

Massachusetts LIBERTY

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER
VOL. I., NO. 26
I THINK

NEWSLETTER OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS LIBERTARIAN PARTY

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- **AND WHOLE LOTS OF INTERESTING ODDS AND ENDS**

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**MASSACHUSETTS DELEGATION
SAVES PRES CON'S BLEEP ***

*(Ed. Sorry for the deletion, friends, but Steven really does get carried away with his words now and then)

by Steve Trinward

As promised last month, here is Part II of Steve Trinward's convention coverage. This time I hardly deleted a word -- though I must admit to cleaning up some of his atrocious spelling.

The above title may seem a bit overstated, even to those who attended the 1975 Libertarian Party Convention in New York last August. In truth, however, a handful of delegates, alternates and sympathizers, led by the contingent from the "home-of-the-bean-and-the-cod", joined forces to thwart a dangerous attempt to eviscerate the libertarian vision, and probably saved the event from becoming a rerun of the 1969 YAF Convention, where it all began.

The heroes were many. A few stalwarts from far-flung climes such as Maryland, Colorado, California (only occasionally, despite the LPC's reputation for activism) and Oklahoma. There was the New York contingent, 25 delegates and countless alternates strong, who tended to split about evenly between "reactionary fascists" and "wild-eyed revolutionaries" (as the two sides occasionally labelled each other). There were even a few revisionist running-dogs of openminded stripe, who favored compromises throughout, and did their best to find them.

But finally there was the tiny delegation from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, variously described as "the only place in 1972 to reject pragmatic conservative Republicanism", "home of John Hancock, noted smuggler...", and, of course, the "cradle of liberty" (and Philadelphia can go to blazes). Seven representatives were allowed on the floor at one time, and at no time before Sunday afternoon was our delegation undermanned (with the exception of Chair-entity Long, whose post was irreplaceable as he was an ex-officio delegate). Moreover, there were invariably at least two alternates, not directly participating in the voting, but on the floor, fully cognizant of the issues at hand, speaking to the undecideds, and often swaying the intransigents in the process. Throughout the platform debate there were Massachusetts Yankees twisting arms, tallying roll call votes, rewriting planks, and generally making life miserable for those who, unchecked, would have diluted the libertarian

LIBERDATES

Beginning with this issue, *Liberdates* will become a regular part of *LIBERTY*. If you know of any events of interest to Libertarians in or around the Bay State, please contact David Long, 95 Centre St., Brookline 02146 (232-0050). Please try to give as much lead time as possible.

December 7 at 1:00 P.M.
State Committee Meeting will be held at David Long's home, 95 Centre Street, Brookline (232-0050). Open to members and non-members.

December 7 immediately following SC Mtg.
Walter Ziobro has called the first meeting of the Rules Committee to discuss proposed amendments *et alia* in order to avoid some of the problems that came up in last year's convention. All interested parties are invited to attend.

December 8 at 8:00 P.M.
Pre-Grand Opening Party, Avenue Victor Hugo Bookstore (See enclosed flier).

December 11 at 7:00 P.M.
TANSTAAFL Dinner Series presents Murray Rothbard on "Moral Principles and Political Action", if he can figure it out by then. Hong Kong Restaurant (call Lee Nason for directions 864-6497). \$3.00 in advance; \$4.00 at the door, plus meal cost. Write: CSSS, Box 920, Boston, Mass. 02103.

December 14 at Noon
All interested candidates for public office and/or people who would like to try their hand at managing a campaign are invited to Lee Nason's home for an organizational meeting. Wine will be served. 929 Mass. Ave. Apt 11D, Cambridge (864-6497).

January 17-18
National Executive Committee meets in New Orleans. If you have some free time and money, and want to participate in the recently formed Anarcho-Alcoholic Caucus, contact national HQ (wherever that may be) for details.

January 25 at 1:00 P.M.
Libertarian Party of Massachusetts State Membership Meeting. All welcome. Bring a friend. Informal dinner will follow the meeting (TANSTAAFDinner). To be held in Room 3-133 at M.I.T., 77 Mass. Ave. Cambridge. Call Lee Nason for details and directions, 864-6497.



DAVIDSON SPEAKS AT TANSTAAFL DINNER

by Walter Olson

"The essence of politics is that it fails," said National Taxpayers Union chief James Davidson in a speech at the TANSTAAFL dinner series. Davidson, a libertarian who is also an editorialist for *Penthouse* magazine, spoke to about 50 libertarians Oct. 22 at the Hong Kong restaurant in Cambridge.

Davidson's talk centered on ways to win the acceptance of libertarian ideas by the general public. He asserted that the political process is inherently resistant to principled ideas and advocated an appeal to what he termed people's "lower instincts." He cited as evidence of the public's unreliability an energy survey in which vast numbers of respondents claimed to have installed a "thermidor" in their cars, although no such device in fact exists.

Davidson related a number of anecdotes about New York City government including a story about the Gotham bureaucracy whose sole purpose was to stamp out illegal bingo games. One citizen arrived at the office one afternoon to find a janitor sweeping the otherwise empty room. "Oh," said the New Yorker, "I didn't realize they didn't work in the afternoon." "You've got it all wrong," said the janitor. "In the *morning* they don't work. In the afternoon, they don't show up."

The audience laughed when Davidson recalled John Kenneth Galbraith's remark in the 1960's that there was nothing wrong with New York City that a doubling of the municipal budget couldn't cure. He compared the choice of Keynesian vs. Marxist economics to a choice of drowning in ten or twelve feet of water.

One of the many problems of electoral politics, he said, was the inability of elected officials to take principled stands on issues gravely affecting their districts. He quoted Senator Proxmire of Wisconsin: "I could afford to be against the SST -- but not if it were powered by milk." The constant pressure for government spending results from the disparity between the diffuse interest of taxpayers and the concentrated interest of recipients of funds.

On a more optimistic note, Davidson stated that various areas in the West have such an anti-government atmosphere that not only Internal Revenue agents but all Federal bureaucrats refuse to enter them, mindful of the unanimous hostility of the residents. If such areas become more

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ASSOCIATION OF LIBERTARIAN LAWYERS ORGANIZES

The following is a press release from the Association of Libertarian Lawyers:

The Association of Libertarian Lawyers (A.L.L.) held its organizing conference on August 31, 1975, at the Statler Hilton Hotel in New York City. A group of about 30 attorneys and law students, from several states, participated in the meeting.

Reporting on the efforts of the Organizing Committee, Donald Feder told the gathering that as a result of its first two mailings the Association had received offers of support from 84 attorneys and law students in twenty states, the D.C., and Canada, and now has student contacts at 17 law schools. These mailings also raised over \$400.00 in contributions.

The organizing conference chose to retain the name Association of Libertarian Lawyers, in recognition of the importance of identifying the group with the libertarian philosophy.

In the area of membership structure, it was decided to have two classes of members; regular members - which class includes attorneys, law students, law graduates, and other legal professionals (to be broadly defined), and associated members. Only the former class will have voting privileges.

Don Feder, an attorney in practice in upstate New York and chairman of the Capital District Free Libertarian Party, was elected President of the A.L.L. Linda Abrams, a Los Angeles lawyer who specializes in civil liberties cases, was elected Vice President. The other officers are Dennis Schuman, a graduate of St. Johns University Law School, who practices in the negligence field in New York City, and Dolores Grande, librarian at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Treasurer.

Standing Committees were established to draft a constitution, by-laws, and statement of principles and to work in several areas of interest. Linda Abrams will chair the Litigation Committee, which hopes to begin filing *amicus curiae* briefs in precedent setting cases, and to generally explore the use of the judicial system to expand individual freedom.

Ralph Fucetola, a New Jersey lawyer and director of a private arbitration service, is chairman of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee. This committee is presently working on a statement of principles, which will enunciate the Associa-

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FROM THE CHAIR

A very important development is now taking place within our State Party; a development which will be absolutely vital to the spread and growth of the Libertarian ideal, and ultimately to the success of the Libertarian Party as a political organization. This development is the organization of local LP chapters throughout Massachusetts.

The first local chapter to form is Suffolk County (Boston). Details of their recent organizing meeting may be found elsewhere in this issue of LIBERTY. Other areas which should see the formation of local chapters in the near future include; East Middlesex (Cambridge, Somerville, Watertown, Belmont, etc.); North Shore (Peabody, Marblehead, Gloucester, etc.); and Brookline-Newton. Two other areas which hold considerable promise for the intermediate term future are the South Shore (Brockton, Fall River and vicinity), and East-Central Massachusetts (Framingham-Worcester and environs).

Why are local chapters so important to our development as a genuine political force? There are a number of reasons. First of all, it is crucial to bring the ideals and practices of libertarianism to the grass-roots level. People generally identify more closely with issues directly affecting their property, their lives and their pocketbooks when they can understand those issues and when they are close to home. For example, very few people really get excited listening to a libertarian discussion of private monetary systems or of distributive justice. But talk to them about the possibility of directly cutting their local taxes by such schemes as contractual garbage collection or private fire protection companies, and they'll listen. And argue. And organize.

Another, related reason for the formation of local chapters is simple logistics. A libertarian running for office in Boston should not have to count on the support of libertarians in Marblehead or Worcester or Brookfield. Every town, every county, has its unique problems and concerns. The issues facing the people of Boston are not the same as those facing the people of, say, Westborough. You know the problems of your town, but how well do you know the problems of the town next to yours. Or the town next to that one?

No single group, even one so incredibly brilliant and talented as the Massachusetts LP's State Committee, can possibly



Our FEARLESS LEADER modeling the cap that won the heart of CBS at the National Convention.

PROPOSED PSEUDO-CRIME REPEAL AMENDMENT

by Richard W. Smith

- I. The only just and proper purpose of governments being the protection of inalienable rights, neither the Congress of the United States nor the legislatures of the several states shall make any law either prohibiting or making mandatory any action which does not violate an inalienable right of some other person.
- II. Immediately upon ratification of this amendment by the required number of states, that portion of any and every law which is not in accord with section I of this amendment shall be null and void!
- III. Upon ratification of this amendment by the required number of states, any person now convicted of any pseudo-crime shall be granted unconditional and immediate pardon and released with utmost dispatch from that portion of his/her imprisonment and/or probation which is the direct result of having committed any pseudo-crime!!!



BOOK REVIEW

The Crazy From the Sane
by Peter Breggin

Reviewed by Richard K. Kenney

While it is far from being a tract for the times, this novel carries, forcefully and at length, a message: the dread evil of institutional psychiatry.

The characters of *The Crazy From the Sane* are unforgettable, their thoughts and actions depicted with feeling, insight, and skill. But the message is central. People who prefer their literature devoid of didacticism had better stay away. This is a story in the didactic tradition of Ibsen, Shaw, and Rand. With an extra touch of sensitivity.

The central characters are two interns in psychiatry, Aaron and Jay, and their story is the story of dedication, idealism, and integrity up against the fist in the velvet glove of the therapeutic state. There is more, much more. A panoply of patients slowly but steadily being robbed of their humanity by the powers controlling Grand State Hospital. The administrators and doctors in command and the other student psychiatrists learning the logic of coercive humanitarianism. Aaron's wife, Auden. Breggin's economical style swings over a wide range of experience: romantic love, confusion in distinguishing the real from the apparent, respect for ability and effort, the ex-
CONTINUED IN NEXT COLUMN

BOOK REVIEW - *The Crazy From the Sane*
CONTINUED FROM THE LAST COLUMN

citement of growth and change, friendship, the insight of radical theorizing, fear, and more.

But the core of the tale is truth. That "too much of psychiatry is really aimed at destroying the individual's conscience and his capacity to make his own individual meaning out of life." That "any time we (psychiatrists) want to do something to somebody, we call him sick to justify it. We're the new priests, the secular priests, the moral authorities, and we spend our time imposing our values on everyone else... There's only one way to do away with all this nonsense, and that's to get rid of the whole idea of mental illness...It's really a political concept, a justification for robbing people of their human rights. An excuse for limited totalitarianism." Because, as one of the administrators tellingly remarks, "My God, boy, if he knew what was best for him, he wouldn't be here in the first place. That's a fundamental!"

The Crazy From the Sane is packed with insights into the fundamentals of institutional psychiatry. It is a tribute to Peter Breggin's artistic talent that, even when the message does not completely convince, the characters and events provide a powerful, believable experience.



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CONVENTION COVERAGE CON'T. FROM PAGE 1 COL. 1

vision in the interest of capturing an extra vote or two. (QUERY: when one's chance of election is comparable to that of Congress deregulating our blighted economy tomorrow, or of Judge Garrity advocating a voucher plan, is it worthwhile to wage a "safe", low-key campaign which gets votes rather than a principled, out-front effort which tells the world what liberty really means? It's my opinion that a principled quest will outpoll a compromising one in the long run anyway, and that any "benefits" to be gained from a less-than-thorough challenge to the State's power will result in a collapse in the future -- a missing brick in a foundation will ultimately cause a complete cave-in!)

So what, you ask, has this to do with Massachusetts, the LP Convention, or the cause of liberty in general? Simply this: in the five days I spent at the Statler Hilton (christened "Liberty Central" by one starry-eyed delegate), I witnessed at least six attempts to dilute the libertarian vision. In each case, the question concerned public acceptance of our ideas. It was stated each time, one way or another, that taking a firm stand on the issue at hand would alienate a sizeable portion of the voting public. The justifications were all similar: "They'll think we're a bunch of radicals!" (We are!) "The entire right wing will leave us!" (Given the inconsistencies in the so-called 'Conservative position', good riddance!) "We can't let this become a one-issue campaign!"

Whatever the reasons, they were based on an unclear formulation of the libertarian vision; but no matter what the issue was, our brave band of insurgents drove this point home. The reluctant leader of the fight to preserve our principles undiluted was Massachusetts delegate Robert Nozick. The Professor/Doctor/Bob had been the subject of a great deal of speculation before the convention among our delegation: many felt him to be a celebrity selection, adding credence to our presence, but not expected to participate in the deliberations other than the obligatory "Aye" or "Nay", with an occasional "Second" or two thrown in for good measure.

Guess again. If there had been an award presented for the Most Valuable Delegate, Bob Nozick would have won by acclamation (despite the convention precedent of scorning such collectivistic devices). From the time he first left the floor, just after the initial death of the Government Secrecy issue (to write a new plank, which said the same thing in more precise terms) to the final tally for Veep Sunday noon, Bob was either striding

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CONVENTION COVERAGE CON'T. FROM LAST COLUMN

to the microphone (to propose, clarify, or enlarge upon a point of contention) or huddling with any number of delegates, party hacks, and candidates to determine the facts of the case and then to act upon that knowledge.

His dedication to the cause was never so evident as when he cancelled plans to leave Saturday night, and stayed to contest the Vice-Presidential nomination process, presenting a stirring, extemporaneous nomination speech in the process. There was even talk, despite his projected Israeli sabbatical next year, of dumping MacBride and running Nozick for President! (Bob would have none of it, and the clamor died down.)

Another supposed throw-in to the Commonwealth's delegation was Rich Kenney, although anyone who worked with him over the years of his Boston residence knows there is no more dedicated freedom fighter around. Still, his *absentia* selection was viewed by some as a barrier to hard-working MLP also-rans.

Rich was instrumental, from before the opening gavel (as a member of the Platform Committee) to after most of us were home and catching up on sleep, in keeping the convention from becoming another 1969 YAF fiasco. His often-emotional (but ever principled) arguments on everything from foreign policy to gay rights swayed more than one delegate from copping a plea of pragmatism; his firm support of Kay Harroff kept sanity on the horizon in the Presidential mudwars. (Not that Kay was the perfect candidate herself, but her virtues surely deserved notice!) Then after most of the shouting had subsided, Rich waged a successful candidacy for Executive Committee-at-Large, thus assuring the movement's visionary segment of a strong voice (and a watchdog over the pragmatists) at headquarters.

There were others of course. Chair _____ (fill in the blank with the concept of your choice) David E. Long, our ill-starred Hizzoner, swung creditable weight with the delegation, especially when he convinced a couple of intransigents to join the "vote-of-principle" in favor of John Vernon, thus making Massachusetts' decision a "white ballot" for the likeable Oklahoman. David also deserves credit for being able to admit he was wrong on the MacBride question, not in a substantive way, but in the area of objectivity. For weeks before the convention David had extolled the virtues of Round Roger, and the opening gavel did little to cool his ardor. But when the facts (!?) presented themselves on

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CONVENTION COVERAGE CON'T. FROM PAGE 5 COL. 2

Saturday afternoon, with MacBride threatening veto power over two consecutive candidates for running-mate, David was most concerned, and the Massachusetts's all-night "radical caucus" (as it became known) produced a state (UGH! And I've been doing such a good job of avoiding that word) party chairbeast with a lot to say on behalf of the fledgling Dump-Roger (Sack-the-Mac?) movement. The following day it's just possible that MacBride, seeing one of his staunchest supporters leading a revolt, decided that a million votes (in his estimation) were not worth a divisive rift in the Libertarian movement.

Dave Reardon was a factor, too, although few realized how important he was. From an also-ran alternate, selected in a special election a month after our glorious happening at the Lenox, Dave became the man who...The man who collected our delegation from a variety of parties, bull sessions, and beds (one or two people actually expected to get some sleep that night!) to caucus until 4:30 in the ayem over who should be gracing our ticket (I'll never forget the look on Manny Klausner's face when we told him he was not the subject of our deliberations -- that we were actually discussing whether to advocate changing Presidential candidates!)...The man who, the following morning, was the only one with enough presence of mind to question whether John Vernon had secured nominating and seconding speakers (he had not) when the party-archy (I yield to Sam Conkin for a spelling correction) sought to deny his candidacy on a technicality. Reardon was the one who brought up the question, went to Vernon's side, got together what forces he could at the back of the room, and basically engineered the whole nomination process.

FACES IN THE CROWD: Lee Nason, Lee Webber, Temperance Snow, and Steve Trinward, who joined Kenney and Reardon in the all-night vigil and caucus. David Brenner, Mike Shanley, Warren Roberts, and all others who held out with Long, Kenney, and Nozick until the cobwebs were too thick to ignore (it would have done little good to stay up all night if the entire delegation was asleep during role call). Sylvia Sanders, who deserves more notice than I have space for, for her hours spent, both with our caucus and out in the crowd, mingling and picking up rumors (that's all we had to go on for a while, but about ninety percent turned out to be true!), and for convincing her fellow Washington delegates to yield to Massachusetts for the Vernon nomination.

CONTINUED IN NEXT COLUMN

CONVENTION COVERAGE CON'T. FROM LAST COLUMN

Bill Howell, Exec-Comm member from Texas, who seconded Vernon's nomination from the podium and added to the legitimacy the issue deserved. Phil Manger, from Maryland, Paul Hyatt and Jan Croxton, Indiana, and the other delegates who showed that we weren't the only committed radicals in New York City that weekend. (Manger, in fact, received an overwhelming vote for Exec-Comm on the strength of a personal plea for visionaries, not politicians, as the spearheads of the movement.) As always, there are countless more, but this is an article, not an encyclopedia. Thanks anyway.



Cartoon by Dick Smith

NONE OF THE ABOVE

by Craig Franklin

Craig Franklin has started work on an initiative petition to add the choice "None of the Above" to the ballot for most elective offices in Massachusetts.

The first step is to draft the legal text of the initiative, to that end he has obtained the text of the California initiative for the same purpose from Dave Bergland (LP Vice-Presidential candidate) of the California Committee for None of the Above. Craig is now looking for a Massachusetts lawyer to draft the legal text. Any volunteers?

The next step is to submit the proposed new law to the legislature. If that fails, the next step is to follow the initiative procedure, which involves collecting 60,000 signatures between mid-September and mid-December to put the proposal on the ballot the following November.

The State Exec. Comm. decided that a petition drive in late 1976 would be premature and might interfere with the LP Presidential campaign. The Exec. Comm. will decide early in 1977 whether to have a petition drive in late 1977 to put the measure on the ballot in 1978. The mills of liberty grind slowly....



ROTATION IN OFFICE

a personal position paper by
Joe Cobb

Here follows a reprint of the first part of a leaflet which Joe Cobb of Illinois is distributing far and wide. I think his point is well made, but I can't help wondering if he's merely sending me a subtle hint

The 1975 Platform of the Libertarian Party calls for a return to the Jeffersonian principle of "rotation in office" and the abolition of the civil service system in government. At first glance, this would seem to be an endorsement of the patronage system, but to assume that conclusion one has to believe in the myth of civil service as a "merit system." Civil Service is not any kind of "merit system."

The way in which government civil service operates is this: (1) the politician first creates a new position, or is lucky enough for the previous jobholder to resign or retire; (2) the politician makes sure that his loyal supporter takes the civil service test and gets a satisfactory score (note: if at first he doesn't make it, the job will remain vacant until he can try again); and (3) the politician picks his loyal supporter from among all of the "qualified" people on the list of eligibles for the job. The other people on the eligibility list, who don't have any friends in high places, simply never get government jobs -- unless the government is very needy for additional new bureaucrats.

After the job-seekers from the civil service list are hired, of course, they can only be fired if the government agency is reduced in size, or if their future political bosses can show that they have committed felonies in their personal lives. Government agencies are very seldom reduced in size, and bureaucrats are among the most socially conservative people in society--so they keep their jobs for life. One reason why the bureaucracy is the fastest growing sector in the economy is because growth in the public sector is the only way a politician can put his friends on the perpetual payroll.

The principle of rotation in office was first suggested by Thomas Jefferson (I believe) as a solution to the problem of entrenched power. The theory is that citizens might take turns performing the minimal tasks of the minimal state, and then turn the balance of their lives to productive work. From the Revolutionary Period we have the example of George

ROTATION IN OFFICE CONTINUED FROM LAST COL.

Washington, who chose to serve only two terms, and the Society of Cincinnati--formed by the officers of the Revolutionary army who followed the example of the ancient Roman general who saved the Republic and then went back to farming.

Rotation in office, however is a more general principle which we should follow in the Libertarian Party itself. In the first place, our candidates should campaign on the issue that anybody who is an incumbent ought to be defeated for re-election. There is obvious self-interest in such a campaign issue, to be sure. Yet, even when we have achieved the status of a major Party, and are regularly electing the Executive and the Legislative majority (Think Positive!!!) we should encourage our own heroes to step down and not to make a career out of holding public office.

The very idea that the candidates of the Libertarian Party might make a career out of holding public office is humorous on its face--since our platform proposals (and subsequent official acts) to screw the special interests and the tax-receivers may make our heroes impossible to re-elect anyhow.

ASSOCIATION OF LIBERTARIAN LAWYERS
ORGANIZES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2 COL. 2

tion's support of economic freedom and its opposition to both victimless crime laws and state granted monopolies on the practice of law.

Los Angeles Attorney Manuel Klausner, an editor of REASON magazine, is in charge of the Law Review Committee, which hopes to begin publishing a libertarian law journal. Chairman of the Law School Organizing Committee, which will spread the libertarian philosophy among law students and recruit student members, is Randy Barnett, a 2nd year student at Harvard Law School. Another law student, Stan Towne of Columbia University Law School, is chairing the Committee on Educational Conferences and Seminars.

The A.L.L. is planning the publication of a bi-monthly newsletter, to keep members abreast of the organization's activities. Dennis Schuman has been designated editor of the newsletter.

Those interested in membership should write the Association of Libertarian Lawyers at 102 West First Avenue, Johnstown, New York, 12095.

STATE COMMITTEE

MEETING NOTES

by Nathan Curland

A State Committee meeting was held on October 19, 1975. Besides the committee members, a goodly number of interested observers attended. A number of actions were taken by the committee:

It was resolved that \$500 per year be allotted for newsletter printing expenses.

A Rules Committee was formed with Walter Ziobro, Jr. as chairperson. Members interested in working on the committee should contact Walter at 1-672-5437.

The responsibilities of the Research Committee were redefined as follows: Investigation and publication of information concerning past, present, and future legislation; research of election laws; roll call reports. Nathan Curland was appointed chairperson. Members interested in working on the committee can contact Nathan at 332-3184.

A Publications Committee was formed with the following duties: development of a membership package and keeping it up to date; writing of position papers; heading of official MLP "propaganda"; production of special pamphlets. Judy Van Wagenen was designated as chairperson. Judy can be contacted at 247-1940.

It was resolved that the MLP mailing lists be given out only to state and national LP's and to MLP members for reference purposes. Furthermore, this information would only be available at the descretion of the chair.

David Long announced that he and Lee Schubert (N.Y.) have a mandate from National LP to organize LP parties in Me., Vmt., R.I., and to help the Conn. party along a little. Members interested in assisting this effort should contact David at 232-0050.

DAVIDSON SPEAKS AT TANSTAAFL DINNER
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widespread, he argued, they could serve as both a practical and an ideological haven for the tax resistance movement.

A question and answer period featured some argument between Davidson and audience members who disagreed with his strategy of appealing to the "instincts" of the general public.

November's speaker at the TANSTAAFL series will be Ralph Raico, Professor of History at SUNY, Buffalo. And in December, we will be treated to Murray Rothbard.

SUFFOLK COUNTY CHAPTER

ORGANIZED

by Lee Webber

A Suffolk County chapter of the MLP was organized at a November 9 meeting at the house of Steve Trinward and Bill Hurst. About a dozen people attended the organizational meeting. Judy Van Wagenen was selected as chairperson; her function is to act as a information and organizational center through whom all communications and activities may be coordinated.

The purpose of the county organization is to concentrate the local efforts of Suffolk County residents on those issues which specifically affect the regional communities. (Suffolk County is, essentially, Boston.) A meeting to determine which activities the chapter will undertake first, was planned for November 16.

Suffolk County LP members and anyone who wishes information on MLP(SC) activities may contact Judy Van Wagenen at 247-1940.



FROM THE CHAIR - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3 COL. 1

know or act upon even a fraction of the issues confronting all the towns and localities throughout our Commonwealth.

If you have been wanting to get involved in politics, but haven't been able to stomach the local Republocrats and Democrats, this is your chance to take a stand, to make a difference. Contact libertarians you know in your area; discuss issues important to your locality; run for office (it's easier than you may think!); petition; demonstrate; ORGANIZE. Try it --- you'll like it.



And Walter Ziobro writes us,

WALTER WONDERS

Walter Ziobro is considering ideas for celebrating Independence Day next year. The celebration will be a three-day weekend. One suggestion has been to have a grand Region Eight picnic here in Mass. Forward suggestions to Walter Ziobro, Jr. at 212 David St., Fall River, Ma. 02720.

Walter is also concerned with measuring the opinions of party members on the Sinai agreement. Do you think it constitutes the beginning of an "entangling alliance?" Should libertarians register a protest? Let Walter know by writing him at the above address.



AND NOW

THE NEWS YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW by

DIRECTORY

CYNICAL CYRIL

CYNICAL CYRIL is intended as a sporadic column dedicated to gossip and/or harrassment. It is anonymous. If you have a juicy tidbit, just send it in and if I think that it is juicy too, it will be printed. The following column appeared mysteriously in our POB just before presstime:

Dear Editor: Up yours. (Dear Cyril: mine is editorially covered) I don't know who has been doing CYNICAL CYRIL, but I have my suspicions and I think his initials are Trinward. (Til this issue only your kindly old editor knew) The column has been about as pointed as warm butter lately. Nevertheless, here's the real goods....and more to come, if any of this sees the light of LIBERTY. (Hrrumph -- well, you didn't say anything nasty about me so I guess we'll let this one through) Remember, CYNICAL CYRIL is like the Phantom of comic book fame....individual Cyrils may move on, but there will always be a CYNICAL CYRIL.

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COGITATIONS

COGITATIONS is published and edited by MLP'er David Narlee. Current articles have covered such topics as:

****What are Rights really****

****The role of charity in a libertarian society****

****Personal autonomy****

****Can the initiation-of-force rule always be applied****

****Libertarian floating abstractions****

****The role of emotions and feelings in personal health****

...and much more. Reader input is encouraged and welcomed. Give COG a try. \$3.50 for one year (11 issues). Write:

COGITATIONS
 114 Greenfield Lane
 Scituate, Ma. 02066



Our newly re-elected regional reps, Lee Schubert and Spidey (alias David Long) posing as the Smith brothers at the National Convention.

MASSACHUSETTS TO
PALMYRA

by Donald Hunt

Timothy Barrus, a libertarian, though not an MLP member, left Massachusetts for Palmyra on the 13th of October. Palmyra is a tiny island between Hawaii and Samoa, where he and 13 others plan to begin their libertarian community. His statement to the press was, "This is a practical application of the things I believe...." "I could not be happy if I were rich and not free, but I could be happy if I were free but not rich. I have to own my own life." As do we all, Timothy Barrus, as do we all. Good Luck. (Source: Daily Hampshire Gazette, 10/17/75)

CRYPTOGRAM

Ba dxv tbquvq fd jkgdwjfv j aevv qdwbvfz,
dxv osqf evjcbiv fujf bfq bxbqyvxgjrcv
adsxkjfbdx bq fuv yebxwbycv da bxbkg
bksjc eblufg. Jzx Ejxk

CYNICAL CYRIL - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9 COL. 1

Have to admit, the last issue of LIBERTY looked pretty good. Not great, you understand, but not bad either.... even the copy was moderately interesting, thanks largely to Steve Trinward's slightly spacey style... could have done with less bombast from Fearless Leader, but I suppose that is what we elected him for.

Heard that Jack Waldron was in Beantown recently.... if I've got it right, Jack told Lee Webber in a discussion about the efficacy of political action that the only purveyor of Truth today is Galambos (seriously, folks!). Pressed for details, Jack would only say that this Truth may be revealed only to the initiate, which costs two hundred bucks. Wish I had had the chance to ask Jack if Galambos is really a Rosecrucian....

Holy Hugo! Vince McCaffrey is really getting into the headlines with his book-cart and his literary rag, FICTION. Made page 2 of a recent PHOENIX, and had a double column spread in the NATIONAL OBSERVER. If he weren't already wearing a size 17 hat, we might have to worry about his head swelling, but, as one of Vince's fans puts it: "How can you add juice to a watermelon?"

Speaking of doomed enterprises, has anybody dropped into the new Avenue Victor Hugo Bookstore? It has just opened.... am told that they even have two or three shelves of books. Say hi to Dave Reardon, the mismanager. If you tell him I sent you, he'll cheerfully charge you double...

Fearless Leader has been spending his time in truly productive endeavors of late....he can do an almost first-rate impersonation of Rich Kenney, which is not easy, considering that you have to do a basso-profundo-cum-adenoids, all the while looking worried, yet fierce. What next? How about Jeffrey Helfront doing Robert Nozick? Or Judy Van Wagenen as Joan of Arc?

NOTES

LIBERTY is a bimonthly newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts. Subscription costs are \$3.50 per year, but LPM members receive LIBERTY free of charge. The next deadline for submittals is January 2, 1976. Subscriptions, memberships (see membership forms for rates), and submittals for publication should be mailed to LIBERTY, P.O.B. 2610, Boston, Mass., 02208.

Staff and Contributors for this edition are Joe Cobb, Nathan Curland, Craig Franklin, Don Hunt, Rich Kenney, David Long, Lee Nason, Wally Olson, Dick Smith, Steve Trinward, Lee Webber, Walter Ziobro, and CYNICAL CYRIL.

MORE FROM SUFFOLK

by Lee Webber

Just prior to press time, Lee rushed this article down to my office. See "Suffolk County Chapter Organized" earlier in this issue for his report on the first meeting of this group.

The second Massachusetts Libertarian Party of Suffolk County (MLPSC) meeting was held on November 16 at Bill Tarnowski's home in the South End. Much of the meeting was devoted to determining whether or not the group was to confine itself to Suffolk County affairs, or whether a Boston Metropolitan approach would be more fruitful. (The question is still not completely resolved.)

Projects or studies initiated were:

- **An effort to break up Boston into its constituent communities, headed by Sam Lasoff;
- **A committee to support the tuition voucher system in Boston, headed by Florian Von Imhof;
- **An investigation into getting time on such TV shows as Catch 44 and Channel 4's Speak-out, headed by Wally Olson;
- **A study of general methods of expanding membership, headed by Al Stukuls.

For information on the chapter and any of its activities, contact Judy Van Wagenen.



EDITORIAL

Ah, I am finally going to get a chance to say something. Actually I have a rather large number of things to communicate which may be of interest to you.

First, I want to discuss the recent "mail ballot" called by our national Exec. Comm. Shortly after the Exec. Comm. met in New York over Labor Day weekend, a mail ballot was called to find the consensus on the following two questions:

Should the National Headquarters be moved to Washington?

Should we transfer Bob Meier's salary to Ed Crane?

These proposals were accompanied by a reasonably lucid pro-proposals exposition of why these moves were considered necessary.

Of course, both proposals passed (with no opposition being heard from, who would expect

CONTINUED IN NEXT COLUMN

EDITORIAL CONTINUED FROM LAST COLUMN

otherwise). My point here is that these two moves were too important to pass without extensive discussion -- both could easily have waited for the January Exec. Comm. meeting. Why didn't they? Well, Bob Meier had a couple of sound reasons, but I can't help wondering about these hierarchical rationales we keep getting from above. At any rate, we now have a reasonably well-paid Party Chairman and are in the process of having a National Headquarters in the most bureaucratic town in the country. How appropriate.

My second topic for today is about the feedback I've been getting on the convention.

First, I've become pen pals with a couple of out-of-staters. An awful lot of people felt that the last issue was too tough on the partyarchy (congratulations can be sent to CYNICAL CYRIL and Steve Trinward). I guess we allowed a little hyperbole to get through, but I feel that criticisms were due. Perhaps we could have found a more gentlemanly way of stating the case, but I'm no gentleman and I feel that we were one of the few state newsletters which managed to avoid "whitewashing" the issues out of sight. (If you're interested in what the other rags said, see David -- he has a complete file and it'll raise your hair in places.)

The most cogent response was from Joe Cobb who was sincerely worried about splintering the party. My response is that the issues that were raised need *constructive* work done on them and that most of us are intelligent enough to realize that bolting the party is not a solution. We don't want to hide our problems under a rug -- we only want to correct them. And noone can correct a problem if he doesn't know it exists.

An amusing postscript on this problem is that despite all our criticism of the events at the Prescon, the Massachusetts party intends to actively participate in MacBride's campaign and we do aim to work hard on it. We haven't even lost one member on account of the fiasco. And yet one cannot completely disregard Joe's worry -- the Central Florida Affiliate Party did, after all, bolt. Perhaps we are better off without them however -- one of the two reasons they gave for seceding was that the anarchists were taking over the party!

My third topic concerns the newsletter itself. I want to keep printing photos and lots of copy, but LPM funds are necessarily limited. And printing costs are soaring (I know, I know, gov't.-caused inflation is the source of all our problems). If you have any ad leads, please rush them to me; they will be greatly appreciated. And, of course, (heh-heh) if anyone thinks we're worth a bit of cold hard cash, your donations will not be rejected.

