



MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Michigan

Volume 16, No. 5

September/October 1989

Philadelphia Rings the Liberty Bell

The 1989 Libertarian Party national convention was held in Philadelphia through Labor Day weekend at the Wyndham Franklin Plaza Hotel. The Michigan delegation (14 votes), one of the largest, was complemented by several alternates and fellow travelers. At one time or another, the following individuals were noted in participation on the convention floor:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Jon and Ruth Addiss | Janet Parkes |
| Gary Bradley | Mary Ruwart |
| Jack Elder | Emily Salvette |
| Bill and Vicki Hall | Mark Sellers |
| Pete Hendrickson | Steve Silver |
| James Hudler | Don and Evy Warmbier |
| Dave Hunt | Dick Whitelock (chr) |
| Denise Kline | Brian Wright |
| Jim and Anna McAbee | Doreen Wright |
| Tim O'Brien | |

Many of our people were actively involved in floor debate on party bylaws and platform issues, the major business (aside from electing officers and natcom) of this off-presidential-year convention..



LPM convention-goers deliberate

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economist Littman Pg. 7

The principal bylaws work resulted in a lower-population national committee, in effect cutting the number of regional reps from 19 to 9 and at-large reps from 7 to 5, and eliminating the former-chair position. The platform remained solid, receiving mainly technical emendation, but also getting emphasis on the women's rights section and a beef-up of anti-drug law/war wording. A powerful minority plank contra the Israeli state and the US' "special relationship" with that Middle East garrison, authored by Don Warmbier, generated controversy and did not ultimately fly.

David Walter was elected chair; Mary Gingell, vice-chair; Joe Dehn (pronounced 'Dean'), secretary; and Steve Fielder, treasurer. Matt Monroe, the major challenger to Walter for the top spot [*or, more appropriately, the hot spot - Ed.*] was conciliatory in defeat, and most of the Michigan delegation came away feeling that "high-level" schisms are at least manageable if not in remission. One sidelight: Bob "Tattle" Murphy, who did finally apologize for having tried to sic FEC dogs on the LP, still had the chutzpah to run for chair. And he got more than one vote, too!

In addition to party business, the convention featured a series of interesting speakers and inspiring personalities — Karl Hess, Charles Murray, Francis Kendall, Walter Williams, Jim Lewis, Andre Marrou, to name a few (The logistics couldn't be worked out in time to get Russell Means from an Arizona jail (where he had been locked up for trying a citizen's arrest of a usurpative BIA official) to Philadelphia) — and special events. Many went to Atlantic City, while a large pilgrimage paid respects to the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, and [*my personal favorite - Ed.*] City Tavern.

(See *Philadelphia*, page 12)

MICHIGAN LIBERTARIAN

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From the editor

As most of you will notice, Tim O'Brien's name has been replaced with mine over there in the who's-responsible-for-this box. It was a peaceful transition. I think he did an outstanding job. When he said he was going to be handing off the baton and Ben Bachrach suggested I consider running the next lap, I didn't exactly leap up with wild enthusiasm.

"Well, basically I was just passing through on my way to Australia," I said. But then I gave it some thought: "With the production team Tim has assembled, all I should really have to do is, gee whiz, edit and write. Since editing and writing is something I now do for a living, and I can 'leverage substantial resources' toward the newsletter; I shouldn't have to cancel my personal life to take this job."

So I said okay. Mr. Whitelock was kind enough to make it official. And here we are. From my relatively long experience in the LP — participating in the founding convention of the LPM, serving as newsletter editor and chairman a couple of times each during the early eighties, etc. — things look pretty good now. I sense another big wave coming our way through '92, probably as big as the Clark campaign in '80. Could easily be bigger.

No this isn't crazed optimism. It isn't even just intuition bred of long familiarity. I perceive, accurately I think, throughout the party (and within the movement) a maturity and a coalescence of humane forces toward resolving major practical political problems of our day. Others are beginning to see *both*: we have answers *and* a number of individuals who can actually connect with the real world and real people to make answers happen.

I think the more idealistic among us are beginning to realize that the dream isn't going to get real without a fair amount of day-to-day problem-solving. And we're learning to relax a little and enjoy the journey. "Hey, it's only work. Let's not panic. The sky isn't falling. We'll go out and get the job done. We're the best." A lot of us have learned our way out of super-volunteerism, too ... into teamwork.

Please bear with me for an issue or two to get the system as responsive as possible to your needs. Dan Day has volunteered to be point man for news of LPM activities and campaigns; wherever you are in Michigan, we want to know what's going on, so call us or drop us a line.

My policy is also to provide news of any significant event where a bunch of Libertarians would be expected to show up, e.g. Metro Detroit Libertarians, Ann Arbor Libertarian League, Benzonia Black Guelphs Anonymous, or whatever. Of course,

(See *Editor*, page 12)

From the chairman

Now that the hustle and bustle of the national LP convention is history, an expression of appreciation and thanks is in order. I would like to thank all of the Michigan delegates and alternates who took time from their busy schedules to attend the convention.

Thanks also to Bill Hall for his dedication and work as our national committee representative. During his tenure Bill also served as legal counsel for natcom. His input will be missed.

Much of the discussion at the national LP convention in Philadelphia centered around future growth of the party and what methods we should use to attract new members. Fortunately for us, the starcomeD and the snacilbupeR keep giving us more than enough ammunition to use in our war against the state. All we have to do is to strike while the iron is hot.

Politicians of the elephant and jackass banner have continually alienated a number of powerful special interest groups.

The National Organization of Women and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference have recently announced their dissatisfaction with the hypocrisy of the older parties and have threatened to form their own political parties. Haven't they heard about the Libertarian Party?

It's difficult to understand why groups like NOW and the SCLC would even consider such action when the libertarian philosophy of liberty is for everyone, regardless of race or gender, is so accessible. It's already in place in the third largest political party in the country.

While the agenda of many organizations is one of a single issue, it's time for Libertarians to address their particular concerns and make it known that the Libertarian Party welcomes them with open arms, and that we have a platform plank designed with them in mind. Obviously, we've not been doing our job in convincing these people that freedom is for everyone.

If the LP is to grow, then we must do everything possible to attract anyone who has been pushed into the ranks of the politically homeless.

We cannot wait for them to discover us. We must let them know that the Libertarian Party is their political haven, ... and that within our ranks their voices will be heard. So let's get off the dime, LP members of Michigan. Other LP state organizations are making great strides in attracting new members. Are we going to sit back and remain stagnant? For liberty's sake, I hope not.

Libertarian Party of Michigan

Officers

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Central Committee

Eaton County:	Jon Addiss
Ingham:	Dale Dobberstein
Ionia:	Keith Fox
Kalamazoo:	Patrick Morrissey
Livingston:	Bill Johnson
Macomb:	Keith Edwards
Oakland:	Emily Salvette
Ottawa:	Dick Jacobs
Washtenaw:	David Hunt
Wayne:	Evy Warmbier

National Committee Member

(Region 6)	Steve Dasbach 4523 Morning Wind Pl. Ft. Wayne, IN 46804	(219) 432-7430
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Michigan Membership Monitor

National to date: 277

State to date: 220

1990 Goal: Higher

Gresham's Law of Activism: "Bad Activists Tend to Drive Out the Good Ones"

by George O'Brien

[During his "Grow or Die" breakfast presentation, Andre Marrou made a strong case for the importance of gaining members and winning elections. (Ref. Virginia's fine candidates article on page 7.) Andre then went on to emphasize how important it is that we be receptive to new people and be especially considerate, benevolent, and tolerant toward any member, especially those who actively work toward party goals. Finally, Andre specifically recommended that LPers read this article by long-time California activist George O'Brien and do whatever we can to effect the best possible type of activism among and within us.

The article was originally mailed to state party newsletter editors by Mary Gingell, current LP vice-chair and chair of the LP Affiliate Parties Committee. She advocated and I agreed to publishing the article in the spirit of continuous improvement. Almost all of us from time to time can fall into bad habits — I certainly recognize my occasional self in the left-hand column below — and we need to be diligent in nurturing and sustaining a healthy, positive attitude toward our fellow libertarians and an honest understanding of our own capabilities and limitations. — Ed.]

There are some people in the libertarian movement who are bad activists. Even if they do make positive contributions and are ideologically "OK" on balance they actually harm the movement.

Virtually every bad activist puts his or her personal (or factional) interests ahead of the purpose of the organization or cause. The good activist expresses his or her individuality through the choice of joining the organization if it identifies with his or her personal interests. The bad activist will sacrifice the interests of the organization for power, status, enrichment, or some other form of short-term ego gratification.

The following represent some typical characteristics:

Bad Activist

Tends to be argumentative, insulting, obnoxious, and is indifferent to the effect he or she has on others.

Tries to take credit for any accomplishments, even ones that are primarily results of someone else's efforts.

Has delusions of grandeur and makes sure everyone is aware of his or her titles and status.

Tends to be secretive and cliquish.

Good Activist

Tries to be reasonable, polite, and considerate.

Is more concerned about getting results and is anxious to give credit to others to encourage them to continue what they are doing.

Is basically modest, recognizing the importance of the cooperation of others.

Wants other activists to participate in the decision process whenever possible and to understand what is being done and why.

Bad Activist

Never listens to what other people have to say.

Reacts to any disagreement with angry outbursts, condemnations, or personal attacks.

Tends toward factionalism and is inclined to purge activists who are not included in the faction.

Is constantly critical of anything done by people in opposing factions.

Devotes considerable time and effort to criticizing other people in the organization.

Is constantly being "offended" and is inclined to hold grudges.

Tends to be excessively serious to the point of being hostile in most interactions with others.

Gets upset with "frivolous" activities.

Expects others to follow him or her blindly.

Makes numerous commitments and then gives excuses when they are not met.

Treats ideas as a kind of religious dogma and treats any disagreement as a sign of "heresy."

If the Libertarian Party is going to accomplish anything, we need a real "gold standard" of activists to defeat Gresham's law of activists and not put up with bad behavior.

Good Activist

Is always interested in new ideas and encourages involvement by others.

Tries to disagree tactfully without becoming personal.

Is very uncomfortable with factions and is reluctant to condemn even the worst bad activist.

Is inclined to recognize good work by anyone and ignore the rest.

Keeps criticism to a minimum and always has positive suggestions.

Gives people the benefit of the doubt, does not get upset with inadvertent and unintentional slights, and is magnanimous about intentional ones.

Tries to be friendly and relaxed toward others.

Recognizes there is no reason why activism cannot also be fun.

Has a well-thought-out plan that is used to sell others on why they should take the proposed line of action.

Is cautious about making commitments, but does what is promised.

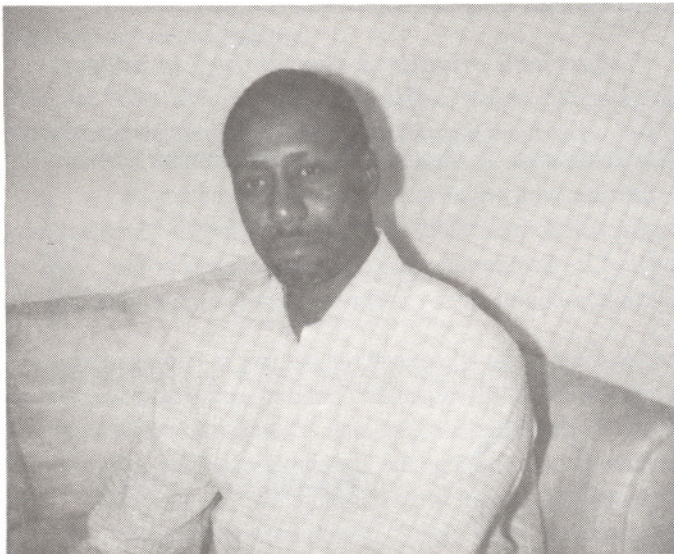
Knows what is important and has the patience to discuss disagreements over philosophy or strategy without becoming personal or failing to listen to what the other person has to say.

Libertarian News Around Michigan

Jim McAbee appointed to Romeo Library Board

by Virginia Cropsey

Macomb Libertarian Jim McAbee is the third LPM member currently serving in public office. Recently appointed a trustee of the Romeo Library Board, McAbee will complete a one year vacancy on the seven-person board, which has four officers and three trustees. The board meets monthly and is responsible for setting policy for the Romeo Library and making funding recommendations to the village board.



Jim McAbee

Born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky, McAbee attended the Indiana Institute of Technology and served a five-year apprenticeship with International Harvester. He has worked for Ford Motor Co. and is currently a self-employed electrical contractor. Jim is also a member of the Romeo Rotary and was a Libertarian candidate for state representative in 1988.

McAbee described his experience so far as "informative — a microcosm of government, in that even the library board is pushed by bureaucratic rather than demand-based

principles." (Jim is not compensated, and the budget he oversees is \$0.5 million for three libraries.)

For example, he said the library rents videos; when he asked whether video store owners object to the subsidized undercutting of their prices, he was told none did. McAbee then talked to a local video store owner who exploded, "I did object! I said if they stuck with educational films, which I don't carry, OK. But look at this — "Godfather II?!"

McAbee is planning to invite a Heartland Institute authority on the videotape issue to make a presentation before the board. "The library board uses increased traffic due to video rentals to justify a bigger budget, more millage, etc.," he stated. Jim intends gradually to help the board accept user fees and other forms of privatization. Congratulations Jim!

Dobberstein makes it close

by Dan Day

Campaigning against two opponents in the August primary for Lansing City Council, 2nd-ward; Libertarian Dale Dobberstein finished third in a close non-partisan contest to determine the two candidates on the November 7 general election ballot. (Ref. Jul/Aug *ML*)

Results were as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| 1) Alfreda Schmidt (incumbent) | 1787 (75%) |
| 2) Agnes Pettway (housewife) | 296 (13%) |
| 3) Dale Dobberstein (freedom fighter) | 284 (12%) |

Most of us are familiar with the time and hard work involved in such an endeavor, and congratulations are due to Mr. Dobberstein for putting forth a credible race (actually only half a percent from victory). His tactics and strategy included doorbelling, phone calls, literature distribution, and contacting various organizations that share some of the Libertarian legislative agenda.

Dale's campaign strongly illustrates that the Libertarian message can succeed in Michigan — twelve votes aren't that many. And at least that many people are growing weary of the old parties and their stale, old, unresponsive habits.

(continued on next page)

Cropsey gets good results in Sterling Heights race

LPM vice-chair Virginia Cropsey received over 1000 votes in her primary campaign for Sterling Heights city council. With the top vote-getter getting only 4,285 votes (Sterling Heights has approximately 76,000 registered voters), Cropsey's total was significant, especially considering that she invested no money.

To Virginia, the result is satisfying, and she feels the next time around there is a good chance of winning with a "go-for-it-bucks-and-all" campaign. A past councilmember declared, "Virginia, I always told you you'd be an asset in the city government." The limited government viewpoint is gaining increased acceptance on the local level through campaigns such as hers.

Successful LPOC yard sale fundraiser

On August 17-19 the Libertarian Party of Oakland County held a fundraising garage sale at the home of Doreen Wright, in Clarkston. Advertising for the event was displayed in the *Detroit News*, the *Clarkston News*, and *The (Clarkston) Reminder* — for a mere \$30.74 expense.

Overall, about 150 customers stopped by, and a handsome \$422.10 profit was earned for the county coffers. Contributors included Doreen and Tony Wright, Andy and Jan DeRaeder, Randy and Diane Szabla, Emily and John Salvette, Pete Hendrickson, Tom Sherwood, and Carl Schatler. Unsold items were given to the Baldwin Shelter in Pontiac for a receipt to be used for a tax deduction next April. — DD

Wayne County LP plans high school outreach

Recognizing that youth are the future of liberty, Wayne County Libertarians have written a presentation designed for high school seniors. Letters are being sent to teachers and a pilot presentation is being scheduled. Format of the presentation is hands-on, give-and-take, geared toward creating genuine understanding. Contact Evy Warmbier (313) 562-6212.

LPOC chairperson involved in election day controversy

Victorious Clarkston School Board candidate, Mr. Van Klaveren, declined to press charges of petty larceny against his only principled opponent, Doreen M. Wright (Chair, Libertarian Party of Oakland County), for alleged theft of campaign signs during the school board election in June.

During the campaign Mrs. Wright and her campaign manager had registered complaints with her opponents and the local election clerk concerning the violation of a local ordinance prohibiting the posting of campaign signs on public property. No action was taken.

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The situation came to a head June 12, election day: Doreen tactfully asked her opponents to remove their illegally placed signs at various polling places; they refused to do so. Frustrated by this clear violation of the law, which the local authorities obviously were not going to enforce, she plucked up the signs and gave them to the local election clerk for a receipt.

Mr. Van Klaveren subsequently filed a complaint of petty larceny with the Oakland County prosecutor's office. The case was handled by assistant prosecutor Michael Cox who, after interviewing Mrs. Wright about the incident on September 21, announced the charges would be dropped. — DD

Metro Detroit Libertarians organize letter contest

MDL is sponsoring a letters-to-the-editor contest, in which prizes will be awarded to the two individuals who have the greatest impact on the letters pages of Detroit metro dailies. The contest runs from August 1, 1989 to December 1, 1989. First prize is \$75, second prize, \$25. Prizes will be presented at Mark Sellers' Winter Solstice Party in December. For details contact Stan Gentry (313) 757-5085 or Karen Scarborough (313) 681-0225. — ES

"Man who privatized everything" to address libertarians

Louis Schimmell, Jr., described by the Wall Street Journal as "the man who privatized everything" in the city of Ecorse, will address a public forum sponsored by the Macomb County LP. Schimmell was appointed receiver of the bankruptcy-bound city by a Wayne County circuit judge.

The Macomb event is planned for January in conjunction with an opinion-leader privatization conference sponsored earlier in the day by the Heartland Institute. This inside look at local government will build on the December candidate's night (ref. article, page 7) as part of an ongoing effort to encourage Libertarians to "start local." Details in the next issue. — VC

(MI L News cont'd next page)

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**David Littman to address Libertarians:
"Perestroika on the Home Front"**

As reported in the previous issue of *ML*, David Littman, first vice-president and senior economist for Manufacturers Bank of Detroit (and fellow LPer), will speak at the Libertarian Week Banquet this year.

Mr. Littman has written several research articles on the causes of inflation for *Business Economics* and writes a monthly business column appearing in the Detroit Chamber of Commerce' *The Detroitier*. He is a frequent book reviewer and op-ed writer for the *Detroit News* and is a regular commentator in other publications, and local and national radio and TV.

He is an economic adviser to the Heartland Institute and a senior policy analyst at the Mackinac Center for Public Policy. In addition to his many business and professional associations, Mr. Littman has served on the West Bloomfield School Board as treasurer and vice-president.

With the West still carrying a torch for statism, his comments on restructuring the homefront should be quite apropos. — JE



**THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY
OF
MICHIGAN**

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ITS


9TH ANNUAL LIBERTARIAN WEEK BANQUET

featuring:

DAVID LITTMANN
First Vice President and Senior Economist
Manufacturers National Bank of Detroit

topic:

"Perestroika On The Home Front"



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**LPM Candidates Night to Kick Off
Campaign '90**

by Virginia Cropsey

The LP imperative: Go for it and get elected

What comes first in building the LPM? Members, leadership, name recognition — e.g. TV, radio, newspaper publicity — or getting elected? Answer: We need them all. But getting more libertarians in office may be the easiest means of advancing all of the above goals.

Membership? People want to join a successful venture. And while some leaders are entrepreneurs, the basic management we need to build affiliate party structures should be dedicated to building a successful or, at least, a growing operation.

Publicity? While the entrepreneurs among us have got us a long way on media freebies, to buy in worthwhile quantities means contributions. Contributors are *double ditto* the requirements for members and leaders: the catch-22 that success gets you success.

The goal of a political party is to attain public office. You probably won't be elected as state rep if you haven't held local office, and you probably won't be elected to a local office if you haven't been appointed to a committee. Start local — find out how.

We now have three LPM members in public office: Charles Congdon, vice-chair of the Midland Cable Commission; James Clifton, trustee of the Addison Village Council; and Jim McAbee, trustee of the Romeo Library Board.

To kick off campaign '90, come hear from our success stories: Congdon, Clifton, and McAbee. These gentlemen will tell us how they got into office, what their experiences have been, successes, failures, and where they hope to go. We will also have videos and literature from past LPM campaigns for viewing.

Dan Day, coordinator for Doreen Wright's tenacious campaign for the the Clarkston School Board, has volunteered to spearhead the overall LPM candidacy effort. He will be on hand to help those who want to get started. Next year, principles of liberty classes and complete candidates seminars will be conducted to prepare candidates whether they are running to win, or just running to spread the libertarian message.

Come share some holiday cheer and toast our celebrities at Dominics Pizza, Berkley, Friday, Dec 1. (see Calendar of Events, page 13)

LPM to seek recognition of Libertarian International birthplace

To help commemorate the 10th anniversary of Libertarian International (now International Society for Individual Liberty), LI founder Vince Miller has agreed to keynote the 1990 Libertarian Party of Michigan convention. Libertarian International was founded in Ann Arbor in July of 1980. Just as Jackson, MI is known as the birthplace of the Republican Party, Ann Arbor can receive similar distinction for libertarians. Plans are to publicize the libertarian connection through Michigan historical societies and various publications. – VC

LP founder to address 1990 LPM convention

In addition to Vince Miller, founder of Libertarian International, David Nolan, who initially organized the US Libertarian Party, has agreed to speak at the LPM convention next May, at the banquet. He will also conduct a tour in Michigan to promote LiberTV, his enterprise for reaching the public with libertarian ideas through quality television ads. The tour, which will employ LiberTV concepts, may serve as a model for subsequent fundraising tours in other areas of the country. – VC

Pro-choice rally held at capitol

On September 24 a pro-choice abortion rally was held in Lansing on the steps of the state capitol building. Sponsored by the Northland Family Planning Center, the rally attracted over five thousand people who gathered to hear speeches from state senator Lana Pollack (D-Ann Arbor), Mrs. Helen Milliken (wife of former governor, William Milliken), and Kate Michaelman, executive director of the National Abortion Rights Action League. Governor Blanchard, unscheduled, also addressed the crowd.

Several Michigan LPers participated in this event. Correspondent Dan Day interviewed Lana Pollack, who said she felt confident any legislation proposed in the state legislature diminishing abortion rights would be defeated with bipartisan effort. [More on this, next issue – Ed.] A national rally will be held on November 12 at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington DC. – DD

Press room chief fired for giving LPM a forum

Wes Thorp, manager of the state Capitol House Press Room for 13 years, was fired recently by House Speaker Lewis Dodak for, according to the Detroit News, "refusing to buy a \$100 ticket to a fundraiser for House Democrats and complaining when Dodak tried to prevent a minor political party from holding a news conference in the House Press Room."

In May LPM Chair Dick Whitelock, with the sponsorship of State Senator Jack Welborn, reserved the capitol press room to present the LPM's Screwball Award and Dodak attempted to

exclude him. Thorp reminded Dodak that anyone with a legislative sponsor was always allowed to use the press room.

According to Dodak the press room, a "nerve center for interest groups, lawmakers and associations to distribute news releases and set up press conferences in the Capitol," will be run by part-time employees, possibly college students. Any Lansing applicants out there? Thanks to Wes and our regrets that he's been a victim of the Republicrat repression. – VC

LCC meets

The September LCC meeting of the LCC was held at the home of Jeff Hampton in Northville, on September 10. Highlights:

- Lynn Bellair reports eight people called the LPM information line as a consequence of C-Span coverage of the national convention
- Jeff Hampton reports net worth of LPM at \$3,489, newsletter expense to be reduced through obviation of typesetting; editor will publish budget
- Virginia Cropsey advocates strong push on sale of Libertarian Week banquet tickets
- Chairman Whitelock reports on national convention results; Michigan is in national committee region 6 with Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia, and West Virginia; new regional rep: Steve Dasbach of Indiana, Janet Parkes (MI), alternate
- Discussion of membership, candidate enhancement, outreach to colleges and young people; several efforts underway, contact your LCC rep for info

The next LCC meeting is scheduled for December 3, 1989, at the home of Jeff Hampton. – LB

Weather Downsizes LPM Picnic

On July 30, approximately 20 of your basic party animals attended the 1989 LPM picnic. This year's event, hosted by Bob and Kathy Stepanovich at their country manor near Haslett, featured an excellent selection of pot luck vittles and the normal variety of liquid refreshments.

Perhaps as a partial consequence of the latter, the crowd remained somewhat sedentary throughout the day, preferring to talk around the pool rather than put themselves therein. That is, except for Pat Heller, Denise Kline, and other funloving libertarian youth, who swam and frolicked in carefree abandon withal.

We have it on good authority that next year the weather, which was surely a factor in the lower than normal turnout, will be better. The sunshine worshiper and the summer guys may shrink from the LPM picnic, but ... – BW

Stateside

Activities of sundry coercive bureaucracies affecting Michigianians

by Dan Day

Call this development?

Detroit, believe it or not, has a Community Economic and Development Department (CEDD). Considering the condition Detroit is in, what does the CEDD do? Well, of course, like most government institutions designed to manipulate the economy, the CEDD squanders stolen tax dollars. As a bonus, its serves to hinder small local businesses.

Chartered in 1974, the CEDD controls about 40,000 city-owned vacant lots and is responsible for:

- Proposing, administering, and carrying out authorized city projects and eliminating blight
- Aiding housing development
- Serving as the local public liaison for federally funded development projects
- Assisting local business interests
- Attempting to eliminate unemployment and underemployment
- Attracting new businesses and helping the expansion of established local businesses

What is the reality?

- Records are not computerized, and whatever system CEDD is using is obviously inadequate since CEDD's information on its own activities is so inaccurate it is impossible to prove that it is doing the job it was charged with.
- The CEDD has little contact with small businesses, and when it does business with large companies it suffers from bureaucratic incompetence. A prime example is the \$42 million it dished out to buy the buildings and machinery for the Chrysler Jefferson Avenue plant. This brilliant economic maneuver is being investigated by a federal grand jury and will probably end up wasting millions of dollars.
- CEDD workers are rude and do not return calls unless — surprise — you are a crony of Mayor Young.
- The CEDD does not have enough personnel and many of the people that do work there are unqualified.
- The CEDD is slow in processing paperwork to release money, including block grants, to local community groups.

All of this by an organization originally designed to ease the bureaucratic hassles local businessmen face when trying to work with the city in order to establish or expand a business.

It should be noted that the CEDD has successfully assisted with some major projects, e.g. the \$700 million General Motors Poletown plant, the \$84 million Riverfront Apartments, and the \$80 million Millender Center. This has given banks enough confidence in the Detroit business climate to raise the interest rate of their loans for major development projects from 30% (about ten years ago) to the current 50%.

However, the fact remains that these are "showcase" projects guaranteed to be political capital for the Honorable Mayor Young. Projects for small businesses, particularly for businessman who are not friends of the mayor, are brushed aside as unimportant.

In fact a 1988 survey of 385 CEOs showed that businessman consistently ranked Detroit 28th, out of thirty-one cities, based on fifteen criteria describing the local business environment. Sadly, none of the candidates running for mayor has even mentioned the CEDD's incompetence (as of this date, August 31) let alone call for the dismantling of this free-market obstacle.

But the free market has its say, and to see how it has worked in this case all you have to do is drive along Detroit's boulevards and look at all the boarded-up windows of once-thriving businesses — those that were taxed out of existence or have experienced the ravages of the CEDD.

Source: *Crain's Business Magazine*

New trade deficit figures

New data from the "service" industry has forced the US government to lower trade deficit figures for 1988 by 22% or \$21 billion dollars. Also revised was the 1989 first quarter trade deficit estimate which has been lowered by 32% or \$25 billion dollars.

This means that the amount of foreign capital available for investment in the United States is also lower than expected and, therefore, the Treasury will have to

(see *Stateside*, page 12)

Trust Government

by Richard Maybury

All this talk about liberty is exciting, but let's get serious for a moment. The evidence shows clearly that liberty does not work. Many things are too important to be left to the whims of the free market. Imagine the chaos if our schools, postal system, Social Security, and all other essential services were not provided by government.

This is the reasoning behind the need for government intervention: We cannot get along without it. We cannot trust the free market to provide our essential services. But does the reasoning stand up under scrutiny?

What is the most essential service known to man? Schools? Roads? Social Security? Police?

Consider clocks. Is there anything more important than the service they provide? Imagine a world without clocks. Imagine trying to run a factory with assembly line workers straggling in at all hours of the day.

- Planes would have a random number of mid-air collisions [*worse than today* – Ed.]
- Trains would converge on intersecting tracks simultaneously
- Tides could not be predicted and ships would run aground

Neither the Industrial Revolution nor the prosperity it created were possible until clocks had been invented. In a civilization as advanced as ours, the single most important requirement may well be good timing.

On my wrist is an electronic digital watch. A few years ago, such watches cost \$200. Today you can get them for \$20 [*now more like \$1.95 (or less)* – Ed.]. Despite their low cost and incredible complexity, they are highly accurate. They are provided by free enterprise.

But what if the government provided timepieces. Judging by everything else government does, a watch would cost a year's wages and be the size and weight of a manhole cover. It would always run about six hours slow except when running backwards.

If timekeeping were a public service, the DOT (Department of Time) would consume \$20 billion per year and its army of bureaucrats would regulate every facet of watch production and timekeeping. With heavy fines for noncompliance. But no one would question the need for the DOT. After all, there has to be some control, doesn't there?

That's an optimistic assessment of government timekeeping. Realistically, the situation would be a modern version of the one prevailing during the Middle Ages in Europe.

There, timekeeping was considered too important for the free market. Small personal clocks were available, but government collected huge amounts of tax money to build giant clock towers in the centers of towns.

In Lyons, France, for instance, officials wanted a "great clock whose strokes could be heard by all citizens in all parts of the town. If such a clock were to be made, more merchants would come to the fairs, the citizens would be very consoled, cheerful and happy, and would lead a more orderly life." We still see these kinds of clock towers all over Europe. Big Ben was modeled after them.

If in today's world timekeeping were still considered too important for the free market, individualized timekeeping could even be illegal. No wristwatch, alarm clock, or other timepiece could be privately owned because individuals could never be trusted to govern their own affairs. They might set their clocks wrong.

To make sure everyone was using the correct time, the DOT would subsidize and control the production of one clock for each community. Following the medieval pattern, each clock would be perched atop a mile-high tower in the center of the city and would be the size of the Queen Mary. It would loom over the city like a storm cloud. The ticking would sound like a pile driver.

People would complain about the inconvenience of having to look out their windows whenever they wanted to know the time, so each clock would also be equipped with a chime ringing every fifteen minutes, as in medieval Europe. To be heard everywhere in the city, the chime would be loud enough to reverberate like a thunderclap, rattling doors and windows for miles around. All day and all night long.

But no one would question the need for this monstrously expensive torture device because individualized timekeeping would not exist, so no one would believe it could exist. Any lunatic who suggested the free market could provide each individual with a highly accurate clock small enough to be worn on the wrist would be laughed out of town.

Obviously, everyone would exclaim, even if such a futuristic gadget could be invented, it would cost a fortune; and besides, *everyone would have his watch set differently* — there would be chaos.

Ergo: Everybody knows liberty does not work. Essential services must be provided by government.

Rick Maybury is a well-known freelance writer and a media associate of the Ludwig von Mises Institute. This article is an edited reprint from the November 1987 issue of the institute's publication, The Free Market. LMI, 851 Burlingame, CA 94010.

Liberty Digest

A quick look at several movement publications and/or organizations

[Note: With so much activity in the libertarian movement these days, and so many things to read or stay up with, a digest seems a useful reader service. But particularly here, it can't be a one-person show: if any LPM members can monitor other sources not listed below (e.g. Reason magazine, Institute for Humane Studies, The Heartland Institute, etc.) please get in touch with me. The most thorough list of movement orgs/pubs I've seen yet is Index on Liberty from ISIL, 9308 Farmington Dr., Richmond, VA 23299 - Ed.]

Free Press Association to hold major conference

Michael Grossberg and his Free Press Association (FPA) are holding their fourth national conference, "Questioning Authority: Free Media, Free Minds IV," in New York City, October 27-29, 1989, at Long Island University's campus in downtown Brooklyn.

Topics include: "Bush-League Censorship in the 'Kinder, Gentler '90s,'" "Media Sensationalism and the War on Drugs," "TV's New Thought Police: A Broadcasting Industry Forum," and so on. The conference includes social events, panels, exhibits, and several interesting speakers. For details: Free Press Association, Box 15548, Columbus, OH.

Montana Libertarian, Dodge, ramrods informed jury initiative

Larry Dodge, longtime LP activist and former candidate for US Senate (Larry has conducted several Libertarian campaigns from federal to local levels) is spearheading a ballot initiative to "amend the Montana constitution to mandate that state courts instruct every jury in its right and responsibility to judge both the law and the facts pertaining to a case." Those interested in this seemingly radical but auspiciously popular path to securing greater individual freedom may contact Mr. Dodge in care of Fully Informed Jury Amendment Committee, PO Box 60, Helmville, MT 59843.

FEE—The Freeman, September 1989

An insightful and informative article appears in this issue by Pujie Zheng, currently a graduate student in physics at the University of Virginia, who visited China at the height of the student unrest and military crackdown in May and June of this year.

Quoting: "Deng did not understand that the success of the economic reform relied on the freedom of the players in the market. And the freedom of the players in the market depended

on less government control." FEE, 30 South Broadway, Irvington-on-Hudson, NY 10533.

Civilian-Based Defense Association (CBD)—News and Opinion, July/August 1989

This issue of CBD's newsletter headlines "The idea of civilian-based defense: Taking stock," an article particularly valuable in educating people on the organization's objectives. Principally, CBD focuses on non-aggressive, popular-based methods (e.g. Gandhian resistance) of defense against would-be oppressors in diminution of traditional militaristic "defense." Particularly relevant in the age of nukes: CBD, PO Box 31616, Omaha, NE 68131, Ph (402) 558-2085.

ABATE reports progress on transportation freedom

The Aug/Sept newsletter of ABATE (A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments (or American Bikers Aiming Toward Education, for the fainter of heart)) carries an article describing recent accomplishments in the organization's attempt to repeal helmet laws, seatbelt laws, and encourage better driving practices.

State representative, Keith Muxlow (D) of Brown City, outlined a helmet urban-law-rural-choice measure that would allow riders to choose whether or not to wear a helmet in vast areas of Michigan. For more information contact Vince (313) 684 6576 or write ABATE, PO Box 1032, Dearborn 48121.

Liberty Magazine, September 1989

The issue carries Murray's (Rothbard) special memories of his expulsion from the Ayn Rand coterie, timely considering Nathaniel Branden's catharsis: *Judgement Day*. Also typically provocative articles from "Saving Yellowstone from its Friends," by Larry Dodge to comments on good ol' "Vigilante Justice," by Karl Hess.

(see *Digest*, page 14)

(*Stateside*, from page 9)

rely even more upon domestic savings to support the national debt. Since Americans are notoriously poor savers but great consumers, the Treasury may have to increase interest rates to help lure even more foreign capital to fill the gap. This means more inflation may be in the offing.

Bill to keep IRS off small biz

Senator Malcolm Wallop (R-WY) and representatives Frederick S. Upton (R-MI), Norman Sisisky (D-VA) and Andy Ireland (R-Fla.) have introduced a bill in Congress to include the IRS under the provisos of the 1980 Regulatory Flexibility Act.

That law states that if a federal agency's rules are detrimental to a small business, then the rule must either be rewritten or the business made exempt. Hearings will be held this fall by the House Committee on Small Business. To call a member of Congress to register your support for this bill, access the Capitol Hill switchboard at (202) 224-3121.

Conyers continues to run amok

Rep. John Conyers Jr. (D-MI), chair of the House Government Operations Subcommittee on Legislation and National Security, is trying to pass a bill through the House of Representatives that would increase federal paperwork requirements for small businesses.

Information requested from a business by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), must be of "practical utility" according to the 1980 Paperwork Reduction Act. But under Conyers' proposal the new stipulation would be that the information have a "present or reasonably foreseeable public need that may be served."

Since this stipulation can include about any type of information, the amount of federal forms a small business must file will undoubtedly increase if this proposal passes through Congress. Result: a decrease in productivity. Even under the present regulation, according to the Small Business Administration, the cost of federal paperwork on small businesses was about \$100 billion in 1988.

Fighting Conyers' proposal is Senator Jeff Bingham (D-NM) who chairs the Senate Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Government Regulations and Information. It is expected Senator Bingham will soon introduce a bill to reauthorize the 1980 Act.

In the House of Representatives, Representative Frank Horton (R-NY) is expected to introduce a bill to reauthorize and

strengthen the Paperwork Reduction Act. If you wish to contact a member of Congress to urge them to support the reauthorization and/or enhancement of the 1980 Paperwork Reduction Act, call the Capitol Hill switchboard at (202) 224-3121.

* * *

(*Philadelphia*, from page 1)

C-Span covered the floor sessions and some major panel discussions generously, esp. on the drug issue.

Although the actual floor stuff tends to be tedious — not exactly something that to win a viewers' choice contest — there were entertaining moments:

Man at microphone:	"I move to suspend the rules to allow Chinese people to stay in this country if they wish."
Bergland (presiding):	"For how long?"
Man at microphone:	"One minute."
Bergland:	"That's mighty generous of you."

But beyond the work and play, the basic thrust of our Philadelphia gathering was best conveyed in comments by Andre Marrou. To the effect: "Grow or die," the imperative of increasing membership and winning elections; the imminence of an informational "paradigm shift" toward freedom that we must use to advantage; and the crucial importance of TV in getting our message across. With these ideas in mind and in practice (and 50-state ballot qualification) the LP can build to an impressive showing in 1992.

(*Editor*, from page 2)

journalistic best, just as Tim did, to keep this coverage of non-LP stuff in the news category. This is a newsletter of a political party, after all, and as such big-L Libertarians get top billing.

With respect to letters to the editor, a feature Tim included with some understandable misgivings, it will be maintained and confined to relevant issues or events. Personality conflicts are not within its purview, or mine: it doesn't take a Pollyanna to know that dirty laundry goes to the laundromat.

There are some changes in layout and features within the newsletter, but the "look" shouldn't have changed much. I'm really happy to be here. I look forward to your feedback.

Calendar of Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
10/01	National LP candidate teleconferencing begins; call LPM's regional national committee member Steve Dasbach, 219/432-7430, for more information.	<i>cont'd</i>	<i>The banquet is generally the libertarian event of the season. Bring friends to introduce to libertarianism and the LP. How about your newspaper editor?</i>
10/06	"America's Housing Policy," Cato Institute Conference: Grand Hyatt, Washington, D.C. Call 313/977-6628 for more information. *	10/27	Free Media, Free Minds Conference The Free Press Association New York City, runs through 10/29 See story, page 11
10/09	Macomb County LP meets. Champagne celebration for our first Libertarian in public office, Jim McAbee, appointed trustee of the Romeo Library Board. Admission: \$2, 7:00 - 9:00p.m. Home of Dave & Betty Weidner 48331 Meadow Crest Dr., Utica 566-0541. County planning session, 8-8:30. Jim will speak at 8:30. Be among the first to hear Jim talk about "getting inside." If you plan to come, please call 977-6628 so we have enough champagne!	11/02	"Education & the Inner City", Cato Institute Conference, Sheraton Carlton, Washington, D.C Lawrence C. Patrick, Jr., President, Detroit Board of Education is a featured speaker: "Parents Need Choice" *
10/14	<i>Deadline to purchase LP Week banquet tickets</i>	12/01	National Committee Meeting
10/15	Libertarian Week begins	12/01	LPM Candidate's Night featuring Michigan Libertarians in public office: Congdon, Clifton, & McAbee (see article, pg. 7). Dominico's Pizza, 2847 Coolidge, Berkley, MI. Dinner: \$6.95 + 20% gratuity, includes pizza w/2 items, anti-pasto salad, spaghetti side, hot bread sticks, coffee, tea, soda.
10/16	Metro Detroit Libertarians, discussion, "Children's Rights," led by David Sheldon Contact Stan Gentry (313) 757-5085		Call Dan Day, 589-2180 for reservations. Cocktails 6:30, dinner 7:00, presentation by our officeholders 8:00.
10/18	Cato Institute Center for Constitutional Studies "RICO, Rights, and the Constitution" Grand Hyatt Hotel, Washington DC for information call 977-6628 *	12/03	LCC Meeting, 1 p.m., home of Jeff Hampton, 44707 Cherry Ridge, Northville (313) 348-2718
10/21	<i>Ninth Annual Libertarian Week banquet featuring David Littmann. Topic: "Perestroika on the Home Front," with introduction by Pat Anderson</i> Southfield Hotel and Conference Center 6:30 cocktails, 7:30 dinner, 8:30 program. Tickets: \$25, table of 10/\$235 Student price (speech only) \$10.	12/09	Annual Winter Solstice Party @ Mark Sellers 49630 Ellis Ct., Utica. For information/reservations: Stan Gentry (313) 757-5085.
		*	<i>Many Cato events are carried on C-Span</i>

Letters

Regarding Tim O'Brien's editorial opposing governmental restrictions on abortion in the (July/August):

Fortunately, increasing numbers of Libertarians today are rightly recognizing preborn humans as persons entitled to Constitutional rights – including life, liberty, and property; and equal protection of the laws, as prescribed by the 5th and 14th amendments. As modern technology has been able to detect the fetal heartbeat at four weeks gestation, there can be no doubting the preborn's existence as a sovereign individual.

Many pro-choice people, including O'Brien, have argued that the embryo/fetus becomes a trespasser the moment the mother decides he or she is no longer welcome inside her body. This rationale completely ignores that, with rare exceptions (an estimated 100 pregnancies in the US and 3 in Canada occur annually from rape) the mother, through voluntary actions, has invited this person to come into existence and take up temporary residence in her body. Hence, no responsibility for a person's actions. Is this *really* libertarian?

It is my hope that philosophical rather than religious pro-life influence will continue to spread through the party by prominent Libertarians as theologically diverse as Ron Paul (Christian) and Doris Gordon (atheist) of Libertarians for Life.

Kenneth G. Morris, Carleton

the drug law menace. According to a new study from the Cato Institute, drug prohibition causes at least 8,250 deaths each year. Ref. publication #121 in the Cato Institute's Policy Analysis series (\$2), Cato, 224 Second Street SE, Washington, DC.

Freedom Network News, August/September 1989

The publication of Libertarian International (now International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL), having merged with SIL in late August) reports on the Libertarian International Third European Conference, in Paris, July 1989. Henri Lepage (author of *Tomorrow, Capitalism*) and the vice-mayor of Paris, Alain Dumalt, chaired and keynoted the event, respectively. Other participants included: Doug Rasmussen, Leonard Liggio, Erica Holzer, and Ayn Rand's *We the Living*.

Libertarian updates from an ever-increasing number of countries: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, England, Hungary, India, Malaysia, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Portugal, and others. ISIL, 9308 Farmington Dr., Richmond, VA 23229 (804) 740-6932.

Ballot accessers continue to fight the good fight

Andre Marrou's 51 in '92, in coordination with the LP Ballot Access Committee and Oregon LPers, achieves success in drastic reduction of Oregon's petitioning requirements, saving \$47K in petitioning expense. Progress also reported in Arizona, Missouri, and North Carolina.

Detroit Free Press carries major legalization article

The Detroit Free Press, in a surprise moment of "weakness" (or inattention), let slip a strongly libertarian pro-drug-legalization piece in its September 20 issue (Way We Live section). Quoting from David Boaz of the libertarian Cato Institute, Jefferson Morley of *Nation*, and others; the article, "The latest word on drugs: Legalization," gave four key arguments:

- Those who don't learn from the past are condemned to repeat it — Prohibition
- The cure is worse than the disease — civil liberties abuses
- European legalization experience — legalization works
- Drug prohibition is simply not working — the "Hey, Popcorn-for-Brains, take a reality pill" argument

It remains to be seen if the Free Press editors will get with the program in their eternal quest for enlightened public policy.

Digest, from page 11

Cato Policy Report, July/August 1989

The lead article of Cato's bimonthly periodical is "Frantz Fanon and John Locke at Stanford," by George Smith. It contrasts Fanon's vogue-socialism with Locke's straightforward advocacy of freedom, especially in the context of oppression "...Locke's *Second Treatise [of Government]* is one of the most vigorous and compelling defenses of violent revolution ever penned."

On a more public-policy-oriented front, a recent Cato conference featured Princeton University professor Ethan Nadelmann and Baltimore mayor Kurty Schmoke condemning

Life in These United States

by Tim O'Brien

Take a memo

New York. According to the state department of taxation and finance here, 1,512 partners in law firms have not filed state income tax returns in at least one of the last three years. This number represents nearly ten percent of the law partners in the state.

It is notable that in the same timeframe, less than one half of one percent of low-level employees at the firms — legal aides, secretaries, and the like — had failed to provide the incriminating evidence required of them by the state.

Judicial logic

Nevada. Following a jury verdict awarding \$9.5 million to homeowners in Reno whose property was damaged by a building contractor, the district judge in the case ordered that the \$3.5 million in punitive damages included in the award go to the state instead of the homeowners.

Opined the honorable Jerry Whitehead: "Since punitive damages are awarded for the benefit and protection of the community, it logically follows that awards of punitive damages should, in fact, be given to the state to be used for the community benefit."

The devil made me do it

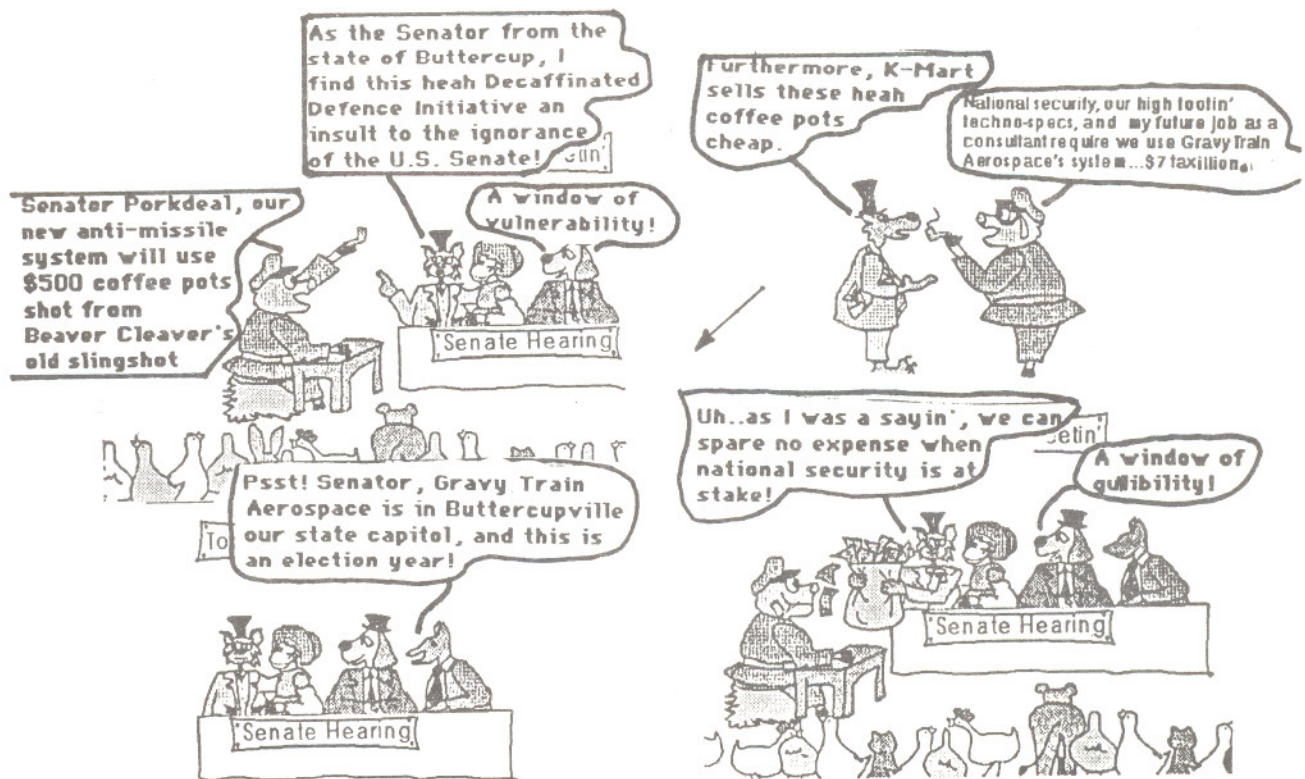
California. Ms. Danielle Mast was convicted of robbing a Los Angeles bank. According to federal guidelines she should have received a sentence of four to five years. However, District Judge A. Andrew Hauk only gave her two years, stating that he believed she had come under the sway of her boyfriend whose persuasiveness caused her to commit the crime.

"The history of it is that men have exercised traditional control over the activities of women," observed Judge Hauk. Apparently not content to leave it at that, the judge added: "It seems to me this is a girl whose life could be saved, and could still be a great asset to the community — to her race, if you will."

Let's see now. In two sentences this representative of the state has revealed himself to be a sexist, a collectivist and a racist. Not bad. We don't normally expect our public officials to be so forthright and concise.

SCARBOROUGH FARE

by K. Scarborough and D. Day



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