



THE NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN

JUNE

1991

The Washington Times, 5/9/91

JOSEPH SOBRAN

Libertarians: On the verge?

While only one Democrat — a Greek liberal from Massachusetts — has declared for the presidency in 1992, two candidates, even more obscure than Paul Tsongas, are seeking the nomination of another party.

Andre Marrou and Richard Boddie want to be president, sort of. Actually, it's hard to take seriously the presidential ambitions of anyone who runs on the Libertarian Party ticket. The Libertarian vote usually runs in the tens of thousands.

That could change next year. After a brief wartime surge in popularity, President Bush is settling into the customary Republican relation to the electorate: tepid. He will probably win by default against whomever the Democrats strap to the altar.

Third parties suffer during close elections, when the voter suffers from the delusion of being able to make a difference. By the same token, they prosper during lopsided campaigns, when the vote is seen as having a primarily symbolic value.

In 1992, a critical mass of voters may be sufficiently disgusted with the so-called two-party system to cast their ballot for a real alternative, especially if Mr. Bush looks like a shoo-in. What we really have is a one-party system with moving parts. The Reagan "revolution" changed nothing except the voters' sense of futility. Change at last seemed possible, even if Ronald Reagan only talked about it instead of delivering it (while federal spending nearly doubled).

Sensing that a big electoral shift

may be at hand, Messrs. Marrou and Boddie are vying for the Libertarian nomination next year. Mr. Marrou is a well-spoken, serious man, one of the few Libertarians ever elected to public office: He served three terms in the state legislature of Alaska.

Mr. Boddie is Mr. Excitement. Truly, he is. He can electrify a crowd with both prepared remarks and spontaneous repartee. He has the born preacher's gift for handling a crowd (he's the son and grandson of ministers) by alternating moral challenge with humor. His purpose in running is appropriately missionary: He wants to make "Libertarian" as much a household word as "Democrat" or "Republican," and he insists he's just the man to do it.

One of Mr. Boddie's selling points is that he's black, which makes him something of a novelty: a black politician calling for the demise of the welfare state. He comes across superbly on TV: quick-witted, fiercely funny, magnetic. I've never seen a candidate who defined himself so sharply in a few seconds. If he gets the nomination, Mr. Boddie is sure to get the Libertarians more media exposure than they've ever had before.

Interestingly, no Libertarian I've talked to has suggested that Mr. Boddie's color would be a handicap. It's simply assumed that it would be an asset. The rap on him, rather, is that he's new to the movement and that Mr. Marrou's positions are more thoroughly reasoned. I suppose it comes down to whether the Libertarians should at this point think in terms of governing or just getting on the map.

The Libertarians could pick up a

hefty protest vote from conservatives who have had it with Mr. Bush and the Republicans. The trouble is that the Libertarians tend to alienate the conservatives, who associate libertarianism with advocacy of legalized drugs, legalized abortion and legalized homosexuality. Many conservatives disapprove of these things and associate legalization with official approval.

If the Libertarians want to make real gains, they need to change their image — the first impression they make, which so often invites dismissal. In point of fact, drugs, abortion and homosexuality are not, as such, primary Libertarian concerns. Their real goal is sharply limited government, beginning with a slashing of federal taxes.

Personally, Libertarians are generally conservative in demeanor and morality, though with a large sprinkling of Bohemians and eccentrics. They don't approve of drug use; they merely think the state uses drugs as an excuse — one of many such excuses — for curtailing individual liberties. They likewise think homosexuality simply belongs in the area of protected private behavior.

A large minority of Libertarians even oppose legal abortion, believing that the unborn child is entitled to the protection of even a minimal state. Mr. Marrou would set an early limit of about two months for abortion, using brain activity as the criterion for personhood. Mr. Boddie would keep abortion legal, but unequivocally calls it "murder" as a moral matter.

If the Libertarians can convince conservatives that they stand for constitutional government rather than moral relativism, they may forge an important new coalition in 1992.

Joseph Sobran, a senior editor of National Review, is a nationally syndicated columnist.

COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS

	<u>State Committee Representatives</u>	<u>County Chairs</u>	
Bergen County		Lee Altman	201/265-6249
Camden/Gloucester	John Hill	John Hill	609/468-9571
Hudson County	Larry Eden		201/795-0173
		Don Meinshausen	201/659-6786
Hunterdon County	Joe Kerr*	Joe Kerr	609/397-8119
Mercer County	Carl Peters	Carl Peters	609/737-7667
Monmouth County	Claudia Montelione		908/583-8721
		Helen Radder	908/938-2784
Morris/Essex	Rich Bellush		201/543-2515
		Ken Kaplan	201/992-3991
Somerset/Middlesex	John Paff		908/873-1251
		Howard Schoen	908/572-0207
Warren County	Jim Agnew*	Jim Agnew	908/475-4845

NJLP STEERING COMMITTEE

State Chair:	Dan Karlan	201/444-2846
Vice-Chair:	Jerry Zeldin	609/783-4306
Secretary:	Len Flynn	908/591-1328
Treasurer:	Louis Stefanelli	201/751-8675
Members-at-Large:	Joan Eden	201/795-0173
	Lee Altman	201/265-6249
	Spencer Layman	908/583-2816
	Don Hinkle	201/377-2176

PROJECT DIRECTORS

Monmouth County	Laura Stewart	908/264-4492
Middlesex County	Sam Edelston	908/906-0766

NJLP PHONE: 908/781-6171

*Members in this county interested in being the State Rep., please contact State Chair, Dan Karlan.

IS ABORTION AGGRESSION?

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Libertarians for Life

13424 Hathaway Drive, #18

Wheaton, MD 20906, 301/460-4141

Doris Gordon, National Coordinator

N.J. LIBERTARIAN

Letters to the editor, articles, and commentary are welcome. Send to the Editor:

Claudia Montelione
P.O. Box 913
Matawan, NJ 07747
201/583-8721

ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page	\$40
Half Page	30
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Advertising and editorial material must be received by the editor on or before the 24th of the month to be in the following issue.

The editor does not let her personal opinion dictate what appears in this newsletter. Articles, letters & advertisements are accepted as long as they do not conflict with Libertarian principles or slander the Party or individuals.

Submitted material should be the original or a good, clear copy. We avoid using material that will not reproduce well.

The Editor Got Letters!

Dear Sir,

I just joined the Libertarian party and I am already starting to wonder. I have seen two "anti-semitic" letters already in two issues. This last letter from Mark Richards was a joke. If you do not believe anti-Israel or anti-Zionist remarks are a code for anti-Jewish remarks, I invite you to call your friends from the IHR here. I will get an impartial Polygraph testing company to question them. If they do not show up as anti-Jewish I will pay the cost of the test. If they show up so they pay. OKAY?

Richards cites Koestler's book showing that Jews are not even Semitic. He calls them Khazars. Well I guess if that is so, then Protestant Irishmen are not true Irishmen having descended from the Orange? Try and tell an Irish Protestant that Mr. Richards. Most of the Arabs he calls Palestinians are Arabs who migrated to Israel from nearby countries seeking better health care, education, opportunity. Their names are Egyptian, Syrian, etc. Tell me, Mr. Richards, who was the last or first President of Palestine? The last Prime Minister? King? There was no such Arab country? How about you stealing and walking on the land of the American Indians, Mr. Richards? How come you are not writing about their plight? Your friends in the IHR have already been discredited in a civil suit. The IHR made admissions that their positions were not correct. You are right in one point, Mr. Richards -- I agree that bigots are not necessarily simpletons in a sheet and a hood.

The USA is falling apart. What you are doing is exactly what the "One-worlders" want; start to fight amongst ourselves. Instead of worrying about foreign aid to Israel, why aren't you yelling about the 70 year buildup of the USSR and all communist countries by the US government and the Bankers?

Also Sincerely,
Stephen M. Golub

Dear Ms. Montelione,

In your March 1991 issue, you ran an article by Len Flynn that said, in part, "Then Dan Karlan read a letter from Regional LP Representative Clifford Thies questioning the National LP Committee (NATCOM) August 12, 1990 position statement opposing U.S. intervention in the Gulf."

First, neither you nor your reporter checked the source (i.e., me), but simply accepted a misrepresentation of a letter of mine to National Committee members and Mid-Atlantic

state chairs.

Second, even without checking the source, it should have struck you as odd that I would "question" that position statement, since it was reported in the L.P. News that that resolution had passed unanimously.

To put the record straight, in my letter, I did not "question" the National Committee August 12, 1990 resolution opposing deployment of U.S. military forces to the Gulf region; and, in fact, re-iterated my support of that resolution.

Furthermore, I volunteered that I opposed the Congress' authorization of the use of force ("all means necessary") to force Iraq to comply with the several U.N. resolutions pertaining to its invasion of Kuwait.

What I "questioned" -- actually, "discussed" would be a better word -- were the pro's and con's of opposing the war once it had been authorized by Congress and had gotten underway.

I recommended waiting for the April 27-28, 1991 National Committee meeting to formally consider the issue on the basis, #1, that by that time the course of the war would become clear; and, #2, on such an important issue it would be better for us to be able to meet face-to-face to discuss the issue and "perfect" any resolution we would pass.

In addition, I asked for feedback from the region to enable me to "represent" its opinions, and not simply advance my own.

Instead of respecting my request for feedback, the New Jersey Libertarian Party chose to embarrass me by misrepresenting my views, in its discussion of my letter, in passing a rather silly resolution that totally missed the point of my letter, and then by printing the whole matter without checking the source or even considering public information.

Is this how you treat a fellow Libertarian who tried to represent your views?

Shame on you for your sloppy reporting, which I suspect reflects a non-Libertarian intolerance of others.

And, shame on the New Jersey Libertarian Party for sanctimoniously passing a self-serving motion, based on misrepresentation, at my expense.

Yours truly,
Clifford F. Thies

Just a few notes in response to your April 22, 1990 [sic] letter to the Editor of the New Jersey Libertarian.

Your letter to State Chairs, requesting

feedback from the corresponding executive committees, did not include a copy of the proposal you alluded to that you made in August. All we could do was presume that it differed significantly from the actual resolution that was approved in San Francisco, and that the differences were of the same color as the discussion you raised in your letter. Your voting for the final resolution -- as you note, it was approved unanimously -- must be put in the context that the letter you actually sent the state chairs suggested you have grave misgivings regarding the stance we took, or at least regarding the appropriateness of maintaining that stance once hostilities actually began.

The NJLP Steering Committee discussed your letter, and I took notes which I forwarded to you as you requested. In addition, the committee passed a resolution regarding the NJLP's stance. We did not seek to embarrass you; however, if you were embarrassed by our resolution, a resolution which merely stated that our position has not changed, I believe that is out of our control.

I don't think we missed the point of your letter: you presented various arguments for muting our August resolution, primarily dependent on the change in events. In our discussion, we recognized that some Libertarians were unhappy with the August resolution; nevertheless, a solid majority approved the "OUR VIEW HAS NOT CHANGED" resolution. We believe it was an appropriate response to your letter.

Your wagging your finger at our reporter for what you suggest "reflects a non-Libertarian intolerance of others" was unwarranted psychologizing.

Finally, regarding the consideration of public information: your letter to the regional state chairs requested feedback from the executive committees, rather than just the chairs. This asked for discussion in a form which not only allowed, but according to parliamentary procedure and good parliamentary practice (to say nothing of NJLP By-Laws) REQUIRED the proceedings to be recorded and made available for public examination.

Dan Karlan
NJLP Chair

Dear Mr. Theis,

I must add my 2¢ since your letter was directed to me.

The report submitted by Len Flynn each month for publication is a blow-by-blow account of what occurs at the NJLP meetings. I have not

thus far found it necessary to question the proceedings as reported by Len.

Yes, we are at times guilty of "sloppy reporting" even though we do the best we can. Generally, being rather short on staff, we tend to accept submissions as valid. If they are not, we hope someone will point it out (see following item). Even your \$100 & up newsletters sometimes get their facts muddled. Rest assured that no offense was intended. We are such fallible creatures!

Yours truly,
CM, Editor




Congrats to John Harllee, editor of "the Southern Libertarian Messenger" of South Carolina. He was the only reader of the "N.J. Libertarian" to discern that 'The Role of Firearms' quotation on the back of our April issue is a complete fraud! It had been sent to us in good faith, but....

"Prairie wagons came after Geo. Washington..." (1855 was the first time the term is recorded being used - ed.); guns were here before the Pilgrims landed; the expression "99 & 99/100 %" is from the late 1800s; and the term "atmosphere" was not used in that sense in Washington's day, says Harllee.

What did someone once say about not believing everything you read?

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Somerset/Middlesex Activities

By Sam Edelston

You've probably read that we meet on the fourth Monday most months. But you don't know what all you've been missing if you haven't been there. Here's a taste.

Our May program was **Peter Christopher** of NJ-NORML, talking about the many uses of the hemp plant, which is where marijuana comes from. For example, rope, long-lasting paper, very sturdy fabric for clothing, sheetrock, relief of chronic pain for cancer patients. Per acre, it yields ten times as much methanol as corn. And did you know the word "canvas" is a cannabis derivative? Along with various (legal) visual aids which were passed around, he showed a 1942 US government film that urged farmers to grow hemp to help the war effort! So why's the stuff illegal?

The two previous months we had **Rich Duprey** of the **NJ Commerce and Industry Association**, speaking about some specific burdens of government regulations...and **Janice Ballou**, director of the **Star-Ledger/Eagleton Poll**, telling what's on New Jersey's mind. She's on page 1 of the **Sunday Ledger** about 15-20 times a year. (If Florio's programs don't save taxpayers money, expect the public to really boil over!)

On June 2, we did our second Operation Politically Homeless of the season, at the **Somerville Street Fair**.

Our **Political Awareness Committee**, led by **John Paff**, has been lobbying on several proposed state laws, including A-114, intended to let people make their own wine and beer without state interference.

And congratulations to **Howard Schoen** on his re-election as chair and **Randy Enterline**, CPA, on making our books sensible as treasurer.

CALENDAR

6/7 - **Libertarians of Monmouth County** meet 7:30 PM at Helen Radder's, 302 W. Farm Rd., Farmingdale. Call 908/938-2784 for directions.

6/8 - **Steering Committee** meets at the Karlan residence in Cranbury, 2 PM sharp. Call 201/444-2946 for directions.

6/10 - **Ocean County Libertarian Discussion Group** - meets 7:30 PM at the home of Betty Florentine, 70 Yorkwood Dr., Brick. Call 908/477-8496 for directions.

6/25 - **Nat'l Organ. for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML)** meets 7-9PM, Camden County Library, 3rd floor meeting room.

7/4 - **Picnic & Gen'l Meeting** at the Flynn's in Morganville, 908/591-1328. Swimming Pool, Basketball, Frisbee, Darts, Softball, Horseshoes, Hiking, Volleyball, Target practice, Relaxation, etc. Bring whatever to grill for yourself plus a dish to share. Lawn chairs would be helpful. Grills, munchies, charcoal, soda & ice will be provided. See directions on next page.

8/15-18 - **Ron Paul's Bretton Woods II**, Bretton Woods, N.H. Call 713/333-4888 for info.

Somerset/Middlesex Area Libertarians (SMAL) meet at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 1640 Amwell Rd., Somerset at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Mon. of the month. Call Howard Schoen 908/572-0207 or John Paff 908/873-1251 for details.

Morris-Essex Libertarians meet the last Tuesday of the month at Ronnie's Restaurant, 13 Hook Mountain Rd., off Rt.46, Pinebrook, at 8PM. Call Rich Bellush at his office 201/543-2515 for details.

Mercer County Libertarians meet on the last Sunday of each month at 7PM. Call Carl Peters for info. 609/737-7667.

Constitutionists meet the 2nd Mon./month at the Union Hall on Locust St. & River Dr. in Elmwood Park at 8PM. Call 201/471-7591 for details.

Going to the NJLP Picnic & General Meeting

(see 7/6 listing in Calendar)

A. Directions from the northeast (New York City)

1. Get onto U.S. 9 South near Perth Amboy. (Exit 127 from Garden State Parkway or Exit 11 of the New Jersey Turnpike)
2. Take U.S. 9 south to Route 18 East, then take the second exit ramp at the first exit toward Morganville.
3. Go about 3/4 mile north on Tennent Road to Flynn's.

B. Directions from the southwest (Philadelphia)

1. Take N.J. Turnpike (I-95 North) to exit 9 (Route 18 South).
2. Follow Route 18 south about 9 miles past the junction with Route 9. Then take the second ramp at the next exit toward Morganville.
3. Go about 3/4 mile north on Tennent Road to Flynn's.

C. Directions from Princeton

1. Travel on county road 520 through Jamesburg and all the way through the junction with U.S. 9.
2. At the next light turn left onto Tennent Road.
3. Go about 3/4 mile north on Tennent Road to Flynn's.

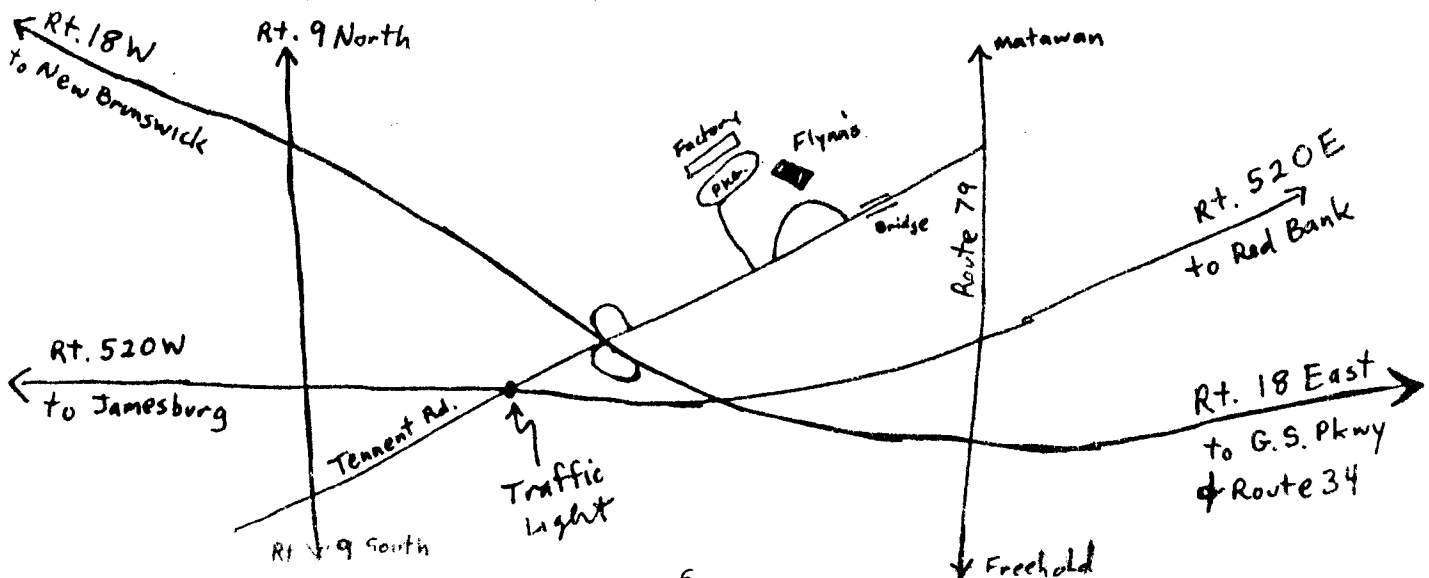
D. Directions from the Jersey Shore

1. Get onto Route 18 North (e.g. by taking Route 34 North) and exit at the Route 520/Morganville ramp.
2. Go up the cloverleaf and turn left onto Tennent Road.
3. Go about 1/2 mile north on Tennent Road to Flynn's.

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*"Tires to go" sign at entrance.

LEN, GINNY, BRIDEY, AND RYAN WILL WELCOME YOU!



NJLP STATE COMMITTEE MEETING
By Len Flynn

The New Jersey Libertarian Party State Committee met on May 4, 1991 at Dan Karlan's parents' home in Cranbury. The meeting was called to order at 2:25 PM by NJLP Chair Dan Karlan. Present were Karlan, Zeldin, Flynn, Stefanelli, Joan Eden, Altman, Paff, Larry Eden (Hudson County Representative), Peters, Montelione, and George Foster (Morris/Essex). Hinkle, Hill, Kerr, and Agnew were absent.

The meeting began with a credentials check for county representatives where Larry Eden was accepted as Hudson County Representative to the State Committee. The proposed meeting agenda was modified to include new items, then Dan read some correspondence. The minutes of the April 6, 1991 Steering Committee meeting were read and approved. Copies of Lou Stefanelli's written Treasurer's report were circulated.

The committee next heard reports from County Committees. Claudia Montelione said that Libertarians of Monmouth County had succeeded in getting on the ballot three candidates for state office in District 12. They are Helen Radder for State Senate and Don Jamison and Ginny Flynn for Assembly.

John Paff circulated his report on Somerset/Middlesex Area Libertarians' (SMAL) activities. John reported that four active SMAL committees are meeting regularly. The Program Committee arranged a successful speech by (former NJLP Chair) Rich Duprey, Director of Government Relations for the Commerce and Industry Association (a good "CIA"!) of New Jersey. Duprey spoke in April to SMAL on "The Boomerang Effect: How Government Regulations Hurt Us All."

The SMAL Recruitment Committee had success with the

Operation Politically Homeless (OPH) booth at the New Brunswick City Market Fair on April 27 & 28. SMAL's Political Awareness Committee and Public Relations Committee are also pursuing educational and publicity efforts, respectively, in the county.

Jerry Zeldin reported for the Southern New Jersey LP group. They have an Executive Committee meeting at least monthly to run various activities.

Carl Peters gave the Mercer County LP report. OPH got started at the April 20 & 21 Mercer County College Computer Fair, but severe rain limited attendance. Carl was sorry to report that no LP candidates got on the ballot this year. Carl himself is in a "horrible mess" with township officials who obtained a 30 day court order demanding Carl "vacate" his home of flammable materials.

George Foster reported that the Morris/Essex organization had begun to get some activity started. Then Lee Altman gave the Bergen County LP report.

Lee described the Bergen Libertarian's "Picnic Project." They want to stage a big afternoon music event where the LP and other activist groups will speak and distribute literature.

After Lee endured extensive questioning by the State Committee members, this motion was unanimously approved: "The NJLP leadership will work with the Bergen County Libertarian Club to assist in securing a permit for the picnic project." Since Bergen County Parks authorities prohibit both political and music gatherings, the Bergen Libertarians are negotiating with the municipality of Hackensack for the picnic.

There was no OPH report, but two written reports on recent fund-raising mailings from Development Coordinator Sam Edelston

were received. Fund raising activity is ahead of last year, but more work needs to be done.

Dan Karlan next raised the quorum change Bylaws amendment question. Dan suggested an 8% of membership quorum requirement for General Meetings (10% presently) with alternate preregistration requirements allowed for the State Convention. Lou Stefanelli introduced an alternate proposal. After some discussion pointed out the complexity of the proposals, a motion to commit the issue to a committee for review passed unanimously. The committee will be Lou Stefanelli, John Paff, and Dan Karlan.

The State Committee approved a modification to the method of reimbursement for the Treasurer to account for maintaining long member and prospect lists. The motion continues the Treasurer compensation at \$400/year payable quarterly but adds \$.50 per NJLP member over 200 and \$.10 for every prospect over 500 per year, also calculated and payable quarterly.

The State Committee unanimously approved a motion to raise the newsletter editor's per issue compensation from \$40 to \$60, effective with the June issue of the New Jersey Libertarian. Len Flynn will draft a proposal for a commission to the Editor for gaining new advertisers.

Dan Karlan asked county organizations to develop a telephone tree. The State Committee then passed this motion: To adopt as "Level of Activity" pursuant to Bylaws section 9.E. inclusion of a requirement that State Committee Representatives attend at least one State Committee meeting per calendar year. The NJLP Secretary will issue a new level of activity questionnaire to County Representatives which includes this requirement.

Secretary Len Flynn announced that Spencer Layman said he had

enough signatures to be an At-large Steering Committee member by petition. Upon receipt and verification of the petition, Spencer will immediately join the Steering Committee.

Lou Stefanelli mentioned that he had joined New Jersey Citizens for A Sound Economy and would work as NJLP liaison to that group. Discussion of two agenda items, the Bill of Rights and Tax Protest projects, was deferred to the next NJLP meeting. The State Committee adjourned its meeting at 4:59 PM.

At 5:27 PM a 30 second Steering Committee meeting was held and the members unanimously approved spending \$55.00 for reprinting NJLP letterhead.



"Ah ha!"

POLICE STATES: PROHIBITION THROUGH THE AGES

16th century	Coffee banned in Egypt and supplies of coffee burned—use spreads rapidly.	1958	Soviet premier Khrushchev raises alcohol prices 21% to reduce consumption—he later deems the program a failure.
17th century	The czar of Russia executes tobacco users.	1959	Campaign against glue-sniffing begins—causes “a boom in cocaine smuggling” by 1969.
c. 1650	Tobacco prohibited in Bavaria, Saxony, Zurich; the Ottoman sultan zealously executes smokers to no avail.	1962	FDA halts legal production of LSD—LSD use skyrockets by 1970.
1736	The Gin Act fails to halt consumption in England.	1965	Amphetamine enforcement intensifies—causes “a boom in cocaine smuggling” by 1969.
1792	The penalty for opium selling in China is strangulation.	1968	Campaign against marijuana use among U.S. troops in Vietnam—soldiers switch to heroin.
1845	New York bans the public sale of liquor—repeals law two years later.	1969	New York City increases drug arrests by 9000—no impact on drug availability noted.
1875-1914	27 states and cities ban opium smoking—opium smoking increases sevenfold.	1971	All-out campaign against heroin use in Vietnam fails.
1914	Passage of Harrison Narcotics Act controlling opium and cocoa derivatives.	1971	900 pounds of heroin seized in New York City—no increase in price occurs.
1914	Czar bans alcohol—Bolsheviks lift ban in 1924.	1971	President Nixon declares drugs “America’s public enemy No. 1.”
1914-70	Congress passes 55 laws to strengthen Harrison Act.	1972	The House passes a \$1 billion anti-drug bill.
1918	Special Committee studies Harrison Act effects—widespread smuggling and increased use of narcotics—and calls for stricter enforcement.	1972	President Nixon declares drugs “America’s public enemy No. 1”—again.
1919	Eighteenth Amendment banning alcohol is passed—repealed in 1933.	1973	Rockefeller’s tough drug bill is passed in New York.
1919-1933	Use of marijuana, ether, and coffee increases.	1973	President Nixon announces, “We have turned the corner on drug addiction in America.”
1921	Cigarettes are illegal in 14 states.	1975	Malaysia enacts death penalty for drug trafficking.
1924	Congress bans heroin completely—after law passed, heroin replaces morphine in black market.	1975	Singapore enacts death penalty for drug trafficking—a few years later, to drug official says, “Heroin seems to be more widely used than ever.”
1937	First federal law against marijuana.	1977	Bar Association committee concludes that Rockefeller drug law had no effect on heroin use.
1949	Law enforcement crackdown on non-prescription barbiturates—use increases 800% 1942-69.	1980	300,000 youths in Malaysia are using illegal drugs.
1955	Shah of Iran bans opium—ban partially repealed in 1969.	1983	Malaysia toughens death penalty for drug trafficking. Soviets crack down on alcohol consumption.
1956	U.S. Narcotic Drug Control Act provides for death penalty for selling heroin to minors.	1986	Moscow officials lower taxes on alcohol.
		1987	Malaysia’s 12-foot-high, double-barbed -wire security fence protecting 32 miles of border with Thailand fails to halt drug traffic.

Reprinted from SECURITY magazine, June, 1989.

SECURITY WRAP-UP: DRUG USE

From 1989 to 1987, beer consumption among Americans dropped 7%, wine use fell 14% and consumption of distilled spirits sharply decreased 23%. The use of distilled spirits fell from 3.02 gallons per person in 1980 to 2.32 gallons in 1987.

And the membership in Alcoholics Anonymous more than doubled between 1977 and 1987, from 612,000 to 1.6 million.

A number of trends make drinking less appealing to Americans. An increased emphasis on workplace productivity and the hazards of drunken driving has decreased liquor consumption.

And more people are substituting liquor and cigarettes with rowing machines and weights.

Health insurance coverage for

drug treatment is spreading. It’s now required in 13 states. Up to 80% of workers are now covered under benefit plans.

New rules for government contractors require a good faith effort to ensure a drug-free workplace. There will be no contracts for those who do not comply.

Undercover drug investigators are being used by many companies.

Posing as regular employees they can identify both users and sellers to develop the necessary evidence.

This year the Supreme Court will decide on mandatory drug tests for transportation workers and random testing of federal government employees.

The court’s ruling may affect all types of employees.

1987	Soviets increase penalties against moonshining.
1987	Legal alcohol production down 50% in Soviet Union; hard liquor moonshining up 40%; homemade wine production up 300%; 200,000 prosecuted for illegal home brewing.
1987	Soviets launch “Operation Black Poppy” to stop opium use—2,000 poppy fields destroyed.
1987	The Russian city of Murmansk bans sale of men’s cologne (containing alcohol) until 2 p.m., when liquor stores open.
1987	Glue-sniffing doubles among high school students in Soviet Union.
1988	U.S. Senate adds \$2.6 billion to federal anti-drug efforts.
1988	Title of Tampa Tribune feature article: “The Joke Among Federal Agents: ‘We’ve Turned the Corner on Drugs.’”
1989	President Reagan declares victory in War on Drugs as being a major achievement of his administration.
1989	Secretary of State James A. Baker III reports that the global war on narcotics production “is clearly not being won.”

— Courtesy of the Cato Institute

Speaking of American rights: Newspaper in Education contest

□ **EDITOR'S NOTE:** The three essays by Central Jersey high school students, published here, are the winners of the "Voice Your Rights" contest sponsored by the Asbury Park Press as part of Newspaper in Education Week, observed March 4-9. Students from participating classes in grades 9-12 wrote editorials on issues related to one or more

of the first 10 Amendments to the U.S. Constitution, commonly known as the Bill of Rights. This landmark document will be 200 years old on Dec. 15, which is why it was chosen as the theme of this year's NIE Week.

In addition to the high school editorial contest, which was judged by the editorial page staff of the

Asbury Park Press, pupils in grades kindergarten through 8 took part in a contest called "Expressions of Freedom," creating designs representing what freedom means to them. Winning entries will be published in the Panorama section of the Press on Saturday.

A total of 772 entries were received for the two contests.

Gun ownership is basic right

By **HEATHER WISHART**

Of the 10 basic American rights that have been granted to us by the Constitution, the Second Amendment is one of the most disputed. Our right to bear arms has been under fire for quite some time, and it is our duty as citizens to see to it that our right is not taken away.

Originally, the Second Amendment was added to the Constitution to allow the citizens of America to protect themselves against Indians, looters and the British. Early America was a

THIRD PLACE

dangerous place, and its citizens needed the Second Amendment to keep alive.

Today, some areas of America are just as dangerous, if not more so. The constant threat of battery, robbery and murder is enough to scare many into purchasing their own weapons. The Second Amendment, in allowing these people to protect themselves, has given comfort to those who have failed to find it in the poor prosecution of criminals and understaffed police stations.

Laws and bills that would restrict this freedom would only protect the law-breakers from counterattacks, since weapons would continue to be readily accessible through the black market and underground trade. Therefore, restraining the sale of weapons would hurt the very victims that are trying to be helped.

For this reason, I feel that the right to bear arms is equally important now as it was when our Founding Fathers first passed the Second Amendment. It is terribly important that all Americans have the freedom to do what they must to protect themselves.

□ Heather Wishart is an 11th grade student at Manalapan High School.

The Trentonian, 4/25/91

Why politicians don't listen to you

On April 16th, Hands Across New Jersey sponsored a meeting at the South River High School to discuss the Quality Education Act and the Property Tax Relief Amendment.

This meeting was widely publicized in papers and by handbills.

There was a lot of effort and expense put into this program to help the people who are faced with taxes and education problems.

After all the advertising that was done, only 85 people who showed up for this meeting. It seems that the people are more interested in crying

and complaining about their conditions than doing something about the situation. After all, it did not cost anything to attend this meeting except a little time. If six Assembly members are willing to give of their time to address the problems, it seems to me that the least the people could do is to show some appreciation by attending the meeting and voicing their opinions.

To the citizens of New Jersey — have a happy day and pay your taxes.

Don Jamison
Freehold

Suburban Trends
W. Milford Argus,
5/19/91

Drug legalization is defended

To the editor;

In reading your editorial of April 10 in which you apparently endorse the idea of going after the casual user to help intensify the "War on Drugs," you overlook the obvious solution to the "drug problem" namely, legalization or more correctly, re-legalization.

You see, contrary to most people's misinformation, drugs of all types were completely legal in America from the founding of the Republic until the advent of the Socialistic "Progressive Era" in the beginning of this century.

Let me state for the record, since I can envision all kinds of outraged rebuttals to my letter, that I do not use, nor do I advocate, the use of drugs. In fact, if every marijuana and cocoa plant withered up and died overnight, I wouldn't shed a tear.

The issue here is individual liberty

versus collectivism and statism. Either you believe that individuals are sovereign entities with control over their own lives and destinies or you are a Socialist of some varying degree!

The truth of the matter is that the nation's first anti-drug laws were pushed for by the left, not the political right. The early 20th Century reformers and people planners thought they could perfect human nature by legislation and the police power of government. Like every other Socialist Utopian dream, this one has also failed.

We tried prohibition of alcohol in the 1920s and failed, but did succeed in putting the alcohol trade in the hands of organized crime, just like drugs are today. In your editorial, if one substituted the words "bootleg booze" or "bathtub gin" for "drugs," it could have been taken from a newspaper 70 years

ago!

The current "war on drugs" has other anti-freedom aspects as well, such as more gun controls and monetary and currency regulations. That so-called conservatives who are supposed to be anti-big government have hopped on the anti-drug bandwagon because of their intolerance of other lifestyles, is appalling indeed!

The Jerry Falwells and Ted Kennedys of this world have declared a Holy War on individualism, freedom of choice and the constitution.

This letter is probably falling on deaf ears, considering the paltry turnout of voters and a return rate of 98 percent for incumbents in the 1990 elections. Sadly, the American people no longer value their birthright of freedom!

Mark Richards
West Milford

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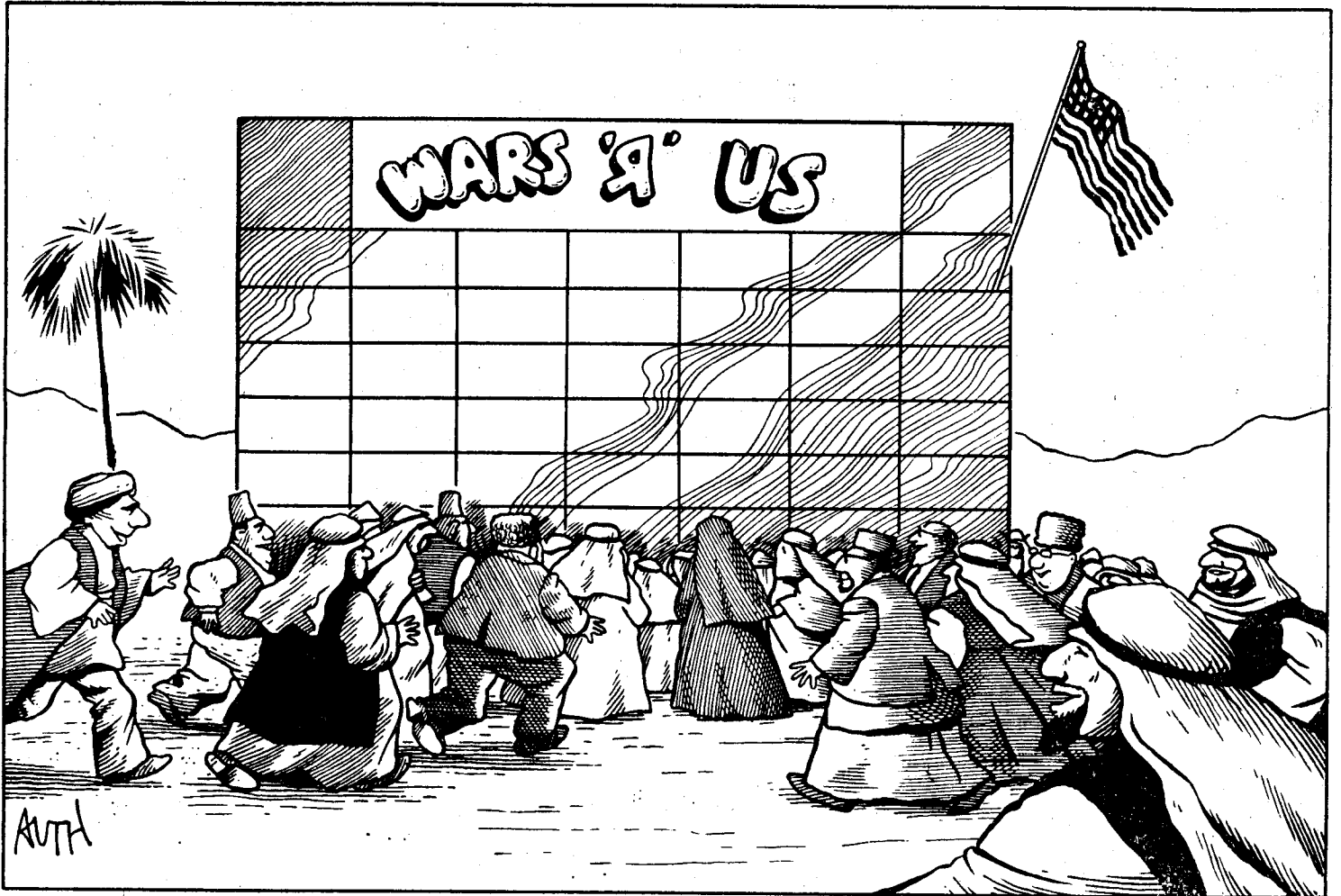
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