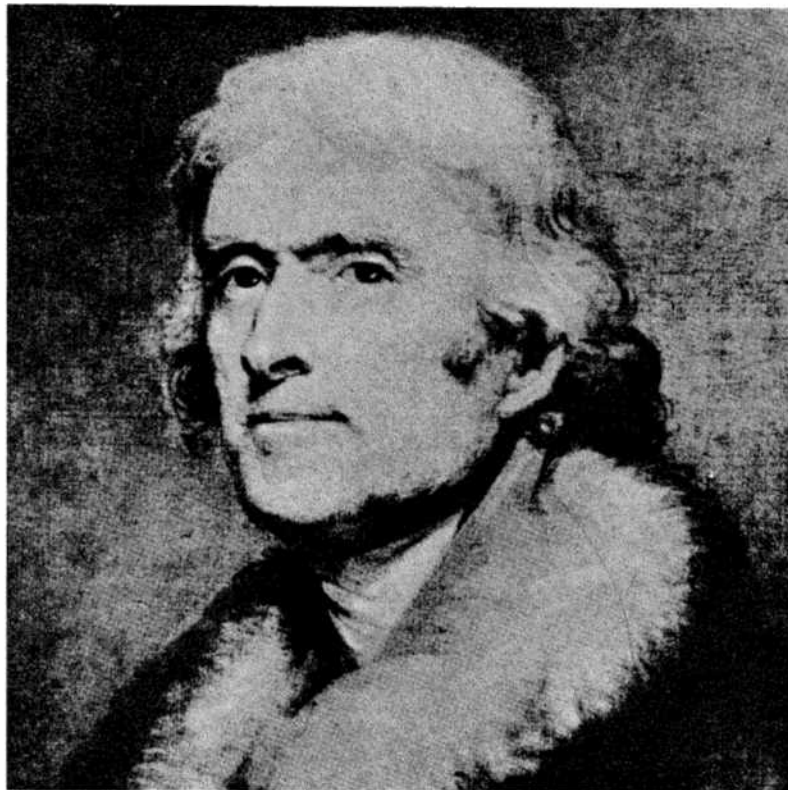


THE SPIRIT OF '76

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"The price of liberty is eternal vigilance."

"That government is best which governs least."

THOMAS JEFFERSON

A LOOK AT THE SEVENTIES WITH BENEFIT OF HINDSIGHT

"Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." Such was the rallying cry of the citizens in the States in the seventies, as history books of later periods have documented.

The primary complaint of the citizens of this turbulent period in the late seventies was the imposition of oppressive taxes upon them. The Bureaucracy, removed from the pulse and the lives of the citizenry, heaped unfair taxes and regulations upon the producing public.

The working, producing public attempted in vain to secure their rights through peaceful means. The bureaucracy would not listen. What inevitably followed is the history of the seventies, which is known by every schoolboy in the United States today.

From this historical lesson of the seventies all future generations should learn that oppressive government interference into the lives of the citizens must be removed within the system, within the electoral process, by peaceful means; for if it is not, the government itself cannot survive.

We who believe in liberty must bring this message to the public. We must all learn from the lesson of the seventies.

The above quotation is inscribed upon the Liberty Bell, which is housed in Independence Hall in Philadelphia, and, as previously stated, served as the rallying cry of the citizens of the 1770's.

By BOB STEINER

THE SPIRIT OF '76

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THE SPIRIT OF '76 is a continuation of the publication PREMISE. Its purpose is to keep Libertarians informed of N.J.L.P. doings and to introduce others to Libertarianism. Those with more than a basic knowledge of Libertarianism will enjoy reading REASON, selected for distribution to members of Society for Individual Liberty.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

The 4th Amendment in our Bill of Rights, U.S. Constitution, states:

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by an oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the person or things to be seized.

The U.S. Supreme Court has now, effectively, granted police the power to search any vehicle stopped for routine traffic violations.

Why did the Founders bother to write the 4th Amendment? Apparently it was not hard for them to conjure up a picture of an agent of a powerful government allegedly searching a political dissenter and "finding" incriminating evidence brought to the scene.

Although the Supreme Court may have thought its decision "necessary" to protect society, etc., it ignored the words of William Pitt, who said 200 years ago, "Necessity is the plea for every infringement of human freedom. It is the argument of tyrants and the creed of slaves."

THE MYTH OF "JOB CREATION"

We constantly hear George McGovern and politicians of that ilk calling for the "creation of more jobs." Usually this is in the context of making social workers out of the unemployed or "put(ting) these people to work cleaning up the parks," etc.

Let it be noted that jobs do not necessarily make the world go 'round. If carried to its extreme, and everyone were given government make-work jobs, it is obvious that our homes would gradually disintegrate, and we would starve to death through lack of productive work. A lesser number of government jobs, held by people who consume, but do not produce, causes the same lowering of living standards, but in lesser degree.

GUEST EDITORIALS

Barry Goldwater: "Reduce government, don't try to streamline it, don't try to make it more efficient, just reduce it."

Fred (Redd Foxx) Sanford: "How come there ain't no white people in this here court?", indicating in the editor's opinion the fact that the legal bureaucracy, with its quota system, enforces its victimless crime laws mainly on the minorities.

The 2nd Annual Libertarian Convention was held at the Ramada Inn on Feb. 9, 1974 in Clark, N.J. Business included the nomination of political candidates and the election of party officers. There were no candidates for nomination for office on the Libertarian line, but 1973 Chairman Robert Steiner's candidacy for U.S. Congress as an independent was unanimously endorsed. (see article)

Larry Totams was elected Chairman (see article) and Fred Stein, who is particularly active in advocating Libertarianism at the local government level, was elected Vice Chairman. Warren Schubert was elected treasurer, Jane Rehmke elected Executive Secretary, and Judy Schubert was elected Recording Secretary. All elections were unopposed and unanimous.

Eric Scott Royce, executive committee representative from region 7 of the Libertarian Party, spoke briefly about challenges facing Libertarian office seekers and the importance of winning.

Marshall Bruce Evoy, editor of a Canadian magazine called Libertarian Option, spoke to the convention on the topic "News from Abroad." He discussed the status of statism and libertarianism in Australia, Europe, Asia, and Canada. He mentioned that libertarianism knows no boundaries and left us with a warm feeling for the great people in the North who are fighting for liberty.

Ms. Sharon Presley, co-owner of the Laissez-Faire Book Store in New York City, addressed the convention on the topic "The Psychology of Laissez-Faire." She discussed several problems facing the libertarian movement. One is the infighting among Libertarians on minor issues rather than stressing the major issues which unite us. Another problem is bureaucratizing Libertarianism with the possibility of strangling ourselves with red tape, rituals, and committees, rather than taking more direct action. She mentioned that some Libertarians espousing individuality are too willing to submit to the authority of other libertarians and are not defiant enough of authority in general.

Ms. Presley stated that the worst problem facing Libertarians is elitism. She feels that we should examine our individual motives and also the motives of others of different political persuasions. Rather than just feeling superior to others and remaining a smugly aloof clique, she suggests that libertarians actively seek to educate and seek common ground, while not sacrificing principle.

Speaker David Friedman, a libertarian economist, provided the convention audience with several economic arguments which refute current liberal economic philosophy. He spoke specifically about extranalties, those cases where supposedly the unhindered market will not make the right decision. He stated that some arguments for a free market hailed as being new have been common sense practices of business for many decades.

Bruce Evoy provided the evening entertainment with several dramatic readings from Shakespeare and some contemporary Canadian authors. His moving performance evoked tears and laughter and will long be remembered.

The convention unanimously adopted resolutions to oppose a state income tax and public funding of political campaigns

"The individual must be free, able to develop to the utmost of his ability, employing all opportunities that confront him for his own and his family's welfare; otherwise he is merely a cog in a machine. The society must be stable, assured against violent upheaval and revolution; otherwise it is nothing but a temporary truce with chaos. But freedom for the individual must never degenerate into the enchained servitude of the masses that we call statism."

Dwight D. Eisenhower

"Law never does anything constructive. We have had enough of legislators promising to do that which laws cannot do."

Henry Ford

bob steiner for congress

P. O. Box 112 Dept. D
Westfield, N.J. 07090



Robert A. Steiner

Bob Steiner Wins Unanimous Endorsement

Robert Steiner, co-founder and first Chairman of the N.J.L.P., received the unanimous endorsement of the N.J.L.P. convention for his independent candidacy for U.S. Congressional Representative from the twelfth district. He named Larry Totams as his campaign manager. In a brief statement Bob said that he has had it with bureaucratic interference into the lives and businesses of citizens and will go to Washington where he can whittle away at the unnecessary functions of government.

Bob graduated from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and is a Certified Public Accountant in Westfield. He has lectured, taught, written articles and books, and appeared on television and radio on the subjects of economics and politics. The L.P. news has written that "Bob Steiner is exceptionally knowledgeable on economic issues, and is becoming well known in N.J. as a champion of the overburdened taxpayer."

"There is among you the man who is not bound by party lines. You vote according to your common sense and your calm judgment after hearing each party set forth its program. To you I say that the strength of this independent thought is the great contribution of the American political system."

Franklin D. Roosevelt

OFFICER PROFILES

Larry Totams, Chairman, is owner and operator of Kelley and Salles, a wholesale electrical supply company. He has served as treasurer and social chairman of the N.J.L.P. Larry's hobbies include drinking and harassing Bob Steiner.

Fred Stein, Vice Chairman, is an insurance salesman by profession. He was one of the founders of the N.J.L.P. and the Irvington Tax Fighters. He is a regular attendant at town council meetings and speaks on libertarian issues. Fred's interests include song writing and comedy. By his estimate, Fred's entertainment career has led to performances before tens of people.

Executive Secretary, Jane Rehmke, is employed in the R & D laboratory at Sandoz-Wander, Inc. She is a student of economics and organized a Libertarian Club at William and Mary College, which was the forerunner of the new Virginia Libertarian Party. Jane's hobbies include sewing, crafts and music.

Warren Schubert, Treasurer, is employed by Colgate-Palmolive as a research associate in their research and development center. He holds U.S. and foreign patents and has been a contributing author to cosmetic textbooks and journals.

Recording Secretary Judy Schubert, Warren's wife, is mother of Gregg, 11, and Susan, 6. She is president of the Raritan Valley Memorial Society, Historian of the Unitarian Society of New Brunswick, and past Committee Chairman of the Raritan Valley Montessori School PTA.

Byrne's Budget

by

Richard L. Solyom

"NO MAN'S LIFE, LIBERTY OR PROPERTY
ARE SAFE WHILE THE LEGISLATURE IS
IN SESSION . . . "

1 Tucker 248 (N.Y. Surr. 1866)

The truth of this old New York judicial opinion becomes evident when we examine Governor Byrne's Budget and consider his call for a special session of the Legislature.

What dangerous legislation will legislators be requested by Gov. Byrne to pass when he calls the Special Session? Are there to be more Czars, Commissions and Policy Committees to do all that is 'good' for us? Will he try to brainwash legislators into thinking an income tax is necessary and inevitable?

Byrne's Budget totals \$2.7 billion, an increase of \$351 million over last year. Almost half of the increase is in the field of education--that hallowed ground for all politicians--and is accounted for by an increase of \$144 million in school aid. Byrne brags his budget requires no new or increased taxes but he is careful not to tell us why. Massive new funds will be required. The decision to fully fund the Bateman Act; legislation such as Byrne's public funding of political campaigns which would give gubernatorial candidates up to \$1 million each of taxpayer money and a state take-over of court costs, welfare and criminal justice, all require new revenue totaling in the hundreds of millions of dollars. However, the size of the required new funding is hidden, this first year, by Byrne's use of the nearly \$400 million surplus bequeathed him by Cahill.

Byrne has used it to hide, for one year, the tremendous increase in taxes resulting from an ever-increasing size of 'government.' In 1866 they knew that "No man's life, liberty or property are safe while the legislature is in session." Have we forgotten it?

Richard L. Solyom is past president of the Federation of the N. J. Taxpayers, Inc.

"If anyone but the government proceeded to "tax," this would clearly be considered coercion and thinly disguised banditry. Yet the mystical trappings of sovereignty have so veiled the process that only libertarians are prepared to call taxation what it is: legalized and organized theft on a grand scale.

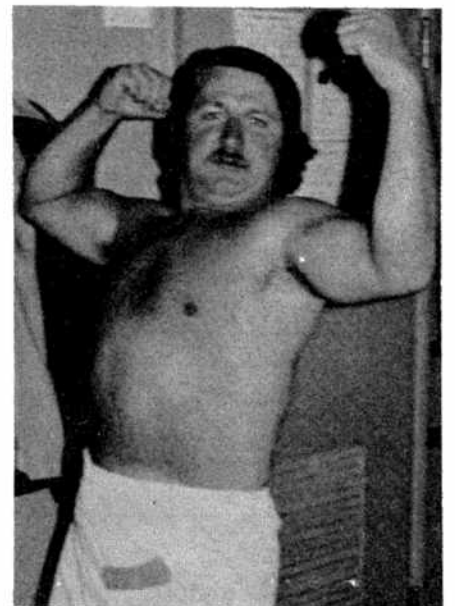
Murray Rothbard

"A countryman between two lawyers is like a fish between two cats."

Benjamin Franklin

"Is life so dear,
or peace so sweet
as to be purchased
at the price of
chains and slavery?
Forbid it, almighty
God! I know not
what course others
may take, but, as
for me, give me
liberty or give me
death."

Patrick Henry



This is our state chairman?

BY MILTON FRIEDMAN



WHY NOW?

(Reprinted by permission of Newsweek, Inc., copyright 1973)

"Running Out of Everything" was NEWSWEEK's cover headline some weeks back. It dramatized the fact that, for the first time since World War II, the U.S. has begun to experience major shortages not only of petroleum products, but of a wide range of other items.

Of the many attempts to explain this state of affairs that I have seen in the media, not one faces up to the crucial question: Why now? Why did shortages not emerge in 1968 at the height of the Vietnam war, or in 1958, or for that matter in 1938 or 1928? What is different about 1973?

THE MIDEAST WAR, NO

The Mideast war is one obvious answer. The Arab boycott it unleashed has exacerbated the shortage of crude oil. But an energy shortage was well on its way before the Mideast war broke out. Government allocation of fuel was already on the way. And none of the other shortages owes anything to the Mideast war.

One popular answer—particularly for the energy crisis—is that consumption of energy has been increasing rapidly. But that has been going on for decades. Why should it have produced shortages only now?

The response is typically that we are running short of reserves of fossil fuel—that there are only ten or fifteen years of proven oil reserves, for example. But that too has been true for decades. In the 1920s, scare stories were being written about the danger that we would run out of oil because the then proven reserves would last for only ten or fifteen years. In the interim, consumption of crude oil has multiplied manyfold—and so have proven oil reserves. The fact is that it does not pay to find and prove more than about fifteen years' oil reserves at any time.

Has fuel oil been especially short? Aug. 15, 1971, was summertime. It will surprise no one that fuel-oil prices are generally lower in the summer than in the winter. The result of freezing prices at summertime levels was to make gasoline more profitable to produce than fuel oil. Has pipe been hard to get for drilling new wells? As it happened, the controlled prices for pipe and flat steel made it more profitable to produce flat steel.

But this time, it is said, we are short of refining capacity. Perhaps so, but why now? How is it that until now, refining capacity was able to keep up with demand, but in the years 1971 to 1973 it was not?

The greedy, selfish oil interests? If, as is frequently charged, they have conspired to create a shortage profitable to themselves, why have they been so slow? They are no more powerful now than they have been for many years. Why did they wait so long before squeezing the hapless consumer? And how do they make

profits by having no oil to sell? By full-page advertisements urging consumers to economize on fuel? This is simply the irrational search for a devil.

The answer to "Why now?" is straightforward—yet I know from bitter experience how hard it is to persuade anyone other than an economist that so simple an answer can be correct. Nineteen seventy-three is different from other peacetime years because, for the first time since World War II, the U.S. has had extensive price and wage controls. The key to today's shortages is the price freeze ordered by President Nixon on Aug. 15, 1971.

PRICE CONTROLS, YES

I am not enough of an expert—no one is—to know the million and one places where prices fixed by bureaucrats on the basis of arbitrary rules and accidental starting points have created distortions and shortages. Some have been dramatic, like the beef shortage and the destruction of baby chickens. But most have not been. They are hidden in the interstices of an incredibly complex production system that cannot operate without the enormous efficiency of a market-price system to adapt changing demands to changing supplies. And many have been overcome by millions of citizens who found ways to avoid or evade the price controls.

I know that it is hard for you to believe that so seemingly simple a matter as price fixing can produce so complex a phenomenon as widespread shortages. But then, I find it hard to believe that an automobile engine is a complex matter until I start probing around in its innards when it stops functioning on a dark road in the early hours of the morning.

At any rate, if this is not the answer, what is? In what other respect—pervasive enough to produce the pervasive effect we see—is 1973 different from earlier peacetime years?

"Enjoyable, informative reading."

Nathaniel Branden, author,
The Psychology of Self-Esteem



Lydia Longinotti, originator and first editor of this newsletter has resigned to take a seat on the state executive committee. Her efforts in establishing the party paper, and producing it even while serving as campaign manager for John Goodson are deeply appreciated.

LIBERTARIANISM

BY JOHN HOSPERS, PH.D., DIRECTOR, SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

By special arrangement, REASON has published a soft cover edition; available through REASON for only \$2.95 postpaid. Send your order with payment enclosed to REASON, Box 6151, Santa Barbara, California 93111. California residents please add 5% sales tax.

"You can't say that civilization don't advance, for in every war they kill you in a new way."

Will Rogers

We are always hearing that government is run by just plain folks who are constantly looking out for our best interests. In fact, if we seem to be a mite wary of their efforts, we are looked upon with suspicion. Politicians tell us that government gives us the freedom to pursue our own interests while protecting us from the predators. This is what government should be, but it certainly is not what it has become.

Take any newspaper and remove all the items that pertain to the government and its activities; about all that's left are the margins. And it gets worse all the time.

We are surrounded by unnecessary government. It is curious that the state government should increase in size some 500% over a period of time when the population increased only 20%. We were told— for twenty years— that roads would make the state and country wonderful. Well, we have the roads now and politicians seem amazed that people bought cars to use on them. At the moment we are told that public mass transit is necessary to solve the problem of the cars. The government creates the problem, blames the voter and then uses the problem to increase its power.

It should be apparent by now that what we need is not more government, but much, much less. It's time for New Jersey citizens to tell the government just whom the money belongs to. It does not belong to some failing industry, or some education czar. It does not belong to the producer of some state TV station that virtually no one watches, and it certainly does not belong to some transportation planner whose dreams of a totally asphalt New Jersey have now shifted to a monorail in every garage.

John A. Goodson

"It could probably be shown by facts and figures that there is no distinctly American criminal class except Congress."

Mark Twain

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