

Libertarian Party

NEWS

September 1995 Vol. 10, No. 9

The X factor (and more)

LP appeals to American youth

What's the future of American politics? Libertarianism, according to a front-page article in the nation's largest newspaper, *USA Today*, on July 26.

The story, entitled "The GenX Philosophy: Many reject politics, lean libertarian," declared: "What liberalism was to the Sixties and conservatism was to the Eighties, libertarianism may be to the youth of the 1990s."

Libertarian Party National Director Perry Willis agreed wholeheartedly.

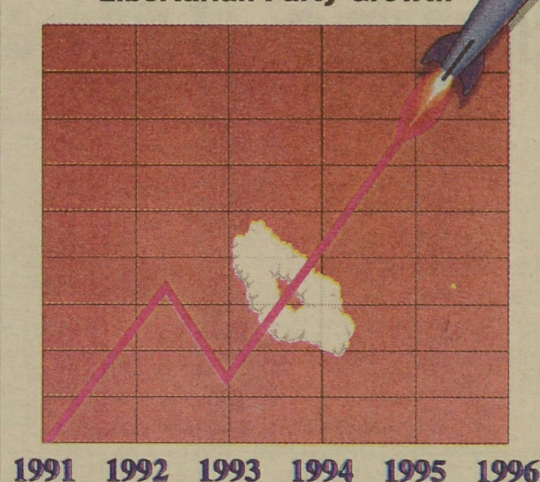
"*USA Today* is absolutely correct," he said. "The growing appeal of libertarianism to Generation Xers is the political tsunami that will reshape American government. And only the Libertarian Party is poised to take advantage of this trend."

The article continued: "Many of the 41 million members of Generation X are turning to... libertarianism, a mixture of liberal views on social issues and a conservative bent on pocketbook concerns."

Willis said the trend is not surprising, given the events of the past 20 years. "Generation Xers have experienced first-hand the failures of liberalism and conservatism," he said.

"After all, what have the Republicans given them? Flag-burning amendments, Internet censorship, massive federal debt, and the failed War on Drugs. And what have the Democrats given them? A bankrupt Social Security system, affirmative discrimination, higher taxes, and the failed

Libertarian Party Growth



War on Drugs. No wonder Generation X is turning Libertarian," said Willis.

The Libertarian Party is gearing up to take advantage of this surge in interest and hopes to run more than 1,000 candidates for public office in 1996, said Willis. Included will be at least 218 candidates for U.S. House—the first time since 1920 that a third party has run candidates for a majority of congressional seats.

see **X factor** on page 11

Committee of '96 helps fund drives

A new support group—"The Committee of '96"—has been established by the Libertarian National Committee to raise money for ballot access, according to Sharon Ayres, national development committee chair.

"We want to get as much signature gathering as possible out of the way this year so we can concentrate on campaigning in '96," she said.

"Our phase-one goal is to raise \$96,000 by January of '96. That means we're looking for 96 people to give or pledge \$1,000 each to the LP for ballot drives between now and the nominating convention next July. This is a special commitment over and above our monthly pledge program."

A select group consisting of the LP's largest contributors over the past several years is being contacted by phone and by mail to participate, according to LP National Director Perry Willis. "The response has been extremely positive," said Willis. "After only one week, we have 11 people who've generously agreed to participate for a total of \$17,000."

The Harry Browne for President Committee also is soliciting its donors who've already given their legal maximum to the campaign (see story on page 5).

All members of The Committee of '96 will be honored guests at a luncheon at the Libertarian national convention next July. They'll also be listed on a plaque that will be permanently displayed in the new national headquarters. In addition, they'll receive a special certificate of appreciation suitable for framing. Names of new committee members also will be published in upcoming issues of the NEWS.

Members of The Committee of '96 to date are: Mrs. Somers Von Behren, John A. Bennett, Dr. William Conger, R. Matthews Kern, Raleigh Shaklee, Mrs. Mary G. Steward, Thomas R. Weiss, Jack Williams, Meg Williams, J. Billy Ver Planck, and Marlene P. Ver Planck.

"This is a very special group of people dedicated to helping us achieve 50-state ballot status," said National Chair Steve Dasbach. "We're going to do everything we can to give them appropriate recognition and show them the appreciation they truly deserve."

Untapped

Hispanic voters offer opportunity

Libertarian Party member Chris Lancette is in a position to reach a large and important segment of the American population that the LP has had a difficult time reaching in the past. And he is already busy getting out the LP message.

Lancette recently was named managing editor of *Mundo Hispanico*, a bilingual, full-coverage Hispanic newspaper serving metro Atlanta, as well as the cities of Athens and Gainesville, GA. The newspaper is published twice monthly. Its 21,000 copies serve an estimated 76,000 readers.

"This is a dream come true for me," said Lancette, who spent 16 months in Valencia, Spain, where he taught English and learned Spanish. "Ever since I was a kid, I dreamed of my interests in journalism and Spanish coming together."

Lancette earned his journalism degree from the University of Georgia in 1991 before traveling to Alaska and then Spain. He joined *Mundo Hispanico* as a freelance writer in January 1994 when he began covering the Georgia legislature.

Lancette, only the second non-Hispanic editor in the paper's 15-year history, also directs the company's radio program on Radio Exitos, heard in Atlanta and Gainesville. The program airs twice a week and, according to Lancette, is "a variety program, in terms of mixing a very wide variety of Spanish-language music with local and international Hispanic sports, entertainment, and a heavy dose of the news. One of the things we rely on in our news segments is interviews."

When the issue of an Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) crackdown known as "Operation Southpaw" became news, Lancette saw his opportunity.

"Remembering that I had read that Libertarians favor open immigration and free trade, and that that was the only logical position to this dispute, and it was clearly not being expressed by anybody that I had interviewed, I thought

now is the perfect chance to start including Libertarians among my news sources."

Lancette contacted the LP national headquarters in Washington, DC, and was put in contact with former Maryland LP Chair Lorenzo Gaztanaga, a Spanish-speaking Libertarian.

"The interview went great," said Lancette. In fact, he received several calls from people wanting to hear more about the LP.

Lancette first became involved with the LP while a student at the University of Georgia and recently joined the national LP. "This is the only party I can support with a clear conscience and a sound mind. Now I'm really feeling comfortably," he said.

Lancette said that in the Hispanic community there is an active, interested, and a growing number of voters that are not being appealed to.

"I think there is an enormous opportunity right now to capture a segment of the vote that is just waiting," he said. Lancette cited statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau showing that in November 1992 there were 5.137 million Hispanics registered to vote. And "those numbers are going to continue to grow," he said.

Lancette said the Hispanic community is not just interesting

see **Lancette** on page 6

New area code for NEWS

Due to continued growth in the Atlanta area, the Libertarian Party NEWS offices have been assigned a new area code.

Effective immediately, the new telephone number for the NEWS is 770-536-5243. Our fax number is now 770-287-0800.

Toward '96

Browne defeats Dole, Wilson, more in NH

Harry Browne, who is seeking the Libertarian Party presidential nomination, was the fourth-highest votegetter at the Granite State Taxpayers Annual Candidate Picnic attended by 1,000 mostly Republican New Hampshire voters on Aug. 5.

The association's founder, Douglas Knight, said, "Over 90 percent of our people are Republicans—very socially and fiscally conservative. Most of the rest are Independents."

Pat Buchanan, who spent more than \$12,000 buying tickets for supporters and campaign materials, won the presidential balloting with 418 votes.

Phil Gramm spent more than \$7,000 buying tickets and campaign materials for supporters and finished second with 181 votes.

But the clear crowd-pleaser was a spell-binding and passionate speech by African-American Republican talk show host, Alan L. Keyes. Attacking "the abortionists" and "their accomplices... those who do nothing," Keyes then criticized "those who want to end welfare for single mothers, without considering who will raise the children of these working women. And what does that do to family values?!" Keyes received 85 votes.

Libertarian Harry Browne earned 57 votes.

Robert Dole got 41 votes. Pete Wilson got 29. Lamar Alexander got 14. Richard Lugar got 13. U.S. Taxpayer Party founder Howard Phillips got 1 vote.

During his speech before the crowd, Browne thundered, "Government doesn't work. We need huge tax cuts now! Huge

spending cuts now! A balanced budget now! We will slash the federal budget by two-thirds my first year. We will abolish the personal income tax and close down the IRS my first year. And this is just the first step toward making America a free country again."

Browne's speech was interrupted by applause numerous times.

Steve Winter, 1994 Libertarian gubernatorial candidate and New Hampshire Chair of Harry Browne for President, did the lion's share of organizing this campaign stop.

"We handed out campaign materials, put up signs, and got 41 Libertarians to attend the picnic for Harry Browne," said Winter. "Gardner Goldsmith helped on every phase of the project."

Miriam Luce, Cal Warburton, Finlay Rothhaus, Jeff Emery, Jim McClarin, Jim Davies and Howard Wilson, and other libertarian activists also turned out for the event.

In fact, former legislator Warburton produced "Harry Browne for President" T-shirts, complete with a large photo of the candidate.

While shaking hands with voters, Browne was surprised by a Pat Buchanan supporter who said, "Mr. Browne, I'm committed to Pat Buchanan for president, but, if for some reason he doesn't win the nomination, I'm voting for you."

"It was like getting hit by a ton of bricks," said Browne. "From then on, I asked every Buchanan, Keyes, and Gramm supporter to vote for me if their candidate didn't win the nomination. Many said 'Yes'. Others told me that they weren't voting for some-



GOVERNMENTAL WELCOME - New Hampshire Gov. Steve Merrill, left, welcomes Libertarian Party presidential hopeful Harry Browne to the Granite State Taxpayers Annual Candidate Picnic.

one just because he's a Republican. They wanted someone who would cut government and get back to the Constitution."

"Our vote was gratifying—6.8 percent of the vote at a Republican Taxpayers Organi-

zation. In the face of seven active Republican candidates. Imagine what we can do after the Republican Nominating Convention. And think of how we'll do with Independents," said Browne.

Libertarian Party NEWS

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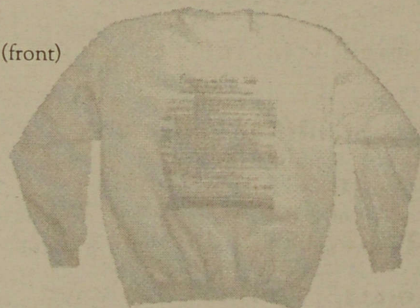
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The alternative to the authoritarian state... The Bill of Rights

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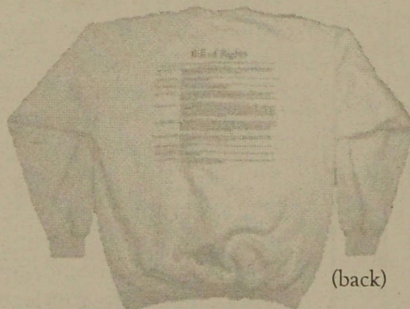
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Tompkins campaign gathers steam

Rick Tompkins, candidate for the 1996 LP presidential nomination, is getting ready to take his campaign on the road.

Tompkins is planning on using a "Chautauqua" format, and with a newly acquired motor home and other equipment, he is almost ready to set out across country to conduct a series of events.

Tompkins believes that what is needed in this country, and the world, more than anything else, including votes, is more Libertarians.

Early campaign appearances in San Francisco, CA, and Flagstaff, AZ, have been successful and well received.

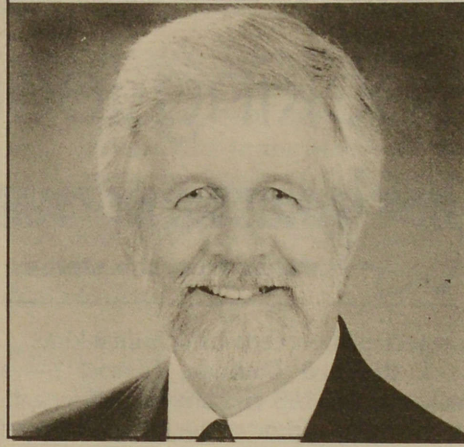
"Liberty is not divisible," said Tompkins. "If you claim to believe that people should be free, then how can you condone *any* restrictions on *any* behavior that doesn't violate the life, liberty, or property of others?"

One of his key campaign goals is to locate, identify, encourage, and motivate more people to be Libertarians.

One of the key questions Tompkins asks of everyone is, "Do you believe that it is *always* wrong for *anyone* to take away *anything* that belongs to another by force or fraud?" When the answer is "yes," he continues, "If you mean that, then you are a Libertarian in your heart. If you have the will and the courage to do everything in your power to adhere to that most fundamental principle, then, and only then, can you be a *Libertarian in fact*."

"For most of my life I've voted for the lesser of two evils," said L. Neil Smith, author and founder of the Libertarian Second Amendment Caucus, "but with Rick Tompkins, that's happily no longer necessary. Rick is the most outspokenly principled candidate the Libertarian Party has ever offered, and I'm honored to be associated with him."

The Tompkins campaign is encouraging LP members to participate in the "Rick Tompkins Liberty Forum," when it comes to their area. "You will be able to participate in making the LP grow at the crucial grassroots level," according to a campaign spokesperson.



Rick Tompkins

Schiff in NYT story

Irwin Schiff, who is seeking the 1996 LP presidential nomination, was featured in an article entitled "The Anti-Tax Man Cometh" in the July 5, 1995, *New York Times*.

In part the article stated, "Mr. Schiff is as close to an intellectual light as anybody in the movement against the income tax. His confidence and seeming mastery of the most arcane details of tax law make him a hit with some people."

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We're limiting enrollment in this One-Day Friday Workshop so that everyone can personally work with both Marshall and Michael. This experience will be unique and unforgettable.

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Affiliates

Candidates seeking local offices in many states

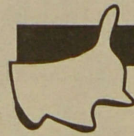
Arizona

A slate of candidates has now been firmed up for this fall's Phoenix elections. In addition to **Gary Fallon**, mayoral candidate, the following city council candidates have now announced:

1. **Jim Savoca**, District 1—an active libertarian since high school who has received a great deal of good press and done very well at maintaining a totally "no-compromise" stance. At his announcement speech for city council he also declared his candidacy for the 2024 Libertarian presidential nomination.

2. **Tim McDermott**, District 3—opposed Jon Kyl in the 1992 congressional race and was the first person to file the "Declaration of Intent to Carry Concealed." He refuses to ask permission from the government to exercise his right to defend himself 'discreetly'.

3. **Robert Anderson**, District 5—is setting the standard for high level activism to



National pulse

News from the states

protect all the freedoms of humankind.

4. **Richard Duncan**, District 7—a scholar of the U.S. and Arizona state constitutions and author of the "Declaration of Intent to Carry Concealed".

To find out more about how the "Phoenix Freedom Team" will work to dismantle unnecessary city government, call 602-248-8425.

California

➤ The owners of a new radio station in Joshua Tree have recently joined the LP. **Gene Headley** and **Greg Carpenter**, the owners, were signed up for the LP by **Bonnie Flickinger**, Moreno Valley city council member.

➤ **Gary Kirkland**, Region 40 chair, regularly mans an LP information booth at the weekly Farmers Market in San Luis Obispo. The booth, strategically placed midway in the five-block-long stretch of closed street, is highlighted by a yellow and blue LP banner.

Connecticut

➤ A full slate of Libertarians will be competing in the election this fall in Windham. Candidates and their offices include: **Stanley Viens**, first selectman; **David Gauthier** and **Steven Edelman**, Windham service district selectmen; **David Howe**, **Maurice McClure**, **Joseph Santa Lucia**, **Gloria Haddad**, and **Francis Sellars**, Willimantic service district selectmen; **Marvin Edelman** and **John Adamo**, board of education; **William Rood**, **Joan Goetschius**, **Robert Langworthy**, **Theodore Misak**, and **Carlton Harris**,

board of finance.

➤ **Jim Lewis** has been named the new membership director for the state party. Lewis is a long-time LP activist and former vice presidential candidate on the **David Bergland** ticket in 1984. Lewis will serve in the position voluntarily.

"I'm excited about the prospect of working with our members and also bringing in some new ones," Lewis said, "and I'd like to share ideas on party growth with other activists." Contact Lewis at 5367 Main St., Trumbull, CT 06611, or call 203-459-9446.

Maine

➤ The state party's executive committee recently elected replacements for retiring officers. **Wayne Leach** of Winslow is the new state secretary, and **Tony Kantz** of Portland is the new treasurer.

➤ **Glen Eddy**, a Lewiston attorney, donated hours of research and preparation prior to speaking before state legislative committee hearings on ballot access issues. Other state party members spoke at the hearings as well. "Although the two-party system was too well ingrained this time, they realize that we are here and that we are serious and have a contribution to make to Maine politics," said Wayne Leach, state secretary.

Michigan

➤ The following Libertarians have announced their candidacies for this fall's election: **Glenn Barr**, Walker City Council; **Alexander Bolt**, Lansing City Council; **Michael Brinkman**, East Lansing City Council; **Steve Butler**, Grand Rapids City Commission, Ward 2; **Phil Geno**, Grand Haven City Council; **Robert Toepfer**, Warren City Council; and **Walter White**, Milan City Council.

➤ **Richard Ask** took 20.7 percent of the



LIBERTY ON PARADE - LP of Maine activist Wayne Leach designed and built a Statue of Liberty parade float and participated in the Maine State Parade in Lewiston, a huge event with statewide participation and television coverage. The float also appeared in the Fourth of July parade in Leach's hometown of Winslow. "The float received almost continuous applause and shouts of approval," reported Leach.

vote in his run for the Traverse City School Board. In his last bid for the same seat, Ask received 13 percent.

➤ 1994 LP U. S. Senate candidate and 1996 LP state representative candidate **Jon Coon** is now the host of a radio talk show on WPON AM-1460. The show airs from 7 to 8 a.m. Monday-Friday. The show needs support from both listeners and sponsors. To show your support and discuss the is-

see **Affiliates** on page 5

Libertarians to be online

Libertarian presidential candidate hopeful Harry Browne will participate in a one-hour live online conference on America Online Wednesday, Sept. 27, at 9 p.m. Eastern Time.

Moderator for the conference will be the host of AOL's Libertarian Forum, Jim Merritt.

Bill Winter, national LP director of communications, will be the special guest in the Compuserve Convention Center on Wednesday, Sept. 13, beginning at 9:30 p.m. Eastern Time. To access the center page GO CONVENTION.

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Affiliates

continued from page 4
sues with Coon, call 810-332-1460.

Missouri

More than 180 people showed up at the recent St. Louis Area Libertarian (SLAL) gathering featuring Phyllis Schlafly speaking on "My Half Century of Political Activism."

"This was both an educational and contentious encounter," said **Ken Bush**, organizer of the event. "It was a unique opportunity to learn firsthand about the key role she played in contemporary history—a role praised by some, denounced by others. As

political animals ourselves, we Libertarians admire anyone who endures the fray for such a long time as Ms. Schlafly has."

In reviewing her life, Schlafly briefly mentioned her encounters with **Barry Goldwater**, as well as the late **Karl Hess**.

Audio and video tapes of the session are available by contacting SLAL at 314-997-8585.

Montana

► **Jerry O'Neil**, 1994 LP candidate for clerk of the state supreme court, has indicated his plans to challenge incumbent U.S. Sen. Max Baucus. O'Neil received

more than 93,000 votes and 31 percent of the vote in the 1994 election.

► A recent front-page story in the *Great Falls Tribune*, one of the state's largest newspapers, was headlined, "Libertarians see selves as trend-setters."

► State party members participated in an outreach effort recently at the Western Montana Fair.

Ohio

► LPO Chair **Jack Matheney** was a featured guest for a one-hour radio program at Wright State University. Matheney discussed the LP's position on drug legal-

ization on the WWSU 106-FM program, Backlash.

► State Rep. Bill Schuck (R-Columbus) spoke at the July 10 meeting of the LPO's central region. Schuck discussed his support for the concealed carry bill currently being debated in the statehouse, and Schuck's own bill to require a three-fifths majority on tax increases.

Oregon

LP member **Jo McIntyre**, former member of the McMinnville School Board and a

see **Affiliates** on page 6

Ballot access gets boost from Browne

The Harry Browne for President Campaign Committee has begun helping to raise money for the Libertarian Party's 1996 ballot access program, according to campaign director Sharon Ayres.

"We're urging all of our donors who have given the legal maximum to Harry's campaign to consider giving even more to the LP specifically for ballot access," said Ayres. "Naturally, we're optimistic that Harry Browne will be the party's nominee, so we're pointing out to Harry's 'maxed out' \$1,000 donors that this is a way they can legally give even more to help his campaign. We're firmly committed to 50-state ballot status in '96."

While federal election law prohibits individuals from giving more than \$1,000 to a presidential campaign before the nominating convention (and another \$1,000 after the convention), the amount a person can give to a political party is considerably more—\$20,000 per calendar year.

"To date, four Browne supporters have given a total of \$9,000 to the LP for ballot access," she said, "and we expect to raise considerably more for this effort before the nominating convention in Washington, DC, next July 4th."

In addition, the Browne for President Committee contributed \$2,000 directly to the Arizona LP's voter registration drive in early August.

"The paid registration effort in Arizona was being funded by the Kahn for Mayor campaign and was unable to collect registrations outside Tucson," said LP National Chair Steve Dasbach. "We estimated that an additional \$6,000 to collect registrations in Phoenix would ensure that the drive was a success."

"We had already spent \$9,000 in Arizona and almost all of our remaining 1995 ballot access budget was already committed to other drives, so I asked each presidential candidate's campaign if they would be willing to help," Dasbach explained. "The Browne campaign responded immediately, without hesitation."

Because the Libertarian Party has improved its ballot access procedures over the past two decades, it will cost approximately \$300,000 to qualify the LP's 1996 presidential candidate for ballot status in all 50 states plus the District of Columbia, according to Dasbach.

In 1992, independent presidential candidate Ross Perot spent \$18.5 million to achieve the same goal.

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Affiliates

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current member of the Yamhill County Historic Landmarks Committee, was named recently to the Yamhill County Budget Committee.

McIntyre will help set the county budget. "Everyone on the committee can tolerate dissent. They welcome conflicting ideas and that's the only way the best idea can rise to the top," she said.

McIntyre's outspoken libertarianism caused some concern over her appointment. She had made clear her position on drug legalization and also spoke of her concern over the DARE program, which recently was considered by the committee for funding cuts. McIntyre was quoted as saying, "I think there are very, very important things for schools to teach like reading, writing, arithmetic, language, civics. . . I don't see any plans in there for nagging children on social habits they should or shouldn't do."

Pennsylvania

► State party members are gearing up for the November elections. Candidates and their offices include: **Mark Messics**, Upper Macungie Township supervisor; **John Bucher Herr**, Lancaster County commissioner; **Grace Matelyn**, West Bradford Township supervisor; and **Dan Mohn** (running as a Republican), Bethlehem area school board.

► A group, co-chaired by **Karl Spangler** and **Chad Lucabaugh**, recently formed an LP affiliate in York. The group is launching a massive outreach effort to be held at the York County Fair this month. **Gary Shoe-**



TEXAS PARADE - Libertarian activists Anthony Garcia and his wife Laura D. Coker-Garcia decorated their car and participated in the South Belt community Fourth of July Parade in the Houston, TX, area. "We waved, yelled 'Happy Fourth,' and threw handfuls of candy," reported Coker-Garcia. The following weekend, "for added amusement," the couple "drove the car, slowly, through the streets of Hope, Arkansas—boyhood home of Bill Clinton," she said.

maker, a former LP candidate for Congress, paid the \$350 entrance fee for the outreach booth, and **Mike Nixon** contributed the \$85 insurance fee.

Texas

The Dallas County LP had volunteers distributing literature all three days during the United We Stand America conference in August.

"We received a shipment of 4,000 national brochures and locally produced Spanish-language brochures for members to hand out," said **Vicki Flores**, chair.

Virginia

President Clinton's plan to curtail teenage smoking is misguided and unconstitutional, said state party Chair **Richard Sincere** recently.

"We are all concerned about the health consequences of smoking," said Sincere, himself a non-smoker. "But tobacco is a legal commodity. Clinton's plan is so comprehensive and intrusive that it clearly violates the constitutional rights of all of us—not just smokers, but tobacco farmers, retailers, manufacturers, exporters, advertisers, and newspaper publishers."

Sincere noted that Clinton's plan will ban some forms of tobacco advertising and regulate the content and appearance of other advertisements. "This is a form of coerced speech, which the Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional as recently as the *Hurley* case" (involving Boston's St.

Patrick's Day parade). Clinton's order also prohibits the sponsorship of sporting events by cigarette brands. "By what authority does the president tell business people what kind of community events they can host or underwrite?" Sincere asked. "Look in the U.S. Constitution—such authority does not exist."

The ban on cigarette vending machines also raises constitutional questions, Sincere said. "The Fifth Amendment states that private property shall not be taken for public purposes without just compensation. Will owners of vending machines be paid for their lost property, and lost revenue, by the government? Clinton does not say. I don't think the government will pay these merchants for their losses—that is a crime," Sincere said.

"All Americans are aware of the health consequences of cigarette smoking," Sincere noted. "No one can claim to be ignorant on this topic. Anyone who chooses to smoke does so with eyes open. Responsible citizens can make responsible decisions in this regard—the government is not and should not be our nanny."

Virginia's economy relies heavily on the tobacco industry, Sincere noted. "All Virginians should loudly protest to the Clinton administration. In order to protect our jobs and our families, we must do all we can to prevent these regulations from taking effect." He added: "This plan is an assault on both our livelihood and on the Bill of Rights."

Washington

Newly elected state officers include: **Matt McCally**, chair; **Steve Cornell**, treasurer; **Ron Lahr**, secretary; **John Gearhart**, campaigns chair; **Jim Miner**, public relations chair; **Tom Isenberg**, membership chair; and **Jeff Borgens**, finance chair.

In a recent front-page story, the *Seattle Times* described naturopath and LP member **Jonathan Wright** of Kent as "a folk hero" for his ongoing battle against the FDA.

State chairs to meet

A leadership conference hoping to include all of the Libertarian Party state chairs will convene in Washington, DC, Oct. 6-8, 1995. Organizers, calling this a meeting to discuss the mechanics of politics, are excluding the presidential campaigns and national party platform from the topics scheduled for discussion.

The meeting is being organized and was called by seven state chairs—Gail Lightfoot from California, David Aitken from Colorado, Gene A. Cisewski from DC, Wayne Parker from Louisiana, Jesse Markowitz from Maryland, Richard E. Sincere Jr. from Virginia, and Ron Emery from Wisconsin.

The LP Council of State Chairs, a separate group, was founded in 1981 by former National Chair Alicia Clark, who currently chairs the council. It has met in conjunction with national conventions, and the next scheduled meeting is at the 1996 national convention.

According to Cisewski, who is coordinating local details, "Alicia Clark has graciously filled a leadership vacuum that's existed in the past. Now, as part of our growing up as a political party, we have to take responsibility for the grassroots growth and direction at the grassroots level. This is a meeting of the state chairs acting in their own capacity and setting their own agenda—independent of other influences."

The agenda includes:

1) Strategic planning for political par-

ties—On what model can we build a more effective party, and is this a model that should be duplicated from the county level through the states, regions, and national party?

2) Effective communication strategies—How to deal with reporters and control the agenda when they want to deviate from your mission.

3) Building membership—If you just wait for leads coming from the national 800 number, you won't see the LP get very far in your lifetime. What can be done on the state level—or working in cooperation with other states—to build membership faster. State leaders with the best growth will share their secrets of success.

4) Cost-efficient fund raising—How to effectively run a direct mail campaign. How Texas turned its convention into a successful profit center. Ways to build state party revenue.

5) The role of the national party for state leaders—Is there a better way for the national party to serve the grassroots Libertarian movement? This is not an item to attack individuals, but to look at a strategic model to help the party grow more effectively, coming from the grassroots.

For more information about the event, you may call Gene Cisewski at The Monticello Group in Washington at 202-483-4051. Local party leaders may register for the event through their state chairs.

Lancette reaching Hispanic voters

continued from page 1

ested in the immigration issue.

"In addition to immigration and free trade, I think that the defense issue might be of interest to the Hispanic community, because a lot of the people are coming from places where they know there is nothing to be gained by increasing arms races."

But "economic issues are what really grab Hispanics," he said. The idea that if the Libertarian philosophy were really given a chance to flourish and more opportunities could be provided without government involvement, that would be very appealing, he explained.

"If the Libertarian Party recruited some Hispanics in DC and some other places to make that appeal, I would expect to see a considerable swing vote," he said.

Lancette said the LP stand on taxes would also be well received.

"The issue of taxes would be like fire in the Hispanic community because they are all coming from places where their tax

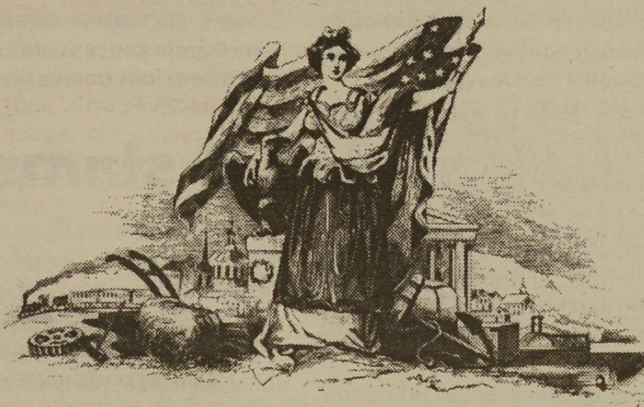
burdens make ours look small. The more reasonable position of Libertarians toward taxes and the concept of free immigration and free trade—those three issues and you've got 8 million people that would be just dumbstruck."

Lancette said he hoped to be able to offer the Libertarian alternative to both the readers of *Mundo Hispanico* and the listeners of his radio show. He also hopes other LP members seek out Hispanics in their own communities and try to recruit them.

"I think logic appeals to Hispanic voters a little bit more than American voters," he said. "Hispanic voters really do stop and think about things. The logic of Libertarianism, more than anything else, is a potential invite for legions of Hispanic voters."

Lancette would like to speak to any Hispanic Libertarian Party members or other LP members who are specifically interested in Hispanic issues. Interested LP members can call him at *Mundo Hispanico* at 404-881-0441.

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The American Revolution Lives.

Speak out

LP members invited, encouraged to attend local reform hearings

A series of fact-finding public hearings to examine ways to "downsize and reshape" the federal government has been scheduled by the congressional Committee on Government Reform and Oversight. As requested, the Libertarian Party is working to arrange a strong Libertarian presence.

"These congressmen need to hear the Libertarian perspective," said LP Director of Communications Bill Winter. "If anyone has immediate, workable suggestions to shrink the federal government, it's the Libertarian Party."

The public hearings, entitled "Creating a 21st Century Government," will be held between Sept. 9 and Oct. 20 in Upper Montclair, NJ; Seattle, WA; Los Angeles, CA; Albuquerque, NM; and Charlotte, NC.

"The national LP office will contact the chairs of those states to provide information about exact times and locations. We'll also give suggestions about how to publicize these hearings," said Winter.

"We will also be contacting Libertarians in office in those states, to see if they would make appropriate 'expert witnesses'. Since the committee is especially interested in hearing from people in public office with successful downsizing stories, we'll be looking for Libertarian officeholders with a record of achievement," he said.

According to Reform and Oversight Committee Chairman William Clinger (R-PA), "The committee will emphasize 'success stories,' and feature witnesses from corporate, state and local [government] entities that have already achieved their restructuring goals. Most notably, the hearings will provide an opportunity for the American people to share their ideas on reconstituting government through an open mike forum."

At a meeting in Washington attended by Winter in late June, Clinger promised "pretty sexy hearings. They are a PR effort to build momentum for change and attract some [media] attention." Clinger said that 12 to 14 congressmen would attend each event.

The next public hearing will be held at 10 a.m. in Upper Montclair, NJ, on Saturday, Sept. 9, in the Student Center Ballroom at Montclair State University.

Future hearings include:

- The Seattle, WA, area, Friday, Oct. 6.
- The Los Angeles/Long Beach, CA, area, Saturday, Oct. 7.
- Albuquerque, NM, Monday, Oct. 9.
- Charlotte, NC, Friday, Oct. 20.

Exact locations and times have not yet been set. Winter said that as soon as more information is available, it will be forwarded to state parties.

[A hearing previously scheduled for North Carolina on July 28 was canceled because of "changes in the House voting

schedule."]

Winter said these hearings showcase the importance of getting Libertarians elected to local, county, and state office.

"The more Libertarian success stories we can point to—where Libertarians used their public position to reduce the size, cost, or intrusiveness of government—the more credible we'll be," he said.

The powerful Reform and Oversight Committee contacted the Libertarian Party in late June and asked for help to create a government that is "smaller, more responsible, and more fiscally accountable." Winter attended a coalition meeting on June 28 in the Rayburn House Office Building, where he promised the LP's support for the committee's efforts.

Also attending were such influential groups as the National Taxpayer's Union, Citizens Against Government Waste, the Business Roundtable, and Citizens For A Sound Economy.

Clinger asked for the "strong and active support" of coalition members. "The coalition will be working very closely with us as we move down the road," he said. "We really need your active support."

After the public hearings, the committee will review all the suggestions, said Clinger, and present a comprehensive "downsizing" proposal to Congress by spring of 1996.

Winter said he takes Republican promises to "restructure" government with a grain of salt. "Frankly, we don't trust the Republicans to really shrink the size of government, they never have and probably never will, but this is a chance for us to try to help them fulfill their promises. And these hearing will provide a public forum for Libertarian ideas. It's an opportunity we don't want to pass up."

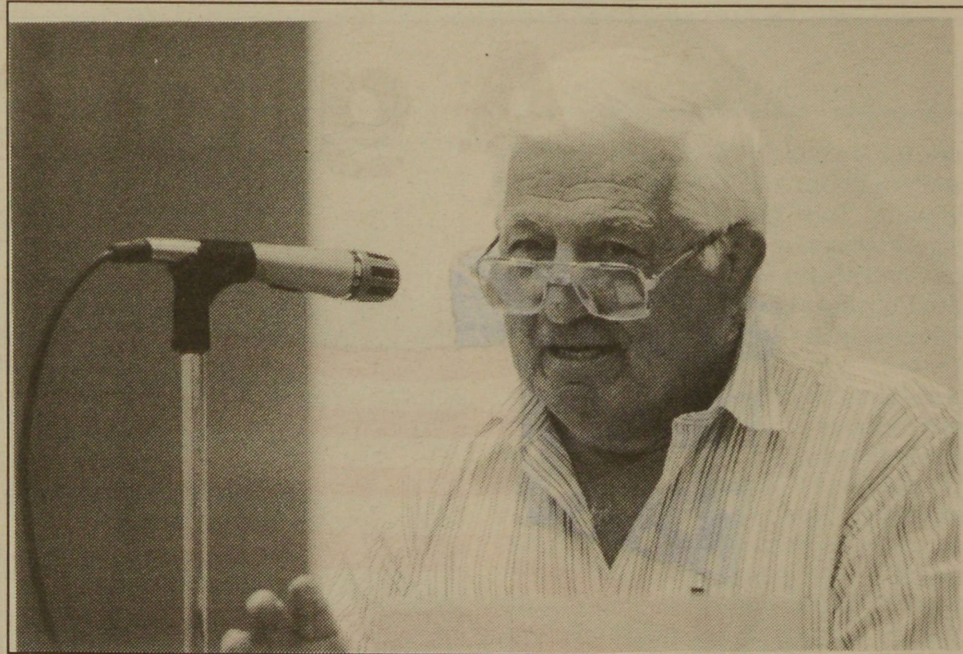
X factor

continued from page 1

"We're going to make sure those 41 million Generation Xers have Libertarian Party candidates to vote for when they cast a ballot in 1996," Willis vowed.

The *USA Today* article comes when increasing attention is being focused on the libertarian movement—and the Libertarian Party—as a major force in American politics.

Insight magazine, in its cover story of July 24, 1995, entitled "The Stature of Libertarians," stated that "Americans are eager for change. But Republicans might be fooling themselves if they think they're the party in ascension. Some voters fed up with big government, high taxes—and, increasingly, both major political parties—are considering an alternative once regarded as a



NEWS photo by Bill Winter

NEW NATIONAL OFFICE - LP National Director Perry Willis talks on the phone at the Watergate Office Building. Acquiring new furniture for the new national headquarters was possible thanks to generous donations from party members.

LP slams Wilson logo choice

The Libertarian Party sent a letter to the Pete Wilson for President campaign recently, charging that the Republican candidate's use of the Statue of Liberty as a campaign logo was "blatant hypocrisy and shameless opportunism"—and urging Wilson to find another symbol for his campaign.

"Lady Liberty would recoil in horror if she learned that Mr. Wilson claimed to represent her," wrote Libertarian Party Director of Communications Bill Winter.

The letter, addressed to Campaign Manager Craig Fuller, said: "Given Mr. Wilson's record on immigration as governor of California, he lacks the moral right to use the Statue of Liberty to represent his campaign. For more than 100 years the Statue of Liberty has stood as a proud symbol of America's willingness to welcome immigrants to our shores. By contrast, Mr. Wilson's xenophobic position on immigration is simple and clear: 'Keep your tired, your poor, your huddled masses. There's no room for them in Pete Wilson's America.'"

Winter also suggested that Mr. Wilson's "kidnapping" of Lady Liberty could be viewed as a deliberate attempt to steal the symbol of America's most popular third party: The Libertarian Party.

"The Statue of Liberty has been the logo

of the Libertarian Party for more than 20 years. It has appeared on millions of pieces of party literature, on billboards, in television advertisements, on voter pamphlets, and in newspaper and magazine articles. In fact, in numerous states around the country—New Hampshire, Indiana, and Utah, to name just three—the Statue of Liberty is printed on the ballot as the 'official' logo of the party," noted Winter.

"In an era when more and more Americans oppose the kind of big government that Mr. Wilson endorses, it's not surprising that he has decided to borrow the symbol of the Libertarian Party," wrote Winter. "But with his embarrassingly long track record as a tax-raising, big-government politician, Mr. Wilson's desperate embrace of libertarian symbolism will surely be viewed as nothing more than crass opportunism."

On the subject of immigration, the Libertarian Party platform says: "We hold that human rights should not be denied or abridged on the basis of nationality. We welcome all refugees to our country and condemn the efforts of U.S. officials to create a new 'Berlin Wall' which would keep them captive. We oppose government welfare and resettlement payments to non-citizens just as we oppose government welfare payments to all other persons."

pariah: the Libertarian Party."

The extensive article, which included a summary of the LP platform and a question-and-answer feature with Harry Browne, who is seeking the 1996 LP presidential nomination, went on to say "signs of creeping libertarianism are everywhere."

The article also noted, "In the last election cycle, when the Republican Party grew by 1 percent and the Democratic Party lost members, the Libertarian Party jumped 9 percent."

"On shrinking government, even conservatives are pikers compared with Libertarians, who would cut spending by two-thirds, reducing government's role to national defense and law enforcement," the article stated.

Other examples of the growth in popu-

larity of libertarianism:

The Wall Street Journal recently noted: "Libertarian impulses show growing appeal among the disaffected." (Jan. 20, 1995)

Rolling Stone magazine stated: "In part because of its appeal to young Americans... libertarianism appears to be gaining converts." (April 6, 1995)

And New York magazine declared: "The real inspiration behind the Republican revolution is libertarianism." (June 12, 1995)

The growth of the Libertarian Party seems to confirm such speculation.

In the last 18 months, the Libertarian Party has increased its contributor base by more than 25 percent, increased voter registrations by 8 percent, and has elected a record number of Libertarians to public office.

A grand old flag?

Does the U.S. really need to prohibit flag-burning?



Commentaries

By DAVID F. NOLAN

The august members of Congress are now earnestly debating a proposed Constitutional amendment which would give them "the power to prohibit desecration of the flag of the United States."

The impact of such an amendment, should it eventually wind up tacked onto the Constitution, is likely to be negligible; in the half century I have been on this planet, I have never actually seen anyone desecrate a U.S. flag, even though I was present at a number of demonstrations in the 1960s. I saw an occasional flag-burning on the nightly news, but that was it.

And, while I've never had any inclination to burn a flag myself, I also see no real point to amending our Constitution to make flag "desecration" a crime. The concept of desecration (defiling the sacred) has meaning only in a religious context, and at least so far, flag-worship is not a religion in this country.

Of course, that's not for lack of trying on the part of a political consortium that has become "curiouser and curiouser" over the years. The Pledge of Allegiance—a favorite litmus test of patriotic, conservative Americans—was written by an avowed Socialist, Francis Bellamy, in 1892. Bellamy was at one time the vice president of the Society of Christian Socialists, and once delivered a sermon entitled "Jesus the Socialist."

Bellamy wrote the pledge to help a Boston publisher sell flags through one of his magazines; it has been suggested that he also saw it as a way to instill veneration of the state and its symbols in the hearts and minds of schoolchildren.

In the World War I era, Attorney General Mitchell Palmer, a bigoted right-winger who makes Joe McCarthy look genteel by comparison, came up with the idea of having people kiss the flag to prove their true-blue Americanism. And now, 103 years after Francis Bellamy wrote his paean to the Stars & Stripes, the Congressoids are thinking about

making the sanctification official. (These are the same folks who were unable to muster the necessary two-thirds majority in favor of constitutional amendments limiting their own terms or requiring a balanced budget, but just can't resist one that begins with the words "Congress shall have the power...")

Unfortunately, if such an amendment passes, it will immediately open up a huge legal can of worms: Just what, exactly, is a flag? The U.S. flag, as we know it, is rectangular in shape, has a field of blue with 50 white stars in one corner, and thirteen alternating stripes of red and white. OK. What if someone "desecrates" a square piece of cloth with the same design elements? Is that a flag? What if it's rectangular, but has 11 stripes, or 53 stars, or a black starfield? Will every vaguely flag-like piece of bunting in America acquire "sacred" status under laws passed once the new amendment is ratified? Where do you draw the line?

And, while we're at it, what constitutes "desecration?" If someone spills ketchup on a flag-motif table cover at a Fourth of July picnic, is that "desecration?" What if they hurl the ketchup on the flag deliberately, to protest U.S. involvement in Bosnia? (It's 1998.)

On one level, these are trivial points, to be sure. But you can be absolutely certain that they will be brought up and argued interminably in court cases for years to come, if the proposed amendment passes. Remember, most lawyers are paid by the hour!

So, while a constitutional amendment to ban flag-trashing may be a crowd-pleaser, it's bad law. At best, it will have little or no effect on our lives; at worst, it will be a continuing source of legal wrangling. If Congress wants to amend the Constitution, it would do better by going back to the term-limits and balanced-budget proposals it killed earlier this year. At least those had some substance.

David Nolan is the founder of the Libertarian Party. This column first appeared in *California Liberty*.

By SANDI WEBB

"He that would make his own liberty secure, must guard even his enemy from oppression; for if he violates this duty, he establishes a precedent that will reach to himself."

— Thomas Paine

"Politically popular speech has always been protected: even the Jews were free to say 'Heil Hitler.'"

— Isaac Asimov

On this Fourth of July, the 219th birthday since our nation was "conceived in liberty", the sight of Old Glory proudly waving brings a lump to my throat. Our flag symbolizes the greatest advance in individual rights and human liberty in the history of the world.

And yet, tragically, that same flag has become the pawn in an effort to whittle away at our most cherished freedoms—those very freedoms that it has stood for all these years.

An effort is now under way to pass a constitutional amendment that would prohibit flag-burning. Since the Supreme Court has ruled that flag-burning is protected under the First Amendment, Congress is rushing to alter the First Amendment.

After all, politicians have to prove that they're in favor of mom, apple pie, and the flag. Never mind that hardly anybody is actually burning the flag. Focusing on non-problems is great for diverting attention (and criticism) from their handling of real problems.

But if they're willing to tamper with the First Amendment today, what's to stop them from tampering with the other amendments tomorrow? They can always come up with good excuses. And each time it will seem like such a little thing, hardly worth getting upset about.

I consider the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights to be the two most important political documents ever written. The first threw off the chains of an oppressive government, and the second tried to safeguard us from the formation of new chains.

The entire Bill of Rights is about limiting the power of government and securing our individual freedoms.

I've argued before that when our Founding Fathers wrote the Second Amendment, they were not thinking about duck hunting. They wanted "the people" to have the means of defending themselves, if necessary, against a tyrannical government.

In the same way, when our Founding Fathers wrote the First Amendment, they were not thinking about nude dancing. They wanted "the people" to have the means of voicing their opposition, no matter how unpopular, against a repressive government.

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble,

and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

The First Amendment was specifically designed to protect unorthodox views, unpopular ideas, and political dissension. Would it make any sense if it protected only orthodox views, popular ideas, and political harmony? Since when have those ever been in danger?

When government agents behave like jack-booted thugs, we must have the freedom to speak out against them. When bureaucrats bind us with regulations, and politicians tax us to death, we must retain the means of protest.

More than anything else, we need to protect political speech and political action. We must be able to criticize our own government. That's what the Declaration of Independence was all about. That's our nation's birthright.

To me, a flag is far more than just a colored bolt of cloth. It's an idea, it's a vision of the principles we believe in. You can't destroy an idea by burning a piece of cloth. Even if someone were to burn every flag in the world, he'd accomplish nothing. The vision would still be there.

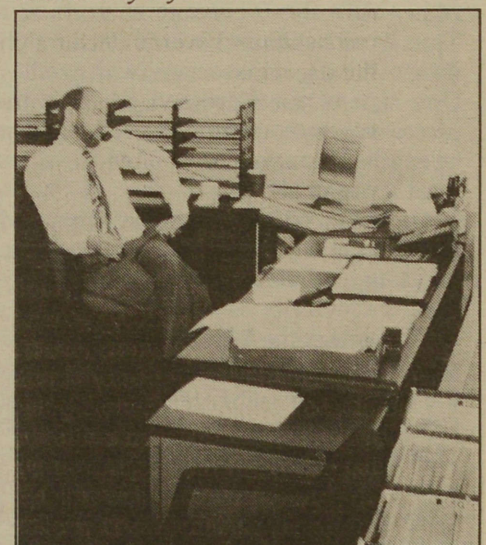
Flags can always be replaced. Principles can't.

If this measure passes, if we take the first little nick out of the Bill of Rights on the pretext of "protecting our flag", I will never be able to look at it again with quite as much pride.

And I don't want that to happen. I don't want to lose that lump in my throat.

I don't want to see the true meaning of our flag desecrated.

This Fourth of July op-ed piece was published in the chain of Star Newspapers in Ventura County, CA, by Simi Valley Libertarian Party city council member Sandi Webb.



NEWS photo by Ken Bush

On July 14, St. Louis Area Libertarians held a forum on the flag-burning issue. Eighty-year-old decorated World War II vet Obie Oberdan passionately told the audience how proud he is of Old Glory, and that there is one thing worse than burning the American flag—having laws against it. Oberdan was an LP candidate for state representative in 1988.

Talking points

A closer look at the government's war on drugs

Cliches and uninformed statements are easy to dismiss as senseless prescriptions from political outcasts and fringe ideologues. Libertarian advocates—be they candidates, state officers, speakers, pamphlet writers, or other spokespersons—may gain credibility for Libertarian ideas by presenting facts and quoting expert opinion that bolster LP positions. This column will provide the ammunition you can use to confound the skeptics and impress those searching for answers by citing mainstream publications and recognized opinion leaders (for and against individual liberty).

Send in your submissions, with a clipping to verify the statement and the source, for inclusion in future issues of the NEWS.

Issue:

The War on Drugs

The single most notable aspect of the war on drugs is that it doesn't work. Not even the vast and sophisticated coercive apparatus available to a sovereign state and superpower is able to eliminate illegal drug use by seizing all or almost all of the drugs that are imported into the United States, nor is it able to seize a sufficient percentage of these drugs so as to make using them prohibitively expensive. This has been noted even by commentators who, like George Will, are not calling for the legalization of drugs but who nevertheless, perhaps without realizing it, describe a situation that can be improved only by making drugs legal rather than by making war on those who sell and use them.

"The government has spent many years and billions of dollars fighting drugs on the supply side, yet the price on the street is falling, and the purity of cocaine and heroin is rising. There are fewer casual users of cocaine than there were a decade ago, but total consumption is as high as it was then because the number of heavy users has increased. Heroin often is 65 percent pure rather than the 6 percent 15 years ago. Thus it can be inhaled, which cleanses the drug of the stigma associated with needles. One sign of the increased purity is the increasing rate of fatal overdoses. The strength of marijuana is often 15 times what it was in 1980."

"James Q. Wilson, writing in *The American Enterprise* magazine, explains the depressing mathematics of cocaine interdiction:

"Experts at the RAND Corporation estimate that the price of cocaine in transit to the United States is \$17,000 per kilo, but on U.S. streets that same kilo is worth \$129,000. That enormous spread means that even if authorities managed to seize one out of every 10 kilos shipped (which seems to be about as much as can be hoped for) the street price on the supplies that get through need only be raised by 1.5 percent to make up for the lost shipment."

George F. Will, Houston Chronicle, May 11, 1995.

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"Drugs are strictly a demand-side problem. If all of Latin America—or even every

Libertarian talking points

Charles D. Poe
Editor

opium poppy, every coca leaf, every marijuana plant in the world—were to disappear, the U.S. drug problem would not be diminished in the least. The morally corrupt would turn to synthetic drugs.

"By pushing Latin America's armies into a war on drugs (while trying to diminish them by other means) the U.S. is doing itself no good, while doing us harm. Armies that fight drug traffickers become corrupted by them. Moreover, our societies are threatened by the money that U.S. drug consumers and money launderers channel to criminals in Latin America. Two South American countries already have parallel governments financed by drug money. If the U.S. wants to do some good, it should try to cut the southward flow of money. Better yet, it should either stop drug consumption with Singapore-style punishments, or legalize it. Either would destroy the drug lords. What the U.S. is now doing empowers them."

Hernan Cubillos, former foreign minister of Chile and visiting scholar at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, in The Wall Street Journal, Jan. 6, 1995.

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"Despite the well-publicized recent arrests of some alleged cocaine kingpins in Colombia, criminal groups have been steadily expanding the cultivation of coca leaves in the Andean region and Colombian producers now are capable of turning out hundreds of tons more cocaine than the U.S. and European markets demand. That leaves them a substantial reserve to replace any shipments seized by law enforcement agents.

"[D]rug interdiction efforts are failing to keep pace, according to the U.S. intelligence reports. Worldwide cocaine seizures declined by 20 percent from 1991 to 1994, for example. Although law enforcement officials confiscated around 275 tons, that amount is less than a third of the total cocaine produced each year by Bolivia, Peru, and Colombia."

Houston Chronicle, July 10, 1995.

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Even if the war on drugs could be won by the application of police power, it would not be worth the serious loss of personal freedom that would inevitably accompany any such victory. Even with victory nowhere in sight, the war on drugs has already badly eroded civil liberties that were once, but can no longer be, taken for granted.

"In a paper presented at the annual conference of the American Society of Criminology in November 1994, David Koppel and Paul H. Blackman point out that while 'it might be hoped that the Randy Weaver and Waco disasters would prompt a cut-back in federal military-style strike forces intended for use against Americans, just

the opposite has happened.'

"Spurred by the 'drug war,' warn Kopel and Blackman, 'law enforcement in the United States, particularly federal law enforcement, has become increasingly militarized. No-knock raids with battering rams, agents dressed like ninjas and spray-firing machine guns, the fabrication of information in warrant application, forfeiture and confiscation of property without a trial and a steadily blurring distinction between the standards appropriate for law enforcement in a free society and the practices typical of military occupation of a conquered nation have been the most important law enforcement trend of the last decade.' Undoubtedly, the reprehensible Oklahoma bombing will exacerbate this trend."

Catherine M. Farmer, freelance writer, in Roanoke (VA) Times & World News, May 4, 1995.

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"There seems to be no end to the costs authorities are willing to inflict on the American people in the name of the anti-drug crusade.

"Civil liberties have steadily eroded in the face of increasingly aggressive law enforcement measures—from aerial surveillance of homes to raids on garden-supply stores to highway checkpoints. For the most part, the courts have declined to interfere.

"Few of these measures are horribly offensive standing alone. But taken together, they represent a broad assault on personal liberty and autonomy in the vain search for a drug-free society. Instead of a free people, we are becoming, in the words of one expert, 'a society of suspects.'"

Stephen Chapman, Chicago Tribune, March 30, 1995.

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On April 6, ABC aired a news special that examined alternatives to America's war on drugs, including decriminalization. In a press release condemning the program, former deputy drug czar John P. Walters reported that it features 'the story of Jim Montgomery, who, we are told, was sentenced to life in prison for having two ounces of marijuana in the backpack of his wheelchair.' Like many other people with spinal-cord injuries, Mr. Montgomery used marijuana to relieve pain and muscle spasms. 'Apparently,' Mr. Walters complained, 'ABC couldn't find a grandmother on death row for carrying a roach clip in her purse.' Mr. Walter's point was that cases like Mr. Montgomery's are atypical. 'Federal inmates convicted of marijuana trafficking,' he noted, 'were involved on average in the sale of 3.5 tons of pot.' This is worth noting; but so is the fact that the government occasionally throws people in prison for taking medicine. Something is seriously wrong with a drug policy that condones such treatment—a point the drug warriors tacitly acknowledge by changing the subject."

National Review, May 1, 1995.

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The war on drugs has not only made all Americans more vulnerable to law enforcement abuses and less secure in their homes, but has also increased the number of Americans whose home is jail or prison. The drug warriors haven't been able to much reduce the availability of mind-altering substances, but they have given us an overburdened correctional system which is bursting at the seams due in large measure to a huge influx of those convicted of nonviolent drug offenses.

"The nation's local jail population hit a record 490,442 last year, more than double what it was a decade ago, the Justice Department said Sunday. Drug offenders accounted for most of the increase. Over a 10-year period, the incarceration rate per 100,000 people increased from 96 to 188."

USA Today, May 1, 1995.

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"It is hardly a secret that severe drug laws, with long mandatory sentences for nonviolent offenses, are the reason for the enormous increase in our prison population in recent years. Nor is it a secret that the policy of harsh punishment does not work. Crack and other hard drugs are as plentiful on the street as ever."

Anthony Lewis, Houston Chronicle, Feb. 22, 1995.

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"Most criminals fall into one of two categories. Those who are so stupid or goofy that they don't ever think about consequences, and those who are profit-motivated and believe the potential take is worth the risk.

"There isn't much we can do about the stupid or goofy. But since the sale and use of drugs are behind much of the profit-driven crime, we might think about changing our drug policies.

"It's obvious that drug use can't be stopped. The federal government hardly tries anymore. Politicians prefer to talk about something else and hope their own kids' noses don't fall off.

"But if the most profitable drugs were legalized and controlled—like booze and gambling—the illegal profits would shrink, the motives for many drug crimes would disappear and we wouldn't be wasting so much prison space and money on people who merely want to exercise their right to scramble their own brains."

Mike Royko, Chicago Tribune, May 11, 1995.

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That today's war on drugs is the contem-

see **Talking points** on page 11



LP National Chair Dasbach quits NEA

Twenty-year veteran teacher and LP National Chair Steve Dasbach announced his resignation from the National Education Association (NEA) and its Indiana affiliate recently.

In his letter of resignation to NEA President Keith Geiger, Dasbach accused both organizations of putting the pursuit of political power ahead of the interests of students, parents, and teachers.

"It has become overwhelmingly clear to me that the NEA is not concerned with

pursuing educational excellence," Dasbach said. "Instead, your primary objective appears to be building up your own political power base by centralizing control over education at the state and national level.

"Since the Department of Education was created as a political payoff to the NEA, we have seen test scores plunge and a rising tide of mediocrity envelop our schools," Dasbach said. "The federal mandates and funding you think so highly of are causing ever-increasing numbers of students to be

labeled learning-disabled, providing a ready-made excuse for failure. Instead of labeling kids learning-disabled, we should consider labeling your education policies teaching-disabled.

"It is clear to me that the problems we face in education today are a direct result of the government's effective monopoly in education," Dasbach charged. "Lack of competition and choice has produced a system that is stagnant, bureaucratic, and inefficient."

Dasbach pledged to continue to support the efforts of the local teachers' association to improve local education but plans to work to get the federal government out of education entirely.

"I am convinced that the salvation of American education lies in establishing a true free market in education," Dasbach said. "Real choice and real competition can bring the same excellence and innovation to education that we see in the private sector of our economy."

Talking points

continued from page 10

porary equivalent of Prohibition should be self-evidently obvious, but the drug warriors believe (or pretend to believe) that such is not the case. In the first quotation below a guest columnist for *USA Today* asserts that the war on drugs is not comparable to Prohibition, and the next two explain why it is.

"False prophets will claim that the only way out of this fix is to legalize drugs. Wrong. They will compare the problem to Prohibition. Wrong again. No more can we legalize drugs than could we legalize piracy."

Jesse Hill Ford, novelist and screenwriter, in USA Today, April 6, 1989.

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"Today many people support the prohibition of drugs for moral reasons. The war against drugs, like yesterday's war against alcohol, perfectly illustrates the old maxim that 'the road to hell is paved with good intentions.'

"The effort to enforce an unenforceable law results in aggressive enforcement measures that erode constitutional protections. The arbitrary seizure of property that is part and parcel of the war against drugs is a case in point.

"Another casualty is the integrity of the political system. The enormous drug profits, like the bootleg profits, corrupt public officials. Today our prisons are filled with petty pushers and petty users, not with the drug lords who organize and direct the traffic.

"The war against drugs, like Prohibition, has done great damage to our constitutional protections against abusive law enforcement without having any appreciable effect in curtailing the drug trade.

"Unless we repeal drug prohibition, law enforcement and politics will become thoroughly corrupted."

Paul Craig Roberts, economist and syndicated columnist, in Houston Chronicle, Jan. 22, 1995.

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"Many rational Americans are tough on drugs because they saw them as an accessory to the debasement of the culture beginning in the 1960s, can find no good in them then and now, and suspect that the country isn't going to clean itself up as long as they're widespread. None of this is wrong, yet nearly all of it could have been said—and was—about alcohol in the years leading up to 1920. Prohibition, too, was a well-founded idea that had horrible side effects."

Tim W. Ferguson, The Wall Street Journal, Sept. 6, 1994.

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The war on drugs has already caused a substantial loss of civil liberties, but this loss is apparently not substantial enough for one prominent congressman who has proposed that those who advocate the legalization of drugs should have their freedom of speech drastically curtailed as well. This attempt to stifle dissent by means of punitive taxation comes from the Republican end of the political spectrum, where the commitment to smaller government and greater individual liberty tends to be a mile wide and an inch deep.

"Gerald B. H. Soloman (R-NY), chairman of the House Rules Committee, is not worried about critics of the war on drugs: 'Legalization was jettisoned with Joycelyn [Elders] and is not coming back.' Just in case, though, Soloman has introduced a bill that would deny tax-exempt status to nonprofit organizations 'which promote the legalization of certain drugs.' Soloman cited the Cato Institute, the Drug Policy Foundation, and the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. His bill would presumably also target the Reason Foundation, the Ludwig von Mises Institute, the Lindesmith Center, the Religious Coalition for a Moral Drug Policy, and any other educational, scientific, literary, or religious organization that disagrees with Mr. Soloman about drug prohibition. 'Seedy' people involved with such 'sinister' groups, he said, seek not only to 'justify their self-

centered and self-indulgent lifestyles' but also 'to influence young people to try and use drugs.' Hence, the wisdom of Soloman: 'Our tax law needs to more accurately reflect the American people's tolerance level for this type of activity.' And if the punitive taxation of unpopular ideas catches on, we can dispense with arguments and evidence entirely. That should make politicians like Mr. Soloman more comfortable."

National Review, May 15, 1995.

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"Phil Gutis, a spokesman for the American Civil Liberties Union, calls Soloman's bill 'patently unconstitutional. The [Supreme] Court has been very clear that you can't punish individuals or organizations for what they advocate. . . The only goal of this bill is to prevent advocacy.'

"Gutis says conservative drug warriors like Soloman should be careful before they push new restrictions on advocacy. A legislative mechanism that lets the feds punish advocates of drug legalization today, he says, could later be used to punish persons 'because they belong to the [National Rifle Association] or subscribe to Soldier of Fortune."

Rick Henderson, Reason, July 1995.

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Thanks to the following for clippings submitted this month: Alan Perlman, Highland Park, IL; Melissa Ryan, Chicago, IL; Scott Shreckhise, Roanoke, VA; Research Etc., Princeton, LA; David M. Davis, Harlan, IA; and Brooke King, Albuquerque, NM.

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Letters

Readers comment on land tax, NST, and lots more

Land tax

I strongly disagree with my friend Harold Kyriazi (July 1995 NEWS). Elsewhere, Kyriazi has advocated taxing land on the basis of market value. What this means is that if people build fancy shops and condos in my neighborhood, I can be taxed right off my property by rising land prices. While not taxing the improvements I make on my land, the land tax would sock me for improvements that other people make on adjacent lands! If, to avoid that problem, the tax was based on my original purchase price, then the situation will be that wildly different taxes are paid on adjacent, similar plots of land purchased at different times—with all the economic distortions implied thereby. For me, the more I've thought about it, the more problematic the land tax appears.

Allan Walstad

University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown
Johnstown, PA

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I wish to thank David Nolan and others for their opening of the discussion on the land rent/tax. I hope more libertarians will take up the debate, for the party will need better interim and final tax proposals than the present candidates are presenting to differentiate us from the conservatives and the liberals.

Karl Marx called Henry George's solution of land rent/tax "Capitalism's last ditch" and Pope Leo XIII said he was a "socialist." I don't know if they had read "Progress and Poverty" by Henry George, but you can, by ordering from Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, 41 East 72nd St., New York, NY 10021. They have the 599-page complete version, the 220-page abridged version, and the 16-page condensed version.

Henry George's proposal put forth in his 1879 book, "Progress and Poverty," was arrived at while trying to figure out why, in the advance of economic sufficiency, were the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer. A much debated question even today.

He reasoned that all economic activity is ultimately connected back to, and controlled by, nature and its resources. The land (resources and forces of nature, of which no human has created more) is used by individuals to create wealth, the wages of their labor. Some of this wealth is used as capital to create more wealth, the interest returned on capital. Those who own the land charge rent to labor and capital to use the land.

As the population density of an area increases, labor is able to specialize and capital is able to invent, and so they each increase their return for their effort. As the population density increases, so does the land value increase, and the owners of land have a monopoly on land relative to the laborers and capitalists who do not own land. The land owners are able through the increasing of rent, to collect the increase in income that labor and capital had achieved through specialization and invention.

Henry George felt that the solution to labor and capital losing their hard earned gains to rent collected by landlords, whose land monopoly denied increased access to land, was to have the rent collected by



Staying in touch

Letters to the editor

the government and returned to the whole population. He felt that no other charge was necessary in our land use and ownership customs. It would be quite simple to tax (charge rent) based on the amount of land and the value of the location of the land being used by an individual.

He was opposed to income, property, sale, and excise taxes because of their interference with the free market and individual freedom. He was concerned that the laborer and the capitalist were being robbed of their just rewards and felt that having the government collect the rent (land value tax) and return it in equal shares of revenue or in services and infrastructure was a good way to be fair ("The Land Question," by Henry George, 1881).

Given that in 1990 we are dealing with a bigger government and increased land value, we may consider the more libertarian approach, which is to collect the land value tax (rent), fund a minimum government with a portion of it, and return the balance on an equal per capita basis as a citizens land value dividend.

Jack R. Jones
Riverdale, MD

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I've been following the recent to-and-fro over land value tax in the NEWS. I've been wondering whatever happened to the hope of a tax-free society. Have we given up on user's fees, endowment funds, etc.?

But let's assume for a minute that we must in the interim support some kind of tax. Wouldn't it be better to examine the destination of the tax revenue before determining the source? Is it logical to assert that a \$500,000/year lawyer living in a high-rise in Houston (and therefore owning very little land) enjoys the fruits of national defense less than a Montana rancher?

To live in my neighborhood, you have to be prepared to pay annual maintenance fees. We accept these conditions because we get services such as street lights, community pool, mosquito spraying, etc. I live on a small lot, but I pay the same fee as my neighbors who live on a lot five times larger. This is fair because I use community services equally.

To say it is only the improvement I own and not the land it is on is to say that you may remove a pound of flesh but not spill a drop of blood. Yes, in view of historical serfdom, ground rents may be the most moral of all taxes. But I would hardly consider their questioning to be a "knee-jerk response" or an example of "woeful ignorance." I would much more likely be suspicious of a libertarian who is *any* kind of a tax activist.

Focusing on tax strategies is like doctors who focus on symptoms but ignore the disease. It is a primary difference between us and the current Republicans who want to move to a consumption tax. We want to focus on government consumption. And by the way, re-read those quotes and see

if Paine's, Jefferson's, and especially Mill's wouldn't also logically lend themselves to an argument for the income tax.

Douglas Saul
Houston, TX

VAT/NST

Although I would prefer no federal taxes, I must say I prefer Dick Armey's flat tax with large personal deductions to the national sales tax. Frankly, the national sales tax and value-added tax (VAT) both have large logistical problems requiring completely new—and expensive—administrative bureaucracies. I know most states have a sales tax, but probably no two do it the same way or in the way the feds would like. Besides, a federal sales tax or VAT would require another tax amendment to the federal constitution.

However, there is a really good third option. Cease all federal taxation in favor of apportioned taxes on the states based upon population. This kind of idea is already in the federal constitution so it might be legal. There are three benefits I see to this policy over the national flat income tax and the national sales tax/VAT. One, the states can engineer their own methods of taxation most optimal for them. Two, it will be more obvious that much of federal taxes are really just funds sent to the District of Columbia only to be returned, minus a large cut, for what are essentially local projects. Three, it allows the dismantlement of all federal tax administration and enforcement apparatus.

Brooke King

BrookeKing@aol.com

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I enjoyed Paul Koning's response (August 1995 NEWS) regarding the Value-Added Tax (VAT)/National Sales Tax (NST).

I have always viewed a VAT as being synonymous with an NST. Thanks to Paul, I now know the difference, and I agree that a VAT is bad news.

Since I believe taxes—like death—are inevitable, I support a method of taxation which allows citizens the most control. That is why I support an NST (one which does not tax food or clothing), in place of the current income tax. By regulating how much a person spends, a person controls the amount of taxes they pay. In contrast to today, the only method to control the amount of taxes paid is to earn less, make use of tax loopholes, or cheat.

Since most states impose a sales tax, a method to collect an NST already exists, and the federal government could collect this tax in the same manner it already collects the federal gasoline tax most of us pay at the pump.

A major benefit to an NST would be abolition of the IRS, thereby reducing the size of government and the cost to run it. This translates into lower taxes. An NST would also give states more power against federal mandates which violate the 10th Amendment. States could merely withhold federal tax money until problems are resolved.

While an NST would empower states, an NST would also empower individuals, as citizen boycotts could become very effective tools to protest high taxes or other government actions. As a plus,

citizens would feel the effect of taxes each time they purchased goods, and would become more sensitive to higher taxes, perhaps making them more aware of big brother.

One benefit/drawback of an NST is that while people who save would be rewarded, people who spend more would bear a heavier tax burden.

A problem that could arise (for the federal government) is that a black market for tax-free goods could be created. Of course if the federal government kept the tax rate in check, this black market would be less likely to cut into tax revenues.

You might be asking, "Why should food or clothing not be taxed?" Liberals might contend that an NST would not be fair to lower-income wage earners, since they spend a greater percentage of their wages than upper-level wage earners. Perhaps this is true, so if we exempt food and clothing expenses, which are considered "essential to living," lower-income wage earners aren't "penalized," and upper-income wage earners receive the same exemption.

In this Libertarian's view, an NST is second only to no tax. Who knows, if we get an NST passed, someday we might repeal Social (in)Security and Medicare(less), or at least make them voluntary programs.

Nick Page

Reading, Mass.

npage@world.std.com

Access

It is incomprehensible and immoral for the Democrats and Republicans to have tried to change the laws about petition signing to keep Libertarians off ballots. I hope we get coverage in national news and in more newspapers to let people of our country know what is truly happening and what we stand for.

Please continue your great work and count me as a Libertarian for life.

P. William Andersen

Council Bluffs, IA

Slavery was issue

As a libertarian protest, David F. Nolan must have slept through his government-mandated "American History" class in high school. How else could he have come up with the egregious howler, "the Civil War was not fought primarily over the issue of slavery"? (July 1995 NEWS).

Escalating rancor over slavery paralyzed the federal government in the 10 years leading up to the 1860 election. Common national institutions (notably the churches) split in two over the slavery issue. Mini-civil wars broke out in Bleeding Kansas, Harpers Ferry, and even on the floor of Congress.

The crucial 1860 election was contested almost entirely on the issue of slavery in the territories.

Mr. Nolan is technically correct that Lincoln, wishing to pacify crucial "border states" with slave-holding populations, disclaimed any radical anti-slavery agenda. Nevertheless, without 10 years of increasing bitterness over slavery, no secession would have happened in the first place.

see **Letters** on page 14

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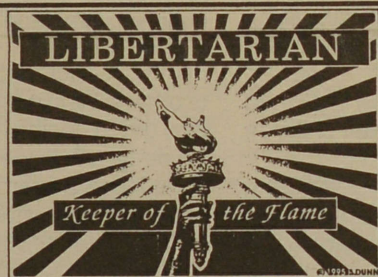
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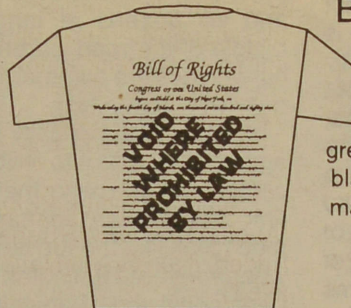
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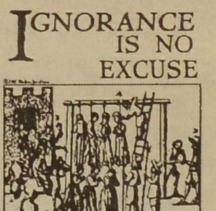


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Letters

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Mr. Nolan seems to assume that a stronger central government is automatically worse than a local government. Under Lincoln's settlement, however, the federalization of the Bill of Rights has often protected individuals from oppression by state governments, local governments, or private slaveholders.

Hugo S. Cunningham
Boston, MA

Puzzling

I have been wondering about David Nolan's article on the Declaration of Independence (July 1995 NEWS).

First, a nitpick. According to my copy of the document, "the right of the people to alter or abolish" a government, which Nolan said appears in the third sentence, is actually in the fourth. What puzzles me is that Nolan did not mention the third sentence, which says, "That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

Nolan's omission is puzzling, because although most people would interpret "just powers from the consent of the governed" as merely supporting majority rule, these words provide the political key to fighting statism.

To explain the key: I have the right and just power to give Congress a power of attorney to take money out of my own bank account. But I have neither a right nor a just power to give Congress a power of attorney to take money out of your bank account. A power of attorney is empty if the giver's consent is empty. No governmental power is just if it is not, first of all, a just power of the individual.

The words, "That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men," make clear that a principled government is a government that confines itself to using only just powers. Thus, the third sentence of the Declaration of Independence provides two libertarian political principles. In fact, explaining and defending these principles is necessary to making the point why, politically, the LP stands above all other parties.

If the LP would also recognize that individuals acquire the unalienable rights to "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness" the day they are conceived, its position as "The Party of Principle" would be immeasurably strengthened.

Doris Gordon
Wheaton, MD

Access

Your 1994 Ballot Access Hall of Shame (July 1995 NEWS) was in error when it stated that the target of Idaho's new law is "all third-party and independent candidates." In fact, this law only affects independents, by moving their filing deadlines back from June to April. Having been an LP candidate for state legislature in the past four elections, I can attest that we partisan candidates have *always* faced an April deadline. This new law simply puts independent candidates on an equal footing with third-party candidates.

Peter Hill
Chair, LP of Idaho
Blackfoot, ID

Points

The August NEWS arrived yesterday and I read through the whole issue. So much good news is a little tough to take, but I'll manage. I especially enjoyed the "Talking Points." The articles on federal versus state (and local) power said much of what I've been thinking. It is, after all, because government doesn't work well on any level that our solutions rely on private initiative.

Wayne Turner
Glendale, CA

Environment

As a Libertarian and an environmentalist, I would like to disagree with the tone and content of the "Talking Points" quotation concerning environmentalism (July 1995 NEWS). Libertarians concerned with the environment are opposed to using governmental regulation to redress environmental trespass, but that does not lead us to deny that our environment is being adversely affected by industry.

Many Libertarians are concerned about the depletion of endangered species, global warming from the build up of greenhouse gases and the destruction of the ozone layer, sickness from pollution and ground level ozone, and the destruction of forests and fresh water by acid rain. All of these potential environmental problems are offhandedly dismissed by Llewellyn Rockwell who was quoted saying, "There is no science or logic to the bulk of their claims..."

The actual existence or not of one of these potential environmental problems is scientifically controversial, but the eventual conclusions of scientists concerning the existence of these phenomena have no real bearing at all on

how a good Libertarian should frame the issue. Rather than defensively lashing out that claims of environmental damage are bogus, and potentially being caught in a lie, I would rather ask—Is governmental regulation the answer to environmental destruction? I would not tell him or her that he or she has been suckered into believing that our environment is being damaged, whether I believe they have or not, and I do not.

The preface characterizes "the environmental movement" as "... to a considerable extent a vehicle for promoting the objectives of those who are hostile to middle class prosperity. ..." This sort of divisive language is unnecessary. Characterizing people concerned with these issues as extremists is, I believe, potentially very harmful to our cause. Many good Americans who are Libertarians at heart also personally identify with the moniker "environmentalist."

Bill Downing
Reading, MA

Youth rights

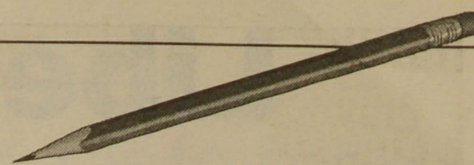
Recently there has been an assault on the rights of the young unlike any other in my lifetime. Numerous news items have indicated the following:

1. Mandatory drug testing for school athletes without due process. The Supreme Court in its ruling made it plain that youths' rights are not the same as adults'.

2. Curfew laws are popping up like a case of the zits, over the objections of teens and parents alike.

3. Even as the feds used child abuse as the excuse to invade the Branch Davidians and kill dozens of innocent children, middle-of-the-road parents on treelined cul-de-sacs are pummeling their children daily with impunity.

4. Teens are legally being dragged against their wills into "wilderness therapy camps" which make the bootcamps for first offenders we Libertarians oppose so much look like the fun camps we went to when we were 10. Youths who have never been convicted of anything are dragged off and tortured in the finest of Soviet tradition. As a result of camper (read captive) deaths, a court date for the Northstar camp is pending in Panguich, UT. Also, a bill is pending in Congress called the Camp Safety Act, but I am afraid that it addresses the issue of regulation rather than the sovereign individual rights of youths.



5. A little child who has never been adopted can be ripped away from the only parents they have ever known and turned over to total strangers without any regard for the wants, needs, or rights of the child. The child is treated as property.

There are more examples. This problem is so serious that I hope that a portion of the floor time of the LP 1996 convention is devoted to it by a major speaker. The inclusion of minors under the Constitution and easy emancipation should be emphasized. And, I hope it will occur under the watchful eyes of C-SPAN viewers.

Alice Lillie
Los Angeles, CA

Smoking

The article on anti-smoking regulations (August 1995 NEWS) attempts to prove that secondhand smoke is harmless. When a close friend of mine is subjected to smoke, her skin breaks out, her eyes puff up and produce a yucky, stringy mucous, and she gets ill. This certainly is not harmless. Statistics showing no affect are useless for someone whose personal statistic of harm is 100 percent. The point of your article apparently is that smokers should be allowed to smoke wherever and whenever they want. Unfortunately, the anti-smoking regulations came about because of smokers' lack of consideration for others. After all, breathing is not optional. Smoking is.

Everyone joining the LP pledges to avoid conduct that infringes on the rights of others. Who gets to define those rights? Do I get to decide if what I do bothers you, or do you? If we each are free to do whatever we deem to be acceptable to the other person, without regard to the other person's sensitivities, then the pledge is useless and should be abandoned. The simple fact is that many regulations have come about because too many people don't give a damn about the other person. Never mind that regulations raise their own problems; eliminating the regulation will not eliminate the problem that originally gave rise to the regulation. If regulations are to be eliminated, and I agree that they should be, then how does the LP propose to enforce responsible behavior?

Don H. Wacker
Issaquah, WA

'96 convention committee members sought

The 1996 LP national convention will be held two months earlier in the calendar year than past conventions. Among the dates made earlier by this shift is the deadline for the LNC to select members for the three convention committees: Platform, Rules and By-Laws, and Credentials. The LNC selects 10 of the 20 Platform Committee members, five of the 10 Credentials Committee members, and all 10 of the Rules and By-Laws Committee members. In past convention years, the LNC has made those decisions at the April meeting before the convention. This time around, the decisions are to be made at this *December's* meeting, which will be held in Washington, DC.

Recognizing that the report of the Rules

and By-Laws Committee will be considered only by a suspension of the rules, anyone interested in seeking appointment by the LNC to one of the convention committees should submit a resume to the National Office no later than Nov. 1, 1995. It should be sent "Attention: xxx Convention Committee", where xxx is the specific committee you are seeking appointment to. The LNC will give particular consideration, in regards to the Platform Committee, to individuals with special expertise or knowledge pertinent to the Platform — public policy experts, skilled writers, experienced campaigners, etc.

Members of the 10 largest affiliates also should be aware that they get to select one appointee each to the Platform Committee,

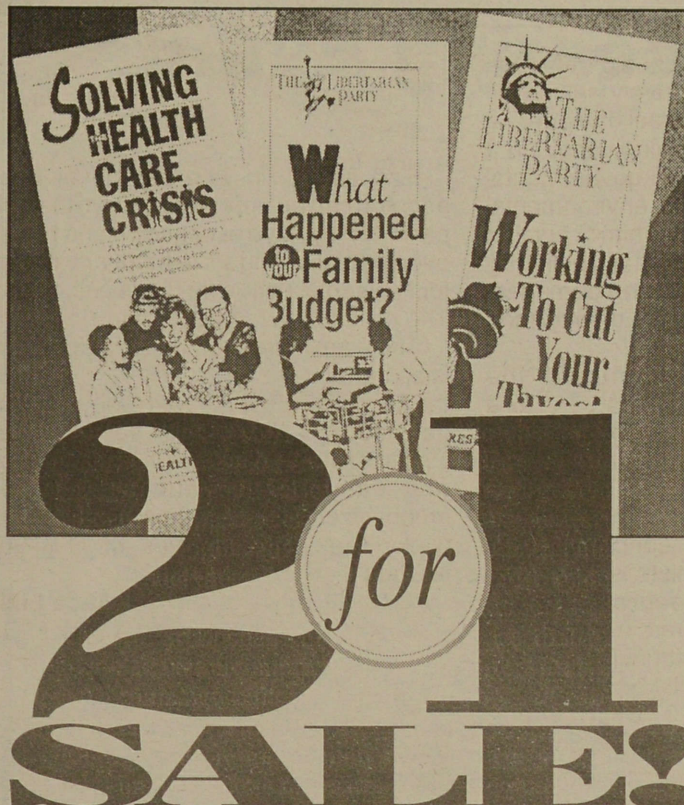
and selecting that individual should be arranged so that he or she can start work with the LNC-selected members as quickly as possible. And members of the five largest affiliates should apply the same foresight to the selection of their appointees to the Credentials Committee.

As of April 30, 1995, the top 10 affiliates, in order of membership, were CA, PA, TX, MI, FL, IL, NJ, NY, CO, and OH. Other affiliates with a shot at the top 10 slots are MA, WA, VA, AZ, and MD. This list is subject to change as you prepare for the convention by launching membership drives to increase your delegate allocation.

Finally, the deadline for determination of the relative strengths of the affiliates, for committee appointments as well as del-

egate allocation, is Dec. 31, 1995. Therefore the decisions of the LNC will all be tentative, pending final determination of the top five and 10 affiliates. The convention committees will not be able to start work, therefore, until 1996 begins. We would like to minimize any delays. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Libertarian Party
Presidential Nominating
Convention
July 3-7, 1996
Washington, DC



On three of our most popular brochures!

Will you help us? Our storage room is piled high with LP literature with our old (Pennsylvania Avenue) address on it — and we need *your* help to move it out. As an incentive, we're offering a special two-for-one price on three of our best-selling brochures.

Here's the deal: For the month of September, for every 100 of the following three brochures you purchase, we'll send you 200 — at no extra cost! The brochures for sale are:

- ★ *What Happened to the Family Budget?*
- ★ *The Libertarian Party: Working to Cut Your Taxes!*
- ★ *Solving the Health Care Crisis.*

Yes, these are the same top-quality, crisp, two-color brochures we always offer. The only difference: If you order 100, you'll get 200! Order 200 and you'll get 400. Or, order 1,000 and we'll send you 2,000 — at no extra cost!

Help us by clearing out our excess inventory. Help yourself by stocking up for autumn outreach efforts at our lowest price ever! (And, don't worry — you can distribute this literature with confidence. Our mail will be forwarded from the old address for at least a year.) Call (202) 333-0008 for instant service, or mail your order to: 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20037. Order today — at two-for-one, they'll go twice as fast!

(NOTE: This offer is good until September 30, 1995. To get the special two-for-one price, you must use the order form in this advertisement, or mention this offer when phoning, faxing, or mailing your order. Only the three brochures listed above are eligible for this special price.)

■ **The Libertarian Party: Working to Cut Your Taxes.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). Outlines how Libertarians would drastically reduce taxes and government spending.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 200

■ **What Happened To Your Family Budget?** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Hard-hitting look at how government impoverishes the "typical" family through taxes and inflation.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 200

■ **Solving the Health Care Crisis.** Brochure, 2-color (maroon & black). Part of Project Healthy Choice, detailing the LP's innovative 5-point free market health care reform proposals.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 200

■ **Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners.** Brochure, 2-color (orange & black). Explains the LP's pro-Second Amendment position, and defends the right to own guns.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

■ **Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again.** Brochure, 2-color (red & black). Explains the LP's 5-point Operation Safe Streets "Crime Control" program.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

■ **Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy.** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Compares Drug Prohibition to alcohol prohibition; discusses the Prohibition/crime link; argues for legalization.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

Literature

■ **Libertarianism in One Lesson** by David Bergland. 126 pages, 6th edition. The classic, critically praised introductory work about Libertarianism. Cost: \$8 each or 5 for \$25

■ **LP Platform.** 24 pages, dark purple ink. The 1994 platform of the LP, with the "official" party positions on individual rights and civil order, trade, the economy, domestic concerns, and foreign affairs. Cost: Sample: \$1 or \$50 for 100

■ **LP Fact Sheets:** 2-page LP history (political highlights from 1971 to 1993) and 2-page bibliography (over 150 books about Libertarianism). Sold as a set only. Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

■ **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. An excellent overview of Libertarian philosophy, covering politics, free markets, social issues, and more! Cost: \$1 each

■ **World's Smallest Political Quiz cards.** Perfect for "politically homeless" booths, and an excellent low-cost hand-out! Cost: \$1 for 100

Tools for Campaigning

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo master.** Cost: \$1 each

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo on PC Disk:** 3-1/2 inch DOS-compatible computer disk. Cost: \$3 each

■ **Newsprint Ads:** "Libertarian Party—Defenders of Liberty." Camera-ready print ads. One each: general, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, taxes. Cost: \$3 for set

■ **Libertarian TV Ads:** A videotape compilation of TV ads by LP candidates, from State Representative to President. (For information only; not broadcast quality.) Cost: \$20.00 each

■ **Libertarian Political Action: Techniques for Effective Campaigning.** 32-page handbook written especially for LP candidates. Cost: \$3.00 each

Buttons

Cost: All buttons are \$1 each or 75¢ for 5 or more.

■ **Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian** 1-800-682-1776

■ **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-682-1776

■ **Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything** 1-800-682-1776



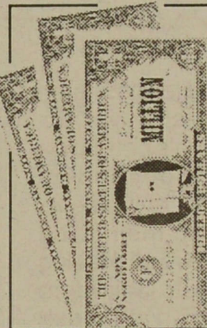
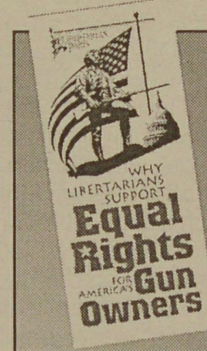
■ **Liberty Today** tabloid newspaper. Most recent updated 4th edition, with several new articles! 12 pages, green & black ink, numerous photographs throughout the issue. Probably the most comprehensive one-piece overview of Libertarian Party activities, history, politics, personalities, and philosophy.

Cost: Sample: \$1.00 or \$10 for 100



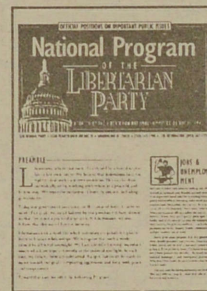
■ **Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights?** Flyer, maroon ink. Our hard-hitting outreach to the gun rights community, listing 10 compelling reasons why the Libertarian Party deserves their support.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100



■ **"Million Dollar Bill."** Green ink. Front: A faux \$1,000,000 bill. Reverse: Highlights Federal spending (\$1 million every five seconds) and the LP alternative. Perfect for Tax Day or general outreach.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

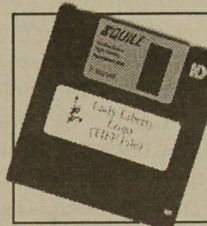


■ **LP Program.** 4 pages, maroon ink. Details LP positions on education, employment, political corruption, health care, and violence & crime. Provides steps the LP would take immediately to solve these problems.

Cost: Sample: \$1.00 or \$10 for 100

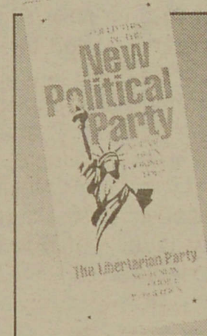


Back In Stock!



■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo on PC Disk:** 3-1/2 inch DOS-compatible computer disk, with several different sizes and versions of the LP logo.

Cost: \$3 each



■ **Is This the New Political Party You've Been Looking For?** Brochure, 2-color (violet & black). New introductory brochure, giving general overview of the Libertarian Party.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

To Order:

Indicate quantity you wish to order below. There is no charge for standard shipping. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Or: Add \$5 for same-day shipping. Call (202) 333-0008 for instructions on rush deliveries. Minimum order: \$5.00. Orders shipped via UPS; please add 15% for Post Office box addresses.

SPECIAL TWO-FOR-ONE SALE

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_____	Brochure: "Working to Cut Your Taxes!"
_____	Brochure: "What Happened To Your Family Budget?"
_____	Brochure: "Solving the Health Care Crisis."

Ready-to-use Literature

_____	Brochure: "Is This the New Political Party You've Been Looking For?"
_____	Brochure: "Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners"
_____	Brochure: "Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again"
_____	Brochure: "Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy"
_____	Flyer: "Which Political Party / 100% Pro-Gun Rights?"
_____	Flyer: \$1,000,000 Bill
_____	Liberty Today tabloid newspaper (4th ed.)
_____	1994 LP Program
_____	1994 LP Platform
_____	LP Fact Sheets. 2-page LP history & 2-page bibliography. (Offered as a package only.)
_____	World's Smallest Political Quiz
_____	Libertarianism in One Lesson book
_____	America's Libertarian Heritage booklet

Bumper Stickers

_____	Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian
_____	Enough is Enough/Vote Libertarian
_____	Vote Libertarian/1-800-682-1776
_____	I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!

Buttons

_____	Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian
_____	VOTE LIBERTARIAN/800-682-1776
_____	Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything

Windbreaker

_____	Lined windbreaker. Circle one: M L XL
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Tools for Campaigning

_____	LP Statue of Liberty logo master
_____	LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk
_____	Newsprint ads: "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty" set of seven.
_____	Libertarian TV Ads
_____	Libertarian Political Action: Techniques for Effective Campaigning manual.

Large & Small Banners

_____	Large: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (18" x 5'w)
_____	Please check preferred second line:
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> "Defenders of Liberty" <input type="checkbox"/> "Freedom is the American Way" <input type="checkbox"/> "1-800-682-1776"
_____	Small: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (12" x 5'w).

Total Due

_____	Merchandise Total
_____	RUSH handling: Add \$5 for same-day shipping
_____	RUSH shipping: Call office to arrange

☐ Cash, check, or money order enclosed (No corporate checks!)

☐ Bill my Visa ☐ Bill my MasterCard

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To Order by Phone: Call (202) 333-0008

Windbreaker

■ **High-quality, lined windbreaker,** blue with LP logo and party name on front. Available in M, L, XL. (Specify on order form.) Cost: \$25 each

Bumperstickers

Cost: \$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100

■ **Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian** (Blue & white; LP address and phone # below.)

■ **Enough is Enough/Vote Libertarian** (Red, white, & blue.)

■ **Vote Libertarian/800-672-1776** (Blue & white.)

■ **I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!** (Red, white, & blue.)

Large & Small Banners

■ **Small Banner.** (12" x 5'). White on blue. One line: "Libertarian Party." Cost: \$25 each

■ **Large Banner.** (18" x 5'). White on blue. First line "Libertarian Party," second line your choice (specify on order form): ★ 800-682-1776 ★ Defenders of Liberty ★ Freedom is the American Way. Cost: \$40 each

Libertarian Party Information

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LP NEWS

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Gainesville, GA 30503

770-536-5243

Fax: 770-287-0800

CompuServe: 71610,3614

Editor: Randy Langhenry

Upcoming Events

Sept. 9, 1995:

Second Annual Liberty Fair, sponsored by the Miami Valley Libertarian Party, Enon Beach, Dayton, OH; for information call 513-845-9980 or 513-335-8297.

Sept. 16, 1995:

Montana LP Convention, Missoula; for information call 406-721-9020. Speakers include Harry Browne.

Sept. 23, 1995:

Connecticut LP Convention, Tara Stamford Hotel, Stamford; for information call Mark Tuniewicz at 203-777-7498. Speakers include Harry Browne, Rick Tompkins, Irwin Schiff, Jo Jorgensen, Perry Willis, Tamara Clark, and keynote speaker Gene Burns.

Sept. 30, 1995:

West Virginia LP Convention, Holiday Inn, Clarksburg/Bridgeport; for information contact John K. Brown at 800-950-3421 or 304-757-3821. Speakers include Harry Browne, Irwin Schiff, Jo Jorgensen, and Bill Winter.

Oct. 6-8, 1995:

The Advocates for Self-Government's 10th Anniversary Summit Conference, Atlanta Airport Hilton & Towers Hotel, Atlanta, GA; for information call 404-417-1304. Speakers include Marshall Fritz, Jacob Hornberger, Doug Bandow, John Fund, Joe Sobran, Mary Ruwart, Doug Casey, Michael Rothschild, Michael Emerling Cloud, and more.

Oct. 6-8, 1995:

FIJAcon III - Fully Informed Jury Association third national conference, Crystal Inn, Salt Lake City, UT; for information call 406-793-5550. Talks, panels, debates on jury veto power.

Oct. 14-19, 1995:

ISIL 1995 World Libertarian Conference, Hotel Zafolia, Athens, Greece; for information call 416-964-0142. Speakers include Barbara Branden, Jarret Wollstein, Louk Jongen (Holland), Constantine Christide (Greece), and more.

July 3-7, 1996:

1996 LP Presidential Nominating Convention, Washington, DC.

Send upcoming event notices early to: Libertarian Party NEWS, P.O. Box 3391, Gainesville, GA 30503.

Gov. signs bad ballot bill in AL

On Aug. 9, Alabama Gov. Fob James signed HB 66, the bill tripling the petition requirement for new parties and for non-presidential independent candidates. Earlier on the same day, he had twice told press conferences that he would veto the bill.

"This is the worst ballot access change in any state since 1983 when North Carolina increased its petition requirement to 2 percent," said ballot access expert Richard Winger. "The new Alabama law is even worse—3 percent of the last vote cast. The vote for retention in Alabama is 20 percent, the highest such retention percentage in the nation."

"The Alabama LP is on the ballot for 1996 because we submitted signatures before the bill passed," said ALP activist Bob Burns. The bill, however, will cause major problems in 1997.

"There is a fairly good chance that the law can be overturned in court," said Winger.

Even under the old 1 percent, the LP is the only third party that has ever qualified, and even the LP never qualified in mid-term years when all legislators run.

Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

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