

IRS AGENTS ARRESTED IN DRUG RAID

FRESNO, Calif. (UPI) — Federal agents arrested seven employees of the Internal Revenue Service on their jobs Wednesday, charging them with dealing drugs at the agency.

About 14 agents drove up to the IRS center in seven cars and arrested the employees, escorting them to jail in handcuffs.

The employees were charged with distributing marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines and methamphetamines from the IRS center. Two other suspects, arrested elsewhere, were charged with supplying the drugs.

the Southern Libertarian Messenger



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A VISITOR FROM OUTER SPACE

By DICK LESHER

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Several years ago, I saw a letter to the editor that expressed the absurdity of many government policies and practices. The recent budget fiasco brought this letter back to mind. Begging the writer's indulgence, I'll update it.

I was raking leaves when a visitor from outer space approached and he asked for directions.

He said, "How do I get out of this insane asylum?" "This isn't an insane asylum," I replied. "This is the United States of America."

He looked at me and said, "Isn't this where you pay farmers not to grow crops while some people go hungry?"

I said, "Yes, but . . ."

"Isn't this the place constantly threatened by cutoffs in foreign oil while your government prohibits drilling in your richest oil fields in Alaska?"

"And isn't this the place where the overwhelming majority of people want spending cuts, but your Congress votes to increase spending to record levels?"

"Yes but . . ."

"Isn't this where leading officials and economists actually consider raising taxes in a recession — the same policy tried by Herbert Hoover in 1932?"

"Yes, but you must understand that . . ."

"Isn't this where your clean-air law often causes dirtier air because it prohibits construction of cleaner factories?"

"Yes, sometimes . . ."

Victor Pavlenkov, a student at MIT who was expelled from Russia in 1979, is starting an organization: Soviet-American Student Struggle, Box 144, Cambridge, MA 02139 to put pressure on the USSR to release political prisoners and allow greater freedom of speech. Send money, etc. Getting expelled from Russia is like getting expelled from reform school; anyone who can do that, can do anything. (Ergo)

BULK RATE

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"And isn't this where your government can't keep track of aliens like me entering the country, and yet now it wants to require Mom and Pop's grocery store down the street to detect us or risk a fine?"

Yes, but . . ."

"And isn't this the place where something you call a hamburger is governed by 41,000 regulations?"

Yes, I said, "but in defense of my country, pizza has only 310 regulations."

With that the stranger walked away, saying to himself, "I guess I shouldn't have asked an inmate how to get out. If he knew, he wouldn't still be here."

I hasten to add that America is not an insane asylum but an asylum of freedom and opportunity for millions. Yet, the current mass confusion over economic policy and the penchant of our government for adopting foolish, contradictory policies makes one wonder: What will it take to get our politicians' heads out of the clouds and their feet back on the ground? ☆

Dick Leshner is President of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce

God be thanked for books. They are the voices of the distant and the dead, and make us heirs of the spiritual life of past age.

—William E. Channing

Stopping All Cars Nibbles at Freedom

Last Saturday night police in Westchester County, New York, set up barricades and stopped 3,200 cars. They were trying to find out whether or not the drivers were drunk.

I'm glad I wasn't one of the 3,200 drivers detained while they checked the state of my sobriety, because it is likely I'd have ended up in jail; not because I was drunk but because I'd almost certainly have had a run-in with the police.

"They were just doing their job" is an answer I haven't accepted since I saw my first concentration camp at the end of World War II. I find this kind of Gestapo-like invasion of privacy intolerable. Don't write to me about the innocent people who are killed by drunk drivers. I know all about them and have often thought that getting killed by some intoxicated idiot who crossed the median divider and hit me head-on would be the worst and most senseless way to die. I mourn for the parents of children who have died at the hands of drunk drivers. But none of this makes a police state acceptable. Freedom doesn't come risk-free. I'm willing to take some risks

Humor

by
Andy
Rooney



in exchange for my freedom.

This same stunt was pulled by police in Maryland a few weeks ago and apparently it's a growing practice. And a lot of Americans not only accept it but think it's the right thing to do.

"I feel a lot safer driving home knowing you guys (police) are out there," one driver was quoted by a reporter as saying. "You should be out there every weekend."

One of the most chilling winds I feel blowing is this popular reaction against the kind of freedom, and liberty Americans used to love. Too many people seem willing to give up some of their liberty in exchange for what they feel is

security. We talk a lot about the Constitution, but we don't read it or understand it. Sometimes I doubt if we'd even vote for it if it were put on a referendum tomorrow.

The Fourth Amendment says: "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched and the persons or things to be seized."

The Founding Fathers who wrote that didn't drive around Philadelphia in their cars, of course, so it didn't occur to them to include automobiles in places where citizens should be able to expect some personal freedom if they weren't suspected of breaking any law. Did the police in Westchester County really have some reason to believe all 3,200 people they stopped were breaking the law? If they did, they turned out to be wrong because only 12 of the people they stopped were arrested. It was determined that

eleven of the twelve were drunk and one was stoned on drugs.

In 1979 the Supreme Court, ruling on the right of cops to stop drivers indiscriminately, found in favor of the police "provided all motorists are stopped." It is one of the most disgraceful decisions the Supreme Court ever made. It nibbles at freedom. That's the worst way for freedom to go: in small pieces so we don't notice it much.

"If you aren't doing anything wrong, what have you got to worry about?" That's the argument you hear.

Well, I haven't done anything wrong. I don't drink when I drive and I'm plenty worried. If the police can stop us anytime in our cars, why can't they stop us on the street and check us over for counterfeit \$20 bills or weapons? They could question us on any criminal activity down by the supermarket.

The police in this country have a tough enough time maintaining their image as friendly protectors of law-abiding citizens without the burden of this kind of police-state work.

MARYLAND PLANS TO HARASS HOME SCHOOLS

The Maryland Board of Education is considering new rules for home schools, designed to prevent as many schools as possible from being established & as many pupils as possible from escaping from the government non-education system. If you'd like to add your comments, send them to Gov. Harry Hughes in Annapolis.

I could not resist suggesting that they apply the same rules to the government-operated non-schools.

Certification: virtually every school in the US has teachers teaching subjects they're not certified to teach, especially those teaching math & science. Why not require govt. schools to use only teachers who are certified for the classes they're teaching?

180 days of instruction: Only about 1 child in 100 gets this, because of absences. To do this the government schools would have to be kept open most of the summer and those who have been absent required to make up the days that they missed.

1,080 hours of instruction: The average student in the government school only gets about 4 hours of instruction a day, not 6; the rest of the time is taken up with home rooms, roll calls, announcements, assemblies, lunch & recess, changing rooms, trips to the restroom, early dismissal, interruptions, disciplinary problems, etc. To give the child in the government school at least 1,080 hours of instruction a year, the school day should be extended to 9 hours.

Comparable books and materials: Since the texts used in the government schools are often abysmally poor, they should be upgraded to match those used in private and home schools. They should also offer the courses, such as Latin, that private and parochial schools give, and require all students to take them.

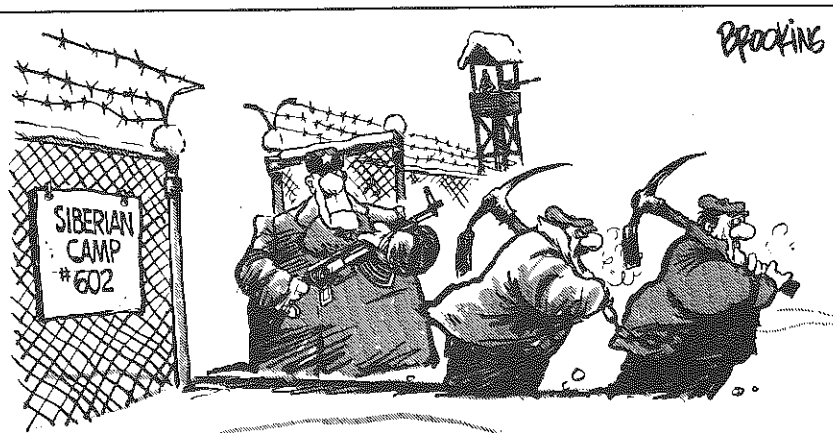
News Notes

Virginia becomes the 9th state to call for an audit of the Federal Reserve; similar legislation, HR 877 by Dr. Ron Paul (R-TX) is pending in Congress.

A study by Stanislaus State College, CA, of 276 juv. delinq. detained found that their behavior improved where white sugar was taken out of their diet without the knowledge of themselves or the keepers. Junk food & soft drinks were replaced with fruit juice, honey, molasses, etc. (Spot.)

"To create a housing shortage in a huge country, heavily wooded, and with a small population.... Ah, that was proof of pure political genius."—Richard Needham, Toronto Globe & Mail.

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"HEY, I'VE GOT IT!", YOU SAID.... "LET'S CALL FOR A FREEZE HERE IN RUSSIA!", YOU SAID.... WELL, COMRADE BIGMOUTH, ARE YOU SATISFIED?!"

the Southern Libertarian Messenger



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A newspaper is not for just reporting the news as it is, but to make people mad enough to do something about it.
— Mark Twain

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WE ARE AT LAST GETTING SOMEWHERE ?

Georgia, which once had 2 governors at the same time, now has 2 libertarian parties; a new group, the Free Libertarian Party has been formed.

This is nothing new in Southern politics. Mississippi used to have 2 Republican parties, known commonly as "the 'lily-whites'" and the "black & tans". S C Republicans once ran two tickets of presidential electors.

I love it.

—jh

WE HAVE SPORTS NEWS TOO ?

One of my jobs is running the local soccer leagues, which are not associated with any government recreation program. I do not know a lot about soccer; never even saw a game until I was past 30. We started this as a scheme to promote the sale of beer; there had been a local soccer club that had to go 75 miles or more to find anyone to play. I did what no one had ever tried: I put an announcement in the local paper asking people to sign up. We now have 2 leagues, where there were none 8 months ago.

Anyhow, we had to expand a league lately to take in more players than the existing teams could use, and I ran out of beer tee shirts to use as uniforms, and had some libertarian party tee shirts on hand, so.... now the local libertarian party is sponsoring a soccer team in the local mens league.

—jh

Violent crimes have increased 95% since the Gun Control Act of 1968. (Speak Up)

Common Sense

Common Sense is Florida's oldest (est. 1974) and leading libertarian newsletter and is published 6 times a year at an annual subscription rate of eight dollars per year, for libertarians and other friends of liberty. Sample issue available \$1.00. Please send all correspondence and subscriptions to: Common Sense/LPDC, P.O. Box 650051, Miami, Florida 33165.

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BY THE LIGHT OF LANTERNS ON THE LEVEE

by Bob Brakeman

"My country is the Mississippi delta, the river country. It lies flat, like a badly drawn half-oval, with Memphis at its northern and Vicksburg at its southern tip. Its western boundary is the Mississippi River, which coils and returns on itself in great loops and crescents, though from the map you would think it ran in a straight line north and south. Every few years it rises like a monster from its bed and pushes over its banks to vex and sweeten the land it has made.... Across this wide flat alluvial stretch---north and south it measures one hundred and ninety-six miles, east and west at the widest point fifty miles---run slowly and circuitously other rivers and creeks, also high-banked, with names pleasant to remember---Rattlesnake Bayou, Quiver River, the Bogue Phalia, the Tallahatchie, the Sunflower---pouring their tawny waters finally into the Yazoo, which in turn loses itself just above Vicksburg in the river. With us when you speak of 'the river', though there are many, you mean always the same one, the great river, the shifting unappeasable god of the country, feared and loved, the Mississippi."

That lyrical hymn-to-a-watery-land opens what is arguably the most beautifully written autobiography in English. William Alexander Percy's Lanterns on the Levee has been variously voted (in polls of literary critics and English professors and professors of creative writing) the finest prose work by a writer of nonfiction, the most superior book about the South, the most significant autobiography of a poet (Percy was a major one in the 1920s/1930s), one of the most reliable works of American history between 1830 and 1940, one of the two-or-three leading volumes in the field of family-history---and in some polls it's been voted All-Of-The-Above-all-at-once.

Will Percy was an evocative man with a title (there simply can't be anything more impossibly-beautiful-and-romantic than standing on a levee beside the gurgling/drifts Mississippi at midnight, with the gentle darkness broken only by the even gentler light from a full Southern Moon and the glowing of a hundred wind-blown lanterns set on a swinging chain hung just above the lapping-waterline), and he was an accurate man with a subtitle: The subtitle of Lanterns on the Levee is "Recollections Of A Planter's Son", and even Subtitle Fanatics would have only one possible correction to suggest: It might well have been "Recollections Of The Planter's Son", for Will Percy was surely the definitive son/grandson/great-grandson of a long line of southern plantationfolk, just as his family had been the prototypical land-owning family of the Mississippi Delta---the single most productive agricultural realm on the planet. So it was entirely reasonable that Will Percy should have written a book which was itself so clearly the definitive one---the best-of-type---in all the categories listed earlier.

Before adumbrating some more about the book's history-and-significance, here are two let's-get-this-out-of-the-way-first items:

Nomenclature. Because Northern mind-set-and-terminology now dominate the nation's intellectual life so completely (as I understand it they won a war, or something, and have had it pretty much their own way ever since), I should say something for the benefit of the Northerly Benighted: A "levee" is a high barricade, built of earth or cement or both, constructed beside a major river to keep it from overflowing the countryside (the Mississippi is so massive/powerful that there's never been a successful levee on it yet, but we'll ignore that watery tangent). And a "planter" in the Deepest South is someone who owns a farm/plantation devoted to (usually) cotton or sugar or rice or tobacco---or some combination of them.

Reservations. Since the bulk of this analysis is going to make Lanterns on the Levee sound like the greatest invention since oxygenated blood, it's worth droppin in a front-end-caution: It's imperfect, and 99.1% of its imperfectionism is concentrated in one area: Percy's they're-just-children attitude toward blacks will rub many people the wrong way---and I'm one of the rubbees. But Percy's Old South Ethics in that area can be lightly passed over, partly because they're unobtrusive, partly because they're not the core of the book and not what the writer of Lanterns really Cares About, and partly because Percy was so powerfully and lovingly pro-black in a state/time where being that took a riverful of courage (he wasn't an equalitarian, but he and his family saw it as their main function to stand between Delta blacks and the animals of the Klan); people who love children are not thought of as being anti-child, and Will Percy's habit of thinking of his black friends/neighbors as children did not interfere with his habit of loving them deeply.

In saying above that the author of Lanterns on the Levee didn't really Care About the great-race-issue, I of course left unanswered the question of what he did care about. The answer is that he cared, above all, about The Land, about his Home Place. Neither his mind nor his heart concerned itself much about The Universe, The World, the United States, The South, Mississippi---even the last was such a big place to him that most of it was alien; what wasn't alien was The Delta, the strip of northwestern Mississippi which runs along The River and which features both the darkest/richest soil & the darkest/poorest population in America. In particular Will Percy knew/loved Greenville, a plain-name town (a state without a Greenville is like a politician without a felony-record: Rare), which some of us G-freaks think is much more than just the dominant town of the Delta. It may also be the Ultimate rivertown from Minneapolis to New Orleans, as well as the archetype of the southern-town-generally. Greenville no longer dominates its state, but there was a time (a century's-worth of time), when it dominated a lot more than that: Greenville controlled Mississippi, and Mississippi controlled the Deep-South contingent in Congress, and that phalanx controlled Congress. It was not inevitable that Jefferson Davis would head the Confederacy, but it was virtually inevitable that some Mississippi planter would.

Do You Know Someone who is . . .



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BY THE LIGHT OF LANTERNS ON THE LEVEE, continued

Will Percy's emotional attachment to his Home Place had 200-year roots. His ancestors had been among the earliest settlers in the beginning-years of the 1800s; his grandfather had been the leading local/Delta figure for half a century, and his father had been US Senator from Mississippi (Leroy Percy had eventually been defeated by the man his son would always refer to—as if it were his real given name—as "The Unspeakable Bilbo"; it is a rare instance of justice that the black-baiting borderline/psychopath Theodore Bilbo has now been nearly forgotten, after dominating statewide politics for 3 decades, as governor and senator). Will Percy himself was much too philosophical and contemplative to run for public office—a beautifully fortunate happenstance, because it left him free to think so deeply and write so lovingly about The River and the land it blessed and terrorized.

Only those who've never lived within gurgling-distance of The Mississippi (its majesty is such that even the "The" in front of its name should always be capitalized) will think that "terrorized" is too strong a word. People in always-moist towns like Greenville understand that it's always just a matter of time before The River chuckles moistly at the levee, roars over it, and creates a new, serious lake where there didn't used to be one. If the locals are lucky, the lake will show up where a forest used to be; if they're unlucky that year the lake will be where downtown Greenville used to be. One more used-to-be: Some people who used to be alive won't be any longer; miniature rivers can create floods which kill no one, but The Mississippi is a serious body of water, and when it decides that it is no longer amused by the levees, the dying starts.

Will Percy did some of his most profound/gentle thinking by the light of lanterns on the levees, while walking the levee-watch: With lantern in hand he would walk slowly along the top of the massive/ineffectual structure, ready to give the alarm if/when The Mississippi either broke through underneath or roared through on top. With the Muddy One already up to the top of the levee and lapping at your boots as you walked, and millions of tons of mile-wide water just waiting to tap you on the shoulder, walking with your lantern down the levee wasn't an activity which would strike most people as a good one in which to get some Serious Thinking done (unless of course it was thinking about your own mortality). But Will Percy could think deeply in that environment for the same reason people continue to live in places like Greenville: Love for the River and the R-country beside it so overpowers fear of it that megafloods come to be thought of as natural/everyday events, much like sunshine and political corruption. Those who love to spend a deep-summer/deep-S uth night listening to the gentle winds blow willow branches into a fluttering-state just a few feet above the water while children run with sparklers-and-lanterns up and down the levee and The River takes a purple-and-red-lighted excursion boat through the moonlight/starlight down towards New Orleans—those kinds of people will suffer a drowning now and then to stay right there.

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For those concerned with liberty in the world, Lanterns on the Levee is a fine/useful book quite apart from its beautiful prose and powerful sense of a Home Place. One reason is that almost everything W. P. has to say about modern governments is hyperscatalogical—from their wars to their personnel to their bureaucratic ineptitude to their criminality to their universal tendency to grow uncontrollably. A second reason is that Percy turned out to be quite a predictor: He wrote the book in the 1930s—peacetime—but he saw nothing but pointless-mass-slaughter ahead throughout the rest of the century, just as, domestically, he saw nothing save continuous government expansion/terrorism. He was much too gentle a man to have written an apocalyptic book on purpose; any reader of Lanterns on the Levee is likely to conclude that he did write one, by accident. While there are those who will suggest that a Doomsday Tone in a book is a minus rather than a plus, I'd suggest that for the rest of this century and into the next one Cassandra will be a lot more useful a girl than Pollyanna: It is a given that certain anti-liberty trends are out of control; all that's in doubt is whether we'll recognize that and react/organize accordingly. That kind of reaction is helped by books like Will Percy's; if he had written a volume which was "merely" a splendidly gorgeous introduction to The River and The Delta, he would have justified-his-life; but he went on to a double-justification by incorporating a things-are-pretty-bad-out-there-friends tenor into the book, and a man who's not afraid to take the "tragic" view of recent world history is a man who understands what's-goin'-on.

Born in 1885, Will Percy died a relatively young man in 1943. Lanterns on the Levee had been published in 1941, and it's been continually reprinted ever since. It's the lead-volume in the Library of Southern Civilization series published by the LSU Press—and I'm not alone in thinking that Lanterns comprises a kind of one-volume library of southern civilization. The book is an expertly-blended history/politics/economics/biography/autobiography/travelogue/philosophy mixture—but never for a single page will you lose track of what it mainly is: It's a celebration of Will Percy's Home Place, his River & his Delta, in memorably moving prose like this:

"There is no sound in the world so filled with mystery and longing and unease as the sound of a river-boat blowing for the landing—one long horn, two shorts, one long, two shorts. Over the somber levels of the water pours that great voice, so long prolonged it is joined by echoes from the willowed shore, a chorus of ghosts; and roused from sleep, wide-eyed and still, you are oppressed by vanished glories, the last trump, the calling of the ends of the earth, and the current, ceaselessly moving out into the dark,..... Trains rushing at night under the widening pallor of their own smoke, bearing in wild haste their single freightage of wild light, over a receding curve of thunder, have their own glory. But they are gone too quickly, like a meteor.... The sound of the riverboats hangs in your heart like a star."

And so will your memory of Lanterns on the Levee.

Asked his name by a policeman, Neville Mowlan of Bournemouth, England replied, "Rover" and began to bark. (Echo/FFWorld) Ask a silly question.... Meanwhile in Indianapolis, IN a citizen charged with drunk driving refused to take a sobriety test, and suggested that the police give the test to his dog, who had been doing the driving. And in San Diego, CA, a policeman directing traffic at a wedding was invited to sample the punch, did, and went out and ticketed 64 cars for overtime parking before realizing that he was in a drive-in movie. (FFW)

In Michigan state court ruled that, "The overwhelming evidence shows that teacher certification does not ensure teacher competency and may even inhibit it." and called state attempts to regulate private schools "an incredible conflict of interest." (Time/News-Watch Alert)

(adapted from The Activist, LP of Connecticut)

In the winter of 1932-33, caught in the throes of a great depression, the people had no one to turn to. The domestic and foreign policies of President H. Hoover seemed to have no effect, or at least no good effects. The people of the young republic gathered around a new Leader.

A man of great oratorical gifts, this Leader filled the people with a new sense of self-confidence. Tirelessly preaching a new creed of national unity, self-sacrifice, and responsibility to "the people", this Leader freely used government spending and public works projects to reduce unemployment and stimulate economic activity.

He also stressed military preparedness. Even before the republic went to war, he imposed conscription and rebuilt the armed services. He clearly foresaw the Second World War, and started many secret research projects to develop new and terrible weapons, which were used in this war, and which still dominate the arsenals of the world.

He had a dream: a united world (with himself, of course, at the head). He won a wide-spread and devoted following, even outside his own country, both for his personality and for his ideas. His power was so great that virtually no one in his own country could effectively oppose him directly. He rode roughshod over individual rights; he ground free enterprise underfoot as he put in place a system of socialistic governmental controls, made even more rigid after the start of the war with rationing and permits for food and fuel.

During the war, this socialist Leader put into effect secret police methods, such as mail censorship and telephone taps, which had been begun even before the war. A certain minority of productive citizens were rounded up and sent to detention camps; much of their property was confiscated or sold at ridiculous prices to government-official vultures. War powers of hitherto undreamed extent gave this leader total and dictatorial powers.

This leader made an alliance with another infamous socialist, Josef Stalin. His aid to Stalin caused great suffering among the non-Russian people of Eastern Europe.

This leader held power a little more than 12 years, until his death in 1945. In a terrible war against an island empire, his submarines took a terrible toll of the enemy's shipping. His air force conducted bombing raids against enemy cities in which men, women and children were killed indiscriminately. Millions of people died, and more millions suffered wounds, malnutrition, and loss of property and loved ones.

This leader died shortly before the end of the War, and did not live to see all the results, but lived long enough to see enough of them.

* * * * *

I haven't told you his name? Well, go back to the first paragraph and fill in the name of his predecessor, either Hoover-- or Hindenburg.

Born April 6: Daphne Elizabeth, daughter of Lee & Debbie Muller.

Conservative ~~Yaffee~~ Caucus & other groups are trying to defund the Left, by cutting of federal \$\$ to "advocacy organizations", including Legal Services, ACTION, and federally funded leftist groups like NOW, Rural America, Federation of Southern Cooperatives. They seem to think political organizations that don't agree with them should be supported by taxes. (Vill. Voice/Organiz. Notes) Govt. has also adopted new regulations about political activity by non-profit groups getting federal funds, such as lobbying. ("

Kentucky is demanding the names & addresses of students enrolled in church-related schools. (N-W A) Now why would they want that information? Massachusetts is trying the same.

Tertium Quid

DANIEL GLENN WALTERS

Few modern Americans have ever heard of the tertium Quids. The latin term "tertium quid" is defined as "something related in some way to two things, but distinct from both." (The American College Dictionary). The tertium Quids, also known as the Old Republicans, included John Randolph of Roanoke, John Taylor of Carolina, Nathaniel Macon, Spencer Roane and a few others. They were members of Jefferson's Democratic Party, but they previously were called Democratic-Republican and Republication, but they held to the old principles of those Southerners who had helped to write the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. They were men of stern principle who would not compromise for the sake of party unity.

They were known as Old Republicans because they believed in the principles advocated by Jefferson when he won the election of 1800. The Jeffersonian Republicans are in no way to be confused with the Abolitionist Republican Party, founded in

Jackson, Mich., in 1854, and dedicated to the destruction of States' rights. This latter party, which led the country into a bloody and uncivil war, was called Black Republican by Southerners to distinguish it from the early party of Jefferson. The term "black" had nothing to do with the Negro, but meant that the word "republican" was being used to cover something evil and fraudulent.

The name Tertium Quids was only used during the first three decades of the nineteenth century when Randolph charmed the House of Representatives with his eloquence. But the ideas of these individualists connect them with the earlier group known as the anti-Federalists, which included Patrick Henry and George Mason and with Southerners of a later period such as John C. Calhoun and Jefferson Davis.

What were these ideas? The first and foremost was States' Rights. These patriots believed that a centralization of power in the Federal Government would lead to the death of individual liberty. They detested public debt, and thus demanded not only a balanced budget, but a budget cut to the bare essentials. Nathaniel Macon would never vote to increase his small salary as a Representative. They were agrarians, meaning that they recognized the importance of agriculture as the basis of our economy and as a way of life. John Randolph's mother had told him as a boy, "Keep your land and your land will keep you." He never forgot it. The Tertium Quids distrusted government at every level and believed that only by confining its scope and its power could liberty be preserved. They feared the unlimited rule of an absolute majority, knowing that the tyranny of the mob could be worse than that of a king or dictator. They demanded strict honesty in public as well as private life, not accepting the notion that politics can only operate by deception, graft, and disregard of principle.

John Tyler was the closest we ever came to having a Tertium Quid as President. He was a Whig, but he held to most of the old principles. Tyler vetoed the national banking act and other legislation proposed by Henry Clay which would today be thought of as liberal legislation. As a result his cabinet resigned, and he replaced them with men who believed in States' rights. Since he stood on principle instead of party politics, he was denied renomination.

We are fortunate today to still have a few good men and women who would qualify as Tertium Quids.

At Stanford Univ. Steven Mosher was dropped from a graduate program for PhD in anthropology for revealing to a news magazine in Taiwan that in mainland China, where he had been doing research, the government routinely forces women in the 7th & 8th months of pregnancies to have abortions. (ergo)

In Killingly, CT, Delta Rubber Co. which makes windshield wiper blades for American cars has refused to allow employees to park foreign-made cars in the company parking lot. (Mass. High Tech/Ergo)

National Coalition of Alternative Schools is offering accreditation to qualified alternative schools including home schools: for details, Box 2823, Santa Fe, NM 87501.

Write Speak Up, Box 272, Toronto, Ont M5T 2W2, & send 75¢ for the April issue, with a 2 page article by Neil Reynolds, leader of the Libertarian Party, on "The Protection Racket".

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BOBBLE SPEAK

the truth shall set you free

Grove City College, PA, is holding an Institute on Public Policy and Private Enterprise June 12-17 with various conservative & libertarian speakers. \$235.

Deborah Pisciotto, 28, of Barnstable, MA has been jailed for statutory rape for sex with her 15-year old boyfriend. (GCNews) Only in Massachusetts.

California hopes to conserve 150 million gallons of fuel by computerizing its stoplights (20,000+) to improve the flow of traffic. (DCGaz)

In its first 1 1/2 yr. in office, the Reagan administration trimmed the federal bureaucracy, by 18 people, or an average on 1 person per month. (DCGaz)

American University replaced 92 janitorial employees with a private contractor who does the job with half as many, and will save the university \$1/2 million. (various) Let's hope they spend the savings on education, not administration or athletics.

Latest secession movement: Georgetown, DC has a campaign, led by a neighborhood paper, to secede from DC and join Maryland. (various)

"Only an 'intellectual revolution' will deliver us from the tragic results of the politicians and the bureaucrats running the economy and our lives through ill-gotten government power." - Dr. Ron Paul (R-TX)

Architects planning the new Ministry of Finance in Paris have been told to leave plenty of open space around the building so the police can control any attacks by mobs of angry taxpayers, and to provide ways to escape from the building in such an event. (Le Monde/Duck Book) I can think of the ideal building. Unfortunately, they tore the Bastille down.

In Murray, UT, policeman Royston Potter was fired for polygamy, and is suing, claiming that what he does in his spare time is none of the town's business. (Sp)

Judge Matthew Perry, US 4th Circ., has told U of South Carolina that it must officially recognize and allow meetings on campus of Gay Student Assoc. (GCNews)

"We have 20 guys in shorts who can go all night," says an ad for, no - I know what you're thinking - the Pittsburgh Spirit soccer team. Attendance is up.

El Salvador's land reform suffered a setback when the largest cattle ranch was divided, and the breeding stock given to the peasants, who ate them. (N-W Alert)

Sidewalk preachers at a street fair in Monroe, MI were arrested and in one case sentenced to 90 days + 2 yr. probation with an order to seek mental health counseling. (News-Watch Alert)

"The glory of God is a human being fully alive. The life of a human being is the vision of God." - St. Irenaeus of Lyons, 2nd cent. A. D.

Spain's (classic) Liberal Party has elected 2 to Parliament, Evaristo Amat of Valencia to the upper & Pedro Schwartz of Madrid to the lower house. (LPNews)

Poet Armando Valladares Perez has been released after 21 years as "a potential enemy of the state" (Cuba). "Man is a marvel of nature. To torture him,

to destroy him, to murder him for his ideas must be, more than a violation of human rights, a crime against all humanity," he wrote. (Matchbox)

Amnesty International meets June 9-12 in Atlanta, at Emory U. You can join by writing 304 W 58th St, NYC 10019, or finding your local chapter.

From 1978 to 1982 the number of "illegal tax protest returns" received by the IRS increased from 5,694 to 39,764. (AP) The IRS, in its total disdain of the English tongue, does not realize that, grammatically, what it is saying is that these returns were protesting illegal taxes.

Retailers report that more people are paying with coins, which they are presumably getting from raiding piggy banks. (Funny Funny World)

"Is it fair that a losing football coach is fired, while a teacher who hasn't been able to teach spelling remains on the faculty until retirement?" (FFWorld)

Banque Gutzwiller, Kurz, Bugener has asked a court in Geneva, Switzerland, to declare Costa Rica in default on \$9+ million in bonds issued in 1980. (AWF)

Send SASE to Harold Thomas, Box 251, Germantown, MD 20874 for a bumpersticker, white & gold on green, "America Needs Honest Money/Demand the Gold Standard."

A jury in Chicago took matters into their own hands and acquitted Raymond Garland of not filing income tax returns for 1976-1979 to the surprise of the judge & prosecutor. (Spot.)

Friends of peace are urged to write letters in support of Oleg Radzinsky, Alexander Shatravka, & Vladimir Mishchenko, arrested for unofficial activities in support of peace. Radzinsky is at the Serbsky Institute, Kropotkinsky per., d. 9, Moscow. The head of the unofficial peace group is artist Sergei Batovrin, ul. Krupskoi 5, kv. 96, Moscow. Write to Yuri Zhukov, Soviet Peace Committee, Prospekt Mira 36, Moscow, and to Ambassador Anatoli Dobrynin, 1125 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Dietlib Felderer has been jailed in Sweden for saying the Nazis didn't kill 6 million Jews. (various)

Latest cultural signal is a C&W song out, "BASIC Ain't the Language of Love." (DCGaz)

In Denmark any group of 28 parents can set up a private school and the govt. will pay 85% of the cost of operating a public school, provided the parents raise the other 15%; about 14% of the children in Denmark attend 500 such schools. In the Netherlands 70% attend schools run by groups, mostly religious, that operate independent schools funded by the govt. (DCGaz)

In White Plains, NY Joanne Murphy received a letter mailed May 6, 1930 recently, with a 1¢ stamp. (Reporter Dispatch/FFWorld)

Two community organizations have gone to court & gotten an order for Office of Surface Mining to actually collect all the fines it has imposed on strip miners who have violated safety regulations and/or done damage to neighboring property, some \$40 million. (Mtn Life & Work)

The postal gestapo bill, renamed S450 and HR 1342 is back; please write your congressperson. It would give P O powers not even held by IRS.

Survey of grad students at Columbia U. shows 85% liberal, 4% voted for Reagan, 59% for Carter, 29% for Anderson. Only 1/4 say private enterprise system is fair and do not believe US is responsible for poverty in Third World. (Chr. Beacon, YHNews) I wonder who they think was responsible for poverty in 3rd World before 1776?

Rose Haynes is trying to get her pants back from the IRS. She left them at a dry cleaner, who was padlocked by the IRS in a payroll tax dispute. (YHN)

Harold Washington, a disbarred attorney who did not file federal income tax returns for 19 years, recently got what was coming to him in Chicago: he was elected mayor. (var.)

THE TALE OF VIKKI DOUGAN

by Bob Brakeman

Although it isn't true that all the world's cults originate in Los Angeles, it is true that all the good ones start there; the demented ones are invariably the products of the East, the South, the Midwest, and the non-LA parts of the West. (Don't send me argumentative letters; I have a headache.)

The dominant Los Angeles cult-figure of the early 1960s was probably Vikki Dougan, model. (I say "probably" only because of the existence of a girl out at Malibu who used to do several eccentric things with a baton, none of which involved twirling it.) Vikki was an unusual model, for she appeared in public in one-and-just-one dress. One dress might seem to be several-dresses-too-few for the wardrobe of a professional model, but apparently Vikki had taken too seriously her mother's advice to always try to be "at one with the universe". Either that, or she noticed that there was something about this dress which got her 957% more publicity than all those other models with all their many-dresses-per-person. There was nothing unusual about the dress's hemline: Vikki wasn't getting all her attention because it was a mega/micro-mini which revealed her legs all the way up to the Andromeda Galaxy. Nor was the neckline cut breathtakingly low; Vikki Dougan's picture wasn't being taken 1.3 times per minute because her cleavage was visible all the way down to Key West. And to anticipate your incipient question (we all know how your mind works....), she didn't become the most photographed woman in Los Angeles because her one-dress/only-dress was transparent, in whole or in part; it was made of standard/opaque material which revealed Nothing Very Interesting.

So what was it? Although you of course deserve no hints (those not already part of the Vikki Dougan Cult aren't usually people worth saving), here's the kind I would give you if you were more worthy: it comes in the form of a song written/performed by the Lintelights, a popular folk group of the early 60s; its title was simply "Vikki Dougan":

"Vikki, turn your back on me,
Come on darlin', just for me,
Cuz there is something so appealing,
That your eyes are not revealing,

Other girls who approach me,
Are beautiful, gorgeous and gay,
But you're so gosh-darn more inviting,
Going the other way....

Vikki, baby, you rock me,
In those far-out clothes,
But don't it get chilly flyin' home at night,
When that cold-cold tail-wind blows...."

Vikki Dougan's dress, you see, was cut so low in back that it revealed a whole new cleavage. (All of you who are now reading suspiciously a double-meaning into the title of this article obviously have your sense of literary propriety in-arrears.) A lot of cleavage. Enough to send the local hack/prosecutors thumbing through whatever it is they thumb through to see if something is "obscene". Either their thumbing turned up nothing very interesting or they were just as crazy about Vikki (the temptation to use her initials must of course be resisted) as everyone else was. Vikki had no legal problems, and so she spent much of 1960/1961 going to restaurants/movies/plays/ballgames in her special dress---and she spent the same years giving interviews about that dress and herself, having her picture appear all over publications which have good enough values to print pictures like that, and helpfully giving emergency first aid to drivers who totalled their cars when glimpsing her walking down the Southern California sidewalk. Along with Khrushchev she was barred from Disneyland; Walt liked an exposed derriere only when it was on a Mouse.

Vikki, when interviewed, turned out to be extremely intelligent and literate, and she had so much fun with her little project that it was impossible for even the most prudish not to have fun with her. When she finally disappeared as suddenly as she'd come into view (& when Vikki came into view, she came into view....), those of us who were part of her Cult felt that she'd justified her entire life's-existence by that two-year period of media-fun. We didn't suspect that she'd later prove to be once-again-useful, this time in a way which mattered more than her first incarnation.

Her second appearance didn't involve Vikki herself---just her picture. No fan of hers would dare call himself that without possessing 1,097 pix of her---most of them featuring Vikki looking back-over-her-shoulder at the camera (only myself and a 9-year-old kid from Tarzana seemed to notice that she had a strikingly beautiful face to go with Everything Else). 15 years after Vikki's fame/years, in the mid-70s, an especially dramatic version of one of those pictures began to appear on poles and billboards and telephone booths and buses and cabs all over a locale that I'll name in a moment; first I have to describe the picture itself: it featured an especially-low-cut version of The Dress, one done in Appaling Pink (that 7.35 shades beyond Shocking Pink), a color which contrasted memorably with Vikki's always-hyper-tanned flawless skin---and if I do any more describing it's going to shake me up enough that I won't be able to continue with this saga.

Those pictures were put to good use in the Society Islands. Although you may think you may not have heard of them, you have---in the form of their most famous member, Tahiti. Also included in the group are such isles as Bora Bora (people tend to gasp audibly when they first see its startling beauty coming up out of the mist), Tetiaroa (Marlon Brando's island), Raiatea (phrases about grown-men-crying come to life when men have to leave there), and Moorea (in two separate votes it was chosen the most beautiful island on Earth; one was a poll of European travel-writers, the other my own poll of my own personal opinion---though a strolling gull on the beach there appeared to agree with me). As part of a drive to get some libertarian activities started in the Societies, myself and some other enthusiasts needed an Attention Getter that we could use on handbills and posters trying to get people to come to meetings at various locations. Feeling that Vikki Dougan should always have been more famous than she became (although she appeared on the Jack Paar Show, her fame was mainly limited to Los Angeles County), I decided we would honor her retroactively by putting her Pink Shot on all the handbills and posters. Vikki's Visage was soon all over French Polynesia; there was then some Heat (and you thought prudenes were common only in America....) and the pictures began to come down as quickly as they'd gone up. But by then we'd accomplished our goal (or as the bad guys would have said: By then the damage had been done): So many people had stopped to read the posters because of Vikki's picture on them that we invariably got good turnouts for the meetings designed to begin a mini-libertarian community out there in the Southwest Pacific. Those turnouts led to enough people getting to know that they shared similar views to cause them to start acting-together in certain anti-government activities (adumbrated elsewhere in the writings of the present author). Because it had been Vikki Dougan who had brought everyone together (the men out of libido & the women out of curiosity), we all, Forever After, felt a lot of warmth for Vikki (that is different from feeling warm when you look at her picture). There is now a serious pro-liberty grouping out in mid-Polynesia, & though those comprising it are too rational to believe in saints, if we had a Patron Saint it would be: Saint Vikki. In our dogma she'd be the saint you'd call on when you've been in an auto accident in which you were rear-ended, or when you feared that the world was coming to an end.

--The End--

WANT TO KNOW WHO RUNS THE U.S.A. AND POSSIBLY MOST OF THE WORLD?

READ THE 148-PAGE, MUCH QUOTED BUT NEVER REVIEWED REPRINT OF EUSTACE MULLINS' BOOK

THE FEDERAL RESERVE CONSPIRACY

This book tells when, where, how and by whom Congress was "persuaded" to give the stockholders of a privately owned banking corporation the power to create paper currency and make you pay interest for its use.

With this power, the Federal Reserve owners rapidly gained control through usurpation of the powers given Congress by the Constitution.

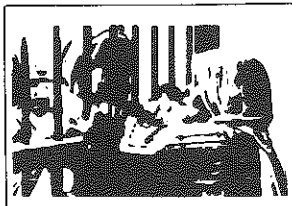
Send \$3.00 (U.S.) to cover my cost, postage and handling to:

Edward Durell / P.O. Box 586-DB / Berryville, VA 22611 / U.S.A.

Add an additional \$1.00 (U.S.) if you want my 40-page documentary pamphlet, "Mr. President, Where Is Our Gold?", containing the Treasury's own tally showing that the nation's net loss in gold was 341 million ounces or 52% of the once huge hoard during the 41 years 1958-98:

Possibly the Greatest Theft in History!

A Universal Amnesty for All Prisoners of Conscience



THOUSANDS of men and women are in prison throughout the world solely because of their political or religious beliefs. Others are held because of their colour or ethnic origin. These are Prisoners of Conscience — none has used or advocated violence.

NONE of these people should be in prison. The fact that they have been arrested and punished because of their beliefs or origins is an affront to humanity. They should be freed unconditionally.

WE CALL FOR A UNIVERSAL AMNESTY FOR ALL PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

WE BELIEVE that such an amnesty, backed by the United Nations and declared by all governments, is possible. It would give effect to the moral and legal principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

WE ISSUE this call in the belief that there is an indissoluble link between human rights and peace. An amnesty for all prisoners of conscience would be an unparalleled act in the building of international confidence and the promotion of fundamental freedoms. It would advance respect for human rights everywhere, securing thereby the foundations for justice, freedom and peace.

Name	Address
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

This appeal extends to all those adopted as prisoner of conscience by Amnesty International and to those falling within its definition of such prisoners.

All Signed petitions should be returned to:

Amnesty International USA, 304 West 58th Street, New York N.Y. 10019

THE COURT ON FLAG BURNING

BY JACK SUNDINE

In case you missed it, the U.S. Supreme Court, by an incredible 8 to 1 majority, refused to hear arguments that convictions of two persons for burning a U.S. flag were violations of their First Amendment rights.

Teresa Kime and Donald Bonwell were convicted and sentenced to eight months in jail for burning a flag, owned by Kime, during a demonstration in Greensboro NC two years ago.

The two were convicted under a federal law imposing penalties on anyone who "knowingly casts contempt upon any flag of the United States by publicly mutilating, defacing, defiling, burning or trampling on it." That law is seldom used.

The American Civil Liberties Union "is opposed to legislation which imposes criminal sanctions for publicly...[destroying] the flag of the United States. Although we understand the strong patriotic sentiments that inspire such legislation, we believe that flag burning...is a form of symbolic speech, an expression of political dissent.

"Such laws thus violate the First Amendment protection of freedom of expression...."

Where do we go from here?

Sex and More Sex

Retired principal O. A. Nelson of Minneapolis-St. Paul recalls that at a meeting of Progressive Educators in 1928, he objected to a math program that stressed memory rather than reasoning and "modern math", and was told, "Wake up! This is what we want: a math that pupils cannot apply to life situations when they get out of school!" (Speak Up) So!

Arkansas legislature has called for repeal of Federal Reserve Act. (var.)

"Roth will hold hearings this Spring that are expected to produce evidence that the illegal use of offshore banks is no longer the exclusive province of big money" declares AP. (PSL) As long as "big money" were the only ones doing it, they did not mind?

Richard Hollembeak & Marsha Forsythe wed April 19 at Wilmington.

South Carolina charges insurance companies \$1 million a year for processing death & accident statistics, a job that private computer services have offered to do for \$30,000. But this, avers the state would eliminate 5 relatives-of-politicians, who would be out of ~~work~~ jobs. (various)

Weldon Smith of Aerospace Technology, Columbia, SC, reports that not only are city and county officials not interested in cutting costs, but neither are the community Action Agency nor the Highway Dept. The latter, he says, could save \$2-\$3 million in costs.

In Granite City, IL, a policeman raided the garden of a local resident, seeking marijuana, and confiscated 94 okra plants. (Playboy/LPNews) We gotta teach those Yankees some basic botany.

Asked why the Natl. Highway Traffic Safety Admin. has to pay a Beltway Bandit \$23,008 to write a simple business letter announcing that a car has been recalled for defects, Raymond Peck told Congress, "I am not skilled in linguistics", and was told he should learn how to write a simple business letter. (WPost/LPNews) Indeed, not only is he not skilled in linguistics, he doesn't seem to know what it is - the study of the development of a language, which is not the same as how to compose simple prose in that language.

NC Libertarians meet in Wilmington June 11. SC Libertarians meet in Columbia June 11. Alabama Libertarians meet in Birmingham June 11. Natl. platform Comm. meets in Austin June 11. I shall therefore divide myself into 4 parts.....

Disk jockey Paul Young of WVBK got a raise by locking himself in the studio for 12 hours and playing "Take this Job & Shove it" for 12 hr. Management apparently doesn't know where the breaker box is, or can't take a hint.

IRS intends to be fair

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Internal Revenue Service aims to wield its vast new powers so fairly and efficiently in the new year that even people who lose their homes to pay taxes will admire it, the agency's chief said Monday.

IRS commissioner Roscoe Egger said new tax laws for 1983 and more sophisticated computer techniques will mean more Americans can expect to hear from the tax collector next year, but the percentage of audits will decline.

"We've got a difficult, even disagreeable task of having to deal with a relatively few people who

want to frustrate the system and for purposes of their own greed want to rationalize ways of not paying their share," Egger told United Press International in an interview.

But the goal of the agency is to be as even-handed as it is tough.

"We've had letters in here from people, where we have been forced to ultimately take their homes and sell them to collect the tax, who have congratulated us on the professional manner in which that job was carried out, notwithstanding that it was a terribly grievous thing to them," he said.

"Dear Sirs:

Thanks for taking my house and throwing me out in the street. Will you drop by and beat me up sometime?"