

November, 1973

THE GRABBIES, THE GIMMIES, AND THE TRADERS

In a very broad sense, those we deal with in our socio-economic relationships fall into three classifications: the "grabbies," the "gimmies," and the traders.

The grabbies are the thieves. They take by force or threat of force, and consist of two categories: the outlaws and the inlaws. The outlaw grabbies are acting illegally; they are readily identifiable by their actions and appearance (some wear masks). There is no question that when a woman's purse is yanked from her arm, or when a home is ransacked during the owner's absence, an outlaw grabbie has been at work. The inlaw grabbies have been historically more difficult to identify. These are the people who operate within the framework of constitutional and statutory law. Many of those who have been victimized by them have emerged somewhat uncertain as to whether or not they had been treated justly. But they reason as follows: "Well, it is the law and we know it isn't perfect, but we live in a complex society and that's the price we have to pay for an orderly condition. Without it there would be anarchy and violence and we would be at the mercy of thieves."

Recently there has been evidence of a growing uneasiness with this sort of rationalization. For people to continue to sanction a process that requires an increased submission to arbitrary authority ultimately leads to a heightened state of awareness, brought about by their further discomfort. So the actions of the inlaws more and more have come to be recognized as thievery. Most obvious in this process is the general issue of taxation and the blatant actions of public officials in their "standing above the law" and grabbing ever increasing power into their own hands.

Yes, the grabbies are a problem. Always have been and probably always will be. We'll do a lot towards helping ourselves when we learn how to identify them more readily -- and stop supporting them.

The gimmies are easier to spot. Because of this, they are less of a problem. We won't pursue a prolonged definition: sufficient to say this is the "something for nothing" bunch. They're not much of a problem initially, but it's from the gimmies that we get the inlaw grabbies. Some of the lesser gimmies get impatient and go into the outlaw area. But a relatively small number do this. The big problem

is when a group of gimmies get together and become part of the inlaws. And any time you have a situation where the numbers of bandits are increasing at a rate faster than the available victims, then obviously the victims will suffer greater losses -- both in money and in personal freedom.

It seems that the least we can do to protect ourselves is to stop sanctioning the process and stop supporting those persons and institutions who are fundamentally committed to the theft of our property and the usurpation of our individual liberties.

What, then, is the hope for persons who want to conduct their lives in a peaceful, profitable manner? Withholding and withdrawing our sanction and support of the grabbies and gimmies is a necessary but only a partial solution. We can be more positive. We can lend our positive support to those persons and institutions who are unconditionally committed to the ideas of free trade and voluntary cooperation. Who operate on the basis of "something for something." Who refuse to participate in a process of thievery, whether it be lawful or not. And who advocate that each and every human being on this earth has the inalienable right to remain unmolested.

While you're considering your support of these persons and institutions, we hope you will think about contributing to, supporting, and participating in the programs at Rampart College. Donations to us are tax deductible, and that means a little less will go to the grabbies.

Whether your support takes the form of a tax deductible contribution or the purchase of our many services, we approach you as traders, offering our programs to you on a something-for-something basis. Our dedication to the teaching and communicating of all ideas relating to individual liberty continues, through our home study courses, seminars, discussion groups, publications, campus speaking, and distribution of our literature. We invite you to join us. We all need more traders.

-- Seymour Leon

TO: RAMPART COLLEGE • BOX 11407 • SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92711

I like to do business with traders. In support of your pro-freedom activities, I am enclosing \$_____ as a contribution to Rampart.

MY NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

Contributions to Rampart College are tax deductible.

HARRY BROWNE SEMINARS - 1974 - "YOU CAN PROFIT FROM A MONETARY CRISIS"

<u>Where</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>Fees</u>
Chicago	- January 26	\$150 per person, \$250 per couple (10% discount for full payment in advance)
New York	- February 2	
Dallas	- February 9	
San Francisco	- February 16	Each seminar on Saturday, 1 to 10 p.m.

Due to availability of meeting space, enrollment will be limited. Early reservations are suggested. To enroll, send \$25 deposit per person or full payment (deducting 10%) to: Rampart College, Box 11407, Santa Ana, CA 92711. Please include name and address for each enrollee and specify city of seminar you plan to attend. Full details will be mailed to you upon receipt of your enrollment.

Special discounts are available for groups of 10 or more. Write to Sy Leon at Rampart College, or phone (714) 835-2505 for information.

LIBERTARIANS IN PENTHOUSE MAGAZINE

The November Penthouse features an article by Sam Blumenfeld about advocates of "zero government." Containing interviews with Murray Rothbard, Harry Browne, Robert LeFevre, Sy Leon, Lowell Ponte, and Robert Love, the case for a "free, orderly, prosperous, and creative society" without coercive government is beautifully presented.

ANNOUNCING A NEW EDITION OF "WHAT HAS GOVERNMENT DONE TO OUR MONEY?"

Murray Rothbard's brilliant essay, explaining the function of money in a free society and what happens when government meddles with it, was first published by Rampart in 1964. It has been our best seller ever since. Now Rothbard has written an additional chapter, bringing it up to date, on The Monetary Breakdown of the West. The new chapter covers such issues as the classical gold standard, the gold exchange standard, fluctuating fiat currencies, and the Bretton Woods and Smithsonian Agreements. Rothbard extends his penetrating monetary analyses to present day conditions, commenting on dollar depreciation, foreign exchange, and international money. In logical and comprehensive fashion, he brings us to his conclusion:

"The prospect for the future is accelerating and eventually runaway inflation at home, accompanied by monetary breakdown and economic warfare abroad. This prognosis can only be changed by a drastic alteration of the American and world monetary system: by the return to a free-market commodity money such as gold, and by removing government totally from the monetary scene."

The new edition will be ready for shipment in January, and advance orders are being accepted. \$1.25 per copy from Rampart College Book Service, Box 11407, Santa Ana, CA 92711. Please add 25¢ postage/handling charge. California residents add 5% sales tax.

LUDWIG VON MISES 1881-1973

On October 10 in New York City, Ludwig von Mises died. His exposition of praxeology, the term he used to designate all of human action, integrated economic activity with libertarian philosophy in his hundreds of books and articles. This intellectual giant left a legacy of scholarship and dedication to free market principles unmatched in today's restricted economic-social world. He was an illuminating example of individualistic integrity.

LIBERTARIAN CONFERENCE IN CHICAGO

On Saturday, December 15th, a libertarian conference will be held at the LaSalle Hotel, Madison & LaSalle Sts., Chicago, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Among the seven featured speakers: Dr. Joseph DeJan, Dr. R. S. Jaggard, Frederika Blankner, Donald Hoppe, and Herbert T. Landau. Admission at the door will be \$8 - or \$5 for payment in advance. For further info phone: Winston Duke - (312) 294-2834 office or (312) 935-7970 home.

RAMPART DISCUSSION EVENINGS

Open conversation on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m. Next two sessions: November 20th and December 18th. For directions: (714) 835-2505.

LIBERTARIAN ALTERNATIVE OF ORANGE COUNTY

On the 2nd Monday of each month, this group gathers to plan activities, with emphasis on editorial replies to TV & radio stations. Next meeting Dec. 10, 8 p.m., at Rampart. For more info, call Dean Hyatt at (714) 586-1300.

NEW MAILING ADDRESS FOR RAMPART

In an effort to effect more efficient mail delivery, we have changed our mailing address to a post office box number and contracted with a private service for delivery of our daily mail. In the future, please address all correspondence, orders, address changes, etc., to:

RAMPART COLLEGE • BOX 11407 • SANTA ANA, CA 92711

*

*

*

*

*

*

This newsletter is published monthly by Rampart College at Santa Ana, California, and is available at no charge upon request.



SECOND-CLASS POSTAGE
PAID AT SANTA ANA,
CALIFORNIA

BOX 11407, SANTA ANA, CALIF. 92711