

NEW RAMPART

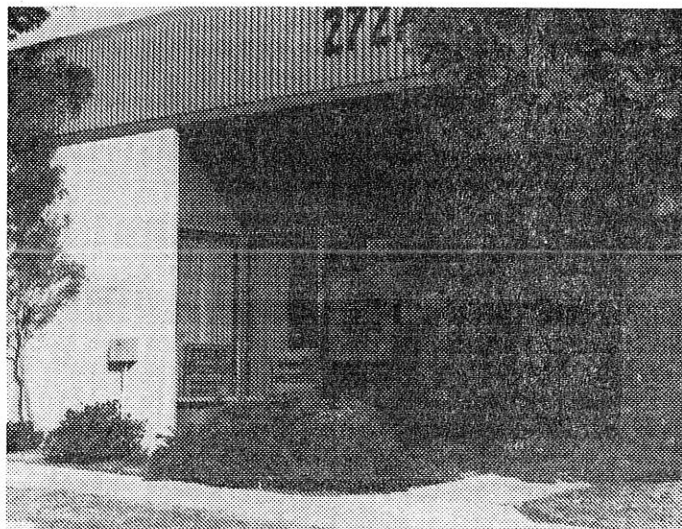
Published by Rampart Institute

Vol. 2, No. 3 (Dec./Jan. 1982)

Managing Editor: Lawrence Samuels

NEW RAMPART is published every two months. Subscription is \$10/one year, \$20/two years. Rampart Institute's Fellowships are the following: Lifetime, \$5,000, Sustaining Fellowship \$1,000 (annual), Contributing Fellowship \$250 (annual), Regular Fellowship \$25 (annual), and Student Fellowship \$10 (annual). NEW RAMPART, P.O. Box 4, CA 92632 (714) 979-5737.

Rampart Institute is a tax-deductible 501(c)(3), educational organization.



Rampart Institute is housed in the back area of Athena Graphics in Santa Ana, California.

Work Continues at New Rampart Institute Office

Finally, Rampart Institute has a home. However, materials are still needed to furnish the back room area. Already, someone has donated chairs, a desk, movie screen and a 16mm projector.

Since a number of magazine and journals have been donated, Rampart Institute desperately needs someone to organize the material for people to read, research and possibly check out. It would only take a few hours a week to put the material into some order. This would help us immensely. Also, some additional hardware and software is needed for the Apple III computer that the Institute purchased several months ago. Already, someone has donated \$250 toward a second disk drive for the computer.

Mountain Retreats Being Considered by RI

In an effort to emulate the success of the old Freedom School of Colorado, Rampart Institute has decided to be investigating locations to hold several weekend retreats in the local Southern California mountains or high deserts. The USC Conference Center in Idyllwild is being explored. However, prices are high at the USC campus.

The retreats will be scheduled on weekends, starting Friday night and ending Sunday afternoon. The retreats will probably be limited from 30 to 40 students.

Rampart Institute believes that a retreat in the countryside puts the participant into a better frame of mind for learning. Furthermore, this setting gives participants a chance to meet new friends and enjoy the fresh air and the great outdoors.

Please do not hesitate to offer suggestions for locations for these proposed retreats. No retreats will be scheduled until a good location is found.

New Lecture Given by Kenneth Gregg, Jr.

Editor of *Rampart Individualist* and president of Rampart Institute, Kenneth Gregg, Jr., has scheduled a series of lectures entitled "Famous and Forgotten Friends of Freedom: A ten-part history of Libertarianism from free-born John to the Edison of aviation."

The first of the ten lectures will begin Feb. 21(Sunday) at 10:00 am in the morning at 2727 S. Croddy Way, Suite J, Santa Ana, CA 92704. Call (213) 869-6051 to sign-up or for more information. The price is \$5 per lecture or \$40 for all ten.

Future of Freedom Fall '82 Scheduled for Oct. 1, 2 & 3

The tenth Future of Freedom Conference (FoFCon '82) has been set for Oct. 1, 2 & 3 at Cal State Univ., Long Beach (same location as last year). The campus organizers of FoFCon '82 under co-managers Terry Diamond and Lawrence Samuels have announced that Dr. Nathaniel Branden will be honored at the Friday night banquet, held either at CSULB or at a local hotel.

In order to increase attendance by out-of-towners, the conference will have a headquarters hotel near the campus with a possible shuttle service from hotel to campus.

Some of the speakers FoFCon '82 is trying to get include Carl Sagen, Murray Rothbard, Thomas Szasz, Martin Anderson, David Stockmen, Marilyn Ferguson and many of the old-time favorites.

The conference will need much assistance. Please write or call if you can spare some time. Each Conference is a big enterprise and a large staff is essential for success. Write to FoFCon '82, Box 4, Fullerton, CA 92632 or call (714) 979-5737 or (213) 597-2769 [Terry or Melinda]. The conference's Executive Committee holds monthly meetings.

Tribute to von Mises

Ludwig von Mises, author of *Human Action* and 18 other books, would have been 100 years-old on September 29, 1981. Considered as the greatest free market economist since Adam Smith, Mises began his career as a professor of economics at the University of Vienna. With the arrival of the Nazis, Mises moved to Geneva and then finally to the United States in 1940. From 1945 to 1969, Prof. Mises taught at New York University. One of his best known student is Murray Rothbard. (Mises taught at LeFevre's Freedom School during several summer sessions. Rampart Institute has about seven of his tapes from those seminars.)

Mises was perhaps at his best on the subject of inflation. He wrote: "Inflationism is a government policy of increasing the quantity of money in order to enable the government to spend more than the funds provided by taxation and borrowing. Such 'deficit spending' is, as everybody knows, nowadays the characteristic signature of the American Government's financial policies...Inflationism is not a variety of economic policies. It is an instrument of destruction; if not stopped very soon, it destroys the market entirely." (1967).

On government: "Government means always coercion and compulsion and is by necessity the opposite of liberty."

Mises died in 1973 at the age of 92.

Can An Unprinted Story Libel? PART II

By Robert LeFevre

In my personal judgement the whole legal action was aimed at an innocent bystander who, even if naive, did nothing wrong. The Justice Department was plainly culpable (1) for its heavyhanded methods of conducting investigations, and (2) for betraying a promised confidence. But one can't sue the government without governmental consent.

There's further irony in this story. Perhaps the best statement to emerge in defense of the newspaper comes from a member of Congress who commented: "The idea that a newspaper can be sued and possibly driven out of business because of something it didn't print is absurd."

The ruined businessman and his attorney contend that the loss of a multi-million dollar business which occurred because of the way the Feds operate is nonetheless the responsibility of the newspaper that did nothing but ask a question in confidence.

My own sense of fair play tells me that the judge who presided should have either tossed the legal action out of court or demanded that the Feds be brought in as codefendants. Neither occurred.

So newspapers are now confronted with something of a dilemma. If they don't check on a story they can be found guilty. If they do check on a story they can be found guilty. Indeed, in the past 144 years the popular cry against freedom for blacks has been converted into a series of judicial decisions against freedom of the press.

I wonder how long this will go on before members of the Fourth Estate are legally required to ride in the back of the bus.

The Register (Aug. 9, 1981)

Ironies Found in the New Class in Repressive Poland

By Lawrence Samuels

While the world is waiting to see if Soviet Russia will invade Poland, a curious struggle is occurring within Poland's society. It is a struggle between the Poles and "The New Class".

This new class consists of the highest echelons of the Communist Party, along with the security police and military leaders; all of

whom are directly challenged by Solidarity. It is Solidarity which is threatening the new, privileged class, demanding fairer distribution of food and goods, better access to press and television, and more local control over the economy.

Many newspaper columns have been written showing the extent of the Poland's Communist new class: illustrating that it is no different from the aristocracy of Czarist Russia. For example, one columnist wrote that it takes an average Pole seven to 10 years to rent an apartment, and yet it takes a week or less for high-ranking Communist or Military personnel to get an apartment. Furthermore, the children of the Polish elite have access to special schools with better teachers and equipment. Good health care, new cars, free vacation resorts and special uncrowded stores lined with merchandise have been only accessible to the new class.

Solidarity changed this, eliminating most of these privileges and demanding and obtaining the discharge of corrupt officials. In fact, two ministers in charge of construction and the steel industry committed suicide rather than be faced with criminal charges. However, in mid-December, the new class struck back, as might have been expected, with military might.

The Hard Question

What is interesting to note is that under a heavily politicalized system, privileges by the government are the only means to gather wealth and comfort. Although Solidarity leaders received only a few privileges before martial law was declared, one wonders how long before Solidarity might have become the new class. It might appear to some libertarians that the Polish struggle is basically a struggle between two groups seeking governmental privileges. How long would it take a totally successful Solidarity to begin where the Communist Party/military left off? It is a hard question. If the Poles and Solidarity are fighting for individual liberty, then Poland might step beyond politicalization. Yet, the Poles have only known institutionalism, government and coercion. It might be hard or impossible to conceive the meaning of personal and economic liberty.

Optimistical Note

To leave on a more optimistical note, a well-known Polish professor visited Robert Poole at *Reason* magazine during the summer (1981) and noted that several libertarian writers, including Ayn Rand and Murray Rothbard, were widely read in Poland. The professor was somewhat shocked to discover how small the libertarian movement was in America. Until his recent travels to the United States, he thought libertarians were a "major" force in America.

Hopefully, Solidarity will succeed in liberty and avoid becoming the replacement of the new elite.

Rampart Institute
P.O. Box 4
Fullerton, CA 92632



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1869
Fullerton, CA