LP to win permanent ballot status in the courts is still alive. The LP attorney has won a favorable ruling from a judge, allowing this attempt to continue.

Several thousand *Outlooks* have been distributed on college campuses throughout the state, and renewed activity is seen in counties other than Maricopa, traditionally the most active.

Contact Chairman John Kanarr for further information, at 4348 W. Maryland, Glendale, Ariz. 85301, (602) 934-3050.

## ARKANSAS

For information concerning activities of the LP in Arkansas, contact Warren Massengill, 6603 Asher #16, Little Rock, ARK, 72214, (501) 562-0312.

## CALIFORNIA

A new slate of party officers has been elected. Bruce Lagasse is Chairman, replacing Ray Cunningham. The Vice Chairs are LP veterans Dan Wiener and Eric Garriss.

The Los Angeles based LP is planning heavily for the State Convention, coming up in February (Presidents Day Weekend) at the Ambassador Hotel.

Meanwhile, Northern Californians are

busy with LIBRE (the Libertarian Registration Effort), and are continuing their attempt to win permanent ballot status for the LP via registration. The new LIBRE Chair is June Genis, who replaced Chris Hocker. She is assisted by Cynthia Hilton and John Ryland.

A Political Strategy Committee was formed from the California Executive Committee, for the purpose of targeting suitable legislative districts for LP candidates, and to describe the necessary ingredients for successful campaigns. Besides Governor and other statewide offices, 40 legislative seats were targeted in Congress and the state legislature, and potential candidates are already making plans.

For further information about the growing activities of the California LP, contact Chairman Bruce Lagasse, P.O. Box 5235, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413, (213) 788-1353.

## COLORADO

Coloradans recently held their State Convention, with featured guest Roger MacBride. The Convention was a work session, and plans were laid to run as many candidates as possible in 1978. A committee was formed for this purpose.

As reported in a previous issue, Colorado has a full time headquarters in Denver. The new Chair is Sally Mason. Contact her at the LP Headquarters, P.O. Box 1557, Denver, Colo 80201, (303) 320-4344.

## CONNECTICUT

Chairman Bob Loomis reports a continuation of activity despite a relatively low membership. A new chapter of the Young Libertarian Alliance was formed recently at the University of Connecticut.

Contact Bob Loomis at P.O. Box 252, East Granby, CT, (203) 653-3939.

## DELAWARE

LP members in Delaware are getting set to fight a restrictive ballot access law which has been proposed in the legislature. Several aspects of the law appear to be unconstitutional, and concerted action against it should improve the organizational and lobbying skills of the Delaware LP.

One member is considering the possibility of running for the U.S. Senate in 1978. Such a campaign would be a first, since MacBride was not on the Delaware ballot in 1976.

## FLORIDA

Most of the activity here appears to be in the Miami area, where the LP of South Florida recently held their quarterly conference. Among the guests was National Chairman David Bergland. The South Florida group is considering a bid to host the 1978 National Convention.

For further information about Florida LP activities, contact Chairman Tom Nay, P.O. Box 1727, Orlando, FLA 32803, (904) 761-3082.

## GEORGIA

Chairman Jim Clarkson is organizing a Regional Conference in Atlanta for the weekend of January 20-22, in conjunction with the National Committee meeting. LP members from various surrounding states have been invited to hear speakers and to socialize at the Capital Airport Inn. For further information about the Georgia LP, contact Jim Clarkson at 4 Coral Avenue, Rome, GA 30161 (404) 235-2181.

## GUAM

Chairman Jim Joyner reports that potential political campaigns are now under consideration in Guam, and that he himself intends to run for office.

Contact Jim Joyner at P.O. Box 3417, Agana, Guam 96910.

## HAWAII

For information about the Libertarian Party in Hawaii, contact Chairman Mike Rossell, c/o HELP, Inc., 2109-F Kuhio Ave., Honolulu, Hawaii 96815, (808) 988-6233.

## IDAHO

Contact Chairman Larry Fullmer at P.O. Box 4106, Pocatello, Idaho, (208) 232-2306, for information regarding LP activities in Idaho.

## ILLINOIS

There's a lot going on Illinois, both in the Chicago area and downstate. The LP plans to run a full slate of statewide candidates, as well as local office seekers, and a Campaign Committee has been organized and working for several months now. The LP has calculated a \$50,000 minimum budget for this effort.

A series of dinner meetings are scheduled in the Chicago area to get libertarians together in preparation for the campaign. In addition, thousands of *Outlooks* have been distributed in the Chicago area and on Southern Illinois campuses.

The State Chairman is Milton Mueller. Contact him at P.O. Box 1776, Chicago, Ill. 60690. The full-time LP phone number is (312) 925-1111.

## INDIANA

Indianapolis was the site of a successful Midwest Libertarian Conference in early November. Chairperson Sally Heistand co-ordinated the three-day event, which featured seminars on Social Security, Energy, Laetrile, and Financial Planning, as well as an address by LP National Director Chris Hocker.

Libertarians came from Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, and Kentucky, as well as from all parts of Indiana. There was general agreement that the Conference was a real boost to the spirits of midwestern libertarians. Indiana LP'ers plan to run in a number of campaigns next year; they need only half of one per cent to achieve permanent ballot status.

Contact Sally Heistand about the Indiana LP at 1430 N. Capitol, Indianapolis, Indiana 46202, (317) 923-9227.

## IOWA

The highlight of recent months for the Iowa LP was a front page feature length article about them which appeared in the *Des Moines Register*. The article explored and was generally accurate and fair. Iowa libertarians are contacting other media for similar coverage, and are planning to run statewide candidates in 1978.

Contact Chairman John Ball for further information: RR 4, Marshalltown, Iowa 50158, (515) 754-3117.

## KANSAS

New Chairman Ron Webster is in the process of building a strong organization in Kansas. To help, contact Webster at 124 S. Kallock, Richmond, Kansas.

## KENTUCKY

State Chairman Ernest McAfee

represented Kentucky at the Midwest Libertarian Conference in Indianapolis. McAfee may be reached at 20 Spurlin Court, Richmond, Kentucky 40475. (606) 623-0196.

## LOUISIANA

Reports from Louisiana indicate that at least one LP member is planning to run for Congress in the 2nd District. State Chairman Jerry Millett plans to find several more LP candidates for elective office. A Finance Committee will be organized for the State LP at their next convention, coming up in New Orleans in February.

Contact Jerry Millett for further information at 112 Hampton Road, Lafayette, LA 70503, (318) 884-6012.

## MAINE

For information about LP activities in Maine, contact the LP National Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

## MARYLAND

Maryland, which did not have Roger MacBride on the ballot in 1976 due to a restrictive ballot access law, will have an LP candidate for the state legislature. He is Erwin Vogel, who will run as an Independent.

Maryland LP'ers are joining other activists in Baltimore County to protest an enormous increase in the property tax rate.

For further information, contact State Chairman Ramon Baumgartner at 4927 71st Avenue, Glenridge, Md. 20784, (301) 459-1075, or the LP phone, (301) 459-0003.

## MASSACHUSETTS

The Mass. LP intends to submit a bid to host the 1978 National Convention in Boston, and much work has gone into the preparation of the proposal. Some LP members are involved in an attempt to cut state spending drastically by means of a ballot initiative. There should be at least 10 LP candidates for local office in 1978.

Contact State Chairperson Lee Nason for more information on the Mass. LP: 61 Garfield #2, Cambridge, Mass. 02138, (617) 864-6497.

## MICHIGAN

State Chairman James Hudler has announced that the Michigan LP State Convention is scheduled for February 4 and 5 in suburban Detroit. He plans to hold a rally at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor in conjunction with the convention.

The LP has produced an attractive recruiting flyer explaining Libertarian positions and printed on a bright kelly green stock. LP'ers are trying to collect sufficient signatures to win a spot on a special primary ballot, to qualify further for ballot status.

Contact Chairman Jim Hudler at 308½ State Street, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48108, (313) 662-4049. The LP office number is (313) 665-4343.

## MINNESOTA

The Minnesota LP held its State Convention in November, and elected Robin Miller as the new State Chairman. Miller and past Chairman Dale Hemming plan to run for office in 1978.

The convention heard from Dave Bergland and veteran LP activist and tax resister Karl Bray.

Contact State Chairman Robin Miller at 20966 Gypsy Valley Road, Anoka, Minn. 55303.



# Around The Country

## MISSISSIPPI

Chairman Charles Clark reports that he intends to devote most of his time to LP work in 1978, and is considering a run for elective office.

Contact Clark at P.O. Box 143, Perkinston, Miss. 39573, (601) 928-5211.

## MISSOURI

The LP of Missouri already has permanent ballot status in one legislative district, and plans to run a number of candidates in 1978. The LP has a regular schedule of press releases which are distributed, with good local coverage, to most newspapers in Missouri.

For further information, contact State Chairman Tony Haenni, Box A, Grover, Mo. 63040, (314) 227-1477.

## MONTANA

After several months of minimal activity, James Preston of Billings has offered to take organizational responsibility for the Montana LP.

Please contact Preston at 910 Tenth Street West, #222, Billings, Montana 59102.

## NEBRASKA

For information regarding Nebraska LP activities, contact Susan Putney, 2737 S. 16th Street, Omaha, Neb. 68108, (402) 422-0118.

## NEVADA

Nevada is likely to be a beehive of libertarian activity in 1978, according to State Chairman Jim Burns. He plans to have as many LP candidates as possible, both statewide and local, after the required number of signatures are collected. Burns himself will make an all-out attempt to win a seat in the legislature.

For further information about Nevada LP activities, contact James Burns at 809 Cartier #K, North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030, (702) 642-7717.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

As reported in the last *LP News*, activists in New Hampshire have full-time office and staff, with detailed organizational plans mapped for the next several years. Former LP National Director Bob Meier was in New Hampshire in early November, and spoke before the Board of Education and other groups, as well as a number of newspapers and radio stations. An article, with photo, appeared in the *Manchester Union Leader*, the state's largest newspaper, covering Meier's visit, and a radio talk show host called LP National Headquarters to interview him on-the-air after his departure.

The New Hampshire LP plans to run a number of candidates for state and local office in 1978.

For further information, contact State Chairman Bill Hunscher, 9 Belmont Street, Nashua, NH 03060, (603) 883-2762.

## NEW JERSEY

As reported in the lead article, many New Jersey LP members participated in the recent state elections, as candidates or campaign workers. Most participants were pleased and encouraged by the results.

New Jersey is planning its State Con-

vention for March.

For further information, contact State Chairman Walter Swirsky, 7 Maxfield Lane, Englishtown, NJ 07726, (201) 431-4491.

## NEW MEXICO

For information regarding LP activities in New Mexico, please contact Robert Foster, 2417 Zena Lona N.E., Albuquerque, N.M. 87112, (505) 296-8262.

## NEW YORK

As indicated in the lead article, the Free Libertarian Party of New York is strengthening its internal structure after disappointments in the Mayoral campaign. The outlook remains optimistic, however, and plans are already laid for the State Convention the second weekend in April.

Contact State Chairman Carl Hastings for further information: 200 Madison Ave., Suite 1904, New York, NY 10016, (212) 686-9182.

## NORTH CAROLINA

The North Carolina LP is actively pursuing the goal of 10,000 petition signatures, which will qualify the LP for the ballot in 1978 and 1980. Active chapters include those in Raleigh and Charlotte.

To help with the petition drive, or for further information, contact State Chairman Rick Posatto, P.O. Box 3280, Charlotte, NC 28203.

## NORTH DAKOTA

For information about North Dakota LP activities, contact State Chairman Lowell Anderson, Route 1, Grafton, ND 58237, (701) 352-1072.

## OHIO

Chairman Tom Brown reports that a new recruiting flyer is in final preparation stages, and that at least one LP candidate will run for office in 1978: former State Chairman Bob Lehman in the First District (Cleveland). YLA organizer Jodi Croley plans a major event at Ohio State in Columbus—a debate between a Republican, a Democrat, and a Libertarian.

For further information about the Ohio LP, contact Chairman Brown at 114 Willowood Drive, Dayton, Ohio 45405, (513) 278-9094.

## OKLAHOMA

The new State Chairman in Oklahoma is Loren Baker, replacing Frank Robinson. Oklahoma LP'ers have had active representation at State Fairs in Oklahoma City and Tulsa, as well as at a special Energy Fair, also in Tulsa. There is a good chance of an LP candidate in Oklahoma in 1978.

Contact Loren Baker, P.O. Box 60505, Oklahoma City, Okla. 73106, (405) 848-2043, for further information.

## OREGON

Oregon state law prescribes a very tough ballot access requirement, but State Chairperson Vivian Baures reports that Oregon LP'ers will attempt to gain ballot status for statewide elections in 1978. The Oregon Convention is scheduled for President's Day weekend in February.

Contact Vivian Baures at the LP address: 385 E. 11th, Eugene, Oregon 97401, (503) 928-5271.

## PENNSYLVANIA

State Chairman Tony West reports a renewal of enthusiasm for LP involvement in political action, exemplified by Bill Lewis's race for Councilman in Elizabeth. At least one LP Congressional candidate is likely for 1978. In addition, a new YLA chapter was formed at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

For further information, contact State Chairman Tony West, 503 South 44th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104, (215) 727-6463.

## RHODE ISLAND

Recent LP activity in Rhode Island includes the distribution of *Outlook* at Brown University in Providence.

Contact State Chairman Tony Fiocca at P.O. Box 657, Bristol, RI 02809, (401) 253-4027, for further information.



*Joe Cobb of Illinois speaks about Social Security at the Midwest Libertarian Conference held in Indianapolis last November. LP members from five states attended the conference.*

## SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina LP members have a new Chairman: Lee Muller of Pendleton, who replaces Charles Blackwell. All reports indicate that the potential for libertarian impact is great in South Carolina. For example, a large YLA chapter has been organized at Francis Marion College in Florence.

Activists here for nearing the goal of 10,000 signatures needed to achieve permanent ballot status. Chairman Muller urgently requests help to put the SCLP over the top. To assist, or for further information, contact Muller at 2 Green Glen Apts., Pendleton, SC 29670.

## SOUTH DAKOTA

National Committeeman Ben Olson of Iowa has assumed the task of reorganizing the South Dakota LP, and has sent a mailing to all known libertarians asking for their help.

Please contact Olson at RR#1, Box 114, Pocahontas, Iowa 50574, (712) 335-4049.

## TENNESSEE

LP activists here are enthusiastic about the election chances of Richard Bacon for the State Legislature. Bacon will be running against a Democrat (no Republican is running) and has already started his campaign.

Contact State Chairperson Mary Joyner

at 404 Meadow Lane, Kingsport, Tenn., 37663, (615) 239-9394.

## TEXAS

The campaign of Allan Vogel for Mayor of Houston has energized LP members throughout the state, with signs of increased activity in Houston and Dallas. (See lead article for Vogel story). Chairman Bill Howell reports that LP candidates for elective office are quite likely in 1978, despite an adverse ballot access law.

For further information, contact Howell at P.O. Box 12618, Dallas, Texas 75225, (214) 692-6068.

## UTAH

Activists in Utah are monitoring local spending, and hold regular meetings in Salt Lake, Iron, and Utah LP, a contact State Chairman George Chapman, P.O. Box 15506, Salt Lake City, Utah 84115, (801) 485-2485.

## VERMONT

Activists in New Hampshire and Massachusetts are planning to incorporate Vermont activists into their own projects. For current information about the Vermont LP, contact LP National Headquarters.

## VIRGINIA

The new State Chairman in Virginia is Michael Maddox, who replaces Steve Beckner. Maddox plans an ambitious program of increasing awareness of the LP, through a press release schedule, a newsletter, and special events. Richmond Libertarians held an all-day fair on the University of Virginia campus in November.

Contact Maddox at 2325 N. Jackson St., Arlington, VA 22209, (703) 528-5476.

## WASHINGTON

Membership in the Washington LP is on the increase, and State Chairperson Pat Artz is in charge of a many-faceted program which includes a number of candidates for office in 1978.

Contact Pat Artz at 1258 Weiland Street #12, Kent, Washington 98031. The LP number is (206) 285-0704.

## WEST VIRGINIA

For information regarding the West Virginia LP, contact Dr. Harold Harvey, 214 Professional Park, Beckley, W. Va 25801, (304) 253-6254.

## WISCONSIN

LP Membership is 'way up in Wisconsin, and a number of campaigns are planned for 1978. The State Convention is scheduled for March.

LP activist Art Jackson expects to be elected to the City Council in Janesville, and will be politically active in the future. The State Party will be funding a full-time office and staff in Madison to supplement volunteer activity.

For further information contact State Chairman Dan Endsley, 1333 Fish Hatchery Road, Oregon, Wisconsin 53575, (609) 835-5979.

## WYOMING

A renewed level of activism in Wyoming has resulted in an effort to build membership and find candidates for 1978. LP leaders are sharpening their fundraising and organizational skills in this effort.

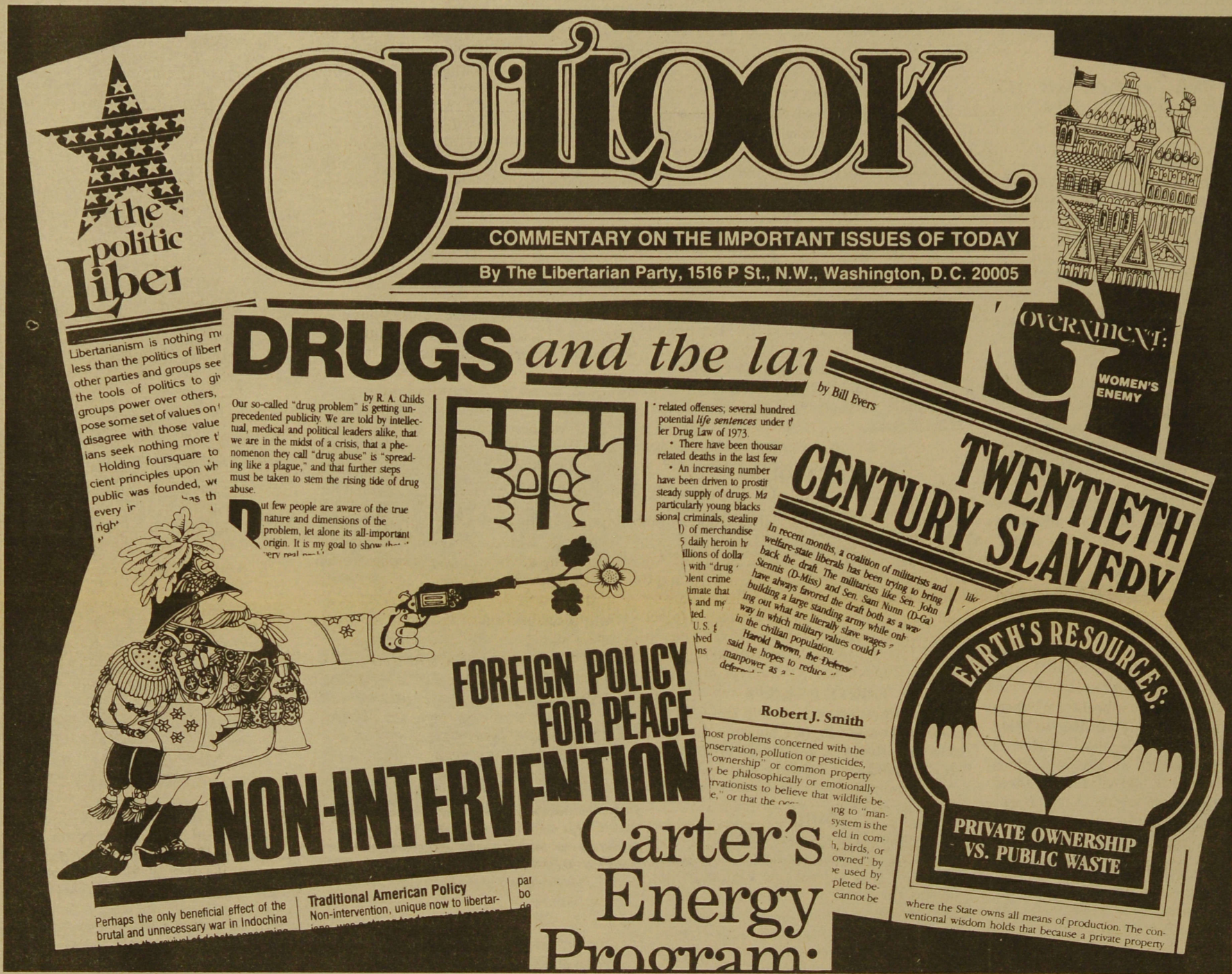
Contact State Chairman Gary Roberts, 230 E. Jefferson, Cheyenne, WY 82001, (307) 638-3077, for further information.



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## Washington Watch

Alan Bock

# 1977: It Could Have Been Worse

A look back at the 1977 legislative session could provoke a few sighs of relief. We were spared a number of potentially repressive new measures. Public financing of elections bit the dust. The Carter energy "program" is in shambles. Carter is in a weaker position *vis a vis* Congress than any president in memory, and that is an unusually healthy portent.

The news is not all good, of course, and some of the failures were more the result of Carter's ineptness than of any latent libertarian resurgence. We will face the biggest Social Security tax increase in history. The Department of Energy was duly established and will probably work untold mischief in the future. Airline regulatory reform, which many of us considered a sure thing, is still floundering, though it is far from dead. And the ill-considered Humphrey-Hawkins national planning bill, which had been considered a corpse, may rise to haunt us.

We have opportunities open to us. An undirected and often ill-informed suspicion of government and all its works seems to be gaining prevalence as a national mood, if there can be such a thing. Academic critiques of the old New Deal - through - Great Society spend - and - control philosophy are becoming fashionable, though they have yet to have much impact on day - to - day politics. We can still help to give form to some of the concerns which others are expressing in the framework of a cohesive libertarian philosophy, but a great deal of work still remains ahead of us, and the outcome is by no means certain.

### GOLD CLAUSE PASSED

One of the more surprising developments of this Congress was the passage of S. 2003, a bill making it legal for individuals to include clauses in contracts making liabilities payable in gold. The bill was introduced and pushed through by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) as a simple logical extension of the recent legalization of gold ownership. Its potential as a disrupter of (or alternative to) the present government fiat money system was not discussed or apparently considered.

Federal regulatory agencies were apparently caught off guard by the gold clause freedom bill. It will be helpful to watch developments in the Securities and Exchange Commission, as well as regulations which might be issued by the Treasury Department. But the S.E.C. was apparently unaware for several days that the bill had passed, and at present does not plan to issue guidelines for gold clause securities. Instead they will await a submission for an offering containing other - than - dollar forms of payment (which would, of course, have to conform to present S.E.C. guidelines.)

Major credit for the passage of this legislation belongs to Sen. Helms, of course, but also to the Institute for Money and Inflation (314 E. Capitol St., Suite B-1, Washington, D.C. 20002), which provided Helms with much of the detailed information and analysis which he used in presenting his case. The Institute is also probably the best source for information on how gold clauses can be used and how current and future regulations will affect them. Inquiries are welcome.

### AIRLINE REGULATORY REFORM

A year ago I doubt that any of us involved in the struggle for airline regulatory reform had any notion that it would take as long as it is taking. After more than a year of serious work, preceded by ten or more years of serious study and publicizing and at least two years of serious preliminary

work in Congress, airline regulatory reform has yet to be passed by either House or Congress. One can console oneself by reflecting that it took more than forty years to build the regulatory apparatus which is now strangling us, and it is likely to take almost as long to dismantle it. The reform measure which is still possible is hardly a giant step toward dismantling the bureaucracy. But it is still an important step.

Briefly, here is the situation. The Senate Commerce Committee, after hearings by the Transportation Subcommittee last Spring and a record number of "mark-up" sessions to get an acceptable committee version, finally passed S. 689, the Cannon-Kennedy bill as painstakingly amended, last October. The full Senate should vote on it in 1978, perhaps as early as February. Passage is expected, but letters of support to Senators would still be useful. The most important provisions are pricing flexibility, automatic entry (permitting a limited number of new routes without C.A.B. approval) and reversal of the burden of proof (making somebody contesting a new route application prove it's *not* in the public interest rather than making the applicant prove that it is.) (Letters can go to your Senator, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C., 20510).

In the House, the Aviation Subcommittee of the Public Works Committee held hearings in October on H.R. 8813 (the Anderson bill). More hearings will probably follow when the House reconvenes. Rep. Phil Crane has also introduced a bill (a better one) and Elliott Levitas (D-Ga.) has introduced a "reform" bill with no reform in it. The Subcommittee is likely to choose the Anderson bill as a mark-up vehicle, since its author, Glenn Anderson (D-Cal.) is also chairman of the subcommittee. The Crane bill would be a better vehicle and the Levitas bill would be a disaster. It is likely that subcommittee action will come in March or April, with consideration by the full Public Works Committee to follow.

The problem we face is a relatively low level of interest in Congress. Most members of the relevant committees still know little about the issue. The Ad Hoc Committee on Airline Regulatory Reform is remarkably broad - based, comprising 30 member organizations including liberal, conservative, consumer and state and local government organizations. But airline reform is about tenth on everybody's priority list. Most people are for it, but it's a secondary issue to them. Thus we could get whipped by inertia and apathy.

Letters to Congressmen are extremely important. Your own Congressman should be a target, of course. Other likely targets include Glenn Anderson, chairman of the House Aviation Subcommittee and Rep. Gene Snyder (R-Ky.) ranking Republican on the subcommittee. Also Harold Johnson (D-Cal.) chairman of the full Public Works Committee, and William Harsha (R-Oh) ranking Republican.

If you need information, arguments or updates, write to Libertarian Advocate (P.O. Box 3117, Falls Church, VA, 22043) or the Ad Hoc Committee for Airline Regulatory Reform (411 E. Capitol St., Washington, D.C. 20003).

### HUMPHREY-HAWKINS A POTENTIAL DANGER

It is hard to judge the depth of commitment of the Carter Administration to the latest "de-fanged" Humphrey-Hawkins proposal (or to anything but Carter himself for that matter). But Carter has given it a rhetorical endorsement, and there is still the possibility that Congress may indulge in an emotional orgy as Hubert Humphrey

is dying, and decide to give him this bill as a tribute.

Supporters of the original Humphrey-Hawkins proposals will grumble that the present version doesn't have enough coercive "teeth" to be effective. This approach is likely to lull opponents into the feeling that passage of the bill would be little more than a goodwill gesture. This would be a mistake.

The current bill is less laden with mandatory strictures than the original, but it does institutionalize the first steps of national centralized planning. The policy statement says flatly that the *federal government is responsible for full employment, production and income, balanced growth, adequate productivity growth, proper attention to national priority needs and reasonably stable prices.* It also states that every American has a *right to a useful job at a fair rate of compensation.* One shudders to think of the bureaucratic toilers writing the regulations to implement these ambiguous phrases once they became law.

The most important provision, from the planning perspective, is the requirement that the President submit an annual report to Congress on the state of the economy which includes short - term and medium - term *numerical goals.* Government already does too much of this, but Humphrey-Hawkins would represent a quantum-jump. The advocates of planning are licking their chops and ready to concede almost any specific program as long as this institutionalization of the planning process is passed.

### SOCIAL SECURITY

The recent incredible increases in Social Security payroll taxes are already widely perceived as a stopgap measure which will only hold the system together for a few more creaky years. I'm guessing that the negative impact of these increases will be much greater than anything the politicians had expected. If it is, then there is a chance for more fundamental reform of the system.

Nothing could be more pleasant than the outright junking of Social Security. But that is still unlikely. For the near term, the best hope for political acceptance seems to be a system which separates a genuine retirement savings program from the redistributive (or welfare) aspects of the present system. The redistribution could then come from general revenues, while the retirement savings could be a genuine pension plan. From there it could be a short step to requiring that people save, but offering them an option as to whether they want to invest their savings in a government or a private plan.

For now, a letter to your Congresspeople letting them know how outraged you are, combined with creative griping among your non-libertarian acquaintances, should be helpful.

Several recent publications offer insights into Social Security as it is now, and/or proposals for reform in the direction of more voluntarism. "Retirement and Security Income," published by the Institute for Liberty and Community (Concord, VT 05824) has an interesting proposal for a semi - voluntary system. "Financial Crisis in the Social Security System by Robert S. Kaplan (American Enterprise Institute, 1150 - 17th St., N.W., Washington, D.C., 20036) is a useful analysis. And "The Crisis in Social Security" is a valuable compendium put out by the Institute for Contemporary Studies (260 California St., No. 812, San Francisco, CA, 94111).

### ENERGY AND TRANSPORTATION

Congress seems to be filled with slow

learners, but every so often there's a glimmer of hope. The Congressional Budget Office has just put out a background paper on Urban Transportation and Energy, which, among other things, compares potential energy savings among such different modes as cars, carpool, vanpools, buses and heavy rail transit.

Catch these quotes: "Vanpool operations require little or no public financial support, and it does not appear that increased federal spending would be appropriate to spread the application of this energy-efficient mode. Currently, state and federal regulations inhibit the expansion of vanpools, and these could be removed by Congress . . . In particular, the exemption from Interstate Commerce Commission and state regulation contained in the proposed National Energy Act could be extended to apply to non-federal vanpooling."

Or this one: "The growth of new bus services that are tailored to the needs of special groups of travelers appear to be limited by local regulations that protect existing operators and by the concerns of labor. If the Congress wishes to provide financial assistance to promote this sort of service, its efforts would best be placed, not in massive expansion of existing capital or operating subsidy programs, but in programs that provide job security while relaxing local regulations."

Perhaps the most interesting comment, however, is in regard to heavy rail transit, such as Washington's new Metro system or San Francisco's BART. Remember, this is a paper put out by the Congressional Budget Office: Of all the commonly held notions about energy efficiency, probably the most misguided are those concerning rapid rail transit. The findings of this study indicate that, under typical conditions, new rapid rail systems actually waste energy rather than save it . . . when such factors as construction energy, the energy used to get to and from stations, and the roundaboutness rail travel involves are considered, the energy per passenger-mile computed from door - to - door for rapid rail transit is greater than for any other public mode except dial - a - ride.

I doubt there's any serious threat that sensibleness will descend on Congress in a sudden rush. But you will allow me a small glimmer of hopefulness, won't you?

### REFORMING THE CIA AND FBI

Past abuses by the FBI and CIA are continuing to get some press coverage. But less attention is being given to a bill which offers some hope of correcting those abuses in the future. Both the CIA and FBI have promulgated new internal guidelines and assured us that the bad old days are gone forever. But former Congressman Herman Badillo (D-N.Y.) and about 25 other Congressmen have spotted some gaps. They introduced H.R. 6051 in hope of filling a few gaps and preventing some future abuses.

Under the proposed legislation, the FBI's new role would be limited to the investigation of crimes; political surveillance would be prohibited. There would be no collecting of data, indexing, storing files or investigations of people unless overt criminal acts are involved. The use of informants to gather information on people or groups exercising their First Amendment rights would be prohibited.

COINTELPRO or "preventive action" programs by the FBI would be outlawed. Thus the use of agents provocateur, informants and false information, such as occurred to such disparate groups as the

(Continued on page 8)



# News Notes For Libertarians

**Regulation of the Month:** The following is from a notice posted in National Capital Parks and Planning Commission recreation areas in the Washington, D.C. area:

## "TREES, SHRUBS, PLANTS, GRASS AND OTHER VEGETATION"

(a) General Injury. No person shall prune, cut, carry away, pull up, dig, fell, bore, chop, saw, chip, pick, move, sever, climb, molest, take, break, deface, destroy, set fire to, burn, scorch, carve, paint, mark, or in any manner interfere with, tamper, mutilate, misuse, disturb or damage any tree, shrub, plant, grass, flower, or part thereof, nor shall any person permit any chemical, whether solid, fluid or gaseous to seep, drip, drain, or be emptied, sprayed, dusted or injected upon, about or into any tree, shrub, plant, grass, flower or part thereof except when specifically authorized by competent authority; nor shall any person build fires or station or use any tar kettle, heater, road roller or other engine within an area covered by this part in such a manner that the vapor, fumes or heat therefrom may injure any tree or other vegetation."

That just about covers it. (Source: *Washington Post*.)

\*\*\*

**Regulation of Last Month:** There is a federal safety requirement which mandates coathooks on the inside of toilet stall doors in work places. (Source: *Libertarian Alternative*.)

\*\*\*

**The Triumph of Conservatism:** According

to conservative columnist James J. Kilpatrick, Senators Edward Kennedy and Birch Bayh are right, for the right reasons, when they call for the breakup of oil companies. According to Kilpatrick, "The conservative principle holds that bigness is not necessarily badness, but at some point a rebuttable presumption arises. That point has assuredly been reached in the matter of the great oil companies and competing energy sources. In warning against the concentration of economic power in this vital area, Kennedy, Bayh, and the others were expounding sound conservative doctrine. They are the ones crying for greater competition. They made sense to me."

If government control over private industry is "sound conservative doctrine," then it's time for some sound Libertarian doctrine to counteract it. (Source: *Washington Star*.)

\*\*\*

**Government Stinks:** A skunk wandered into the garage of one Bill Stanton, a Chicago resident, and made its home there, spraying when the mood struck it.

Stanton called the police, but the police refused to do anything. Stanton called the state Department of Game and Wildlife, the city Board of Public Health, and the zoo. None of these wanted anything to do with the skunk, and refused to help.

Stanton then bought a cage trap, baited it with corned beef hash, caught the skunk, and called the various agencies to tell them he had trapped it.

Officials told him that he had broken

several laws: It was illegal to bring a trap into Chicago. It was illegal to trap an animal in Chicago. It was illegal to trap without a license in Illinois. And it was illegal to keep a skunk.

It would also have been illegal for Stanton to kill the skunk, the only other alternative he had of solving the problem.

Stanton has become something of a celebrity, and has received plenty of advice. His lawyer advised him to "go to court and take the skunk with you as evidence" if he received a citation for his law-breaking.

Another person told him to do what is traditional in Chicago: "Take your problem to the mayor, leave it at his door, and run." (Source: Various news stories.)

\*\*\*

**Thanks:** The Federal Election Commission issues formal Advisory Opinions in connection with possible improprieties in campaign funding, expenditure, or reporting.

The FEC recently issued a two-page Advisory Opinion confirming that "Congressman Cecil Heftel may give gifts of macadamia nuts to other Members of Congress without incurring a reporting obligation and without making a contribution under the Federal Election Campaign Act."

The ruling on nuts may be the first FEC ruling that made sense. (Source: *FEC Record*.)

\*\*\*

**LP Publicity:** Check out the January issue of *The Progressive* (pp. 38-40) for an article about the Libertarian Party. The

author is not particularly sympathetic, but the treatment is not unfavorable.

Also on the horizon: an interview with Roger MacBride in an upcoming *Hustler* magazine, and an interview with LP National Director Chris Hocker in an upcoming *Journal of Practical Politics*.

## Washington Watch

(Continued from page 7)

Black Panthers, Ku Klux Klan and Church of Scientology, would be outlawed. In addition, individuals damaged by illegal FBI or CIA activity could sue the Bureau; there would be criminal charges brought against officials who violate the Act; and government employees who "blow the whistle" would be given protection against retribution.

The CIA would be limited to simple collection of information, and would not be permitted to engage in covert actions.

Most libertarians are inherently skeptical of the prospects of bringing government agencies under control by passing new laws. But this legislation would offer some policies which might be usefully disseminated. If you want to support it, write to your Congressman (U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., 20515).

Alan W. Bock is Director of *Libertarian Advocate* (P.O. Box 3117, Falls Church, VA, 22043) a Washington-based lobbying and advocacy organization committed to libertarian principles.

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