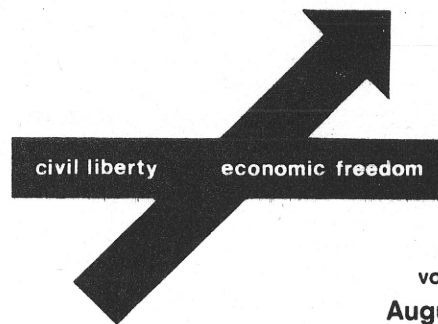


# The Illinois Libertarian



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## PLANNING FOR FREEDOM?

Some Senators' Thoughts, and Comment

by Robert Osterlund

As a follow-up to the article on centralized economic planning that appeared in these pages a few months ago, I sent the following letter to the two Illinois Senators, Percy and Stevenson:

"My dear Senator:

"In recent weeks, two of your colleagues in the Senate, Senators Humphrey and Javits, have introduced the 'Balanced National Growth and Development Bill,' which calls for an economic planning agency within the Executive Office of the President.

"I am opposed to this bill, and any others like it, and I urge you to work for its defeat. Not only would it necessitate the creation of yet another huge, ponderous federal bureaucracy, it would be unworkable and of dubious value besides. The free market is the best system known for the processing of diffuse economic information, precisely because it is decentralized. Far from facilitating the efficient operation of the market, a centralized planning agency would tend to straightjacket it. Further, the decisions of the planning agency would be subject to the desires of political pressure groups and special interests, and not subject to the true needs and desires of all the people. (The only true guarantee of the rights of minorities--their economic independence--would disappear in a system of all-or-nothing majority rule.)

"It cannot be said that the planning board would only serve in an advisory capacity.

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## THE DU PAGE COUNTY FAIR

by Ed Monger

The Du Page County Fairgrounds at Wheaton was the site of the 2nd annual appearance of the Libertarian Club of Du Page's "Showcase of Free Enterprise," from July 24th to the 27th. In contrast to last year's County Fair, when the display was located in an open-air tent, this year the showcase moved to more posh quarters in the main exhibit building.

In preparation for this year's fair, a special portable booth was constructed by Libertarian Party of Illinois Chairman Steve Nelson. Assisting in the implementation of the booth's decoration were Fran Holt and Lyn Latimer. This booth will be available for other Libertarian functions in the future, particularly the upcoming Young Americans for Freedom Convention.

At the fair itself, response to the showcase indicated a grass-roots disenchantment with the moldy bureaucracy of the two major parties. Although a few seemed uncomfortable about the aspects of having a government which upheld their rights instead of fulfilling their needs, most of those who stopped to ask questions were interested in Libertarianism.

Representatives of the LCD who passed out literature and answered questions were Joseph DeJan, Ron Harrison, Bonnie Kaplan, Richard Latimer, Lyn Latimer, Ed Monger, Steve Nelson, JoAnn Nelson, Don Parrish, Mike Shlikas, Bernie Sommer, and Peg Wharton.

In addition to a wide selection of publications, posters, bumper stickers, and slogan buttons, a contest which utilized the theme of myriad taxation, "The Incredible Bread Machine," was held for the purpose of surveying the public as to their

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## ON PLAYING YOUR CARDS RIGHT

by James D. McCawley

While I applaud Joe Cobb's insistence that libertarians devote more attention to short-run goals, I would like to add a couple of cautionary footnotes to his article, "Short-Run Goals and Long-Run Objectives."

While Joe is correct that "there is no moral imperative which says that you must expose your entire hand of cards at one time," one must also keep in mind the danger that partial disclosure of one's hand will mislead people as to what the rest of one's hand is, perhaps even mislead people as regards what game you think you're playing. The specific example Joe cites is a case in point: Just saying "Abolish the property tax" is misleading, since it suggests that there is something special about that tax and that your opposition is just to specific taxes because of specific things wrong with each, rather than to taxation in general. A Libertarian's opposition to a property tax ought to at least touch on broad enough issues so that his audience will realize that his position on that particular tax is part of a general anti-tax policy. Indeed, controversies about particular taxes provide an excellent context for more general anti-tax agitation.

Depending on who the libertarian agitator is, libertarian agitation on certain specific issues is liable to confusion with the special pleading that constitutes so much of political agitation today. Thus, the libertarian agitating against property taxes should take care that the arguments he offers are not the same ones that are offered by those who merely want the taxes to be taken out of someone else's pockets. One way in which libertarians can avoid this particular danger offers great possibilities for favorable publicity for libertarian positions. I propose that every libertarian be especially vocal in opposing those taxes, subsidies, and restrictions which allegedly benefit groups to which he belongs. For example, libertarians who teach in primary and secondary schools ought to be particularly active in opposing government expenditures on education and in advocating the repeal of compulsory school attendance laws. Libertarians involved in scientific research or university

teaching ought to be particularly active in opposing NASA, NSF, NEH, and all the other sources of government research grants (and John Hospers should withdraw the edition of Libertarianism whose cover blurb mentions that he once was a Fulbright Scholar --that's something to confess and repent for, not to flaunt). It should be those (like me) who prefer getting around by bicycle and subway who denounce subsidies for mass transportation; it should be car freaks like Machan and Rothbard who attack highway subsidies. You of course shouldn't conceal your opposition to taxes that hit you hard and subsidies that put you at a disadvantage. However, it's harder to project libertarian ideology when your position is what most people would expect it to be, regardless of ideology; it takes effort to keep people from putting you into pigeonholes, and who but a libertarian has a libertarian pigeonhole?

\* \* \* \* \*

DU PAGE COUNTY FAIR (Cont'd from page 1)

knowledge of the significance of taxation. a \$10 first prize was underwritten by LCD President Don Parrish to the person who could best answer the question, "Can you name an item in your possession which has never been taxed either directly or indirectly?" It became readily apparent that most of the applicants were hard pressed to distinguish the meaning of the word "indirect" in this context.

After a lengthy deliberation, a winner was chosen by the LCD members at the July 30th meeting. The grand prize was awarded to Ms. Stacie Ropka of Wheaton. Her answer, "There is no such thing," was chosen as most accurate, based upon the wording of the question. An entry stating, "I have a plant from the wild backwoods of Northern Canada," submitted by Mr. Sean O'Brien of Glen Ellyn, was picked as runner-up. Except for the tax levied on the fuel required to transport the plant from Northern Canada to Glen Ellyn, that entry would have taken the top prize. Mr. O'Brien will receive a complimentary copy of "The Incredible Bread Machine" for his effort. Some of the honorable mention entries were very interesting, although not fitting into the criteria of the acceptable answer. They would be printed here except for the possibility that certain governmental agencies would

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FISH NETS, QUAKERS, AND  
THE RIGHT TO BE CHARITABLE

by Robert Osterlund

Treasury Department officials, acting on the recommendations of the Department of State, have denied the American Friends Service Committee, or Quakers, permission to send "economic" assistance to North and South Vietnam. Licenses have been approved to ship \$575,000 in "humanitarian" aid-- medical and school supplies and food; but the Treasury Department said no to shipping \$325,000 worth of fish nets, farm tillers, and workshops for the war-handicapped. Better to give a man fish than to teach him to fish.

When South Vietnam fell last May, President Ford ordered the evacuation of over 100,000 of its people, without any legal justification. No matter: It was the "moral thing to do" and generous besides. The President can afford to be generous; it's hardly his money that is paying for the lodging and resettlement of all those refugees. As for the refugees he left behind, remember: charity begins at home. Never mind that the United States pledged itself in the Paris Peace Accords to aid in the reconstruction of war-torn Vietnam. Vietnam is the enemy; we only help our friends. The Soviets, for instance (recipients of low-interest loans, cheap wheat, lend-lease, and other American give-aways). The very same Soviets who supplied most of the arms of the North Vietnamese, our enemies. The friends of our friends are our enemies. Ah, the mysteries of Detente!

Under the provisions of the federal Trading with the Enemy Act, Chairman Wallace T. Collet of the Friends' board of directors and other officials could receive up to 10 years in jail and a fine of up to \$10,000 if they go ahead with the aid shipment. They have pledged to do so and are prepared to face the consequences. But is our government prepared to own up to its contradictions? And will Libertarians own up to their Statement of Principles and denounce this infringement of the Quakers' rights?

The Statement of Principles of the Libertarian Party holds that "people should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others." And

by implication of the right to life, neither should people be forced not to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. The right to be charitable is coequal with the right to be selfish, insofar as both are noncoercive.

What is coercive about giving fish nets to Vietnam? Is the government afraid the Vietnamese will use them to snare one of our submarines? No, the concern is that in giving economic aid (in the form of productive capital) to the enemy, they might thereby be able to shift resources away from production for peace to production for war (which would make the world a lot less safer for meddling Treasury Department officials, no doubt). The Quakers don't share this concern, or at least the fear. Or maybe the Quakers view their charity as atonement for the United States' monstrous destructiveness in the Vietnam War, a war the Quakers never wanted any part of. They may be irrational in their guilt (or might it be simple, Christian charity?)--but who's to deny them their right to irrationality?

Some might think it odd for a libertarian to be defending charity; others might think it irrelevant or unnecessary. But a defense of charity is necessary, apparently. How many times has a Libertarian née Objectivist pronounced something like the following: "The essence of libertarianism is a negation of altruism"? No, no, no. The essence of libertarianism may be found, neatly summarized, in the Libertarian Party's Statement of Principles, paragraph two: "We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose." Rational Egoism is no more libertarian than Rational Altruism, if by "rational" one means the absence of coercion. Libertarianism and self-imposed (inflicted?) altruism are not antithetical. It is possible to be a libertarian altruist.

Libertarianism, then, is basically not a philosophy of shoulds, but a philosophy of should nots. Under libertarianism you are free to be an Objectivist or an Altruist, a benefactor or a beggar, a wise man or a fool; you may be anything you want (short of a slave)--but be it in peace.

## FINANCING FREEDOM

by Steve Nelson, Chairman

The formation of a new political party is an endless series of hurdles, each higher than the last, until at last the acquisition of real political power begins to lower them again. No better example exists than that of party financing; LPI has had a long struggle first to have any money at all, then to have enough for continuity of effort, and finally to cure a chronic cash-flow problem. These problems having been solved (as much as such problems ever are; constant attention and effort are needed), LPI faces a vastly higher hurdle: the financing of the 1976 campaign.

The treasury is now adequate for day-to-day operations, since we have approximately a thousand dollars (give or take a hundred), and we have maintained that level throughout 1975 without the wild swings that used to characterize our cash balances [see the Treasurer's Report on page for a rundown of the year's operations]. But the absolute minimum needed for a nominal 1976 campaign is some five thousand dollars, which will simply pay for a few bumper stickers, brochures, and travel expenses.

Let us look at this nominal campaign. It includes:

20,000 3-fold flyers (governor & lieutenant governor)	\$1,600
1,000 campaign buttons	100
Phone bills	500
Travel & lodging (6 weekend trips for candidates & advance)	1,260
Stationery & postage	1,300
1,000 bumper stickers	100
Total	<u>\$4,860</u>

It does not include any media advertising, any promotion at all for the presidential candidate, or for the lesser Illinois candidates. Clearly, this is about as nominal as a nominal campaign can get--short of another "conscience" campaign.

Just in case this is insufficiently depressing, let's take a look at another nice-to-do maneuver. In the course of ballot petitioning (and we will have the money for that), we will necessarily have acquired the names and addresses of 50,000 registered voters. Each of these voters will have

had at least one personal contact with the Libertarian Party under fairly favorable circumstances, and it would therefore be wise to attempt to use them as a nucleus for our vote. Unfortunately, the cost of mailing just one brochure to each of them looks like this:

Cost of transferring petition sheets to stiky-baks	\$ 570
Printing (assuming typesetting already done)	2,200
Mailing (third class at .06)	3,000
Miscellaneous	130
Total	<u>\$5,900</u>

Hoo hah! Six times our present treasury just to get one goddam brochure to a tiny fraction of the electorate. What can we do?

Let's look at some of the things that don't work (in this context), just to get them cleared out of the way. Fund-raising banquets, conferences, etc., raise money in the low hundreds at best. Fair booths and similar expository maneuvers cost money. Entrepreneurial ventures (everything from selling coins to owning our own railroad has been suggested) involve capital sums that look just about like campaign costs and usually lose money for several years at the start.

Things that do work? To begin with, we can assure the financing of a nominal campaign right out of our own pockets. By next summer, LPI should have a membership of 250; an average of twenty bucks apiece will do it--and there are damn few LPIers who really can't dig that up over a year.

Further, there is the possibility of a snowballing ad campaign, which is to say, a growing series of ads ostensibly promoting Libertarianism but actually intended to raise money for the next and larger ad. The difficulty here is that this sort of thing is strictly for the PR professional and is very risky in any event. LPI itself must necessarily avoid financial liability; efforts are being made (with some progress) to line up the people and seed money required.

Finally, there is the assiduous prosecution of all those things we can do that don't cost money; perhaps our rebuttal writers will be better appreciated--and emulated--after this review of what things cost.

by Robert Randall & Jeff Smith

Taxation is the process by which property (e.g., money) is transferred from private sources to public (governmental) treasuries. If the payment of taxes were a strictly voluntary act by each taxpayer, without the threat of civil and/or criminal prosecution for failure to comply, taxation would not be immoral. It is the compulsory nature of taxation, which is the same as involuntary servitude (slavery), that is immoral.

There is a vital difference between the nature of the tax statutes and that of the criminal statutes, for example. Criminal statutes exist for the protection of individual rights, whereas taxes represent a violation of those rights. The protection of rights is necessarily a matter of defining the limits of one's actions, namely, at the point where they violate the rights of other individuals. This in no way compels anyone to take a specific action, only to observe the rights of others. However, when the State demands that an individual relinquish a portion of his assets, under penalty of imprisonment, fines, or confiscation, the State becomes the oppressor of the individual. The same is true of any other claim that the State may place upon the private citizen, such as the Military Draft. The issue is: Is the government the owner of your life?

The right of an individual to his own life is the only fundamental right, of which the right to liberty and property are necessary consequences. (Without life, the terms liberty and property are meaningless. Without the right to liberty and property, the individual is a slave.) Since the proper function of government is the protection of these rights, there is every reason to expect that people would be willing to pay for this protection per se. That is, the protection of one's rights is a value, like an insurance policy or safe deposit box, and the end of taxation would not result in the end of government altogether. The abolition of taxation is a just and proper limitation on the role of government in a free society, and protects the private citizen from the otherwise inevitable growth of governmental power and irresponsibility.

Balance beginning of year	\$1,256.39
Miscellaneous income	\$112.00
Newsltr subscriptions	24.00
Memberships	345.00
Sale of literature	2.00
Income Execom Dinner	<u>230.75</u>
Total income	<u>\$713.75</u>
Misc expenses	\$ 174.00
Phone expenses	139.71
Stationery expenses	53.37
Newsletter expenses	369.57
Room rental	50.00
Gold Conf. mailing	192.55
Chmn's Contin. Fund	<u>48.49</u>
Total expenditure	<u>\$1,027.69</u>
Balance as of 7/27/75	\$942.45

Fran Holt, Treasurer

\* \* \* \* \*

The Bill of Rights states that private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation. What is "just compensation" for \$5.00? Is it a bureaucracy that squanders tax revenues on foreign and domestic subsidy programs? Is it a Congress that cannot so much as balance a budget? Is it a mountain of federal debt? Every year the government needs more and more tax revenues to finance an endless flood of new legislation, which creates more agencies, bureaus, and commissions, which regulate yet another aspect of our lives, which never phase out of existence, and for which the taxpayer just pays . . . and pays . . . and pays.

So long as the government has the power to tax, it has the power to enslave. Taxation is not necessary to finance the essential business of government, which is the protection of the rights of private citizens. Taxation is necessary for the perpetuation and growth of a bureaucracy which has become the instrument of our own destruction. The choice is as basic, and as urgent, as life and death.

[The preceding is a portion of the anti-tax literature handed out to 2,000 persons at the demonstration in Chicago April 15.]

## MINUTES OF JULY MEETING

### I. Announcements.

#### II. Old Business.

A. YAF Convention Report. A suite has been rented at the convention for 4 days at a cost of \$100. It is clear by now that the Illinois YAF will dissolve after the convention, and its members will be referred to LPI. The decision of whether or not to charge for drinks will be made on the spot (supply/demand).

B. Candidates' Statements. Steve Nelson played taped statements by Kay Harroff and Guy Riggs. Roger MacBride was not available. [See page 9, however.]

C. Election of Delegates and Alternates. This was postponed until more members arrived.

#### III. New Business.

A. Membership Drive. LPI needs a more vigorous membership drive. Several suggestions were made, and the following plans are being or will be pursued:

1. Volunteers (4) will scan the major Chicago papers (letters to the editors) for libertarian positions. Names and addresses will be researched and forwarded to the Secretary, at which time a packet will be mailed to the individual. All LPI members can help in this manner by scanning local papers, Reason Magazine, and professional/trade magazines.

2. NOTA is sponsoring a speakers program this fall and winter to attract prospective members. Speakers are being solicited now for this program. Send names of speakers to the Secretary (Bob Randall, 1536 W. Farwell, #2C, Chicago, Ill. 60626).

3. DuPage County Fair. LCD, with financial assistance from LPI, inaugurated an excellent booth this year in the main building of the DuPage County Fair. Response was considered to be good compared to last year, but it can be even better by planning further ahead.

4. Will County Fair. A decision was made to try to obtain booth space at the Will County Fair, Aug. 20-24, in Peotone, Ill. The LPI booth and materials are available, but volunteers are needed. LPI members are encouraged to come to the fair and help sell freedom. (You do believe in freedom, don't you?)

5. J. D. Webster is sponsoring a hot-line "Freedom Phone" (taped messages) which will

be advertised on local radio. Others are advised to try the same.

B. Three resolutions were passed:

1. That Steve Nelson, Joe Cobb, and Alan Neumann be empowered to receive mail at P.O. Box 1776.

2. That the Economic Civil Liberties Association and the Libertarian Association of Illinois, with Joe Cobb as agent, be empowered to receive mail at P.O. Box 1776.

3. That any duly constituted committee of LPI be empowered to receive mail at P.O. Box 1776.

4. Although the above resolutions were deemed necessary to prevent usurpation of the box number by certain governmental agencies, a motion to put LPI on record as opposing such usurpation was defeated for lack of specific evidence. (That is, we felt the pressure but couldn't prove it.)

#### IV. Elections.

A. Although there was much debate, only the results will be posted herein. Delegates are as follows (automatic selections are starred):

Steve Boydston

Bill Brockus

Joe Cobb

John Cody

Jeff Dehn

\*Winston Duke (Execom)

Bonnie Kaplan

\*Bob Meier (Execom)

\*Steve Nelson (Chairman)

Don Parrish

Jeff Smith

Richard Suter

J. D. Webster

(Joel Kaplan withdrew).

B. Alternates (in order of rank):

Bob Osterlund

Douglas Bragan

Joe McCaffrey

C. Platform Committee:

Steve Nelson

D. The delegates were polled about their willingness to accept binding positions at the request of the body. Most delegates would refuse if the position conflicted with their personal convictions. (As yet, no such situation has developed, as the body has not itself agreed upon its own position.)

Robert Randall, Secretary

PLANNING (Cont'd from page 1)

"The power to advise is the power to coerce, eventually (standby authority doesn't just 'stand by,' unfortunately). And the power to direct production and distribution is the end of not just our economic freedoms, but our political freedoms as well (as has been so eloquently explained by the Nobel Prize-winning economist and political philosopher F. A. Hayek in his classic, The Road to Serfdom).

"I would be interested in knowing your thoughts on this and related matters.

Yours very truly,  
Robert Osterlund"

To which I received the following reply from Senator Adlai E. Stevenson [not a form letter]:

"Dear Mr. Osterlund:

"Thank you for giving me the reasons for your opposition to S. 1795, the Balanced Growth and Economic Planning Act. The bill was introduced in May and is still pending before the Senate Committee on Government Operations. If the Committee should submit a report, I will of course study its recommendations very carefully.

"On the face of it, I do not share all of your misgivings since the bill does not authorize government but instead provides for the collection and analysis of economic information and the design of a plan for future policy that would be helpful to private citizens, businesses, and local, state, and federal government. We all make economic decisions in the management of household budgets, the purchase of houses and automobiles, the direction of farms and businesses, and publicly, in the administration of government. Unfortunately, we do so with too little long-term information on price trends, energy and commodity supplies, and technological developments. We have also come to the realization in recent years that our resources are not limitless and that ways must be found to conserve them and make sure that our systems for distribution are fair to all. Whether S. 1795 would help us to solve some of these economic dilemmas I don't know, but certainly the direction it is taking is appropriate.

"So that you can have more information, I am enclosing tearsheets from the Congressional Record giving the text of the bill and the statements by Senator Humphrey and Senator Javits when they introduced it. I hope that after you have read these materials, at least some of your apprehension will be allayed.

Sincerely,  
Adlai E. Stevenson"

Upon reading the materials, my apprehension was not allayed. Upon re-reading the Senator's letter, my apprehension was compounded.

But first, the bill itself: The Balanced Growth and Economic Planning Act of 1975 would:

"(1) Establish an Economic Planning Board in the Executive Office of the President with responsibility for anticipating the Nation's economic needs, measuring available national economic resources, assuring an adequate supply of industrial raw materials and energy, outlining economic goals, and in the light of long-range economic trends and opportunities, for developing a proposed Balanced Economic Growth Plan, and recommending policies to achieve the objectives of the Plan.

"(2) Provide for the development of a Balanced Economic Growth Plan, embodying coherent and realizable long-term economic goals, consistent with the Nation's economic resources and identifying the policies and actions that would be required to attain such goals.

"(3) Provide for the continuing and systematic access by the Economic Planning Board to economic information and data required to prepare, review, and revise the Balanced Economic Growth Plan and to evaluate implementation of the Plan, and for the general dissemination of such information and data in accordance with this act to promote widespread, informed and effective public participation in the planning process.

"(4) Provide for appropriate participation by State and local governments and regional organizations, business, labor, consumers, other interested groups, organizations, and private citizens in the development and revision of such plan.

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PLANNING (Cont'd from page 7)

"(5) Provide for Congressional review of each proposed Balanced Economic Growth Plan and for the approval or disapproval of the Plan by concurrent resolution of the Congress.

"(6) Establish procedures whereby the departments and agencies of the Federal Government will contribute to the continued assessment and implementation of the Balanced Economic Growth Plan."  
[the particulars follow]

And now, the apprehension:

In the chapter "The 'Inevitability' of Planning" of his book The Road to Serfdom, F.A. Hayek wrote: "It is a revealing fact that few planners are content to say that central planning is desirable. Most of them affirm that we can no longer choose but are compelled by circumstances beyond our control to substitute planning for competition." But today (Hayek was writing in the 1940's), proponents of planning say that it is both necessary and desirable. The bill in its preamble cites "the combination of severe inflation and recession [which has] disrupted the nation's economy and has caused hardship for millions of Americans" and "basic structural deficiencies" and "fundamental imbalances" in the economy for its rationale; but it goes on to suggest fundamental "improvements" in the economic structure:

"Individual economic security and personal well being are essential requirements to balanced growth in a free society. The economic decisions of the Federal Government have direct impact on the lives of individual citizens. It is therefore necessary to provide a process of open and democratic planning for the future to enable the citizens of the United States to participate fully in the making of policies affecting the national economy."

Note the implicit affirmation of egalitarian ideals in the above statement; observe, too, its admission to the tremendous power the government already wields over the economy. But mainly it proposes that we do away with the democracy of the free marketplace (where you vote with your dollars); that is, the proposal is to substitute the (admittedly) imperfect free market economy with the even more imperfect political marketplace. (If

you think the U.S. economy is oligopolized, consider its government: a two party system.)

Will the bill be coercive? Its sponsors don't think so. When Senator Humphrey thinks of planning,

"I think of looking ahead and attempting to anticipate future events. The point is not to plan just for the sake of planning, or to attempt to manage or control the economy. I do not believe a rigidly managed economy would work well in America."

Senator Javits makes it perfectly clear that:

"The plan [emphasis added] would not be legally binding on the government or the private sector. . . . Certainly we do not intend to substitute government choice for individual choice. . . . I repeat, there need be no fear about this planning idea. We will control it as we control the other aspects of our destiny, and there is no danger of its running away with use [us?], because I see no disposition by the two Senators or by others concerned to permit that to happen."

Do you trust for one minute that your individual choice would be left undiminished? Do you believe for one second that when your individual choice differs from the "democratic" choice (and the issue is important enough)--do you believe for one second that the government wouldn't try to force you into line? But not with the plan, oh no--they will have other sticks to hit you with. Senator Humphrey has said, "If we do not plan, we will have wage and price controls." Begging to differ, we will have wage and price controls, plan or no plan, forced upon us by a government unable (or unwilling) to balance its own budget, and unwilling (or unable) to face up to its own self-perpetuating mistakes. The "free" market has failed? Then let's heap regulation upon regulation upon already existing regulation. Tax the windfall profits, dry up the sources of new investment (either that or let it rain Federal Reserve Notes). Investigate the black market in canning lids, nationalize the steel industry! Do anything but recognize the source of all difficulty--governmental interference with a supposedly free economy. The free market has failed? It has never been.

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Government planning boards, Two Year Plans! (For that is what the bill proposes; we're not ready for Five Year Plans--yet.) Can wheat shortages and the rationing of toilet paper be far behind?

As for that aspect of the bill dealing with the collection and dissemination of economic information, Joseph A. Schumpeter (in Capitalism, Socialism and Democracy, Ch. 16) has had this to say:

"So far as this [the coordination of information and decision-making among industries] is being done in capitalist economies, it is a most important step toward socialism. In fact, it progressively reduces the difficulties of transition and is in itself a symptom of the advent of the transitional stage. To fight this tendency unconditionally is tantamount to fighting socialism."

Hubert Humphrey, in introducing the Balanced Growth and Economic Planning Act of 1975, described it as "an extremely important bill, perhaps the most important I have authored in my Senate career.... I am confident that the introduction of this bill will spark wide debate." It would behoove Libertarians to take a lead in this debate; a small beginning would be to write the following Senators:

Senate Committee on Government Operations:

- Abraham A. Ribicoff, Chairman
- John L. McClellan
- Henry M. Jackson
- Edmund S. Muskie
- Lee Metcalfe
- James B. Allen
- Lawton Chiles
- Sam Nunn
- John H. Glenn
- Charles H. Percy
- Jacob K. Javits [co-author]
- William V. Roth
- William E. Brock
- Lowell P. Weicker

% The United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

As should be plainly apparent, the bill will easily pass committee; but the whole Senate is another story [to be continued].

17 Aug (Sun.), 2:30, the Four Lakes Village apt. complex in Lisle (E-W Tollway to Rt. 53, south on 53, fourth light is 59th St., turn right and you're there). In the meeting room behind "The Pub," a tavern in the ski lodge just to the north of the tennis courts, the LPI GENERAL MEETING for August. To be discussed: instruction of convention delegates.

21-24 Aug (Thurs.-Sun.), in Peotone, Ill. The WILL COUNTY FAIR. Come help set up the LPI booth on the evening of the 20th. (Heck, just come!) For more info, call J. D. Webster at 312/386-6148.

28 Aug-1 Sept (Thurs.-Mon.), New York, NY. LP NATIONAL CONVENTION. (Be there!)

3 Sept (Fri.), 8 PM, 5536 East Lake Drive Apt. A, Lisle, Ill. A meeting of the LIBERTARIAN CLUB OF DUPAGE.

9 Sept (Tues.). LPI OFFICERS MEETING. For t & pl, call Steve Nelson, 969-1088.

9 Sept (Tues.), 8 PM, 662 W. Buckingham, #3, Chicago. At the Kostka's (248-2280), a meeting of TANSTAAFL (otherwise known as the Libertarian Science Fiction Club).

11 Sept (Thurs.), same time and place as the preceding entry. A meeting of NOTA (north Cook County libertarians). To be discussed: LPI affiliation, the manning of tables at upcoming university Activity Nights (if anyone is interested, call Bonnie Kaplan at 312/967-1339).

13 Sept (Sat.). NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.

20 Sept (Sat.). Publication date for the next ILLINOIS LIBERTARIAN.

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DU PAGE COUNTY FAIR (Cont'd from page 2)

be more than casually interested.

Several inquiries were made as to whether or not the Libertarian Party would have candidates on the ballot in next year's Presidential and State Elections. This was noted by ICD members who, at the July 30th meeting, suggested a more candidate-oriented theme for next year's fair. Among some of the ideas suggested were displays of prospective candidates' photographs and campaign literature.

D  
NEWS    N    NOTES  
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**STAMP OF APPROVAL:** The Senate has passed a bill requiring the Postal Service to comply with the Occupational Safety and Health Act. So what? Big deal--for the Senators. An amendment to the bill provides for an immediate congressional pay hike of as high as 8.6% with automatic cost-of-living adjustments in the future. Now if only someone would get around to passing a bill requiring the Congress to comply with the Truth in Packaging Act. Meanwhile, Bernie Sommer has a better [?] idea: (a) freeze all legislators' salaries forever; (b) divvy up 1% of the total annual amount of reduced expenditures among all those solons voting for the reduction, for as long as they "serve" (the fund would shrink to .1% for all future legislators who maintain the reduction); and (c) reduce the weight of each person's vote by the percentage of his income coming from taxes. Legitimized extortion? Why not? Nothing else seems to work.

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**PARTY LINE:** Poor Democrats. Their recent fundraising telethon, "Answer, America," fell well short of its \$6-million goal and over a million dollars short of the total collected last year (\$6.9 million pledged, \$5.5 million collected). America just wasn't answering. In Utah, at least, it is clear why: The Libertarian Party of Utah reports that 723 people checked the LP box on this year's state income tax form (the ULP has pledged to return the \$723 to all claimants). But the Democrats needn't worry: The Federal Election Commission has ruled that the two major parties may accept free services from cities for their conventions, but not from corporations or labor unions. Now where do you suppose cities get their operating funds? You guessed it --from taxes on corporations and laboring individuals (among other things). But we all know that mayors can't be bought, don't we? Don't we?! ("You deserve a break today. . . . Try Big Mac.")

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**PILGRIMS PROGRESS:** Jeff Smith has three suggestions for those making the pilgrimage to New York for the LP Convention: "(1) Bone up on your Robert's Rules (newly revised). Delegates and spectators alike can get lost in the parliamentary shuffle. (2) Bring a half-empty suitcase. The amount of liter-

ature alone you will want to take back is immense, to say nothing of ordinary tourist trappings. (3) Get plenty of sleep in advance. Those with 20 hours total between Thursday and Monday mornings will be the lucky ones."

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**TANSTAAFE:** There Ain't No Such Thing As A Free Election, the Federal Campaign Finance Act notwithstanding. "New Jersey is the only state in the entire country where libertarians are running for state office this year" (Kathleen McAdam, Editor NJ Libertarian). Running for NJ State Assembly posts are: Jack Conard, Ron Wishart, Ken Kaplan, and Dan Piro. Contributions may be sent to: CAMPAIGN FUND FOR LIBERTARIANS '75, P.O. Box 247, Bernardsville, NJ 07924. (Help clean up the Garden State!)

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**MOXIE PROXIE:** Calling it "a modest beginning at reducing the size and inefficiency of the federal government," Senator William Proxmire [D, Wis.] has said he will propose legislation to abolish the Selective Service System ("no one is being drafted"), the ICC ("has more cobwebs than any agency in government"), the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission ("a classic example of inefficiency, internal squabbles, and unnecessary functions"), along with eight other unnecessary government agencies. Last year he tried to kill 17 and succeeded with 9. That Prox--he's one to watch.

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**PROX, COME BACK!:** Money magazine says that at \$3,219 a year per family, Wisconsin's state and local taxes are highest in the nation (Illinois is 14th with \$1,914). Talk in northern Wisconsin is of seceding from the urbanized south. Can't blame 'em.

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