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AL Interview: Notorious Norma Jean

Norma Jean Almodovar's (called just Norma Jean by her campaign) Libertarian Party race for California's Lt. Governor position this fall has undoubtedly attracted more publicity than any other effort so far this year.

The reason? She is the famous "cop-turned-callgirl" from LA and doesn't hesitate to address the issues of personal freedoms in her campaign. She at one time was a civilian traffic officer for the LAPD but was eventually busted on a pandering charge. Norma Jean explains that she was writing an expose on police corruption and that her arrest was a "set up" to entrap her. It also resulted in confiscation of her uncompleted expose manuscript.

The attractive 35 year old red-head is articulate, serious in her interviews, and yet comes across warm and friendly in conversations. One of 14 children, her brother Neil Wright chairs her campaign committee. She says most of her family are "small l" libertarians.

AL: Are you having fun? Enjoying your campaign?

Norma Jean: Well, I enjoy it because I feel it's a positive and constructive use of my time. I'm kind of a workaholic so it is important that I feel it's something I believe in.

But it's totally disrupted my personal life and my husband is a bit upset with that.

AL: Are you campaigning full time?

Norma Jean: Pretty much. When I'm not speaking or doing interviews I'm writing letters or speeches and working on campaign plans.

AL: Have you had any negative reaction to your efforts?

Norma Jean: Surprisingly no. Most people have this misconception about prostitutes. When they discover I'm capable of expressing ideas and understand what I'm all about, I think it has an effect.

I'm getting very positive feedback. I'm not out to impress libertarians, after all. They already believe in the same things. I'm out to impress the non-libertarians.

The tits-and-ass angle is just the hook to

get media attention. At first it's a novelty. Once I'm there and talking, people start to pay attention to the substance. When I'm campaigning, I don't just talk about prostitution. I concentrate on freedom.

AL: What are the basic issues of your campaign?

Norma Jean: Of course, repeal of victimless crime laws, including the effect of that on the economy. The toxic waste issue, particularly as it relates in California to Casmalia, where they have a bad toxic waste dump situation with 16 overlapping bureaucracies. It's over-regulated and nothing is getting done.

Also the issue of keeping California (the state National Guard) out of Central America. And support for the Gann Initiative, which would limit salaries and pensions of elected and appointed officials (lower them and keep them under the amount paid the Governor). And also I'm opposing the so-called AIDS Initiative sponsored by the LaRouchites which would quarantine AIDS victims.

AL: What is your campaign goal?

Norma Jean: By the time the campaign is over, I want everyone to know what a libertarian is and what the LP is all about. Not only in California but also, hopefully, across the country to some degree.

AL: What about specific vote objectives?

Norma Jean: Well, I'm not really making those predictions. Some non-libertarians have suggested that I actually might get elected. And I know my opponents Mike Curb (GOP) and Leo McCarthy (Dem) are very aware of my campaign and taking me seriously.

AL: Some libertarians have suggested that your campaign might be guilty of "stuntism", attracting attention with stunts at the expense of substance. Any comments?

Norma Jean: A certain percentage of the public already doesn't take us seriously and won't anyway. This may confirm their beliefs. But I'm concerned about reaching people who haven't heard of us before or don't know much about us, and am using my situation to get attention and reach those people. Then we can talk about our message.

AL: So you're running a media-oriented campaign?

Norma Jean: I hope so. They'll remember that "cop-turned-hooker", even after my campaign. That "librarian" or "libertarian" or whatever.

I believe we either stand for these freedoms or we don't. I personally don't like drugs, drinking or smoking. I take care of my health, work out, and so on.

But I know the end result of these victimless crime laws, which is police corrup-



A Baltimore TV crew covers the August National LP Committee meeting for the local news. LP Chair Turney (left) presided over a difficult meeting.

Randolph Loses In GOP Primary Bid

Anchorage, AK - Alaska's Libertarian-turned-Republican Dick Randolph's bid for the GOP gubernatorial slot this November was shot down in flames August 26 as he finished behind two other Republican contenders in a nine-way race for the post.

Randolph trailed former Governor Walter Hickel and primary winner Arliss Sturgulewski, a State Senator, in the hotly contested Republican race.

"The millionaires beat us," explained Randolph's campaign manager Duncan Scott, who at one time was the Alaska Libertarian Party's Executive Director. "The other top three candidates were all millionaires and of course, Dick is not. So that was definitely a major factor."

With over 90% of the precincts reporting, Randolph received 15,919 votes compared to 20,836 for Hickel and 22,803 for winner Sturgulewski. Scott reported that the Randolph effort cost about \$400,000, but that he was greatly outspent by several other opponents. "Hickel outspent us 3-to-1 and Sturgulewski and Joe Hayes (who finished behind Randolph with a little over 7,000 votes) outspent us 2-to-1. Dick carried the Fairbanks area as well as the Kenai Peninsula, Andre Marrou's territory," Scott noted.

"I think all libertarians, in Alaska and elsewhere, can be very proud of the race Dick ran and the issues he addressed," Scott concluded.

As for Randolph's future plans, Scott said "he's definitely in the Republican Party to

LP Nat Com Faced With \$ Woes

Baltimore, MD - It was as the saying goes, "a dark and stormy night" high atop the 29th floor at the Tremont Plaza Hotel in Baltimore. As thunder and lightning crashed through the windows behind him, LP Chair Jim Turney addressed the assembled LP National Committee members after the Saturday evening banquet.

"I'll collect pop bottles on the road between here and Richmond if I have to," Turney promised, "if it means we can avoid suspending LP News and avert our financial crisis. We have a new credibility with our members, due to Karl Hess's efforts with LP News, and a new credibility with our creditors since we've been able to pay our debt down substantially."

"But," Turney added, "being LP Chair has been a big personal sacrifice for me in terms of time and money, and I think we need to ask our membership to sacrifice a little too. Just a dollar a day pledge from each member should amount to a \$2 million annual LP budget, over six times what we have now."

The heavens unleashed torrents of rain as Turney went on for forty more minutes explaining the need for financial support. This is a familiar theme at LP National Committee meetings, although it was unclear whether nature's raging during Turney's speech was a sign of divine approval or dismay at his repeated calls for financial sacrifice.

The irony of the moment was not lost on those assembled NatCom members who recalled the 1985 Phoenix national LP convention. Moments before the crucial voting for Party Chair, Turney himself was forced to troop up to the front of the hall and pay his national party dues, the only formal requirement for LP office. But, to give him credit, Turney has since picked up the fundraising fever with a vengeance.

The theme of the Baltimore meeting was a familiar one. Financial crisis, the need to make hard choices and find solutions. After a relatively calm first nine months, Turney's regime faces an all-too-familiar fundraising pinch.

The Aug. 2-3 Baltimore meeting had a sense of déjà vu for many of the participants, since money problems have dominated more than one NatCom session in the past.

Turney once again evidenced his smooth, conciliatory style of running meetings, despite two controversial measures which came up unexpectedly.

An early report by LP Treasurer Sam

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Norma Jean Interview

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tion. I know it first hand.

AL: I've heard you've gotten some indication of support from some of the LAPD.

Norma Jean: Yes, I have, because there are some good cops out there. They know what it's about.

AL: Any plans to resurrect your book?

Norma Jean: I'll never get the original manuscript back. When I have time I work on that. I have to recreate it.

AL: How many interviews are you doing?

Norma Jean: At the moment about 5 or 6 a week. Hopefully more later on. A lot of radio telephone talk shows. Next week I'm going up to Seattle for a TV interview. Recently I spoke at the Orange Coast College.

AL: Do college audiences seem to appreciate libertarianism?

Norma Jean: By the time I go away they sure do!

AL: Any problems with the LaRouchites?

Norma Jean: I ran into some at the airport recently. I stopped and talked with them. They were talking about locking up people. So I asked, "Like prostitutes?" Of course, they said. So I told them I was one. They didn't seem to like that.

AL: Any truth to the rumor that you have endorsed the Garri-Raimondo-Hunter letter suggesting LP members join the Republicans.

Norma Jean: No, its absolutely untrue. I think that got started when I was at the LP booth at the San Francisco Gay Pride parade. I think I was confused with someone else I was with, and even she didn't agree with the idea, but was trying to be polite. In fact I was talking to two lesbian Republicans about why they should be in the LP.

AL: Do you consider yourself a professional prostitute?

Norma Jean: I write, I write poetry, I make dolls, I do a lot of things. But when I quit the police to write my book these things weren't of interest. The fact that I am a prostitute got a lot press attention. I liked to do it because I enjoyed it. But since I've done that, I want to move on to other things. But I'll always be a "whore" even if I never do it again.

AL: Well, I suspect you may be in better company than most people realize. A lot of famous people have been in the business, or have been customers.

Norma Jean: Including famous actors, celebrities and politicians.

AL: Any politicians you'd care to name?

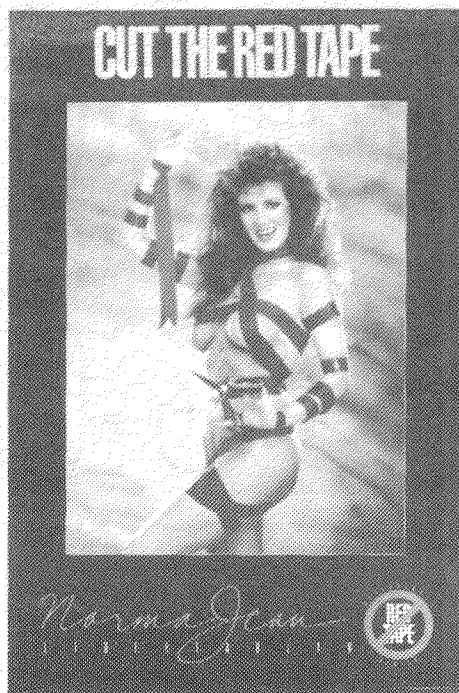
Norma Jean: Well, (the following reply was off the record, and concerned credit card charge slips to various massage parlors in the name of one very well known political figure.)

AL: Any particular projects on tap for the future?

Norma Jean: Well, I write a lot of poetry, including my "Freedom Poem" which I use in my campaign material. I'd like to come out with a book, "Poems by a Whore". No one would buy it if it were "Poems by a Libertarian."

Also we would like to do a series of half-hour videos on various freedom subjects, "What the government doesn't want you to know about drugs, prostitution, gambling", and so on. I could do interviews and explain these subjects and present the libertarian view. We might do these even after the campaign.

Also, we are going to have two more campaign posters out. One where I'm wrapped in red tape with the slogan "cut the red tape", and the other with me nude, except for a big red circle covering certain areas, reading "censored". That one will be the theme "whose life is this anyway?" ■



Second in her series, this Norma Jean campaign poster depicts the beneficial effects of eliminating red tape.

Randolph Loss

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stay" and may be eyeing another race in 1990.

Marrou Reaction

Incumbent Libertarian State Representative Andre Marrou of Homer did not face a primary opponent but will face Democratic former state trooper C.E. Slackhammer and Republican challenger Marilyn Dimmick.

Asked to speculate on his opponents, Marrou notes that it is difficult to predict this early, but that perhaps the Democrat may be the tougher opponent. "While Slackhammer is a former captain in the state troopers, and often comes across that way, he has money and seems energetic. Dimmick is a former Borough President but her position favoring gun control won't be too popular."

Of the Randolph defeat Marrou notes that he predicted the ultimate outcome over a year ago (see "Randolph Defects", LP News, Nov-Dec 1985) in that he foresaw opposition by the Republican State Executive Committee to Randolph's candidacy, the entry of a strong last-minute challenger (Walter Hickel), and Randolph being unable to match his opponent's deep pockets.

"We certainly want to welcome back any libertarians who may have been supporting Dick's effort, and let them know the Alaska LP is here to represent libertarian ideas to the public," Marrou says. "We are pleased that the ALP statewide candidates for U.S. House and Senate got about 2% of the votes cast and some of our local candidates, even in close races, drew 4-5%." Marrou believes this is significant since Alaska's primaries are conducted on an open basis rather than by party affiliation. Over half of Alaska voters are independents or decline to state a party preference.

Future Implications

Randolph's fairly substantial defeat in his risky switch from Libertarian to Republican doesn't bode well for other advocates of libertarian ideas who believe switching to a "major political brand" will help their political fortunes.

Randolph's last political contest in Alaska was in 1982 when he ran for Governor as a Libertarian Party candidate and drew nearly 30,000 votes (about 15%) in a three-way race. That campaign was estimated to have cost about half a million dollars.

This year's effort in the crowded Republican race cost an estimated \$400,000 but yielded only a bit more than half of the

votes he received in 1982. Randolph's original strategy counted heavily on drawing his 1982 constituency. But some observers such as Marrou believe that Randolph's party switch simply ended up angering both Libertarians and Republicans without gaining support from either group.

As in 1982, Randolph's efforts were supported by Ed Crane of the Cato Institute (financed by Kansas oil magnate Charles Koch). While in the LP Randolph actively supported the Crane-led faction and served as Crane-backed Ravenal for President campaign manager at the 1983 Presidential nominating convention. Crane and several associates flew to Alaska towards the end of Randolph's recent campaign in a last minute bid to bolster Randolph's chances. Randolph's earlier money problems in his campaign had forced staff cutbacks and the firing of his highly respected media advisor. Money counts heavily in politics and Randolph's resources inside and outside of the state were simply no match for his better funded, established Republican opponents.

In a bizarre footnote, the Alaska LP faces a potentially embarrassing situation over its gubernatorial candidate nomination. Original candidate Mary O'Brannon was believed to have formally withdrawn from the race when she left the state earlier this year for legal and health reasons. However, the state elections bureaucracy claims that they "lost" her withdrawal letter and kept her name on the ballot. At last report she was leading officially endorsed LP candidate Ed Hoch, who now may have to mount a legal effort to get himself placed on the November ballot. Even more worrisome, the ALP must receive at least 1% of the gubernatorial vote to maintain their permanent party ballot status. This may prove difficult if they must run their "phantom" candidate O'Brannon.

In Summation...

At the very least, the Randolph defeat will dampen the enthusiasm for libertarians-as-Republicans. But then again, judging from the past, Randolph's political career doesn't appear to be over quite yet. And the Alaska Libertarian Party can't be counted out yet either, based on early reports from the Marrou re-election effort and other ALP candidates running.

It may be cold in Alaska this November, but it surely won't be dull. ■

LP Ballot Access Update

Houston, TX - Libertarian Party ballot access efforts continue through late summer to secure places on state ballots for party candidates.

Texas

Texas LP Director Dianne Pilcher and LP attorney Jim Linger received notice on August 22 that the Secretary of State's office had approved the Texas LP for placement on the fall ballot. Under a new Texas ballot law, the Secretary of State's office had been conducting a sampling of the more than 39,000 signatures collected (about 33,000 are needed with voter registration numbers) as a result of a challenge made by a Democratic State Senate candidate whose only November opponent is LP Chair Roger Gary.

Oklahoma ballot access attorney Jim Linger filed a Federal Court suit in August contesting the Texas voter registration number requirement. Under the possible threat of a federal court injunction, the Secretary of State had to complete sampling and testing by August 25.

Informal word is that another challenge will be made over the sampling procedure

by opponents to Libertarian Party ballot status, but Linger is confident that any additional legal action will not jeopardize LP ballot status this fall. Three LP statewide candidates face only one major party opponent, raising hopes that the 5% vote threshold will be met to secure 1988 ballot status as well.

The LPT's Federal court case also remains pending, according to Director Pilcher.

Idaho

Idaho LP Chair Barbara Sall announced that the Idaho LP will not be running any candidates this fall. As a consequence, the ILP will lose ballot status and will have to obtain about 8,000 signatures by August 30, 1988 to regain ballot position that year. The National LP's Ballot Access Committee had listed Idaho as a secure state for 1988, prior to this new development.

The party had run active races in 1984, attracting considerable publicity.

Hawaii

The HLP obtained a reprieve from their earlier failure to obtain the needed 4,189 signatures by April 23, in a July 17 Federal Court ruling. Judge Robert Schnacke granted an injunction giving the party until September 1 to obtain the additional signatures. The Hawaii Party needs another 1,000 signatures to complete the legal requirement. ■

New Libertarian Book

New York, NY - A major new work of popular libertarian economics and political analysis will be published in the near future by the major New York publishing house, Simon & Schuster.

Titled *Dreams Come Due*, with the subtitle "Government and Economics as if Freedom Matters — A New Libertarian Agenda", the listed author is "John Galt".

One libertarian author speculates that the pseudonymous author is actually Robert Ringer, author of the popular libertarian work *Restoring the American Dream*.

This new book is described as an A-to-Z primer of libertarian thought, with extensive use of materials by well known libertarian authors such as Von Mises, Bastiat, Mencken and Rothbard. ■

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Money Woes

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Treynor laid it out. "We're in a financial crisis," he noted, "with a year-to-date loss of about \$18,200 so far. However, if we were to include money raised exclusively for the Ballot Access Committee and the TV commercial project, we would have about broken even."

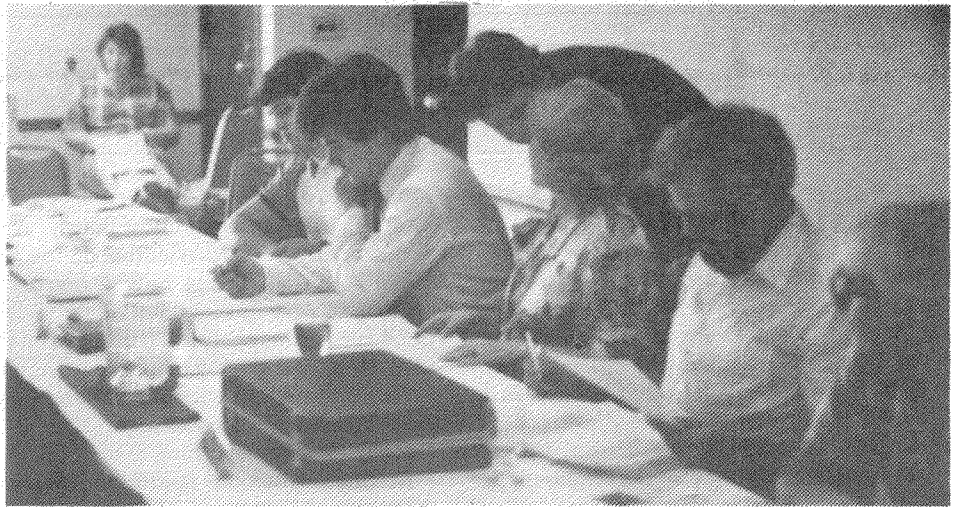
Of particular concern was the fact that revenues trailed the budget by 20% while expenses were only down about 6% overall.

Despite this preoccupation with finances, none of the members of the Finance Committee, headed by LP Vice Chair Sharon Ayres, were at the meeting. However, the Finance Committee did present a long report detailing reasons for money problems and plans for solutions. An impromptu Budget Committee meeting was held on Saturday, consisting of Turney, outgoing LP Director Willis (who resigned for health reasons, see AL Aug 86), Treasurer Treynor, former Chair Randy Ver Hagen and former Treasurer David Walters.

While budget cutting was being mulled over, NatCom members saw a detailed chart and graph presentation by Ballot Access Committee (BAC) Chair Steven Fielder on LP ballot prospects for 1988, and also considered other committee reports. At-large NatCom member Steven Givot of Chicago resigned his position due to business commitments, and his vacancy will be filled at the upcoming Nov. 22-23 Hawaii NatCom meeting. The "TV commercial" project was renamed the "Broadcast commercial" project with LP Chair (and commercial producer) Turney taking charge. The earlier financial crunch had already depleted the coffers for that effort (via borrowing) to nearly zero anyway.

Later in the meeting the Budget Committee announced a set of seven recommendations to improve the financial picture, including eliminating the August LP News and cutting it back for the rest of the year, drastic staff cuts, and dollar-for-dollar spending cuts to compensate for reduced income.

These proposals, despite the high level



Libertarian National Committee members ponder and discuss problems. More money would solve most of them.

backing of the Chair and Director, met with resistance from some NatCom members led by Peter Breggin and Steven Fielder. Late Saturday night this caucus hammered out a set of four alternative recommendations which had the support of eleven NatCom members or alternates.

However, this late night caucus effort did not include any of the Budget Committee members (except Turney), supporters of the absent Finance Committee or former National Director Honey Lanham.

On Sunday morning, the debate was focused on the rump caucus budget resolutions, which listed four items the NatCom was to empower the LP Chair to accomplish.

Three of these measures (leaving the LP Director position temporarily vacant, assuring the publication of LP News, decentralizing or contracting out national office functions) were already within Turney's powers to accomplish.

The fourth item, giving power to the Chair to move the National office where ever he chose, aroused much controversy. Because only one item of the rump caucus proposal contained anything new, opponents of the headquarters move labeled it the "Trojan Horse" Resolutions.

Ultimately, these issues were divided and two main questions emerged. One was ensuring that LP News publication would have highest financial priority. The second was the national headquarters move.

One of Turney's only distinct positions in his 1985 LP Chair race was his advocacy of a Washington D.C. LP headquarters. This matter came up in the December 1985 Houston NatCom meeting and was soundly defeated. Subsequently a two year lease was signed for new Houston office space.

Nonetheless, a new debate arose over moving the headquarters. While the proposal did not mandate a move, it was widely viewed as a "back to D.C." measure. A heated roll-call vote ended up 12 to 8 in opposition to any move. A subsequent roll-call vote saw a 13-to-4 majority in favor of maintaining LP News as originally scheduled.

The NatCom also officially ratified Karl Hess as editor, and voted to keep their next meeting in Honolulu.

Other substantive changes, such as re-vamping LP dues, were tabled until the next meeting.

While there were a number of surprises in Baltimore, ultimately very little new was accomplished.

Former LP Finance Director Terry Von Mitchell was named as acting LP Director to replace Willis. Turney and the Finance Committee are evaluating new telephone and direct mail contractors. But even that is bogged down in wrangling over proposed changes.

The apparent legacy of Baltimore is a heightened sense of mistrust by many Nat-

Com members, particularly in the wake of the abortive "move the hq" effort, which wasn't on the agenda and which many thought had been settled for good in Houston six months earlier.

In addition, BAC Chair Steven Fielder authored a tough and critical letter to acting LP Director Von Mitchell immediately after the Baltimore meeting, charging the National office with "dereliction of duty" and threatening a "dismantling of the national office" if prompt payments to Lysander, Inc. (the publisher of LP News) were not immediately resumed.

Fielder's harsh letter, seemingly prompted by his frustration with events, sparked a rejoinder by LP Treasurer Treynor and a NatCom member and California LP Chair Mark Hinkle.

One thing is clear. The relatively harmonious first year of the Turney LP Chairmanship has come to an end.

Baltimore's dark and stormy night, it would seem, may be a sign of NatCom meetings to come. ■

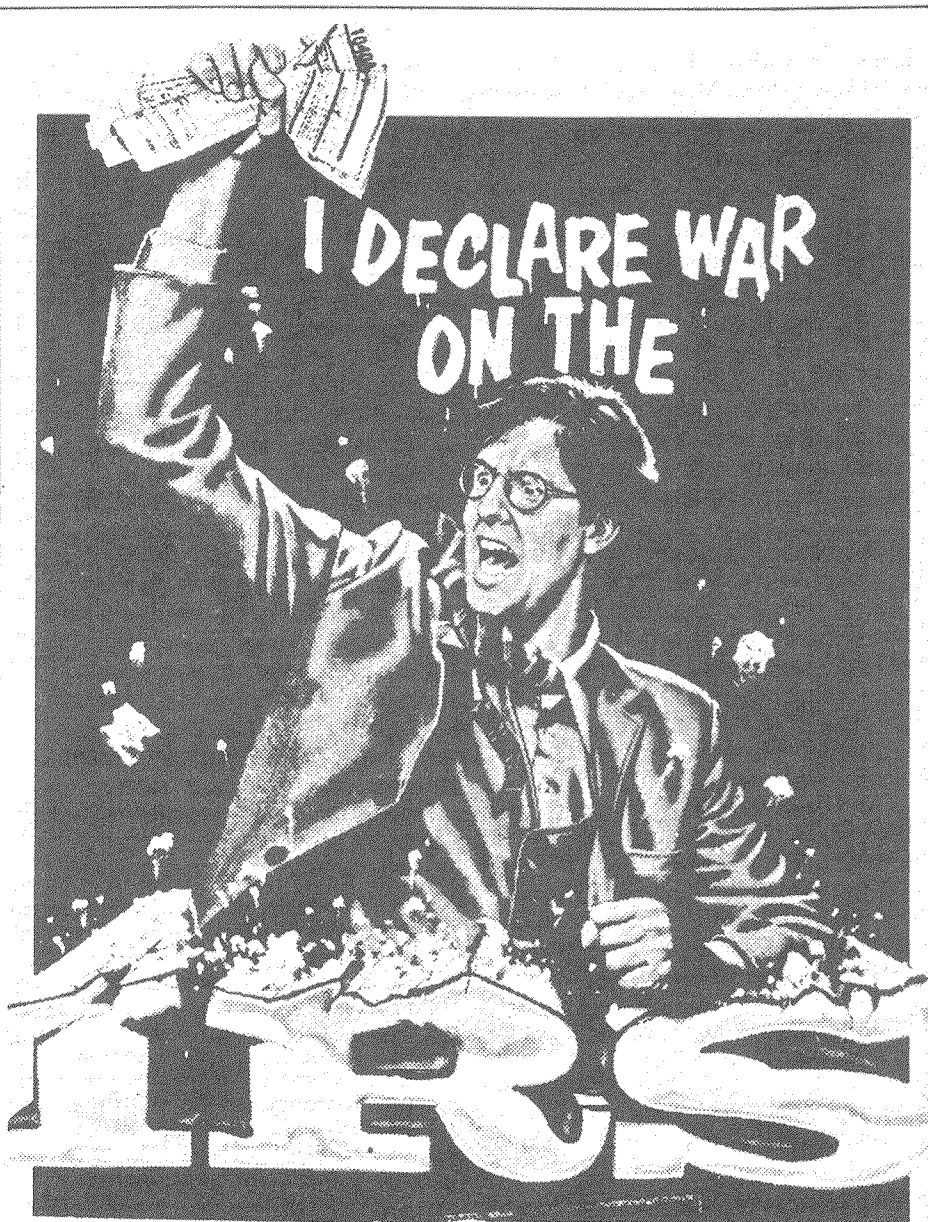
Hard Core Tax Initiative in Montana

Corvallis, MT - A low profile anti-tax group known as the Friends of the Constitution, Inc. out of the Western Montana farming community of Corvallis, has succeeded in getting the most hard-core anti-tax measure yet proposed anywhere to date on the ballot.

This group, accused of being "Birchite" by opponents of the measure, turned in nearly 50,000 signatures to place Initiative 27 on that state's fall ballot. Simply put, the measure would abolish taxes on real and personal property in Montana, prohibit enactment of a sales tax without voter approval and forbid any increase in income or sales taxes without voter approval.

Supported by the Montana LP (although they were not responsible for the measure's ballot status) and University of Montana economics professor John R. Lott Jr., proponents of the measure note that the per capita Montana tax burden is 50% higher than the national average. Even if passed, state residents would be taxed higher than the national average.

The secretive Friends of the Constitution, Inc. is only answering written media questions submitted in advance, and the nearly hysterical state and local government officials are trying to have the measure legally knocked off the ballot by injunction. This anti-democratic action is prompted in part by suspension of local bond sales due to uncertainty over the effect of the proposal. ■



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Libertarian Outlook

Stalin's Child

It was bound to happen sooner or later. And in the dog days of August, it finally did.

It made the network news, the wire services, the radio and newsmagazines.

"California teenager turns parents in to police over drugs!" read the headlines. It seems that a 13-year-old Tustin, CA girl went to local police and turned in her parent's drug stash, after trying to get them to quit. Her parents were subsequently arrested. The informant herself was placed in a government home for abused children.

Russian dictator Joseph Stalin is usually credited with being the first to make turning in one's parents to the authorities a civic virtue, although other tyrants before and since have encouraged the same. But never before in America have we seen such government inspired madness. Even the local police were embarrassed.

Yet this Stalinist behavior is just a sample of the heavy handed tactics being used in the insane "War on Drugs". The mailed fist of the state is finally uncovered for all to see.

R.W. Bradford in the August *Individual Liberty* chronicles the total government ability to confiscate private property and financial records under the pretext of fighting drug use. No financial or quasi-financial transaction is immune from government spying. ("What have you got to hide, comrade? A black market money laundry perhaps...") Accused drug dealers can have their assets seized without trial and their attorney's fees confiscated. Widespread wiretapping, drug testing, school locker searches and even music censorship are now being employed to "fight the drug problem."

In a break with long-standing precedent, the Reagan administration is using U.S. military forces domestically and abroad to enforce laws against smuggling and drug production. Mined borders, armed border patrols and concentration camps for suspects have all been advocated or considered by the government in this jihad against illegal substances.

A new hysterical propaganda campaign

against some new drug (or version of an old one) is seen monthly, almost hourly. A recent story by Bernard Wienraub in the *New York Times* discusses how Congress is rushing to pass multi-billion dollar legislation to prove their political bona fides on the matter. It is a politician's dream. A one-sided crusade for which throwing large amounts of tax dollars to solve is still considered a respectable thing to do.

Despite the obvious failure of decades of government war against drugs and drug use, the cry mounts for more severe government oppression.

Why stop at encouraging children to inform on their parents? Surely we can do better than that! Government sponsored "block committees" is a nifty idea quite popular in some places. Shoot suspects on sight, that's always popular with would-be drug warriors. In fact, they haven't even scratched the surface in the totalitarian playbook. A wealth of oppressive tactics is readily available from a variety of expert government sources from around the globe.

We shickered when the LaRouchite candidates in Illinois, who upset the Stevenson Democrats, advocated "tanks in the streets" to stop the drug menace. Little did we suspect this was just a slight variation on the current "War on Drugs" blitzkrieg unleashed by Reagan and Congress a few months later.

Undoubtedly, use of many illegal substances causes health problems in many users. Many legal substances are also unhealthy, including several which are heavily taxed and subsidized. But it's a lot more fun to trot out military patrols, radar interceptors, wiretaps, IRS surveillance, drug testing and nosy German Shepherds than it is to consider the matter one of public health and education. Or even one of individual choice and responsibility.

But as the lines of brainwashed kiddies line up outside drug police headquarters to turn in their loved ones, we might well remember Stalin's legacy: Gulags, hatred, fear and death. And let's not forget, police state and all, that the Soviet Union has the worst drug problem (with alcohol, legal and otherwise) of any nation on earth. ■



then it is recorded only in a place no one is ever likely to look. Mention of these events — or any real world events — is conspicuously absent from *LP News* or any *LP* publication.

Murray calls the Zschau victory a "fluke" and ridicules us for thinking we will have any appreciable influence on either the campaign or the candidate. His first point is just wrong: a bitterly contested statewide primary race was not decided by chance but by the grit and determination of Zschau's hardcore supporters, who triumphed over tremendous opposition from the ultra-right. (By the way, in addition to numerous rightwingers, Zschau was opposed by moderate Assemblyman Bob Naylor, who like Zschau is from Northern California.)

Murray's second point is irrelevant: so what if we have zero leverage with Zschau? That his campaign is possible at all, that a Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate is calling himself a "new libertarian," is hard evidence that a libertarian tendency does exist within the GOP. Sooner or later we will have an Ed Zschau of our own.

Murray's strongest argument is that "libertarians would be swallowed up and forgotten" and that the temptation to sell out to win primaries would be far greater. Aside from the fact that Murray opposes any transitional program as a sell-out, it is true that many *LP* candidates have waffled on important issues, such as foreign policy and immigration. But such behavior will occur no matter what party these people are in. As we say in our "Open Letter": "Running in Republican primaries, at least our candidates will be motivated to distinguish themselves from their opponents in terms of program rather than mere party labels." Far from abandoning foreign policy and civil liberties issues, libertarians will be put in the position of having to emphasize these issues in order to distinguish themselves from other Republicans.

The reality of the situation is this: in America, the two big "parties" are not ideological parties in the European sense at all; they are simply the state-authorized way of participating in American politics (via the primary system). The true American parties are the ideological subgroupings within the Democrats and Republicans; for example, the Moral Majority or the Republican Mainstream or, for that matter, the Libertarian Republicans. These ideological parties contend during the primary process for control of the "party". It's not the system we would pick — a European-style proportional representation scheme would suit us better — but it is the system we all have to live with. The only real difference between

us and Murray is that we have accepted this state of affairs and are trying to find a way to be politically effective within the American system.

Finally, since the bulk of Murray's letter is his all-too-familiar brand of character assassination, a few words in response must be said. The old Radical Caucus central committee voted 4-3 to support Earl Ravenal over Dave Bergland at the 1983 convention (Eric Garris, Colin Hunter, Scott Olmsied, and Justin Raimondo for Ravenal; Bill Evers, Dianne Pilcher, and Murray Rothbard for Bergland). No one went to the convention "pledged" to anyone (although we were all supporting Gene Burns — remember him? — until a week before the convention). Murray has a devil theory about the "Crane Machine" and thinks that anyone who disagrees with him about the

Continued page 5

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.

The GOP Strategy: a Reply to Rothbard

It is heartening to see that the proposal to inject libertarian ideas into the mainstream has caused controversy — and that *American Libertarian* has chosen to make this public debate possible. *American Libertarian* has the courage to be interesting, and the whole movement profits from it.

Of all the responses to our call for an organized entry into the GOP, we found the contribution made by *LP* National Director Perry Willis to be the most amusing: it's a "seductive" argument, he says, "and therefore dangerous." We also liked *LP* Chairman Jim Turney's comment that the move was "premature."

Murray Rothbard's letter in the most re-

cent issue (*AL*, August 1986), colorfully and imaginatively recounting the history of fights within the Radical Caucus, is up to his usual standards of personal abuse; vicious and untruthful, but curiously disconnected from reality.

Murray asks: "Where is the quasi-libertarian wing of the Republican Party? Especially on peace and civil liberties?" The answer is: it consists of the thirteen Republican Congressmen who initially defied Reagan on aid to the contras, among them Rep. Jim Leach of Iowa, a vocal critic of Reagan's policy in Central America and chairman of a new group called "Republican Mainstream," a national coalition of Republicans who see themselves as "fiscally conservative and socially tolerant." It consists of the millions of Americans who voted for Reagan because of his free market rhetoric and in spite of his social views and foreign policy. It consists of those Republicans who realize that Falwell and Robertson are the main danger to liberty in the U.S.

Murray wonders why these quasi-libertarians didn't denounce U.S. attacks on Grenada and Libya — but the real question is, where was the *LP*? If the National Committee passed a resolution against these aggressions (weeks or months after the fact),

American Libertarian

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Feedback

From page 4

absolute evil of Ed Crane and all his associates must either be evil or corrupt. So naturally we must have "jumped ship" for "high posts in the Ravenal campaign." Murray made a similar accusation in *Libertarian Forum* 2½ years ago, and it was answered in a devastating letter by Sheldon Richman (printed in *Libertarian Vanguard*). Bergland did win the nomination (by a single vote on the fourth ballot), but now that we've all seen the results of the Bergland campaign, is it really so obvious that Ravenal would have been worse?

Mention of *Libertarian Forum* brings to mind another of Murray's attacks: that *Libertarian Outlook* has had an ill-starred publishing history. He's right; it has, but as the editor of *Libertarian Forum*, a magazine that we have not seen in over a year, Murray must know all about the financial difficulties that afflict libertarian publications. We can all agree on one thing, however: congratulations are due *American Libertarian* for its success.

Eric Garriss

Colin Hunter

Justin Raimondo

Palo Alto, CA

Lies and Tricks

In your last issue you covered the manifesto of former Radical Libertarians Justin Raimondo and Colin Hunter, urging libertarians to join the Republican Party. It's a sad but familiar story.

Far too often libertarians fall for the old saw that the Republicans are the "lesser of two evils." It's a horrible misconception. Even if it were true that the Republicans were more anti-government than the Democrats (and that's **not** true; Jimmy Carter actually deregulated far more than Reagan has ever even **proposed**), that would not make them better.

In our adversary-based political system, the Demos are only proper representatives of the "collective-action" principle. It's the Republicans who **lie** about being pro-free enterprise, and in so doing draw millions of voters who would otherwise be libertarians! The Democrats are at least honest opponents to our beliefs, and we should be allowed to face them in the marketplace of ideas, but the Republicans use every lie and trick of power to monopolize the political ground rightfully belonging to us!

The so-called "libertarian trend" represented by Zschau and Randolph is nice, but hardly encouraging. We've heard it all before, but it's the aristocrats who are in charge of the Republican Party, and always will be.

M.N. Plano

San Diego, CA

Emigré Libertarians?

I am indeed intrigued to read of the Raimondo-Hunter proposal for the assimilation of the LP into the Republican Party, especially in regard to the signal reasons they adduce to justify this proposal: (a) "that there are more libertarian-oriented activists within the GOP than are currently enrolled in the LP", and (b) "the LP itself is in decline." Those of short memory would do well to reflect on the causes contributing to this situation.

The Libertarian Defense Caucus is well acquainted with the distressing phenomenon of libertarians who were "driven away" from the LP, starting in the mid-1970s and continuing today, because of the Party's infatuation with unilateral-disarmament rhetoric and its tendency to denigrate the notion of a strong defense. Hundreds of these disaffected libertarians comprise the LDC's readership, and their

personal accounts suggest that many other people who otherwise would have been receptive to the LP were repelled by the Party's evidently nonsensical defense and foreign policy positions (e.g., the survivalist movement). Even Don Ernsberger (not a militarist by any stretch of the imagination) speculated that the 1984 campaign deterred perhaps 100,000 votes specifically because the candidate's "consistent position for peace" was repellent to the public *zeitgeist* (*Individual Liberty*, November 1984). In an era when the concept of strategic defense and repudiation of Mutual Assured Destruction has captured the public imagination and become a centerpiece of Republican strategic doctrine, it is remarkable that the LP prefers to remain mute on this subject.

It is therefore germane to mention that Messrs. Raimondo, Hunter, Garriss **et al** were responsible for pressing the issue of radical ("down to police levels") unilateral disarmament as an element of Party doctrine, asserting it as such **even if it was not actually embodied in the platform** (the Vice-Chairmanship of Sheldon Richman being a case in point). It is fair to say that if disenchantment with the LP's defense and foreign policy stance was a major reason for libertarians and others to turn away from the LP, the Radical Caucus and its sympathizers must be given fair credit for their contribution to this result.

Guest Column

The New Dolean Movement

by Murray Rothbard

Murray Rothbard is a well known libertarian economist and political analyst.

The great issue for conservatives and Reaganites for the next two years is **who**: who shall receive the laurel of heir designate of King Ronnie I, who shall carry on the torch of the Reaganite heritage into the 1990's? Different factions of the Republican Party are lining up their different champions: The supply-siders, Irving Kristol, and the neo-conservatives for Jack Kemp; Paul Weyrich and the moral majority for Pat Robertson; the Trilateral Commission and the Rockefeller World Empire for George Bush; and, coming up on the outside, a group of all too familiar born-again conservatives, none other than our old friends the Kochtopus, for ta-ra, Bob Dole! Bob Dole the forgettable! (Remember "Ford-Dole" beaten by "Carter-Mondale" in 1976?) Bob Dole, the dour mainstream politico whose only distinction from Reaganism is his more blatant love for high taxes?

Yes, both wings of the mighty Kochtopus seem to have put their imprimature on Bob Dole. In Richard Fink's Citizens for a Sound Economy, Dole and wife get the maximum attention in photo-opportunities for hand-

shakes with Fink and with Koch brothers. Meanwhile, over in Ed Crane's Cato Institute, chairman William Niskanen, formerly of Reagan's Council of Economic Advisors, comes out frankly for Dole for President. In a forthcoming symposium in *Policy Review*, quarterly journal of the conservative Heritage Foundation, on choices for president, Niskanen plumps for Bob Dole, who "has a very attractive set of positions" and who "may be the best politician in Washington."

Well, that settles **that**. Although the Kochtopus is in no sense libertarian any longer, it can always be relied upon to supply the rest of us with lots of laughs and surprises. Have the same self-proclaimed "professional" politicos who brought us Kent Guida and Earl Ravenal really caught the wave of the future at long last? Or is there something else going on here — a not-so-hidden agenda?

To be blunt, could it be pure coincidence that Senator and Mrs. Dole are powerful politicos who hail from none other than that very state that spawned the Kochtopus itself — the great state of Kansas, specifically Mother Wichita, beloved residence of Charles Koch and Koch Industries? And if you really think that's a coincidence, I have a few bridges in mint condition over the East River I would like to sell you. ■

hint at) to evaluate this proposal as much on the strength of its **authorship**, as on its purported merits.

Michael J. Dunn

Editor

American Defense

Auburn, WA

Consumer Hotline

Does *Reason* magazine still exist? When *Libertarian Review* stopped publishing, I was told that I would receive *Reason* until my *LR* subscription ran out. I never received the publication.

Bruce A. Perry

Gresham, OR

Libertarian Review ceased publication with their November/December 1981 issue. Unfulfilled subscriptions were to be extended by subscription to *Inquiry* magazine, also published by the Libertarian Review Foundation. *Inquiry* ceased publication with their July 1984 issue. According to a letter sent to *Inquiry* subscribers, its unfulfilled subscriptions were to be replaced by *Reason* magazine, published by the Reason Foundation.

Reason is still in business and recently relocated to the Los Angeles area. It's possible that your subscription got lost in the shuffle or that it finally expired. You can contact *Reason* at 2716 Ocean Park Boulevard, Suite 1062, Santa Monica, CA 90405. Ed.

Lapsed Libertarian?

Why so much space given to the Alaska Republican gubernatorial primary?

I do not read your otherwise interesting publication for news about Republican political affairs, whether or not they involve a lapsed libertarian.

Sam Treynor

Manhattan Beach, CA

Mr. Treynor is currently Treasurer of the national Libertarian Party. Our policy is to be inclusive rather than exclusive in our coverage of news concerning purported libertarians. Each reader may then judge the merits of such inclusion for himself.

In the case of the Alaska GOP primary, Dick Randolph's long history of involvement in the Libertarian Party, among other things, gives rise to our interest in that race. Ed.

Important Teachers

Congratulations on publishing your premier issue. It's too bad the lead story had to be a sad one, namely the death of Robert LeFevre. While never accepting all of his philosophy, I had as much respect for him as for anyone in the libertarian movement. Having found his writings shortly after finding those of Ayn Rand in the late 60's, he made a profound impact on my quickly developing libertarian outlook. In fact, while never seriously wishing to personally know Miss Rand, I always hoped to one day meet and spend some time with Bob LeFevre. That chance is gone now, but I will always consider him one of my most important teachers. He will be missed.

Steve Buckstein

Portland, OR

Keeping Up with the Joneses?

And the Clarks, the Tryons, the Pauls,
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the Nolans, the Konkins, the Hesses, the Marrous, the Lewises...?

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Is the LP in Trouble? History and the Cargo Cult

Part I of III
by Mike Holmes

Mike Holmes is the Editor of the *American Libertarian*. He attended the founding Libertarian Party convention in Denver in 1972 and has been active in the party ever since.

In many ways the Libertarian Party is like comedian Rodney Dangerfield, "it just doesn't get no respect." Despite the fact that in its fifteen year history it has become the third largest political party in the country, it is continually referred to as "a fringe movement" (recent *Newsweek* description) or an aberration in what is commonly referred to as the "two party" political system.

It is clear that playing third fiddle to the two "major" political parties is a difficult role, particularly since changes in ballot access laws in the past fifty years have made it increasingly difficult to launch and sustain an independent political party without spending massive amounts of money. Most successful third party movements in the past were centered around popular political leaders already prominent in politics (Henry Wallace in 1948, Strom Thurmond in 1956, George Wallace in 1968, John Anderson in 1980). But even these efforts were not sustained in a party format after their initial public exposure. In fact, one-man parties face the danger of extinction when their charismatic leader declines in popularity far more than does an issue based or ideological party.

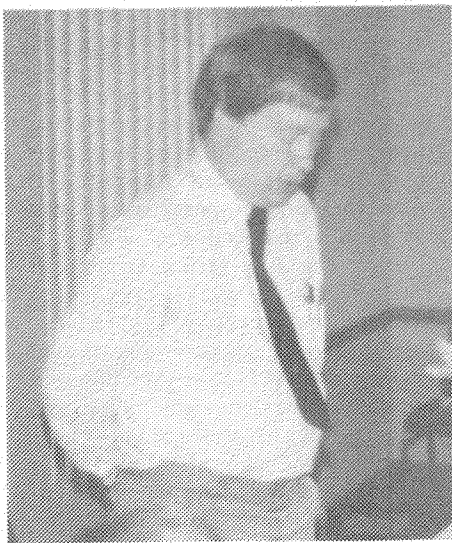
The recent history of third parties is not encouraging, in any event. But the question is: Is the LP in decline, doomed for extinction? Or are the current problems merely temporary symptoms of inevitable yet curable growing pains?

A Brief History

Although the party began in 1972 and ran presidential candidates in both 1972 and 1976, its growth prior to 1979 was modest and fairly slow. Attaining permanent ballot status in many states proved difficult, if not impossible. Membership and the contributor base hovered around one to three thousand. A major breakthrough occurred in 1978 when the Ed Clark gubernatorial campaign in California attracted significant media attention and the party was able to secure permanent ballot status as a result.

The party also attracted the attention and support of Charles Koch, the billionaire son of a wealthy Kansas oil entrepreneur who was also a founding member of the John Birch Society. Charles Koch was originally strongly anti-political, partly as a result of exposure to libertarian theorist Robert LeFevre. But as a result of discussions with economist Murray Rothbard, theorist Roy Childs and former investment advisor Edward Crane III, Koch became interested in the potential of a Libertarian Party and began contributing relatively sizable sums to party coffers. He also established the libertarian-oriented Cato Institute, which like the national LP offices at the time, was based in San Francisco.

First as Director of the LP and later as the President of the Cato Institute, Ed Crane became a major force in LP politics, primarily in his role as chief political operative for the Koch fortunes. With the nomination of Ed Clark for President in 1979, along with Charles' younger brother David Koch as LP Vice Presidential candidate (which provided a legal means around campaign finance limitations), Koch funding reached its zenith in 1980. With Koch contributions estimated in the \$2 million range for the Clark campaign alone, and with sizable



LP Treasurer Sam Trynor outlines the dimensions of the LP's financial crisis at the Baltimore meeting.

Koch contributions to the LP in the period 1978-1980, this considerable infusion of cash fueled LP growth and visibility. It gave rise to the feeling among LP members that for the first time, LP political prospects were genuine and that real political clout was in the offing.

In retrospect, this infusion of Kochian funding has been likening to an inflationary boom. When the bubble burst, some LP supporters took it as a sign of failure and decline. Despite early predictions of millions of Clark votes, the 1980 campaign yielded only about 920,000 and was far overshadowed in the media by the flash-in-the-pan John Anderson effort.

Koch's disenchantment with LP politics resulted in a sudden halt on further LP contributions by 1981. As a consequence of that and \$200,000 indebtedness undertaken by the national LP during the Clark campaign, the party was in severe financial trouble by mid-1981.

Eric O'Keefe, the hand-picked National LP Director chosen by Crane, was unable to cope with the financial crisis by mid-1982 in the absence of significant Koch contributions. He was abruptly fired by then current Chair Alicia Clark (wife of the 1980 presidential candidate) at the Billings, MT National Committee meeting in July 1982.

Libertarian Cargo Cult

Former Texas LP Chair and Director Honey Lanham took over from O'Keefe and held the position until June 1985. With a lot of work by LP members and leaders the \$200,000 LP debt was completely repaid by the start of the 1983 LP Presidential nominating convention in New York City.

In the climactic presidential nominating race, (made necessary by the last minute withdrawal of the only previously announced candidate) former two-time national LP Chair David Bergland narrowly defeated Georgetown University international affairs professor Earl Ravenal in a hotly contested race.

The Ravenal campaign was orchestrated and financed entirely by Ed Crane and his supporters (sometimes referred to as the "Crane Machine", perhaps more properly dubbed the "Koch Machine", in deference to the true Prime Mover). It was to be Crane's (and Koch's) last hurrah in LP politics.

While Crane now describes this effort as an attempt to "drag the party into the real world" (*Newsweek*, Sept. 1, 1986) other LP members resented Crane's earlier abandonment of the party after 1980 and mistrusted his commitment to libertarian principles.

After their defeat, only Earl Ravenal himself had the courtesy to attend the traditional convention victory banquet. And Ravenal, whose prior LP involvement was minimal, is the only one of the Crane group who continues to participate at all in party affairs.

Although supporters of the Ravenal effort even now claim that Crane & Co. was somehow "pushed out of the party", the truth is that none of the principal Crane faction members ever showed up again at LP functions. Undoubtedly, their dues checks would still be cashed.

More than longing for Cranian leadership, some LP members seem to be afflicted with a version of the "cargo cult" mentality. The original "cargo cult" are the New Guinea natives who continue to assemble at WWII jungle airstrips where military aircraft once unloaded tons of modern supplies highly prized by local inhabitants, in hopes that the great benefactors from the sky will return with more goodies. Like their jungle counterparts, LP cargo cultists continue to pine for the good old days when Koch's millions made things go better. They somehow believe that if the Crane faction

and Koch's money can be lured back to the party, the infusion of capital will solve all other LP problems as a matter of course.

Other observers doubt that Crane or Koch have any interest in LP politics regardless of the circumstances, and Koch fortunes have instead been directed towards the Cato Institute, the Committee for a Sound Economy and various other think tank and academic enterprises based around Washington, D.C. Even their efforts at backing major party candidates, like Dick Randolph's abortive Alaska gubernatorial bid, have met with failure.

Yet the expectations raised by the salad days of 1978-1980 are hard to quell, and comparisons between "then and now" are constantly made, despite obvious differences in funding circumstances. Virtually all LP funding is now provided by its membership. And only a handful of LP supporters qualify for the Party's \$1,000-per-year Torch Club honors.

(Next installment, *AL* examines the many problems afflicting the National Libertarian Party in **Part II, Problems, Problems, Problems.**)

FPA Holds First Conference

New York, NY - The Free Press Association (FPA) is holding a one day conference in New York City on Saturday, October 25, according to FPA Director Michael Grossberg. The conference, the first ever for the five-year-old FPA, is co-hosted by New York's Laissez Faire Books, and will also feature the fifth annual Mencken Awards, which are given to professional journalists in various categories.

The FPA is a non-profit tax exempt organization functioning "as an international network of reporters, editors, publishers, broadcasters and freelance writers committed to 'questioning authority' from a human rights perspective", according to the *Free Press Network*, the organization's newsletter. While not explicitly libertarian in orientation, the FPA concentrates on First Amendment and free speech issues and its membership includes most of the prominent libertarians in journalism. According to Grossberg current FPA membership is nearing 200.

Village Voice columnist, jazz critic and First Amendment expert Nat Hentoff will be the featured Saturday evening banquet

speaker, and will also participate in the panel on libel laws. The banquet will also feature special tributes to libertarian journalists Henry Hazlitt and the late Robert LeFevre, with libertarian writer Roy Childs doing the honors.

Other presentations include novelist Kay Nolte Smith on free speech and the arts, former FCC staffer Milton Mueller on telecommunications deregulation and presentations and panels by John Fund of the *Wall St. Journal*, *Orange County Register* columnists Jeff Rigenbach and Alan Bock, Martin Morse Wooster of *Harpers*, and Scott Stantis of the *Memphis Commercial Appeal*. 1985 Mencken Award winner Roger Bidinotto will discuss his award winning feature "Simon Geller vs. the FCC" in a special workshop. Other presentations will cover Reagan's "Cold War" on the media, using the Freedom of Information Act, media bias, and commercial free speech.

The conference will be held at the Summit Hotel (51st and Lexington, 212-752-7000) and early registration for both the conference and banquet is \$55.00. For registration and more information, contact: **FPA, Box 15548, Columbus, OH 43215.**

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Libertarian Satellite Broadcasting On Air

Salt Lake City, UT - The state of Utah, which boasts of a number of libertarian firsts (first state with permanent LP ballot status, most LP candidates running, first town controlled by Libertarians) can add another notch. Salt Lake City is home to the first international satellite broadcast program over the air.

Presented by FM America (Free Market America), the two hour weekly Kay Henry Show features "permanent libertarian guest" Steve Trotter on an audio call-in program which is usually devoted to libertarian questions and subjects. FM America owns a satellite "uplink" facility which bounces a signal off a Telstar satellite which can be picked up by any of the estimated 2 million owners of home satellite dishes.

FM America operates TVRO radio, which produces 24 hour-per-day "audio only" programming to satellite dish owners, consisting of either music or radio talk programs. The Kay Henry Show is currently broadcast from 5-7 p.m. each Thursday (Eastern Daylight Time) off Telstar 303, Transponder 18, Audio 6.2. Satellite dish enthusiasts support the FM America station with voluntary subscriptions and purchases of station materials via their "800" toll free

phone number.

Libertarian "guest" Steve Trotter, in a recent AL interview, noted that "dish owners are a lot like CB or ham enthusiasts, or computer jocks, people who really appreciate their technology and are willing to voluntarily support the medium and its programming. So far it's working. FM America has been operating about a year and our particular show began this spring." The station is moving to a full 24 hours of talk programming, and may soon be bouncing its signal off a stationary Atlantic satellite to Europe and North Africa.

"We're also negotiating with a shortwave relay station in Alaska, which could send our program to eastern Russia and the western Pacific," Trotter explains, "making this a truly international medium."

Response to the libertarian show has been good, with all five call-in lines usually lit up during the show. "We currently reach from the Arctic Circle to the northern part of South America, and have taken calls from across the U.S. and Canada," Trotter notes. Topics are wide ranging, but include a good deal of political discussion and libertarian themes. Trotter also holds the video rights to the famous anti-tax film "Harry's War", which he advertises on the program as well.

"With the advent of small roof-mounted dishes, this medium will really take off soon, and I'm glad the libertarian program is already out there to be heard," Trotter concludes.

In addition to the satellite reception data noted earlier above, the on-line, on-air call-in number for the show is 801-362-8876 (801-FMA-TVRO).■

Future of Freedom '86

Los Angeles, CA - The 18th annual Future of Freedom Conference will be held November 7, 8 & 9, 1986 at the Pacifica Hotel & Convention Center in Culver City, CA.

Libertarian life extension advocates Durk Pearson and Sandy Shaw are the featured banquet speakers, discussing "Getting What You Want in Spite of the State" and "Your Health into the 21st Century". Author Barbara Branden will speak at a luncheon buffet on "The Writing of The Passion of Ayn Rand".

Attendees will spend the weekend with three former Libertarian Party Presidential candidates, the first female Vice Presidential candidate ever to receive a vote in the Electoral College, the 1986 Lt. Governor of California candidate, and a host of well known and respected writers, thinkers and philosophers in the freedom movement.

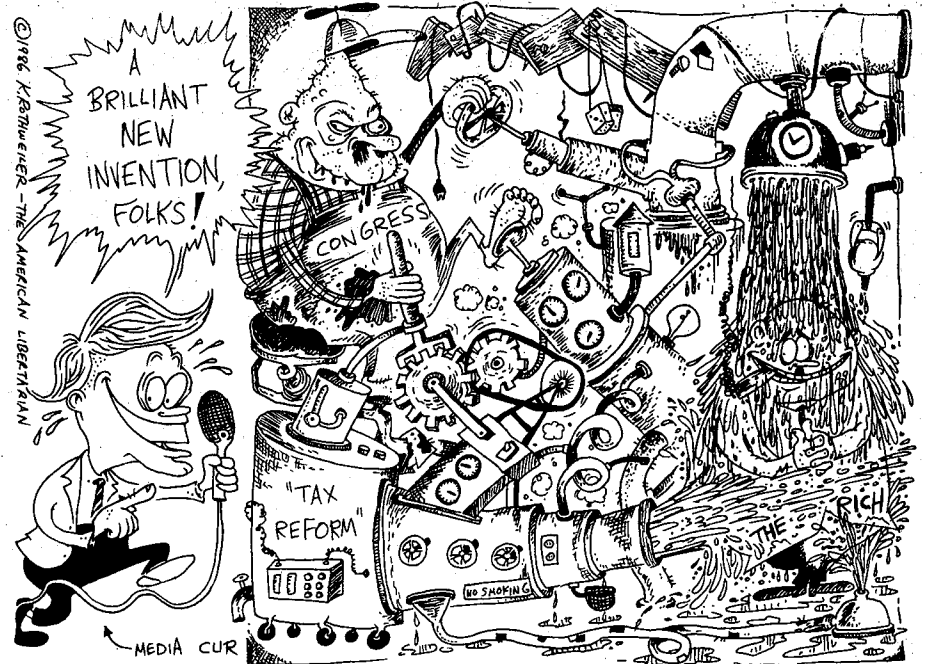
Among the speeches, panels and work-

shops attendees will enjoy are: Small Business and Manufacturer's Trade Fair & Workshop; Space: Freedom's Final Frontier; Freedom and Religion; Deregulating the Poor; Doctors, Lawyers, Victims and the Justice System, and many more.

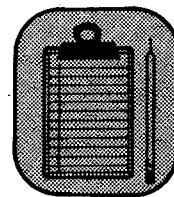
The feature debate will be between White House speech writer Dana Rohrabacher and 1984 Presidential candidate David Bergland on the Reagan Administration's Defense Policy. This debate promises to be one of the high points of the weekend.

Previous Future of Freedom Conferences have attracted up to 600 people, making it the largest annual libertarian gathering during most years.

Prices range from \$159 for all events and meals to \$45 for the evening banquet only. For more information, write to **Future of Freedom Conference, P.O. Box 224, Long Beach, CA 90801** or call (714) 531-1807.■



Political Notes



Big Water, UT - The only city in America controlled by the Libertarian Party got its first taste of "tax reform" libertarian style. The LP-controlled Big Water City Council voted to abolish its 14.9 mill

property tax by 4 to 0. "To my knowledge it's the first time any town in Utah has abolished property tax since the 1930's," said William Marshall, Utah LP Chair.

"I don't know if it's momentous, but we sure did it," remarked Big Water Mayor and recent Libertarian convert Alex Joseph, who also admits to having 10 wives. "We didn't have any complaints, we just got out of the business of legalized robbery."

The tax elimination was also partly in response to a recent increase in the county property tax, which Joseph also vows to abolish if successful in his fall bid for County Commissioner, as the Libertarian Party candidate.

Salt Lake City, UT - The Utah LP is running a total of 51 candidates for office this fall, ranging from U.S. Senate to local sheriff. Over 75 people attended their convention in June and it was an interesting mix of "polygamists with several wives to punk rockers with multicolored hair and people wearing Gay Pride buttons," according to one report.

Auburn, AL - Libertarain philosopher Tibor Machan is joining the Auburn University Department of Philosophy in the fall of 1986. Auburn also has a number of other pro-liberty philosophers on staff. Machan has published a number of libertarian books and articles as well as scholarly writings, and has been active within the Reason Foundation.

The libertarian-oriented Ludwig Von Mises Institute, which sponsors Austrian economics activities, is also based at Auburn University.

Angels Camp, CA - Libertarian Calaveras County Supervisor Tom Tryon is fighting the local Planning Commission opposition to his sale of land to the Buddhist Retreat Center. The Commission has tentatively approved the zoning change but a challenge has reopened the matter. Tryon has refuted the arguments point by point and only one opponent to the sale remains. The local *Calaveras Enterprise* has even editorialized in favor of Tryon's right to use his own property. Tryon won election in 1984 partly as a result of his opposition to land use controls.

Salt Lake City, UT - LP National Chair Jim Turney has had extensive discussions with Ezra Taft Benson, leader of the Mormon Church, during a June visit to Utah. Turney reports that Benson "considers himself a libertarian and has made a special point of that fact in writings." Benson's libertarian leanings are reportedly not shared by all of the top Mormon leadership. ■

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Admission to all events, deluxe banquet & luncheon: \$159.

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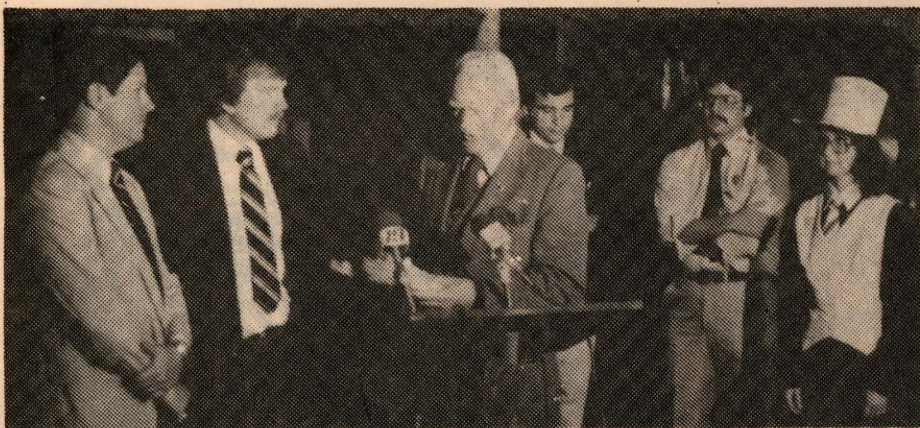
Admission to all events without meals: \$99.

Pearson/Shaw banquet only (11/8/86 from 7-10 pm) \$45.

Merchant tables, 3 Days: \$99.

Send your check, name, address & phone number to
Future of Freedom Conference, P.O. Box 224, Long Beach, CA 90801
(714) 531-1807 Coordinator: Dagny Sharon

Co-Sponsors: Aqorist Institute, Freenetwork, N.A., Libertarian International, Society for Individual Liberty



The South Carolina LP was the only political group to oppose the proposed SC City-County Tax Bill, which would have allowed local and county governments to levy income, sales and various other taxes. The SCLP testified against the measure and collected 2,000 signatures on petitions opposing the measure.

Sen. Joe Wilson (left) and Rep. Jarvis Klapman (center) receive anti-tax petitions from libertarians Bill Griffin (second from left), Drew Amendola, Mark Johnson and Jan Chapman. Photo by David Morris.



Bill Grisham (l) and Wolfe Larson (r) lead the San Antonio based Citizens for Musical Liberty (CML). The SA City Council recently banned rock concerts from the municipal auditorium. CML opposes this along with recent government pressure to rate and label commercial records. CML can be contacted at: 3942 Heritage Hill, San Antonio, TX 78247

Media Watch



"Tentative Decision to be Bold"

Washington, D.C. - While the Charles Koch funded libertarian think tank empire is reportedly favoring a Republican Senator from Kansas, the

August 1 *Washington Post* indicates that the Cato Institute, at least, is hedging their 1988 presidential sweepstakes bets.

According to the *Post*, none other than Pierre S. du Pont IV (former Congressman and Governor of Delaware) has been visiting with the Cato folks to pick up a few new ideas. Cato Chair William Niskanen reportedly warned du Pont's campaign manager that some of Cato's positions (like privatization of Social Security and withdrawal from NATO) might get a politician in trouble.

No mind, came the reply, and du Pont might consider endorsing some Cato positions because the du Pont effort "has made a tentative decision to be bold."

Intellectual Activist Purges Hessen

Palo Alto, CA - Several sources have reported that former Ayn Rand confidant Robert Hessen, of the Hoover Institute and former owner of Objectivist oriented Palo Alto Bookservice, has been purged from the ranks of the "official" Randian keepers of the flame.

These reports indicate Hessen has been removed from the editorial board of the leading official Randspeak publication *The Intellectual Activist* over his approval of Barbara Branden's recent biography of Rand, *The Passion of Ayn Rand* (reviewed in the July AL).

Rand's official designated literary (and financial) heir Leonard Peikoff is also reportedly considering legal action over Hessen's sale of his bookservice to New York based Laissez-Faire Bookservice, operated by libertarian Andrea Millen Rich.

According to Branden's biography, Rand herself eventually disowned and excommunicated nearly all of her original supporters and friends in her later years, leaving her alone and isolated. Her spiritual heirs and campfollowers seem to be adhering to her example down to the last True Believer...

And Speaking of Objectivoids...

Brookline, MA - And just when you thought you had sorted out the theological distinctions between the official and renegade "Students of Objectivism," et al, Virginia Hamel of Brookline, MA announces the formation of the "Foundation for the New Freeman, Inc."

According to a recent mailing, the purpose of the Foundation is to launch various projects (employing letters, bumperstickers, bookmarks and bookjackets) denouncing altruism.

Echoing Nancy Reagan's anti-drug slogan, Hamel's efforts include the slogan "Just say 'No' to Self-Sacrifice." The initial mailer is laced with ritual quotations from Rand and denunciations of Karl Marx and Immanuel Kant.

Those interested in this sort of thing can contact the foundation at: 1909 Beacon St., Brookline, MA 02146.

Boomers on the Potomac

Washington, DC - Cato Institute President Edward Crane III and number 2 man David Boaz are probably still smiling as widely as they were when *Newsweek* captured them on film for the Sept. 1 story about the Washington D.C.-based think tank.

Aside from a few shots at the LP, the article entitled "A Baby Boomer's Think Tank," was a one page account of Cato's growing influence in the Washington political establishment. A longer but similar profile appeared last year in the *Washington Post*, whose parent publishing company owns *Newsweek*.



The Reason Foundation and Reason magazine moved to a new 4,000 sq. ft. headquarters in Santa Monica, CA in June. After 13 years in Santa Barbara, the operation moved to the LA area to be nearer to UCLA, major media outlets, potential contributors and LAX. Their new address/phone is: Reason, 2716 Ocean Park Boulevard, Suite 1062, Santa Monica, CA 90405. (213)392-0443.

Clark Joins Reason

Santa Monica, CA - Former LP Chair Alicia Clark, wife of 1980 LP presidential candidate Ed Clark, has taken on a new assignment of late.

"On a trial basis I'm going to be doing public relations work for the Reason Foundation," she reports, "particularly with organizing and publicizing the Oct. 18 'Welcome to LA' dinner for Reason at the Bonaventure Hotel. We're expecting at least 500 people. I'm happy to be working again for the libertarian cause."

If successful, Alicia reports, she may continue with Reason on a permanent basis.

Media Bits and Pieces

Western Washington U. students DeAnn Pullar and Bill McCord made the front pages of the University's *Western Front* paper by protesting a seminar on "American Democracy and the Two-Party System," co-sponsored by the Taft Institute. The Libertarians object to the bi-partisan presentation masquerading itself as non-partisan... The *Wall St. Journal* continues its generally excellent coverage of things with the Reason's Robert Poole Jr.'s review of *Who Profits: Winners, Losers and Government Regulation* by Robert A. Leone on August 4, and with Mesa Petroleum's T. Boone Pickens Jr. letter of August 8 praising Doug Bandow's analysis of the Business Roundtable's statist bias for big business in an earlier issue. Pickens' remarks sound very libertarian, "... Roundtable members run to government when they perceive a potential threat to their power or profitability..." T. Boone for President, anyone?

National Review's Joseph Sobran's recent syndicated column turns the old "damning with faint praise" cliché on its head. His column on libertarians and the drug issue bemoaned the fact that some people can't stand freedom because they behave like children, despite the fact that libertarianism is "a noble idea." How about "praising with faint damns..."?

The New Hampshire LP received a nice write up in a recent *New Hampshire Times* article headlined "New Hampshire's Perfect Political Party?", which certainly has a nice ring to it... And finally, Greek journalist Alexander Yotis and 17 intellectuals were busted in July for the crime of operating a pirate radio station from his home. Socialist Greece is the only Western European nation where the state retains a monopoly on radio and TV. Here's hemlock in yer eye to the "birthplace of monopoly"...

Coming Attractions

Is the LP In Trouble? Part two in the three-part series...

Big Water Utah: Religious Cult, Real Estate Promotion or Libertarian Revolution? Exclusive AL Report

America's "Green Decentralists" by Michael O'Mara

Profile, Libertarian Playwright Bill Danks

Interview: Ron Paul

Reviews: Bergland on "Libertarianism: the Perversion of Liberty", Ron Paul on Stockman's "The Triumph of Politics"

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

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