



September, 1973

We have all heard the argument that the American system of taxation is unfair; that it penalizes the poor and benefits the rich; that special interest groups are unduly favored; that tax reforms should be instituted to eliminate such programs as oil depletion allowances and tax exemptions for church organizations.

On KNX radio, Los Angeles' CBS-owned station, a new twist was heard last month in a management editorial. Under the title "Corporate Welfare," KNX claimed that some of the nation's biggest corporations are welfare recipients. It charged that these firms made large profits and paid little or no income taxes on them. "When corporations don't pull their weight in the tax boat, you have to make up the difference by paying higher taxes. So, the big profits of these non-tax paying and under-tax paying corporations comes right out of your pocket," the editorial declared.

Seymour Leon, president of Rampart College, was invited to broadcast an opposing view, which the station aired on September 7th. What follows is a transcript of his rebuttal.

KNX has coined a new term: corporate welfare. They explain that when a corporation pays a low income tax, it is the equivalent of "giving to the rich by the shovelful." This position indicates a basic confusion over the simple concepts of stealing, giving, and keeping what is rightfully yours.

We would like to clear up the confusion, as follows: Property can change hands in three ways -- you can give it away, you can sell it, or you can steal it. Government taxation is a legal method of taking property from individuals by force. And that is theft, pure and simple.

The public has been inculcated for many years with the idea that paying taxes is a patriotic duty, and that taking advantage of loopholes in the tax laws is "stealing from the government." But how can a person steal his own money?

If my home is burglarized, should I seek out the bandits to commit equal crimes against my neighbors? Or should I try to keep burglars away from all our homes? If "equality under the law" means that everyone is a victim of theft, we are living with some very curious platitudes indeed.

The management of KNX, in earlier editorial positions, has advocated the free enterprise system as a way out of our economic crises. We would remind them that free trade can function only in an environment where theft is deplored, and not extolled as a virtue.

We heartily agree with KNX, however, that the tax system is unfair and that low and middle-income people bear a highly disproportionate burden. But the solution to the problem of runaway taxation is not a more efficient program for taking more money from more people.

A step in the right direction would be to stop creating programs that depend on stealing. Taxation will be reduced to the point of absolute fairness only when each of us can keep 100 per cent of our income. And then KNX will have the system of free enterprise it has so nobly championed in the past.

\* \* \* \* \*

"Anyone may arrange his affairs so that his taxes shall be as low as possible; he is not bound to choose that pattern which best pays the treasury; there is not even a patriotic duty to increase one's taxes;

"Over and over again courts have said that there is nothing sinister in so arranging one's affairs as to keep taxes as low as possible;

"Taxes are an enforceable exaction, and not a voluntary contribution."

Judge Learned Hand  
Halvering vs. Gregory  
69 Federal (2nd) 809

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#### ABILITY AND AGILITY

"Heroes of the Marketplace" will be honored by the Nathan Hale Society at a banquet in Lincoln, Nebraska on September 28th. Gene Chapman (a '71 Rampart grad) announces plans to honor a dozen Activists of the Market "who place the bread and butter on the table for at least 200 or more employees...who show ability and agility in outwitting governmental employees...." Tickets, \$10. Chapman's address is 904 Terminal Bldg., Lincoln, NB 68508. Featured speaker at the September 28th event will be Robert LeFevre, president emeritus of Rampart College.

Announcing a one-day seminar/workshop:

"THE MONEY CRISIS AND YOU" conducted by Harry Browne

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1973 - 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. (no-host cocktail hour;  
dinner included in fee.)

INTERNATIONAL HOTEL - Gold Room - 6225 W. Century Blvd. - Los Angeles  
(adjacent to L.A. Intl. Airport)

Fee: \$60 per person, \$100 per couple. \* (10% discount for full payment  
in advance.)

\* Special group discounts available. Write or phone Sy Leon for further  
information: 104 W. Fourth St., Santa Ana, CA 92701 • (714) 835-2505.

ABOUT HARRY BROWNE: An economist and investment counselor, Browne  
accurately predicted the devaluation of 1971 in  
his first best-selling book, How You Can Profit from the Coming  
Devaluation (Arlington House, 1970), as well as the monetary crisis  
we are now undergoing.

His second best-seller, How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World  
(Macmillan Publ. Co., 1973), offers his personal philosophy along with  
advice on avoiding incursions from government and other sources; ways  
to be free "from whatever may be preventing you from living your life  
as you want to live it."

IN THIS SEMINAR, Browne will explain techniques for protecting  
yourself against further monetary crises and expanding your area of  
personal and financial freedom. Plenty of time will be provided for  
questions and discussion.

ENROLLMENT FORM: To Rampart College • 104 W. 4th • Santa Ana, CA 92701

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ spaces in Harry Browne's seminar of October 27th.

\_\_\_\_\_ Full payment is enclosed (\$60 per person, \$100 per couple -  
deduct 10% for full payment with advance enrollment).

\_\_\_\_\_ Deposit of \$25 per person is enclosed. I will pay the balance  
upon my arrival at the seminar.

(No ticket will be sent; your cancelled check is your receipt. Please  
arrive at the seminar by 12:45 for registration.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(List names and addresses of additional enrollees on separate sheet.)

EXCLUSIVE TO RAMPART GRADSa PINE TREE pin

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LIBERTARIAN DISCUSSIONS AT RAMPART COLLEGE

Monthly gatherings at Rampart are providing informative and enjoyable discussions for libertarians in the Southern California area. A variety of opinions and ideas have been explored informally, from philosophic issues to the prospects for "popularizing" libertarian thought. Libertarians of all shades, and persons wanting to find out what it's about, are invited to participate or just listen. Emphasis is on open conversation and socializing.

When: 3rd Tuesday of every month - 8:00 p.m.

Next two sessions - September 18 and October 16

Where: Rampart College • First Western Bank Bldg. • 6th floor  
104 W. Fourth St. • Santa Ana, CA 92701  
Phone (714) 835-2505 if you need driving directions.

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CAVITY CAVEAT

In the July 1973 of the California Dental Association, Garvan F. Kuskey, D.D.S., has published "Health Care, Human Rights and Government Intervention: A Critical Appraisal." The article examines proposed National Health Insurance, "a political euphemism for socialized medicine," explaining the philosophic and economic wrongs which would ensue from such a system.

Reprints are available directly from Dr. Kuskey. Send him a stamped, self-addressed envelope: 1515 State St., Suite 8; Santa Barbara, CA 93104.

LIBERTARIAN SUPPER CLUB OF LOS ANGELES

Robert LeFevre, Rampart's president emeritus, will address the October 3rd dinner meeting of L.A.'s monthly gathering at Taix' Restaurant, 1911 Sunset Blvd. Contact for additional information: Lloyd Licher - (213) 390-4449 office or (213) 397-4848 home.

LIBERTARIAN ALTERNATIVE CHAPTER FORMING IN ORANGE COUNTY

Dean Hyatt announces the first meeting of the Orange County chapter of the Libertarian Alternative, to be held on Monday, October 8th, at 8:00 p.m., at Rampart College (see page 4 for location). Phone Dean for further details: (714) 586-1300.

LEON ADDRESSES POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENTS

On August 27th, Rampart president Sy Leon spoke to a class in political ideology at California State College in Fullerton. From a basic overview of libertarian premises -- that human beings are self-directed, self-responsible value seekers -- Leon explained the application of voluntary principles in a social context.

"Libertarianism is not a utopian dream," he observed, "it is the recognition that we are a collection of unique individuals with widely differing values, and an attempt to implement a social system which will allow each of us the broadest possible area of personal, economic, and political freedom."

PERSON TO PERSON DIRECTORY

Ilmar Roosmagi, 10-53 47th Road, Long Island, NY 11101, would like to hear from individualists who are interested in discussing Objectivism. (212) 592-8509.

Ralph Baldwin, H-9009, S.C.I.D., Dallas, PA 18612, wants to correspond with individualist sisters in the California area.

JONATHAN LIVINGSTON SEAGULL by Richard Bach

That beautiful bird brings beneficence and bliss, bewitching beyond belief, backed and bound between blankets of blue. \$1.50 paper + 25¢ postage/handling. California residents add 6% sales tax. Order from Rampart Book Service, 104 W. Fourth St., Santa Ana, CA 92701.

Write for complete publications list.

BOOK REVIEW: HOW I FOUND FREEDOM IN AN UNFREE WORLD by Harry Browne  
Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc. \$7.95 hardcover. reviewed by  
Robert LeFevre.

Harry Browne's newest work will bring some cries of outrage from those who want to organize others in order to be free. In his How I Found Freedom, Browne joins the ranks of Nock, Chodorov, Lane, and others, in setting forth the proposition that you can't control other people anyway and that your freedom, fortunately, doesn't depend on them.

How I Found Freedom is a kind of home study course in one easy-to-read volume. And it's a safe and sane set of steps that he recommends. To the ultra conservative, Browne's lifestyle and value judgments may sound extreme. But to the person already out of his shell, insofar as a yearning for freedom is concerned, the counseling in this volume has the honest, friendly quality one would expect from one's own grandpa.

In one sense, the book is deceptive. Browne offers some fairly profound ideas in such an innocuous way that before you know what is happening, you may be enjoying some areas of your mind that haven't been explored.

Particularly useful are those portions of the book dealing with ways and means of avoiding incursions against you customarily expected from government sources, and usually quite baffling in consequence. And in this regard, Browne may have one problem. He specifies that to avoid government attention, it is important not to attract undue attention to one's self. If How I Found Freedom turns out to be as popular as his earlier How You Can Profit from the Coming Devaluation, Browne may find himself in need of taking his own advice rather more seriously than he has.

(Available from Rampart Book Service, 104 W. Fourth, Santa Ana, CA 92701 -- \$7.95 + .25 postage/handling. Calif. residents add 6% sales tax.)

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



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CALIFORNIA

September, 1973

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