

**JANUARY** 

1989

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 16--Middlesex/Somerset County Libertarians to meet at 7 at Howard Schoen's home, 2602 Merrywood Dr., Edison ("Edison Manor" off Brunswick Ave., off Plainfield Ave., near old Camp Kilmer). 572-0207 for details.

January 28-- New Jersey Conservative Convention, 9 AM to 4:30 PM, at the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of USA Convention Center, Somerset, NJ. Call 201/438-0798 for details.

February 6--Joint Monmouth and Middlesex/Somerset Libertarians Meeting, 7 PM, at Laura Stewart's home, 147 Broadway, Keyport. 201/264-4492 for directions.

**February** 7--Steering Committee Meeting 6:30 PM at Farrell's Cream Parlour, Route 18 South (Brunswick Square Mall) in East Brunswick. Meeting begins after dinner. All NJLP members are welcome and invited.

March 4-- NJLP Annual Convention at Jamesburg Holiday Inn at exit 8A of N.J. Turnpike. See insert.

#### From:

#### **VOTES & VOTERS**

The Liberty PAC

What, another campaign? Already? Didn't we just get through with one? Yes. Yes. Yes.

THE RACE FOR GOVERNOR

But to underscore my feeling that the campaign just concluded was a success beyond the meaning of the vote totals, I would like to initiate discussion of the next election early.

In the past, the race for governor has been dull even for the other 2 parties; most libertarians found watching their grass grow more productive and rewarding. believe part of this was due to the murkiness of the issues that develop during those races, and that was due to the absence of the libertarian viewpoint.

So in order to entice potential candidates out of the woodwork, I am soliciting papers, notes - anything in writing - clarifying and elaborating the substantial issues that will be treated during the campaign from the Libertarian perspective.

I expect the major issues will be auto insurance, garbage (including beach pollution), highways, and development, but if others occur to you, by all means consider them as well. What I want is to compose a set of campaign position papers that will be available to whichever candidate we actually choose. especially interested in any treatments that address the problems of trying to get from here to there, because realistic proposals stand a chance of actually being considered in the debate.

I am assuming responsibility for this administrative task, pending selection of a candidate who will choose his or her own "staff." (Members should be aware, however, that I intend to seek re-election as State Chair, and will be intimately involved in the campaign in that capacity, at least.)

Dan Karlan 97-A Manhattan Ave. Waldwick, NJ 07463

It's no surprise that the November 8 booby prize goes to Bush and Dukakis for boring voters into the poorest turnout since the 49% 1924 showing. The miserable turnout means that 50% of the voters — over 90 million — are waiting to to be insiired by a person or message. Here are the returns you did not see on TV:

Of all Americans eligible to register to vote, only 70% are registered, 35% voted, 19% voted Republican. A post-election poll shows that 9% of them voted against Dukakis. That means that only 10% of adults cast a positive vote for Bush. That's a resounding victory for none-of-the-above!

We're still collecting Ron's votes. Returns range from .6% in Texas to 2.6% in Alaska. Nationwide that might mean about 400,000 to 600,000 (enough supporters to fill ten Superdome Stadiums!) One big victory is that 13 states won't have to conduct petition drives in 1990 becase of sufficient votes. That's a record for Libertarian presidential campaigns!

# Libertarians form a local party

By Sari Harrar Special to The Inquirer

In a Cherry Hill condominium last week, in a quiet living room where the carpeting was deep and the piano was a baby grand, nine advocates of individual freedom and small government met to form a new local political party.

The Southern New Jersey Libertarian Party.

Fundamentalists when it comes to the U.S. Constitution, these Libertarians believe that big government is bad government. They oppose income taxes, welfare, the Internal Revenue Service and government-regulated public schools. They favor personal liberty, free markets and less government.

And they believe it's time to tell South Jersey.

"We have to appeal to people who've heard of us and think we're nuts," said John R. Hill of Cherry Hill, who hosted the meeting. "They have to know that their neighbors are Libertarians, people like me who are in business for themselves, and people like Jerry Zeldin" — a Gloucester Township man who ran for the U.S. Senate in November — "who is an auto parts dealer."

There is a National Libertarian Party, now 16 years old, that ran Ron Paul as the Libertarian candidate for president in the November elections. There is a state Libertarian Party that backed the underdog campaigns of local candidates for the U.S. Senate and Congress. Libertarians have been vocal protesters in the state insurance-reform movement.

But with the exception of a few listings in central New Jersey telephone books, they have been an invisible party in the counties south of Trenton.

In the aftermath of the 1988 election, the nine men who sipped coffee in Hill's living room last week said they had seen signs of enough interest to form a local party. People had actually sought them out, Hill said.

"Before, we had to call them," he said. "This time, a lot of people called us, like the Jaycees, Kiwanis and college campuses, to come do debates and give talks before the election. People who've been in the party for a long time said this has never happened before."

The local Libertarians now have a meeting schedule. On Jan. 22, they will meet at Zeldin's home in Gloucester Township to elect officers. They will also choose a place, a date and a featured speaker for February's meeting. The party core expects to continue meeting monthly through the year, alternating business sessions and "speaker nights."

Seeking tike-minded souls has led the Libertarians to consider diverse sources of support. Zeldin suggested the group contact coin collectors, because they favor "hard currency," a Libertarian value. They considered listing in computer bulletin boards to reach computer programmers and sci-

ence fiction fans. They will seek the support of professors from local college economics and political science departments and members of groups opposed to gun control.

The party, Hill said, could eventually launch candidates for municipal and county offices.

"We tend to talk about philosophy and that tends to make you talk about federal government," Hill said. "But our success will depend on getting involved in local government. That's a long-term goal. We'll need enough people from one town to make that happen."

It has, in other places.

"Back in 1980," Hill said, "there was a swell in the national party. Mostly it died down. There wasn't a lot going on locally. But since then, 103 Libertarians have become elected officials. In Utah, there's a town where the mayor and the council are Libertarians. In Alaska, there have been three Libertarians in the state legislature."

#### **BLOOM COUNTY**







#### Berke Breathed



Page 2

# U.S. can kick the habit: Make drugs legal

By GREGORY A. FOSSEDAL Copley News Service

t's hard to say when the addiction started. Maybe it was the day Nancy Reagan made her one-thousandth fatuous appeal at some high school for youngsters to "just say no." Perhaps it was the 1988 political campaign, filled with ever-shriller rhetoric from candidates determined to out-escalate their opponents on the moral high wire.

You kept expecting Mike Dukakis or George Bush to advocate a program to chop off the hands, toes, and ears of cocaine dealers, or feed heroin addicts to a pit of croc-

to a pit of croodiles.

But for a country seemingly hooked on everstronger doses of drug rhetoric, a cure has emerged. There is a way to kick the habit.

The answer is to get politicians out of the drugfighting business, which they have botched along with myriad other

tasks. Make cocaine and heroin and other drugs as legal as such dangerous items as cigarettes and booze. The paradoxical effect — by cutting out the noise and hypocrisy — might be improved anti-drug efforts, allowing programs like Alcoholics Anonymous to work with those who want to avoid drugs of their free will. "A thousand points of light," to coin a phrase.

For years, drug prohibitionists have had a ready argument for this solution — or rather, a ready sneer. "What in the world would the country be like if drugs were legal?" they demand, confi-

dent they have with one fell question ended the debate.

Recently, the editors of Reason, a libertarian magazine, put that question to nearly a dozen experts: scholars, journalists, police advisers, medical doctors. In tones distinctly calm for this subject — and with a kilo of dangerously potent statistics — they have answered. Convincingly.

Invest a couple of dollars and you too can free yourself from the narcotic of prohibitionism. The treatment — legalize drugs — is simple and painless.

Actually, as the Reason survey makes clear, the end of prohibition

what Freund calls our "flurries of pseudo-concern, chest-beating, garment-rending, and money-wasting" Or that, at best, we have only the stark option of a give-up-the-fight program, sending millions of Americans onto the street to become homeless welfare-dependent cocaine-dealing addicts.

What would really happen? The authors themselves disagree on some points, but two effects seem highly likely.

First, there would be a drastic reduction in crime in America. Drug dealers would suffer as never before as profit was taken out of the law-evasion business. Police corruption would

wane, as would billions of dollars in crime by addicts — all driven today by the fact that drugs are illegal. At least half the violent crime in U.S. cities, by one estimate, is the result of drug prohibition.

Second, legal drugs would become safer and probably weaker.

As Cato Institute president David Boaz notes:

"Consider the divergent trends in legal and illegal drugs today. Illegal drugs keep getting stronger... The more intense the law enforcement, the more potent the drugs, because there is more profit in producing and selling powerful, highly concentrated drugs.

"In contrast, legal drugs are getting weaker — for example, low-tar cigarettes and wine coolers."

That final assertion by Boaz hits at what many consider the center of the debate: Whether there would be more

Drug dealers would suffer as never before as profit was taken out of the law-evasion business. Police corruption would wane, as would billions of dollars in crime by addicts . . .

could come in any of several ways. Some correspondents, such as author and law enforcement adviser Georgette Bennett, argue for a regime of stringent regulation to replace today's criminal penalties. Others — such as academician Ernest van den Haag and New Republic columnist Charles Paul Freund — advocate a more radical break with the status quo: cold-turkey legalization.

This diversity itself puts to rest one of the powerful subliminal forces working for continued prohibition: The notion that we have no alternative to

or less addicts after legalization. Interestingly, as drug educationist and Harvard M.D. Norman E. Zinberg notes, there is much evidence that drug education along the lines of Mrs. Reagan's Zero-Tolerance drumbeat "usually has the effect of increasing use." Rather than branding everyone who smokes a joint of marijuana as on an irreversible road to perdition, efforts should aim at

helping people distinguish reasonable use from addiction, and persuade addicts to get help.

Ultimately, after all, the only way to win people over from drugs is to win their minds. Outside of Russia, that involves the messy process of persuasion — more facts and logic, fewer cops.

Which is exactly what Reason editors supply in their laudable just-sayno to prohibition issue.

☐ Gregory A. Fossedal is a media fellow at the Hoover Institution and former editorial writer for The Wall Street Journal. He is co-author of the book, "My Dear Alex."

#### NJLP STEERING COMMMITTEE MEETING

By Len Flynn

December 8, 1988 the NJLP Steering Committee met at Farrell's East Brunswick. Present Karlan, Flynn, Friedlander, Stewart, and White. Zeldin, Maiullo, Swirsky were absent. Chairman Karlan called the meeting to at 7:20 pm.

Dan announced that the NJLP now owns "The Solution" video. Len Flynn will hold it and may be contacted for usage.

Flynn agreed to conduct an inventory in order to identify and locate NJLP property. Anyone holding such items should contact Len at 201/591-1328 immediately.

NJLP Annual Convention plans are being finalized by Dan Karlan, John Hill, and Jerry Zeldin. SEE THE ENCLOSED FORM TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION.

The committee unanimously approved motion to reimburse "T.J." (Janet) Goodman \$15 for an advertisement in the Drew University school newspaper for Richard tucci's speech last month and up for her to use in organizing a local group. Len Flynn will send out the NJLP activity questionnaire County Representatives to determine what local NJLP groups are doing.

The committee then discussed NJLP receipts and disbursements for the past 11 months and drafted a tentative NJLP budget for 1989. The draft will be finished after convention plans are completed, then the budget will be presented to the membership at the March 1989 convention.

The committee voted unanimously to create the position of "Development Coordinator" to sustain and increase NJLP membership plus encourage growth and financing of the Party. The committee also approved spending \$85 to purchase copies of the LP News outreach edition. At. future a meeting spending about \$200 to purchase

"Libertarianism in of One Lesson" may be considered. Dan approved spending \$40 to reprint up to 25 copies of the 1988 National LP (The Platform. Chairman NJLP authorized to approve \$40 itures without prior NJLP committee approval.) The meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

## **LEFT TO RIGHT**

by Scott Porter

### **Jefferson Would Slap Your Face**

In a recent article in the New Jersey Libertarian, Morris County State Committee Representative John Schafer suggests that the LP's efforts have been a waste of time and money. "We should resolve," he recommends, "to become a successful Libertarian social or supper club, rather than [remain] an unsuccessful political party. At the very least, we should refuse to play a game stacked against us." A game?

Imagine where we would be today, had that attitude guided our political thinking for the last two centuries. Imagine if John Adams and Thomas Jefferson had opted to create a supper club instead of a new nation, because it looked hopeless?

The struggle of the Libertarian Party is nothing less than the struggle for freedom. And party politics is the most efficient way to educate, inspire, and recruit for that cause.

It's true that, in the decade or two that the Libertarians have been on the ballot, no great inroads have yet been made into the system. It's also true that, as a philosophy, Libertarianism has not enjoyed huge popular support. But there have been a few triumphs lately which more than justify our continued efforts.

Two weeks before this election, I was on a cross-country road trip, which gave me the opportunity to sample many of the local and regional newspapers as I kept up-to-date on the campaigns. Several things surprised me, and also delighted me.

I counted no fewer than twelve articles about Libertarian presidential candidate Ron Paul in the short span of two weeks, and not only in small town papers, but in major publications such as the Chicago Sun Times, the St. Louis Dispatch, the Los Angeles Times, and the Wall Street Journal.

I saw coverage of Dr. Paul escalate from 4:00 a.m. cable-TV filler spots to popular daytime news and interview shows.

And the most impressive recognition, I thought, was in Los Angeles, where the state ballot initiatives guide provided not only Republican and Democratic viewpoints, but, you guessed it, the Libertarian view as well.

In 1992, the two major parties will face enormous chalenges. The Democratic party is being torn apart by its own factions, and is suffering a tremendous loss of membership; they are bracing for the nomination of a left-winger like Jesse Jackson. The Republican borrow and spend practices, plus new revelations about the Iran hostage crisis, will blow up in their faces before the next election.

TO: New Jersey Libertarian Party members

FROM: Don Meinshausen, N.J.L.P. State Committee member

RE: R.B. Wilk Defense Fund

R.B. Wilk, editor and publisher of the marijuana people's newsletter <u>Burning Issues</u>, was recently arrested for alleged crimes which she was neither involved with nor knew anything about. Wilk, who is also an active member of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), was a guest speaker at the New Jersey Libertarian Party convention in March, 1987, and supported Libertarian candidate Ron Paul's presidential campaign in 1988.

Since October, 1988, R.B. Wilk has rented a first-floor room in a Fair Lawn, N.J., house. Although she has had no access to the second floor, police have charged her with manufacturing methamphetamine with intent to distribute -- a first-degree crime punishable by 25 years to life in prison -- based on the alleged presence of chemicals and laboratory equipment on the second floor. Police have admittedly found no drugs in Wilk's room other than trace amounts of marijuana. While she campaigns for marijuana decriminalization, Wilk strongly opposes the use of methamphetamine and other hard drugs; a paragraph on the back of each issue of <u>Burning Issues</u> states that the newsletter "advocates discouraging use of all addictive and debilitating refined and synthetic chemicals."

As a state committee representative and lifetime member of the Libertarian Party, I consider R.B. Wilk a spiritual freedom fighter and a vital contributor to the libertarian movement. This brave activist needs our help to beat the wrongful and unfounded charges against her. Please send checks or money orders, payable to R.B. Wilk Defense Fund, to:

R.B. Wilk Defense Fund c/o Ralph Fucetola III 23 River Road North Arlington, N.J. 07032

# The New Jersey Libertarian Party Annual Convention

Saturday, March 4, 1989

Holiday Inn, Jamesburg

Exit 8A of the New Jersey Turnpike

(Call 609-655-4775 for bus route details.)

Featuring: RUSSELL MEANS, Don Ernsberger (on the Environment), Paul Jacob (on Party-Building), James Ostrowski (a return engagement with his presentation on drug laws), Alan B. Epstein (founder of Judicate, Inc.) and other attractions ... plus

We will select a candidate for Governor!!

Times: Registration from 9AM, NJLP Business 10-12, **Epstein** 12, Lunch (Buffet with cold cuts, etc) 1PM, **Jacob** 2:15, **Ernsberger** 3:30, **Ostrowski** 4:45, Break 6:00, Dinner 6:30 (Choice of Roast Top Sirloin, Stuffed Flounder, or Boneless Breast of Chicken w/stuffing), **Means** 7:30.

#### Prices:

Dinner Choice (circle selection):

Before Feb 11th: Whole Day - \$57 (\$100/couple); Everything but lunch \$48 (\$90/couple); Dinner and Russell Means only - \$40 (\$75/couple)

After-dinner talk only: \$18; Starvation plan: \$26 (all talks, no meals)

Return this portion of the page with your check made	out to NJLP to:
New Jersey Libertarian Party	
PO Box 56	
Tennent, NJ 07763	
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**FLOUNDER** 

**CHICKEN** 

SIRLOIN

Voters are beginning to reject the polarization of the two parties, because the parties have grown out of step with the American ideals of freedom, opportunity, and reward. One of the few points on which all the polls agree is that more than twothirds of the voters wished they had someone else to vote for!

No, we probably won't win in 1992; but if we dedicate ourselves to increasing our national exposure, we have a real chance to keep the movement toward statism in check. Victory at the polls will come in time.

The United States had a two-party system in 1860 also, but bad odds didn't stop Abraham Lincoln and the then-third-party Republicans from fighting for their beliefs. And they won.

The founding fathers of this nation didn't surrender when their troops were hopelessly outnumbered by the British; to abandon the party because the waters are rough is not only cowardly, it is a disservice to ourselves and to our children.

Men like Jefferson and Lincoln were willing to put their lives on the line to fight for freedom; nothing so dramatic is required of us today.

## Libertarian Party's Ron Paul Offers Platform Based on Polite Anarchism

By BOB DAVIS

Staff Reporter of The Wall Street Journal BOSTON-In a Revolutionary-era meeting house where colonists thundered sedition, Ron Paul is on a roll. "We live in an age where the ruthlessness of the tax collector is much worse than when Sam Adams came here to complain about the taxes of Mother England," he tells a rally of 700 supporters. The crowd whoops in delight.

But one thing bothers him about the Faneuil Hall rally-the building is owned

by his enemy, the government.

Dr. Paul, a Texas obstetrician and former congressman, is running for president on the Libertar ian Party ticket and running hard. He crisscrosses the country preaching a 90s-style anarchism—smash—the state, but do it politely. No guns, no bombs, i just the

power of ideas unsoiled by political com-"Libertarianism is like breathing pure

Ron Paul

oxygen," says Earl Ravenal, a Georgetown University professor who once ran for the Libertarian presidential nomination. 5"It's very heady stuff."

y. Dr. Paul wants to reduce the federal government to its barest minimum. No Intternal Revenue Service, no Federal Registerve System, no welfare, no Social Secuarity, almost no cabinet agencies and a miltitary slashed to little more than a small tarmy and six submarines carrying nuclear missiles.

Not on Nov. 8, of course, because Dr. Paul realizes he hasn't a prayer of winning. But the 53-year-old candidate believes he is fighting for the nation's soul. A depression is coming during the next administration, he predicts; a war will follow. (shortly. Libertarians can save the nation) from sinking into a dictatorship. Congressional Voting

Dr. Paul realizes his views sound weird to some, but he's used to that. In four terms as a House Republican, he frequently voted against federal projects for his district. But by his last House race, in

1982, the maverick had become so popular that he ran unopposed in the general elec-

Last year, Dr. Paul officially became a Libertarian, even though he long had agreed with the party on a broad sweep of issues that usually divide left from right. For conservatives, Dr. Paul offers limited government undreamed of by Reaganites. He wants to chop the budget in half and reestablish the gold standard. Eventually, individual federal taxes would drop to \$100 a year, he promises.

For liberals, he offers a military policy that stops at the borders-bring all the troops home, end most new weapons programs and stop trying to overthrow the Sandinistas and Afghans. No more meddling with individual choices either, including selling and using hard drugs. "We become obsessed with drugs and throw out the Constitution," he says.

But sometimes Libertarianism seems synonymous with stinginess. Dr. Paul says he wouldn't use tax money to clean up toxic wastes-most people don't pollute, after all-or to help the poor. "The poor don't have the right to steal, and they don't have the right to have Congress steal for them" by voting for aid, he says.

Influence Americans . . .

#### Government Propaganda

The Federal Government is taxing and spending at least \$2.5 billion annually to influence the way American people think. A survey conducted by U.S. News & World Report turned up thousands of government information specialists in 47 federal agencies and commissions earning a total of \$109 million. a sum they said is "only a fraction of the actual payroll" for propa-∞ ganda. In fact, "nobody knows how many people are engaged in 'trumpeting the works of government." Official estimates are about 20,000." Every audit and effort to determine the actual number has fizzled, the survey said, "because the publicity network is so widespread and the identities and activities of many of those involved are disguised by vague titles."

The survey noted: "Uncle Sam is one of the nation's top 20 advertisers, with outlays rivaling those of such business giants as Coca-Cola and Procter & Gamble."

#### **Tenuous Balance**

About 100 Libertarians hold local offices, the party claims, despite infighting that threatens to unhinge it at any moment. The party is tenuously balanced among "hippies" who support individual rights; limited government "preppy" conservatives, and "rednecks" who oppose helmet laws and gun control, says Mr. Ravenal, a self-described preppy. In 1983, the preppy faction bolted when Mr. Ravenal lost the nomination, partly because his membership in the Council on Foreign Relations made him seem too establish-

With the party divided, the Libertarian presidential vote plunged to 228,000 in 1984. about one-fourth its 1980 total. But this year, party battles are less contentious and ; Dr. Paul, who is on the ballot in 46 states, hopes for at least one million votes. By Sept. 30, he had raised \$1.3 million + spurn-\_ing federal matching funds.

But winning converts is painfully slow. "A political movement and a change in the direction of the government doesn't happen overnight," he sighs.

Wall Street Journal November 4, 1988

# Public Education — Dump It

#### By John Chodes

overnment-funded public education has been a miserable failure. It produces illiterate, spiritless and passive graduates who have neither the motivation nor the skills te find a good job or succeed. As a result, private sector schooling is growing by leaps and bounds. There is even a move toward privatization of the public school system in Massachusetts, where the city of Chelsea is about to give Boston University authority over its public school system.

Unfortunately these efforts are associated with small, localized efforts or elitism and high tuition. There was, however, a private enterprise system which, a little more than a century ago, taught most of New York's children — in fact, millions of the world's poor kids — for a few dollars a year.

This endeavor, known as the Lancaster system, encouraged kids to develop personal initiative and adult responsibilities. They worked at adult jobs in school and got paid for them. They learned to read and write in months instead of years. The Lancas-

Let private enterprise do the job.

ter system was controversial and revolutionary. It may offer a clue to the way out of the mess we are in to-day.

Joseph Lancaster was born in the slums of London. He was a natural teacher. In the early 19th century, while in his teens, he was able to teach 1,000 children in an abandoned warehouse — by himself — because he had discovered a radically efficient, cost-cutting idea: "The Monitorial System."

Lancaster let the children teach, and each child teacher became a monitor, with the better ones teaching the slower ones. As the slower students gained speed, however, they too became monitors. There was one monitor for every 10 students. Through this small group peer interaction, no one had a chance to get bored. Merit badges were awarded

for excellence. Like today's Green Stamps, they could be converted into merchandise prizes like pens, wallets, purses and books.

Anyone who could pay four shillings a year was welcome, including girls. No other system had accepted them on an equal curriculum basis with boys. And the subjects were not just the basics, but included algebra, trigonometry and foreign languages.

Not only could the system be run profitably on such small tuition payments but four shillings per student was a fraction of what it cost churchrun or private schools to operate. Lancaster did it with brilliant economics. The students wrote on slate instead of paper. Paper was expensive, slate indestructible. One book per subject per class was used. Each page was separated and placed on a board suspended overhead. Each group of 10 studied a page as a lesson. Then the groups rotated.

In New York, the story was the same during the first half of the 19th century. Indeed, Government officials were amazed that masses of poor children could be taught so well for so little. These bureaucrats believed they could do the same job for the same price. They were wrong.

In 1806, DeWitt Clinton, New York's Mayor, moved in by subsidizing the Lancaster system with a minuscule real estate tax. Using this subsidy as a toehold, the city gradually managed, then controlled and then set up a rival system. By 1852, New York City had absorbed the Lancaster schools via the now-famous Board of Education. Taxes rose dramatically and the quality declined as the Government monopolized schooling.

In Lancaster's native England, the story was just as sad. The Church of England saw Lancaster as a dangerous radical since he was giving the "unwashed masses" the skills to move upward. It counterattacked with a monitorial system of its own, conceived by Rev. Andrew Bell. But his way did not teach self-reliance. Nor was it designed to educate or even teach writing or ciphering. It only taught Bible studies.

Backed by massive funding from Parliament, the Church of England destroyed Lancaster by opening schools directly across from his and pirating his students.

There is, of course, no need to return to a system whose economies of scale are as severe as Lancaster's were. But clearly the time has come to once again reverse the cycle. Tax-supported schooling has failed and it is time for another Lancaster to come forward and show what free enterprise can do—again.





New York Times 12/19/88

John Chodes is the vice chairperson of the Libertarian Party of New York City.

# Page 7 NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN PARTY MEMBERSHIP FORM

N	ame:		
A	ddress:		
C	ity:		
Si	late:	Zio:	
To	elephone: (H	or B)	
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[]	I am registere	ed to vote in NJ.	weny.
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N	LP Dues	Membership Category	of the biganizations.
[]	\$300.00	Lifetime Sustaining	
[]	200.00	Lifetime	[] \$15.00 Libertarian National Party Dues (one year).
[]	50.00	Sustaining	[] NJ Libertarian susbscription only, \$10.00.
[]	35.00	Supporting	[] I am not the first member at this mailing address, and do not
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soc	ial goals."		or achieving political or
X			Date:
(Si	gnature indica	ting acceptance of above s	tatement is required for membership)
<b>WL</b>	P Bylaws requ	ire that members either live	or work in N.I
Mak	ke checks paya	able and return to: NJLP, I	PO Box 56, Tennent, NJ 07763

# Zoning destroys rights

To the Editor:

There was a time in America when zoning regulations and "master plans" would have been quickly dismissed as unconstitutional, as violating the Bill of Rights of the Constitution ("nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation").

When the government sets off parcels of land and tells the owners what they may not do with such parcels, this has the effect of reducing the value of that land. In other words, the government takes part of the value of the land. Of course, zoning has other bad effects as well. Because they cause land to be used in a manner that is less than maximally efficient, zoning regulations raise housing costs. This affects everybody but causes the greatest hardships for our least affluent citizens.

It is a shame that the Edison Township Council apparently wants to continue this violation of people's rights with its new master plan. Worse, they seem to be taking direct aim at those people who most need inexpensive housing. However, it was even a bigger disappointment to me to find that the editors of the Review apparently find these actions acceptable as long as the zoning does not eliminate all use of the property (Our Opinion, December 2).

The editors should realize that we don't lose our rights all at once; rather, we allow them to be gradually eroded. Because you now find "zoning" acceptable, you give the council the ammunition it needs to take the next step: to make a plot of land virtually unusable without compensating the owners. Such extreme forms of "zoning" have already occurred elsewhere in New Jersey and will occur in Edison as well, unless people come to see "zoning" and "master plans" for what they really are: the immoral and unconstitutional taking of private property without just compensation.

HOWARD F. SCHOEN Chairman, Libertarian Party of Somerset/Middlesex Edison Metuchen-Edison Review December 16, 1988

#### NJLP STEERING COMMITTEE

 State Chair:	Dan Karlan	201/444-2846
Vice-Chair:	Jerry Zeldin	609/783-4306
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