



WEST COAST LIBERTARIAN

The Newsletter of the Greater Vancouver Libertarian Association

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The Vancouver Sun is Wrong, the Fight Continues

The Vancouver Sun Saturday, May 10th, 1986 - pg.#A14

Worker loses fight on dues

By Doug Ward
Sun Labour Reporter

The use of union dues for political purposes is not a matter covered by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the B.C. Supreme Court has ruled.

The issue was brought to the court by provincial government worker Charles Baldwin who believes his rights under the charter are violated when the B. C. Government Employees Union uses dues to fund political groups and causes.

Baldwin's lawyer, Peter Gall, said Friday his client will revise his challenge by arguing that the provincial legislation compelling payment of dues to the BCGEU violates the charter.

Justice Albert Mackoff, in a judgement issued Thursday, said that "what the BCGEU does with its dues is the activity of a private organisation to which the charter does not apply. . . ."

Mackoff agreed with BCGEU lawyer John Baigent that the charter is designed to curb governments from infringing on citizens' rights and the Baldwin

grievance is not a charter matter because there is no government involved in the spending of the dues.

Said Mackoff: "The respondent's (BCGEU's) authority to spend union dues is derived solely from its constitution and bylaws, which do not require any 'positive action by the government to breathe life into them.'"

Mackoff said the collection of union dues is compelled under provincial government legislation, but the connection is not enough to bring the use of funds under the charter.

The headline of the above article from the Vancouver Sun makes a very incorrect statement.

THE FIGHT HAS NOT BEEN LOST - IT CONTINUES...

Charles Baldwin is presently having an important issue heard in the Supreme Court of British Columbia. Due to the complexity of the case, his lawyer Peter Gall (of the firm: Jordan and Gall) has advised for the presentation of a new petition to the Court. The petition shall argue that Section 14 of the Public Service Labour Relations Act *(continued page 2)*

(union security) is in violation of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. More clearly, the case will now begin to question whether the Act should compel the payment of Union dues monies.

The issue of his petition remains in concern of whether Union dues moneys can be used for purposes other than those relating directly to collective bargaining without the individual consent in advance by each employee. He is also petitioning that each employee be remitted the percentage of dues monies that has been spent on purposes other than collective bargaining. The petition seeks a decision in law that goes far beyond the person of Charles Baldwin or the organisation of the B.C.G.E.U. It seeks to establish for Union members the individual freedom of responsible expression, conscience, belief, thought and association through their elective use of dues monies. If the Court rules in favour of the petition, Union members would immediately be able to determine, as individuals, their funding of Union activities exceeding the cost of collective bargaining. Union leaders would lose that control!

The B.C.G.E.U.'s budget statements of the last two published fiscal years (March 31st, 1984/1985) indicate that members' dues monies are going well beyond the Union's bargaining activity. For example: \$93,800. to regional labour councils; \$216,400. Operation Solidarity; \$46,570 for varied donations and scholarships; \$77,652. to enable the B.C.G.E.U. to engage in a "Fight Back Campaign" against the B.C. Provincial Government; \$394,937. to organise and unionize target areas of the B.C. private sector; \$1,177,618. to the central unions (B.C. Federation of Labour, National Union of Provincial Government Employees and the Canadian Labour Congress) and to offset their funding of political parties, political concerns and social programs. The Union's centrals would have to appeal to individual members of the local Union for their support if the Court's decision favours the petition in this precedent British Columbia trial.

Charles Baldwin is employed by the B.C. Provincial Government and works in the Corrections Branch (Ministry of the Attorney General); he has been employed within the Branch since 1968. Allowed by the "grandfather clause", incorporated into the P.S.L.R.A., he has refrained from membership within the B.C.G.E.U. which was certified to act as bargaining agent for B.C. Provincial Government Employees in 1974. Nevertheless, he has been compelled to pay dues monies to the B.C.G.E.U. ever since that certification. This fight must NOT be lost by default through lack of funds.

*** APATHY IS BECOMING MY
GREATEST ENEMY. IF
RESPONSIBLE FREEDOM IS
IMPORTANT TO YOU, THEN THIS
IS YOUR FIGHT TOO. PLEASE
TELL OTHERS OF MY FINANCIAL
NEED AND MOST IMPORTANT,
THE NEED FOR THIS CASE TO
SUCCEED.**

DON'T UNION PEOPLE HAVE RIGHTS, TOO?

Charles Baldwin is presently fighting for his rights in court. He says that employees should have the choice to pay or not to pay their union dues for activities outside of collective bargaining. Why should unions be able to use member's dues for whatever they want?

If you, like Charles Baldwin, are angry at big labour tactics, and you're frustrated by the lack of effective voice in big labour programs, you can help Charles Baldwin in his fight against the B.C.G.E.U.

Send a confidential donation to:

**Charles Baldwin Trust Fund
c/- Central Trust Company**

**750 West Pender St
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2B2**

For Information, call (604)433-956

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Fellow Libertarians,

As some of you may be aware, I have been carrying the banner in the rather specialized field of computer bulletin board systems (BBS). For those of you who are unfamiliar with the term, it is a computerized version of the old c.b. radio networks

As you can imagine, the promotion of rational principles is an uphill fight all the way. I am amazed at how firmly entrenched socialist dogma is in the very young. I'm talking about 15 year olds. It's almost as if they were born with brain cells that the Waffle Manifesto and New World Economics Order permanently imbedded.

There are a few people who have seen the writing on the walls. Unfortunately it is a very small number. I guess I'm getting to the point Robert Ringer was at before he wrote, "Restoring the American Dream". That is, why even give a damn? As Paul Geddes and a few of the old timers will tell you, I have been involved in this for a long time. I have seen the glimmers of hope every now and then but mostly it has been no more than a rewarding mental exercise.

I have gotten a little tired of going over the same old arguments and dealing with the same old half-truths. I have attacked those sacred cows so much that they are ready for McDonald's. My father used to say, "Know Invincible Ignorance when you see it." Well I have met it and it is Invincible. There are those who can still think who don't need to be convinced and those who refuse to think who will never be convinced.

I am at the point now where I am just going to keep my own house in order and continue to implement plans to allow me to avoid the mindless ones as much as possible. I will continue to support the party philosophically and occasionally economically. I will just pass on one slightly used Crusader kit to the next generation.

The house of cards we call the Canadian lifestyle is rapidly collapsing around us and all of the Band-Aids in the world won't stop it. What is needed now is good instruction in survival strategies primarily in the economic realm. I will give what's left of my idealistic blood, sweat, and tears support to this type of venture. I feel that it would serve a real need of the members.

I submit that trying to effect real change in the political structure either through independent party action or through working within an existing party structure

may not be the best expenditure of mental energies. I suggest a more insular approach. Give the people an opportunity to learn how to avoid the effects (primarily monetary) of the present political/social environment. The primary philosophy of such a venture would be a promotion of self-reliance and independence.

I do not have the time or inclination to set-up and implement such a program. I would be willing to devote several hours a month towards it's operation if such a proposal is feasible within the present framework of the organisation.

Respectfully,

John A. Brohman
463-931

NEXT SUPPER CLUB

Saturday 12th July 1986

WHO: Dr Walter Block, chief economist of the Fraser Institute author of libertarian bestseller "Defending the Undefendable".

TOPIC: Ayn Rand's Libertarianism; A Reponse to Peter Schwartz (see article in newsletter for further details)

WHEN: 5:30 cocktails and chit chat 6.30 supper.

WHERE: Salons A & B Century Plaza Hotel, 1115 Burrard St; Vancouver

MENU: Onion Soup, Roast Beef, Scalloped Potatoes, Vegetables, Rolls, Ice Cream, Tea & Coffee

COST: \$20.00 (\$5 to come after supper just to hear our speaker)

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED: Paul 438-6127 or Bill 980-7370

NOW! (We must let the hotel know ahead of time how many will be attending).

ADDITIONAL ATTRACTIONS: Annual General Meeting of the Greater Vancouver Libertarian Association including the election of association officers for the upcoming year.

Raffle (50c a chance, \$1 for three chances)
Prize #1 One year subscription to REASON
Prize #2 One year subscription to FREEMAN

Quote of the month!

Howard Faulkner, independent Aldermanic candidate in Vancouver.

"Government should get out of people's lives. It shouldn't be up to them to tell businessman how many inches of frontage he can have on his property, or where he can lay his foundation They should throw out those city planners and put their \$40,000 a year salaries into street upkeep."

West Ender 29 May 1986 (p. 40)

The Fraser Institute is planning a Tax Freedom Day luncheon for Tuesday July 8 1986. The price is \$14 but this includes a copy of Tax Facts 5. Don't miss the chance to hear and question authors Michael Walker, Sally Piper and Douglas Wills. For tickets phone 688-0221 ask for Christa Biermayer.

TAX PROTEST DAY SHEEP SHEARER CHICKENS OUT

by Paul Geddes

We thought we had a pretty good show lined up for **TAX PROTEST DAY (April 30th)** this year. Our Phoney Baloney Dollar was ready months in advance. Then a reporter from the Province newspaper called to ask about Sandy's comment in last year's Vancouver Sun. Apparently Sandy had promised to top last year's performance outside the Revenue Canada building in downtown Vancouver by bringing in a live sheep and letting Canadians see what the tax collectors were doing to the Canadian public (shearing it).

After much goading from the reporter, I promised to do some phoning to see if we could get a sheep and a shearer. It turned out to be quite easy. After securing the agreement of the shearer, we quickly prepared a news release and sent it out to all the media announcing our live show. Many media representatives said they'd come.

The two days before our show, our sheep shearer talked to his lawyer (Sorry Walter Boytinck, maybe Robert Ringer is right about lawyers). Needless to say we were a bit worried about the new consequences of breaking our word. It turned out however that we were ignored - so at least we didn't get any bad press!

Anyway, over the course of the day over fifteen members showed up outside the Revenue Canada building on Pender St. At noon we had a good crowd of ten handing out our green "counterfeit tax refunds." Usually we got a good response but every once in a while some stopped to disagree. I enjoyed the experience and we met some interesting new friends. Thanks must go to Bill Tomlinson, Eileen Tomlinson, (for the sandwiches and chicken) Paul Geddes, John Mutch, Jim Mutch, Sandy McDonald, Howard Faulkner, Jack Boulogne, Dietmar Hartl, Frank Heldon, Robin Gillespie, Walter Boytinck, and Wayne Marsden.

ADVOCATES FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT IN VANCOUVER

by Paul Geddes and Bill Tomlinson

On thursday evening May 8th, Jim Lark a spokesman for Advocates for Self-Goverment visited us in Vancouver. Kurt and Edith Pokrandt were very kind in offering the hospitality of their home for the occasion. About twenty libertarians attended including Waldemar Altwassen, who drove all the way from Maple Ridge to hear Jim.

Jim's trip was a preparatory one for Marshall Fritz, founder of the Californian based Advocates for Self-Government. Jim is a member of the Chicago ASG group and was planning a driving tour of the Pacific Northwest. Marshall asked him to drop in on the Libertarian groups along the way and give a sample of the type of service that Marshall can offer to libertarians.

Marshall Fritz is a long time libertarian and a successful salesman with IBM. He felt libertarians could use a more professional approach to promote our ideas and developed educational programs to help. He plans a speaking tour in the U.S. Northwest later this year and we are trying to persuade him to extend his trip to include us here in Vancouver in his itinerary. He has two seminars that he can present. The first talk is of particular value to people who have some idea of what the libertarian movement is about but are still not very clear about how some of the proposals we have would work in practice. It is in fact tailor made to help libertarians to introduce their friends to the movement.

continued . . .

Due to the length of the presentation it will not be incorporated in a Supper Club format and a small admission charge may be necessary to cover expenses. A second seminar is titled "Black Belt Libertarians" and would be very useful for candidates running for office. Further details should be available in our next newsletter but if you would like further information about this important event please contact Bill 980-7370. If you want to view a videotape of Marshall Fritz in action, Bill will be happy to lend you a copy.

REPORT ON DOUG COLLINS SUPPER CLUB

Doug Collins: For Freedom of Speech; For Government Control of Immigration.

A fairly large crowd of almost fifty turned out to hear North Shore News columnist Doug Collins address our last Libertarian Supper Club, 22 March 1986. Mr Collins has been a well known controversial figure in Vancouver and he did not disappoint the audience. We listened raptly as he condemned the hypocrisy of the major media in Canada who refused to understand the important issues at stake in the Zundel and Keegstra affairs. Collins repeatedly stated that the facts of Zundel's beliefs were not what the trial was about. The real issue was whether a person would be permitted to publish and distribute unpopular beliefs. At the Keegstra trial, Collins pointed out the danger of the state punishing Keegstra for his unpopular views. The real irony of the case was that the state had forced children to attend Keegstra's public school classes. In his battle on behalf of free speech, Doug Collins appeared as a genuine libertarian hero.

Unfortunately, Mr Collins also held views that libertarians disagreed with. In the second part of his presentation, Mr Collins worried aloud about Canada's current immigration policies in which he saw favouritism towards 'non-traditional' immigrants. Collins felt that the proper role of government is to protect the culture of the members of the society. Thus he was also opposed to the Multiculturalism Program through which the Canadian Government finances the cultural activities of many minority cultures.

Marco den Ouden, editor of the national Libertarian newsletter Wings was the chosen Libertarian respondent for the evening. Marco pointed out that libertarians believe that a person should not be prevented from living wherever he chose to pay. As long as a person peacefully buys property, what right

does someone else have to interfere? Of course libertarians oppose government financing of artificial multiculturalism, but culture should be seen as a fluid everchanging sum of the choices of many individuals. It does not need to be protected by Government. In fact cultures that are artificially protected from outside influences quickly ossify and stultify.

Another point that was brought up was the unwillingness of people of different cultures to live next to each other. The libertarian response was, so what? There are many private methods to ensure that your neighbourhood remains protected (and libertarians would not oppose such choices) but we would always argue against using the powers of the state for this purpose.

Many libertarians also wondered if Mr Collins saw any contradictions between his views on speech (government should not interfere no matter what the majority says) and immigration, (government should protect the majority from minorities)

We had a long enjoyable evening of discussion. I hope we didn't tire Mr Collins out too much with our constant challenges. His forthright and strongly presented views forced us to dig deep in responding. We hope Mr Collins will attend future Supper Clubs when he wouldn't be on the hot spot so much. For his libertarian defense of free speech, we'd like to call him one of us.

IN MEMORIAM BOB LEFEVRE

We are sad to report that Bob Lefevre, one of the grand old men of the Libertarian movement passed away in his sleep on May 13, 1986. He is particularly remembered for his work with the Freedom School in the early days of the movement (which, incidentally continues to operate out of South Carolina to this day) and the Rampart Institute. He enjoyed an extensive career in both broadcasting and journalism; authored half-a-dozen books and wrote a newspaper column for the Freedom Newspaper chain. Although he is gone, his works remain and grow through those whom he so inspired by both his dedication to a noble cause and by his great humanity.

Source - Freedom Network News.

Editors Note: What may be Bobs last interview appears in the July issue of "Easyriders" Magazine.

Should Libertarians Join Other Political Parties, Start our Own Parties or Stay Out of Politics?

by Paul Geddes

This is a question in Libertarian circles that just won't go away. All these points of view (and others as well) are represented in our local association. I will argue that libertarians in B.C. should join the B.C. Social Credit Party. This party is currently choosing a new leader and it is an opportune time to get libertarian issues on the Social Credit agenda.

I have been a member of the provincial Social Credit party for five years. I've attended four conventions, served as an officer in a local constituency association and met many good people. The party does not have many believers in the funny money theories of Major Douglas. Most people have joined because they care about a few specific issues. To get their issues on the agenda, they support other people's issues. Not very many members have well thought out political philosophies but there are some that do. Most believe in free enterprise but have trouble defining what they mean by it. I believe that most are just waiting for well-articulated libertarian alternatives to support. In short, if the libertarian philosophy is ever to grow in Canada, it will have to do well among the current membership of parties like the Social Credit one in B.C. They are our natural constituency.

Libertarianism is a political philosophy based on the non-initiation of force. Government is the institution in society which is usually given the monopoly on the permitted use of force. We would like to limit government's use of force to the protection of people and their property; or, to retaliate or compensate for any criminal use of force. Thus we do not want government to interfere in the economy and we don't want them to interfere with our civil liberties either.

This is the message of libertarianism. Yet all around us we see massive inappropriate government interference. What concrete actions can an individual take today that will aid the development of a more libertarian world?

Collective decisions in our society are currently made through a complicated set of institutions which we can call democracy. Some libertarians feel that the complicated institutions hinder pure democracy and would like more direct majority rule. I doubt this would give them the world they want.

Most Canadians still seem to believe government coercion will make life better for them. They still believe that government can grant free lunches with no future consequences. The role of libertarians in our society is to convince Canadians of the short sightedness of such ideas. Government granted favours frequently make the situation even worse (unemployment caused by minimum wage laws, apartment shortages caused by rent controls, etc.). To gain the type of society that we want, we must convince Canadians to use their democratic institutions not to gain special favours, but rather to reduce the power of government in our economy and in our lives.

In a democratic system, libertarian results must be obtained by convincing a great number of Candians of the benefits of a libertarian world. Since we're in the education business, what is the best way for us to promote our ideas? I don't believe in miraculous conversions. It took me three years after exposure to these ideas before I could call myself libertarian and I'm still learning. Libertarian principles must usually be reasoned out. Therefore we should never expect to jump onto a platform and immediately convince Canadians to be libertarians. Although we should always keep our ideals, we should understand that we can't get everything we want right away. Therefore let us strive for what is realistically possible.

Since the majority of Canadians unfortunately don't want to restrict the power of government, while we continually promote the benefits of less government we should at the same time help our local politician because he supports some of our issues. For example, I could work for a candidate that had a good chance of creating a coalition strong enough to abolish marketing boards. even if he still wanted ICBC to be run by the government. In our daily lives we act practically. Even though we'd like to consume Concorde trips to Europe we realistically take the trips we can afford. Libertarians should NEVER change their advocacy of less government but shouldn't they realistically lower their sights and work for the maximum political change this is currently possible?

I don't agree with those libertarians who want to start their own new fresh party. Our message will not get heard this way. But we can have a great impact within the Social Credit Party. Currently a candidate seeking the Social Credit nomination on the North Shore has asked our association for help. There is also a Social Creditor of libertarian persuasion seeking his party nomination in Burnaby. Are there Libertarians who would like these candidates. Please phone me 438-6127.

continued next page

Over the political life of the next leader of the Social Credit party, major decisions will have to be made about abolishing the Agricultural Land Freeze or reducing the 98% of forestry land currently owned by Government. Libertarians have much to contribute. Think of the Social Credit Party as another forum in which we get to spread our ideas.

THE OTHER POINT OF VIEW

by Bill Tomlinson

With the prospect of any early election call following the settlement of the Social Credit Leadership problems we in the British Columbia Libertarian Party are working on a policy platform in line with libertarian philosophy and we hope to make it available very soon.

As our movement is a new phenomenon in British Columbia politics we have many members who may believe that more can be gained by 'infiltrating' one of the established parties and gaining a toe-hold in the existing hierarchy. One problem that comes to mind with this strategy is which party to support? People are drawn to the libertarian movement from both ends of the political spectrum. Is it not then likely that in making his or her own independent choice that many will simply cancel each other out. Libertarians are probably split fairly evenly as to which is the lesser of the two evils and those who do not have a Libertarian candidate will, if they vote at all, almost certainly vote against the party they fear the most.

For the rest, they will at last be offered a real alternative - the chances to make a positive choice rather than a negative one. We in the B.C.L.P. promise you that we will run candidates in as many ridings as we possibly can. Most will be people like yourself, with jobs to hold down, and families to support and look after, and with not a lot of time or money to spend in campaigning. However they will be in this fight to win and they will need all the help they can get. Why not call me right now and we can talk over how you can help to get the party off the ground in this important election which is just ahead of us. We must start preparing now because once it is called we will not have time.

Phone me, Bill Tomlinson at 980-7370. Right now.

An Introduction to Peter Schwartz's "Libertarianism: The Perversion of Liberty", published in The Intellectual Activist

by Paul Geddes.

At our next Supper Club (12th July), our speaker Walter Block will be defending himself and libertarianism from an attack from the editor of The Intellectual Activist. This is a newsletter established by followers of the popular novelist-philosopher Ayn Rand to promote her philosophy which she called "Objectivism". Many libertarians discovered our ideas because of the works of Rand so this attack may seem surprising. Unfortunately, Rand herself is quoted as saying in the mid 1970s that she would sooner vote communist than libertarian and she labelled libertarians as nothing more than right wing anarchists (Questions and Answers following a Peikoff lecture).

The Peter Schwartz article is nearly as strong. He calls libertarianism "an arch-enemy of liberty" and declares that its logic lead "inexorably to the chaos and destruction of nihilism." What is a libertarian to do in the wake of all this? How can we persuade statists to examine the logic of liberty when some proponents of liberty attack other proponents so vehemently?

First we should recognise that no one has a monopoly on reason. Israel Kirzer in an essay in the March 1986 issue of the Freeman claims that our commitment to freedom depends on our "awareness of the limits of our knowledge." Thus controversies among defenders of liberty are going to continue; they are part of the process of discovery of better ideas and improving our logic. Peter Schwartz's article and his arguments give libertarians an opportunity to re-examine their fundamental ideas and hopefully throw out errors.

We should also place Schwartz's argument in its proper prospective. Most "Objectivists" are libertarians (although they might not like the label) but many libertarians are non or even anti-Objectivists. In her essay "The Objectivist Ethics" (published in "The Virtue of Selfishness, 1964) Rand describes "the basic social principle " which is that "life is an end in itself . . . the achievement of his own happiness is man's highest moral purpose . " (p. 27) From the social principle Rand derives "the basic political principle" that "no man may initiate the use of physical force against others . . . Men have the right to use physical force only in retaliation and only against those who initiate its use." (p.32) *continued.....*

Libertarianism is the term used to describe those who believe in Rand's political principle. But she wasn't the first person to think of it . . . she's not the only road to wisdom. There are many who would reject Rand's social principle and derive the political principle by some other means. Consider for example Christian libertarians (see The Galations Newsletter), utilitarian libertarians (Hazlitt, von Mises) or even agnostic libertarians (those who just know the political principle is correct but can't tell you why). Schwartz's main criticism seems to be that libertarians start from Rand's political principle and don't spend enough time deriving the single correct (from his perspective) justification of the principle.

In any case, I enjoyed Schwartz's article, although I strongly disagree with his conclusions. He forced me to rethink some basic questions which is healthy to do every once in a while. I'm also looking forward to hear Walter Block respond to some of the accusations that Schwartz directed personally at Walter Block. Those of you who plan to attend the next Supper Club may want to read Schwartz's article or some of the other references mentioned in this introduction. Feel free to call me (438-6127) to obtain copies.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and election of Association Officers of Greater Vancouver Libertarian Association.

At our next Supper Club (July 12th) we shall hold a short Annual General Meeting, including the election of the officers of our association for the upcoming year. The duties of the officers are outlined in our constitution, but at the very least, they must attend a monthly executive meeting. Last year we met on the first Sunday of each month at Bill's home in North Vancouver. These are open to all members and those interested in attending the next one (July 6th) are invited to phone Bill (980-7370)

We like to think that we are an open association eager to accept those with new ideas about how to promote Libertarianism in British Columbia. All up-to-date members of the GVLA are eligible to run for an executive position. So far we have received six nominations for four positions. If you are interested in getting involved please phone Paul (438-6127) or Bill.

continued

Nominations Received.

for President: **Bill Tomlinson, Jack Boulogne** (see their nomination pledges below)

for Vice President: **Kelly Connell** (founding member of GVLA, new lawyer, - accepted by the Bar 1 Aug 1986)

for Secretary: **Paul Geddes** (founding member of GVLA, past secretary of the GVLA)
Mary Anne Nylen (founding member of the GVLA, involved in discussion group with Marco even before Rick and Mike came to town)

for Treasurer: **Heinz Holzschuher** (past treasurer of GVLA)

We're open for more nominations. Please come to the July 6th Executive Meeting to get a taste of your future duties.

JACK BOULOGNE

Why you should vote for JB for President of GVLA.

In contending for the leadership of the GVLA, I feel confident that even though I live in faraway and benighted Surrey, I can do a good job. I have a degree in philosophy and have taught ethics at the high school level for over ten years, and therefore I feel particularly qualified to present the moral arguments that need to be made to persuade the public at large that libertarianism is not only logically sound but morally superior. There are three paths to libertarianism: political, economic and moral. People already know the political and economic arguments for libertarianism, but they remain ignorant of its moral superiority over other political viewpoints. The essence of morality, that one does not harm or interfere with others unnecessarily, is also the essence of libertarian doctrine. A noncoercive society is a truly moral society.

During the last provincial election I was a candidate for the Green party because of my commitment to saving this planet from the insanity of (*cont'd*)

government-sponsored threat of nuclear annihilation. Since then, I have come to realise that this nuclear madness is merely a symptom of a deeper disease of too much government. It is absolutely necessary to reduce the power of the state in every sphere of human life.

I am very optimistic about the future of libertarianism because the young people I teach are already libertarians, even though I doubt that they can spell such a long word.

In summary, I sincerely believe that I have the necessary qualifications and the appropriate mind set for the important job of president, and this gives me courage to solicit your support.

Jack Boulogne

Bill Tomlinson

I have been president of the G.V.L.A for the past year and wish to offer myself for re-election. During the year we have seen a steady increase in interest in the libertarian movement, much of which, I believe, has been due to my own activities. The best evidence of this interest is probably the 25% increase in the size of our newsletter mailing list. As it would appear that there will be some competition for the positions to be elected and as only members with paid-up dues will be eligible to vote it is important that you return your enclosed slip with your contribution as soon as possible. Your vote could have a definite influence on the future direction of the G.V.L.A. and I urge you to become informed about the candidates. For myself, as well as being President of the G.V.L.A. I am also President of the B.C.L.P. and Regional Director of the L.P.C. Some of you may think that this is too much power all to be in the hands of one individual. I, of course, do not share that view. However if you choose to support one of my opponents I can promise that he or she will have my full support.

Bill Tomlinson

Courting Right Wing Fringe A Questionable Tactic

The recent publicity surrounding the crimes of militant neo-nazi groups in the Northwest should warn local libertarians against association with other rightist fringe organisations which may share superficially similar political positions with libertarians. These non-violent right wing groups consist of the

Constitutionalists, the Populist Party, the Duck Club, the American Freeman Association and others. Naive libertarians may not realise the close ties of these Patriot groups to their more violent and openly racist ideological neighbours such as the Aryan Nations and the Order.

Some libertarians have acquired an interest in these groups for possible political networking. This is manifested in a recent *NOMOS* magazine article, *Religion with a Libertarian Twist*, (Mar/Apr 86) and a planned April 86 conference between libertarians and Patriots at Dagny's Freedom Festival in Norwalk, California.

This interest has worked both ways. In the past occasional Constitutionalists or Populists have attended Libertarian functions in this state. Fortunately they lose interest quickly. However, other state LP organisations have had to fend off determined efforts by these people to infiltrate and reshape local LP groups. This should serve as a warning that a clear distinction between libertarianism and the fringe right may not exist in the minds of many people.

Any similarity in political positions is entirely superficial. The Populists want to abolish the federal reserve bank - - because they view it as a *private* bank under the control of of an international Jewish/Communist conspiracy. The Constitutionalists oppose the income tax, not on principle, but because the 16th amendment was not properly ratified and only a national sales tax is considered legitimate.

Common ideological threads run through all far-right groups: malinterpretation of the Bible and the U.S. Constitution to support their brand patriotic fervor and intolerance of others; an *unhealthy* suspicion of the government based on the belief that it is controlled by a Jewish/Communist conspiracy; a paranoid racism resulting in advocacy of positions running from tighter immigration controls to mass deportation of non-whites; and repudiation of the Holocaust as a fabrication of Zionist propaganda.

The line between the non-violent fringe and militant neo-nazism is too thin to be trusted. The Goldmark family slayings here in Seattle were committed by a member of the local Duck club. The killer had become convinced the Goldmark was behind a Jewish/Communist conspiracy to take over the county government.

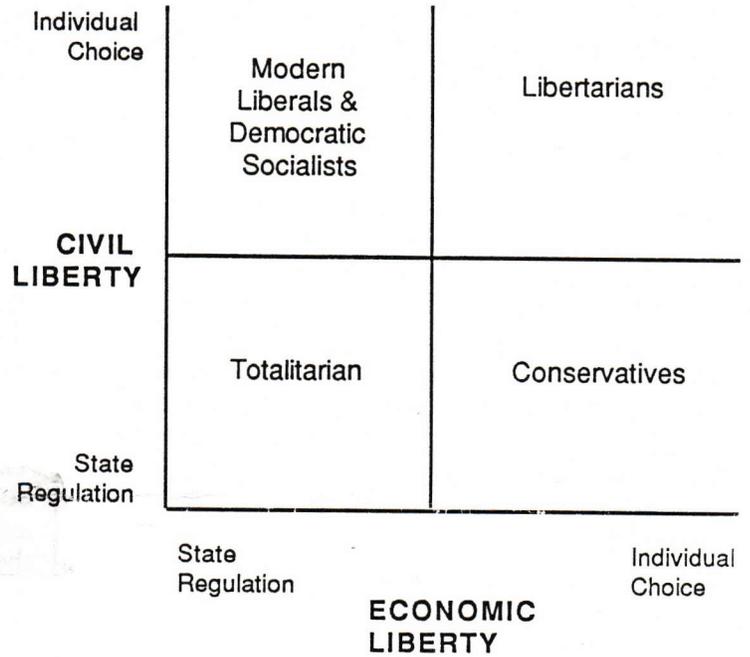
While it may be possible to work with the fringe right on certain common issues, libertarians may find it wiser to disassociate from them entirely.

by Tom Tan

continued . .

EDITORS NOTE: The preceding article is reprinted with permission of the author from the Washington Libertarian. We've run into these people here in British Columbia too. I'm never sure whether we should embrace such allies for the 50% of their ideas that we agree about or argue about the other 50%. But we should never allow libertarianism to be confused with conservatism. They are two different ideologies. Libertarianism believes in liberty and self responsibility. Conservatives support liberty but only if it leads to the collective vision of society that they support.

Those of you who would like a more detailed exposition of the difference between these ideologies write to your editor for a copy of Edith Efron's article "Conservatism: A Libertarian Challenge." To sum up the difference consider David Bergland's diagram from "Libertarianism in One Lesson" (also available from your editor).



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Did you count yourself in June 3rd? The Province interviewed a few of us before census day but didn't report our views. I told the reporter that I wasn't planning to participate in a \$150 million subsidy to researchers. I also questioned why government had to use the threat of force to gather their information. I concluded by saying that each libertarian had to make their own peace with the government bullies. So far nothing much has happened to me. The supervisor muttered some threats through my slammed door but I haven't seen any guns yet. If you have any interesting stories to tell about the census, please let your editor know.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED