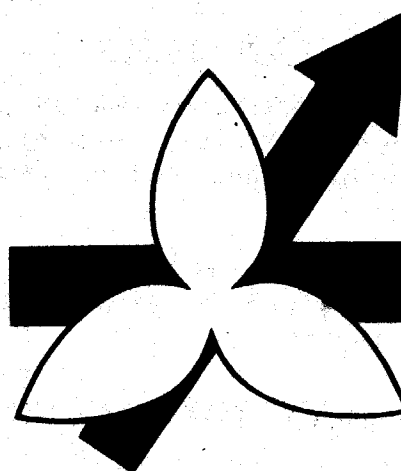


BULLETIN #1
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(416) 223-1900

LEGALIZE FREEDOM: VOTE LIBERTARIAN!

FROM THE CHAIR by Paul Mollon



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OLP

**"That government
governs best
that governs least."**

Undoubtedly by now most of you have concluded that the OLP was stillborn, or that yet another Libertarian attempt at political activism has withered and died. There are, in fact, many reasons for believing this; but such is not quite the case. A slow start perhaps, but we're very much alive nevertheless.

The Excomm has completed the constitution and by-laws, and the general platform is also nearing completion. Copies should soon be available, possibly at a small charge, though this has not yet been determined. Membership cards together with a News Bulletin, as you can see, are now printed; and we also have a logo and letterhead. However, with these basics out of the way, we are faced with some very fundamental questions for the future.

What will be our approach to provincial political activities? To what extent will we participate in the upcoming Ontario elections? What can we expect to accomplish after the election?

First, let's take a look at the question of a basic approach to politics. Traditionally, politicians try to read the will of the majority of the people and then run a campaign calculated to offend the least number of those people -- i.e., smile sweetly, display charisma, establish a "dialogue" with a lot of words but no substance, and maybe even kiss a baby or two -- and thereby get elected and "get on with the job" as they like to say.

This approach is impossible for anyone who truly understands Libertarian principles, nor is it desirable, either in the long or the short term. Our objective should *ALWAYS* be to communicate Libertarian principles -- effectively -- to as many people as possible. In short, the objective *HAS TO BE* primarily communications and education; but I reject categorically any suggestion that there is some sort of irrevocable split between educational and political activities. In fact, a political campaign is the ideal time to make headway in communicating Libertarian ideas. Moreover, times of widespread social unrest, such as now exist everywhere, are the most fertile times for the acceptance of radical changes. (Witness the rise of the welfare state during the 30's and, even more dramatically, the Social Credit movement in the Canadian West during the same period.)

All right, then, let's communicate as clearly as possible to a maximum number of people. A fairly simple objective. But where do we start?

First of all, an election offers the best opportunity for fully utilizing the mass media. Unfortunately though, the mass media tends to lump all fringe party activities together and give them only cursory mention at the tail end of political columns or broadcasts. Remember the Libertarian Party of Canada's mention on TV the evening of July 8/74? We were right in there with the Rhinoceros Party and all the other "freak" or "loser" groups. So the objective should be to make the OLP (which is certainly a fringe party by any measurable standard) appear to be otherwise.

S U P P O R T T H E F U N D - R A I S I N G L U N C H E O N

I believe the Ontario provincial election offers an ideal opportunity to do this, an opportunity, however, which will require a lot of decidedly unglamorous, hard work, as well as some uncovering of talents not at present visible, at least among the majority of Libertarians I know.

Let's start by running CANDIDATES IN ALL 117 VOTING DISTRICTS! Now, before you scoff and immediately start thinking of all the reasons why it can't be done, let's keep an open mind and look at the facts:

1. There is no monetary deposit required.
2. What *IS* required is merely 100 signatures from qualified voters in each electoral district.
3. Most of our "campaigns" would be a simple distribution of literature; hence, we do not need 117 "hot-shot" politicians.
4. A full slate of candidates would set us apart from all other fringe parties and establish credibility with the mass media.
5. All candidates could use the *SAME* brochures and/or literature (mass produced) thus cutting election expenses to a minimum. After all, we are all stating the same principles.

What, then, are the specifics to be accomplished?

First, 117 people must be found with a basic understanding of Libertarianism, who are willing to allow their names to stand as candidates. Please bear in mind that the overwhelming majority of our candidates would be candidates in name only; i.e. there would be no need to campaign actively because practically all of our "campaigns" would consist simply of a distribution of information packages on as wide a scale as our funds would permit. For the most part, since our people would not be "campaigning" in the usual sense, there should be no hesitation in offering to stand as a candidate. Campaign literature could be *MAILED* to electors in the candidates' districts.

Secondly, we require a Public Relations person who could establish a steady stream of information for the news media, to afford maximum coverage of our activities. This is a vitally important aspect of the plan, for the whole program will have minimal effect if this is not done with some degree of competence and consistency. It has been my observation that this is an area in which we have very little experienced help; in view of that, I suggest the following:

- (a) We need *ONE* (1) volunteer who gives a real damn about Libertarianism and
- (b) who is willing and able to learn the technicalities of news releases (to that end I will provide a copy of "How to be Heard" by Klein & Danzig -- an extremely valuable and practical book) and
- (c) who has a large measure of enthusiasm and aggressiveness for Libertarian activities and
- (d) who is willing to devote many hours weekly during the campaign to this absolutely crucial aspect of our activity.

WHO WILL IT BE? DON'T WAIT FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO VOLUNTEER? HE/SHE IS WAITING FOR YOU TO VOLUNTEER!

Thirdly, the putting together of an effective information package -- one that grabs the reader on sight -- is imperative. I believe we have the talent for that. Anyone in-

terested, call 223-1900 NOW (LP HQ is manned most evenings, or you can leave a recorded message at any time, and some member of the Excomm will get back to you). [Need I remind you, to paraphrase Patrick Henry, that "Davis is already in the field -- why stand we here idle?" - Editor]

Fourthly, of course, we need money; for even if the other requirements can be fully met, the program won't have a chance without fairly large quantities of Mr. Trudeau's "inflatabucks". My observations here are that in past activities, Libertarians have not generated any significant, sustained effort at fund-raising and have subsequently suffered for it. We have a political idea and political ideals to promote -- let's put them together in a package and go to market, fund-raising. If Libertarianism is the only hope of the future -- and it is -- then let's sell it! And let's begin NOW!

I have some basic ideas regarding our activity. If anyone can offer either ideas or manual labor, please contact me right away.

As far as the upcoming election goes, that's it -- people, information, money, simple objectives. How many of you are willing to pay the price of making it work? Remember it's a question of freedom or tyranny -- it's as simple as that. And remember too: it's *YOUR LIFE* that is at stake!

Apart from the election, the idea of small community study groups is appealing. Social Credit won the Province of Alberta in a two year period (1933-35) using this technique. It is surely worth an attempt on the part of Libertarians.

The immediate priority, however, is the election -- a *MAXIMUM* of 18 months away, and perhaps *ONLY 6*.

Let's do it -- we have nothing to lose but Bill Davis!

ACTIVITY: Ottawa

The Chairman and Secretary were visited by Bob LeBer who informs us that there is a group of approximately 20 libertarians in the nation's capital who are attempting to become organized as a kind of resource group to co-ordinate campaign activities for libertarians running in civic, provincial, or federal elections. Those in the Ottawa area who plan on running in the provincial election should make themselves known to this group as soon as possible. For further information, call Bob at 733-8073 if you are not already acquainted with the group.

Ray Quann already has experience as a candidate, having run in the July 8 federal election. He can provide practical and helpful information - 725-1570.

Toronto

The Secretary hopes to put out a monthly Bulletin, funds permitting, about 2 pages in length to keep everyone posted as to what is happening at HQ. It is imperative that as much liaison as possible be implemented in order to facilitate better co-ordination of activities. Please send any news of your group as often as possible so that everyone can be notified. After the election, the Bulletin will come out more sporadically, and will probably be lengthier. The Secretary also regrets the delay in acknowledging your membership fees and sending out membership cards. Hopefully in future this service, owed to you, will be speeded up. Donations will be cheerfully accepted by the treasurer -- and new memberships will more than thrill the secretary, even though it means more work for him. We already have 60 members. And we need at least 117 active ones!

London

A public meeting was held, chaired by Party Member Vaidotas Jonynas. 26 persons attended. Steve Jarvis, past chairman of the Libertarian Party of Canada spoke on the ever-increasing government regulation of the trucking industry; Phil Spicer, in a talk titled "Warning", lucidly revealed the present economic situation in Canada and urged that the number one priority be "*your individual SURVIVAL*". Put in a good store of dry foods that will last from 6 months to 2 years; buy gold and silver, especially coins, and be prepared starting right now. Michael Blake, chairman of the LP of C introduced the Deputy Leader of the federal party, Sieg Pedde, who gave a fairly optimistic speech of where we are now compared with 3 short years ago in the fight for individual liberty. Referring to himself and his brother, also a party member, as the Brothers Grimm, he was much less grim than usual - an inspiring speech that should be printed for circulation -- as should the other two. The meeting closed with an interesting panel discussion from the five members on the platform - the chairman of the meeting, the 3 speakers, and Chairman Blake. This "think tank", "brains' trust" type of panel (more than one person answering questions from the floor) is, in my estimation, the best form of panel: if one cannot answer off the top of his head, another can -- that way none of us has to be walking encyclopedias. Phil Spicer who is in the investment business, seems to think that, barring an accident (on the part of government, who else!) we have until 1978 before *really serious* economic dislocation. Let's hope he's right - but be prepared.

Ancaster

Phil Spicer addressed students and took questions and answers on the subject of economics and the free market. His address was given in the morning to a somewhat hostile audience; however, he was invited back in the afternoon for question-answer time, and reports that this time the reception was somewhat more friendly. Every little bit helps. It takes courage and knowledge too. I'm still convinced that, by and large, the best way is in two's or three's.

FOUNDING:

For the historical record, the Ontario Libertarian Party (OLP) was founded on July 24th, 1974 at the home of Terry Coughlin in Whitby, Ontario. The group assembled there included John Kanis who has since departed this province and gone to what is still the freest one in Canada -- Alberta (no provincial sales tax) where he is continuing his work for the federal party, while at the same time working with the Libertarian Alternative of Alberta, based in Edmonton. At the July 24th Founding, work was passed out to several persons present; and an election of officers was held with the following results:

Chairman:	Paul Mollon
Vice-Chairman:	Bob Sproule
Secretary:	Bruce Evoy
Recording Secretary:	Anne Mollon
Treasurer:	Vince Miller

Terry Coughlin had already been elected Ontario Leader by the Ontario caucus at the federal convention in London last May.

At the second meeting of OLP we elected deputy leader and 2 at-large members, thus swelling the ranks of the Execomm to 9 members, and by the terms of the constitution requiring 6 members (2/3) for a quorum to conduct business officially at future meetings. The additional Execomm members are:

Deputy Leader:	Brian Seymour (Guelph)
At-Large Members:	Michael Blake, Ken Freeman

One of the secretary's duties is to edit the Bulletin and see that you receive it.

FUND-RAISING LUNCHEON:

In the Bronze Room of the Lord Simcoe Hotel on Sunday, February 16th, 1975. \$12 per person. PLEASE PHONE IN RESERVATIONS TO HQ (223-1900) AS WE MUST KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE HOW MANY PLAN TO ATTEND. If no one is on duty, leave a message on the telephone machine, giving your name, address, phone number, and the number of tickets you want. Please try to attend and get behind this, the first of several fund-raising drives in preparation for the election fight ahead. Support your own freedom. Liberty in our time! See you in the Bronze Room at 12 NOON on Feb. 16th. Come one, come all.