

1978 Election Campaigns Start To Build

Libertarian Party leaders are predicting that LP candidates can win some of their 1978 election campaigns in partisan races.

The prediction was a result of the January 22 meeting of the Libertarian Party National Committee in Atlanta, Georgia. Committee members heard Richard Randolph, himself a member, outline a plan to elect one or more Libertarian Party members to the Alaska state legislature.

Randolph, a former state legislator, will head a slate of LP candidates in Fairbanks. Another slate is planned for the Anchorage area, and Randolph foresees the possibility of electing Libertarians from each city.

Alaska registered nearly six per cent of the 1976 Presidential vote for Libertarian Party candidate Roger MacBride. MacBride received over ten per cent of the vote in some portions of Fairbanks.

Other LP candidates expect to have creditable showings in the 1978 races all over the United States. Richard Bacon, a Tennessee LP member, is challenging an otherwise unopposed incumbent state legislator, and will parlay much of his recent local activism into an all-out attempt to win the seat.

In Nevada, State LP Chairman James L. Burns will be running for a seat in the Legislature from which the incumbent is retiring. Burns has made extensive plans to learn the attitudes of the voters of the district and to use the knowledge gained thereby to communicate relevant libertarian positions.

In Wisconsin, a local LP member, Art Jackson, was considering a run for a City Council seat in Janesville, where there is a sizeable libertarian contingent. Jackson, a well-known local figure, would be expected to win if he makes the race.

All told, a total of thirty five state Libertarian Party organizations are expected to field at least one candidate for some office in 1978, ranging from local positions to the United States Senate.

Most of these candidates will lead serious, well-financed campaigns with the expectation of increasing the Libertarian

percentage of the vote substantially from 1976 levels.

For example, California LP members are planning an ambitious attempt for the Governorship behind candidate Clark. Clark is a veteran LP activist and National Committee member who intends to make heavy use of the electronic media in promoting his campaign.

California gubernatorial candidates traditionally spend millions of dollars in their attempts for the office. Clark hopes to raise several hundred thousand dollars and garner an equivalent number of votes. His campaign has hired a professional campaign manager for the race.

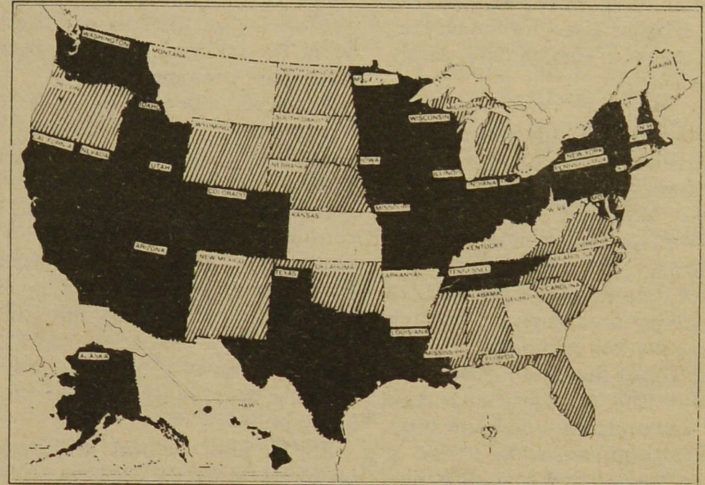
As a result of an extensive analysis prepared by California LP members last year, up to forty districts in the state legislature and U.S. Congress have been targeted as potentially significant for libertarians. A number of candidates have already made plans to run for these seats, despite a restrictive California ballot access law.

Similarly, full slates of Libertarian Party candidates are planned in New Jersey, Illinois, and Texas, among others. Illinois LP members are distributing material promoting their candidates, who are running for every available statewide office and one Congressional seat. Ongoing fundraising efforts are already well under way.

The New Jersey LP plans to approach their 1977 mark of 29 candidates for elective office. New Jersey holds its elections for state and local offices in odd-numbered years; however, LP candidates are planned for all fifteen Congressional seats in 1978.

In Texas, at least twenty one Libertarian Party candidates have indicated their intention to run in November, including candidates for every statewide office plus state and Congressional seats (including the seat being vacated by Rep. Barbara Jordan).

Included among the Texas candidates will be Allan Vogel, whose 1977 campaign for Mayor of Houston galvanized the Texas LP into



The map shown above shows states where at least one Libertarian candidacy is *probable* (dark); *possible* (crosshatched); and *unlikely* (white), as of February 28, 1978. Most "probable" states will have many Libertarians on the ballot.

concentrated action. Vogel will be running for Governor.

Texas LP'ers will warm up their campaigning skills early in the race for a City Council seat in Garland, a suburb of Dallas. Ann Hammond, an officer of the Dallas County LP, is running for the seat in the city of 30,000, and, as she puts it, "we're out to win." Hammond is well known in her Council District as an articulate activist.

(Known LP candidates for various positions are listed in the "State News" section of this issue).

The Texas LP is perhaps the most active of those states where Roger MacBride did not appear on the 1976 Presidential ballot. Several other such states, however, expect to run active campaigns.

The Massachusetts LP confirms that at least ten of its candidates will campaign for various legislative offices at the local level.

In Pennsylvania, Jeff Smith of Philadelphia will be running for the First Congressional District seat.

And in Indiana, Craig Fisher will run for Congress in the Third District (Fort Wayne area), as part of an expected slate of LP candidates in this state which had little libertarian activity until last year.

Similarly, Maryland activists expect to help Erwin Vogel overcome an extremely restrictive ballot access law in order to run for the State House of Delegates from a Washington D.C. suburb.

Other states with LP candidates confirmed at this time include:

Washington, where several party members will be contesting state legislative seats;

Ohio, where veteran activist Bob Lehman will be challenging incumbent Democrat Charles Vanik for the 23rd Congressional District seat in the Cleveland area;

New Hampshire, where candidates for both Congressional seats plus the Governorship are expected;

Iowa, where two statewide candidates will make the race for the U.S. Senate and the Governorship;

Colorado, where many LP candidates will appear on the ballot, mostly for state legislative seats;

Arizona, which will attempt to surpass

its impressive 1976 showing in a number of races at many levels;

Missouri, where the state LP will take advantage of its permanent ballot status in one legislative district and will attempt to build on this base;

Minnesota, where former National Committee member Dale Hemming will challenge for a legislative seat.

Overall, 1978 appears to be a very healthy year for the Libertarian Party in its attempt to solidify its hold on the third position among American political parties. The likelihood of victory in some campaigns, as well as strong "balance of power" showings in others, should give impetus to the activities of LP supporters throughout the country.

National Committee Meets

The National Committee of the Libertarian Party selected Boston, Massachusetts, as the site of the 1978 National Convention at its meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on January 22.

At the previous meeting in Denver, the Committee had picked Los Angeles to host the 1979 Convention, which will nominate the party's presidential ticket for 1980.

National Chairman David Bergland announced in Atlanta that the Los Angeles Convention will be held at the new Bonaventure Hotel, one of only two hotels in the Los Angeles area large enough to facilitate the expected 2,000 attendees. The management of the Bonaventure has agreed to fix prices now which will apply in 1979.

The Massachusetts Libertarian Party was the only bidder for this year's

Convention. National Committee member Nathan Curland, who represents the New England region, submitted a detailed written presentation showing possible speakers, publicity methods, and organizational charts.

The Boston Convention will be at the Copley Plaza Hotel on Labor Day Weekend, the first four days in September. The Chair of the Convention Committee, Ann Kotell, will work with LP National Director Chris Hocker to establish an "activist" program.

Hocker envisions a two-day intensive session dealing with effective campaign techniques, paralleling the speaker program developed by the Massachusetts organizers. The 1978 Convention will not conduct party business, but instead will be an opportunity for Libertarian Party

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Washington, D.C. 20005

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

*From the Chair**David P. Bergland*

"What About The Poor People?"

Perhaps the most common question asked of libertarian candidates and spokesmen is: "But what about the poor people?" If the questioner is more precise, the inquiry is: "According to libertarian principles, no one can be forced to help another, so how would you deal with the problems of the elderly, the incapacitated, orphans, etc., who clearly cannot survive adequately without some help?"

Most people who ask this question are dissatisfied with the answers and go off to report that libertarians are cold, heartless monsters who advocate the repeal of government welfare programs and would allow widows, orphans, and the handicapped to starve while they busied themselves making their fortunes in their wonderful free market economy.

The "what about the poor" question is a loaded one in that it is based on certain unidentified assumptions which are false. Because of this, most people arrive at erroneous conclusions and have difficulty understanding the libertarian position. This article will sketch some responses to this important question which should assist libertarians to deal with it effectively when it arises.

The first false assumption underlying the question is: In the absence of government force to require people to give assistance to others, no assistance would be given and those needing help would starve. This assumption is based on a much more fundamental assumption, which is, that

people in general are no damn good, and do not care about their starving neighbors. Another prevalent misconception is that government programs do, in fact, solve the problems of the unfortunate. It is important to recognize these fallacies and expose them. However, it is not the best tactic to begin by showing the questioner what a dummy he is for asking a question based on so many false premises.

A crucial opening move is to disarm the non-libertarian by showing him that libertarians have a greater humanitarian benevolent concern for the problems of the poor than anyone else. For instance, consider the question: "What do libertarians think about welfare?" The answer should be something like: "We love welfare! Everybody should be as well off as possible. That is why we want to get the government out of the welfare business because government does such a lousy job of it."

It is also helpful to identify the problem under discussion. What does being "poor" mean? It means not having much material wealth. So, any one concerned about the problems of the poor should be concerned about improving the production of material wealth. The social system with the greatest record of productivity is the free market. Therefore, one should logically advocate the free market as a means of assisting the poor unless there is fairly strong evidence that the free market would be detrimental to the poor.

The moral issue for libertarians is extremely important, and in the discussion of any issue, it must be emphasized again and again that libertarians are most concerned for the rights of the individuals involved in the situation and that the principle of non-initiation of force is our guide to proper action. Where helping the poor is concerned, there are only three alternatives possible. First, one can help the poor himself. Second, one can persuade others to help. Third, one can force others to help. Libertarians think the first two are fine and that the third is immoral and unjustifiable. Government welfare programs always involve the use of force. Therefore, they are immoral and should be avoided.

The first prevalent misconception referred to above was that without government force, no one would help the poor and they should starve. This is based upon a more fundamental fallacy; i.e., people are so basically evil that unless they were forced to help their neighbors, they would not do so. It usually causes some considerable agitation in a questioner to point out his underlying assumptions. For where is the evidence that people really are that evil? It does not exist. One who really believes this fallacy is probably basing his belief on introspection.

But, if you ask him whether he would let his neighbors starve or not, act to save a drowning child, he, of course, will not admit to being a cruel, heartless monster. At this point, it is usually easy to get him to admit that it is only fair to give the rest of humanity the benefit of the doubt on this point as well.

It is also the case that, in this country, no massive government welfare programs existed until the 1930's and that prior to that time, people did not starve. Families took care of their own and private charity handled the balance.

The converse fallacy is that under government welfare programs, care for the poor is effective. There is no evidence that the existence of government welfare programs has created a utopia solving all of the problems of the poor and disabled. In fact, the history of the effect of government intervention on all citizens, including the poor, argues persuasively for an immediate cessation of government intervention in the economy generally and in this area in particular.

In the 1920's, the government's inflationary monetary policies created the boom that led to the crash of the 1930's which wiped out the savings and pensions of the elderly. This sad state of affairs was used as an excuse to create the social security monster. Today, inflation and rising taxes destroy the ability of everyone to plan for the future and retirement. Additional federal, state and local welfare programs have proliferated since. The net effect of all of this has been to create a huge, expensive and intrusive bureaucracy.

Government also prevents the poor from helping themselves. For instance, the postal monopoly and licensing monopolies prevent many small businesses from starting. Zoning laws prevent shut-ins from doing business at home. Minimum wage laws create chronic unemployment for the young and unskilled. Required paperwork for every employee motivates businessmen not to hire additional workers. The list of government barriers to job creation goes on and on.

Due to government welfare, taxes are

exorbitantly high. If all those tax dollars went directly to people in need, there would be less to complain about. However, the primary beneficiaries of government welfare programs are the thousands of administrators and welfare workers. Clearly, a dollar contributed to a private charity is tremendously more effective in delivering services to the needy than is a tax dollar sucked into the HEW.

The effect of these high taxes is devastating. Private citizens have less wealth to contribute to private charitable activity. Worse, the private citizen is less inclined to donate because he feels "the government" is taking care of the needy. Most saddening of all is the effect on the tradition of family care in the home for elderly grandparents, the disabled, etc. Government encourages institutionalization of such people.

Welfare recipients tend to be chronic dependents and welfare bureaucrats encourage this. Because of his career position, the bureaucrat's motivation is to find more "clients" and keep them on the rolls as long as possible. The legislator has the same motivation because this large class of chronic dependents represents votes. The chronic welfare dependent becomes more and more a "child" with no rights of privacy. Because of proliferating welfare fraud, taxpayers demand that the bureaucrats maintain a close and strict surveillance over welfare recipients.

This chronic dependency also leads to an attitude of "the world owes me a living" to the extent that we see the existence of an organization called the National Welfare Rights Organization. Do you recall the Symbionese Liberation Army that demanded as ransom that Patty Hearst's parents distribute \$2,000,000 worth of food to the poor? The Hearst family met these demands and distributed the food. This constituted extortion, and all of those who lined up to receive the loot committed the crime of receiving stolen property. But after four decades of big government welfare programs, it is not surprising that a terrorist organization like the SLA would devise a "do-it-yourself" welfare scheme.

Private charity is not only much more efficient than government welfare, it is also much more creative. Bureaucratic welfare schemes are necessarily narrow in their scope and direction. Private charity can be much more diverse and innovative. Therefore, if government welfare were abolished and private charity replaced it, we would see a much greater variety of organizations, plans and schemes to "do good." It seems obvious that private citizens going about doing good their own way, working on projects of their own choice, would be more efficient than bureaucrats and the net effect would be more good done for more people with the maximum beneficial effects.

Libertarians' respect for the rights of each individual is, in significant part, based upon respect for the unique nature and dignity of each individual and a benevolent confidence that each one is reasonably competent to take care of himself or herself. Because of this benevolent outlook, libertarians have a propensity to be charitable, to lend a helping hand to another who we feel needs it. Predictably, a culture dominated by libertarian attitudes would not only produce a wealth of material goods but would also deliver a great deal more of them to the poor and helpless in a truly charitable spirit.

Stalking The Wild Constituency

by Chris Hocker, National Director

A political campaign, whether it is on behalf of a candidate or an issue, is by definition a Numbers Game. Except in the smallest of small towns, there is no way that the LP activist can reach every voter individually.

Therefore, campaign efforts must be directed to a mass audience. This is what I mean by a Numbers Game: You send your message to a thousand people at a time, and hope that "the numbers" — a significant portion — are with you.

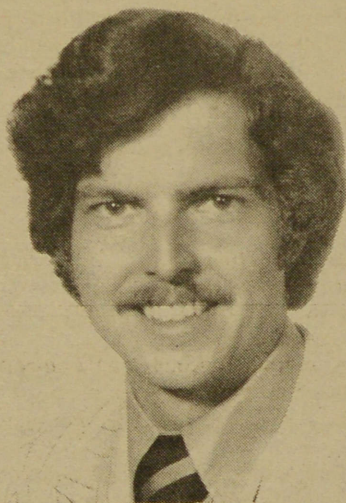
This is a fact which has stymied many would be libertarian campaigners, most of whom are at their best when explaining our positions and philosophy one-to-one. When faced with a mass audience to convince, they find it difficult to identify a potential libertarian constituency.

Finding such a constituency is not all that easy, but it's not all that hard, either, especially now that we have a few campaigns under our belt. There is a process which allows us to identify libertarian sympathizers on a mass scale, and which is the first and most important step to take before embarking upon any kind of campaign.

The process is known as the "Voting Analysis."

Hidden behind the walls of City Halls, County Government Centers, and Secretary of State Offices are the records of previous elections for every political subdivision in your geographic area. And buried in these records — also known as Statements of Vote — are the indicators needed to identify the likely libertarian voters and where they live.

Stalking the wild constituency takes a minimum of equipment. You will need a day or two, a pocket calculator, and the



CHRIS HOCKER

patience and eyesight to read through pages of tiny numbers in columns. If this sounds like the type of work fit only for a bureaucrat, you're probably right; but swallow your pride and do it anyway, because you'll be lost without it.

What are you looking for? Some indication, and preferably more than one, that the voters in a particular area have demonstrated a sympathy for libertarian candidates or positions in recent elections.

The Statement of Vote will usually break down the vote totals by precinct or similar unit. You are looking for precincts or groups of precincts where there was a relatively high vote for a libertarian candidate or position. "Relatively high" means relative to the vote in other precincts for the same candidates or positions. And you are looking for voting

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Thoughts On Coalitions and Alignments

by Murray N. Rothbard

(The following paper was submitted to the National Committee of the Libertarian Party in October, 1977.)

Libertarians face the challenge of cleaving always to pure principles and never betraying or undercutting such principles, while still acting efficaciously in the real world to bring about the triumph of those principles. This paper attempts to apply such a strategic policy to the question of coalitions and alignments.

I. Coalitions Ad Hoc

It is right and proper that libertarians, including the LP, form coalitions on specific issues that will advance libertarianism, with non-libertarian groups (e.g. with liberals on the draft or on marijuana laws.)

But the coalitions should be on specific current issues; they should never be permanent organizational coalitions, since this would necessarily mean submergence of the LP and of libertarian principle. We should always remember, then, that coalitions are for limited purposes, and that we should never extend uncritical support to groups who happen to be our allies on particular issues.

II. Relations with Allies: Membership, Activities, Revenue

Is it legitimate for LP organizers and activities to speak at forums or platforms provided by non-libertarian organizations, whether they be allies or other? The answer should be yes, there is no reason to avoid use of such public platforms—with two provisos, one moral and the other prudential. The moral proviso is that the LP activist should not give his sanction to a platform provided by the State; the prudential proviso, that it might be unwise to speak before a forum provided by organizations so out of public favor that

they might militate against the LP goal of becoming a majority movement in America (e.g. speaking before the Ku Klux Klan, or the Mafia.)

A more difficult question: is it legitimate for LP organizers and activists to join (either as rank and file or as Board members) organizations with whom we have *ad hoc* coalitions? The answer should be yes, since we are here dealing with individual memberships, rather than permanent membership by the LP as a whole. Such a membership would be particularly worthwhile where the activist can have significant impact on the policies and programs of the allied organization. (Examples of such organization might be ACLU or NORML.) Assuming that this organization is not the State, we still have a prudential proviso: that it might be imprudent for the LP activist to join an organization that is out of public favor, or that has a public image of being anti-libertarian, so that we would seem to be inconsistent (e.g. the Ku Klux Klan, or the Mafia.)

An allied question: whose monetary contribution should the LP accept? Should it turn any contribution down? Recognizing that no organization can be expected to engage in the lengthy investigation of the remote source of every dollar, we conclude with similar guidelines to the previous issues: Namely, that we should accept any money proffered, with two provisos. One, the moral proviso—that we accept no money from the State, whether it be the CIA or the federal elections 'machinery. And second, the prudential proviso—that we should refuse any money the acceptance of which would seriously embarrass us in our goal of becoming a majority movement (again, the Mafia or the Ku Klux Klan.)

On the money question, we might add that if the LP engages in any money-

making activity, the activities themselves should advance libertarian principles at the same time that they yield revenue (e.g. the LP should sell libertarian literature, but not sell investment advice.)

Thus, *ad hoc* coalitions are legitimate and proper, provided that they are not immoral in allying with the State, and that they are not imprudent in cutting against the task of building a majority movement.

III. Coalitions with Whom?

With *whom* should we be forming coalitions?

First, to use Staughton Lynd's phrase of the 1960's, we should never form coalitions "with the Marines;" rather we should always take care that the specific coalition is *against*, rather than with, the State. As an example of coalitions *not* to form, many conservative libertarians, in the late 1960s, allied themselves with the police and with government-run and financed universities, and again the student rebels against these statist institutions.

Second, the potential libertarian constituency is all those groups and classes in America who are net tax-payers, that is, who lose from government intervention. Most of the public are net tax-payers, and more and more citizens are beginning to perceive themselves as exploited taxpayers. As statism begins to founder on the rock of its own fallacies and inner contradictions, we can expect that even many government employees, perceiving those flaws, will become libertarians. These government employees should be welcomed in the libertarian movement, but we must always realize that the abstract convictions of these members continually cut against their own personal economic interests.

Third, while *ad hoc* coalitions with varying groups on specific libertarian issues is proper and legitimate, we must remember that, in the context of the current American political spectrum, we must be far more wary of coalitions with *conservatives* than with other groups. For we are faced with the following situation: (1) most of the media and the public perceive us as being a variant of "extreme conservatism." Therefore, it is particularly important for us to disabuse these people of our alleged conservative connection. (2) This is particularly important since the media and intellectuals tend to be anti-conservative, often for good reasons (because of conservative positions on civil liberties and foreign policy). (3) In fact, the greatest single threat to American liberty is the pro-war foreign policy of the conservative movement; and (4) in 1976, the major opponents of the LP ticket were the conservatives, while favorable responses came from liberals.

IV. Avoiding Unprincipled "Log-rolling"

While engaging in coalitions, our actions should always be principled. For example, we must never engage in "logrolling" activities, either as elected legislators or as members of the LP. In short, each one of our actions, whether in the organization or as elected representatives, must be consistent with libertarian principle.

Thus, if an LP member is elected to a legislature, *each one* of his votes, speeches and activities must be libertarian; he must never engage in "log rolling" which informs another legislator that *he* will agree to vote statist on measure A provided that his colleague votes libertarian on measure B.

Similarly, there must be no unprincipled log rolling as an organization. That is, we must never tell an allied group that we will back their statist proposal if they will back one of our libertarian measures. (An example of such unprincipled activity was the recent deal in which the feminist movement favors minimum wage laws, in return for labor union backing of feminist proposals.)

V. Building the LP

Our overriding purpose is to change society and bring about the victory of liberty; the guiding means by which we

propose to bring about this goal is the building of the Libertarian Party. As we indicate in our discussion of LP Strategy, building the LP organization means that we should not endorse any candidates who are not libertarians, i.e. who fail to endorse our national Statement of Principles. But it also should mean something else: that Libertarian Party officials and members should not also be members of rival, statist political parties (e.g. Democrat or Republican).

It should be noted that by looking for this exclusivity of membership, of political commitment, we are not cutting against our approval of *ad hoc* coalitions. On the contrary, this is all part of a consistent strategic outlook for the LP: namely, that we form coalitions with non-libertarian groups on specific issues where our goals and principles are being fostered; but that we ourselves concentrate on building our own party as a party of *libertarians*, who do not endorse non-libertarians for political office.

Committee

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members to learn about a wide range of issues, sharpen their campaigning skills, and socialize.

Other actions of the National Committee in Atlanta included:

1) The election of Sylvia Sanders of Iowa to the position of National Secretary, which had been vacated by Greg Clark. Clark had held the Secretary position for several years until his resignation in January; Sanders had been active in the Libertarian Party in Massachusetts and Washington State before moving to Iowa.

2) Approval of a resolution which specified that the Regional Representatives to the National Committee shall bear primary responsibility for assisting state parties, where necessary, in the areas of membership, effective organization, level of activity, funding, political expertise, and communication skills.

The unanimous resolution also specified six criteria of strong state parties, which include: a regular newsletter; a press release program; media contacts; ongoing funding; a membership program; and a Young Libertarian Alliance organization on college campuses.

3) Consideration and approval of a proposed budget for 1978, showing basic operating expenses of nearly \$8,000 per month in addition to special projects, printed material, and assistance from National Headquarters with petition drives and campaigns in various states.

4) Consideration of reports from each Regional Representative concerning the activities of the state parties in his region. Most states could report a general increase in the level of activity.

The National Committee meeting was held in conjunction with a conference sponsored by the Libertarian Party of Georgia, and attendees came not only from the southeastern states, but also from as far away as Illinois and Minnesota.

Highlights of the conference included reports on the state of the LP by Chairman David Bergland and National Director Chris Hocker; a discussion of the 1978 Platform; a presentation on the issue of education by John Bailey of Florida; and a banquet with remarks by several noted libertarians in attendance.

Several observers at the National Committee meeting remarked about the harmony, co-operation, and sense of purpose expressed by the Committee throughout the all-day session.

Stalking The Wild Constituency

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percentages, not totals.

If Roger MacBride was on the ballot in your state in 1976, look at his percentages first. Overall, they probably won't be very high, but you may find some surprises in individual precincts. The same thing goes for other Libertarian Party candidates in the 1976 elections.

If the law in your state allows Initiatives, these can be a gold mine of information, since most initiative proposals require a "Yes" or "No" vote on an issue which has a clearcut libertarian position. Tax limitation or marijuana legalization initiatives are obvious examples.

There are other possible indicators which are nowhere near as reliable, but which might be useful. For example, if an "almost libertarian" ran in a non-partisan race, those vote totals should be checked. Put very little stock in the results of partisan races where no libertarian was running, even if one of the candidates was "almost a libertarian." But bond issues for schools or parks, etc., can be analyzed profitably.

Now comes the work of the calculator. Determine the percentage of vote in each precinct for each indicator you have decided to use. Arbitrarily choose some cut-off point, above which all precincts are a potential constituency.

For example, if the countywide MacBride vote was one per cent, you may wish to select all the precincts where the MacBride vote was above average, and use the same criterion for your other indicators. Or you may wish to take the top ten or twenty per cent of the precincts, regardless of the voting percentages.

If you are using more than one indicator, look for correlations between

them. A precinct that showed a relatively high vote for MacBride, for a tax limitation initiative, and *against* a bond issue would have a greater libertarian potential, and a higher priority for you, than a precinct where the vote went your way on only one of these issues.

Pick out your high-percentage precincts, and make your correlations, if any. Obviously, the precincts with the highest percentages and the greatest degree of correlation will be your "target" areas in the forthcoming campaign. The voters in these precincts should be approached early and often, through personal contact, direct mail, and advertising in newspapers and on the radio.

Look at a precinct map of the area you are analyzing. You may find that your top-priority precincts are grouped together in a cluster, thus making your campaign efforts that much easier.

Now find out what kind of people live in those precincts. Are they students? Blue collar? Democrats? Low-income? Whatever they are, they are likely to be the kind of people who will respond best to your message anywhere you take your campaign.

Stalking the wild constituency — identifying voters who are most likely to respond to a libertarian message through a careful voting analysis — will suddenly make sense out of the jumble of voters facing you in a mass campaign. This is why the voting analysis is the first and most important step in any kind of campaign.

Armed with the information you have captured, you can proceed with the "Numbers Game" of campaigning with confidence, assurance, and a sense of direction.

State LP Campaigns

ALABAMA

For information concerning the ongoing activities of the Libertarian Party in Alabama, contact State Chair Harvey Crumhorn at P.O. Box 3204, Huntsville, Ala. 35810, (205) 859-1705.

ALASKA

As the 1978 elections near, Alaska LP members have firmed up their campaign strategy. Led by former State Legislator Dick Randolph, a member of the LP National Committee, the LP will have slates of candidates for the Alaska Legislature in Fairbanks and Anchorage.

Slate members will be well-known citizens of their communities, and public support has been forthcoming from many former activities in other political parties. Randolph has predicted that several of these candidates are likely to win seats in the legislature under the LP banner.

The State Convention will take place in mid-spring, and the LP expects to generate considerable publicity from this event. As a campaign strategy, candidates will present "alternative" legislation to that already in existence, drafted in legal terms with a libertarian perspective.

LP leaders are hosting a series of coffees each week where neighbors are invited to the home of an LP member and a presentation of the libertarian philosophy and its practical application is made. Several hundred of these coffees are scheduled to take place before the November elections.

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

ARIZONA

The Arizona LP State Convention, the first such formal gathering in Arizona history, is scheduled for the weekend of March 24, 15 and 26 in Phoenix. Along with the well-known libertarians, speakers will include former U.S. Congressman Sam Steiger, nationally syndicated columnist Nicholas von Hoffman, and Harlon Carter, head of the National Rifle Association.

David McNeill, the libertarian who received 27,000 votes in his race for the Phoenix City Council, has announced his candidacy for the State Legislature, and will be joined by a number of LP candidates for various offices.

Contact State Chairman John Kanarr for further information about LP activities in Arizona, at 4348 W. Maryland, Glendale, Ariz. 85301, (602) 934-3050.

ARKANSAS

For information regarding LP activities in Arkansas, contact State Chair Warren Massengill, 6603 Asher #16, Little Rock, Ark 72214, (501) 562-0312.

CALIFORNIA

The sixth convention of the Libertarian Party of California was held at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles over President's Day weekend, February 17-20. Featured speakers included Louisiana State Legislator Woody Jenkins and LP activist Tonie Nathan.

The 100 delegates formally nominated longtime LP leader Ed Clark as their candidate for Governor. Clark received considerable media coverage during the convention, and expects to run a professional, highly visible campaign.

State Chair Bruce Lagasse was re-elected, as was Southern California Vice-Chair Dan Weiner. Cynthia Hilton is Northern California Vice-Chair, and June Genis is the new Secretary.

The number of registered Libertarians in California has passed the 5,000 mark,

according to the Secretary of State; this is an increase of over 50% in less than a year, thanks to the efforts of the LIBRE (Libertarian Registration Effort) Committee. LIBRE will work closely with the Clark campaign, and registration is expected to jump dramatically by the end of the year.

Candidates for local races include Bernie Perra, Ed Ogawa, and Stephen Malmberg, with several more expected to file shortly.

For further information about the LPC, contact Bruce Lagasse, P.O. Box 5235, Sherman Oaks, Calif. 91413, (213) 788-1353.

COLORADO

The first announced LP candidate for public office was Patrick Lilly, for the 18th Legislative District near Denver. Other LP candidates are expected to announce for a number of offices.

Their efforts will be co-ordinated out of their permanent headquarters in Denver, P.O. Box 1557, Denver, Colo. 80201, (303) 320-4344. Sally Mason is the State Chair.



Pictured above are some of the LP members present at a recent gathering in South Carolina. Top, l. to r.: Dargan Clarkson, Charles Blackwell, and Robert Clarkson of the South Carolina LP; bottom: Linda Possato and Rick Posatto, North Carolina LP Chairman.

CONNECTICUT

Late reports show that candidates running under the Libertarian Party banner had creditable showings in local races last November. One took 10% in a City Council race in Meriden.

The Connecticut State Chair is Bob Loomis. Contact him at P.O. Box 252, East Granby, Ct. 06026, (203) 653-3939.

DELAWARE

A highly restrictive ballot access law has been delayed in passage due to the efforts of the Delaware LP in conjunction with other non-ballot parties. The fight to defeat this bill is currently in a "holding pattern," but several aspects of it are flagrantly unconstitutional and major modifications are expected.

Electoral activity in the Delaware LP depends largely on the fate of this legislation. Please contact State Chair William Morris, 2124 Brandywood Drive, Wilmington, Del. 19810, (302) 475-7060, to offer assistance.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

LP members in D.C. are enthused at the possibility of a Libertarian candidate for Mayor, and are working to organize support for such a candidate. Contact the LP National Headquarters, 1516 P Street

NW, Washington, D.C. 20005, (202) 232-2003 for further information.

FLORIDA

For information about LP activities in Florida, contact State Chair Tom Nay, P.O. Box 1727, Orlando, Fla. 32803, (904) 761-3082.

GEORGIA

The LP here, under State Chair Jim Clarkson, is planning heavy involvement in a massive protest against property taxes.

The Conference held in conjunction with the National Committee meeting of January 21 and 22 generated a great deal of favorable publicity for the LP. National Chair David Bergland appeared on numerous talk shows and television interviews during his stay, and was featured on the front page of *The Atlantian*, a weekly news magazine. National Director Chris Hocker and LP activities Linda Rader appeared on a radio talk show in Rome, hosted by Jim Clarkson.

Contact Clarkson at 4 Coral Avenue,

Karl Hess, Roy Childs, Tonie Nathan, Alan Bock, Jim Clarkson, and Chris Hocker.

The Illinois LP plans a full slate of statewide candidates this year, including Georgia Shields for Governor, Marji Kihls for Lieutenant Governor, Sheldon Waxman for Attorney General, and Bruce Green for U.S. Senate. LP brochures are headlined "Had Enough of Political Parties," and features a drawing of Tweedledum and Tweedledee.

Contact State Chair Ken Sturzenacher for information about the Illinois LP, at P.O. Box 313, Chicago, Ill. 60690. The full-time LP phone number is (312) 925-1111.

INDIANA

State Chair Sally Heistand reports that the Indiana LP intends to collect the necessary signatures to place candidates on the ballot, with the hopes of obtaining permanent ballot status by receiving a sufficient number of votes in a statewide race.

LP member Craig Fisher is planning a race for the Third Congressional District seat now held by Democrat John Brademas, in the Michigan City (northern) area of the state.

Contact Sally Heistand for further information at 1430 N. Capitol, Indianapolis, Ind. 46202, (317) 923-9227.

IOWA

The Iowa LP held its State Convention January 27; speakers included Tonie Nathan, tax attorney John J. Matonis, and Don Ernsberger of the Society for Individual Liberty. The Iowa LP continues to receive favorable publicity in the local media.

Two statewide candidates were nominated: State Chair John Ball for Governor, and National Committee member Ben Olson for U.S. Senate.

For further information about LP activities in Iowa, contact Ball at R.R. 4, Marshalltown, Iowa 50158, (515) 754-3117.

KANSAS

For information about LP activities in Kansas, contact State Chair Ron Webster at 124 South Kallock, Richmond, Kansas.

KENTUCKY

Contact State Chair Ernest McAfee at 20 Spurlin Court, Richmond, Ky. 40475, (606) 623-0196, for information about LP activities in Kentucky.

LOUISIANA

The recent State Convention in New Orleans included a discussion of campaign strategy and the re-election of State Chair Jerry Millett. Contact him at 112 Hampton Road, Lafayette, La. 70503, (318) 984-6012.

MAINE

The LP in Maine needs someone willing to do basic organizational work, in conjunction with known LP members in Maine. To offer assistance, please contact the LP National Headquarters, 1516 P Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20005, (202) 232-2003.

MARYLAND

LP members here produced a lengthy newsletter recently featuring news, opinion, commentary, and poetry. In addition, Erwin Vogel will be running for a seat in the House of Delegates from the Gaithersburg area.

For further information about the LP in Maryland, contact State Chair Ramon Baumgartner at 4927 71st Avenue, Glenridge, Md. 20784, (301) 459-1075, or at the LP number, (301) 459-0003.

MASSACHUSETTS

Members of the Mass. LP are enthused about the LP National Convention, to be

Rome, Ga. 30161, (404) 235-2181, for further information about the Georgia LP.

GUAM

For information about LP activities in Guam and the upcoming Governor's race, contact Chairman Jim Joyner, P.O. Box 3417, Agana, Guam 96910.

HAWAII

State Chair Mike Rossell reports a heightened level of activity in Hawaii, with plans for a number of well-run campaigns in November. The Hawaii LP is distributing *Outlook* at appropriate locations.

Contact Rossell c/o HELP, Inc., 2109-F Kuhio Avenue, Honolulu, 96815, (808) 988-6233.

IDAHO

Indications from Idaho are that organization and activity are increasing, heralded by the renewed publication of a state LP newsletter.

For information about the Idaho LP, contact State Chair Larry Fuller, P.O. Box 4106, Pocatello, Idaho 83201, (208) 232-2306.

ILLINOIS

The Illinois State Convention was held the weekend of March 10-12 at the Evanston Holiday Inn. Speakers included

Attract Attention

held Labor Day Weekend in Boston. Over 50 activists have volunteered to take part in Convention planning.

In addition, the Massachusetts State Convention will be held April 1 in Boston at the Lenox Hotel, featuring National Director Chris Hocker, prizewinning author Robert Nozick, and Karl Hess.

LP candidates are expected to run in at least ten legislative races in the November elections.

The State Chair is Lee Nason; contact her at 61 Garfield #2, Cambridge, Mass. 02138, (617) 864-6497.

MICHIGAN

News from Michigan is very encouraging, stemming from the recent LP Convention February 4 and 5. Speakers included National Chair David Bergland, National Director Chris Hocker, *Libertarian Review* editor Roy Childs, and 1972 Presidential candidate John Hospers. Michigan LP activities have decided to go full speed ahead in their petition drive for the primary ballot, and ultimately permanent ballot status.

The New State Chair is Lawrence McKenna; outgoing Chair Jim Hudler is co-ordinating the ballot drive, with the help of National Committee member Steve Mariotti.

Contact McKenna at 3130 Packard Road, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48103.

MINNESOTA

The LP of Minnesota is planning its Spring Event - a social gathering of libertarians statewide - for March 18 in Minneapolis.

LP members recently joined protesting farmers who were demonstrating against power line easements taken by the state by eminent domain across private farm property. Hundreds of leaflets, including a reprint of the "Eminent Domain" plank of the LP Platform, were distributed, and State Chair Robin Miller was interrupted several times by applause when he addressed the protestors.

Dale Hemming is planning a race for the State Legislature this fall, and may be joined by other Minnesota LP members as renewed activity increases.

Contact State Chair Robin Miller at 20966 Gypsy Valley Road, Anoka, Minn. 55303, for further information.

MISSISSIPPI

For information about LP activity in Mississippi, contact State Chair Charles Clark, P.O. Box 143, Perkinston, Miss., 39573, (601) 928-5211.

MISSOURI

The LP here is looking for candidates to supplement their campaign plans in 1978; they already have permanent ballot status in one legislative district. The structure for effective organization has already been set up, and a regular press release program has been under way for some time.

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

MONTANA

New State Chair Jim Preston is in the process of building a strong organization in this state. Contact Preston at 910 Tenth Street West, #222, Billings, Mont. 59102, (406) 652-2177.

NEBRASKA

Members of the Nebraska LP recently held a meeting in Omaha and heard from National Committee member Ben Olson and National Secretary Sylvia Sanders. A program is planned to bring the LP message into high schools through a speakers bureau and a scholarship award.

The State Convention is scheduled for

late April; in the meantime, an "Activist Club" meets every two weeks to discuss strategy.

Contact State Chair Susan Putney at 2737 S. 16th Street, Omaha, Neb. 68108, (402) 422-0118.

NEVADA

The major focus of activity here is electoral politics, with State Chair Jim Burns making plans for an all-out race for the State Legislature.

Burns is offering up to 40 cents per signature to petitioners who will collect them on behalf of the LP in order to get ballot status. Please contact Burns at 809 Cartier #K, North Las Vegas, Nev. 89030, (702) 642-7717.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

The new Executive Director of the New Hampshire LP is Charles Burris, who replaces Marc Travis.

State Chair Bill Hunscher reports that LP candidates will run for a number of offices this year. Craig Franklin will be one of these, for a U.S. Congress seat.

Roger MacBride recently toured the state, speaking in several locations despite bad weather, on behalf of the NHLP.

Contact Hunscher at 9 Belmont Street, Nashua, NH 03060, (603) 883-2762.

NEW JERSEY

Orange was the site of the 1977 Convention of the LP of New Jersey, which featured a talk by National Director Chris Hocker and speeches by representatives of NORML and a local tax resistance group. Walt Swirsky was re-elected State Chair.

LP activities are hoping to have candidates for all 15 Congressional seats, plus local offices, to equal or surpass their 1977 record of 29 candidates. Announced candidates include Robert Shapiro, Dale Sutthof, and Steve Enterline for U.S. Congress, and Jack Moyers for U.S. Senate.

Contact Walt Swirsky, 7 Maxfield Lane, Englishtown, NJ 07726, (201) 431-4491, for further information.

NEW MEXICO

Late reports indicate that LP member Bob Walsh ran third in a four-way race for a City Council seat in Albuquerque, gaining nearly 10 percent of the vote. Walsh is considering another electoral attempt in 1978.

For further information about LP activities in New Mexico, contact State Chair Robert Foster, 2417 Zena Lona N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87112, (505) 296-8262.

NEW YORK

The state convention of the Free Libertarian Party is scheduled for April 7 and 8 at the Gramercy Park Hotel in New York City. Veteran activist Gary Greenburg is expected to seek the nomination for Governor at that time.

For further information, contact State Chair Carl Hastings, 200 Madison Avenue, Suite 1904, New York, NY 10016, (212) 686-9182.

NORTH CAROLINA

Ballot status is still the goal of the North Carolina LP activists; gathering 10,000 valid signatures this year would guarantee them ballot position for 1980 as well. The state convention is scheduled for April 15 in Raleigh.

To help in the ballot drive, contact State Chair Rick Posatto, P.O. Box 3280, Charlotte, NC 28203, (704) 525-0362.

NORTH DAKOTA

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

OHIO

Veteran activist Bob Lehman is

challenging incumbent Democrat Charles Vanik for Congress in the 22nd District of suburban Cleveland. Lehman has already raised considerable funds, and is concentrating on the petition drive needed to qualify his candidacy. In addition, Lehman appeared in Columbus to speak against a bill which would make third-party and independent candidacies more difficult.

Contact State Chair Tom Brown at 114 Willowood Drive, Dayton, Ohio 45405, (513) 278-9094.

OKLAHOMA

The Oklahoma LP has made news with its opposition to the American Agricultural Movement's call for 100% parity in farm prices. Frank Robinson developed an extensive analysis of the parity issue, and distributed leaflets and press releases to farmers and reporters at the state capital. An article by Robinson, "Parity No Panacea," appeared in the *Oklahoma Observer*.

Contact State Chair Loren Baker, P.O. Box 60505, Oklahoma City, Okla. 73106, (405) 848-2043, for further information about the LP in Oklahoma.

OREGON

The Oregon LP Convention took place the weekend of February 11 and 12; speakers included David Bergland and a number of local authorities on the law, business and medicine.

Activist Tom Ball wrote a ballot argument against a proposed 2 cent a gallon increase in the state gasoline tax; convention attendees raised the necessary \$300 to insert the argument in the voter pamphlet. Ball and others have been extremely active organizing Libertarians on Oregon campuses this year.

The new State Chair is Tonie Nathan, replacing Vivian Baures. Contact Tonie at 1625 Best, Eugene, Ore. 97401, (503) 686-9921.

PENNSYLVANIA

Jeff Smith, a university professor, will be carrying the LP banner into the race for the First Congressional District seat in Philadelphia. Pennsylvania LP'ers will be devote most of the energies to his campaign.

For further information, contact State Chair Tony West, 4609 Cedar Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. 19143, (215) 727-6463.

RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island LP members are considering an entrance into the City Council race in Providence. To encourage them, contact State Chair Tony Fiocca, P.O. Box 657, Bristol, RI 02809, (401) 253-4027.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Activists here are capitalizing on certain "blue laws" such as those which restrict business operations on Sundays. The LP expects to use a commercial base in order to collect the necessary 10,000 signatures for permanent ballot status.

Contact State Chair Lee Muller for further information: 2 Green Glen Apts., Pendleton, SC 29670, (803) 646-7354.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Thanks to the efforts of National Committee member Ben Olson, South Dakota has a revitalized party under new Chair Byron McGregor. A newsletter, a convention, and possibly some LP candidates will emerge shortly.

Contact McGregor at P.O. Box 230, Yankton, SD 57078.

TENNESSEE

The Tennessee LP will hold its state convention on April 15. Veteran activist Richard Bacon has already started his campaign for a seat in the state legislature, against an incumbent Democrat.

Contact State Chair Mary Joyner at 404 Meadow Lane, Kingsport, Tenn. 37663, (615) 239-9394.

TEXAS

State Chair Bill Howell has submitted a long list of candidates who have filed their intent to run as Libertarians in the November elections. They include Allan Vogel for Governor, Charles Fuller for Lt. Governor, and Sharon Lucas for U.S. Senate.

Also, Joe Izen for Attorney General, Mike Holmes for Comptroller, Sue Bjornseth for Treasurer, Barry Klein for Land Commissioner, Harry Barthlow for Agriculture Commissioner, and Dave Hutzelman for Railroad Commissioner.

Also, Robert Tinney, Don Stockwell, and Harry Robinson will run for Congress; and Bill Fraser, Henry Weissborn, and Rob Harrison are campaigning for the State House of Representatives.

Dallas area LP members have the chances to elect activist Ann Hammond to the City Council in Garland, a Dallas suburb.

To help the enthusiastic Texas LP contingent, contact Howell at P.O. Box 12618, Dallas, Texas 75225, (214) 692-6068.

UTAH

For information about LP activities in Utah, contact State Chair George Chapman, P.O. Box 15506, Salt Lake City, Utah 84115, (801) 485-2485.

VERMONT

Activists are needed in Vermont. Please contact George Trask, Hearthstone Village, S. Londonderry, VT. 05155, (802) 824-6893, or contact LP National Headquarters.

VIRGINIA

LP activities in Virginia are moving rapidly under the leadership of Chairman Michael Maddox. Maddox has organized a number of issues-oriented groups in northern Virginia, while activists in the Richmond area are opposing a proposed civic center and are considering an LP candidacy for the City Council.

Please contact Maddox at 2325 N. Jackson Street, Arlington, Va. 22209, (703) 528-5476, for further information.

WASHINGTON

State Chair Pat Artz reports that several LP candidates will emerge for a variety of legislative offices in 1978. Artz plans a Regional Conference in Seattle in conjunction with the National Committee meeting scheduled for May 14.

WEST VIRGINIA

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

WISCONSIN

LP'ers in Madison have established a permanent office with a staff person, Leslie Graves. Graves reports that Art Jackson plans a strong race for the City Council in Janesville (pop. 45,000), and that B.J. Larson, another LP member, made the runoff in a school board race in Racine.

The Madison group has garnered favorable media attention as a result of its activism.

Contact the new State Chair, Susan Mayer, at 4918 W. Washington Blvd., Milwaukee, Wisc. 53208, or Leslie Graves in the Madison office, 115 S. Pinckney Street, Madison 53703, (609) 257-0145.

WYOMING

Contact State Chair Gary Roberts at 230 E. Jefferson, Cheyenne, Wyo. 82001, (307) 638-3077 for information about the LP in Wyoming.

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Washington Watch

Alan Bock

Tax Credits, Airlines, and Safety

TAX CREDITS FOR EDUCATION

It has been amusing to see the swift response to obviously strong Senate support for some kind of tax credit program to help parents meet the increasing costs of tuition, especially for college students. It is also important to see the attitudes which underly this controversy and the potential which tax credits have for increasing the diversity of educational efforts in this country.

The issue began to command public attention when Sen. William V. Roth (R-Del.) nearly held up the increase in Social Security taxes last December with his amendment which would provide for a tax credit of up to \$250 to offset the cost of college tuition and vocational school training. Although it appeared that the amendment had the support of a majority of the Senate, Roth agreed to drop it as an amendment to the Social Security package (it was unrelated, and wouldn't have been permitted in the House, but they can do that sort of thing in the Senate), while vowing to bring the proposal up as soon as possible in the new session.

The popularity of the Roth proposal, combined with pressure from middle-income taxpayers who feel increasingly strapped by rising tuition costs combined with increased taxes and inflation, caused a flurry of activity in the Senate Human Resources Education Subcommittee. Backed by the Carter Administration, this committee quickly approved a bill (S. 2539) which would expand existing student aid programs to middle-income families. At present the cut-off for a family of four is an annual income of \$15,000 or less, to be eligible for federal student aid. The new proposal would raise the level to \$25,000 and increase the college work-study program.

The following day (Feb. 23) the Senate Finance Committee, committed to the tax credit approach substituted a new bill for an unrelated House-passed measure (HR 3946). This proposal would allow a tax credit of up to \$250 effective August 1, 1978, and gradually increase the credit to \$500 and extend it to cover elementary and secondary education. Meantime Sen. Bob Packwood (R-Ore) is calling on Oregonians to apply pressure on fellow Oregonian Al Ullmann (D-Ore.) who is chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, which would have jurisdiction over the legislation in the House.

The differences between the two approaches are extremely important. The tax credit approach allows the taxpayer (whose money it is anyway) to use his money for tuition and then claim a tax credit. Extending the credit to cover elementary and secondary education could encourage independent alternatives to the pitiful public school system. It wouldn't relieve homeowners of the burden of supporting

the bloated system through property taxes, but it would at least allow some tax credit to those who chose independent alternatives. It would require a minimum of federal paperwork and very little intrusion into citizens' lives. (Presumably an additional line on the 1040 form and the advisability of hanging onto a receipt in case you're audited by IRS.)

The expansion of the existing grant program, however, retains a maximum of control and discretion in the hands of the government. It allows government agents to exercise discretion over which schools will be approved for aid, and continues the snooping into personal finances which is required by income limitations and other requirements. It will presumably require that new armies of bureaucrats be hired and invested with new authority over the lives of the taxpayers. The fact that the Carter Administration (and the teachers' unions and such Senators as Pell and Javits) prefer this approach offers an important insight into the way they think.

Meanwhile, in the House, the post-secondary Education Subcommittee of the House Education and Labor Committee, chaired by William D. Ford (D-MI) has passed its own version of the increased grant program (HR 10845) which would pump an additional \$1.2 billion into the traditional grant and loan programs.

Letters to Senators and Congressmen supporting the tax credit approach and opposing the increased grant approach are very important now. It is likely that some form of relief for middle-income families pressed by tuition costs will be passed this year. It is very important what kind of relief is enacted. Get those cards and letters flowing.

OBSTACLES FOR AIRLINE DEREGULATION

Airline regulatory reform is supposedly the first item on the Senate's agenda after the Panama issue is decided one way or another. The bill, passed by the Senate Commerce Committee, is S.2493, and is a reasonably acceptable bill. It would liberalize market entry and fare-setting. It is far short of libertarian preferences, but probably the best which could reasonably be expected to pass the Senate. It does contain some real reform, thought there will probably be efforts to weaken it by amendments from the floor of the Senate. Letters to your Senator in support of the bill would be welcome.

Meanwhile, in the House, consideration of a companion piece of legislation (HR 8813) has been delayed by the insistence of Aviation Subcommittee Chairman Glenn Anderson (D-CA) that it be linked to passage of HR 8729, which would provide federal subsidies to help the airline industry meet federal noise limits imposed retroactively by the Federal Aviation Administration. Anderson supports the anti-noise

bill strongly, but is rather lukewarm on deregulation.

To help break the logjam in the House, committee staffers and others have worked up a new regulatory reform bill which incorporates elements of the bill Anderson introduced as well as alternative reform proposals offered by Elliott Levitas (D-GA) and Phil Crane (R-IL). The new bill, HR 11145, is supported by Norman Mineta (D-CA), Harold Johnson (D-CA), the chairman of the full House Public Works Committee, and Crane and Levitas. In some respects it is the best reform bill introduced so far, and with such support it is likely to be the vehicle used for mark-up by the House Aviation Subcommittee, in sessions beginning March 8.

There are still objections to Anderson's subsidy bill, so it may yet take a while to get airline regulatory reform untracked. Assuming these problems can be overcome, however, we may see a bill on the House floor as soon as April or May.

HEADHUNTING AT THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

On February 8, S. John Byington offered his resignation as chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission. This capped a campaign by entrenched bureaucrats to blame the agency's failure on Byington and to punish Byington for being so bold as to criticize the way government works. The headhunters got their way when Byington decided that the hassles were more trouble than they were worth.

The CPSC was established in 1973, one of the first of the "new-style" regulatory agencies, in that instead of being given an area of the economy to regulate (like the CAB and airlines), the CPSC was given a hunting license to range all over the economy in search of unsafe products, and then to develop safety standards and ban products. It put a small company (Marlin Toy Company) in Wisconsin out of business by *mistakenly* placing some of its products on a list of banned or unsafe toys and never retracting its mistake. Other actions provoked criticism.

Byington, a Ford appointee, started to get flak when he was so unwise as to point out that many of the existing mechanisms of government made it impossible for him to do a decent job and pointed out that in two years the CPSC had issued only 13 regulations which contributed to public safety. Most horrendous, he criticized the Civil Service system, and noted that it was impossible under Civil Service for a manager to fire an incompetent employee or even to require him to do his job. Everybody in Washington knows this is true, but people who actually say it are marked for extinction.

Sure enough, by January an investigating team had suddenly discovered that Byington had violated 30 different Civil Service personnel rules. Byington decided that he could make a living as a private citizen without all this hassle.

What all this has accomplished is to

(Continued on page 8)

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

News Notes For Libertarians

The Trend Is Up: From the *Baron Report* newsletter of February 3, 1978 comes this analysis of shifting public opinion:

"Finally, various recent surveys have indicated that, if any trend in opinion is evident, it's toward libertarianism—the philosophy that argues against government intervention and for personal rights. Conservatives welcome that trend when it indicates public skepticism over federal programs; liberals welcome it when it shows growing acceptance of individual rights in such areas as drugs, sexual behavior, etc. and increasing reticence of the public to support foreign intervention."

The *Baron Report* is published by Alan Baron, the Washington editor of the new magazine *Politicks*.

Washington Watch

muddy the water when the CPSC comes up for renewal at hearings in the House and Senate Consumer Affairs Subcommittee. Everybody knows that the agency has been incompetent, and has had serious problems from its inception, due to the stupid things it is required to do by law and the silly rules (some self-imposed) which make it impossible to do even those things. But with Byington out, the sentiment will probably be to give the agency another chance to function now that a scapegoat has been identified and excised.

NOTED BRIEFLY

An attempt by Republican members of the House Ways and Means Committee to rescind the recent massive increases in Social Security taxes has failed by a narrow

Exporting Bureaucracy: The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) has drafted regulations which would require environmental impact statements from exporters in the U.S. before such things as fuel, building materials, and technology can be sent overseas.

That's right, folks. "Foreign environmental statements" may soon be required before you can do business overseas. CEQ Chairman Charles Warren gives an example of what might happen under such a regulation:

"If (the Panama Highway) were being built today, we might ask what the possibilities were of hoof-and-mouth disease migrating north along this highway." The highway was built with U.S. money and

technology.

The reasoning behind the regulations is found in the CEQ's interpretation of the National Environmental Policy Act, which is that "the human environment" referred to in the act "is not confined to the geographical borders of the U.S."

We envision the following scenario: A small boy in northern Minnesota throws a rock across the Canadian border, accidentally striking a squirrel. From out of nowhere, CEQ enforcement agents surround the boy: "OK, kid, we saw that. You have the right to remain silent . . ."

Business and Labor Unite: In case you are wondering who favors free trade, it ain't the mineral producers. These people have asked for a 7 cent duty on each pound of imported zinc, and a 50% cutback on all imports. The copper people have asked for similar protection.

And it ain't the labor unions. "Free trade is a joke and a myth," says George Meany. "The answer is *fair trade*—do unto others as they do to us—barrier for barrier, closed door for closed door."

And that's how shootin' wars are born.

Science Marches On: No doubt you've all been wondering what the National Science Foundation has been doing lately. Examples of recent grants:

\$100,600 to study elections in Russia from 1906 to 1917;

\$35,000 to study the sex life of the scorpion fly;

\$53,000 to study the *Aplysia* snail, which has both male and female sex organs;

\$78,400 to study both heterosexual and homosexual couples (people, not snails or flies);

\$111,400 to study why people become aggressive over politics.

We'll tell you about that last item for half price.

Dagny Taggart, Call Your Office: Amtrak, which lost money hand-over-fist last year, reported one area in which it did make a profit. The sale of Amtrak calendars resulted in a net profit of \$8.00.

Pictures In An Exhibition: A listing of U.S. Government Publications includes "Color and Graphic Arts," described by the government as follows:

"A brief history of color in printed books, magazines, newspapers and maps is displayed through selected examples from the Library of Congress collection. All illustrations in this publication are in black-and-white."

License, Not Liberty: Among the nearly 500 occupations required by governments to be licensed are artificial inseminators for cattle.

Interestingly, the rate of accidental electrocution is highest in states with the strictest licensing requirements for electricians.

Where'd It Go?: The Catholic Diocese of Columbus, Ohio, has been paying taxes on a 55 acre parcel of land which a recent engineer's survey shows does not exist. The taxes have been paid regularly for 70 years.

It could happen to you . . .

(Continued from page 7)

margin, but the attempt indicates considerable unrest among taxpayers which is getting through to Congress. Keep those cards and letters coming.

WORTH READING: "The Roller Coaster Income Tax" by Martin Anderson, in the Winter, 1978 issue of *Public Interest*. Demonstrates that marginal tax rates jump from 16 to 29% between \$6,000 and \$7,000 per year, to up to 34%, then back down to about 27% at \$13,000, and gradually rise from there. This is progressive taxation?

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