

# American Libertarian

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## Paul Delays, Others Emerge for LP '88

Lake Jackson, TX - In a recent interview with *American Libertarian*, former Republican Congressman Ron Paul said he has "nothing new" to report on speculation that he was considering running for the LP nomination for President in 1988. "I need more time to consider it," Paul said, "and I have more time." In the meantime, Ron Paul for President movement backer Bill Evers, of Palo Alto, CA released a 3,000-word, 16 question interview with Paul which covered a wide range of issues. And adding fuel to the fire, at least three LP Vice-Presidential (or Presidential) prospects are being discussed or promoted from various quarters, marking the earliest efforts in LP history to identify possible top ticket contenders.

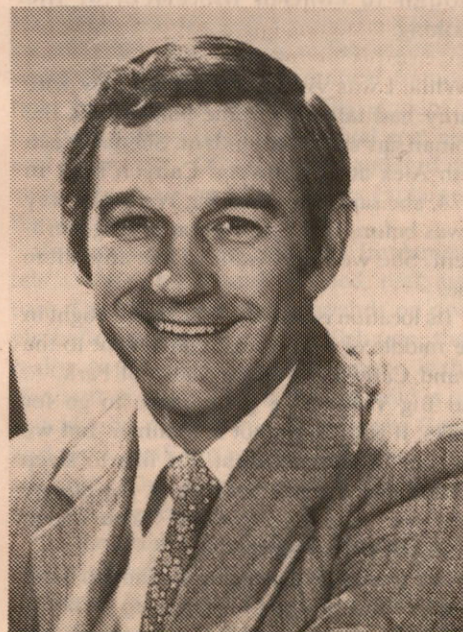
In a late November interview, former Congressman Paul said that he is weighing his personal immediate costs in terms of the time commitment, family considerations and financial effects of a presidential effort against the opportunity to address a wide range of issues in the campaign spotlight. He notes that he has accepted an invitation to the February 1987 California LP state convention and is likely to announce his candidacy decision "in that general time frame." Backers of a possible Paul campaign effort, including Evers, the Berglands and Burt Blumert, reportedly have raised over \$35,000 in pledges for Paul's effort during an October visit to California by Paul, should he decide to run. All such commitments are tentative, however, since FEC reporting requirements are imposed once actual funds are raised and organizations launched.

Paul indicated that he has also been in touch with libertarians who have left or have been inactive in the LP, many of whom were supporters of 1983 LP presidential nomination contender Earl Ravenal. "I have talked with a number of these people (who left the LP), and while they aren't too

enthusiastic about the LP, some of them have offered me financial support personally should I decide to run."

Commenting about his tenure as a GOP Congressman from Texas, Paul said "yes, I would say that from 1976 to 1986, I became much more leery of government than when I first entered politics." Asked to comment about current events, Paul said that the Iran arms/Contra funding deal was "a fiasco, which demonstrates the stupidity of trying to pursue an interventionist foreign policy. It's a beautiful time for libertarians to re-awaken," Paul continued, "since the American people looked to Reagan when

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Former Texas Congressman Ron Paul is still thinking about heading up the 1988 LP ticket.

## Tough Elections for LP

Katy, TX - In an election year characterized by the third lowest turnout in U.S. history, many of those 100 million absent voters must have been LP supporters. While in early December many returns are not yet final, due to incomplete reporting of third party results, it appears that virtually no LP candidates attained significant higher office. Ballot access results and initiative results were a little better however, though no real libertarian breakthroughs occurred.

### Alaska

Andre Marrou lost his State House seat and Mary O'Brannon failed to attract the 3% gubernatorial vote needed to keep ballot status (see separate article elsewhere in this issue).

### Washington

Jack and Karen Allard lost their respective races for Pierce County Charter Commission and state legislature. Jack received 46% in a two-way non-partisan race while Karen's 2½% in her partisan three-way race was greater than the ultimate winning margin. Former State LP Chair DeAnn Pullar received only 29% as a Republican candidate for State House.

### Oregon

Ed Marihart and Bill Goodman won LP ballot status in their respective districts for State House (Marihart) and Yamhill County Treasurer (Goodman). Marihart received a record 10% in his two-way race. Other OLP candidates got between 2-6%.

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## Part II Big Doing in Big Water

by R.W. Bradford

*R.W. Bradford is a veteran libertarian based in Port Townsend, WA, where he publishes a hard money newsletter, Analysis & Outlook.*

(What follows is the conclusion of a special report (Nov. 86 AL) on the "libertarian revolution" at Big Water, Utah. In Part I, writer Bradford began his report on his visit to Big Water, where he interviewed local residents and looked around. He continues his narrative.)

Big Water has about 300 residents, explained town clerk Patricia Lassen, while she graciously showed me around Long Haul, the compound that serves as town center of Big Water as well as real estate office, newspaper office, residence of Mayor Alex Joseph and his megafamily, as well as place of worship for the religious community headed by Alex Joseph.

Prior to Alex's (and his followers') arrival, Ms. Lassen told me, Big Water had too few permanent residents to qualify for incorporation as a city. Not all the locals favored making Big Water a city; many liked it the way it was, with 90 miles of empty desert between the settlement and the county seat and practically no government at all. Many residents feared "taxes, growth and change."

In response to my question about city financing in the absence of taxes, the town clerk advised that Big Water has four sources of funds: the water system, a cut of the fines their one city policeman raises out on the highway, state highway funds and revenue sharing. As she showed me the

sophisticated lighting and sound systems for the worship chamber, she told me that the isolation of Big Water had attracted a "bad element" in the past: murderers, outlaws, hippies and even the Love Israel cult.

She showed me the office where the local newspaper was typeset. She didn't know the circulation of the *Big Water Times*, except that it is "high." (Later editor Elizabeth Joseph advised circulation was "about 1,800.") She gave me a few sample copies, which later proved to be interesting reading. By and large, it was not particularly different from other small town weeklies: with news of local softball, city council meetings and so forth. It held a few surprises, like a mention of the local Claude Dallas Memorial picnic. (The *Times* did not identify Mr. Dallas, a trapper from extreme southwestern Idaho, who was convicted of manslaughter for killing two Federal game officials who attempted to interfere with his livelihood. Subsequent to his conviction, Mr. Dallas escaped from prison and is currently at large. Mr. Dallas has become a culture hero in some quarters, and is the subject of a TV movie.)

I asked about the local real estate market. Ms. Lassen led me up a stairway to the real estate office, which was nicely appointed with deep carpeting, quality furnishing and spectacular view.

Ms. Lassen had a fair knowledge of local real estate conditions. As town clerk she had to keep track of who owned what. She showed me a map of town. I asked about prices.

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Two of the many children around Long Haul. Photo taken between the two buildings in the courtyard. (Photo by R.W. Bradford.)

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# Big Water

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"You really should be talking to Bo," she replied. Bo Joseph is Alex's 7th wife and a real estate agent — "and a good one — a member of the Century 21 Million Dollar Club."

But Bo wasn't around this Monday morning. Ms. Lassen said she believed lots ranged in price from \$4,000 to \$15,000. Many of the lots, she said, were owned by "veterans" who bought them in the 1950s for \$100, but who had never lived on them. Others were owned by people who had worked on the nearby Glen Canyon dam. Many were owned by the Federal government, although the city was trying to get title to the land. I noted that a number of the lots were totally impacted — had no access to any road.

We continued our tour of Long Haul. The back building (the motel-like one) serves several utility functions, houses some of the children and the women. At the south end of the main building was a walled-in patio-like area with a large stone fire circle, a barbecue grill made from a 55 gallon steel drum and a couple picnic tables. It was the dining hall, she said.

They started building in 1978 — one of the "logs" from which the walls were constructed had a 1978 date on it. The date, she said, commemorated when one of the logs (made of concrete, painted red-brown) had fallen on the head of a volunteer worker, who was out cold for 24 hours. In the front yard (where the "east wing" will eventually be built to house women, as I recall she said) she told me a man was buried, and further toward the street a baby was buried. I asked about the legal hassles with burial in a residential area. She answered that they hadn't told anyone about it.

Colorado City (a polyg town in northern Arizona west of Big Water) is very rich, she told me. Its town fathers own much of Page

and are very secretive. Colorado City is considerably different from Big Water, she said. "People there dress like the 1950s. The secrecy would be their downfall," she said. They will soon be in big legal trouble. "Alex believes we should be open about everything we do. . . he hasn't sought out publicity, but he hasn't avoided it either." The CBS 60 Minutes program was planning an expose of Colorado City, she confided. (This aired in October).

I expressed surprise at the ashtrays and empty liquor bottles, given Alex's Mormon roots. He is not afraid of dying, she said; he has organized matters such that his family and religious followers will continue to prosper after he is dead. "Alex says that he took up smoking just to bug the Mormons," Ms. Lassen explained, "but he drinks enough to control the effect of the smoking."

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While I was visiting Long Haul, my wife Kathy had talked at some length with the woman gas station attendant. She had been with Alex at Cottonwood Canyon back in 1974, she said. She liked Big Water the way it was before the organization of its government. She wouldn't want to live anywhere else.

"Its location is perfect," she said. "Right in the middle of everything: convenient to the Grand Canyon, to Bryce National Park. . . and Big Water is a great place to go for walks. It gets pretty hot in summer, but we get nice breezes at night. I'd like to sleep outside, but I don't because of the creepy crawlers." Creepy crawlers? "You know, rattlesnakes and scorpions. . ."

Alex would be getting up in another hour or so. But Kathy and I had been up six hours with nothing to eat and the temperature was 115 degrees. We decided to drive to Page, AZ for lunch and relief from the heat.

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As I drove down US-89 towards Page, I wondered, what is to be made of Alex Joseph and the Big Water libertarians?

Is Big Water a cult? If by cult we mean a



This post office is about the only government building in Big Water. (Photo by R.W. Bradford.)

group people who share a faith in the judgment of a charismatic leader, then Alexander Israel is a cult, at least as nearly as I could tell from my two hour visit. But America's past is strewn with cults. Much of frontier was settled by cultists, and nearly all religious movements began as cults. Some succeeded and became recognized churches. Others are failed and forgotten. Only one (that I know of) ended with the mass bibulation of cyanide-laced Kool-Aid.

Is Big Water a real estate development? Given the energy with which Bo Joseph sells Big Water as recreational, retirement or investment property, it's hard to deny that it is a real estate promotion. But every town in the West — no matter how dry, hot, ugly, or remote — has real estate promoters who will testify that it is an attractive alternative to the Garden of Eden.

Is Big Water "libertarian history in the making"? Maybe. Certainly the libertarian movement welcomes those who seek freedom and oppose extension of the State. Alex Joseph has a lifetime of fighting the

State under his belt.

Although I didn't meet Alex Joseph himself, it is obvious that he has considerable charisma. He is a Leader. Whether he will lead his people to Liberty remains to be seen. Whether libertarians need Leaders (and Followers) remains to be seen as well.

Libertarians will decide whether libertarianism is a broad enough movement to include a man who advocates "patriarchal government", who ordered a building in his town torn down because it was unattractive, and partially funds his city on the proceeds of what the impolite might call a speed trap. Alex Joseph will decide whether he genuinely supports the maximization of liberty and minimalization of the State that libertarians want, and whether affiliation with the Libertarian Party serves his ends.

Whether Big Water is "libertarian history in the making" remains to be seen.

In the meantime, those seeking a historical parallel to the man Alex Joseph, his cult Alexander Israel and his town Big Water might turn to the life and experiences of James Strang, who led a group of renegade Mormons to the remote wilds of the Beaver Islands in northern Lake Michigan in the 1840s. Strang was elected King in 1850, and parlayed the block-voting power of his cult into a seat in the state legislature and political power state-wide in scope. In the end, King Strang was murdered by an assassin's bullet.

What will the tourist visiting Big Water in twenty years find? Will he find a bustling libertarian utopia? A prosperous resort community? A thriving religious commune? Or will the scorpions and rattlesnakes reclaim the land, taking possession of the trailers and houses baking in the desert sun? ■

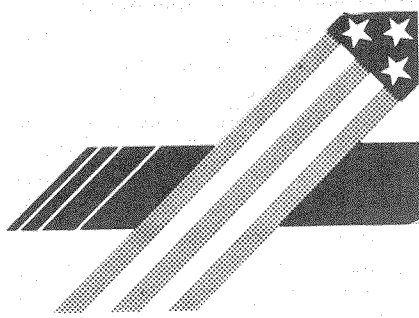
## Others Emerge for LP '88

From page 1

they wanted to be rid of Jimmy Carter. And now they see they've got a new Iranian mess, mandatory drug testing, increased spending and huge deficits."

In the lengthy interview conducted by Bill Evers and recently released to a number of libertarian publications, Paul covered a wide range of questions including tax reform, the Federal Reserve, protectionism, the drug issue, NASA, Social Security, foreign policy, NATO, the CIA, space-based defense systems, abortion, AIDS, religion and public schools and immigration. Excerpts from this interview were featured in the Nov.-Dec. LP News and a complete transcript is available from American Libertarian for \$1.00.

Among other positions, which are generally mainstream libertarian stances, Paul urges withdrawal from NATO, supports America's "historic immigration policy", supports Star Wars defense "in principle" but remains skeptical of its current feasibility, supports 100% free trade and the dissolution of NASA. On controversial abortion questions Paul says, "all libertarians oppose federal funding of abortions." He believes that "the law should protect all viable life. Under the American system of federalism, such protection should come at the state and local level. In a possible Presidential campaign, when asked about it, I would summarize my own view, then summarize the Libertarian platform, and say that Libertarians disagree on this. We are not here, as in



This logo was adopted by the Washington LP for the 1987 Presidential Nominating Convention, based on a design by Tom Tanaka. The logo is derived from LP founder David Nolan's "libersign", indicating a political direction which is neither left or right.

many other areas, a monolith."

### Veep Prospects

While a Ron Paul presidential candidacy on the LP ticket is by no means certain, most of the current speculation about other ticket prospects appears to be in terms of Vice Presidential possibilities.

Among the names being mentioned is 1983 LP nominee contender Earl Ravenal. He is being supported by a number of people who see his candidacy as a unifying factor to bring back those who left the LP after his unsuccessful monination effort. While not well known in LP circles, Ravenal's personal conduct during the sometimes bitter 1983 nomination fight has generally been praised.

And former Alaska State Representative Andre Marrou has made it known that he is

considering the prospect of an LP VP nomination. And LA-based fundraiser and motivational speaker Dick Boddie continues to be mentioned as a prospect, with his dynamic speaking skills as perhaps his most viable asset.

And recently support has been voiced for what surely must be the darkest of political libertarian "dark horses", South Dakota Indian activist Russell Means. Montana LP leader Larry Dodge and former LP National Director Honey Lanham are reportedly interested in pursuing this possibility. Means, who once led an Indian occupation of Wounded Knee, SD along with other American Indian Movement (AIM) leaders, seems at first an unlikely LP prospect. He spent a year in jail for refusing to stand in a federal court when the judge entered the courtroom, and gained notoriety during the 1970's as an Indian activist who was heralded by the New Left. However, Means is a Berkeley-educated CPA who in recent years has had considerable contact with Libertarians (principally Larry Dodge) and admits to being more comfortable with Libertarians and conservative Republicans than with leftists. His pro-Indian activism has recently led him into Nicaragua in support of anti-Sandinista Indian guerillas. An intriguing profile of the Indian activist, "The Restless Russell Means" appeared in the November 28 Wall St. Journal, written by Dodge.

While a braided Indian activist teamed with a former GOP Congressman seems pretty far-out, even by Libertarian Party standards, it is too early to rule anything or anyone out. And by LP standards, this ticket might even seem a bit conservative. ■



Former LP Finance Director Terry V. Mitchell was named permanent LP National Director at the recent LP National Committee meeting. See the full report in the next American Libertarian. (Photo courtesy of the Libertarian Party.)

## ALP Zapped in Elections

Anchorage, AK - America's highest ranking Libertarian Party officeholder lost his position in the Alaska State House in the wake of the November 4 election. And the ALP lost ballot status due to the poor showing of their "on the ballot" gubernatorial candidate Mary O'Brannon, whom the state LP officially opposed with write-in candidate Ed Hoch, in what can only be described as a disastrous year for Frontier State libertarians.

Andre Marrou, a Homer real estate broker, trailed former captain of state troopers Democrat C.E. Swackhammer by about 500 votes in his District 5-B race. Swackhammer received 42% to Marrou's 36%, with Republican Marilyn Dimmick getting the remaining 21%. Marrou had upset a long entrenched Republican in 1984 to capture the LP's only State House seat in the nation.

Statewide O'Brannon only got about 1,000 votes, while ALP endorsed write-in candidate Ed Hoch got about 400. The ALP needed 3% to maintain ballot status in the Governor's race, although there is some dispute as to whether a petitioning effort will be needed in 1988 since the Alaska Independence Party was simply put on the ballot this year.

The ALP's troubles began in August 1985 when well-known Libertarian Party legislator and gubernatorial candidate Dick Randolph switched from Libertarian to Republican. Businesswoman Mary O'Bran-

non was the leading LP gubernatorial candidate earlier this year for the ALP until her mysterious disappearance from the state in May in the wake of legal judgments against her.

In what appears to be a "tragedy of errors" the ALP had been told that O'Brannon had withdrawn, and instead nominated Ed Hoch at their convention. While O'Brannon had tried to withdraw, the LP could not locate her and the State Elections Commission claimed they were never notified of her withdrawal. In the September primary, O'Brannon beat out Hoch and then resurfaced in the state. Efforts to convince her to withdraw by ALP leaders went unheeded.

An unsuccessful lawsuit to remove her from the ballot by the ALP was followed by a State Executive Committee official endorsement of Ed Hoch's write-in effort. To make matters worse, State Chair Gene Hawridge was unexpectedly transferred outside of the state by his employer in mid-October.

In the final bizarre footnote of the whole O'Brannon saga, four days before the election she unexpectedly endorsed eventual winner Democrat Steve Cowper, saying that since she "didn't have a chance of winning", voters should support Cowper, who did. Some Alaska libertarians suspect that O'Brannon's sudden re-appearance and ultimate endorsement of a rival was engineered and paid for by the Democrats,

though evidence for this view appears to be circumstantial.

In the meantime, ex-Libertarian Dick Randolph went on to make radio and newspaper ads for the losing Republican candidate, after he pulled in third behind two other Republicans in the primary after spending \$450,000.

While the ALP engineered their own confused electoral debacle, Randolph managed to spend a lot of money for nothing and ultimately backed a losing party and candidate. According to newspaper accounts, Randolph hasn't "made any decisions about the future" but will remain in the GOP and try to gain confidence of party regulars.

Another former LP member, Daryl Walsh, who was a Councilman in Wasilla, also switched to the GOP and narrowly won the primary for a State House seat. He lost handily in the general election to a Democrat.

Despite their setbacks, the ALP leadership is not calling it quits. Former Representative Marrou notes that the party for the first time had two candidates for U.S. Congress (House and Senate) and for State House in Anchorage. The top LP candidate received about 2.5% of the vote and most legislative candidates received 4%-5% in three-way races.

Ed Hoch, who became Chair in October, expressed confidence in a recent press interview, "We're going to do fine. There are too many Libertarians in Alaska for us not to. I'm sure this is a low point in Libertarian history. But remember, from low you can only go up." ■

## Marrou Faults Turnout, TV in Loss

Homer, AK - Surprised and disappointed by his unexpected defeat by a former state police captain, Andre Marrou explained his 36% to 42% second place finish as the result of a nationwide Democratic sweep.

In a recent AL telephone interview, Marrou said, "my guess is that a low turnout helps the Democrats. From what I hear, we went from a 76% turnout in 1984 to about 50% this year."

"There are two reasons why low turnout helped the Democrats", Marrou said, "first, there is a small market for those who benefit from government and government programs, but those who want them are motivated to vote for them voraciously. And secondly, the negative campaigning this year just turned off the regular voters, the independents, who tend to vote more Libertarian. They didn't distinguish between candidates, they just didn't vote."

The turnout factor was particularly critical in Marrou's race, since over half of Alaska's registered voters are unaffiliated with any party, and the LP has only a small percentage of registered voters. If the independents, who tend to be younger and more marginal voters, don't bother to show up at the polls, it is virtually impossible for

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## Tough Elections for LP

*From page 1*

### California

California saw the only two LP victories thus far identified in the 1986 elections. Jerry Douglas beat out an appointed incumbent for the Topanga-Las Virgenes Resource Conservation District, in Western LA County. Douglas won a four-year term to a non-paying, non-partisan position which oversees a \$200,000 yearly budget for environmental, watershed, wildlife and education efforts by the District (similar to a Soil Conservation District). The District is funded by property taxes and state and federal grants.

In a recent AL interview, Douglas said he was a computer programmer interested in environmental and development issues and had recently begun attending meetings. He did no campaigning, spent no money, and the incumbent tried to persuade him not to run so an election could be avoided.

In a similar race, John Farr won office in the Palomar Mountain Resource Conservation District located in the northern part of San Diego County. Farr actually wasn't elected since he was the only candidate for the vacant seat on the District Board, and thus automatically won the office.

The California LP kept its ballot status due to Ray Cullen's 8.4% showing for State Treasurer, an office for which the GOP declined to run a candidate. In general, the LP came in third or fourth behind American Independent candidates (conservative) or the major party candidates. Norma Jean Almodovar, who received considerable publicity in her race for Lt. Governor, received 1.2%.

### Utah

The Utah LP did not obtain ballot status though this wasn't expected and ballot requirements are not difficult in Utah. Big Water LP Mayor Alexander Joseph came in third for a seat on the Kane County Commission with 13%. He did carry Big Water with over 60% of the vote, and LP U.S.

Senate Candidate Hugh Butler came in second in Big Water with 32%, beating out the Democrat.

### Texas

The Texas LP won 1988 ballot status by virtue of all three of its two-way statewide candidates receiving more than 5%. Comptroller candidate George Meeks won 10% in his race. Theresa Doyle's 42,346 (1.2%) gubernatorial effort more than doubled the previous 1982 Texas LP total. Other two-way candidates received 6-14% while three-way candidates ranged from 1-2%.

Former National LP Director Honey Sue Lanham received editorial page mention in the *Dallas Morning News* for "best political name" in the elections.

### Connecticut

Although his race received considerable good publicity, Tom Ross' State Treasurer race fell 3,000 votes short of the 1% needed for permanent ballot access.

### Massachusetts

Earlier reports of Francis McKay-Smith's unchallenged race for Essex County Charter Commission proved too optimistic. Due to incorrect information provided by the County Clerk, McKay-Smith did not make the ballot due to a technical foul-up.

### Vermont

Two candidates for statewide office (Peter Avery and Barbara Wicker) received over 5%, which enables the VLP to remain on the ballot. Jim Hedbor reports that plans for 1988 include finding candidates for all statewide offices.

### New Hampshire

LP member Antony Harp, who garnered 15% as LP candidate in 1984 for Representative to the General Court (State House), ran on both the Democratic and Republican tickets in 1986, but still fell short by less than 1%. A recount found him losing by 93 votes. Although he wasn't running as a Libertarian, Harp came closest this year to becoming an LP member to win major office.

In an AL interview, Harp said that he "should have campaigned earlier and harder" and that his supporters want him to run in a non-partisan race for Berlin Town Clerk. Citing the help the Democratic Party gave him in campaign materials, Harp urged the LP "to provide more information and material for our candidates." Among the issues he stressed was support for HR 2320, to liberalize federal ballot access restrictions.

### Initiatives and Referenda

Results on voter initiatives were mixed in 1986, though considering the dismal showing otherwise, any gains here appear pretty good.

In San Diego, the LP was the sole opposition to a ½¢ sales tax hike for new prisons, which failed to get the necessary 2/3's vote. Some Massachusetts LP members were in leadership positions in that state's successful mandatory seat belt law repeal, and

# DON'T BLAME ME~I VOTE LIBERTARIAN

*These bumperstickers are available at \$2.00 each from the Montana LP, Box 7272, Missoula, MT 59807.*

### District of Columbia

Libertarian candidates received about 1.4% in their races, but not enough to secure ballot status for 1988.

### South Carolina

Although they ran visible and energetic campaigns, top LP ticket holders received .6% in statewide races for Governor and U.S. Senate while other statewide office seekers received between 2-5%. All LP candidates outpolled their American and United Citizens third party opposition.

### LP Ballot Status

The LP lost ballot status in Alaska, Indiana, Hawaii, Utah and DC but maintained it in Nevada, South Carolina, Texas and Vermont. Texas was perhaps the most notable accomplishment, since the 1986 ballot effort required nearly 40,000 signatures and was by far the largest 1986 LP ballot effort to succeed. The Texas LP is now beginning to plan for 1988, marking the first time in its history that it will not have to petition to achieve a place on the ballot.

The LP's Ballot Access Committee has announced a goal of 24 states on the ballot by the Seattle Convention (September 1987), more than double the current number qualified.

state party leaders say that they will benefit from experience and names obtained during that effort. Some LP members also helped in a tax increase limitation measure which passed.

California voters approved the "Jarvis II" measure which requires voter approval of tax increases, while Montana voters defeated a property tax abolition measure but approved a limit on new taxes. Colorado voters defeated a tax limitation measure while Oregon voters defeated a new sales tax measure.

Voter defeated a LaRouchite sponsored AIDS quarantine measure in California but defeated a marijuana liberalization measure in Oregon. Voters in five states voted to approve state-run lotteries, once again illustrating the perverse fact of public support for victimless crimes provided they are state-run monopolies.

### Conclusion

Given the low turnout and absence of independent voters, libertarian candidates and issues fared about as well as expected — poorly. Libertarian political prospects can only improve with the expected heightened interest in the hotly contested 1988 presidential race. ■



# Libertarian Outlook

## No Quick Victory

For supporters of the Libertarian Party, recent general elections were a near total wipeout. Ranking LP officeholder Andre Marrou of the Alaska State House went down in a surprising defeat. Virtually no LP members gained significant offices.

For anyone but Libertarians, this dismal showing would be an all-too-unmistakable sign of a revealed lack of public demand for libertarian politics. Bags would be packed and libertarian politicians would silently disappear into the night. But Libertarians are not like other politicians, needless to say. If they were, they would have never created the Libertarian Party in the first place.

Despite very real disappointment and discouragement, most LP supporters will be back again next time.

Is it masochism? Stupidity? Suicidal political tendencies?

Some may say so. But more probably, it is the very real lack of significant alternatives which keeps the LP dream alive.

After all, despite pre-election noises about "libertarian Republicans", there were none of these mysterious critters elected last November either. Former LPer Dick Randolph spent nearly a half a million dollars and only came in third for the GOP gubernatorial nomination in Alaska.

And Ed Zschau was no more successful in unseating California Senator Alan Cranston. Despite millions spent and a fairly close race, "new libertarian" Zschau is now just another retired Congressman. And any libertarian coloration he once may have had quickly vanished during his election bid. "Libertarian Republicans" fared no better than their far purer, but far poorer, LP cousins.

There's always non-political activity as an alternative. Many non-political and

academic efforts have been successful at advancing the libertarian message. But this often requires considerable specialization, and relatively few libertarians can devote themselves to purely academic pursuits. And like it or not, all too often leaving organized Libertarian political activity means doing absolutely nothing for many LP dropouts. Giving up completely, no matter what the morally superior pretensions employed, is hardly the route to a more libertarian future.

Despite the election gloom, there are rays of hope in recent election results. Several important states, including California and Texas, managed to acquire or keep Libertarian Party ballot status. In less than 15 years of existence, the LP is now the unchallenged king of the "third Party" hill. The leverage potential of a viable third party in America's "two party system" remains very large.

And in a near laboratory perfect replication of a 1982 race, Texas LP gubernatorial candidate Theresa Doyle more than doubled the LP vote this year over 1982 totals. The exact same two major party candidates re-ran their \$20+ million gubernatorial campaigns and the challenger once again ousted the incumbent. But the LP vote doubled from .6% to 1.2% of the total. The 42,205 Libertarian votes this year compared to the 19,390 total in 1982 for the top race in Texas indicates an absolute doubling of LP support, despite the still relatively small total percentage. Someone out there, it would seem, is paying attention.

There has not been and will not be a libertarian Quick Victory. Public acceptance of libertarian ideas is slow and difficult. But considering the alternative, we'll settle for Slow Progress. ■

liberalism were no more fashionable in modern Washington or academia than they were in 1930s Vienna.

The first fruit of this decision — and the source of the famous Rothbard-Koch split — was Cato's hiring of monetarist David Henderson as its economist. Today, Cato is thoroughly monetarist, while Koch's Citizens for a Sound Economy (CSE), under ex-Austrian Richie Fink, identifies with statist conservatives like Bob Dole.

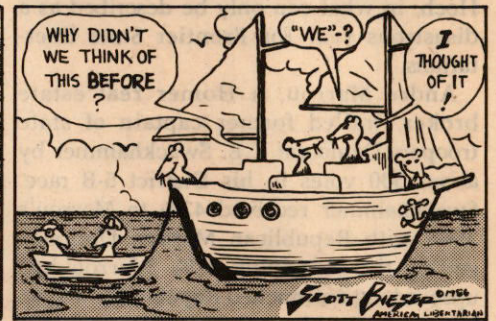
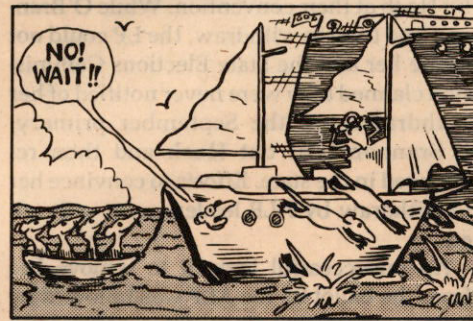
Koch was also active in the Libertarian Party for a time, first seeking to make it a slightly more libertarian version of the Democrats when they were fashionable, and then of the Republicans when they came to power. But then in conversion #4, he became a Reaganite when his employees lost control of the LP at the 1983 New York LP convention. (The Koch ticket for 1988: Dole-DuPont.)

Over the years, Koch has funded, and then de-funded, a host of organizations and publications, almost as a stamp hobbyist might collect Britains' postage, then Saudi Arabia's, then Togo's. (And he takes a hobbyist's interest in minutia. He and Fink spent hours on the design of CSE's letterhead.)

Despite his capriciousness in other areas, Koch has not yet lost interest in Austrian economics, and he employs a host of academics to de-Misesianize (and de-Rothbardianize) Austrian economics.

Koch, who inherited his money from his father Fred, is famously frugal with payments to personnel. Does such an effort

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## Feedback



### Letters Policy

Letters are accepted provided they carry the author's name and address. A phone number should be included for verification purposes only. Letters should be kept short and

are subject to editing. Send to: Feedback, American Libertarian, 21715 Park Brook Drive, Katy, TX 77450.

### Contempt for Objectivism

David Bergland's review of "Libertarianism: The Perversion of Liberty" (AL Oct. 86) fails to address the issue which it sets out to do. Supposedly a review of Peter Schwartz's article on the Libertarian Movement, Bergland instead reveals an apparent contempt for Objectivism.

Bergland writes "That the question of who is morally superior to whom among advocates of freedom is of little consequence." How are we to determine who is truly an "advocate of freedom"? To do so, we must examine the moral base of such a claim, which means to determine moral superiority. But this is exactly what Bergland wishes to avoid.

Moral superiority simply means that a given code of ethics is more attuned to man's nature. Are we to believe that the ethics of Marxism are irrelevant? After all, Marxists do proclaim to be advocates of freedom, no matter how perverse their image of freedom may be. If one accepts the ethics of a given system, logic demands that one accept that system's politics.

Bergland attempts to divorce politics from any wider philosophical system, but to do so is to subvert the very freedom which he professes to support. Bergland implies that there is no "One True Way", which means there is no correct philosophy. One must conclude that Bergland believes that philosophy is subjective, with one system no better than another, so long as it professes to support freedom. This leads to philosophical systems founded on contradictory premises attempting to reach the same goal. As Schwartz and history have proven, this is impossible.

J. Brian Phillips  
Houston, TX

### Humor Section

Every paper needs a humor section, and David Bergland's "review" of Peter Schwartz's pamphlet "Libertarianism: Perversion of Liberty" fit the bill perfectly. On the serious side, if Mr. Bergland or any other reader would really like to see a review of Bergland's *Libertarianism in One Lesson*, they need only send \$3 to Libertarian

Defense Caucus, Box 7761, Thousand Oaks, CA 91329 and ask for American Defense #28, #31, and #35. Those issues of the newsletter contain as long a review as anyone could ask for.

For an extra dollar we'll also send you #30, which contains a lively and spirited exchange of views on the subject between Mike Dunn (Editor and author of the review) and Mike Holmes himself. Happy reading!

Hank Phillips  
Austin, TX

## Editor's Note

Due to holiday scheduling considerations with our printer and a much-needed vacation for the editor, the January 1987 *American Libertarian* will be published about a week later than normal. Your patience is appreciated.

Mike Holmes  
Editor

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## Guest Column: Koch Vs. Mises

by Frank W. Taussig

"Frank W. Taussig" is the pen name of a long-time libertarian investment writer.

Charles Koch of Wichita, Kansas, is the kind of billionaire who pays PR people to keep him out of the papers. In the movement, we know him only because one of his hobbies is libertarianism.

Like Howard Hughes — a man he much resembles — the reclusive Koch may have tried to do good. But the result has been great harm, especially in Austrian economics.

Converted from John Birchism by the late Robert LeFevre, Koch was at first, like LeFevre, a quietist. Then Koch was converted again — this time by Murray N. Rothbard — to activist libertarianism.

Under Rothbard's guidance, Koch funded a libertarian think tank using Rothbard's suggested name. In economics, the new Cato Institute was to be Misesian. Like his teacher Ludwig von Mises, Rothbard considered the individualist, hard-money, free-market Austrian school to be a bulwark of liberty.

Then conversion #3 took place. Cato head Ed Crane convinced Koch that the path to influence was a mild, non-threatening gradualism. So Mises had to go. His unbending laissez-faire economics and classical



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# International Libertarian News

## Demonstrations, Socialist Party Meeting Hall And A Good Time Had By All Sweden Site of International Libertarian World Convention

by John-Henri Holmberg

*John-Henri Holmberg is a 37-year old Swedish libertarian who has worked in a variety of positions in journalism and publishing. He has chaired a number of political organizations, is a member of the Swedish Authors' Guild and Swedish Journalist Association and is on the editorial board of several magazines. He is also active in the field of science fiction, having chaired several Scandinavian science fiction conventions and the Scandinavian Science Fiction Society. He is also part owner, publisher and editor of Laissez faire production AB, which has published 125 titles. He recently published the first Swedish book on libertarianism *Befria Manniskan* (Liberate Man) and served as co-Chair of the recent Libertarian International Swedish convention.*

Handen, Sweden - The third Libertarian International World convention was held in the Stockholm suburb of Handen, on August 21st through 26th. A total of around 150 libertarians, 40 of them Swedes and the others from 15 other countries, met in the Handen "People's House" - a meeting hall complex owned and operated by the Socialist Party-affiliated Swedish People's House movement. This fact notwithstanding, the staff was both interested and active in promoting the well-being of the conventioners, and spoke with disdain of the two dozen Trotskyite demonstrators protesting the meeting outside.

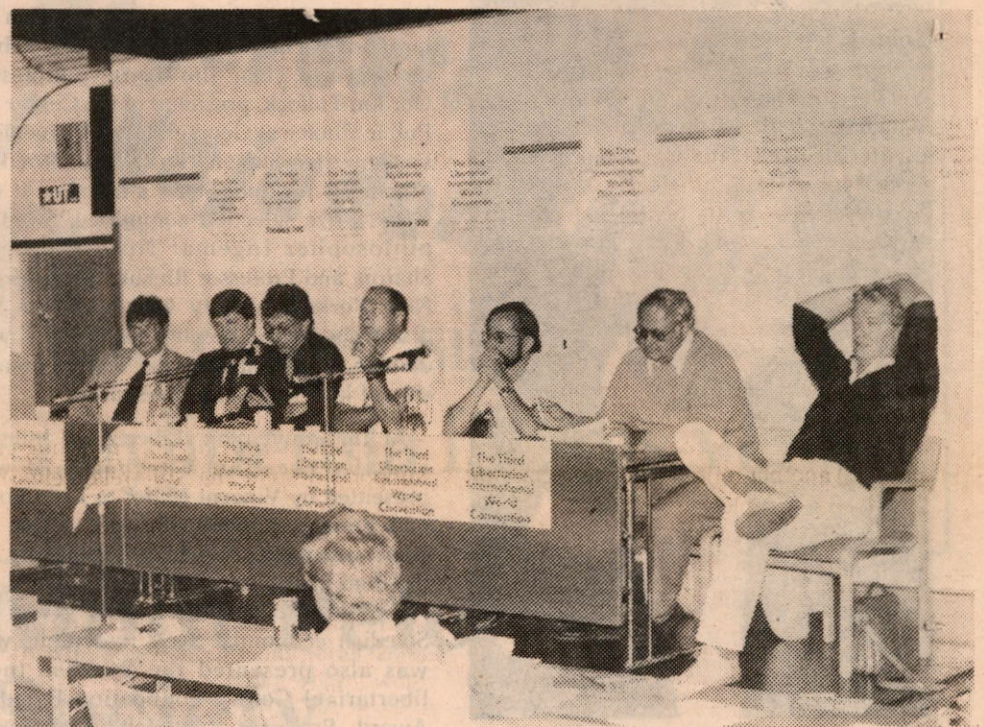
Leaflets handed out by the demonstrators stated that "Some of the world's worst right wing ideologues" were meeting in Handen and claimed that "among those hailing 'libertarianism' are Thatcher in England and Pinochet in Chile; at this 'world convention' are also participants from South Africa". The leaflet became very popular with conventioners, to the extent that the demonstrators stopped handing them out to libertarians, instead asking one dollar each for "souvenir" leaflets - prompting some of the convention attendees to applaud this further demonstration of market economy triumph.

Some highlights: The panel on South Africa, featuring Frances Kendall and Leon Louw from the Free Market Foundation in Johannesburg as well as Professor Walter A. Williams from George Mason University, proved one of the best attended and most interesting items on the program. The Louws earlier this year published a book called *South Africa: The Solution*, after three months still topping bestseller lists in South

Africa and so far selling over 30,000 copies. The book gives the background to today's explosive situation in South Africa and proposes a solution which basically calls for the repeal of all federal legislation, adoption of a new constitution guaranteeing individual rights throughout the country, and a new political system based on the Swiss Cantonal model with self-governing cantons imposed.

Discussion on the Louw proposal was intense, with many believing that a similar solution - where in fact citizens would be able to "vote with their feet" by moving to that canton offering the political and economic climate favored by the individual - could be feasible as well in countries less torn by internal strife than South Africa. Swedish media interest in the Louws was also considerable - partly due to the fact that they were the first South Africans admitted to the country in order to participate

Continued page 2



The panel on "International Perspectives on Libertarianism." L-R: Professor Ingemar Stahl, Sweden; LI Chair Vince Miller; Leon Louw, South Africa; John-Henri Holmberg; Henri Lepage, France; Leonard Liggio; Tibor Machan. (All LI Convention photos courtesy of Henrik Bejke.)

## ✂ PRESSURKLIPP Translated Quotes From The Swedish Media

Leaflet handed out by demonstrators outside the Convention hall; reads in full:

### **RIGHT-WING EXTREMISTS IN NAJADEN, HANDEN**

*Some of the world's worst rightist ideologues are congregating 21-27 August at Najaden [Hotel] in Handen for a "libertarian world convention". Among their ideas are:*

*—privatize all of the public sector, except for police and military*

*—ban and stop trade unions*

*Among those hailing "libertarianism" are for instance Thatcher in England and Pinochet in Chile.*

*At this "world convention" there are also participants from South Africa.*

### **JOIN THE PROTEST ACTIONS:**

*—Saturday August 23 at 11 AM*

*—Monday August 25 at 5-7 PM*

*Outside Najaden, at Handen commuter train station.*

### **SOUTH AFRICA: ACTIVE BOYCOTT NOW**

*—Currently in mid-August 100s are ar-*

*rested daily in South Africa. There is no time to "wait".*

*—You can't trust conservatives and big business in the boycott issue: all the time they've profited from apartheid.*

*—The labor movement must by action give its support. We demand a boycott now, enacted and controlled by the trade unions and the organizations of the labor movement.*

**Quotes from article entitled "The Undefendable Libertarianism" in *Sydsvenska Dagbladet*, the major daily of southern Sweden (114,000 circulation):**

*"The same is true for drug abuse. If you want to die from heroin abuse, you are allowed to die from heroin abuse. The state doesn't hold sway over your life.*

*Drug abuse also is worsened because it is banned. The ban leads to abuse being steered in the direction of heavier drugs; it is easier to smuggle 100 grams of heroin than 100 kilograms of hashish.*

*—Allow drug usage, and it stops at lighter drugs, said John-Henri Holmberg and proudly uncovered a T-shirt bearing the legend, 'Cocaine', giggled, and said that what he did actually was illegal, since it is not allowed in Sweden to advertise narcotics.*

*Well, well! Look how oppressed we Swedes are.*

*—Sell the children, exclaimed both Block and the Frenchman. Accept that there is a market also for children.*

*And the eyes of the audience shone, their cheeks reddened from excitement.*

*Now no thoughts were any longer shameful or disallowed.*

*—And blackmail is allowed, Block said. If I happen to hear a secret it is mine. I own it. Why then shouldn't I be allowed to make money from what I've heard.*

*Tibor Machan, USA, summarized the discussion and said that libertarians are realistic, as apart from politicians who are idealistic.*

*—We have understood the relations between human beings, Machan said."*

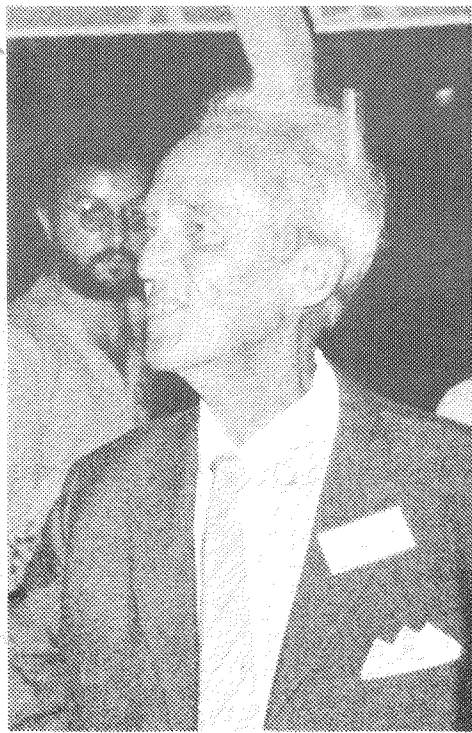


# World Convention

From page 1

in a conference during the last year and a half, Sweden having imposed severe restrictions on visa permits to South African citizens — and their book will be published in Sweden early next year.

Swedish Objectivist Per-Olof Samuelsson and Walter Block of the Frazer Institute in Canada proved to be another intense program item. Their debate on Ayn Rand and the Randian influence on libertarianism continued most of the evening, prompting heated remarks from many and some of the most violent emotional outbursts seen during the convention. With Rand's *Atlas Shrugged* being published in Sweden this September, Swedish libertarians as well as Americans are now torn between their affection for Rand as a conversion tool and their fear of being overrun by suddenly appearing legions of Rand drones.



Convention keynote speaker, professor Sven Rydenfelt, the grand old man of Swedish libertarianism.

The Swedish press, or at least those representatives primarily interested in attacking libertarians, proved particularly fond of Karl Hess and his anecdote of how he in 1944 was fired from his position as a writer on an American newspaper when asked to write a necrology on President Roosevelt and begging off, stating that he was too worn out from spending the night celebrating FDR's demise. Almost equally often quoted by the anti-libertarian commentators was the discussion on "Defending the Undefendable", largely dealing with Walter Block's book but also touching on how to present more controversial libertarian stands to non-libertarians. Here, journalists in particular took note of Walter Block's ideas on market mechanisms for selling unborn children.

Philosopher Tibor R. Machan spoke on "The Ethics of Privatization", particularly with reference to the 'gradualism' often debated among libertarians. His point was that "one cannot fight the good fight if one insists on living by arid rules, the implementation of which already presupposes that the revolution has been successfully won."

Leonard Liggio, President of the Institute for Humane Studies, in his talk on foreign policy pointed out that it is not just a coincidence that those two countries in Central America most radically anti-American and anti-capitalist, Cuba and Nicaragua, are also

the two countries in the region most continuously subjected to American intervention during the last 150 years. Professor Liggio's views were partly echoed by historian Ralph Raico, who also pointed out the historical ties between individual liberty, national independence and economic freedom.

Joan Kennedy Taylor from the Foundation for Economic Education spoke on the classical liberal roots of feminism and on the clash between libertarian feminism and its socialist counterpart. With respect to the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) Ms. Taylor pointed to the fact that here conservatives and socialists joined in an unholy alliance against the amendment, which if passed would have led to the repeal of innumerable laws and regulations currently treating women differently than men.

Other speakers at the convention included Henri Lepage, president of L'institut de l'entreprise in Paris, France; Libertarian International chairman Vince Miller; Libertarian Party chair Jim Turney; Professor Gordon Tullock, president of the Center for Public Choice at George Mason University; screenwriter Steven Gerakiteys; Swedish economist Ingemar Stahl, a member of the Nobel Prize selection committee; Swedish philosopher Ingemar Nordin; Dagny Sharon, and Professor Richard Stroup from New York University who spoke on the disastrous environmental effects of eminent domain, expropriation, and limited ownership of land and natural resources.

At the convention, Libertarian International's Freedom Torch award was presented by Vincent Miller to Leon Louw and Frances Kendall of South Africa for their unceasing work in promoting individual liberty for all Africans.

The keynote speech was given by Swedish economist Sven Rydenfelt, who was also presented the Swedish (non-libertarian) Contra Foundation Freedom Award. Professor Rydenfelt is famous in Sweden for his adherence to neo-classical economic theories and classical liberal political ideas since the early 1940s, positions which prevented him from ever reaching a full professorship at any of the Swedish state-owned universities but which suddenly in the 1980s, after his retirement, have made him well known as a forerunner of currently more fashionable ideas.

At the convention, plans for future libertarian activism in Scandinavia were also made by representatives from Sweden, Norway, and Denmark. An annual Scandinavian libertarian convention was launched. Its first meeting will be held in Copenhagen, Denmark, in March 1987, and a rotation schedule was set up which will then bring the convention to Norway in 1988 and to Sweden in 1989.

In Denmark, libertarians have now organized as the Libertas Foundation, which will sponsor seminars, import speakers from other countries, and issue a magazine. In Sweden, a similar function will be performed by the also recently formed Swedish Libertarian Foundation.

Libertarian ideas are not only radical in Scandinavia, but totally new: particularly Sweden and Norway never had more than very weak and short-lived influences from the classical liberal political tradition which swept most of Europe in the 18th and early 19th centuries. In Scandinavia, consequently, neither left nor right has at any time challenged the strong government, ideology or even the state monopolies on not only electronic communication, schools, health

**Befria människan**  
John-Henri Holmberg

**BOKEN OM DIN RÄTT TILL DIG SJÄLV —  
DEN VIKTIGASTE BOKEN I DITT LIV!**

*John-Henri Holmberg's book, translated as **Liberate Man**, was the first Swedish book to explain the libertarian movement. Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged* was also recently published in Sweden.*

care, universities and child disability care, but even on such productions as railroads, mass transit, telephones, air travel, many parts of culture and practically all land use which are common to these countries.

By Swedish libertarians in particular, the chance to meet foreign libertarians was experienced as shattering: for the first time, many of them met people who not only talked liberty but who emotionally and in practical daily life actions rejected even the importance of government and government restrictions. This insight — the idea of self-government and the emotional acceptance of self-sovereignty — was perhaps the most

lasting and revolutionary impression left by the convention on its Scandinavian attendees. While media-wise, for the first time in Sweden, libertarian ideas — and, in fact, the term 'libertarian' itself — received both mass media acknowledgment and recognition.

From being a totally unknown extremist sect in Sweden, the convention suddenly propelled Swedish libertarians into the role of heard-of and to some extent, identified extremist sect. Time will tell whether this will prove beneficial or make the libertarian cause in the least free country of the free world still more difficult to promote. ■

The panel on libertarian solutions to the South Africa situation. L-R: Frances Kendall, South Africa; convention co-Chair Mattias Bengtsson, Sweden; professor Walter Williams, USA; Leon Louw, South Africa.





# Politiker i flera länder tar till sig nyliberalism

STOCKHOLM (TT)

Politiker i skilda länder har de senaste åren börjat "kidnappa" de nyliberala idéerna. Men samtidigt förstörs de och leder bara till halvmesyryr och skenbar frigörelse från politisk styrning. Den situationen skisserade den franske journalisten

nomi av olika grader som tillämpas i västvärlden.

Lepage fann flera förklaringar till att de nya budskapen fick genomslagskraft. En viktig sak var att boken "Efter kapitalismen" kom i rätt tid. Även politikerna hade börjat upptäcka att det fanns problem med den växande politiska styrningen av ekonomin och andra samhällssekto-

former. "Nyliberalism" är det ord som helst används i tex Sverige. Det amerikanska uttrycket "libertarianism" verkar alltför apart och skrämmar bort många människor.

Och anark inte sakligt korre page. Våra idéer kerade regler — sen till anarkism. Dessut

AB PRESSURKLIPP 158  
speglar massmedia och opinioner

## Den lagom starka staten

FORTFARANDE är nyliberala tankegångar inte så vanliga. och därmed kanske skrämmande, för svenska öron — trots att debatten varit levande och kraftfull.

duella friheten är beroende av en stark statsmakt. Samtidigt står det klart att i flera länder, inte minst de med socialistiskt kten skil-

## Trångt bland liberalerna

Stället jobbar de med begrepp om libertarianism. Det förefaller vara något som måste tillämpas med visst ursinne, om det skall fungera. Ungefär som libertinism, fast utan och utan det roliga. Om de väl vilja definiera kapitalister. för

ett år sedan bars fram som en ledare full med obegränsad potential och framtid, nte hade det plötsligt blivit en ärrad och lite faderlig veteran.

Få partiledare har haft så mycket kameror på sig som Adelson. Men när han talade i går, stod alla fotograferna med ryggen åt honom och plåtade Bildt. Sådant är kanske livet.

## Nyliberaler mot apartheid

I ETT OMDISKUTERAT uttalande i november förra året gjorde Olof Palme en koppling mellan apartheid i Sydafrika och marknadskrafterna. Efter en beskrivning av rasåtskillnadssystemets funktionssätt framhöll den dåvarande statsministern:

"Det är en enkel metod, men det är samma metod egentligen som kommer i varje samhälle där man tillåter de starka att ta för sig och man överger de svaga, att ensamma kämpa med marknadskrafterna, det är den grundläggande solidaritetssiden."

Denna liknelse, som Olof Palme knappast har varit ensam att göra, är emellertid falsk. Apartheid arbetar inte alls i samma riktning som marknaden. Tvärt-



Frances Kendall



Leon Louw

## Högerextremister i Najaden Handen

Vad döljer sig i nyliberala fanans veck?

### PRESSURKLIPP Swedish Media Notes

Quotes from lead article in *Ystads Allehanda*, a smaller daily newspaper with 25,000 circulation:

"Libertarian ideas are still not common, and perhaps for that reason frightening, to Swedish ears — although the debate has been alive and strong since several years both in the US, in France, Austria and other countries.

This is shown for instance by the reactions to the recently held third libertarian world convention in Handen outside of Stockholm.

"What hides in the folds of the libertarian flag?" one of the major Stockholm dailies asks; the writer has listened to convention presentation where the speakers have argued that all state power is unnecessary, thus also such things as national defense, the draft and taxation.

It is a pity when a convention which could have offered an exciting intellectual adventure is put down and given a still more extremist profile in a newspaper report.

Certainly there are thoughts within different libertarian schools questioning most — sometimes all — state power. It is part of the game that such theories as well must be allowed to be put forth and tested in a stimulating debate. This not least considering that state power — even in its most mastodonical form — can hardly be at all questioned in Swedish discussion before someone starts talking about lack of moral responsibility for those most exposed in society."

From a humorous news column in *Kvallsporten*, a major south Sweden afternoon daily (circulation 103,000). Title: "Not much room among the liberals":

"In the daytime they listen to their guru Henri Lepage and in the evenings they watch old Gary Cooper movies. I'm sure they wrinkle their noses at the middling stuff served up as new liberalism by the Swedish Moderate Party.

I see that the genuine new liberals hardly even want to use the word liberalism any longer. It sounds a bit like kissing your own sister.

Instead they work with labels like libertarianism. Which seems to be something you have to apply with a certain fury, if it is to work. Sort of like libertinism, although the opposite and without the fun.

Actually they'd probably like to classify themselves as anarchist capitalists. But they sort of keep the anarchism under wraps in order not to be confused with old, hollow-eyed exiled Russians in floppy hats throwing bombs.

Anyway the message is clear as soup. State and politicians exert a horrible oppression against citizens. Among the genuine libertarian examples of government oppression is stuff like the draft."

News item from small, socialist daily *Dala-Demokraten* (circulation 31,000):

"The third libertarian world convention has been held in Stockholm. Yecch!"

## Mont Pelerin Society Buries Monetarism

by Gregory B. Christainsen

Gregory B. Christainsen is Senior Economist at the Pacific Institute and an Associate Professor of Economics at California State University -Hayward. This article originally appeared in the November *Free Market* (P.O. Box 367, Kentfield, CA 94914-0367, \$12/yr) and is reprinted with permission.

Saint Vincent, Italy - The Mont Pelerin Society (MPS), an international association of free market economists and political scientists, held its annual meeting in Saint Vincent, Italy from August 31 - Sept. 5.

At this meeting the most striking development was the burial of monetarism. Long associated with Milton Friedman, monetarism holds that, instead of relying on a gold standard or other nongovernmental possibilities, a stable monetary system can be maintained by requiring an agency such as the Federal Reserve to create money at a steady rate of, say, three percent a year.

But as one of Friedman's students, David Fand, argued at the conference, it is sheer fantasy to think that a real-world government agency could — or would — act in such a fashion; government agencies always want "flexibility" (i.e., more power). Fand pointed out that Friedman himself had given up on this view, and no one at the

MPS meetings spoke in favor of it. Friedman and the others had always been willing to do so in the past. People instead talked of private competing currencies, gold, or other commodity monies.

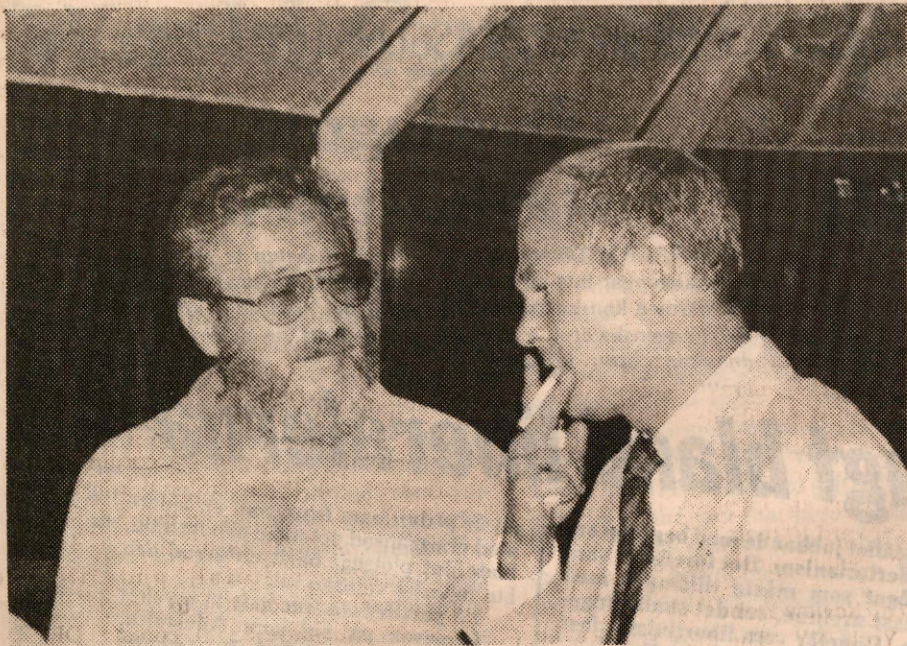
Three other developments at the MPS meeting were noteworthy. First, Frances Kendall and Leon Louw spoke on South Africa, and there is now talk of organizing a cross-country speaking tour for them in the United States.

Second, privatization has really become a worldwide phenomenon. Change is sometimes slow, but Madsen Pirie of the Adam Smith Institute in London gave an upbeat report on developments in Britain, and even the left-leaning governments of France and New Zealand are at least talking about major privatization efforts.

Last but not least, this writer can report that, compared to just five years ago, there has been a notable increase in the number of first-rate libertarian intellectuals in South America and Europe. Statists now hold most of the positions of influence, but they are now on the defensive.

In short, this conference brought to mind (as everything does) a quote from Hayek: "The intellectual revival of [libertarianism] is already under way in many parts of the world. Will it be in time?" ■





LP News editor Karl Hess (left) visits with convention co-Chair John-Henri Holmberg.

## **PRESSURKLIPP** Swedish Media Notes

From editorial page of Sweden's largest morning paper, *Dagens Nyheter* (circulation 385,000), entitled "What hides in the folds of the libertarian flag?" and written by staff editorial writer Johan Schuck:

"The audience agrees when [Karl] Hess tells them that he was once fired as an editorial writer after having said that he was unwilling to write a memorial article on Franklin Roosevelt; he was dead tired from having spent the entire night celebrating [Roosevelt's] death.

Tasteless jokes which are laughed at usually say much about mentality and attitudes. Among the conventioners listening to Hess there is a strong tendency to pursue ideas to their ultimate consequences, something similar to the total ruthlessness among leftists in the years around 1968.

It is a valuable but sometimes shocking experience to listen to this discussion among libertarians. More people should have listened, not least those who in various ways have helped economically to bring this event about. It is well known that the public opinion molders of big business wish to counteract socialism, but do they really wish instead to foster an anarchy where the market is the only rule of thumb?"

Lead article from moderate (conservative) *Norrkopings Tidningar*, a medium-sized daily (cir. 51,000), entitled "M's [the Moderates'] Ideological Ceiling":

"There is no doubt that these libertarians have the right to think whatever they like about anything. What is more notable is that in their ranks of enthusiasts are also young moderate members. Some leading libertarians have previously been strongly involved in the moderate movement. Even if a major party like the moderates must have a high ceiling and even welcome ideological debate, there is no room in the party for the views proclaimed by the libertarians.

The connections unfortunately existing between the moderates and the 'libertarians' are very harmful to the party. The libertarian ideas at the convention have no response in the Swedish people and hopefully this will remain so. Consequently the Moderate Party should carefully consider how much room the party is to allow below its ideological ceiling."

Excerpt from 5-minute news slot on "Rapport", the Swedish Channel 2 TV network evening news, aired August 22. Estimated audience, 2.5 million

"Reporter: To libertarians, liberty in the future is liberty without government direction, without violence, and the guarantee is a free capitalism throughout the world. Capitalism became a positively loaded word in the debate through Frenchman Henri Lepage. His book, *Tomorrow Capitalism*, appeared nine years ago and has put its stamp on the debate on libertarianism, particularly here in Sweden. But he is still not satisfied, although continuously more people have adopted his ideas."

First of two essays by staff writer Lennart Berntson in major south Swedish daily *Sydsvenska Dagbladet*, entitled "Free, Freer, Freest" and published September 2nd. Circulation: 114,000:

"The libertarians are the most uncompromising and missionary of the adherents of the new liberalism. Some of them want totally to abolish the state, others can accept a minimal state in accordance with Robert Nozick. In practically all taxation they see theft of private property; they on principle reject bans and rules such as economic legislation, the draft, passports, regulated immigration.

The libertarians can best be described as freedom extremists, heirs to classical liberalism in its most radical and romantic form. With other new liberals they share, however, an unlimited belief in the sense, understanding, and strength of individuals, as well as a rights doctrine inspired by Locke which grants individuals a practically absolute right to decide over his own life and his property.

More generally the kind of thinking I have here called 'modern' viewed the public sphere as an expression of a higher, more conscious and organized form of human life — this of course not without foundation.

The new liberalism radically departs from this paradigm. Directly and fearlessly it turns the current view of society inside out. The foundation in the new liberal view is the distinction between force and freedom, between submission and independence. Only he can be free who is his own master, who individually and sovereignly decides about his own circumstances and the results of his labor, who without outside interference, but also without harming others, can enter free and mutually beneficial contracts. Real

freedom thus can only exist in a depoliticized and self-ruling society. Oppression and force, on the other hand, arise from and through politics. . .

The intellectual influence of the new liberalism in recent years thus is undeniable, and in my opinion still growing."

From a signed article, "Libertarians against apartheid", on the editorial page of *Svenska Dagbladet*, Stockholm, a major daily (circulation 225,000).

"Consequently nobody should be surprised when the whole of the apartheid system is mercilessly criticized by South African libertarians. In the recent, and in South Africa hotly debated, book *South Africa — The Solution*, Leon Louw and Francis Kendall frontally attack the 'socialism which has brandished the chains imprisoning the blacks of South Africa'.

It should only be added that Leon Louw arrives presently in Sweden to take part in the libertarian world convention in Handen. After hard work and great exertions he and the arrangers managed to convince the visa authorities in our country that a white libertarian from South Africa is not a lover of apartheid. For it is not much easier these days for South Africans to enter Sweden than it is for blacks to take seats in the parliament of South Africa.

Here, though, libertarians won one victory — even if they won it in the wrong country."

# LI Sets Regional Conventions

Richmond, VA - The worldwide umbrella group of the libertarian movement, Libertarian International, has announced tentative plans for 1987 and 1988 regional libertarian conventions.

The 1987 Regional European Libertarian Convention is scheduled for July 19-26 in Greece. A report in LI's bi-monthly publication *Free World Chronicle* stated that a resort site overlooking the Temple of Poseidon would be the location, but updated word from LI sources indicate that the original hotel complex selected has been sold and a new location is being sought. The theme of the convention will be "The Ethics of Liberty." The event is expected to boost the small Greek libertarian movement, as well as serve as forum for European libertarians.

There are also tentative plans for a 1988 Pacific regional convention to be held in Australia, but this is still in the preliminary stages of organization.

For more information about these conventions or other international libertarian developments, contact: **Libertarian International**, 9308 Farmington Dr., Richmond, VA 23229. (804) 740-6932. ■



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## Media Watch



### Norma Jean Continues...

Hollywood, CA - The LP's "prostitute turned politician" Norma Jean Almodovar has not retired from the limelight, despite her defeat in her recent bid for California Lt. Governor.

She was invited to appear on *The Joan Rivers Show* on November 13, where Rivers said she cast at least one LP vote for Norma Jean. Although a lot of laughs were planned around the obvious sex-and-titilation angle, Norma Jean more or less stole the show when she appeared in the final segment of the show. In fact, she made such an impression that she was offered a regular guest contract for the show the following day by the show's producers. Some speculate that she may become a regular fixture on the show eventually, in part to provide a verbal scratching post for River's sharp tongue.

Norma Jean was also featured in the January 1987 issue of *Chic* (a rather raunchy men's magazine) in a two-page interview. The January 1987 *Playboy* is also touting an upcoming feature on notorious Norma Jean, and she has also been asked to do a review for *Penthouse* of radical feminist Andrea Dworkin's new anti-pornography book.

### Emerling Emerges

Las Vegas, NV - Former libertarian wunderkind Michael Emerling has emerged from a three-year hiatus in Las Vegas selling cars and writing speeches to market a new three-hour tape course on "The Essence of Political Persuasion".

Emerling was an Arizona-based LP activist who conducted workshops on the art of political persuasion from 1976 thru 1982. He more or less dropped out of sight but recently re-activated his salesmanship pitch in October in Toronto, Canada, where he tried out a new version of his workshop.

Emerling authored a number of well-received articles on improving libertarian communication and is perhaps best remembered for defining the "great libertarian macho flash."

More info on his tapes and workshops can be obtained by writing: **Michael Emerling, Box 28368, Las Vegas, NV 89126.**

### As the Osmonds Turn

Big Water, UT - It might be expected that the Big Water Alex Joseph clan might know something about weddings. But the *Big Water Times* (7 out of 8 staffers sport the surname "Joseph") had this to say about Marie Osmond's recent nuptials:

*Marie, Marie, Marie. Just a few years ago, she was every proper Utah little girl's role model. But her second temple wedding in four years last week stretched the role a little far...*

*The (Osmond) family vigorously denied the sale (of exclusive rights to cover her wedding) while admitting the *Enquirer's* exclusivity for the reason of its "superior journalism."*

*Making a few bucks we can understand, but claiming the *National Enquirer* is "superior journalism"?*

*Marie, Marie, Marie.*

### Good Press

St. Johnsbury, VT - *Caledonian-Record* subscribers (circ. 9,500) read a strongly pro-libertarian editorial in late October endorsing the position of Vermont LP Lt. Governor candidate John Simons.

Commenting on the televised candidate debates, the editorial termed Simon's "apparently novel idea that education be paid for by the parents whose children use the school facilities" a "sensible idea", which unfortunately "hasn't a prayer of being ac-

cepted in the Green Mountain State."

This favorable editorial resembles others previously published in this paper. The *Caledonian-Record* probably has the most pro-libertarian editorial stance of any daily paper in the nation. Hear! Hear!

### Just Say 'No' to Drug Hype

Washington, DC - The slick weekly newsmagazine *Insight*, published by (the Rev. Sun Young Moon-owned, it is said) *Washington Times*, has printed some fairly good coverage of libertarian activities and personalities recently.

And its perceptive article in late October on "Drugs, The Abrupt Rise (and Demise) of the Latest Media Hype" approached the subject of the hysterical "war on drugs" mentality with a refreshing honesty. The article accurately pinpointed the media hoopla which has been fanning the flames of government "crackdowns" on individual rights, among other things.

The article series went on to note that this simplistic hype often makes more realistic approaches to the problems caused by drug usage, solutions such as education and personal responsibility, more difficult to sell in the face of government-inspired crisis mongering.

### "Taxation is Theft" Book Gets Wide Publicity

San Francisco, CA - The forthcoming publication of a Pacific Institute for Public Policy Research book entitled **Taxation and the Deficit Economy** received widespread attention when it was made the subject of a nationwide UPI story by **Richard M. Harnett** in September.

The book, which contains a number of essays on the subject of taxation, concludes with a chapter by libertarian philosopher **Eric Mack** of Tulane University in which Mack concludes that "all existing and prospective tax schemes... have the same moral status as banditry."

Newly appointed Pacific Institute President **William H. Mellor III** is quoted as saying, "That is an obviously radical concept, but it is one that is made radical not by the fact that it is wrong, but because people have come to accept as normal something which deserves fundamental questioning."

### "Interstate 20 Inc. Up Three Points in Heavy Trading..."

New York, NY - **Jonathan Marshall**, the libertarian editorial page editor of the *Oakland Tribune*, was featured in a lead essay in the Sept. 15 *Wall St. Journal* on the subject of "How to Break Up Traffic Jams."

Marshall's essay discusses the technological feasibility for traffic usage pricing, which has already been employed in a number of places. Once the pricing mechanisms are in place, libertarians can look forward to their favorite privatization scheme, selling off the roads.

### Critical Review Debut

New York, NY - The folks at Laissez-Faire Books/Libertarian Review Foundation are doing it again, this time with a quarterly journal called *Critical Review*, which will focus on 10-15 book reviews per issue. The 96-page publication will also feature articles and letters and boasts an impressive array of contributing editors, including **Henri LePage, Thomas Szasz, Earl Ravenal** and **Antony Flew**. Charter subs are \$15 per year from: *Laissez-Faire Books, 532 Broadway, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10012.*

### Cheek to Chic

New York, NY - Libertarian draft registration resister **Paul Jacob** proved you don't have to be centerfold material to make the pages of *Chic* magazine, which definitely isn't on Attorney General **Edwin Meese's** approved reading list.

The October issue featured a four page interview with Jacob by libertarian free-lance writer **James Harris** of Georgia, and also

has a full page shot of Jacob burning his draft registration papers. Titled the "All-American Draft Resister", the interview focuses on Jacob's libertarian reasons for opposing the draft and his experience of being prosecuted and jailed for failing to register.

### New Decentralist Publication

Los Angeles, CA - A quarterly reader-participation newsletter edited by libertarian writer **Carol Moore** made its debut in July. **DECENTRALIZE! -Non-Violent Radical Decentralist Strategy** "will explore philosophy and consciousness, community autonomy and alternatives, and non-violent political, constructive, direct action and successionist strategies," according to their press release. The publication "will also provide a forum for networking among radical decentralists of diverse political, economic, cultural, and lifestyle preferences," according to Moore.

Four issues are \$3.00, contact: **DECENTRALIZE!, Box 106, 632 Cloverdale, Los Angeles, CA 90036. (213) 931-9239.** ■

## Koch Vs. Mises

From page 4

require vast expenditures? In the mid-1970s, the entire police force of a small town in New Jersey was discovered to be on the payroll of a Mafia don. The chief got \$500 a month and beat cops got \$50. The moral: some people come cheap, and Koch professors are to cops as K-Mart is to Cartier's.

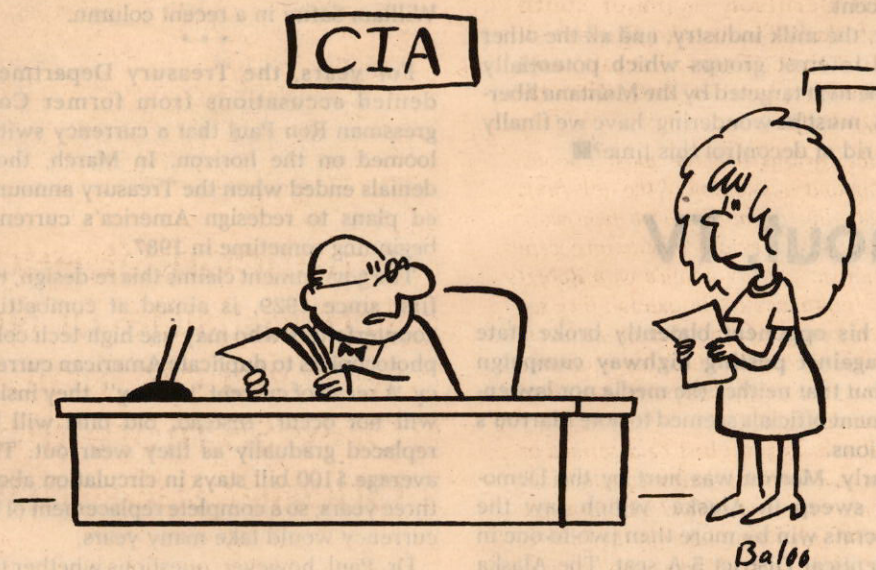
In their descent, Koch's academics first adopted Hayekianism. Not the early Hayek, whose Misesian advances in business-cycle theory would win him the Nobel Prize, but today's Republican Hayek, beloved of the Heritage Foundation.

The next step — a long one down from Hayek at his most moderate — was Ludwig Lachmann's Austro-nihilism. Now, in the depths, Koch's Austrians endorsed the left-nihilism of former-Nazi Martin Heidegger under the name of Hermeneutics.

Don Lavoie, Jack High, and the other Austro-Hermeneuticists deny the existence of economic law (and of objective truth in general), and see dialog and consensus-seeking with Marxists and Keynesians as the highest form of scholarship.

Despite the Koch vendetta against Mises and Rothbard, there has been a renaissance of interest in their economics. Their reconstruction of the whole of economic science, their unwavering adherence to the truth, their steadfast refusal to compromise for career or popularity, have acted not as a stumbling block, but as a shining beacon.

And that should be no surprise. The power of truth is the strength of libertarianism, and of real Austrian economics. If the State cannot crush it, then neither can a fickle billionaire. ■



"Refresh my memory, Miss Alpert — Is this information or misinformation?"

## Keeping Up with the Joneses?

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the Rothbards, the Berglands, The Cranes,  
the Randolphs, the Jacobs, the Givots, the Dodges  
the Nolans, the Konkins, the Hesses, the Marrous, the Lewises...?**

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# Milk Price De-Control Fails

by Clifford F. Thies

*Clifford F. Thies is Assistant Professor of Economics and Finance at the University of Baltimore and Treasurer of the Maryland Libertarian Party. He was formerly Chair of the Montana Libertarian Party, and was among those who worked for milk price decontrol in 1984.*

Bozeman, MT - Montana's ballot initiative to decontrol milk prices was defeated by a vote of 51 to 49 percent. The initiative won big in the urban areas, and in the western, mountainous portion of the state, and actually led in the early tabulations. But, as the votes from the eastern, agrarian portion of the state were tallied the early lead was reduced and reduced, and eventually completely erased.

Don Doig, Steve MacGregor and other would-be decontrollers were gathered at the Bozeman Holiday Inn on election night along with Gallatin County dairymen — members of the DariGold cooperative which backed the effort. Milk and pie were laid out by the farm families for themselves and their libertarian allies to enjoy as the results came in.

For some, this was the second time they were involved in a milk price decontrol effort. Two years ago, with only \$3,000, Montana libertarians put a decontrol initiative on the ballot, collecting some 24,000 signatures in a completely volunteer effort. Their effort, however, was wiped out by a media blitz which saturated the airwaves for six weeks, misinforming voters that decontrol would devastate the state's milk industry. That initiative lost badly, 61 to 39 percent.

This year, the libertarians worked much more carefully to fashion an initiative which would be passable. From the start they worked with an element of the milk industry which would benefit from decontrol — the dairymen of the DariGold cooperative who market 25 percent of the state's milk. (Later, some independent dairymen also came on board.)

This backing made the decontrol effort credible, and enabled the decontrol committee to raise \$130,000, much of it from dairymen themselves, so as to somewhat match the eventual media blitz of the opposition (which spent \$174,000).

Also, the libertarians approached consumer and low-income groups to seek their support, and obtained from Mont PIRG, a Naderite organization, a study of milk prices in Montana's neighboring non-control states, proving that controls raise the price of milk to consumers. The initiative was endorsed by all the major newspapers of the state, whereas in 1984 the papers split down the middle.

During the couple of weeks just before the election, the opposition waged a negative campaign of misinformation and outright lies. For example, they said that South Carolina decontrolled last year with devastating results. In fact, South Carolina decontrolled in 1975, with positive results for both the dairy industry and for consumers.

In addition, they were caught filing false information with the state commission on elections. Given how close the vote turned out, this negative campaign may have been decisive.

On the day after the election, Don Doig indicated milk decontrol might be introduced in the state legislature when it convenes in January, and another ballot initiative might be attempted in 1988. Understandably, he was still very disappointed by how things turned out.

Four years ago, the milk industry dismissed the reference by a state representative to the possibility of the libertarians putting decontrol on the ballot if the legislature failed to pass decontrol on its own. Two years ago, the same milk industry thought it had killed decontrol forever by defeating it 61 to 39 percent.

Now, the milk industry, and all the other special interest groups which potentially could be next targeted by the Montana libertarians, must be wondering: have we finally gotten rid of decontrol this time? ■

## Marrou Faults Turnout, TV

From page 3

an LP candidate to do well.

Also a factor in Marrou's race was C.E. Swackhammer's last minute barrage of negative TV commercials. Unlike 1984, when Marrou dominated the TV battle, Swackhammer counter-attacked with two very negative commercials. Both featured Marrou's picture, and to the left (as a voice read the copy) were the legends taken from the LP Platform: "the Libertarian Party opposes public education" and "the Libertarian Party wants to legalize drugs." The tag was that ex-trooper Swackhammer supported marijuana re-criminalization (possession of small amounts is legal in Alaska) and, in the other spot, that he supported public schools.

As well as television, Marrou did not have the funding advantage he had in 1984, when he outspent the incumbent by over two-to-one. This time, he raised \$32,000 (about \$11,000 more than 1984) but his Democratic opponent spent \$29,000, Marrou estimates.

"The Democrats came after me hammer and tong," Marrou explains, "and they came down heavy against me." He says they brought in consultants, campaign workers and media advisors, and notes that "it's impossible for a single LP candidate to defeat a major party machine." He also

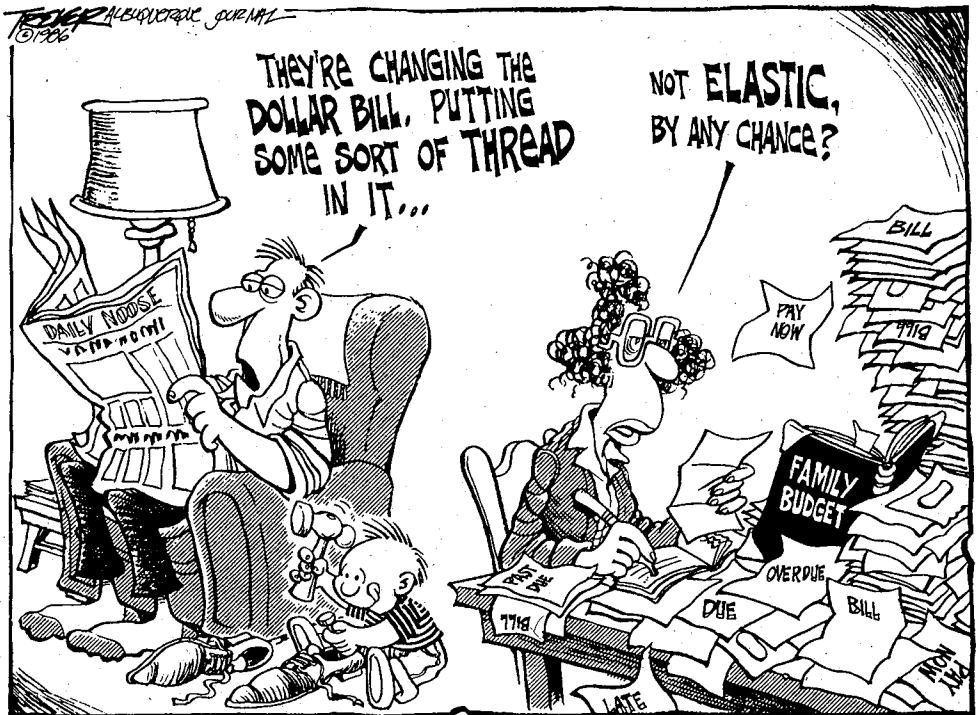
notes his opponent blatantly broke state laws against posting highway campaign signs but that neither the media nor law enforcement officials seemed to note Marrou's objections.

Clearly, Marrou was hurt by the Democratic sweep in Alaska, which saw the Democrats win by more than two-to-one in the identical District 5-A seat. The Alaska State House shifted from 21 to 24 Democrats, with two incumbent Republicans losing out, including one three-term incumbent. Democrats swept the statewide races as well.

Marrou admits he was surprised by his defeat, although he says he would not have done anything differently in his campaign. "I would still stick with my positive campaign," he says.

Asked about his plans, Marrou says he's discussed several things with prominent Libertarians, including the national LP Director's position (which he turned down) and the possibility of running for office in the "lower 48."

"Many people have asked me to stay in politics here," he concluded, "and there are local races next year and legislative races again in 1988. One thing is for sure, I have no interest in joining another political party." ■



## New Money Threatens Privacy

by J. Brian Phillips

*J. Brian Phillips is a Houston-based free lance writer.*

*"Do you want to snatch huge profits out of the hands of the big-time drug dealers — without putting honest Americans through the indignity and loss of personal liberty inherent in drug testing?"*

*There is a quick, dramatic and effective fix available. Have the Congress pass a currency-recall act. . . ."*

*New York Times syndicated columnist William Safire in a recent column.*

\*\*\*

For years, the Treasury Department denied accusations from former Congressman Ron Paul that a currency switch loomed on the horizon. In March, those denials ended when the Treasury announced plans to redesign America's currency beginning sometime in 1987.

The government claims this re-design, the first since 1929, is aimed at combatting counterfeiters who may use high-tech color photocopiers to duplicate American currency. A recall of current "money", they insist, will not occur. Instead, old bills will be replaced gradually as they wear out. The average \$100 bill stays in circulation about three years, so a complete replacement of all currency would take many years.

Dr. Paul, however, questions whether the government is being totally honest. But, he says, "even if they are honest with us, and only want to stop counterfeiting, they still have to get rid of the old money in order to keep counterfeiters from counterfeiting the old money."

Last year, a Federal Reserve study found that only 15% of all U.S. currency in circulation could be accounted for. The remainder circulates overseas and in the underground economy. This, Dr. Paul believes, is the real reason for the currency change. He says, "Governments over the centuries have attempted to root out the underground economy, and it never works." The currency change, the government hopes, will expose the underground economy, and subject it to government control and taxation.

The new currency will contain a polyester thread, encoded with optically readable information which cannot be reproduced by photocopiers. This thread will allow the

money to be electronically traceable. This, Treasury Secretary James Baker admits, may eventually be used to track down drug money. However, that which can be used against the drug dealing scapegoats can also be used against other citizens. Even more foreboding, electronically traceable money virtually eliminates financial privacy.

But Paul does not limit his concern to how Americans react to the switch. He's more concerned with what foreign holders of American dollars do, because "they may react by dumping these dollars and buying other currencies." He estimates up to \$150 billion may be held outside of banks in foreign nations. Coupled with the drop in the dollar's value in the past eighteen months, such a flight from dollars could have a devastating affect.

The government has downplayed the change. A call to the Secret Service, which is responsible for the currency switch, brought insistence that the changes would be minor and were only intended for improving security. Paul believes that because the 3% of the American public who are informed of the change "let the government know they were concerned about it, they've backed off on the radical change that they had planned."

Regardless what changes are made and how they are implemented, the years of denials have proven that extreme caution should be exercised in personal financial affairs. In a *USA Today* article, Paul wrote that "if monetary policy can be changed, it **will** be changed, and anyone on the wrong side of an investment when it happens will be ruined (Paul's Law)" (July 1984, p. 19). Dr. Paul recommends holding gold and silver and reducing debt to protect oneself from the ever snooping eyes of the government, because "the bureaucrats are such blundering types of people that they themselves probably don't know" what they are going to do next. ■



*Texas LP members designed this graphic for buttons to celebrate their ballot status. Since their three statewide candidates all received over 5% of the vote, the Texas Libertarian Party will avoid a \$40,000 ballot drive in 1988, the first time the LP has so qualified in Texas.*



# OMI Loses, LPO Wins?

by Jo McIntyre

Jo McIntyre edits the *Oregon Libertarian*.

Portland, OR - Political wind-sniffers who thought they detected a shift to the right got mixed signals instead in Oregon on Nov. 4, as voters there once again showed what an independent lot they are.

Nowhere did that independence show up more clearly than in the 16 measures that were on the statewide ballot. Proposals spread across the political spectrum from pro-freedom or tax-reducing measures to calls for higher taxes and more state regulation. Voters approved and rejected measures on both sides of the freedom ledger.

Libertarians had a political and financial stake in two of the measures: one would have eliminated state regulation of marijuana growing for personal use and lost by a three to one landslide. The other would have put a strict limit on property taxes and lost by about 55 percent to 45 percent. The only active support for both measures, aside from the groups that put them on the ballot, came from Libertarians.

The leadership of the Oregon Marijuana Initiative (OMI), as the group favoring that measure called itself, included two long-time LP members from the Portland area, Tristan Reisfar and Fred Oerther. Oerther, an M.D., did much of the writing for the OMI newsletter and appeared as a spokesman for the measure throughout the state. Reisfar coordinated state and county fair booth spots all summer and autumn.

Other contacts between Libertarian and OMI leaders and members occurred in February, when several people from both groups shared a deluxe hotel suite while attending a meeting of moderate Republicans on the Oregon coast. Sharing the suite meant that perennially cash-short Libertarians could sleep in the lap of luxury during the three-day conference, politic during the day and hold open house in the suite's impressive living room in the evening.

During the LPO state convention in April, Reisfar made sure the OMI was represented at a large table displaying the group's sophisticated literature, and Oerther debated an empty chair representing the measure's opposition. In June, when OMI hosted the national NORML (National Organization for Reform of Marijuana Laws) convention, Libertarians had a table there. Those who staffed the table had the added bonus of getting to meet national LP Chair Jim Turney, who was videotaping the convention.

Libertarians put arguments in favor of both the marijuana initiative and property tax limitation in the state Voter's Pamphlet. An argument costs \$300 or 1,000 signatures on a petition. The LPO paid \$300 for each argument, raised by Ed Marihart of Portland in a special fund-raising effort. Except for the argument, the only support Libertarians gave the property tax limitation was informal, one-on-one discussions with neighbors, for example.

Was it all worthwhile? Did the LP gain by participating in these campaigns? Well, as the store owner who didn't know how much advertising he should buy said, "I know half of the advertising I do doesn't do me any good. The problem is, I don't know which half." We can measure the impact, even though imperfectly, by counting new members, contributions and inquiries.

Some 1.5 million Oregon voters have had a chance to read official Libertarian Party

pro-freedom, anti-statist positions at a cost to the LPO of \$600. The party has received more calls and comments from the property tax limitation argument than from all the OMI activity, according to Laura Belles of Aloha, who handles the LPO telephone-answering machine. Reisfar and Oerther have gotten political experience that could prove to be very valuable if they are able to pass it on in the form of lessons for other Libertarians. ■

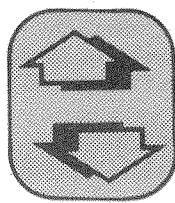


White House speechwriter and former libertarian activist Dana Rohrabacher (standing) debated 1984 LP Presidential candidate David Bergland on national defense at the November Future of Freedom Conference in Los Angeles. A report on the conference and an exclusive interview with Rohrabacher will appear in an upcoming *American Libertarian*.

## In Review

by Jorge Amador

Jorge Amador is a freelance writer and editor of *The Pragmatist*.



**Leonard Peikoff's Traveling Lecture and Objectivist Revival Show, Performance at**

University of Pennsylvania Annenberg School, reviewed Oct. 8, 1986. Rating: ★★ (Scale: ★ Poor ★★ Fair ★★★ Good ★★★★ Excellent)

Some 175 of the curious and the converted were streaming in to the auditorium to hear the hereditary patriarch of Objectivism, Dr. Leonard Peikoff, expound on the somber question, "Can Capitalism Survive?" A brochure for the Ayn Rand Institute set the tone for what I was about to hear.

"We live in a world marked by brazen assaults on science and technology, by the proliferation of religious cults demanding obedience, by Communist expansion abroad and ominously growing government at home," said the flyer. "Objectivism is opposed both to flyveratism and to Libertarianism. Objectivism stands for reason, not religion and tradition. . . and for a philosophical defense of capitalism, not anarchism or nihilism."

The audience was about equally divided between professionals and Penn students. About a fifth were libertarians. A few undoubtedly showed up primarily to see Ed Snider, owner of the popular Philadelphia Flyers hockey team, who was slated to introduce Peikoff. Snider's local pay-television service, PRISM, was there too, to capture every one of his and Peikoff's words.

The star himself was 15 minutes late. An attendant asked those assembled to sit to the left side of the hall. It would look like a full house on camera.

Then Snider began. He ascribed to Peikoff numerous past professorial affiliations, but

though I listened intently I didn't catch where or what Peikoff is now teaching, if anywhere or anything.

Peikoff took the stage, and immediately he was somewhat of a disappointment. He did not look at all like the stern, fire-breathing autocrat my mind had associated with someone notorious for ordering libertarians out of the room. For the benefit of those who have never seen him, Leonard Peikoff is clean-shaven, about 5'8" tall and of medium build. He wears black horn-rimmed glasses and sports a full head of dark brown hair, projecting a much more youthful look than his half-century of existence might indicate. Not a monster by any means.

Skipping opening chatter, Peikoff plunged directly into his topic. A thick, high-pitched monotone delivery cast a soporific spell on his audience, particularly in the beginning when he set forth the theoretical foundations of Objectivist doctrine. The student to my right appropriated our mutual arm rest and dozed off. Other eyes wandered or stared down as the Vicar of Ayn explained the world.

He proposed three "abstract fundamentals": what people think is good, real, and true. Capitalism, he says, depends on people believing that good is selfishness, that reality is this world, and that reason is the standard of truth. The basic dynamic is an apocalyptic moral struggle between Good and Evil, selfishness and altruism. His outlook? "Our fundamental analysis does not look hopeful."

"In the graph of capitalism," Peikoff says, "the high point was the Founding Fathers" — those "inalienable rights" folks who crushed the Whiskey Rebellion, tolerated black slavery and gave us the Bank of the United States, the embargo on England, and subsidies to build canals.

The graph showed "little change" over the next century. A big drop during the Progressive Era was engendered by the "massive importation of German philosophy," and it's been all downhill ever since.

If we extrapolate the trend, "there is no hope." Ronald Reagan has "caved in" to the Soviets. The Republican Party is dominated by Christians, who preach the self-sacrifice that props up the welfare state.

Peikoff might, too, have mentioned the steady progress the market order has made recently in China, the Soviet bloc and all over the Third World. But a few slight omissions were necessary for the sake of entertainment, lest the graph show ups and downs, his gloomy prognosis be ruined and

the sense of high drama lost.

The only chance depends on "the intellectuals," continued the prophet with a sense of urgency. "That chance depends on today's universities" which, however, are "totally under the sway" of anti-capitalists. A colossal educational effort, a revival "leading to a philosophical revolution," is the key.

If capitalists don't succeed, Peikoff foresees "continued demoralization and impending collapse, ending in dictatorship." "There is no pre-determined doom," but he finds little room for optimism. The pithy conclusion: "Where there's life there's hope — at least I hope there is."

The sermon was not all hell and damnation. Peikoff cracked a couple of jokes and except for the abstract opening, explained himself in refreshing lay terms we are not used to getting from academics.

He was at his polemical best during the ensuing question-and-answer session. To the inevitable query about libertarians he replied, "It's hard to say which we oppose more — libertarianism or religious conservatism." Libertarians have a "completely perverted" approach that makes capitalism disreputable. Whereas he "begins with philosophy," libertarians reject it and encourage a bunch of "weirdos" to come out for capitalism. Ommmm. . .

One such anti-philosophy libertarian brought up a hot issue in Philadelphia, a proposed new city convention center. The center would be built with tax funds and contracted out to a private company. Developers and hotel executives support the project, as they expect to profit from tax expenditures and convention-related business. What did Peikoff think of such businessmen?

Very simply, in a mixed economy such as we have, "there are cases where taking money [from the government] is justified" in order to get back what has been taken from us. Oh. That's precisely what our Congressmen say. They are only "getting back our share" from the government pie. A truly principled philosophical stance for capitalism and against socialism.

At show's end, the faithful clambered up to the stage to get a closer look at Peikoff. Alleged individualists queueing up to meet their guru made for a fascinating sight. That scene alone was worth more than the admission price.

Watch for Leonard Peikoff's **Traveling Lecture and Objectivist Revival Show** coming to your town. It's not much of a spectacle, but you'll learn some unintended lessons about Objectivism. ■

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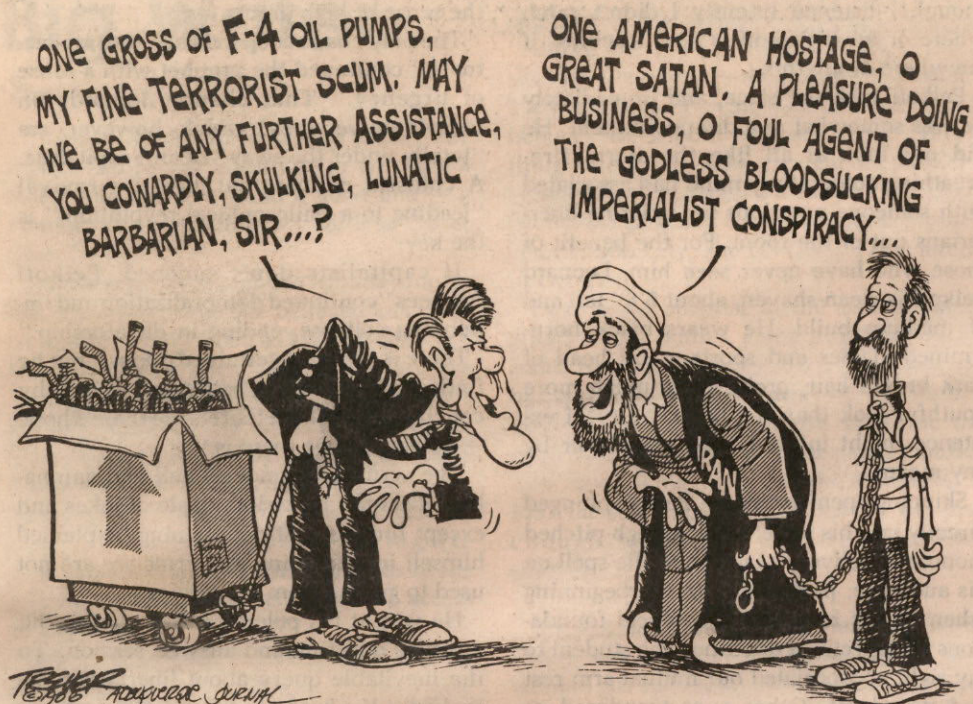
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## Political Notes



Manchester, NH - According to a fall poll of 1000 New Hampshire residents drawn at random, a sample of 300 respondents to a mail survey favored private kindergartens, privately run prisons, and lower taxes. The poll was conducted by the New Hampshire LP and gave them reason to believe the LP's less-government philosophy has some definite appeal for that state's voters.

Paul Siegler of Concord, who conducted the poll, was quoted in the Manchester-based *New Hampshire Sunday News* as saying that the results showed the party's principles are widely accepted. "We aren't as far off the wall as people would have us be. We are in tune with many of the issues important to the people of New Hampshire," Siegler was quoted as saying.

Springfield, VA - Former draft registration resister Paul Jacob recently won an award, embarked on several new careers, and is the subject of some interesting LP insider speculation of late, according to recent reports.

Jacob, who recently moved to suburban Washington DC with his family, was selected as an Outstanding Young Man of America for 1986, according to a recent press release. The award is given by Outstanding Young Men of America, an Alabama-based private organization which also publishes an annual biographical publication of the persons selected.

He also recently began working in the mail room of the Cato Institute, where his wife also works as a secretary. Jacob also recently began syndicating a monthly column on libertarian news and opinion, the first of which endorsed Ron Paul's potential LP presidential candidacy and called for an end to the "factionalism and childish egoism" that caused the 1983 LP split.

The rising visibility of the articulate Jacob in national LP circles, including the LP National Committee, where he is a regional representative, has given rise to speculation by long time LP leaders that Jacob has his eye on the LP Chair's position at the Sept. 87 Seattle convention. According to this speculation, Jacob is part of the so-called neo-Cranian "Young Turk" faction opposed to Ed Cranes' infatuation with orthodox GOP statists Bob Dole and Pierre "piss in the bottle" DuPont. The prospect of a Ron

Paul candidacy is appealing to many who abandoned the LP in the wake of Bergland's 1983 New York City nomination, and Jacob is closely associated with a number of people who find a Ron Paul LP candidacy more appealing than anyone else's not-very-libertarian GOP effort.

Fort Collins, CO - Mary Margaret's plans for a libertarian renaissance in Fort Collins (see "Ft. Collins Lib. Enclave Urged" Oct. 86 AL) has met with an interesting reaction from the home town folks.

The local paper quoted one political party official in the city who said bluntly "I wouldn't care to have 1,000 other Mary Margarets in Fort Collins."

The Chair of the poly. sci. department at the local Colorado State University opined that Margaret is "overambitious" in her description of Ft. Collins as a potential Libertarian "nest", and that she is a product of "over-reaction by the establishment" and "over-indulgence" by the media. The local Democratic Party Chair complained that "the lady gets too much press."

The local Mayor defended Margaret's right to represent herself in the political system, but lamely claimed that Ft. Collins is wonderful because of its tax burden and enlightened government.

Anyone who gets the local power elite that concerned must be doing **something** right. . .

Wichita, KS - The libertarian-owned Koch Industries, a Kansas based oil and gas firm, was ranked the second largest privately owned firm in the nation in the recent *Forbes Magazine* ranking of America's largest 400 privately held concerns.

Koch Industries had an estimated \$16 billion in sales, which is owned by Charles and David Koch, both supporters of libertarian causes and campaigns in the past. Last year the firm ranked fourth on the *Forbes* list.

Washington, D.C. - The misnamed "tax reform" legislation recently approved contains one unpublicized provision: by 1988 all children five years old or older will have to get a Social Security number. This is supposed to aid in cracking down on "cheats" While SS numbers are not intended to be national citizen identity numbers, the distinction seems moot. Future enhancements are sure to include combined number assignments and draft registration. . .

Washington, DC - Richard L. Valentine Jr. of the U.S. Census Bureau hinted recently

in public that there was going to be a "no more Mr. Nice Guy" approach for the upcoming 1990 census. Noting the poor reaction to a test census in the Los Angeles area, Valentine suggested that enforcement of the \$100 non-compliance fine should be considered an "incentive" for cooperation.

Libertarians pioneered the census resistance in 1970 and only a handful of people (including several libertarians) were ever fined in the past for refusing to cooperate with the government census effort.

Washington, DC - Libertarians have been influential in promoting privatization at the highest government levels, according to a recent national UPI wire service story by Leon Daniel and Linda Wefelman.

In the article, libertarian-oriented Council of Economic Advisors member Thomas Gale Moore "acknowledged that he gets lots of advice from members of the Libertarian Party and other opponents of big government."

Moore is quoted as saying "I get a lot of material from them. Sometimes it's helpful. There's a lot of ideological fervor out there among the Libertarians." ■

## Notable Quotes



From a recent interview with novelist/Merry Prankster Ken Kesey:

"He takes a few questions. A guy wants to know what he means when he says he's more right-wing than Reagan. 'Ho, ho, ho,' he says. 'So far right he can't imagine.' He rants around a bit about his almost Libertarian political philosophy, and then gets down. 'Let's face it, folks, what we're talking about here is dope.' He doesn't want any Falwells or any coast-to-coast Baptist conspiracy intruding on his God-given right to take a little righteous weed, or to indulge in that old tuning-fork sacrament of LSD."

Burr Snider, "Kesey, Twenty years after his heyday, the Chief is still pranking", *San Francisco Examiner*, Oct. 26, 1986.

LP State Assembly candidate Joseph Shea, on "safe drinking water" Prop. 65 in a televised debate:

"I think one of the big problems. . . is drinking water is such a government controlled thing," said Shea, a beer delivery man. "You never see anything for safe Kool-Aid Initiatives, or anything like that."

*Los Angeles Times*, October 18

### Of Cabbages and Kings:

"Only at a Marin County meeting of Libertarians would the door prizes be . . . home-grown vegetables from the garden of Dan Dougherty.

I kid you not.

Last Wednesday's monthly session at Tiffany's in Corte Madera began with a raffle of rutabagas, radishes and zucchini by emcee Dougherty.

Talk about grassroots political organizing, eh?"

Peter Anderson, *Marin Independent Journal*, August 9, 1986 ■

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

AL Interviews: David Theroux

White House speechwriter  
Dana Rohrabacher

World's oldest libertarian  
Aileen Knox Grimes

Future of Freedom Conference: Kill a Commie for Freedom

LA LP NatCom Report

Montana Property Tax Abolition Move

Randolph Campaign Finances

Is the LP in Trouble? Final Installment

Libertarians in Congress?

Belgium's Andre Spies: FreeNetwork or What?

Reviews: Bieser on "The New Cartoon Art", Sablatura on "Reporters and Government", Grindle on "The Politics of the ACLU", Thies on "Dismantling the State"

Plus Media Watch, Political Notes, Feedback, News, Photos, and Cartoons. . .

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