



The Illinois Libertarian

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF ILLINOIS • BOX 1776 • CHICAGO 60690

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JANUARY 1977

LPI Convention Plans Take Shape

The LPI's convention will be a two and-a-half day affair this year, with prominent libertarians from across the country. Speakers who have already accepted include Ralph Raico, libertarian scholar from New York; Bob Meier, executive director at National Party headquarters; David Bergland, our vice-presidential candidate in 1976; the noted tax resister Karl Bray; and Roy Childs of the Center for Libertarian Studies. We are waiting to hear from even more nationally prominent speakers, and we are planning to have workshops featuring local activists as well.

March 4, 5 and 6 are the dates to set aside for this event. On the evening of the fourth (Friday), David Bergland will be hosting a hospitality suite in the Holiday Inn of Oakbrook Terrace (the site of the Convention). This will be your chance to meet some of the speakers. Downstate people especially should make it a point to come up Friday and stay overnight.

On Saturday morning, the LPI will hold its State Convention and elect Party officers, elect delegates to the National Convention, and vote on proposed changes in the Party Constitution. In the afternoon, we will hear from our assembled speakers, culminating in a sumptuous banquet with an inspiring political harangue to top it off.

Sunday will be devoted to political workshops. There will be several going on at once, so that budding libertarian activists can choose different areas in which to expand their knowledge and political skills. Subjects being lined up include: an Introduction to Libertarianism, an Austrian Economics workshop with Alexander P. Paris; and a workshop on subverting the public schools.

We'll have the details about times and costs, speakers and their topics, etc., in next month's newsletter. In the meantime, make plans to attend this unique and worthwhile event.



Has Your Membership Expired?

It is time to renew your membership in the Libertarian Party of Illinois! If you have not sent in a membership application along with your yearly dues payment since September first, 1976, your membership in the LPI expired December 31st. Please renew your membership at once, in order to assure that you will continue to receive the Illinois Libertarian, and maintain your membership in the state Party.

The Illinois Libertarian is sent to over 400 media outlets in the state. This effort is extremely valuable in disseminating libertarian ideas. We have already had several indications that it pays to keep libertarian ideas continuously before the public. But this activity is costly. Please help us continue by sending in your dues soon. Your subscription not only brings the Illinois Libertarian to you, but helps spread our ideas to the public as a whole.

Running?

If you intend to run for an LPI office at the state convention March 5-6, there are a number of existing and proposed rules that affect your candidacy.

At the convention we will be electing the five Party officers (Chairperson, Chicago area and Downstate vice-chairpersons, Secretary and Treasurer), two judicial committee members (the terms of Joe Cobb and David Theroux are expiring), and delegates to the national convention. Also, in February a new State Central Committee will be selected with representatives from each Congressional District in the state. Any representatives which are not chosen before the convention will be chosen there by caucus of the members from that district. Further details will be available in the next newsletter.

The most important rule affecting candidates for the five party offices is the Rules Committee proposal that all such candidates must announce 30 days before the state convention. The February newsletter will carry the names of, and short statements from, all candidates for any of the above offices. Candidates may announce simply by writing Box 1776.

The only requirements are for Party positions: officers must be members of LPI residing in Illinois. Judicial committee terms are for three years; SCC representatives serve until the next annual convention. No one may serve on both the State Central and Judicial committees at the same time.

The proposed procedure for electing national convention delegates is given in rule 5 of the rules committee report (on page). For other elections, the voting procedure is described in the Party by-laws (except for section F). They require that any nominating speeches be less than two minutes and that there be no more than two seconding speeches of no longer than one minute each.

Proxy voting is permitted by the state constitution. If anyone desires to grant a proxy the LPI secretary (Will Kinney) must be notified of the terms of the proxy 15 days before the convention (i.e., Feb. 18).

the Rules

The following is the report of the Committee on Convention Rules as approved by the State Central Committee in its December meeting

1. All Party officers shall be elected at the State Convention. In those years when a National Party convention is being held, the Illinois delegates shall be selected at the State Convention. The State Convention shall also fill judicial committee seats whose terms expire at that convention.
2. All Party members may vote on any question, except for elections of SCC reps in districts other than their own.
3. Any member may select someone to cast the member's vote by proxy. The Party secretary must be notified of the conditions under which the proxy is given 15 days before the convention for the proxy to be valid.
4. Voting shall be by voice vote except as stated elsewhere in these rules. A show of hands or rising vote shall be taken upon request of 10 party members.
5. Each candidate for delegate to the National Convention shall have two minutes to allot for nominating and seconding speeches. The election shall be by secret ballot, and each Party member may vote for as many delegates as are allotted to Illinois by the National Party. Candidates shall be ranked by their total votes and are elected according to this ranking until the Illinois allotment of delegates is exhausted. The delegate's alternate will then be chosen by the elected delegate.
6. The procedure for all other elections shall be as specified in the Party by-laws, except that all nominees for Party offices must have announced their candidacy to the State Central Committee 30 days before the State Convention. The Party newsletter shall print the names of all announced candidates for Party offices.
7. Each proposed new convention rule or amendment shall be debated for a maximum of ten minutes. Debate may be closed by a 2/3 vote.
8. The chair of the convention may require any motion to be made in writing, signed by the maker, and delivered to the convention secretary.
9. If a State Central Committee election has not been held in a district by the time of the State Convention, the seat shall be filled by caucus of those party members residing in the appropriate district.

Local Clubs

NORTH SIDE-- Joe McCaffrey, 528-9083, or Milton Mueller, 525-6231

SOUTH SIDE-- Elaine and David Theroux, 955-2442.

NORTHWEST SIDE-- Wayne Openlander, 283-1690

NORTH SHORE-- Jorie Julian, (312) 234-1825

NW SUBURBAN-- Bill Bartels, (312) 253-6142

WEST SUBURBAN-- Tom Cain, (312) 383-8359

SOUTH SUBURBAN-- James C. Jones, (312) 468-8805

LAKE COUNTY-- Marji Kohls, (312) 223-8417; or (312) 546-8215

MCHENRY COUNTY-- Robert Randall, (815) 459-4929

KANE COUNTY-- Volunteers for an organizer in this area call the LPI at 528-6918.
In the meantime, libertarians in this area can call the DuPage or McHenry County organizers.

DUPAGE COUNTY-- Don Parrish, (312) 852-2844

ROCKFORD-- James Dunkel, (815) 877-6321

DEKALB-- Marc Swanson, (815) 758-4073

TRI-CITIES-- Richard Wetzels, (309) 764-7049

PEORIA-- Jerry Joyner, (309) 688-9623

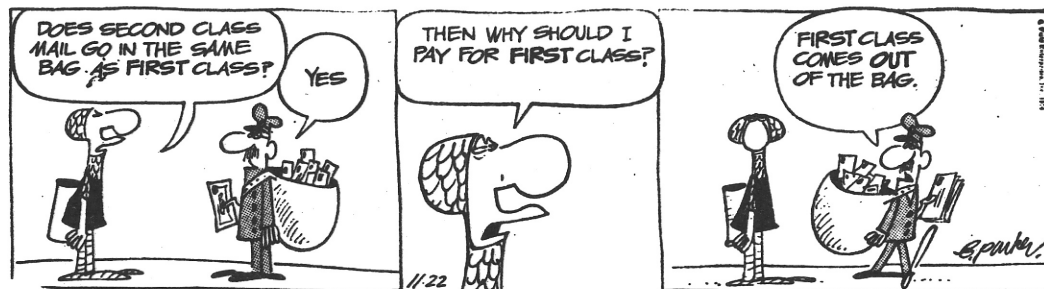
BLOOMINGTON/NORMAL-- Ed Monger, (309) 452-0577

CHAMPAIGN/URBANA-- Jeff Dehn, (217) 359-3583

SPRINGFIELD-- Gary Burpo, (217) 787-1451; also 544-7386

METRO EAST-- Bill Brockus, (618) 656 4351

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS-- Bill Mitchell, (618) 439-6004



THE MARCH ISSUE OF THE ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN WILL FOCUS ON CHICAGO POLITICS: THE DEATH OF DALEY AND THE FUTURE OF THE MACHINE. ARTICLES FROM OUR READERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

"The State is...a philosophical error in social existence. The State is chaos, rioting under the guise of law, order and morality. The State is a mob, posited on unscientific premises. We propose to supplant the mob by that true social order which is pivoted on the sovereignty of individuals, associated for mutual well-being under the law of natural attraction and selection--Liberty."
BENJAMIN TUCKER, ca. 1880

FORUM:

Class Analysis:

We are devoting this month's forum to "libertarian class analysis" because class analysis is the most effective way of "libertarianizing" large segments of the population. Any Party member who intends to spend time on the street petitioning, canvassing a neighborhood, or speaking before a special interest group should be familiar with this politically potent method of presenting libertarian ideas.

Class analysis is basic. It wrenches up by its roots the collectivist concept of the State as "The People" Indeed, any perceptive listeners exposed to it will have to reexamine their ingrained attitudes about government. Statists have gotten a lot of mileage out of equating government control with "public" control. This all-pervasive equivocation endows the state with an aura of holiness that is nearly impossible to avoid, if one uses the conventional terms. But Libertarian class analysis unmasks this fallacy, and forcefully communicates the true nature of government power.

Secondly, we have found a class analysis approach to be convincing to many people who are at first opposed to the libertarian appeal. Take welfare, for instance. You can argue until you are blue in the face that altruism should not be compulsory. But helping the poor is so important to so many people that the argument is rarely heeded. Most people believe the ends of social programs justify the means--unless we can show what enormous political and economic profit lies in the endeavor. When people see money being taken from those who have it and going to those who don't, most of them think its a good thing. Yet, how many notice the middleman, the state? How many notice

the power reaped by an authority which can not only transfer wealth by force, but also define the "need" which allegedly justifies the expropriation? If it is made clear that state power is the real beneficiary of welfare programs, even the most rabid compulsory altruist will stop and think for awhile. I have seen people who call themselves communists and people who call themselves liberals agree on this point.

What we are trying to change by this method is the consciousness of other people. We want people to be aware of the class implications of every new action of the government. We want people to ask of their rulers not "Is this in the Public Interest?", but rather, "Whom does this benefit, and at the expense of whom?" We want to obliterate the image of the state as a benevolent umpire and protector of the weak, by replacing it with an image of oppression and force.

The women's liberation movement, in a few years, created widespread awareness of a political issue. How many times, in conversation or on television, have you seen men who suddenly stop in the middle of a sentence about women and mutter something like, "Well, I guess that makes me a male chauvinist pig, ha ha," or, "I'm not a sexist, but..."? Whether they agree or not with the people who raised the issue, the awareness is there, and cannot be avoided. Ten years from now, we want would-be politicians and special interest groups to be smitten with the same involuntary pangs of awareness--an awareness that we will shape. This is the most potent form of political activism, and it can be done without electing even so much as an alderman.

Milton Mueller



"Taking the State wherever found, striking into its history at any point, one sees no way to differentiate the activities of its founders, administrators, and benefactors from those of a professional criminal class."
ALBERT JAY NOCK, 1935

Why, when there has not been a single confirmed case of swine flu in the entire nation, were we suddenly bombarded by the "public goodness" of immunizing the entire U.S. population? To date, there have been over 110 deaths directly attributed to the vaccine, it has caused temporary paralysis in a large number of people, the program has been stopped twice because of the resulting drop in public acceptance, and still there is no sign of the dreaded swine flu and no sign that government has recognized its mistake. What causes such incompetence and total disregard for individual safety?

One can smell economic interests at work here. Could it be that certain drug companies could not sell their vaccine on the market, since it was considered unsafe by insurance companies? Is it possible that only through government funding, sponsorship and promotion could they reap their enormous profits? In analyzing who pushed for the program, who benefits from the program, and how much money is involved, we come face to face with a classic example of libertarian class analysis.

the State vs. Society

The fundamental cutting edge of the libertarian challenge consists of the perception that the initiation or threat of violence against others (murder, rape, theft, and fraud) is criminal. Such acts are crimes whether committed under the auspices of a government or acted out by independent hoodlums. However, libertarians correctly recognize that empirically, the State is the greatest organization of crime. It is only the State which can systematically carry out wholesale theft (taxation, eminent domain, confiscation of drugs and weapons), murder (war, "world policing" actions, assassinations), and still be heralded as the "Protector of the Public Good". This dramatic insight into our social condition is not complete until we can understand how and why such a situation ever came to exist, and we cannot hope to alter it until we understand what perpetuates it.

Involved in every criminal act are two classes of people: the person who benefits from the act of plunder, and the person who loses. Since state crime permeates our society so completely, affecting each of us in different, sometimes contradictory ways, these two classes of people become: the net benefactors of state plunder, and the net losers.

In looking closely at the operations of government, we find that the window-dressing of democracy, national security, and general welfare quickly disappear. Instead, we see competing bands of individuals seeking the State's power to literally plunder the rest of society. In his magnificent book The State, Franz Oppenheimer aptly calls such activity "the political means of obtaining wealth." This he contrasts with the market process of production and trade, "the economic means of obtaining wealth." Similarly, Albert Jay Nock makes such a distinction in his Our Enemy The State, where "Social power", consisting of people freely creating, exchanging and interacting is at odds with "State power"--the age-old process by which theft and other acts of predation combine to confiscate the fruits of "Social power". Both writers identified the two fundamental classes in society and the conflict inherently found between them: The State vs. Society.



"It [the State] has taken on a vast mass of new duties and responsibilities; it has spread out its powers until they penetrate to every act of the citizen, however secret; it has begun to throw around its operations the high dignity and impeccability of a State religion; its agents have become a separate and superior caste, with authority to bind and loose, and their thumbs in every pot."
H.L.MENCKEN, 1926



Government programs do not just happen! They are the result of the pressures of special interest groups vying for the next State "windfall profit". Hence, we can see both the reason for the emergence of the State and why it continues to exist. Various persons in society support and defend the State because they reap enormous profits--economic and/or political--from its programs. The convenient cloak of the "common good" confuses those being robbed into believing that the programs are both beneficial and necessary. Hence, we find people who speak of the "practicality" of taxation, CIA wiretapping, and nuclear bombs.

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Since the Libertarian Party is interested in organizing people for effective social change, the existence of this class conflict resulting from State plunder is of immense political importance. To believe that our allies naturally consist of the business community, or 'freaks', or whatever, is naive to say the least. Those people who will most identify with the libertarian perspective are those suffering under the yoke of State control--those people oppressed by the State ruling class of administrators and beneficiaries. And these people will only take libertarians seriously when our programs involve a keen understanding of the plight of the oppressed. Efforts must be made to support the legitimate struggle of such people.

A local example involves the massive city of Chicago construction project to "revitalize the Loop." Houston, Texas is also experiencing such a large project adjacent to its downtown area, but a striking difference exists between the two projects. The entire Houston project is being funded by private firms, utilizing property purchased on the market at market prices (Houston is a city with no zoning laws). The Chicago project, on the other hand, is being funded by government, and all land sites have been obtained through the use of restrictive zoning and eminent domain. Hence, not only are the funds and land sites in Chicago stolen property, but the whole project is basically a massive redistribution of wealth from the average consumer to the coffers of the financial, construction, and merchant interests involved. The questions we must raise publicly are: who is behind the project, who actually stands to benefit from the project, and how much is involved?

Another, even more blatant example is the controversy that swirled around the currency exchanges recently. Currency Exchanges are a government-licensed monopoly in Chicago. This is what made it possible for a political insider such as Cecil Partee to be granted a license to operate a Currency Exchange at a specific location which had been denied to other applicants for years. Yet, when all the corruption and higher prices were exposed, not one voice was raised suggesting that the whole business be deregulated. Instead, the proposed "reform" invariably involved more government control. Again, the questions to ask are: who stands to benefit by retaining the monopoly, who is behind it, and how much is involved?

We must not hesitate to make such analysis, since only by identifying the actual predators and victims of government programs can we in the Libertarian Party hope to win the support necessary to dismantle the State.

SCC Notes

Meeting held in Champaign, Ill. under the auspices of the YLA chapter at the U of I.

Old Business

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Tom Cain has replaced J.D. Webster as the West Suburban Club organizer. [check News and Notes for his address]

There are currently 333 LPI members, 108 of which are 1977 members.

Secretary reported that it is time to renew Party membership.

STATE CAMPAIGN

The chairperson reported that the Illinois vote percentage came to about .17%. Discussion and criticism of the campaign effort ensued. There were complaints that our small vote return resulted from our catering to conservatives and that gay people had been turned off by the attitudes of the Party leadership. In response, it was stated that the lean to the Right was inevitable, because the Right is accessible, it is disintegrating, and Gene McCarthy pre-empted the left, and prevented our drawing votes from there.

A general discussion of the goals of the Party ended in basic agreement that the Party is not an end in itself, but should be used to further the libertarian movement as a whole.

BALLOT COMMITTEE

It was pointed out that the members of the Ballot Committee had never been elected. The chair responded that by state law candidates select the chairperson of the Ballot Committee, and the chair selects the others. But the LPI chair, who is also Ballot Committee Treasurer, agreed to give monthly financial reports to the SCC.

New Business

Sustaining membership was raised to \$20 per year. Ellyn Powelson is running for alderman in Winnebago county.

Marji Kohls is running for Park District Commissioner in Wildwood (see News and Notes for results).

Rules Committee for the convention gave its report. If anyone is interested in running for a Party post, or changing the state constitution and by-laws, they should read the report, which is printed on page of the newsletter.

BOOKS FOR LIBERTARIANS

- Our Enemy, the State Albert Jay Nock 2.95 pb
Presents a searching historical account of the disastrous effects of State power replacing Social power (voluntary individual initiative) One of the finest presentations of libertarian class analysis
- The State Franz Oppenheimer 3.95 pb
The classic libertarian sociological analysis of the nature of the State, showing the inherent conflict between the "political" (governmental) and economic (trade and production) means of obtaining wealth.
- A New History of Leviathan edited by Radosh & Rothbard 3 45 pb
Superb collection of essays dealing with the rise of the American Corporate State since Woodrow Wilson. Includes contributions by Leonard Liggio and Murray Rothbard.
- The Yankee and Cowboy War Carl Oglesby 4.95 pb
An in-depth analysis of the vested interests behind such recent turbulence as the assassinations, Vietnam and Watergate. Exposes "official" explanations as lies, and lays bare the relationship between government, business, and the intelligence community.
- Egalitarianism as a Revolt Against Nature & Other Essays Murray Rothbard. 2.50 pb
In the essays "Left and Right: The Prospects For Liberty" and "Anatomy of the State", Rothbard synthesizes the class analysis theory of Oppenheimer and Nock into a libertarian historical perspective. The "Libertarian Manifesto".
- Parasitism and Subversion Stanislav Andreski 2.45 pb
Analysis of how Latin American problems stem from an inherited pattern of statist exploitation. Discusses the destructive effects of land monopolies, political appropriation of wealth, huge bureaucracies, militarism and conscription.
- Who Rules America? & The Higher Circles: The Governing Class in America G. William Domhoff 2.95 pb
2.45 pb
Two works with consistently good research and analysis into the who and how of governmental policies.
- Theory and History Ludwig von Mises 15.00 hc
Examines the proper methods of studying economic theory and history. Shows that classes can only arise from government intervention, not on the free market.
- The Road to Serfdom F.A. Hayek. 3.95 pb
In the chapter entitled "Why the Worst Get on Top", Hayek exposes one of the end results of the centralization of power.
- As We Go Marching John T. Flynn 3.45 pb
Written approximately thirty years ago, it is a powerful and prophetic warning against the genesis of American economic and political fascism. Traces the development of American corporatism with militarism, imperialism, and war preparations.

These books can be ordered from Libertarian Books, 5616 So. Blackstone, Chicago, Illinois, 60637 Please include 50¢ for postage and handling.

The Tomorrow File by Lawrence Sanders

(Note: this is a book review contributed by Jim Jones, one of our subscribers. The Illinois Libertarian welcomes articles submitted by our readers.)

Sander's story is a complex maze of bureaucratic intrigue, revenge and sex set in the 1990's. In the world of The Tomorrow File, a President and a Congress are still elected, and the Constitution and Bill of Rights are still in effect. But the bureaucracy is in fact the only power. In addition to unravelling the multi-faceted plot, the reader must learn a future bureaucratic language. For example, the Government's Division of Security and Intelligence is called DIVSEC and is run by the Ass Dep Dir Sec (Assistant Deputy Director). People get paid in "love" and men "use" their girl friends.

Nicholas Bennington Flair, the key figure of the book (I can't call him hero), is a high-ranking official of the Department of Bliss (formerly HEW), Satisfaction Section (SAT SEC of DOB). Throughout the book, Flair and his cohorts play god with the minds and bodies of the citizens, while continually trying to do each other in.

To the libertarian, The Tomorrow File is not a far-fetched, reactionary look into a fantasy land, but a frightening extension of present trends. Sanders has provided us with an incisive view of the bureaucratic mind and its tactics; his book is recommended reading for the libertarian who would know the nature of his enemy. In The Tomorrow File, all liberty and individuality is lost in some dusty yesterday file that should scare the hell out of you.

& news & notes

ALAN REYNOLDS, Vice-President of the 1st National Bank of Chicago, will speak on "The Consequences of Carter's Economics" at a dinner-seminar sponsored by the Economic Education and Research Forum. Mr. Reynolds was active in the Libertarian Party of New York, and is the former economics editor of National Review. The talk will be held at the Palmer House; admission is \$15.00 for EERF members, \$17.00 for non members. The group will be meeting for cocktails at 5:00 and dinner will start at 6:00. For more information, contact EERF, 135 So. La Salle St, Suite 2140, Chgo, 60603. Send your money as soon as possible; seating is very limited. Call 312/736-9572 make reservations.

SCC MEETING for January will be held at the home of Tom Cain on January 16, 1977. The address is 163 North Harvey, Oak Park, call 383-8359 for directions. SCC Meetings can be attended by all members.

RADIO STATION WJJD, 104.3 on the FM dial, has asked Joe Cobb to talk about the Libertarian Party: assessing the results of our campaign, and projecting our plans for the future. The interview will be broadcast Sunday, Jan. 16th, at 11:45 a.m.

GAY RIGHTS group forming. Persons interested in contacting the local chapter of Libertarians for Gay Rights can do so via the Party mailbox: P.O.Box 1776, Chicago, IL 60690.

Although the forces of darkness won the battle of the December 11 Wildwood Park District elections, the forces of light have an ace up their sleeve.

NOTA talk is on the energy crisis. Winston Duke will be speaking on the electric and nuclear power problems, and George Price will discuss gas power. The date is January 30, at 2:30 p.m. at Christ Church of Chicago, 701 W. Buckingham.

Despite a hard-working campaign by Marji Kohls, the Park District was established by a vote of 432-256. Marji herself finished sixth with 285 votes (the five winners had from 392 to 347 votes; the other losers got 230 and 207 votes). However, libertarian ideas were presented directly to all Wildwood voters, and Marji got the lion's share of the publicity in every newspaper article.

MURRAY ROTHBARD will speak at a luncheon sponsored by the Economic Education and Research Forum. The date is set at April 6th; more details will be available later.

ANARCHISM study group forming. Call Joe Maxwell, 5405 S. Woodlawn, Chicago 60615, at 752-8959 for information.

Now for the good news. The referendum was only the first step toward the creation of a Park District. For it to acquire title to the 47 acres of parkland, 51 per cent of property owners must turn over their interest in the land. Since this number includes non-voters as well as Marji's supporters, there is no reason to expect bureaucracy to conquer Wildwood for a long time to come.

So far, only two people have announced their intention to run for one of the Party offices. Laura Kroutil will be running for Treasurer, and Joe Cobb is running for Secretary. If you intend to run, notify any Party officer as soon as possible.



The Illinois Libertarian is published monthly by the Libertarian Party of Illinois. Subscription included with annual membership in the Libertarian Party of Illinois: \$12/sustaining; \$8/regular; \$6/student. Subscription for non-members: \$6/year. The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of LPI, its officers, or the editor, Ken Jameson. Articles should be submitted to the editor, The Illinois Libertarian; membership and other inquiries should be directed to the LPI, P.O. Box 1776, Chicago, Illinois 60690.