



Libertarian Party

NEWS

Volume 3, Number 1

Liberty Enlightening the World

January/February 1988

Libertarian Bookstore Raided in San Francisco

On October 23rd, the Free Forum Bookstore was raided by the San Francisco police department. To this day no charges have been filed against the store nor is it likely that any will be filed. The police arrived at 10 am to arrest a part-time employee, David Simons, on morals charges (sex with a consenting teenager), and had a warrant to look for any evidence that would verify the charges. No evidence was found. However, Officer Glenn Pamfiloff did find a considerable amount of material that seemed to interest him. The material in question was the names and addresses of libertarians. Pamfiloff, in direct violation of the search warrant, confiscated mailing lists, petitions, and lists of libertarian donors.

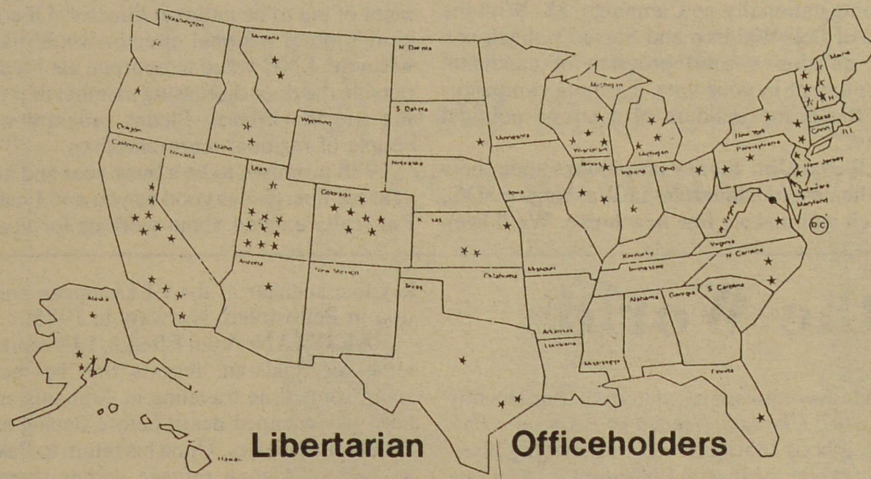
Pamfiloff and the other police officers kept the store closed for seven hours while they illegally confiscated libertarian files and records. Pamfiloff has a history of illegal searches and is presently the object of one lawsuit for \$1 million. In that case Pamfiloff raided someone's home last August and has refused to return any of the stolen items even though no charges were filed in that case. A lawyer, who was hired to represent the store, was told by a district attorney that Pamfiloff "is on a crusade and we don't control him."

To date, the bookstore has \$3,000 in legal expenses and the stolen material has not been returned. These expenses are enough to put the bookstore out of business since it is not a highly profitable venture. Libertarians and non-libertarians from across the country have donated to help keep the store going. So far, \$1,200 has been raised but \$1,800 is still needed.

Pamfiloff and his accomplices went after lists of libertarians. One man who had spoken at a meeting at the bookstore has already been questioned by police because of this. Pamfiloff wanted to know if the man "was connected with those libertarians."

Bookstore owner Jim Peron said, "I was shocked at what happened. I honestly did not think that something like this would happen in so-called liberal San Francisco. This is obviously one police officer who has an obsession. He has so clearly broken the law and violated our rights that we will be quite happily suing him. I do not take kindly to thugs, in or out of uniform, coming in and vandalizing us."

Interestingly, the *Bay Guardian*, a left-wing free paper, took no interest in the story. Peron noted, "If so much as a staple was taken off the bulletin board in some Marxist bookstore, the *Guardian* would be screaming. We didn't get so much as a mention. I personally called them and told them of this harassment. I was told, 'If any of our reporters are interested they will give you a call.' Of course, no one ever called us. This certainly shows why it is necessary to have a libertarian alternative to the *Guardian* as soon as possible."



A Growing Political Roster.....P. 8
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LP's Potential Voters

Libertarians with a serious interest in politics may find that a recent *Los Angeles Times* survey is a first-class guidebook to where the hunting may be good and where it will be bad in the upcoming election year.

A major conclusion of the survey that could encourage libertarians is that "The conventional labels of 'liberal' and 'conservative' are about/as relevant as the words 'Whig' and 'Federalist.'" Political interests have become far more particular than a mere pair of labels could suggest.

Here is a summary of the survey which, *in sum*, suggests that fully 45 percent of those who will vote in 1988 are open in some way or another to libertarianism:

- "Enterprise Republicans," 10 percent of the adult population but expected to be 16 percent of the vote, are concerned about the budget, against tax increases and welfare, oppose restrictions on abortion. ("Moral Republicans," opposing abortion, supporting school prayer, were set as 11 percent of the population and 14 percent of the likely 1988 vote.)

- "Upbeats," young, optimistic, rock-and-rollers, oppose military intervention, not critical of government but very opposed to deficit spending, are 9 percent of the adult population and likely to be 9 percent of the vote.

- "Seculars," with no religious belief, well-educated, professional, favor cuts in military, oppose increased aid for minorities and farmers, comprise 8 percent of the adult population but may make up 9 percent of the vote.

- "60's Democrats," largely female, concerned about environment, socially tolerant,

pro-peace and, although they support social spending, are skeptical of their party's candidates so far. They comprise 11 percent of the adult population but may constitute 15 percent of the vote.

In each of those groups there is some strong concern that offers a libertarian opportunity (i.e., free market mechanisms protect the environment better than government programs, trade fends off war).

The other groups identified in the survey that offer less or no openings for libertarian messages, with their percentage of the adult population and likely percentage of the vote in parentheses:

- "Disaffecteds," largely mid-Western, middle income, anti-government but also anti-business, definitely pro-military (9%, 7%).

- "Bystanders," young, poorly educated, no interest in politics (11%, 0%).

- "Followers," young, blue collar, oppose Star Wars but favor big government spending to reduce unemployment (7%, 4%).

- "New Deal Democrats," older, favor restricting abortions, social spending (except when specifically targeted to minorities), school prayer, trade protectionism, intolerant on questions of personal freedom, less concerned about environment (11%, 15%).

- "Passive Poor," older, favor more social spending and defense spending, favor relaxing environmental controls (7%, 6%).

- "Partisan Poor," the most firmly Democratic group, favor social spending but oppose tax increases, little concern for budget deficit (9%, 9%).

Braindrain Hurts Feds

One of the most important libertarian stories of the year hardly made the headlines. Speaking as chairman of the recently formed National Committee on Public Service, Paul Volcker, recently retired as head of the Federal Reserve, said that "The federal government...is increasingly unable to attract, retain, and motivate the kinds of people it will need to do the essential work of the Republic in the years and decades ahead."

Examples:

- Only one of 365 seniors surveyed at Yale expressed an interest in a civil service career.

- Only 16 percent of the graduates of Harvard's Kennedy School of Government's master's program over the past 10 years is in federal career service.

- Most public administration programs are underfunded and merely appendages to business or political science departments.

What seems a disaster to Volcker, whose statement constantly suggested that the greatness of a nation is simply the greatness of its government, will bring joy to the hearts of all who love liberty, the free market, and the creative human spirit. If, at last, the long attraction of government power is ending for active, intelligent, ambitious people, the chances for a humane, individualistic society are increased significantly.

Volcker's message was particularly welcome in view of the fact that the United States maintains one of the highest levels of appointment to high political offices this side of the Kremlin. The U.S. level of 3,000 political appointments during an administration contrasts with 60 in West Germany, 150 in Great Britain, and 400 in France.

Volunteer Day Is New Event

Volunteer Day joins Tax Protest Day as a festive way to publicize a libertarian message.

This January 27, libertarians in many states will take birthday cakes to their local armed forces recruiting offices in celebration of the 15th anniversary of the end of the draft and the beginning of the all-volunteer force. One suggested birthday cake slogan: Happy Birthday to the Volunteer Army—Free People Defending Free People. National chair for the effort is Toni Black, 409 Dorothy Drive, King of Prussia, PA 19406, phone 215-265-0350.

One variation: Bucks County (PA) libertarians are planning to send draft style notices ("Greetings," etc.) inviting local officials to the ceremonies and soliciting their support for ending registration as well.

LP's New Director Reports

By Paul Jacob

Ballot access—that's what the Libertarian National Committee was most concerned about at our meeting in Orlando, Florida, December 5th and 6th. We are committed to getting on the ballot in all 50 states. Work is beginning in North Carolina and progressing in Florida (two of the very toughest states) and drives continue in eight other states.

Affording ballot access and budgeting for it are made even more difficult by the fact that ballot drives necessarily come on the front end of the campaign. Most of the money for petition drives must be raised now, before April, and all of it by August. To campaign, we must be on the ballot.

This means right now is the time to make your commitment to ballot access. Please don't wait—the campaign is already underway.

The LNC meeting also featured excellent reports on membership and Campaign '88. Under Matt Monroe's leadership as Membership chair, the LP has sent out over 35,000 instant membership cards and over 150 have

quickly been returned. A letter sent to those whose memberships have expired since 1983 has been very successful. In just the first 10 days of returns, we've received over \$2,000 from 118 returning members!

Campaign '88 (whose \$4,000 proposed budget was instead put into ballot access by the LNC) has been a very hardworking committee. Stephen Dasbach, Campaign '88 chair, has been calling state chairs looking for and promoting candidates. Anyone with an interest in recruiting candidates or being a candidate should contact Stephen.

Volunteer/activist extraordinaire, Bob Waldrop of Salt Lake City, has been working on candidate recruitment in Utah and now is helping nationally on Campaign '88. With the help of Bob Waldrop and Steve Dasbach you can develop a solid program of candidate recruitment in your area. Exciting campaigns are the prime builders of a strong political party.

LP chair Jim Turney presented a slide show on the new headquarters in Washington, DC, which will make a fine new home. We'll keep

the same 800 number (1-800-682-1776) and our new address is:

Libertarian Party National Headquarters
1528 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20003

The National Committee overwhelmingly voted to change the title of my position from "LNC Office Manager" back to "National Director"—about which I was very happy. The media, as well as businesses and the general public, will give more respect to the title of "National Director."

My favorite part of the LNC meeting (which as always was longer than I like to sit in a meeting) was when the Libertarian National Committee voted to ratify Turney's appointment of me to be national director. Of course, as the job of national director would have it, when the LNC voted to approve me I was just outside the door discussing membership tracking and the Liberty Pledge program with a couple of regional representatives.

1988 promises to be a busy year and a good year for liberty—as good as you and I make it. I'm really excited about working for you.



Our New Headquarters

Liberty Around the World

By Vince Miller

This is another in a continuing series of reports on liberty's friends abroad. Miller is chairman of Libertarian International.

ARGENTINA: Dr. Alberto Benegas Lynch, a Professor at the University of Buenos Aires, has published a book of 40 libertarian essays entitled *Liberalismo para Liberales*. According to *La Nacion*, it is a best seller in Argentina. Dr. Benegas Lynch informs us that this book is now also being translated and published by the underground press in Poland.

AUSTRALIA: Now that the Ron Paul presidential campaign is getting into gear it might be a good time to take another look at the "Candidate's Pledge" created and circulated by Australian libertarian Bill Forster in his (Libertarian) "Progress Party" campaign for a seat in the federal parliament two years ago. Forster's idea was picked up in LI's newsletter by Alphonse Crespo of Switzerland when he ran for office a year ago. The idea generated good press for both of them. For a copy of the pledge write to: Bill Forster, 10 Stagg Drive, Tranmere, 5073 South Australia (you also might enclose a dollar or two to cover his costs).

INDIA: Firdos J. Mubarak, LI's new rep-

resentative/correspondent in India, has recently published *Changes Needed in Economic Policies*, a book that has been endorsed by libertarian professor Joseph Fuhrig of Golden Gate University (San Francisco) where Mubarak received his degree in business economics and computer information systems. Mubarak is having his book translated into Indian and plans to campaign for a seat in the federal parliament in 1991. He is keen to implement the ideas expressed in his book in an effort to transform India's crumbling socialist economy.

NORWAY: Liberalistisk Studentforening, a new libertarian student group headed by Christian Halle, LI's Norwegian correspondent and an attendee of the 1986 LI Stockholm conference, has been formed at the University of Bergen. Halle would like to be in touch with students from around the world. Write to: Christian Halle, P.B. 2703, Mohlenpris, 5026 Bergen, Norway, or phone 05-230191.

Halle reports that the Libertarian-oriented Progress Party of Norway has more than doubled its support in recent elections and now holds 12.2 percent of the voting share. In Oslo, the libertarians, in coalition with the conservatives, hold a majority. Carl I. Hagen, leader of the Progress Party and a sitting member of the Norwegian parliament, was a

keynote speaker at the LI European convention in Beitostolen, Norway, in 1985.

PAKISTAN: Asim Effendi, LI's representative for Pakistan, reports that he recently spent some time traveling in Afghanistan and narrowly escaped death before fleeing across the border to safety. Upon his return to Pakistan he visited Afghan refugee camps there and confirmed that the Soviets have indeed been using chemical warfare on Afghan civilians. Among other horror stories, he reported that, in addition to the casualties of chemical warfare, he saw one refugee whose eyes had been gouged out by the Soviets and another whose knee joints had been smashed with a hammer to maim him. He reported that these atrocities, horrible as they are, had only served to firm the resolve of the resistance movement. He applauded the government of Pakistan for opening its borders to the Afghan refugees and urged other governments to do likewise.

ISSUE PAPERS: Response to LI's new issue papers on "Privatization" (by Bob Poole) and "The Disaster of Foreign Aid Programs" (by Ken Schoolland) has been very good indeed. LP state parties and various other libertarian organizations have been ordering many thousands of these attractive two-color pieces for distribution in their areas. On orders of 1,000 or more (at three cents apiece) we will imprint your party or organization name in the space provided. Internationally, the "Privatization" piece has already been translated into Finnish and Swedish by Roger Wessman of Finland and into French by Swiss representative Alphonse Crespo. LI's general informa-

tion pamphlet has been translated into French by Alain Dumait of Paris. Another pamphlet on socialized medicine is now being prepared for us by Dr. Peter C. Arnold (with the assistance of the Australian Center for Independent Studies). Dr. Arnold is secretary of IATROS (the international organization of private and independent doctors, headquartered in Australia). Stay tuned for developments.

SWAZILAND: Two additional speakers have been added to the lineup of LI's 1988 conference in Swaziland, Southeast Africa (August 7-13, 1988). They are Albert Koopman, a South African businessman who has defied apartheid laws and is now reforming the workplace to offer a share of responsibility and ownership to blacks, and James Mbetse, a highly successful South African black entrepreneur who will explain how socialism crushes black businessmen. The story of his heroic struggle against the statists and their apartheid system reads like an Ayn Rand novel.

NOTE: Draw-tickets for an all-expense paid trip to the Swaziland '88 Conference (plus a two-day photo safari in the Kruger National Game Park) are available for \$25.00 each. Ticket will be drawn on February 15, 1988.

LP Members interested in expanding their horizons and contributing to the growth of libertarian movements around the world are invited to join LI (membership—at \$20 a year—includes newsletter and supplements).

Libertarian International is located at 9308 Farmington Dr., Richmond, VA 23229. Phone: 804-740-6932.

Libertarian Party NEWS

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KARL HESS
Editor

RANDY LANGHENRY
Managing Editor
8 Peyton St.
Winchester, VA 22601
703-662-3691

GRETA AMELIA LANGHENRY
Baby

BLUELINE GRAPHICS
Charles Town, WV
Typesetter

SUBSCRIPTIONS
ADDRESS CHANGES

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Ballot Access Is on Course

By Steve Fielder

The LP's national ballot drive is on track. Although the onset of winter has stalled petitioning in some northern states, difficult drives are well underway in Georgia and Oregon. The Florida LP, which hosted the recent LNC meeting, used the occasion to kick off its own petition drive with a well-attended fundraising event.

The BAC is ahead of schedule on the number of petition drives begun and the number of signatures collected.

Increased funding is crucial if a 50-state strategy is to succeed. BAC chair Bert Blumert states that steps to upgrade the committee's fundraising potential are already being implemented. These steps include the use of telephone solicitation and professionally written fundraising letters.

Without increased funding, the LP would have to abandon its 50-state strategy. The

North Carolina petition drive, with its May 15 filing deadline, is already in jeopardy. Nadia Hayes, speaking for the Ron Paul campaign, promptly committed the money necessary to begin petitioning in North Carolina.

After Finance Committee chair Paul Kumbarger reported that LP income was running well ahead of budgeted amounts, LP chair Jim Turney sought and obtained approval from the LNC to divert all uncommitted income to the national ballot drive.

Sam Treynor, former LP treasurer, introduced a motion to review the proposed '88 operating budget item by item, cutting all expenditures to early '87 levels and appropriating the money saved for ballot access. An ad hoc coalition of LNC members from the Ron Paul campaign and regional reps from states with difficult petition drives quickly formed to support the review. Treynor stated that the goal of the coalition was "to finish the ballot drive before tackling any new projects."

Viewpoint: Networks Needed on LP Agenda

By Karl Hess

There is no better time than at the beginning of a heated season of political activity for members of the Libertarian Party to remind themselves that they are more than members of a political party. They are members of a movement—the liberty movement, the clear expression of revolutionary change that is re-shaping the settlements of this planet and foreshadows the settlement of the galaxy.

Because I believe so strongly that the current presidential campaign can be the most successful this party ever has waged, I want to look beyond the campaign and into the future which will unfold from it. By staying a bit ahead of our probable successes we can best exploit and consolidate them.

My most fervent wish for the future of this party's participation in this movement, is that the Ron Paul-Andre Marrou campaign will contribute massively to the building of new networks of liberty and the expansion and strengthening of old ones.

Networks, in my view, are coherent patterns of personal communication. Networks are discrete numbers of individuals intermittently or regularly in touch with one another.

Take the readers of this newspaper: As subscribers, they are an audience. They receive information. But, basically, they still constitute an audience while the editors and contributors constitute a cast who, in effect, perform for them.

Within the readership, however, there are networks. New networks of personal contact open up when, for instance, readers begin to correspond with and work out ideas with people whose comments they have read in the paper. Another network develops as readers become contributors and as readers become regular correspondents with editors. A newspaper imparts or displays information. A network causes or, rather, a network *is* communication. Communication is active, interactive and re-active information. It is cybernetic.

There are other greatly important networks for liberty with which many are familiar. The Society for Individual Liberty, and its many local chapters, is one. The participants in Marshall Fritz's programs comprise another.

The personal mailing list of any libertarian who regularly corresponds with others is one of the most important nodes in the networks of liberty.

The *Free Market Yellow Pages* is a directory that certainly makes new networks possible, as does the *Libertarian E-Mail Directory*.

The Libertarian International, virtually every member of which is an active communicator with other libertarians, actually is as much a network for liberty as it is a formal organization. Larry H. Abraham, author and businessman, and the renowned financial counselor Harry Schultz are even now raising money for what is essentially a network, Freedom, Inc., which looks forward to someday having a contact "in every voting district of every nation."

Something of the sort, nationally, appeals to me. I have long dreamed of knowing someone in every one of the country's 3,000 counties. My own network includes several hundred so far. But just think of libertarians in every county having access to libertarians in every other county!

South Carolina's LP chairman John Heaton and I have been slowly gathering the names for another sort of network—a network of libertarians who deal in the production of goods or services in the open market. We are now in the process of mailing to everyone who has sent us their business card, copies of all the other cards. Why? For one thing, libertarians might want to do business with other libertarians, all other factors being equal. As for other purposes, well, one of the functions of a network is to evolve purposes out of communications.

There also are libertarian electronic networks on-line on such communications services as CompuServe, MCI Mail, GENie, and

others. If every state party of the Libertarian Party were electronically linked to every other one via modems, we would have a political network of greatly enhanced speed and power.

Networks are individualism in action as compared to the collectivism of information bureaucracies.

Is there anything that might set networks for liberty apart from others? Is there some mutually agreeable position that networks for liberty

could share to enable communications between people seeking liberty in so many different ways and under so many different standards?

Sharing a belief that free markets and voluntary social agreements can be the basis of a peaceful and prosperous world, we could agree, *as individuals*, to cooperate, communicate, and, as appropriate and practical, mutually support, or at least not impede, our varied and often sharply different efforts to increase in-

dividual freedom.

I believe that there are many of us who, although taking sharply different theoretical positions on one issue or another, still agree basically about free markets and voluntarism.

Joining in a statement to that effect would be merely symbolic, but it could evolve into actual cooperation to the extent that any of us want it to. And the mechanism for it all could be networks for liberty.

Throughout six decades, this man challenged and changed the way economists think.



Ludwig von Mises (1881-1973)

In sixty years of teaching and writing, Professor Ludwig von Mises rebuilt the science of economics—as well as the defense of the free market and honest money—on a foundation of individual human action.

Professor Mises, the greatest economist and champion of liberty of our time, was the author of hundreds of articles and books including *Human Action*, *Socialism*, and *The Theory of Money and Credit*.

The Ludwig von Mises Institute is a unique educational organization supported by contributions and dedicated to the work of Ludwig von Mises and the advancement of Austrian economics, the free market, and the gold standard.

Ludwig von Mises dedicated his life to scholarship and freedom. The Mises Institute pursues the same goals through a program of:

- Publications—including *The Review of Austrian Economics* edited by Murray N. Rothbard; *The Free Market*; *The Austrian Economics Newsletter*; books; monographs; and *Issues in Economic Policy*.

- Scholarships for Misesian graduate students.

- Student study centers on or near the campuses of Auburn University, George Mason University, Stanford University, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

- Instructional seminars in introductory and advanced Austrian economics.

- National conferences on the gold standard, the Federal Reserve, the income tax, sound banking, and the work of Ludwig von Mises and Murray N. Rothbard.

- The O.P. Alford, III, Center for Advanced Studies in Austrian Economics.

- Public policy work in Washington, D.C., on the free market and gold standard.

For more information on the Institute's work, and free samples of its publications, please write our academic headquarters:

Patricia Heckman, Vice President
The Ludwig von Mises Institute
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News Digest

The trial of former LP vice-presidential candidate **Jim Lewis**, for willful failure to file tax forms, will be underway and, perhaps, completed, by the time this issue reaches you. The NEWS will report on it in its next issue.

★★★★★

A reminder of the availability of one of the most useful libertarian handouts ever devised: Marshall Fritz's "world's smallest political quiz," a calling-card-sized piece with the Nolan chart of political positions on one side and some provocative questions to test political position on the other. They're available from Marshall's **Advocates for Self-Government**, 5533 E. Swift, Fresno, CA 93727, for \$8 for 200 cards. A pocketful of these turns the wandering libertarian into a potential Johnny Appleseed for freedom.

★★★★★

Super provocative statistic in the always provocative **Pragmatist** (every other month, \$10, Box 392, Forest Grove Park, PA 18922): "Suppose that you could keep all the money that federal, state, and local government takes from you in taxes. Let's say that you are prudent: Instead of spending it wildly, you put the money in a safe deposit account yielding a modest rate of interest. After a lifetime of saving, how much would you have in your account? According to preliminary estimates, try \$3,765,866. That figure illustrates the amount that government, at current spending levels, costs the average person over his/her lifetime." For the whole process of calculation, which might provide a useful political ploy for candidates, get the December 1987 issue of *The Pragmatist*.

★★★★★

The new international coordinator for the Libertarian Student Network is Mark Ford, of Fairmont, WV. Ford says there are about 50 campus chapters in the U.S. and Canada. Ford became active as a libertarian at age 15 when he joined Students for a Libertarian Society. Contact him at P.O. Box 1725, Fairmont, WV 26554.

★★★★★

Steven Givot made the *Chicago Tribune* with a lively collection of Trib stories that had labeled presidential candidate Ron Paul as "ultraconservative" and "right wing." How many ultraconservatives, Givot asked, "want to return all American troops from overseas [or] are willing to [let everyone decide] which peaceful activities they wish to engage in—be it in their business or their bedroom—and how many ultraconservative congressmen have testified for the defense at the trial of a draft resister?"

★★★★★

Irresistible catalog specializing in books on the protection of **personal privacy**: Eden Press, P.O. Box 8410, Fountain Valley, CA 92728.

★★★★★

Featured on the cover of the current catalog of the world's largest purveyor of libertarian books, Laissez Faire Books, 532 Broadway, N.Y., NY 10012-3956: **Capitalism for Kids**, by LP NEWS editor Karl Hess, with editorial.

Pro-Choice Libertarians
"Don't Tolerate Oppression"
 See Next Issue for New
 Washington, DC Address

research by LP NEWS managing editor, Randy Langhenry.

★★★★★

Renowned columnist **William Safire** is sticking to his insistence that he is "a libertarian conservative." Latest repeat of the claim was in a *Washington Post* article which was distributed to other papers across the country.

★★★★★

Ken Van Doren and other members of the Maricopa County Committee of the **Arizona LP** joined in a published denunciation of a regional development project by saying that "The central planning of Rio Salado Project has much in common with the socialist/communist governments of the world that bring great wealth to the ruling elites and poverty and oppression to the masses." The project, they pointed out, would confiscate private property, subsidize developers with taxpayer money, and create a new unelected bureaucracy.

★★★★★

Gary Johnson, secretary of the Texas Libertarian Party, gained good coverage with a press conference called to oppose the federal "super collider" project for which Texas is a major bidder. Proponents say it would be a money-producer for the state. If it's such a good deal, Johnson asked, "Why aren't any private firms interested in paying for it? Let the people who think it's a good idea pay for it."

★★★★★

Bobby Taylor, Tennessee libertarian, had a fine guest column in the *Kingsport Times* containing, among other things, a potent one-paragraph political statement: "The Libertarians are fighting for a return to the free market economic system and for an end to the crippling restrictions and monopoly privileges which are the hallmarks of our so-called 'mixed economy.' Libertarians also argue for the repeal of victimless crime laws and for an end to government violations of our civil liberties. Finally, the Libertarians are committed to a non-interventionist foreign policy; they explicitly reject our government's present role as world policeman and call for a defense that defends America rather than rich allies."

★★★★★

Full column interview with NatCom member **Joe Dehn** in his hometown Eugene, OR, *Register-Guard* newspaper. Quite sympathetic and giving Dehn a chance to spell out some libertarian fundamentals, the interviewer couldn't resist asking if the party hadn't failed politically. Neat riposte from Dehn: "As far as where we are today, I don't view that as a failure so much as just slow progress."

★★★★★

When **Wyoming** Libertarian Party ballot access petitioners were denied the right to petition in or around post offices, party officials went to U.S. attorney Richard Stacy, claiming a violation of their First Amendment rights. He agreed, saying that getting a petition signed to get a political party on the ballot is the "very essence" of the kind of conduct the First Amendment is intended to protect. Wyoming postmasters are now obeying the law.

★★★★★

A powerful question for "peacemakers" is posed by **Dan Dougherty** in "Free Marin," the libertarian newsletter published in Kent-

field, CA. "You can hardly blame libertarians," he writes, "for being skeptical of how the leaders of America's 'peace' movement, once in power, would deal with those citizens who, as an act of conscience, peacefully resisted paying taxes to support, say, a government program of 'jobs and justice'—the kind so frequently advocated in the pages of [peace journals]. What if some of us were to lie down in front of the cars of welfare workers or burst into a government warehouse and, without injury to anyone, burn bales of minimum wage regulations?"

★★★★★

Recent Gallup Poll shows that Americans **distrust politicians** the closer they get to Washington. Thirty-seven percent said they trusted local officials the most, 22 percent said they trusted state officials, while only 19 percent said they trusted federal officials the most. And...two thirds said they thought the federal government wastes the most money and half feel that it has too much power. Gloomy note: The other half thinks it has enough or even too little power. Groan.

★★★★★

The IRS is understandably concerned that some congressmen have seemed favorable to a **taxpayer bill of rights** that would shift the burden of tax evasion proof from the taxpayer to the tax collector and also demand that taxpayers be given at least the sort of legal warnings normally accorded murderers and rapists.

★★★★★

On the same day that a man accused of murder was sent to a psychiatrist because he claimed that he had spoken with God, **Pat Robertson**, claiming the same thing, was sent into the political arena as a candidate for the Republican Party's presidential nomination.

★★★★★

Norma Jean Almodovar has been moved to a new "rehabilitation center." Her address now is W27022, Dorm 112, Bed 55, CRC P.O. Box 1800, Norco, CA 91760. If you write to her, don't forget to send carbon or copies to Friends of Norma Jean, 1626 N. Wilcox., #580, Hollywood, CA 90028. Phones for the support group are (213) 382-6445 or (213) 398-4495.

★★★★★

New Libertarian (1515 West MacArthur Blvd., #19, Costa Mesa, CA 92626, \$19.95 in gold for 10 issues) has published its long promised cultural issue (a project begun in 1980!) containing a wondrous, free-wheeling collection of commentaries and arguments from outstanding libertarians. Samples: Irish culture by Robert Anton Wilson, education by Carol Low, Brad Linaweaver on science fiction, Cary Darling on Rock and Roll, and much, much more.

★★★★★

Virginia Liberty, tabloid newspaper of the Libertarian Party there, is now back on schedule after a brief hiatus.

★★★★★

Florida Libertarian **John Wayne Smith** is now authorized to produce a regional edition of Dagny Sharon's *Free Market Yellow Pages*. It'll cover Florida, South Georgia, South Ala-

bama. Others (including state LPs) interested in regional editions should contact Sharon directly at P.O. Box 224, Long Beach, CA 90801.

★★★★★

South Carolina LP is distributing a series of pamphlets on basic political issues. Disclaimer on the covers says, "This is one of a series published as a public information service by the South Carolina Libertarian Party and is not paid for at taxpayer expense." Current "primer" is on initiative, recall, and referendum.

★★★★★

For libertarians faced with **environmental issues**, there is a new and vital publication entitled "Perspectives and Energy and Environment," published by the outstanding free market natural resource research group, the Foundation for Research on Economics and the Environment. To get the newsletter, write to FREE at P.O. Box 330, Dallas, TX 75275-0330. Enclose a donation if you can. As might be expected, FREE doesn't solicit or accept government funding.

★★★★★

Llewellyn H. Rockwell, Jr., president of the **Ludwig von Mises Institute**, announces the availability of Volume II of *The Review of Austrian Economics* ("a refereed academic journal—the first in history devoted to Austrian economics"). To obtain this important, hard-bound journal send \$30 to the Institute, at Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849.

★★★★★

David Bergland (1773 Bahama Place, Costa Mesa, CA 92626), Richard Arnold, Sue Johnson, and Perry Willis are trying to raise \$270,000 and collect 850,000 signatures to achieve a public initiative in California to end the state's monopoly on education by making tuition tax credits available.

★★★★★

In **Big Water**, Utah's first election since its mayor, Alex Joseph, and the entire city council switched from Republican to Libertarian, the entire slate now running as members of the LP was swept into office. The people of Big Water also rejected, by 92 percent of the vote, one citizen's request that the property tax, abolished by the libertarians, be reinstated.

★★★★★

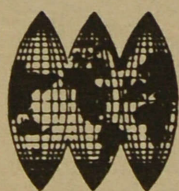
Show Me Freedom, tabloid of the Missouri LP, carries an eloquent plea from Lynn Lenger to students of Ayn Rand who have rejected the Libertarian Party. Excerpt: "Perhaps part of the problem now lies in the unrealistic expectations of Objectivists. One should not expect a political party to function in an identical manner as a philosophical movement. Of necessity a political party must limit its scope of activities...It is enough that a political party holds as its standards the right of the individual as supreme and consistently extends that principle. The Libertarian Party is the only political entity that struggles...to defend the rights of the individual in all areas...My now adult sons are the 'second generation' Objectivist/Libertarians: therefore I believe deeply that we must all keep talking with each other."

★★★★★

Montana Libertarian Party focused its annual meeting on ways in which to use the initiative process to advance liberty. Montanan Larry Dodge's first in a series of columns on initiatives and referendums appears elsewhere in this issue.

★★★★★

Libertarian **Margaret M. Fries** set a record for LP vote-getting in New York by polling 37



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percent of the vote in a two-way race for Conklin Town Justice against a Republican incumbent in an area where the GOP has almost 75 percent of the registrations. The Fries total was the highest percentage of votes achieved by a candidate for public office in the party's 15-year history in New York state.

★★★★★
Writing in Free New Mexico, the state's LP journal, **Garry King** holds out hope for libertarianism in so-called New Age or human potential movements: "If the New Age postulate of the evolution of human consciousness is true, then humanity is evolving a greater capacity for intellectual thought and intuitive perception. Those who become more aware of their 'human potential' may have very little else in common, but they will insist on thinking for themselves and on reserving final judgment to their inner authority."

★★★★★
Sandhill Libertarian Gazette, journal of libertarians in the South Carolina midlands, advocates that state government take a realistic look at the private financing of new roads. "Private groups could sell bonds, raise capital, build roads, and maintain roads quite effectively. The costs could be recovered by direct users fees, such as tolls." Such privatization, a Gazette editorial points out, also "would discourage the building of roads that are not needed, thus saving some of South Carolina's beautiful woodlands from being turned into asphalt jungles."

★★★★★
The Voluntarist (twice a month, \$15, P.O. Box 1275, Gramling, SC 29348) has reprinted a classic essay on taxation as theft by John Pugsley. Part of its conclusion is that buying government securities is collusion in the theft: "You are not forced to invest in government securities. There are plenty of private individuals and companies who will be willing to borrow money from you at attractive rates. And although the securities may carry greater risk, remember that the risk-free nature of government securities is based on the government's ability [to take property by force, that is, to steal]."

★★★★★
"Dracula has risen from the grave," according to Chris Hocker, writing in *Common Sense* (published bi-monthly, \$10, by Libertarian Information Service, P.O. Box 5200191, Miami, FL 33152-0199). The monster? Libertarians joining the Republican Party. The resurrection, he points out, comes at just the time when libertarian ideas are getting ever greater attention "largely through the progress of the LP." His reaction? "It's time to face down the vampire and drive a stake through the pasty-faced bugger's heart."

★★★★★
Independent libertarian journals, *Liberty*, *American Libertarian*, *New Libertarian*, and *Nomos*, are joining to revive the **Libertarian Press Association**. The purpose is to distribute press releases and share columns, articles, and commentaries covering libertarian activities and positions. Also planned: awards for the best stories appearing in libertarian journals. The Association was founded in 1969 as a counter to the New Left's Liberation News Service and was active until 1971.

★★★★★
There was a nice example of coalition tax protest in Honolulu when the Libertarian Party (represented by state chair **Dr. Blase Harris**)

joined with the National Tax Limitation Committee, Liberty Caucus, National Federation of Small Business, the Republican Party, and Small Business Hawaii, to present their case against tax increases at the state capitol. The Democrats didn't send anyone.

★★★★★
Westchester and Putnam Libertarian Party News, in New York, reports that one accounting firm has found that under Reagan's "tax cuts" 41 of its 60 clients with incomes in the \$21,500-\$565,000 range are paying more taxes, some to the tune of 100 percent more! "Did you expect anything else?" the paper asks.

★★★★★
Libertarian Party of Texas, in its journal, **Free Texas**, edited by **Theresa Doyle**, continues one of the most useful information services by listing contacts for every county in which there is a party member. (For further comment on the importance of county-level networking see the Viewpoint article in this issue.)

★★★★★
Colorado Libertarian Party newsletter, **CLIP-board**, reminds that there are numerous boards and commissions on which libertarians, as members, could exert influence for individual freedom. In Denver County alone, the newsletter points out, there are 36 such groups ranging from the Women's Commission to the Commission on Cultural Affairs and the Denver Urban Renewal Authority.

★★★★★
Alabama libertarian **George Yossif** has donated an IBM-compatible computer system to the state party. For a discussion of what an extension of such generosity could mean if extended throughout the state parties, see the Viewpoint article in this issue.

★★★★★
Benjamin Bachrach, treasurer of the Michigan LP, in a published letter to the Detroit News: "If Gov. James Blanchard and his 'big-name backers' are sincere about ensuring abortion aid to the poor, their time would be better spent establishing a private charity than working on a petition drive for a referendum to allow state funding. The \$2 million the petition drive has budgeted for the campaign would go a long way toward meeting the \$5.6 million subsidy that the state annually gives the abortion providers. If there is true public support for abortion aid, there should be no problem collecting the funds on a voluntary basis."

★★★★★
Speaking at a meeting of the **Libertarian Party of Ada County (ID)**, Polish libertarian Janus Zuchowski, a research technologist, reported that he is a member of an organization called The Industrial Society which meets monthly in Cracow to promote free market ideas in the midst of the country's constantly failing socialist economy.

★★★★★
The **Cato Institute**, successfully celebrating its 10th year, publishes an info-rich journal that could interest all libertarians: "The Cato Policy Report" (free to contributors, \$2 for single issues, 224 Second Street SE, Washington, DC 20003.).

★★★★★
Brett Belmore, news outreach coordinator for Metro-Detroit Libertarian newsletter, is sending introductory libertarian information to anyone writing a liberty-leaning letter to a newspaper in the area.

★★★★★
Minnesota Libertarian newsletter has devoted an entire page to reprinting L. Neil Smith's "New Covenant." Taken from his novel *The Gallatin Divergence*, the covenant asks for a pledge to individual sovereignty, freedom from coercion, voluntary association, and other fundamentals of liberty, plus a pledge that with unanimous consent in any association or territory, the articles of the covenant will supersede all existing government documents. Copies are available from Smith at 111 East Drake, Suite 7032, Fort Collins, CO 80525.

★★★★★
New Mexico Libertarian Party is soliciting support nationally for its suggestion that the party change its symbol from the Statue of Liberty to the coiled rattlesnake and "Don't Tread on Me" motto of the flag popularized during the first American Revolution.

★★★★★
Well ahead of the events that exploded into headlines, the **Georgia Libertarian Party** already had been active in a Coalition to Support Cuban Detainees with the goal of obtaining individual hearings for each detainee.

★★★★★
After awarding Irvine Mayor Larry Agran one of its monthly Cracked Pot awards for lack of concern for individual liberty, **Orange County (CA)** LPers were pleasantly surprised to receive a personal call from the mayor's office not only setting up a time for hizzoner to receive the award but to spend some time talking about libertarianism. After a friendly 20-minute meeting, the mayor agreed with some of the party's positions against restrictive legislation and also received a copy of David Bergland's "Libertarianism In One Lesson."

★★★★★
Society for Individual Liberty is again offering its outstanding *Principles of Liberty* home and group study course. Especially designed for presentation by local libertarian groups or for individual study, the course consists of a Discussion Leader Handbook plus kits for participants. Copies of the basic program are \$5 apiece; a discussion handbook plus kits for 10 participants is \$40. Society for Individual Liberty, P.O. Box 1147, Warminster, PA 18974.

★★★★★
Free market **short films** that would be suitable for meetings or in schools are listed in the outstanding new catalog of World Research, Inc. The WRI catalog, which began years ago with the well-known free market film, "The Incredible Bread Machine," now lists two dozen comparably useful flicks. Write for it to WRI, 11722 Sorrento Valley Road, San Diego, CA 92121; telephone 619-276-9620.

★★★★★
Ohio LPers have tapped Bob DeBrosse, of Piqua, to coordinate donations to form a library of liberty-oriented books, magazines, audio and video tapes. They plan to publish a listing of materials available in a future issue of Ohio Libertarian.

★★★★★
When Birmingham's city council voted to take a load of used sport equipment in payment of a huge loan it had made to the Birmingham Stallions football team, Jefferson County, Alabama's, sharp-as-a-tack **Common Sense** libertarian newsletter commented that "It's

frightening to consider how many tons of manure taxpayers could get in the event the Turf Club goes bust." The paper also reported that city leaders had turned a cold shoulder to an LP request that mass transit be improved in the city by permitting people to operate jitneys (private vans or cars picking up people along a fixed route). Despite a detailed presentation of the feasibility of the system and the cost effectiveness, the same city government that was willing to write off a big debt for a load of medicated toe pads, rubber sheets, and chin guards apparently didn't like the idea of private competition for public transit.

★★★★★
In another Alabama publication, the state party's "Alabama Liberty," co-editor **Steve Smith** drops a helpful hint for LPers everywhere. He has agreed to present the party's non-interventionist position on foreign policy at a local convening of the National Issues Forum. The forums are held every year in hundreds of U.S. cities. If there's one in your town, sign up as a participant and see if you can't present liberty's side of the issue under debate.

★★★★★
In Utah, estimates are that 15 percent of the state's Republicans are supporters also of a Tax Limitation Coalition which is now actively discussing the possibility of forming their own party. **Utah libertarians** have a strong alternative for them: Join us instead. The discussion is going well and presidential candidate Ron Paul will help it along when he visits there.

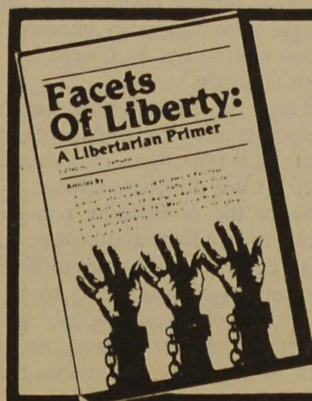
★★★★★
Waldwick, NJ, libertarian **Dan Karlan** proposes a "shadow government" project for the Libertarian Party. After a careful nomination, search, and approval process, libertarians appropriate to all major federal posts (including the party's presidential team, of course) would constitute an ongoing group to regularly respond to events. For details of the plan, write to Karlan at 97A Manhattan Avenue, Waldwick, NJ 07463.

★★★★★
Chairman of the Santa Clara (CA) County Republican Central Committee, **Thomas C. Sorensen**, has resigned under the pressure of GOP officials who, according to published reports "objected to the libertarian flavor" of Sorensen's positions.

★★★★★
Pat Wright, writing as chairman of the Libertarian Party of San Diego, was published in the *San Diego Tribune* with a sharp attack on local police cracking down on massage parlors and prostitution. "I don't sleep better at night knowing that I am safe from prostitutes. I want the police to protect me from robbers, muggers, and other violent criminals. The activities of a hooker have no bearing on my safety. What is [most] frightening...is the power of government to go into these massage parlors, confiscate their records, dictate ridiculous practices on the part of the businesses, try to close [them] for a year and then sell off their assets. Activities like that sound more like the domain of the KGB or the IRS..."

★★★★★
Postmaster General Preston Tish, in a letter rejecting the idea of private delivery of letters, said that **government mail** was better than ever. His letter was delivered by a private courier service because, a spokesman explained, "we wanted it to arrive as soon as possible."

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Ron on the Road is a Libertarian Trip

By Robert McGlohon

Ron Paul is heading out on the road; let's tag along.

The trip starts for Ron at his home in Lake Jackson, Texas, a city of 20,000 near the Gulf Coast, about 50 miles southwest of Houston. It was here that Ron began his medical practice 20 years ago, here where he defied the odds and won a seat in Congress in 1976.

The road has become familiar to him in the years since, taking him through three other successful congressional campaigns. Later, the road would become his companion again as he journeyed throughout the United States—not as Congressman Paul, but as publisher of "The Ron Paul Investment Letter" and founder of the Foundation for Rational Economics and Education.

Today, though, he's Candidate Ron Paul, the Libertarian Party nominee for President of the United States.

"I enjoy campaigning," Paul says, "especially now, as a member of the Libertarian Party. Before, my ideals were at odds with my party, making my message that much harder to get across. But voters nowadays—especially the young ones—understand at least the basics of Libertarianism. When they come to hear Ron Paul, the Libertarian, the watchword will be Liberty."

Monday, Oct. 26

Today's trip begins late in the afternoon. It's a cool day for autumn in Lake Jackson; the mercury—finally—is staying below 80, and that's cool enough to hold dormant South Texas' most populous resident—the mosquito. Ron isn't a superstitious man, but the omens bode well as he climbs into his Ford sedan for the hour-long trip to Houston's Hobby Airport.

It's a flat country, the two-lane road cutting through the rice fields. Ron's driven this particular route so many times the car seems to function on automatic. That's all for the better, because he's busy on the way up: He's on the car telephone much of the time, checking in with staff or family, or calling around the world and touching base with the allies he'd developed during his career. If he's not on the phone, he's checking the market or the latest antics of Tweedle-Dee and Tweedle-Dum on Houston's all-news radio. In rare moments of relaxation, he'll pop a tape in the deck—Barbara Striesand, maybe, or Anne Murray.

He pulls into Hobby around six o'clock, parking his car in the five-floor airport garage, grabbing his one bag and walking to the gate. He's going Continental this time, Flight #454 to Washington National. He's flying coach, as he always does, and grabs a *New York Times*

at an airport news stand for the flight up.

It's late when the airplane pulls into DC, well after 10:30 p.m. because of a delay in landing. He takes a cab to his Alexandria condo, makes a few more calls, and then retires for the night.

Tuesday, Oct. 27

It's a little after 7 a.m., and Ron has been up for more than two hours. He's pacing back and forth, eager for the day to start; it could be an important one for the campaign. It's to start at the National Press Club, where Ron is on the agenda for the Morning Newsmaker, a regular and popular media event. At 7:30 a.m., Paul Kunberger pulls up in his Mazda; Ron's waiting at the door. Kunberger is a lawyer from suburban Maryland, a member of the LP National Committee. With him this morning is Jim Turney, the National Chair.

The trip to DC goes quickly and the three arrive at the Press Club building early, about 8 a.m. After a cup of coffee in the shop downstairs, they're met by their host. A fifth man—one who works in the building—joins the group for the ride up the elevator.

Put two or more LPers together and the talk turns to politics, and so it is in the elevator. Ron is surprised when the building employee joins the conversation.

"His ears perked up and he jumped right in," Ron recalls. "He said, 'I'm a Libertarian.' I got off on his floor and we talked some more."

They couldn't talk for long—the press was waiting—but Ron came away with a party convert.

"We're discovering people like this all along," Ron says. "I'm constantly amazed at how pervasive the Libertarian philosophy is. There's an untapped reservoir of people out there who are fed up with Big Government. Maybe that's why only half the people vote in presidential elections."

"We're going to change that."

The C-SPAN television cameras are waiting in the 13th floor dining room used for the Morning Newsmaker, along with a dozen or so reporters from the wire services and major papers. The market crash was only last week, and as one of the few who saw it coming, Ron is deluged with questions.

"Generally, the press was pretty respectful," Kunberger says of the conference. "I thought it was a good discussion—quality time."

The Associated Press put a story about the event over the wire and the C-SPAN cameras guaranteed national television.

"It was impressive," Kunberger says. "Particularly this early in the campaign."

From downtown DC, it's back to Washington National and another flight. This time it's U.S. Air, Flight #316 to Boston.

Ron gets into Logan Airport shortly after 12:30 p.m.—the flight's on time this time. There he's met by Norm MacConnell, the state coordinator for the campaign, and Chip Ford, the artist who founded Freedom First and successfully repealed the Taxachusetts seat-belt law. Logan was unusually quiet for midday. "I guess it's a sign of the coming economic collapse," MacConnell jokes.

The three rent a car for the drive to Londonderry, New Hampshire, where Ron is scheduled for a cable television interview. They stop in Manchester for lunch before heading to the station. A newspaper reporter is waiting at the television studio. A quick interview and then the show.

The show is called "Insights on Issues," and it's scheduled for 40 minutes. It runs well over an hour, though, partially because the interviewer is more than a little sympathetic to the cause. Ron comes to find that her father is a long-time supporter, a subscriber to his newsletter.

Ron finishes out the day with a Jaycee meeting in Concord and yet another newspaper interview. They head from there to Laconia and stay the night at the Inn For All Seasons.

Wednesday, Oct. 28

It's up early again, a quick breakfast at the hotel, and then an hour-long talk show on WEMM. It is a good show; Ron and his host get along.

"New Hampshire has seen nothing but politics for the last few months—but they've seen the politics of Tweedle-Dee and Tweedle-Dum," Ron says. "The host was surprised to find somebody with something to say. He said they [the other presidential candidates] are all so boring."

After Laconia comes Concord again; this time a press conference on the Capitol steps. Ron makes a short statement about the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant—a hot issue in New Hampshire and surrounding states—but again the talk turns to the market crash and the causes thereof. The press conference is followed by a 45-minute interview with the *Concord Monitor*, and then it's on to Dartmouth.

First there's the interview with the campus radio station. That went well enough, Ron says, but he particularly enjoys the next interview: with the *Dartmouth Review*, the campus newspaper.

"The interviewer was an out-and-out Libertarian," Ron says. "We're seeing more of that, and I find it encouraging. Politics isn't just a numbers game; it's putting people—especially young people—in positions of leadership. When we do that, we're laying the foundation for the future."

At 4 p.m., Ron speaks to 100 or so students at Dartmouth's Rockefeller Center. The topic of the forum: "After the Reagan Revolution: How Do We Govern?"

Ron's answer: "There was no Reagan revolution. He just picked up where Keynes left off."

A reception follows the forum and a newspaper interview follows the reception. Then it's back to Boston, where Ron stays the night at the Airport Hilton.

Thursday, Oct. 29

This morning, Ron is scheduled for the first two hours of the Gene Burns talk show on WRKO. Burns is a popular and respected Libertarian and he and Ron hit it off right away. The phone lines are jammed, and they are jammed with supporters—not necessarily LPers, but people intrigued by the Libertarian message calling to find out more. At noon, Ron's time is up, but the calls are still coming in. He stays another hour. At 1 p.m., same song, same verse. He finishes out the show, four hours in all.

"Gene Burns was great," Ron says. "That's just another example of how important it is to have Libertarians in positions of leadership. Gene sets an example for others, and it's a Libertarian example."

Ron fills out the rest of the afternoon with more newspaper interviews and a reception for LPers at the Hilton. At 8 p.m., he heads over to the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, where he speaks on "The Politics of Non-Violence." Estimates on the crowd size vary. One excited supporter reports 400 people at the event. But Ron and Norm MacConnell say 200 to 300 is probably a closer estimate.

The numbers aside, there's no doubt the auditorium is packed, with people crowding the aisles and filling the balcony seats, responding more than once with long bursts of applause. Ron is scheduled to talk for 30 minutes, and he does. He's scheduled to answer questions for 30 minutes, and he does. Then he tries to leave, and he can't. The students crowd around; they still have questions to ask. An hour-and-a-half later, the building guard comes by, telling Ron and the students he needs to lock up.

So much for the supposedly liberal Harvard. "Wherever we go," Ron says, "we're finding that interventionist politics is far from the monolith the Democrats and Republicans would like to believe. Every poll or survey we've ever done shows that a majority of the people just want to be left alone. This year, we're going to show the politicians what we've known all along."

"Sometimes, I think they know it already, but are just too afraid to admit it."

McGlohon is press officer for the Paul for President campaign.

Andre in Action In a Grassroots Revival

By Andre Marrou

All across America, from the grass roots up to the highest reaches of the press and society, people are waking up to the Libertarian alternative. I see this not only during my campaign trips, but also in the media. Both newspaper editorials and cartoons reflect this, plus statements by television commentators that the Democrats and Republicans don't seem to know what to do—other than to make things worse—and there must be a better alternative.

After the nominating convention, my first campaign tour was in southern California. During those five days, I visited several communities, including San Diego, Pomona, Camarillo, Thousand Oaks, Oxnard, Santa Paula, Simi Valley, and others. Several newspapers published interviews, and radio and television recorded actualities. Attendance at fundraising events was excellent.

The next trip was another five-day tour through Michigan and Illinois. Here, the response was even better. In addition to several newspaper interviews, I appeared on three radio call-in shows, and one television talk show—for a total air time of about three hours. Furthermore, attendance at scheduled events was about double that expected. At a sit-down banquet in Detroit, for example, approximately 30 to 40 persons were expected, and 77 showed up. At a small, intimate dinner for local party activists in Ann Arbor, Michigan, six to eight attendees were expected, and 17 showed up. Fundraising was excellent. Communities visited in Michigan included Detroit, Dearborn, Lansing, Ann Arbor, Kalamazoo, and Grand Rapids. In Illinois, we visited Chicago, Cicero, Roselle, Elgin, Geneva, and others. At a black radio station in Cicero, the response was warmer and friendlier than expected. We should direct more efforts toward minorities

than we have been. On the largest radio station in Chicago, a 50,000-watt clear-channel station, two calls were received from persons who wanted to work for the campaign. At a Kiwanis Club luncheon in Elgin, attended by about 90 persons, the response was again warm and friendly, almost enthusiastic. Most of these people were previously unaware of the Libertarian alternative. In Cicero, all of them had been unaware.

Thus, it appears that we are attracting minorities as well as middle-class white Americans. It is important, to say the least, that we keep up this all-fronts effort.

Since the nominating convention, I have spoken to students at two large high schools in Las Vegas, for a combined total of perhaps 400 students in classes of 10 to 50. Again, the response from these students was one of considerable interest verging on enthusiasm—with, of course, a few detractors. Many of these

students had never heard of the Libertarian Party—certainly not from their government-subsidized and -controlled teachers and textbooks. In the future, I intend to talk to more high school and college students.

The next firm-scheduled trip will be to central California on January 20 through 25th. Communities to be visited include San Jose and environs.

Other tentative trips include:

- Early-mid January—Philadelphia, New York City and New Jersey.
- February—Georgia State convention and Kansas Executive Committee meeting.
- Late February—Fur Rendezvous in Anchorage, plus Juneau and Fairbanks.
- March 22/23—Virginia.
- April 15th—Idaho Tax Protest Day.
- April 22—Illinois State convention.
- May—Montana State convention.
- June 17/18—Utah State convention.

• September—Arizona State convention.

Persons wishing to schedule trips should call my staff or me at 702-435-3218 or write to 5143 Blanton Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89122. I will be increasingly available to campaign, going full-time by late May, depending upon fundraising. Also, the honorary chairman of my campaign, Russell Means, may be campaigning in tandem with me, perhaps starting with the Alaska trip in late February.

Besides garnering votes, my aims in this campaign are to build the party from the grass roots up by helping state and local Libertarians to get better organized and by attracting non-Libertarians into the party. An important part of this effort will be re-activating former activists across the nation.

Perhaps the most important aspect will be seeking out and motivating viable candidates for state legislative races in 1988. We need to win more legislative seats, and we can do it if we get serious. After all, I did, and I wasn't the first.

Your help is requested in this struggle. As Thomas Jefferson said, "Liberty is gained by inches." He was certainly right. The Democrats and Republicans have been encroaching on our liberty and generally fouling things up since at least 1913—the year they imposed the hated income tax and the non-federal non-reserve system on all Americans. We Libertarians cannot expect to undo this gross malfeasance in a few short months or even a few short years. However, the prize of individual liberty is worth fighting for. Just ask any of the Founding Fathers of this republic.

Marrou Staff Announced

Michael Emerling, campaign organizer for the Andre Marrou vice-presidential effort, has announced the core members of the Marrou team.

Russell Means has graciously agreed to serve as honorary chair for the campaign. "Russell Means will campaign with me in Alaska, the state with the largest native American population," said Marrou. "He'll also campaign with me in a number of other states. Russell is a magnificent orator and elegant spokesman for individual liberty. He will enhance our Libertarian campaign enormously."

The following Libertarian luminaries consented to become *Intellectual Advisors and Review Board* to the campaign:

Karen Allard, Washington LP chair.

John Dentinger, columnist for *Reason* and *Playboy*.

Larry Dodge, environmentalist and long-time LP activist.

Don Ernsberger, co-founder, SIL.

Tonie Nathan, first LP vice-presidential candidate and first woman to receive an electoral vote (1972).

Carol Newman, 1986 LP attorney general candidate (CA).

Murray Rothbard, distinguished professor of economics.

John Vernon, Los Angeles County LP chair.

Dave Walter, co-founder, SIL, and Nat-Com budget watchdog.

"The Marrou vice-presidential campaign is fueled by a passion for principles," said campaign organizer Emerling. "We want to prevent intellectual and ideological errors, not apologize for them. Every one of our advisors has demonstrated a commitment to Libertarian principles. Pure and unpolluted, consistent and undiluted. Period. They will help us run a campaign that is principled and persuasive. A campaign that will form the foundation of our 1988 Paul/Marrou Libertarian presidential ticket."

Andre Marrou has asked Michael Emerling to locate and hire a campaign manager. "I want my campaign manager to be enthusiastic and have a pattern of completing projects successfully," said Marrou. Those interested should contact Emerling at 702-873-1213.

A Paul Press Release

Deficit Reduction Is Just a Band-Aid

The deficit reduction package announced by budget negotiators will have little, if any, impact on the United State's debt-laden economy, according to Ron Paul, the Libertarian Party presidential candidate.

"It's a case of too little, too late," said the former U.S. Congressman.

Paul, a financial writer and leading spokesman for the Austrian school of economics, compared the two-year, \$76 billion deficit reduction deal to "giving a band-aid to a starving man."

"It doesn't get to the heart of the problem," Paul said.

The problem, he explained, is not only the borrow-and-spend attitude behind the Reagan

Administration's record deficits, but the easy-money policies of the Federal Reserve Board that have allowed those deficits to continue apace.

"The Reagan era has given us seven years of outrageous monetary inflation," Paul said, noting the 82 percent increase in the money supply since 1981.

"Black October showed a lot of complacent folks how unstable our economy is," Paul said. "But instead of addressing the problem, the politicians are once again fooling themselves, hoping to fool everyone else as well."

And they are not even doing a good job of that, he added. The first-year cut of \$30.2

billion still will leave a deficit of more than \$200 billion, he explained, while the overall two-year deal represents less than a three percent cut in the federal budget.

The 500-point drop in the stock market last October was a harbinger of things to come, Paul said, explaining that the Fed's quick move to ease the money supply only put off the day of final reckoning, making the crash-to-be that much worse.

"When the people finally realize just how badly they've been conned, then the buzzards will come home to roost," Paul said. "They'll be circling Washington, DC—the breeding ground of the disastrous economic policies that our children will have to pay for."

Initiatives Could Be An LP Bonanza

By Larry Dodge

When the Montana Libertarian Party convention committee of 1986-87 decided to make "Taking the Initiative for Liberty" its convention theme, it was because its members agreed that using the initiative process holds at least as much promise for enhancing individual liberty as the ongoing investment of party energy in political candidacies.

Not only have few Libertarian candidates ever been elected to anything, anywhere, but it is hard to attribute much effect upon "the ideas which govern us" to the many Libertarian candidacies that have been undertaken over the past 15 years.

Still, anyone who has ever run for office as a Libertarian can tell a string of stories about how some of his or her points were very well taken by certain audiences and individuals, including other politicians, sometimes even by opponents in the same race.

To me, that suggests that a truism widely shared by veterans of Libertarian campaign trails—that "there is something in our platform to offend everybody"—downplays the fact that there are also many things in that same platform which please and excite a lot of people. The question is, how do we elevate the many potentially popular ideas in our platform to the status of guiding political concepts?

Libertarian candidates, whether or not by choice, are typically held accountable for our entire platform—and those few items in it which a given voter may find offensive then become sufficient reason to vote for someone else. In the past, this dilemma has inspired some Libertarians to consider compromising on the issues, which has more than once resulted in divisions in our ranks between "pragmatists" and "radicals," to no good effect upon our organization.

Happily, there is an alternative which does not mandate compromise, and that is the initiative process. Many Libertarian platform planks or parts of planks, removed from the context of the rest of the platform, can have a high level of appeal to a broad range of voters, allowing us to form single-issue coalitions with all kinds of people who might never vote for a Libertarian candidate. Libertarians can team up with the far right on anti-tax initiatives, and at the same time work with the hard left to pass initiatives against the location of nuclear missiles or nuclear waste dumps in their area. We can work with dairy farmers against milk price controls, or with restaurant owners to end wine and beer license quotas—though these one-issue allies might well oppose our ultimate aim to abolish farm programs or tax-funded tourist promotion activities, respectively.

The point is that, in lieu of or in addition to running candidates against the winds of political reality, we can go with the flow on any number of particular issues, enhancing our efficiency as a political party. I like to think of it as political judo, where the strength of the majority, so often our enemy at the polls, is ex-

pected in favor of individualizing the power to make choices.

The appropriateness of the initiative process for libertarians becomes even more evident when we consider that it is tantamount to a fourth branch of government. Historically, the use of initiatives has peaked in frequency and momentum when the public has perceived misbehavior on the part of the other three branches. In other words, it's probably true that the initiative process is generally predisposed toward individual liberty, to limitation of governmental abuse, even though there are numerous examples of initiatives which have sought increased government power as a solution to a problem.

But even on the kinds of issues which have generated initiatives that call for government solutions, there is often little reason why a libertarian initiative could not have captured the same level of public support—except that it wasn't tried. For example, several states have had initiatives which attempted to restrict environmental and rate-base abuses by public utilities—including attempts to move from mere state regulation to full state ownership of utilities. But there was and is no reason why a libertarian initiative—say, to end monopoly franchising of utility companies, and/or to make utilities strictly liable for damages done to the environment—could not have been well received as a still better way to solve the problems which inevitably accompany the creation of regulated monopoly utilities.

Budget Freeze: Gopher It!

By Sally Anne Moore

On Monday evening, February 1, 1988, Libertarians for Greater Cincinnati plan to hold a public demonstration urging that Congress support a three year federal spending freeze to cut the budget deficit to support the capital markets. We propose that *nationwide*, state and local libertarian groups hold similar demonstrations and gain national media attention for the viability of a freeze and for our presidential candidate Ron Paul.

The theme of the demonstration is as follows: On Groundhog Day, Tuesday, February 2, if the groundhog sees his shadow we will have another four years of a Congress and Administration unwilling to seriously tackle the federal budget deficit, continuing to take a band-aid approach to cut federal spending. If the groundhog does *not* see his shadow, well, the result is unfortunately the same.

Nationwide at the local level, libertarians can issue local press releases and arrange for radio talk show appearances on Monday, February 1st, to publicize the national demonstration. Demonstrators can make creative, humorous signs for an aesthetic visual ap-

pearance, pleasing to T.V. news crews the members will have contacted for local coverage. Also, a designated person could rent a groundhog costume and dress up for the cameras. At the state level, state chairs can contact wire services to obtain coverage of the national event. Particularly in New York City, libertarians can contact national broadcasting companies to ensure their protest a place on the nightly news nationally. Iowa and New Hampshire libertarians can especially gain early attention for candidate Ron Paul by a well-planned, concerted effort.

Since such great coverage is traditionally afforded Groundhog Day we are sure to make an impact if we act quickly and take care in making our media contacts. I hope that all libertarians will participate in this fun and creative endeavor to further our cause. To share and discuss ideas please feel free to call me at (513) 381-4177.

I hope you'll agree that this idea is just crazy enough to work. In Cincinnati we plan to hold our vigil outside of the local zoo, for an added touch of humor, where we will eagerly await the economic prognostications of our furry libertarian friend.

Dodge, a veteran LP activist, will report regularly on initiatives and referenda.

Libertarians in Office: A Proud List

By Eric Rittberg

The Libertarian Party is America's third largest and fastest growing political party. Since 1976, no other political party, besides the Democrats and Republicans, has even come close to matching the LP's success. In 1980, the Libertarian presidential candidate Ed Clark was on the ballot in all 50 states, and received nearly one million votes. Since then, thousands of Americans have joined the party, millions of votes have been cast for Libertarian candidates, and a number of Libertarians have been elected to public office.

Currently, over 70 Libertarians hold elective/appointed office including two mayors, four county supervisors, 15 city council members, and a supervisor of elections. In the past the LP elected three of its members to the Alaska state legislature: Dick Randolph (1979-83), Ken Fanning (1981-83), and the current Libertarian vice-presidential candidate Andre Marrou (1985-87). In recent years, two former congressmen have joined the Libertarian Party: Sam Steiger of Arizona, and the LP's current presidential candidate, Ron Paul of Houston, Texas.

In 1988, in addition to the Ron Paul/Andre Marrou presidential ticket, America's third party will be running many high profile, well funded campaigns for the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate. Also, thousands of Libertarians will be seeking public office on the state and local levels, and the LP fully expects to dramatically increase its number of elected officials.

The following list contains the names of all local, state, and national Libertarian Party members who held elective or appointed office during 1987.

Alaska

Jean Calkins—Kachemak City Council
Bill Snyder—Homer City Council
Stan Thompson—Mayor, Kenai Peninsula Borough
Darrell Walsh—Wasilla Council
Jon Wood—Anchorage Municipal Assembly

Arizona

Murray Feldstein—Flagstaff City Council

California

Laurence E. Ames—Auditor-Controller, El Dorado County
Richard Arnold—San Dieguito Citizens Planning Group
Jerry Douglas—Topango-Los Virgenes Resource Conservation District Board
Mary Earle—Carpinteria School Board

John Farr—Palomar Mountain Resource Conservation District Board

Bob Hellam—Seaside Economic Development Commission, (appointment)

Erik Henrikson—Placer County Supervisor
Ken Kott—Tahoe-Truckee Unified School District Board, Tahoe City Advisory Council, (appointment)

Curtis Miller—Director, Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District

Gerta Percival—Placer County Planning Commission

Dennis Schlumpf—Tahoe City Advisory Council, (appointment)

Tom Tryon—Supervisor, Calaveras County Planning Commission and Supervisor, Calaveras County

Colorado

Doug Anderson—Denver Supervisor of Elections

Larry Conyers—Lakewood Housing Authority, (appointment)

Richard Crow—Woodland Board of Adjustments Alternate Member, (appointment)

Kevin Edwards—Boulder Mall Commission, (appointment)

Holly Kibbler—Boulder Board of Appeals, (appointment)

Penn Pfiffner—Chairman, Adams County Housing Authority, (appointment)

Ken Riggs—Lakewood Housing Authority, Board of Directors, (appointment)

Delaware

Richard A. Cohen—New Castle County Board of Health, (appointment)

Florida

Lee R. Duffner—Golden Beach Vice-Mayor

Idaho

Bill Claiborne—Garden City, City Council
Greg Saylor—Minidoka County Assessor

Illinois

Tom Heidenfelder—Palatine Library District Trustee
Scott Tillman—Marquette Heights Alderman
Gerry Walsh—Roselle Village Board of Trustees

Indiana

Doug Boggs—Bloomington Human Resources Commission, (City Council appointment)

Kansas

Jerry Busch—Wichita Citizens Participation Organization, District 5B
Douglas Merritt—Atchison City Commissioner
James Slaughter—Wichita Citizens Participation Organization, District 2

Michigan

Dr. James Clifton—Addison City Council, Addison Planning Commission.

Charles Congdon—Midland Cable Communications Advisory Commission, (appointment)

Sheryl Loux—Kalamazoo Alternative Financing Committee, (appointment by Mayor)

Gwendoline Stillwell—East Lansing Housing Commission

Montana

Neil Halprin—Missoula County Zoning Board of Adjustment, (appointment)

Pat Summers—Missoula Urban Transportation Board

New Hampshire

Avery Johnson—Milford Board of Selectmen
Jack Kelleher—Epsom Board of Selectmen

Howard Wilson—Budget Committee, Andover, Andover Village District Co-op Board

New Jersey

Randy Korman—President, Sayreville School Board

New York

Margaret M. Fries—Conklin Town Justice
Elizabeth Ivory Greene—Manhattan Landmarks Commission

Kathey Stephens—Manhattan Community Board #4, (appointment)

North Carolina

David Ford—Long Beach City Council
Ben Lamm—Wilson Board of Adjustments

Ohio

Russ Rosen—Finance Chair, Cleveland Heights Local Development Corporation

Oregon

Jo McIntyre—Yamhill County Landmarks Commission

Pennsylvania

Margaretha M. Kewner—Pine Creek Township Zoning Hearing Board, (appointment by Township Supervisors)

Dominic D. Salvatori—Whitehall Borough Cable Television Committee, (appointment)

South Dakota

Elaine Cluti—Crooks City Council

Texas

Peter Ellerway—Metro Transit Citizens Advisory Board, (appointment)

Susan Frensley—Richardson Library Board, (appointment)

Mike Holmes—Metro Transit Citizens Advisory Board, (appointment)

Utah

Emily Beers—Big Water City Council
Janet Dejado—Big Water City Council

Alex Joseph—Mayor, Big Water
James Joseph—Big Water City Council

Elizabeth Joseph—Kane County Public Defender, Big Water Municipal Attorney, Kanab City Public Defender

Charles Maness—Big Water City Council
Betty Tornbom—Big Water Justice of the Peace, (appointment)

Frank Vine—Big Water Zoning Board, (appointment)

Bob Waldrop—Governors Advisory Board on AIDS, (appointment)

Steve Wojniak—Big Water Zoning Board Administrator, (appointment)

Vermont

Eloise Hedbor—Vermont Advisory Committee, U.S. Civil Rights Commission

Steven Oviatt—High Bailiff, Grand Isle County
Traver Underwood—Vergennes City Council

Virginia

Phil Friday—Urbanna City Council

Washington

Kelly L. Houghton—Pierce County Community Action Advisory Board, (appointment), and Citizens Energy Conservation Advisory Committee, (appointment by the City of Tacoma)

Wisconsin

Dr. Timothy Correll—Iowa County Coroner
David Ripp—Dane County Supervisor, and Springfield Town Clerk

Anthony Theisen—Brown County Supervisor, and Green Bay Alderman

Tom Westgaard—Greenfield Alderman

This listing was compiled by Ron Paul campaign staffer Eric Rittberg, LP national director Paul Jacob, LP national headquarters staffer Allan Lindsay, and LP news editor Karl Hess. Eric, Paul, Allan, and Karl would like to thank the following individuals for their help in compiling this listing: Michael Emerling, Nadia Hayes, Karl Peterjohn, Penn Pfiffner, Gerry Walsh, Willy Marshal, Bob Waldrop, Craig Gould, Mike Holmes, Sharon Mitchell, the Hedbor family, and the Joseph family.

The LP headquarters staff will be preparing another officeholders' listing before the '88 election. All deletions, additions, and corrections should be forwarded to Paul Jacob.

Is That Real Money? No, I Got It at KwikPrint.

By Kenton Riggs

In order to engage in this sort of buffoonery, one must first be equipped with a supply of federal reserve notes padded to a pasteboard back. Usually a bank customer can request a hundred \$1's, or a fewer number of large denomination bills, in serial sequence from his bank. These can be taken to most any print shop for binding into a pad with the latex cement along the top—like any ordinary scratch pad.

After the pad has dried, it can be conveniently slipped into an inside coat pocket and used for raising awareness as to the nature of the currency fraudulently fostered on the common-folk. Upon making a purchase at a store, restaurant, theater, or whatever, dialogue may develop as follows:

Do you accept federal reserve notes?

Huh?

I am asking if you accept payment for purchases with notes put out by the Federal Reserve Bank?

I don't know. What are they? I've never seen one. Are they like a traveler's check?

(Pulling out my pad—) These are notes issued by the Federal Reserve Bank for use as currency. You know what a note is, don't you?

An assortment of answers usually follows ending in —) Not really. What's a note?

A note is an IOU. When you go to a bank and borrow "money," the bank officer asks you to sign a note. Likewise, the Federal Reserve Bank has issued these notes in exchange for the real money it withdrew from circulation.

Well, isn't it all money?

Not really. This is currency, but not money. It is important to know the difference. Money has three functions. It is a unit of exchange, a unit for settling accounts, and a storehouse of value. These federal reserve notes (FRNs) are not a storehouse of value since they depreciate with time, making them worth less at the end of the year than at the beginning. Currency may be money or it may simply be a substitute for money. These notes are obviously a substitute. They are IOUs for money. The problem is that

the government expands their supply constantly. It is called debasing or inflating the currency. For instance, if the currency supply is doubled then each FRN is worth half as much. Right?

(Blank stares.) Let me check with my manager to see if we accept "federal reserve notes."

(Manager arrives.) Isn't this just "money?"

No. Before 1963 it used to say "Redeemable in lawful money" up here in the left hand corner. Now the Federal Reserve Bank calls it "legal tender" and you know what that is, don't you?

(Blank stares.) Not really.

It means you have to accept it under penalty of law, but the term "legal tender" is never defined anywhere in any legislative act that I can find. Government depends on citizens not being fully aware of what legal tender is.

(Clerk usually begins to compare my FRNs with those in the cash register.) This looks like the same currency as I have in here.

You're right, except that my FRNs on this pad have more backing with this piece of pasteboard than do your FRNs in the cash register. Yours have no backing whatsoever. If

you take your currency to the Federal Reserve Bank to redeem it in lawful money, the bank teller will only give you substitute FRNs in return. Bear in mind that money is defined in terms of gold and silver in the Constitution—

If you have avoided jail at this point, and you have a clerk with time and a listening ear, you can continue to explain the currency fraud in the U.S., the single cause of inflation, and the possible—and painful—solutions to the problem. not notes. There is no money in circulation anymore, only notes, i.e., IOUs for money.

Why do you get those notes padded up that way? Are you with the government?

No, I'm not with the government. I do this so that each time I tear one off it reminds me what a rip off our monetary system is. Besides, it's convenient packaging. You need to think of this stuff as scratch paper. That's essentially all it is.

I've never seen pads like these before. Where do you get them?

Over at QuikPrint. (Or Kinko's, or Stop & Go Printing, etc.) They can do amazing things with color Xerox these days.

NatCom: Biting Bullet on Ballots, Bucks

By Ralph Swanson

A regular meeting of the Libertarian Party National Committee was held in Orlando, Florida, on the 5th and 6th of December.

Coming at a time when the presidential campaign is beginning to heat up, the meeting featured extensive debate on the allocation of monies among the various programs and projects suggested for the proposed budget.

Chairman Jim Turney's report on the current status of party affairs emphasized the budget. He said that "tightening up the budget process, while keeping in mind that this is the first campaign in which the party is responsible for ballot access instead of the candidates, is very difficult."

Turney also gave a complete report on the move of the party's national headquarters to Washington, DC—a move now in progress. Space has been rented in the 1500 block of Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., with a view of the Capitol building at the end of the street. Turney emphasized that we are *not* neighbors of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue—that's in the N.W. quadrant, a part of the city of which John Gunther once said, "N.W. means nowhere."

Steve Fielder then gave the Ballot Access Committee report. He has resigned as chair of the Ballot Access Committee and Burt Blumert has taken his place. Fielder is now ballot access coordinator.

Fielder gave a comprehensive report on the status of ballot access drives in the various states, and an annual financial plan for the future.

Many drives are now well under way or completed, but there are problems, among them being North Carolina, where 45,000 signatures must be collected by May 15, 1988. There was a promise during the meeting from a member of the Ron Paul campaign team for immediate funding of the North Carolina drive, and Fielder has since confirmed that he expects a contract with the Rick Knox petitioning firm to be executed before December 12.

None of the ballot access fund's income so far has come from the Ron Paul campaign committee, nevertheless, the fund has more money now than it did at the beginning of 1987, in spite of over \$50,000 in expenditures. The annual financial plan was approved and accepted by the NatCom.

Mike Holmes then gave the audit report, which basically was an update on the progress toward computerizing our financial records system. A general ledger program is now 90 percent operational.

A report from the Financial Committee pointed out the need for more contributor names, and for an increased rate of mailings and more phone solicitation. Peggy Jeney is in charge of the pledge campaign, which is doing well.

Tonie Nathan gave the media relations report, in which she gave advice on how to get media coverage, and pointed out that our media presence has improved.

Steve Dasbach reported on Campaign '88, describing his efforts to recruit candidates in the various states. Utah plans to have 108 candidates this year!

Dave Walter's affiliate party report gave details on a monthly memo to state chairs that is well liked; a questionnaire about state functions has so far gotten 20 returns out of the 51 sent out. He plans to assist state parties with new materials for handout, such as low-cost position papers.

The NatCom recessed at about 6 p.m. In the meantime, the LP of Florida Executive Committee had met from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., and the Volunteer Ballot Access Drive county coordinators had met from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. with Steve Fielder for the latest inspiration and information. There is new leadership in the Florida Ballot Access Drive; Nick Dunbar has taken over the duties of both volunteer coordinator Bob Lehman, who resigned for health reasons, and Executive Committee Ballot Access chair John Wayne Smith.

On Sunday morning, the meeting again got under way close to 9 o'clock. The main item on Sunday's agenda was the budget. Turney opened the discussion by saying that his work in compiling the budget was based on two principles: (1) Don't assume that any more money will come in this year than last; and (2) assume that expenses will be on the high side. A proposed budget of \$334,000 was presented, which Turney deemed to be quite conservative, as contributions have been coming in at a much faster pace recently.

Several new or recently started projects were included in the budget, but not ballot access, which has separately derived funds for the most part and was not specifically funded.

Sam Treynor moved to sharply reduce or delete funding for many of the proposed items and transfer the money to ballot access. His argument, backed by at-large member Lew Rockwell, was that we should get ballot access in hand before undertaking new projects. Not all of Treynor's proposed cuts were accepted, but many were, including:

1. Computer software consulting and upgrades—reduced from \$25,000 to \$0.00.
2. LP NEWS—reduced from \$48,000 to \$36,000.
3. Internal education ("The Activist" newsletter)—limited to completing subscriptions

already received, not to exceed \$1,200.

4. Membership prospecting (including efforts to "re-up" expired memberships)—reduced from \$5,000 to \$0.00.

5. Campaign '88 (effort to get candidates other than president and vice president)—reduced from \$4,000 to \$0.00.

6. Affiliates (development of state parties)—reduced from \$4,000 to \$0.00.

7. Media (development of media contacts)—reduced from \$3,000 to \$0.00.

8. Chair's expenses—reduced from \$12,000 to \$0.00.

9. Officers' expenses—reduced from \$1,200 to \$500.

10. Penalties (fund to offset possible penalties assessed by Federal Elections Commission)—reduced from \$1,000 to \$0.00.

Clearly, some things are going to be put on the back burner. Members of the NatCom who opposed these moves have expressed concern in that they feel that ballot drives are aided by strong state parties, and congressional and state-wide campaigns. They maintain that zero budgeting of some of these activities, such as Campaign '88 and the Affiliates Committee will prove harmful to the national ballot drive. In addition, it would seem that unless all monies are available to complete the ballot access drive, successful fund-raising activities should not be stopped. As an example of this, the prospecting of lapsed members was reported at the meeting to have been quite successful.

After the budget voting, the NatCom moved rapidly to handle several other items, including:

1. Setting future NatCom meeting places and dates, as follows:
April 16/17—Indianapolis
Aug. 20/21—San Francisco
Dec. 4/5—Oklahoma City
2. Agreeing to accept bids for the 1991 national convention, to be submitted by March

18, 1988, and published in the LP NEWS.

3. Accepting a bid for the 1989 national convention, to be held at the Sheraton Hotel in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, late in July.

4. Hearing a report by Sharon Freeman Mitchell on outreach, including the fact that the original 10,000-copy printing of the research edition has run out.

5. Changing the title of the person running the national office back to national director from office manager.

6. Electing Paul Jacob to be national director on the third anniversary of his arrest for failing to register for the draft.

7. Hearing an extensive combined "Headquarters Report" and "Proposal for the National Office" from Paul Jacob.

8. Hearing several more committee reports. (Membership—Matt Monroe; Student Outreach—Don Ernsberger; Computer—Chad Colopy; Gold Clause Action—Cliff Thiess; Management—Gerry Walsh; Internal Education—Sharon Mitchell; Electronic Mail—Joe Dehn; and Regional Reps—Dave Walter.)

All in all, it was a very busy weekend. On Saturday the NatCom took a one-hour break to have lunch at a restaurant across the street; on Sunday, they had pizzas sent in and took no lunch break at all. As for the local party, several people are still feeling the effects of the weekend—in addition to those mentioned above—Patricia Thorpe and Jean Culberson who guarded the door at the banquet; Jim Culberson who caught some camera angles with his handy Polaroid; Charlie Manhart, Bob Kany, Bob Blumenstine, and others who helped run NatCom members back and forth to the airport; and most of all, Marian St. Pierre, executive administrator of the LPF, who watched a "little meeting" grow up into a modest-size convention, but who nevertheless "kept plugging" and brought off a successful event!

Breggin, Defending Freedom, Cleared in Psych Inquisition

Peter R. Breggin, M.D., former NatCom member, author of The Psychology of Freedom, and an outspoken psychiatric reformer, recently was called before the Maryland medical disciplinary board on charges of having misconducted himself on a national TV show. The hearing cleared him but not before causing him considerable personal expense. Following is Dr. Breggin's comment on the situation.

The attack against me, made by the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI), was aimed at the reform movement in psychiatry. I had appeared on the nationally televised Oprah Winfrey talk show on April 2, 1987, with three former psychiatric inmates and a patient rights advocate. We talked about the abuse of psychiatric patients with drugs, electroshock, and involuntary hospitalization. We told the public about the dangers of seeking psychiatric help, the brain-damaging effects of electroshock, and the menace of tardive dyskinesia. At the conclusion of the show, I warned potential patients to avoid therapists who seem unloving, who promote ECT, and who offer drugs on the first visit.

The show, from the viewpoint of the American Psychiatric Association and NAMI, was a devastating blow to their promotional efforts. NAMI challenged my right to practice medicine in the State of Maryland and falsely accused me of prescribing medication on TV and telling all psychiatric patients to stop taking their drugs. NAMI is a national organization of parents of psychiatric patients and inmates. NAMI takes an extreme biopsychiatric viewpoint and too often attempts to stifle criticism of the medical model, psychiatric drugs, psychiatric hospitalization, or involuntary treatment.

Many individuals and national organizations came to my defense, including many

members of the U.S. Congress, dozens of psychiatrists and other mental health professionals, patient advocates, the American Academy of Psychotherapists, the American Society of Law and Medicine, the Mental Health Law Project, and the ACLU.

All of those who came to my defense supported my right to speak my views and most acknowledged my lifelong commitment to psychiatric reform. Many spoke in favor of psychiatric reform and explicitly declared their agreement with my remarks on the Oprah Winfrey show.

The response to the attack on me has vastly strengthened psychiatric reform throughout the nation. I have received communications from all over America declaring a renewed commitment to fighting the psychiatric abuse of patients, including drugs, electroshock, the medical model, and involuntary treatment.

Taxmen at 'Work'

From a *Washington Post* report on an exhibit at IRS headquarters, celebrating the agency's 125th anniversary: "A sign at the left of the lobby pointed right to 'exhibit entrance.' A similar sign at the right pointed left. The entrance in the middle was blocked. Once you manage to get inside, the mentality that designed the new W-4 form seems in evidence... Viewers are forced to do a peculiar box step as they read the panels from left to right and then follow the exhibit as it runs from right to left... Its upbeat emphasis [is] on the cheerful compliance of most taxpayers... It doesn't point out that the IRS imposed 18.6 million penalties... in 1986 alone..."

Red Tape Roses

By Douglas N. Merritt

When I deplored watching my new Toyota pick-up sit out in the rain I determined to build a carport. I found that in my town I needed a permit and an inspection upon completion of such carport. I abandoned the idea forthwith.

I remembered that last year I needed no permit to put out my tomato stakes so I wondered about a trellis for my roses. Sure enough, arbors are not included in the listings of regulated buildings.

I constructed a beautiful rose garden. I placed eight posts in the ground. I connected them one with the other and placed beams seven feet overhead, fore and aft and athwartships; 20 by 12 feet.

Because the roses I am considering cannot stand harsh Kansas summer sun I covered it all with green translucent corrugated fiberglass to filter out the damaging rays.

After I put the bricks down between the posts it provided a splendid place for summer relaxation with a little something before supper, particularly so if I ever get the roses planted.

I have since learned that the city has no restrictions on where I park my truck. I can park it in the driveway, in the yard, or even in the rose garden if that is what I want to do.

Merritt is chair of the Kansas LP.

Ronnie's Long Trillion

Ronald Reagan's record breaking trillion dollar budget can be put in some arithmetical perspective by asking how long it would take to count one trillion, at the rate of one number per second, 24 hours a day non-stop. Answer: 32,000 years, more years than there has been civilization recorded on earth.

IS ABORTION AGGRESSION?

Libertarian arguments against abortion and in favor of children's rights. Literature packet: \$3. (SASE for information only.)

Libertarians for Life

13424 Hathaway Drive, #18
Wheaton, MD 20906, 301/460-4141

Norma Jean

It is obvious that while Norma Jean Almodovar is in the government reeducation center, it is her intention to get as much publicity as possible to further the cause of the libertarian movement.

The thought occurred that there could be another project which might be fun and surely productive. It could also promote a great deal of publicity. The project is her becoming the honorary treasurer of the Marrou for Vice President committee.

Bernard Baltic
Lakewood, OH

R & D

Earl Curtis (Nov./Dec. '87) questions how to pay for government run scientific research. I submit that government R&D deserves no support, as it is 10 times the cost of private R&D. This is because government programs' primary concern is to use up the ever-increasing budget, while private research programs must produce to justify their investment. Please consider my personal example.

As a scientist/engineer, I was tasked to design and install a digital engine control in a helicopter and test it to prove its survivability from a lightning strike. Given a fixed budget, a tight schedule, and that no one had ever done this before, I investigated every lightning research facility in this country and some in Europe. Sandia National Labs (government owned) wanted \$250,000 for two weeks of lightning testing of my aircraft. Lightning Transients Research Institute (non-profit, private) wanted only \$25,000 for the same testing and they would bring the equipment to us at a schedule of our choice. Any guesses on who got the job? For the record, I used three private institutions for consultation, education, and testing: Society of Automotive Engineers, Lightning Technologies, Inc., and Lightning Transients Research Institute.

Proceeds from development programs were plowed back into basic lightning research by LTRI. In the past 50 years, they have been the world's leader in lightning research, without government funding.

Assuming that this 10-to-1 ratio holds, the question is: Can we afford the billions and billions of dollars which are wasted on government research for the supercollider, AIDS, or acid rain? Shouldn't we allow the free market to support private individuals who produce the badly needed technology advances? Next time a government hand-out looks attractive, please consider the more progressive, efficient private alternatives. "Just say no" to the drug; "Just say no" to socialism.

Keary K. Ehlers
Arlington, TX

Constitution.

Upon reading Steve Malmberg's letter in the Nov.-Dec. issue, the first thing that came into my mind was that it would be better if, as

Letters to the Editor

libertarians and free Americans, we would work to enforce the full content of our Constitution upon those who have taken control of what used to be our government.

Steve mentioned concentrating on the Bill of Rights. Don't forget Article One, the very beginning of the Constitution. It gives the limits of our federal government. If our Constitution were enforced in its entirety, we would regain control of what would again be our government. Then, with control firmly in the hands of the people of our country, most of our goals as libertarians could be achieved.

Ed Roth
Downers Grove, IL

Vermont

With the convention over and our standard-bearers chosen, it is time to endorse again what has been termed the "Vermont Plan." What is the purpose of running a presidential campaign? To receive a million votes or perhaps twice that number? Few people will inspect the back page of the last section of the *New York Times* two days after the election to see how many votes the libertarian candidate received. Some people will watch the various presidential debates, some will follow the campaign coverage in *Newsweek*, but the focus of the entire campaign is the television coverage on election night. For maximal publicity the Libertarian Party, its candidate, and its ideas need to be mentioned on election night by Tom Brokaw or Dan Rather. And the Vermont Plan can accomplish this.

Vermont has several unique features relative to the presidential election. It has few electoral votes, hence receives little attention from the Republican and Democratic candidates. It is small in size and population and could be "saturated" by the Libertarian campaign with a limited budget. Vermonters have a tradition of individualism and suspicion of Washington, hence are prime targets for libertarian ideas. Finally, the results of the presidential vote in Vermont are reported early, before the election is decided and everyone goes to bed.

By concentrating a very large portion of his campaign time and money on Vermont, Ron Paul could achieve a "media breakthrough" for the party. Can you imagine the boost the Libertarian Party would receive if Dan Rather had to tell the nation at 10 p.m. on election night that early returns showed Ron Paul leading in Vermont?

Eric Jay Del Giacco
South Hill, VA

LROC

It has been the policy of the San Francisco Libertarian Party to ignore the antics of a small

group of former party "activists" who call themselves the Libertarian Republican Organizing Committee. But recent actions by these malcontents has forced us to let everyone know what they have been up to.

When Free Forum Books was raided by the police [story elsewhere in this issue] the troika that runs the LROC and makes up almost all of its active members decided to use this to slander the campaign of Libertarian presidential candidate Ron Paul.

The LROC strategy was to make phone calls to conservative organizations and tell them that the Ron Paul campaign headquarters in Northern California was raided for child molestation. The truth is that a part-time employee was arrested for having sex with a teenager and the bookstore is not any sort of campaign headquarters.

Jim Peron
Chair, San Francisco LP

Green

Cooperation between Greens and libertarians could expand, because the language barrier can be overcome—once Greens find that many libertarians are really peaceful anarchists (who are welcome in Green circles), and that, when libertarians use the suspicious phrase "free market," they are using it in a way different from the way Reagan uses it. Libertarians' view of "free markets" includes good things like protection against pollution and fraud, and includes land ownership based on homesteading, rather than government grants. Also, many Greens do not oppose market mechanisms either, given that such things as pollution and fraud are controlled, with no land monopolies.

Every libertarian should welcome decentralization and local control, since that makes it easier to attain the next step, of individual choice. That is, it's easier to convince a smaller, local, voting body than a large, non-local one; and those communities which experiment with pure liberty could be openly compared with those that try too much community control over individuals. Libertarians could adopt decentralization and local control as a strategy for achieving fully libertarian communities.

M.R. O'Mara
Baltimore, MD

Diversity

Each person can contribute to freedom using their abilities and interests. Just because some choose to focus their efforts in areas other than political activities or organized groups, doesn't make them outcasts. Do the bullfrog and canary argue about how to make music?

Our power is in the harmony and symphony

of liberty. Let the politicians and bureaucrats waste energy on internal squabbles and personality conflicts. They're very good at it; they've been doing it for thousands of years. Our unique strength is in the energy of diverse, creative innovation—based on a consistent, worldwide, unifying principle of non-aggression.

Un amigo de libertad, es un amigo de mí—Any friend of freedom, is a friend of mine.

Stormy Mon
Denver, CO

E-Mail

How about a file on a libertarian electronic bulletin board for sample libertarian letters? These letters would each relate to a particular issue, have a deadline date, the name and address of the person or persons to send it to, and have some information pertaining to the issue so that writers could "personalize" their versions of the letters.

Libertarians who used this part of the bulletin board could find an issue they are interested in, get some background information, and know where to send a letter to make the most impact.

Another idea for a libertarian bulletin board would be an electronic lending library for sharing books, video tapes, audio tapes, etc.

Linda Berman
Marietta, GA

Both great ideas. Electronic connection among libertarians is of intense interest to the editors of this paper. (See the Viewpoints editorial in this issue.) Services such as CompuServe and MCI Mail already make possible the posting and retrieval of the sort of information suggested. Some organizations use E-mail to distribute press releases, as well. A libertarian bulletin board in every state, linked one to another, also could do exactly the sorts of things Berman suggests. Suggestions? Comments?

Mediums

We should be appealing to every medium sized media outlet to publicize the fact that the major media have been blacking out news of the third largest party in the United States, the Libertarian Party.

I define medium sized media as local radio stations and newspapers, national public radio, public TV. Letters and phone calls to all of them might attract some attention. Sooner or later it might even attract the attention of the major media.

Bob Bajor
Alpha, NJ

Adware

Perhaps you have seen the many public domain and share-ware programs around. They are usually medium to light in usefulness, and the user is urged to make copies for friends. Then, the user is asked to send \$5 to the author if the program merits this.

What I like about this is that there is no

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copyright threat, but rather a *request* for money. That is a very libertarian approach to me. It really burns me up to rent a movie and the first thing I see is a threat from the FBI!

My idea is for hackers and programmer/entrepreneurs to write modest programs that have some value or novelty, and then sell ads to go with them.

I am writing the Nolan Chart for the Commodore-64 and am soliciting ads for Advocates for Self Government. I can't see anything wrong with this organization, so I am doing it without charge. (I am learning, so I do get some value.)

Lorne Strider
Laytonville, CA

Disenfranchise

I assumed when I joined this organization several years ago, that among the principles for which it stood was one that would allow states, regardless of size, to be represented on a national level; that it would never allow interested persons to be disenfranchised completely. Apparently at NatCom, or a committee thereof, this principle is not a part of the party's ideals.

Under a proposal submitted to the national convention as part of the Bylaws and Rules Report, at least one state would be denied any national representation and 12 others would be reduced to one delegate apiece.

I am sure that among you are those who feel "So what? It didn't pass at the convention anyway." No, it did not pass; but that is not the point. It was suggested by a NatCom committee. It did pass the committee and it did reach the floor of the convention, where it had a damn sight more support than this party should ever have given it. My contention is that this "Party of Principle" should never consider any rule or bylaw which has the effect of taking a representative voice away from even one person. I would have expected this type of rule from a Democrat or a Republican but never from anyone who proclaims to believe in Libertarian Party principles. My only conclusion is that too many in NatCom are working under the "big fish, little sea" theory and are simply consolidating power to their benefit.

James N. Kass
Onida, SD

Socialism

In your comments on the failures of socialism, you failed to list the biggest failure of all, the United States.

National ownership of land and other natural resources, a Marxist concept, is ridiculed often for its bureaucratic ineptitude. Heavy and progressive income taxes, a Marxist concept, is shrinking real income through inflation and destroying the economy with irresponsible deficit spending. Abolition of inheritance rights, a Marxist concept accomplished through taxation, has minimized the ability of the poor and middle class to pass on their accumulated wealth. Seizure of all property held by tax and life style rebels, a Marxist concept, cripples their defense in a pay-through-the-nose system of injustice. Centralization of credit in the Federal Reserve Banking System, a Marxist concept, sends the economy through repeated cycles of boom and bust. Centralized control of communication, a Marxist concept, has turned the broadcast media into shallow and spineless parrots. Centralized control of transportation,

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a Marxist concept, has created slow speed use of super highways, a deteriorating infrastructure, and federal extortion of states' rights. Government manipulation of industry and agriculture, a Marxist concept, has caused enormous waste through contradictory and counterproductive subsidies and programs. And as in Orwell's 1984, the economy is propped up by constant military preparation for perceived threats. The public school system free to all children, a Marxist concept, is turning out citizens who can not read, can not write, and worst of all, can not think. Remember, despotic, totalitarian governments do not want a large portion of the population able to figure out what is being done to them. After decades of embezzlement by elected officials, the Social Security System, a fraudulent Ponzi scheme and socialist concept, is on the verge of bankruptcy. Medicare and Medicaid, socialist concepts, are rife with fraud and waste.

Seat belt laws, helmet laws, drug laws, right to life laws, and scores of other regulations treat the American people as state property. The government is not sympathetic to misery and death as evidenced by its state police, exportation of arms, and its covert and overt little wars. Our federal government cares for us and our children only as human assets, taxable income producers, and cannon fodder.

Nick Schroeder
Colorado Springs, CO

Communities

It was nice to read Carol Moore's letter (November/December) conceding that "individuals in self-governing communities they form have a right to prohibit abortion." And yes, as you added, our goal is, "self-government and volitional communities in which consenting persons...make their own rules."

But what about people who happen to be within the geographic boundaries of a volitional community through no choice of their own and who are incapable of leaving on their own? As you, Ms. Moore, and I would probably agree, it is not libertarian for the community to do whatever they please to those who aren't voluntary members. So there can be a problem when the issue is very immature children, born or preborn. Unlike consenting adults, they have no choice about where they live or about the rules.

Libertarians disagree, of course, on whether preborn children are people, too. But, this is not decidable merely community by community, for this is a question of fact, not choice.

Doris Gordon
Wheaton, MD

Pamphlets

I am writing regarding a matter which has lately come to concern me; namely, the private ownership of publication rights of pamphlets for distribution by the Libertarian Party—specifically, the three one-page brochures which are available for free distribution which were composed by David Bergland and for which he is paid a royalty on each copy. While I will not contend his right to ownership of his workman-

ship, nor his right to control its publication, nor will I criticize the quality of David Bergland's product, it amazes me that a party as replete with literary talent as ours contains no one who would be willing to perform, free of charge, the service of composing three one-page pamphlets. Are we so lacking in willing activists? I think not.

I have a feeling the LP national committee has entered into such an agreement through an inordinate and misplaced obsession with the virtues of profit-making. But the Libertarian Party is not the private enterprise of one individual or some small group of individuals. It is the (pardon the expression) collective effort of a considerable number of individuals whose aim is to win the great mass of the American people to libertarian ideals. Part of this effort must include the distribution of a certain amount of free literature to whomever is willing to read it, if only to advertise the existence of something more substantial for sale. We ought to have some free literature available for anyone who will read it. If we are fortunate enough to distribute three million free pamphlets advertising the Libertarian Party in 1988, under the present arrangement, it will cost us \$60,000 just for publication rights, not counting printing, shipping, and other costs.

If our writers are so avaricious that they must be paid to write a one-page piece, then let them be paid a one-time fee. The material of the party ought to be available for reprinting to anyone who chooses to do so. In fact, it would be in the party's interest to make masters of such material available to avoid the expense of mailing large quantities of printed paper from one central location in an election year.

While I regard my own writing skills as acceptable, I have no doubt that there are other writers of considerably greater stature in our party who can fulfill such a task. Lacking such a response, I offer my own services.

John R. Vernon
Chairman, Libertarian Party Los Angeles
County Central Committee

Logo

"I'd be a Libertarian but they have too many rules."

—Robert Anton Wilson

This letter is about giving some serious consideration to the principles which the Party of Principle employs in running its own affairs. I served as a delegate from New Mexico to the recent national convention and I am writing to ask if the LP NEWS could provide us with an open forum for the discussion of a proposal which was denied us at the convention. The proposal was a resolution endorsing the idea of changing the national party logo from the Statue of Liberty to the coiled rattlesnake of the American Revolution with the motto "Don't Tread On Me." Maybe you could reproduce the proposed logo and the case for it in a future issue for general consideration.

The real issue here is whether any state party should have the right to bring any issue pertinent to the national party before its largest body, the national convention, and at least get an open hearing. The delegates of the New Mexico state convention voted in June to bring a resolution before the national convention and informed the national party secretary in writing

shortly thereafter. The secretary brought this up as the first order of business under resolutions, which were considered on the last day of the convention.

I really have to commend the delegates. They endured countless hours of mind-deadening parliamentary gamesmanship and more tedious hours of ballot counting, which tended to diminish the very high spirits which had reigned throughout the convention. By the time resolutions came up, many delegates had left in order to catch flights. After some months of making a good faith effort to follow the proper procedure, we were dismayed to find that a small but highly vocal and organized group was able to prevent any presentation or discussion of the proposal by means of parliamentary strangulation. Specifically, by sending the resolution to "new business" for consideration. Of course "new business" never took place because of the inability to hold a quorum after the hours of parliamentary games which slowly ground the convention to a halt. The New Mexico resolution could have been presented and voted on in less time than it took for the parliamentary debates to prevent its consideration.

The Libertarians are among the first to warn us of the dangers to freedom posed by the excesses of democracy. But it seems to me that we get a free society as we are willing to "live" a free society. That means *really* respecting the right of others who disagree with you to the same freedom of speech you demand for yourself, even other Libertarians! Liberty doesn't start when the Grand Libertarian Revolution is consummated, it starts in the way we live and treat one another, now—today. We decry the course the two older parties have taken, yet we have blindly copied their way of doing business. Maybe if we want fundamentally different results we are going to have to employ fundamentally different methods as a party. Let's bring the true openness which we proclaim as an ideal for the nation to the way we do business as a party. I hope that the state parties would move to secure, protect, and defend the right of any of us to be heard before the national convention in spite of hastily formed, "working parliamentary majorities" with the ability to shout loudly.

Garry King
Albuquerque, NM

AIDS

I was a delegate to the Seattle convention, and a member of the platform committee. I am writing this note not just to express my mild anger over something which occurred, but especially because I hope that by making the situation public, the mistake will not be repeated.

We started the platform discussion with dozens of suggestions, but only one proposed AIDS plank. We made some minor improvements in the wording, and reported it out to the floor of the convention. We were enthusiastic that it would sail through, leaving valuable time for more controversial changes.

I for one was flabbergasted when the debate on "our" AIDS plank started, and the alternate from the LGLC [Libertarians for Gay and Lesbian Concerns] was submitted. Where was this alternate four days earlier?

I won't press the issue on that plank any further. But I do intend to press for no repeat of that surprise. Please, everybody: If you have a proposal for the platform, submit it—in advance—to the platform committee. That's what it's there for.

Dan Karlan
Waldwick, NJ



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VIP Hunting Could Aid LP Outreach

By Bill Redpath

It is said (I can't vouch for it; I wasn't there) that entertainer Fanny Bryce once proclaimed, "I've been rich and I've been poor, and honey, rich is better!" A sensible statement. One with which libertarians, probably without exception, would agree.

Now, a hypothetical situation: Suppose two people exist, each equally predisposed to sympathize with, or even join, the Libertarian Party. There is but one difference: One is rich and successful and the other is not so rich and successful. (This is not meant to suggest that the words "rich" and "successful" are synonymous.) But, given limited outreach resources, whom do we address, or, given unlimited resources, whom do we address first. I think the answer easily is the rich and successful person.

I certainly do not believe that simply by soliciting wealthy or successful people we are turning our backs on the principles of the Libertarian Party. Indeed, if we believe that the realization of wealth or success in this nation is based on some semblance of a meritocracy, we should really covet these people.

And if these people believe the same thing, they should really want to be a part of us. Granted, this won't be the case with all renowned individuals whom we solicit, but we will never know how they will react to libertarianism and the Party unless we send them selected materials, and ask them to contact us or (preferably) follow up with another inquiry. I believe now is the time to undertake such an effort in order to broaden our base of financial

(and moral) support and increase the Party's influence on society.

That is what I have done recently with two men about whom I recently read articles in which they made statements that suggested they would be sympathetic to major tenets of libertarianism. They are Robert Prechter, the "Elliott Wave" stock market theorist and newsletter publisher, and John Cougar Mellencamp, the musician and singer.

As anyone who has read an article about Mr. Mellencamp or saw the recent piece on him on CBS' "West 57th" knows, he currently is far from being a "100 percent libertarian." Yet, I sense areas in which he would agree with our philosophy. Perhaps he could be influenced by us once exposed to the materials I sent him.

I wrote a short, personal letter to each, saying that I had recently read about him and expressed why I thought he would be interested in the copies of "Libertarianism in One Lesson," by David Bergland, and "The Death of Politics," by Karl Hess, that I was including in the envelope. Both are fine introductions to libertarianism and neither is overly taxing to read. I asked each to take the time to read both and to feel free to contact the Party or me if he had any questions or comments. It was that simple to reach out on a personal level to both men. I haven't heard from either gentleman, but it hasn't been long since I mailed both envelopes and Mellencamp is now on tour. Obviously, not all solicitees will respond. But I put my return address on both envelopes, so it appears they did reach their destinations.

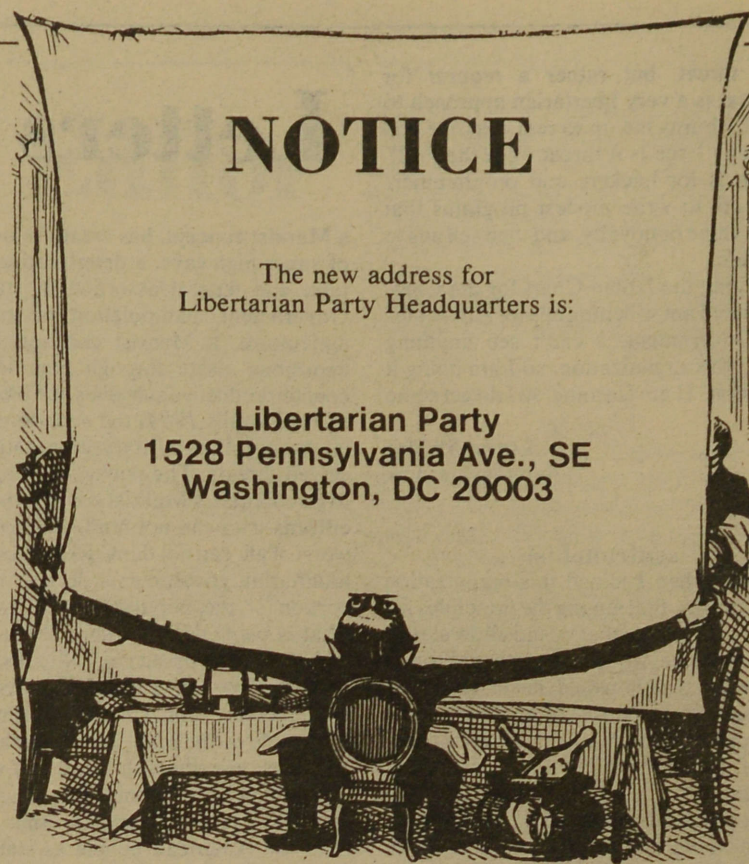
I am now soliciting ideas from other Libertarians as to how this process can be improved and names of other wealthy or successful potential libertarians to whom I can send the previously mentioned booklet and article. Please forward these comments and suggestions to me at 201 N. Duke Dr., Sterling, VA 22170. I believe very good things can result from this special outreach process if we work together.

Redpath is a long-time libertarian activist.

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Mencken On Washington

Indiana's sprightly LP journal, *Trout in the Milk*, resurrects one of H.L. Mencken's most wonderfully inflammatory quotes: "If George Washington were alive today, what a shining mark he would be for the whole camorra of uplifters, forward-lookers, and professional patriots! He was the Rockefeller of his time, the richest man in the United States, a promoter of stock companies, a land-grabber, an exploiter of mines and timber. He was a bitter opponent of foreign entanglements, and denounced their evils in harsh, specific terms. He had a liking

for forthright and pugnacious men, and a contempt for lawyers, schoolmasters, and all other such obscurantists. He was not pious. He drank whiskey whenever he felt chilly, and kept a jug of it handy. He knew far more profanity than Scripture, and used and enjoyed it more. He had no belief in the infallible wisdom of the common people, but regarded them as inflammatory dolts, and tried to save the Republic from them. He advocated no sure cure for all the sorrows of the world, and doubted that such a panacea existed. He took no interest in the private morals of his neighbors."



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LP NATIONAL DIRECTORY

NatCom Members At Large

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304-263-8445 (o)

Tonie Nathan
1350 Chamelton, #14
Eugene, OR 97401
503-485-7414

Don Ernsberger
865 Meadowood Lane
Warminster, PA 18974
215-675-6830

Lew Rockwell
260 Sheridan Ave., #402
Palo Alto, CA 94306
415-327-9385

Matt Monroe
1213 Hermann Dr.
Suite 65
Houston, TX 77004
713-524-0046 (h)
713-524-2919 (o)

Sharon F. Mitchell
1008 East 14th Street
Suite A
Houston, TX 77009
713-880-4541 (o)

Gerry Walsh
789 Overland
Roselle, IL 60172
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312-381-1980, ext. 2316 (o)

Headquarters Staff

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