



LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF OAKLAND COUNTY

March 1993

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Al Doyle

As you recall from our last newsletter, I questioned who our new president would betray first in his quest to impoverish the American people. The votes are now in and, instead of singling out one particular group, Bill decided it was more democratic to stab everyone in the back. Everyone, that is, except his mentors.

One of Bill's mentors is one Mr. Rubin, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury and formerly the Chairman of Goldman Sachs. Now we all know that government service is a selfless calling. No right thinking servant would ever misuse the levers of power to help a former employer. It is curious however, that prior to the president's call for national sacrifice, Goldman Sachs issued an urgent recommendation to its big shooter client base to quickly ease out of stocks and into long term government bonds. Remarkably, that foresightful call by Goldman was followed within a week by Secretary of the Treasury Bentsen's revelation that the Department of Treasury would cease issuance of long term bonds in its ongoing efforts to float the national debt. The stagnant long bond market took off like a shot, while the stock market fell like a stone halting only for a dead cat bounce. Unlike the Bill of Rights, the law of supply and demand hasn't been repealed yet.

We have four years of Clinton ahead of us. By the end of his term a comparison will have shown Bush, Reagan and Carter as pikers compared to what Bill is going to borrow. We, on the other hand, have not been consulted about what the new regime's

plans for our future are going to cost us. One thing is clear, whatever liberties we now claim will be diminished by the geometrically increasing demands for federal and state revenues to pay the interest expense on those borrowings. Last month I wrote that "We will all be rooting for [Clinton] to get on with recruiting new Libertarians for us." Unfortunately, that growth is going to cause discomfort to genetic Libertarians. Newcomers are going to be angry at the power structure. Some will be unbalanced. On the surface, what other reasons would cause voters to align with an unknown party in the first place? We will have to be courteous and patient with new members. They may not have read Andrew Jackson's farewell address or Herb Spencer's essays, but they know they are getting screwed. The known order of Libertarian philosophy will be challenged and possibly softened by new members. We have to anticipate this pressure for change now. Less is seat of the pants management and it doesn't work.

This will be an important meeting this month. Our party, Libertarian Party of Oakland County, will begin defining its goals. I don't pretend that we aspire to win a national office at the County level. But, we need Libertarians at the local level to stop the pork barrel tax increases. We need Libertarians to get rid of local police seizure laws. Not after we gain national office. Now! We can win at this level. We need to win at this level. But, we must pick our targets first, then go after them. Identifying objectives allows us to see where we have succeeded or missed the mark. How we are going to do that is the job of the party's bylaws. They have to be discussed and agreed to before we can be a real organization. If, as

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE
(Continued)

Libertarians, we can't agree on bylaws to pursue common goals, then we can't even win a free Amway demonstration. One of the easiest things to do during a growth period is to stray from the mission and goals. To start, we need a bylaw committee to draft and address problems we want to avoid in our bylaws. Tim O'Brien will fill us in on weaknesses and strengths in the model he wrote for the state party.

Since the 3rd Wednesday of March falls on St Patrick's Day and Tim O'Brien is going to be playing traditional Irish music at Whiskey Nancy's down in Corktown on the 17th, we have delayed this month's meeting to the 24th of March. Besides, your friends will be celebrating with Tim on St. Patrick's Day. Since Hill and Billory have already turned you green, why not join us?

February's LPOC Meeting

February's LPOC meeting was held at the Red Lobster in Madison Heights. Al Weissberg was approved for the Membership Chair vacancy. The LPOC has yet to fill the Fund-raising Chair vacancy. Over 100 newsletters were mailed last month. Those who receive the newsletter will have 4 months to move to "member" or "subscriber" status, due to the cost of postage.

Edward Haroutunian, Chairman, Wayne County Republican Committee gave a talk about "Establishing Unpopular Political Party Operations". A summary of his statements follows. Often third parties do not have much history of success because those in a large party who see a third party challenge them will adopt their position. Therefore, people in the 3rd party will lose steam. 14 months ago the Wayne County Republican Committee was formed. Today the County has 5 Congressional districts. The WCRC sends out newsletters to many that are not members. One major goal of a political party is to let people know that you are alive. The WCRC has 3 levels of membership: \$300.00, \$100.00, and \$20.00.

The WCRC targets races in Wayne County. People that are not targeted feel neglected. Ed feels the the party must focus in one area to win. It is important to have a candidate in all the races. People do not like to see a viable political Party without a candidate. A party has to have a name on the ballot even if its only on paper.

There is public perception that Democrats are a warm people party and Republicans are cold. A party needs a candidate that understands people and is gregarious. Bush's messages did not come across in this last presidential race, though his answers were good. People have to understand your message. Most people do not understand what the Libertarian Party stands for. A party must sell its principles. Using Language that people understand is important. Using money to gain public attention is a difficult option. Newsletters and letters to the Editor are easier, so you should focus in on smaller newspapers. Papers that list political parties and the position of their political candidates should be a focal point. Use resources available from your membership, focus and take small steps.

Martin Howrylak, Primary Candidate, Troy City Council gave a presentation. Martin is a student at Troy High School. Martin came in 6th and was only 95 votes short of winning. Martin is now running for a vacancy seat. Through a grassroots effort he spent less money than most candidates. Martin sought the absentee vote. He focused on 4 issues. Martin had a voter registration drive. He received a lot of media attention because of his young age. He feels success takes shoe leather, knocking on doors, and making contact with the voters. The LPOC voted to donate money to Emily Salvett's campaign for Mayor of Ann Arbor, and Martin's campaign for City Council.

Anyone interested in joining the Libertarian Party of Oakland County or receiving the newsletter only is invited to fill out the following entry form. Dues for one year membership is \$10.00 and includes the newsletter. If you wish to receive the newsletter only and do not want to be listed as a member, the fee is still \$10.00. Please indicate below.

Make checks payable to the LPOC.

Send to LPOC, Box 182, 145 S. Livernois, Rochester, MI 48307

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Membership

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Newsletter

Name : _____

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POTSHOTS ...

Dear Mr. President,

Your administration believes that those who benefited in the 80's must pay their fair share in the 90's. I am very disappointed with this policy. Many Americans who did not benefit during those selfish ten years but are successful in this decade will fall through the cracks and sacrifice unnecessarily. They will bear more of the burdens that this sinful capitalist system wrought.

I strongly believe that these partially self-serving Americans should not have to contribute as much as their fellow patriots who completely benefited during the 1980's.

I want to put all the facts on the table. To some Americans the entire 80's wasn't a wash. A few did alright in 1988 and 1989. But trust me, 1980 through 1986 were complete disasters to most. These hardworking Americans who did not reap the most possible from the 80's should be rewarded. Some sort of safety net should be put in place to give these people incentives. Just incentives so they will not be overly productive. So they will not strive to be above others. And above all so they will be more dependent on the State. I feel, Mr. President, that we should pro-rate their fair share.

We Americans voted for a change, although some hoped change would take an alternate direction. I hope that the deeply embedded American spirit will never change. I hope for the spirit of liberty, freedom and individuality. I hope for the spirit of self-reliance. Included in this American spirit is the desire to help each other out in times of need. I also foresee the broad base who will now benefit during your Administration paying their fair share in the year 2000, because I fear that your goal is to have the American populace without shares in anything by the end of your term.

Sincerely,

lcb

LPOC MEMBER

NEXT LPOC MEETING MARCH 24

The Libertarian Party meets on the third Wednesday of each month. March's meeting will be postponed one week. The location for the LPOC meeting is the Red Lobster, Madison Heights, 101 W. 12 Mile Rd. between I-75 and John R (542-1140). Cocktails are at 6:00 P.M., dinner at 7:30 and the general meeting concerning by-laws will start at 8:00 P.M.

"THE ONLY INDUSTRIALIZED NATION"

We have been told by Robert Reich and other political leaders that we lag behind other industrialized nations in almost all social areas. "We are the only industrialized nation in the world", Reich laments, "that has a two-tiered system of social mobility. Those that have a college education tend to move upward and those that do not have a college education tend to move downward. We must stop this inequity."

President Clinton recently reproved drug companies for charging "unconscionable" drug prices. "Our nation is the only industrialized nation in the whole world that does not guarantee childhood vaccinations for all children." Sounding more like a commercial for cotton than a pitch for his social programs, he went on to say, "It ought to be like clean water and clean air. It ought to be a fabric of our life."

As if to reinforce the "America lags" concept, our decision-makers are looking toward Europe to provide the answer. Our leaders have concluded that it is alright to raise taxes on gasoline. After all, our gasoline tax is lower than any other industrialized nation.

To illustrate further, recently our healthcare taskforce invited Prime Minister Brundtland of Norway to advise them on socialized medicine. The panel concluded that the American citizen is allowed too much choice in their health care, which makes the system costly. It is unfortunate that choice of doctors, hospitals, and procedures tends to do that.

The Norwegians are a poor example to look to for freedom of choice in all areas. A recent example will serve; Norwegians are unable to choose their own surname, or spelling of such, without State approval. Names ending in "son" must be spelled "sen" to differentiate them from Swedish names. This is hardly a model of elevated social consciousness. The popular consensus must be that comparisons of America to other industrialized nations are ridiculous.

lcb

QUOTATIONS

"Suppose that picking a man's pocket excited in him joyful emotions, by brightening his prospects: would theft be counted among crimes?"

HERBERT SPENCER, The Data of Ethics
III 1879

"He who steals a handful of gold is put in jail; he who steals a whole country is made king."

JAPANESE PROVERB

"What is't to us if taxes rise or fall? Thanks to our fortune, we pay none at all!"

CHARLES CHURCHILL, Night, 1762

"The state and municipality go to great expense to support policemen and sheriffs and judicial officers, to protect people against themselves, that is, against the result of their own folly, vice and recklessness. Who pays for it? Undoubtedly the people who have not been guilty of folly, vice or recklessness."

W.G. SUMMER, The Forgotten Man,
1883

PRESIDENT'S DAY

TIM O'BRIEN

Today is President's Day. In honor of the occasion I thought I'd share with you a little of the wisdom of a few of the 41 men who have held that office. See if you can guess which said what. Okay? Here we go.

Who said: "Government is not reason; it is not eloquence. It is Force! And force, like fire, is a dangerous servant and a fearful master." That's right. The putative Father of our Country and first President -- George Washington.

So, you got that one right. But, it was an easy one. Obvious even. How about this one: "Prohibition will work great injury to the cause of temperance. It is a species of intemperance within itself, for it goes beyond the bounds of reason in that it attempts to control a man's appetite by legislation and makes a crime out of things that are not crimes. A Prohibition Law strikes a blow at the very principles upon which our government was founded." Did you guess one of the presidents from the turn of the century who maybe saw the futility of the coming 18th Amendment? Sorry. That was the other president for whom we celebrate President's Day -- Abraham Lincoln.

Okay then, how about this one: "The free market is a decentralized regulator of our economic system. The free market is not only a more efficient decision maker than even the wisest planning body, but even more important, the free market keeps economic power widely dispersed." No, it's not another nineteenth century president -- that was John F. Kennedy.

And how about this: "When the President does it, that means that it is not illegal." Is that one tricky? Yes, is it! -- Richard Nixon.

Of course, we libertarians are much more taken with the earlier

presidents. Here is a warning from one we should have heeded: "I believe there are more instances of the abridgement of freedom of the people by gradual and silent encroachment of those in power than by violent and sudden usurpations." That was the Father of the Constitution, -- James Madison.

Here's another early president on the subject of central planning: "If we were directed from Washington when to sow and when to reap, we should soon want bread." If you guessed that that bit of insight came from our third president and author of the Declaration of Independence, you were right. It was Thomas Jefferson.

Sticking with the same subject, but moving back to the twentieth century, listen to this: "The doctrine of regulation and legislation by 'master minds,' in whose judgement and will all the people may gladly and quietly acquiesce, has been too glaringly apparent in Washington during these last ten years. Were it possible to find 'master minds' so unselfish, so willing to decide unhesitatingly against their own personal interests or private prejudices, men almost god-like in their ability to hold the scales of justice with an open hand, such government might be to the interest of the country. But there are none such on our political horizon, and we cannot expect a complete reversal of all the teachings of history." -- Franklin Roosevelt. Franklin Roosevelt?

Letters to the Editor

Articles and letters to the editor are welcomed. Letters should be signed. Send your materials to LPOC Newsletter, Box 182, 145 S. Livernois Rochester, MI 48307.

OFFICERS

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TRUTH IN REPORTING

We need an informed public, and the media is not helping. The public quickly tires of peering through the endless lines of print in search of straight news. The public grows bored and weary listening to the endless drone of monotone voice and spiraling speech. The result is frustration and apathy, a very disagreeable mix. Bold and clear warnings for cigarettes and alcohol are displayed prominently on the packaging. Newspapers and other news media should include warnings on the front of their products. They could place these disclaimers under the headline or before their programs. "WARNING - The newsstories printed within are meant to sway public opinion." Or perhaps newspapers should list the feature writers that fall under the "SYNDICATED COMMUNIST" category. And we all probably know of a reporter that could use "BEWARE - Part of the story left out on purpose." If we think about it, recently the tag "DANGER - Footage shown an over-dramatization" would have been very helpful!

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