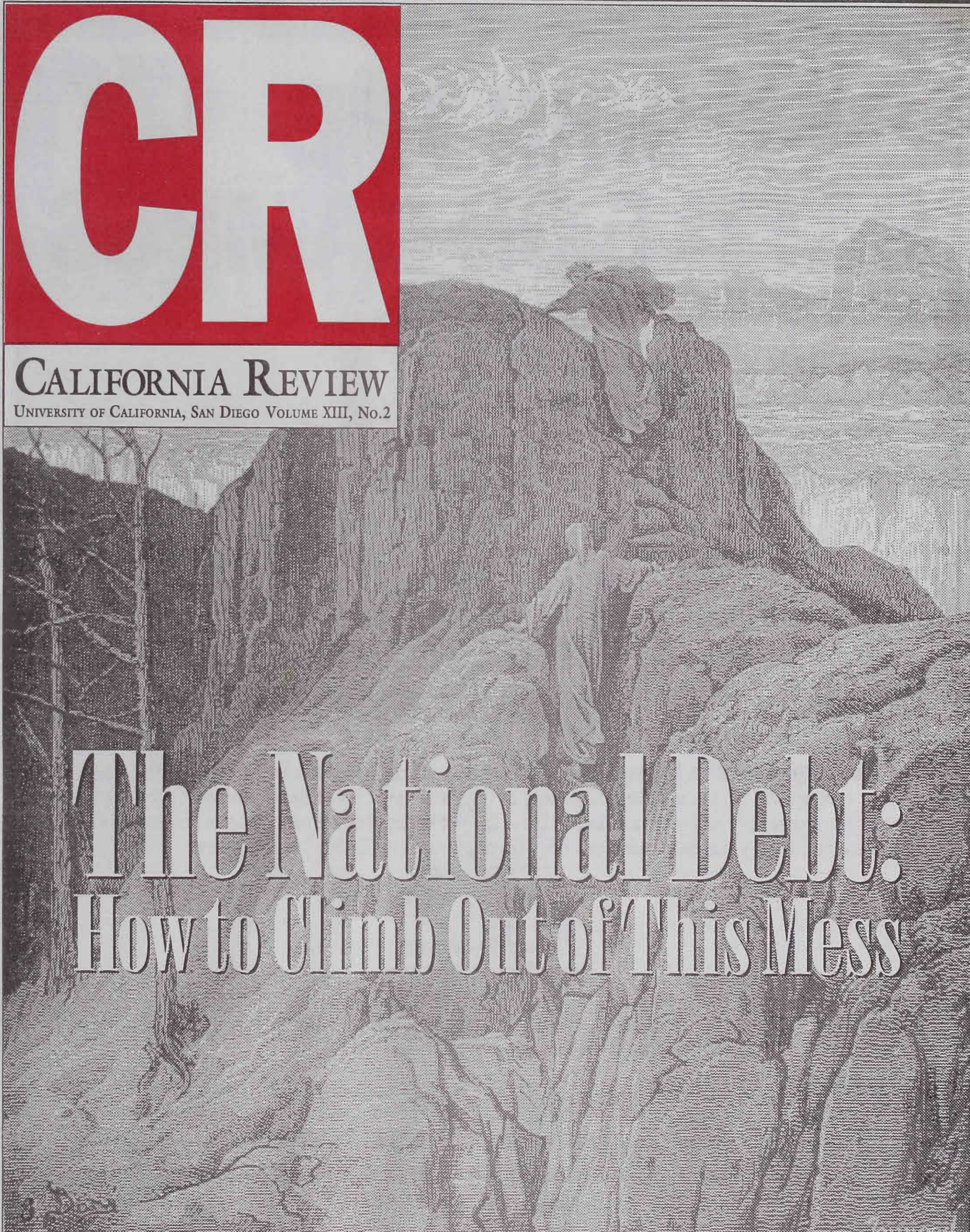


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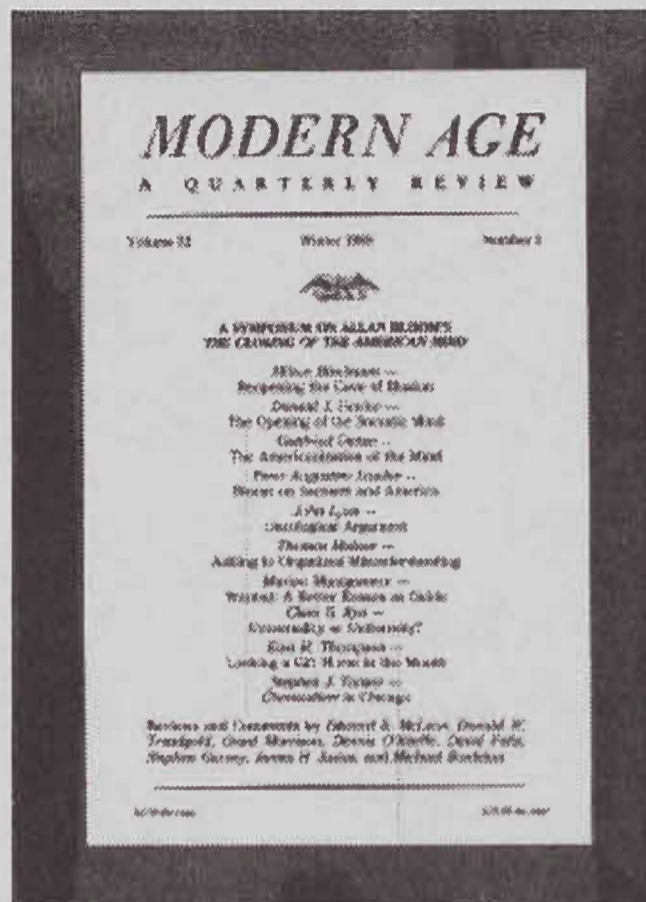
CALIFORNIA REVIEW
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO VOLUME XIII, No.2



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ALSO: Grading the Clinton Administration, A Guide to Talk Radio, and the Results of the 1990 Budget Deal

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CALIFORNIA REVIEW

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"Imperium et Libertas"

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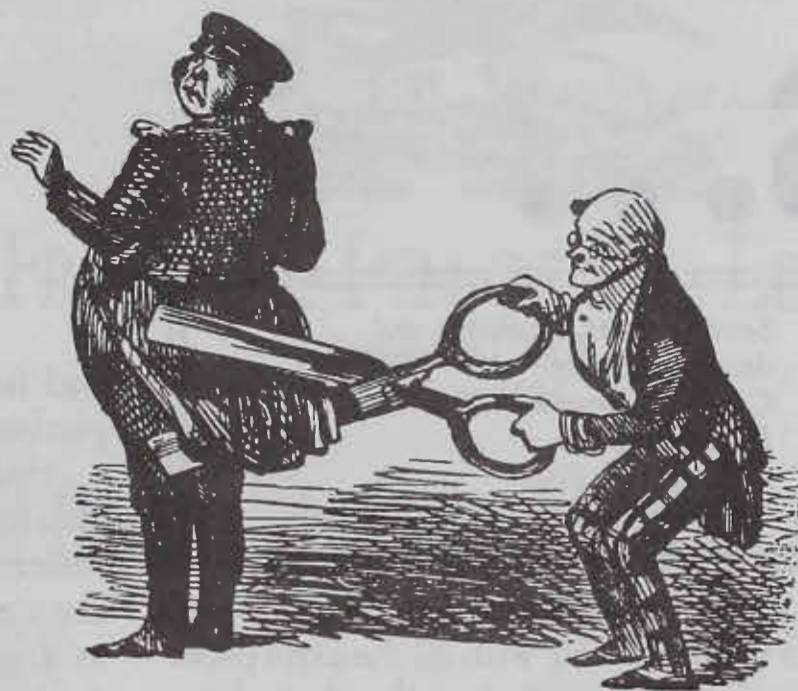
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The *California Review* (Restitutor Orbis) was founded on the sunny afternoon of the Seventh day of January, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Two, by discipuli cum civitas listening to Respighi and engaging in discourse on preserving the American Way.

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Letters...

New Year Accolades

Editor:

I thoroughly enjoyed your '93 Back-to-School issue. Mr. Nolta's work on Right Facts shows him to be a promising asset. Mr. Robinson's "Conscience of a Young Conservative" is excellent as an overview of the differences between American conservatives and liberals. Most importantly, it touches upon the psychology of these orientations. I think this should be a focus for your journal: describing conservative psychology as the heroic thing it is (at its best) and revealing liberalism as the playground of diletantism it so often is.

I wondered at "The Democracy Hullabaloo." Alas, Mr. Boychuk turns out this most thoughtful, intelligent work on his departure. We should be greatly saddened at his decision to do something with his life besides work on the *California Review*.

Don't relent in doing to work of the good.

Adam Rosensweig
Los Angeles

Editor's Note: Not to worry, though he no longer acts in an official editorial capacity, Mr. Boychuk will continue to contribute such fine articles as "The Democracy Hullabaloo."

...And Denunciations

Editor:

Reading Matthew Robinson's piece about conservatives ("The Conscience of a Young Conservative") I really realized that conservatives really just don't "get it" after all as he said they did. I am a "liberal" and not ashamed of it! Liberal means free and I support freedom in all of its diverse types. Liberal also means fair just as much as it means free. And what could be more "fair" than the right to health care and a good job? Which I would be "free" to take or not?

I don't really understand what Robinson is talking about when he says that liberals "fear the consequences of giving people freedom over their own lives" I mean,

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have you shopped for health insurance? Its very confusing with all the extra paper work we have now and there's nothing wrong if the government wants to streamline that.

Anyways, you guys are wrong about all these things and are filled with so much hate I promise myself I'll never read this stuff again.

Brian Oakdale
La Jolla

Editor:

Did Matthew Robinson reread his article before submitting it? If so, did he not notice the glaring hypocrisy that is its basis? Robinson complains in his introduction that "liberals...do not have the slightest notion of what a conservative is or believes," and notes that if he had held the same sorts of "misconceptions" about liberals he "would have been labeled a narrow-minded bigot."

Unfortunately, Mr. Robinson has drifted far from his "hope that liberals and conservatives have the same desire for justice, compassion, and liberty, with only differing opinions on how to secure these goods." Now all he sees are legions of "politically correct" autocrats programmed to suppress him and his heroically conservative counterparts. How dreary to go through life with such an outlook!

But I have good news for Mr. Robinson should he have any desire to hear it. The liberal he describes and fears so much does not exist. Surely there are liberals out there to whom one or more of these characteristics apply, the same way there are conservatives to whom I could accurately apply even more pejorative descriptions. The majority of us, however, are hard working, patriotic, and thoughtful, just as many conservatives are. Industry, patriotism, and thoughtfulness are not partisan traits, just as racism, censorship,

and freedom of the individual are not partisan issues.

I will not take Robinson's attack on my character as a liberal personally, for I understand from whence it came. The same motivation drove Robinson's article as drives the liberal misconceptions he deplores. It is much easier to hate the people with whom we disagree when we imbue them with all the characteristics we hate most. But we should not be trying to hate the people with whom we disagree—we should be trying to change their minds.

Perhaps Robinson is justified in his anger over liberal misconceptions of him. He deserves to be known for what he is, and if he is to be judged, he should be judged for what he really believes, as should we all. But if Robinson believes he is any better than those he condemns, he is greatly mistaken.

Matt Evans
La Jolla

List Was Incomplete

Editor:

I was shocked to discover, in your November issue, the omission of a fundamental book from your "Guide to Conservative Reading." I refer, of course, to Isabel Paterson's *The God of the Machine*, one of the most important works in establishing the connection between modern capitalist institutions and traditional American political ideas.

The fiftieth anniversary edition of *The God of the Machine* was issued in 1993 by Transaction Publishers as part of their Liberty of Conservative Thought, which is directed by Russell Kirk. The book has a long biographical introduction and editorial matter by Stephen Cox (me). It's available in the "faculty Authors" section of the University Bookstore.

Stephen Cox
Professor, Literature

Editor's Note: Professor Cox and other readers who have lamented omissions from our reading list will be heartened to know that a new reading list will appear in our next issue.



FROM THE PEN OF THE EDITOR

Volume XIII, No.2
February 1994

Gun Control: Will it Really Help Reduce Crime?

Crime has become an increasingly serious problem in the United States in recent years. No place appears safe from crime. As a result, the cries for gun control have become louder and louder. Hopefully, our elected officials will have the guts to withstand these cries to disarm the American people.

Recently, the Brady Bill, requiring a five-day waiting period on gun purchases, became law. There is nothing inherently wrong with this bill. Those who wish to purchase guns will still be able to do so, and those who, in a fit of passion, want a gun for the purpose of attacking someone will have the opportunity to cool down before they go through with their purchase.

Yet, this bill starts the United States down the path to more gun controls that will jeopardize the safety of law-abiding Americans.

Already, Bill Clinton and Janet Reno have called for more restrictions, including taxes on ammunition and an increase in license fees for gun dealers designed to make it harder for law-abiding Americans to purchase guns. In California, a law has been proposed that

would limit a person's handgun purchases to one per year, and lead to the licensing of handgun owners.

When these measures fail to control violence, even more gun controls will be called for.

These restrictions will leave the American people at the whim of criminals. Criminals that have such a disregard for the law that they murder and rape people will not be deterred by gun controls.

Instead, they will purchase their guns on the black market. Just as Prohibition did little good keeping alcohol out of the United States, so will further gun controls do little to stop the supply of guns to criminals.

In fact, there are already millions of illegal guns out on the streets. In New York City alone there are almost one million illegal guns in circulation.

Those that believe the Brady Bill will help deter crime will be sorely disappointed at its results. The Brady Bill would not have saved James Brady, the bill's namesake, from John Hinckley's bullet, as Hinckley obtained his gun illegally.

The Long Island commuter train shooting, which left five people dead and twenty-one injured, was perpetrated by a man who purchased his weapon in California, where a much longer waiting period of 15 days exists.

In fact, New York and Washington, D.C., have some of the toughest gun controls in the United States. They also have among the highest crime rates in this country. So much for the effectiveness of gun controls.

Gun ownership has helped to deter crime in many circumstances. According to Gary Kleck, a criminologist at Florida State University, Americans successfully defend themselves from criminal attack with handguns 645,000 times per year and another 300,000 times with rifles or shotguns.

Further, courts find these acts of self-defense to be justified 98 percent of the time. These Americans would instead be included in the ranks of crime victims if left unable to defend themselves.

Gun ownership further has helped to deter crime by leaving the criminal at risk when he tries to commit a crime. Who knows how many crimes have been averted because a criminal was worried he would be looking down the barrel of his potential victim's gun when perpetrating his crime?

Criminals know that most Americans would abide by gun control laws. The passage of more gun control laws would mean Americans would be left as sitting ducks to criminals who know their victims will be unarmed.

When push comes to shove, the government cannot be relied on to provide safety for its citizens. During the Los Angeles Riots, the businesses and homes not attacked by the looters were those places protected by someone with a gun. Those who relied instead on the police for protection were not so lucky.

The only way to deal with the crime problem that is plaguing our nation is to vigorously prosecute criminals and to do a better job of teaching values to our nation's children. The pursuit of more gun controls will ultimately prove futile in reducing crime.

—Michael J. Malervy
Editor in Chief

In Review...

■ BUMPER STICKER SPOTTED IN LAGUNA Niguel, Ca.: "The good Lord giveth, but the government taketh away."

■ RECENTLY, THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL Commission ruled that cities cannot impose curfews on beaches without its permission. The idea that a bunch of unelected, unaccountable bureaucrats can overrule a local city council elected by, and accountable to, its constituents is truly outrageous. The commission is unaffected by the disruptive behavior of drunks and rowdies on the beach in the wee hours of the morning, but nearby homeowners and shopkeepers are. The behavior of the commission, however, is not unprecedented. For too long the CCC has been regulating the way landowners choose to use their property. If property rights have any value to Californians, the power of the CCC will be curtailed.

■ THE LUNACY CONTINUES IN BAGHDAD-by-the-Bay. San Francisco city officials have announced their plans to erase the records of hundreds of people who marched illegally in protest of 1992's Rodney King beating verdicts due to pressure from the protestors' lawyers. While there is nothing wrong with peaceful demonstrations, those that break the law deserve their punishment. A vital part of civil disobedience is the willingness of people to accept the penalty for their infractions. If these protestors in San Francisco want to claim the moral superiority that Mahatma Gandhi, Henry David Thoreau, and Martin Luther King all had, they should be willing to follow these men's examples by accepting their punishment.

■ OF COURSE, THE A.S. IS NOT WITHOUT ITS lunatics. One of its bigger lunatics is A.S. Vice President External Nick Endres. Endres has complained about proposed fee increases, saying that the higher fees would "force people to go into more lucrative areas to pay off their loans."



One of the UC System's many purposes is to provide California with a well-trained, educated work force. It is certainly not in business for people who wish to waste four or five years on a degree which will be of no use in the real world. If Mr. Endres needs a reason to criticize fee hikes, he should find one with some substance to it.

■ THE CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT RULED in December that over-the-counter drugs do not have to include warning labels other than in English after a young boy developed Reye's syndrome because his Spanish-speaking mother gave him aspirin when he was four months old. Drug companies should not be punished for the unwillingness or the inability of immigrants to learn English. If labels had to be written in languages other than English, labels would have to be printed in a large number of languages in order to satisfy this requirement. This would force some drug companies to leave the market, resulting in more expensive drugs for all Americans. Schering-Plough, the drug's manufacturer, met its obligation to the public by printing its warning labels in the language spoken by the overwhelming majority of Americans.

■ RECENT ELECTIONS IN RUSSIA SHOW THE need to retain some level of military strength. One of the biggest winners in

this election was Vladimir Zhirinovsky's ultranationalists, who now constitute one of the largest blocs in the new Russian parliament. Zhirinovsky has advocated the repossession of Alaska, the restoration of the Russian Empire, and nuclear strikes on Germany and Japan if they interfere in Russian affairs. Zhirinovsky has also called the United States the "Empire of Evil." In a country as unstable as Russia, we cannot assume Boris Yeltsin will lead Russia forever. Congress should keep this in mind when deciding on future cuts in defense spending.

■ SOME OF THE BLAME FOR THE DISASTROUS fires in Laguna Beach last November has to go to Laguna's environmentalists. For years, environmentalists have fought against controlled burns in areas around the Laguna Canyon. Further, they stalled efforts to expand the reservoir system around Laguna Beach, even though the state said Laguna Beach needed a better system in the event of a fire. After finally putting out the fire, firefighters complained that low water pressure, along with massive amounts of brush, stopped them from quickly dousing the inferno before it could torch Laguna Beach. Harold Johnson of the *Orange County Register* has come up with an appropriate term for those who fought the efforts to hold controlled burns and expand the reservoir system. He calls them "enviro-pyros."

■ PERHAPS THE BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT IN 1993 was the failure of Proposition 174. Prop. 174 would have empowered parents and students to find the schools best suited for their needs. Too many students remain trapped in schools that are unsafe and of poor quality. California ranks 35th in the country in SAT scores, and has a higher dropout rate than 43 other states. Prop. 174 would have been a big help in reversing these numbers. Prop. 174 was not the big loser on Election Day. Rather, the big losers that day were the students of California.

Right Facts...

HERE WE GO AGAIN: By now the dust has settled from the battle royale over the federal budget. But it is only now that the winner of the same fight in 1990 is being announced. And the winner is...the rich.

Yes, the 1990 federal budget, the one which raised the top income tax rate from 28 percent to 31 percent in order to restore fairness and reduce the deficit, has come up a bit short. The budget deficit widened and we are now finding out that the rich are shouldering less of the tax burden than they once did.

In 1990, the wealthiest 1 percent of taxpayers paid \$115 billion in taxes out of an overall adjusted gross income of \$489.7 billion. In 1991, revenues from the same 1 percent declined from 4.5 percent to \$109.8 billion. This was due in part to their adjusted gross income falling 6.8 percent to \$456.4 billion—a \$33.3 billion drop.

While the recession was responsible for some of the drop, it cannot account for its entirety. Tax revenues from the other 99 percent of taxpayers rose from \$335.8 billion to \$337.4 billion during the same period.

The most likely explanation for the decrease in tax receipts from the rich is that in response to higher marginal tax rates they realized less of their income in 1991 and shifted more funds into tax shelters.

The overall effect of the 1990 budget was a reduction in the tax burden of the wealthiest 1 percent. In 1991, the top 1 percent of taxpayers paid 24.6 percent of all individual federal income taxes, down from 25.5 percent in 1990.

Lest we forget, the Clinton budget raised the top income tax rate further still, and slapped on an additional 10 percent surtax. Ironically, the budget also widened loopholes in the tax code, most of which had been reduced or eliminated in the 1986 tax reform.

Maybe we read too much into his description as a "New Democrat". Perhaps it was only a reference to his age.



NUKE 'EM: In the December issue this column devoted most of its space to a discussion of the ozone hole in hopes of encouraging our readers to examine the complex scientific issues of the environment with a more critical eye. This month's column is no different.

First, though, we'll need some definitions.

Alpha particles are the nuclei of helium atoms and consist of two protons and two neutrons. They are only dangerous inside the body since they are easily shielded by our clothing (even a piece of paper will do).

Beta rays are high-energy free electrons. Gamma rays are powerful electromagnetic waves (light, in other words) with very short wavelengths.

When speaking of radiation dosage, the unit is the Roentgen Equivalent Man, or rem, which quantifies the actual ionizing effect different types of radiation have on a human body.

Watching television a few hours a day for an entire year is about 1 millirem (1-thousandth of a rem). Each year the average American is exposed to approximately 360 millirems.

82 percent of the yearly dose is from natural background radiation, 11 percent is from medical X-rays, 4 percent from nuclear medicine (irritating tumors, etc.), 3 percent from smoke detectors, tobacco, ceramics, etc., and 1 percent is from miscellaneous sources.

The entire nuclear energy industry is in that miscellaneous category and contributes no more than 0.1 percent of our annual radiation exposure. Interestingly, 11 percent of our annual dosage is from Potassium-40 within our own tissues; we're over a hundred times more dangerous to ourselves than any nuclear reactor.

Every second we are bombarded with about 15,000 radioactive particles—that's 500 billion per year, and 40 trillion over an average lifetime. When a particle directly impacts a cell, most of the time the cell just dies. The odds that the impact will sufficiently mutate the cell's DNA without killing it is 1 in 50 quadrillion.

So what dosages of radioactivity are dangerous? Extensive research has established the following levels: exposures above 10,000 rems are fatal, 300 rems is lethal for about half of those exposed, and some radiation damage is likely in the 100-300 rems range. Exposures of less than 100 rems have no effect.

In fact, studies suggest that low levels of radiation are even beneficial. A survey of 1,239 separate studies in 1980 determined that there is a threshold below which ionizing radiation is either beneficial or harmless.

An epidemiological study of various types of cancer in the U.S. indicated that regions with background radiation between 350 and 500 millirems per year had the lowest rates of cancer. These are regions with elevated radiation levels. In a study analyzing radon exposure versus lung cancer it was found that the correlation is negative at low levels—the more radon, the less lung cancer!

To demonstrate the hysteria over radiation, it should be noted that buildings constructed of granite or marble (like the Capitol) give exposures exceeding 100 millirems annually. In contrast, the community surrounding Three Mile Island received an additional dose of 1.2 millirems due to the accident there.

—Michael Nolte

Broadsides...

■ THE *NEW INDICATOR* CONTINUES ITS tradition of being on the wrong side of almost every political issue. For example, in its October issue, Doug Alexander of the *New Indicator* came out against NAFTA despite the obvious positive effects of free trade for both Americans and Mexicans.

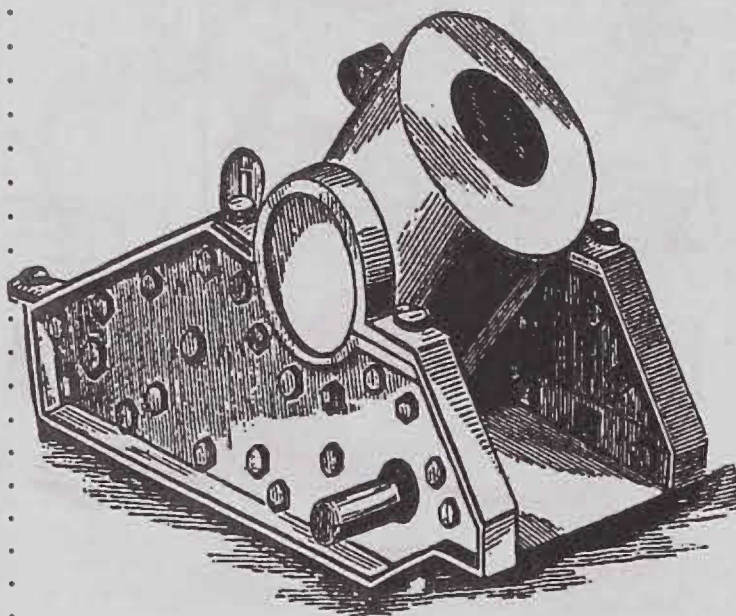
It seems ironic that a paper that often champions the underclass would come out against a treaty that would help poverty-stricken Mexicans improve their lives. Thank goodness Congress did not follow Alexander's advice, or else we would not be able to look forward to the positive results provided by NAFTA's passage on both sides of the border.

Unfortunately, Alexander is much more eloquent and reasoned than your typical *New Indicator* writer. For example, an article in the November issue of the *New Indicator* by Normal Jones on homelessness characterizes people at the St. Vincent de Paul Center as "people convinced Christ wants them to have tons of nifty trucks to show off their humanitarian campaigns."

This flippant trivialization of the St. Vincent de Paul Center's efforts is unfair, given the real help it gives to the homeless. Organizations like the St. Vincent de Paul Center teach the homeless discipline and actively help the homeless find employment. These efforts, and not the creation of tent cities, is the correct way to deal with the homeless problem.

Then there was an article in the November issue about students and education. The premise of the article was that students should be paid to study. The author of this piece, who calls himself 5th Amendment, needs to remember that there is indeed a correlation between education level and salary.

Of course, with the obviously poor thinking shown by the author, it should come as no surprise that the author would use an alias instead of his real name. After all, who would want to embarrass themselves by using their real name in an



article advocating such an inane position?

Pages could be devoted to correcting the faulty thinking presented in the *New Indicator*, but after a while the task becomes like kicking a puppy dog or rooting against the Los Angeles Rams: It's too easy.

■ PERHAPS THE SADDEST DECLINE IN A student newspaper at UCSD has been demonstrated by *Eco Logic*. This paper, which debuted less than a year ago in order to promote responsible environmentalism, has become the mouthpiece of radical environmentalists.

In its digest of environmental news titled "Earth Currents," the new smog check system mandated by the Clean Air Act is described as "better." The elimination of 9000 independent smog check stations with 300 state-run test centers that would result from this new system would be a catastrophe for California's economy. This change will lead to increased smog levels as people will have to travel further to get their cars checked. Further, long lines, inconvenient hours of operation, more bureaucracy, and the loss of an estimated 3,000 jobs in the auto-maintenance industry will all result due to this change. This change could hardly be called "better."

Even scarier is an editorial titled "The Endangered Species Act" by Ahrash Bissell. Bissell writes, "arbitrary lines of private property and such have no bearing upon the extinction debate." This

extremist view has had a negative effect on people. Due to excessive land use regulations, Americans have lost jobs and paid more for housing than necessary. Bissell should rest assured that Adam Smith's Invisible Hand will guarantee that land will be used for its best purpose when left to the landowner.

With its increasingly extreme nature, it is becoming obvious that the name *Eco-Logic* truly is a misnomer for this paper.

■ ONE STUDENT PUBLICATION AT UCSD, *Momentum*, received a great deal of attention due to an article about the size of the typical Asian male penis. The decision to run this article showed a serious lack of judgement on behalf of *Momentum's* editors.

During the height of the article's controversy, one of *Momentum's* editors claimed the article was satire. If this article was indeed satire, *Momentum* has shown why it is a good idea to stay away from controversial satire.

Good satire is very difficult to write. Satire should be close enough to the truth to make a point, yet absurd enough to be obviously fiction. This article failed to meet these requirements.

Sometimes, it is better to shy away from satire rather than run an article which might appear racist and sexist. The *California Review* has always had a very cautious view toward printing satire. It is too easy for readers to interpret satire the wrong way. With the campus left always looking for a reason to silence the *California Review*, and conservatives in general, care must be taken not to offend readers.

It is unfortunate that *Momentum's* staff felt the same frustration our staff often feels when stacks of the *California Review* end up in the garbage, but they should not be surprised. *Momentum's* editors would have better served its readers by not running the article in question. Such a decision would have avoided the controversy and anger the article generated.

Ed's Epistles

■ Nostradamus has nothing on the Grateful Dead's Robert Hunter and Jerry Garcia. Two decades ago, they wrote "U.S. Blues," a stunningly accurate prophecy of the Clinton Administration: "I'll drink your health / Share your wealth / Run your life / Steal your wife."

■ One would hope that a president already battling an image as an inbred Arkansas hick would have the good sense not to be photographed wearing a baseball cap with the lettering "NAFTA WE HAFTA."

■ I'm not one for conspiracy theories, but take a look at Democrat campaign wizard James Carville (Mr. Mary Matalin) and tell me the Democrats aren't being advised by evil space aliens.

■ The one redeeming feature of the late "Three Musketeers" movie is Rebecca De Mornay's riveting performance as Milady Hillary Rodham de Winter.

■ Dianne Feinstein, who claimed on the Senate floor to be an expert on firearms by virtue of having stuck her finger in Harvey Milk's bullet hole, apparently knows more about playing to the media than she does about guns. Rifles banned under her "assault weapons" bill function no differently than common hunting rifles, but have a military appearance, and look very menacing on the TV news.

■ Creative Defense of the Year Award: Rapper Calvin Broadus is claiming self-defense after being charged with murder in a drive-by shooting.

■ I hope Frank Zappa's tragic early passing will not stop those "Zappa for President" bumper stickers. Possible slogans for a 1996 Zappa run against Clinton could include "Better dead than red," "Better dead than overfed," "Better dead than inbred," and "Better dead than in Hillary's Bed."

■ What's in a name? Ask Bob PACKWOOD or Lorena BOBBITT.

■ Did you ever notice the word "mental" in "environmentalist?"

■ Classical liberalism says that individuals should be free to do whatever they want, as long as they do not harm others. Modern

liberalism says that individuals should be free to do whatever they want, and other people should have to pay for it.

■ Modern liberalism is not an ideology. It's a psychiatric disorder. Liberalism among the poor is characterized by

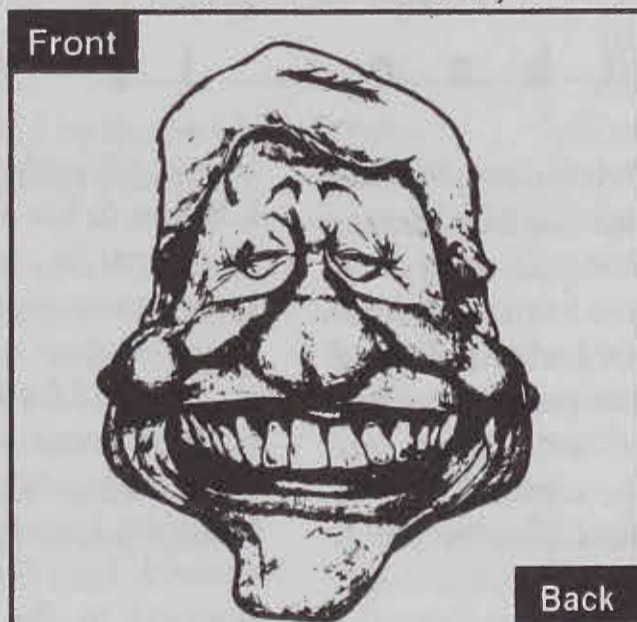
pathological envy. Liberalism among the rich is characterized by pathological guilt. Just because the lunatic fringe is now the majority does not mean they are not still the lunatic fringe.

—Ed Wagner

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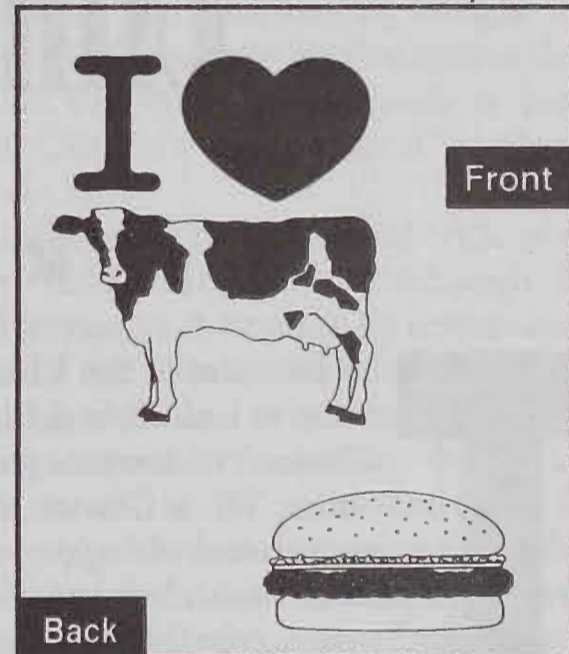


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AN ADMINISTRATION
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One Year Later: Grading the Clinton Administration

By Michael J. Malervy

The first year of the Clinton Administration has come to a close, and the debate has begun over Clinton's performance in his first year in the Oval Office. While Clinton may have been able to get a good deal of legislation passed, the quality of much of this legislation remains suspect. Despite running as a "New Democrat", Clinton is arguably the most liberal President this nation has ever seen. Hopefully, Clinton's first year is not a harbinger of things to come.

Bill Clinton & the economy: The man from Hope has given the country little reason for hope. The economy continues to flounder, and 1994 does not look to be better. Clinton's taxes will take effect this year, bodyslamming the already weak economy. The deficit continues to rise, as little action has been taken to cut spending. Clinton sponsored a "stimulus bill" that would have led to an even higher deficit without helping the economy. Fortunately, this bill never passed Congress. Clinton managed, however, to get NAFTA passed through a Congress that had earlier seemed hostile to free trade. For this he deserves some credit. **Grade: D+.**

Clinton & foreign policy: On foreign policy, Clinton has appeared weak and indecisive. After taking office, Clinton wavered between threatening U.S. military action on behalf of the Bosnian Muslims and staying out of the bloodbath in the former Yugoslavia. Instead of ending the mission to Somalia, where no U.S. interest was at stake, Clinton expanded the role of U.S. troops there by turning this humanitarian mission into a police action. Fortunately, Clinton reversed his position on allowing the emigration of refugees from Haiti, and has supported

Russian President Boris Yeltsin. **Grade: D.**

Clinton & his nominations: Clinton bills himself as a moderate Democrat, but his cabinet does not reflect this. While there may be some reasonable people in his cabinet, like Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen and Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy, these people are few and far between. EPA Chief Carol Browner would feel right at home with some extreme environmentalists. Surgeon General Jocelyn Elders received Clinton's nod despite her anti-Catholic bigotry and radical views on sex education and birth control. Lani Guinier, the "quota queen", was nominated for a position in the Justice Department dealing with civil rights despite her antidemocratic views, including the rejection of the concept of "one-person, one-vote" in favor of an electoral system that takes race into account. **Grade: C-.**

Clinton & his political miscues: "Slick Willie" lived up to his nickname a number of times this year. Most staffers at the White House Travel Office were fired in order to provide jobs for friends of the Clintons. Further, there was evidence that the FBI was used to smear the fired staffers. When Vincent Foster, the deputy White House Counsel, committed suicide, police were kept out of Foster's office, impeding an investigation into his death that has never been resolved. With the current questions of the Clintons' dealings in the Whitewater development and the failure of the Madison Savings and Loan holding up Congress and the President, it is obvious that the American public made a big mistake when they decided character did not matter when voting for Clinton in 1992. **Grade: F.**

The Clintons & health care: Although health care may be an important problem facing the United States, early signs suggest the Clintons' plan will just create other problems. If employers

are required to finance 80% of an employee's health care costs, the result will be increased unemployment. Proposed price controls on prescription drugs would lead to shortages of these life-saving cures. During the health care debate, little has been mentioned by the lawyers from Arkansas about curbing malpractice suits. Hillary Clinton, however, has been vocal in her inflammatory attacks on doctors. Given that the likes of Sen. Patrick Moynihan (D-NY) are admitting that there is no health care crisis, the radical changes proposed by the Clintons need to be seriously reconsidered. **Grade: D.**

Al Gore: Gore has served one useful purpose: He humiliated Ross Perot on CNN during a debate about NAFTA. Fortunately, Gore has not had the power to do much else, being the Vice-President. **Grade: B.**

Janet Reno: Reno may be perhaps the worst member of Clinton's cabinet. She handled the siege of David Koresh's compound in Waco, Texas, poorly. She justified the attack on the compound that culminated in the deaths of 72 people on rumors, not evidence, that child abuse was occurring inside the compound. To this day, these rumors have yet to be verified. Reno's handling of the Whitewater affair shows how politically motivated she is. After saying there was no need for a private investigation into Whitewater, she changed her mind shortly after Clinton called for an investigation. The

Attorney General's job is too important to be tied by the hands of politics. Sen. Phil Gramm (R-Texas) was right in calling for Reno's resignation in January. **Grade: F.**

Ross Perot: With the passage of NAFTA, and his poor performance against Al Gore in a nationally televised debate over NAFTA, Perot no longer seems invincible. In this debate, Perot was cold, nasty, and condescending towards Gore. Thankfully, Congress did not agree with Perot about NAFTA. Hopefully, Perot will now go riding off into the sunset. The United States will be better off without Perot's demagoguery. **Grade: F.**

House Republicans: House Republicans will continue their efforts to thwart the Clintons in their second year in the White House. So far, Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) has been effective as Minority Whip in fighting Clinton's agenda. Gingrich, along with other House Republicans like Dick Armey (R-Texas), Bob Dornan (R-Cal.), Robert Walker (R-Pa.), and Henry Hyde (R-Ill.) were instrumental in fighting the Freedom of Choice Act, the so-called "stimulus program", and many of the other bad pieces of legislation brought before Congress in the last year. The House Republicans, for the most part, supported NAFTA along with Clinton, showing that they are not being the obstructionists that many liberals make the House Republicans out to be. **Grade: A.**

Senate Republicans: Bob Dole has done a good job leading the 44 Senate Republicans as a team in working against much of the poor legislation that came before the Senate in the last year. Their unity could be seen during the budget battle, when not one Republican voted for this deficit-raising, economy-busting budget. The only criticism that can be leveled against these lawmakers was their unwillingness to battle some of Clinton's more radical nominees. **Grade: A-**

Rush Limbaugh: The most vocal critic of the Clinton Administration, Limbaugh has provided much needed service to the nation by continuously pointing out the miscues of the Clinton Administration. For example, Limbaugh used his radio and television programs to show how that Clinton's budget would not reduce the deficit. Limbaugh's use of humor, as well as his on-air demeanor, has helped puncture the stereotype of conservatives as a bunch of stuffy, uncaring elitists. The most listened to man in America, Limbaugh's two books were among the best-selling books of 1993. Clinton's criticisms of Limbaugh, as well as the effort to reenact the Fairness Doctrine, show how much the liberals in Washington fear Limbaugh. **Grade: A.**

CLINTON
is arguably the
most liberal
President this
nation has ever
seen. Hopefully,
Clinton's first year
is not a harbinger
of things to come.

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THE FEDERAL BUDGET IS A MONSTER WITH MANY HEADS. WITH THE DEFICIT APPROACHING 4 TRILLION DOLLARS, PEOPLE ARE BEGINNING TO PANIC, AND RIGHTLY SO. AND UNDER BILL CLINTON, THE MONSTER GROWS STRONGER THAN EVER BEFORE. IT IS THE SPENDING, STUPID. AND IT'S TAXES, TOO. IT'S A LOT OF THINGS, REALLY. UNTIL SOMETHING IS DONE, ALL AMERICANS HAVE TO LOOK FORWARD TO IS . . .

DEATH TAXES

ONE OF THE LARGEST PROBLEMS FACING THE UNITED STATES TODAY IS THE NATIONAL DEBT. This has become a problem because of the long history of deficit spending by the federal government. The last time the government did not run a deficit, in 1969, Richard Nixon sat in the White House. Since 1974, the ratio of debt to GDP has risen from about 20% of GDP to about 40% of GDP. Interest payments on the national debt take up a larger portion of the federal budget year after year. In 1992, the federal government spent over \$292 million in interest payments on the national debt. This represents 21.2% of federal outlays. Clearly, the deficit must be dealt with.

Deficit reduction would have many beneficial effects to the economy. Less deficit spending would lead to lower interest rates, as the federal government's demand for borrowed money would decrease. Less deficit spending would also mean that more money is available in the private sector for borrowing, as the government would no longer be crowding out private investment. As a result, companies would be more willing to invest in new

B Y M I C H A E L J. M A L E R V Y



equipment, leading to a more productive economy with more jobs and more economic growth. Individuals would also benefit, as lower interest rates would make it less expensive to finance a new house or new car.

A smaller federal deficit would also lead to a smaller trade deficit. Because a government deficit leads to a reduction in a nation's savings, less investment in capital goods occurs, and exports decrease. It is no coincidence that large trade deficits have occurred in the United States since the federal government began its period of massive deficit spending.

One of the most tragic implications may be the effect the deficit will have on future generations. Eventually, these huge debts will have to be repaid. If action is not taken now to reduce the deficit, the deficit will have to be reduced by future generations which had nothing to do with the deficit spending of recent years. Taxes will have to be raised to obscene levels, and vital government services will have to be cut, in order to finance the debt and its interest if action is not taken now.

Recent actions to reduce the large deficits run by the federal government have been unsuccessful. The Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act was passed in the 1980s to bring about deficit reduction by imposing limits on the size of future deficits, but the large deficits continued.

The Budget Deal of 1990 was designed to raise taxes and cut spending. Taxes were raised, but the spending cuts never came, and the deficits continued to rise.

In 1993, President Clinton and Congressional Democrats teamed up again to raise taxes and cut spending in the name of deficit reduction. Again, taxes were raised, but the spending cuts never materialized. These cuts will probably never come about.

For instance, Clinton thwarted a recent attempt by Congressmen Tim Penny (D-Minn.) and John Kasich (R-Ohio) to reduce government expenditures.

The large deficits we now have cannot be blamed on Ronald Reagan's supply-side tax cuts from the early 1980s. In 1981, almost \$600 million was collected by the federal government. By 1988, government revenues swelled by 50% to over \$900 million.

Government spending, meanwhile, grew even more rapidly. Government expenditures were \$675 million in 1981, and well over \$1.063 billion by 1988. Excessive spending, and not tax cuts, are to be blamed for the large deficits afflicting the United States Economy today.

There are many programs the federal government funds that could be downsized or eliminated. While certain individuals may be hurt as a result of these proposals, Americans as a whole would be better off due to the resulting smaller deficits and lower interest rates. The cuts described below would represent a good start toward returning some sense of fiscal responsibility to the federal government. The amount of savings that would result from these proposals are based on estimates by the Congressional Budget Office.

1-NASA/Space Station: If plans for NASA to build the space station are scrapped, over \$10.4 billion will be saved from 1994

through 1998. Many of the scientific goals of the space station could be met earlier, and at a lower cost, on earth. Further, no national security purpose would be served by building the space station, as the Defense Department has expressed little interest in the space station.

2-Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC): Currently, the only task of the ICC is to regulate the trucking and intercity bus companies. The abolition of the ICC, and the resulting end to regulation of these industries, would save the federal government \$145 million over the next five years. In addition to this savings, deregulation could save the private sector \$28 billion a year, as carriers and shippers will no longer have to file tariffs and applications for operating rights. Just like in the airline industry,

deregulation will lead to increased competition, which will benefit consumers in the form of lower prices for trucking and bus services.

3-Arts and Humanities Programs: The government currently funds the arts and humanities through the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the Smithsonian Institution, the National Gallery of Art, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. The elimination of funding for these programs would save the government \$5.2 billion in the 1994-1998 period. It is not right that people should have to pay for the pornographic and blasphemous art that has been financed through these programs, especially at a time that the government cannot afford it. The government cannot consider the funding of these programs as a high priority. In many cases, recipients of federal aid could institute or raise admittance fees to make up for this loss of funding.

4-Ancillary Vocational Education Programs: The elimination of the Consumer and Homemaking Education Program would save the federal government \$140 million from 1994 through 1998. Federal funds are not necessary to support these programs, and this is not an essential role of the federal government.

5-Public Library Construction: If funding for the construction of local public libraries were halted, or replaced with funding

from state and local governments, the federal government would save \$65 million over the next five years. Access to public libraries is now virtually universal, making this program redundant and unnecessary.

6-Law School Clinical Experience Program: The federal government will save \$40 million over the 1994-1998 timeframe if this program is eliminated. Most law schools would continue to offer clinical education without federal support. Further, law students should be the ones who pay for these programs, as they are the ones who benefit directly from their existence.

7-Highway Demonstration Projects: The elimination of highway demonstration projects would result in a savings of \$4.3

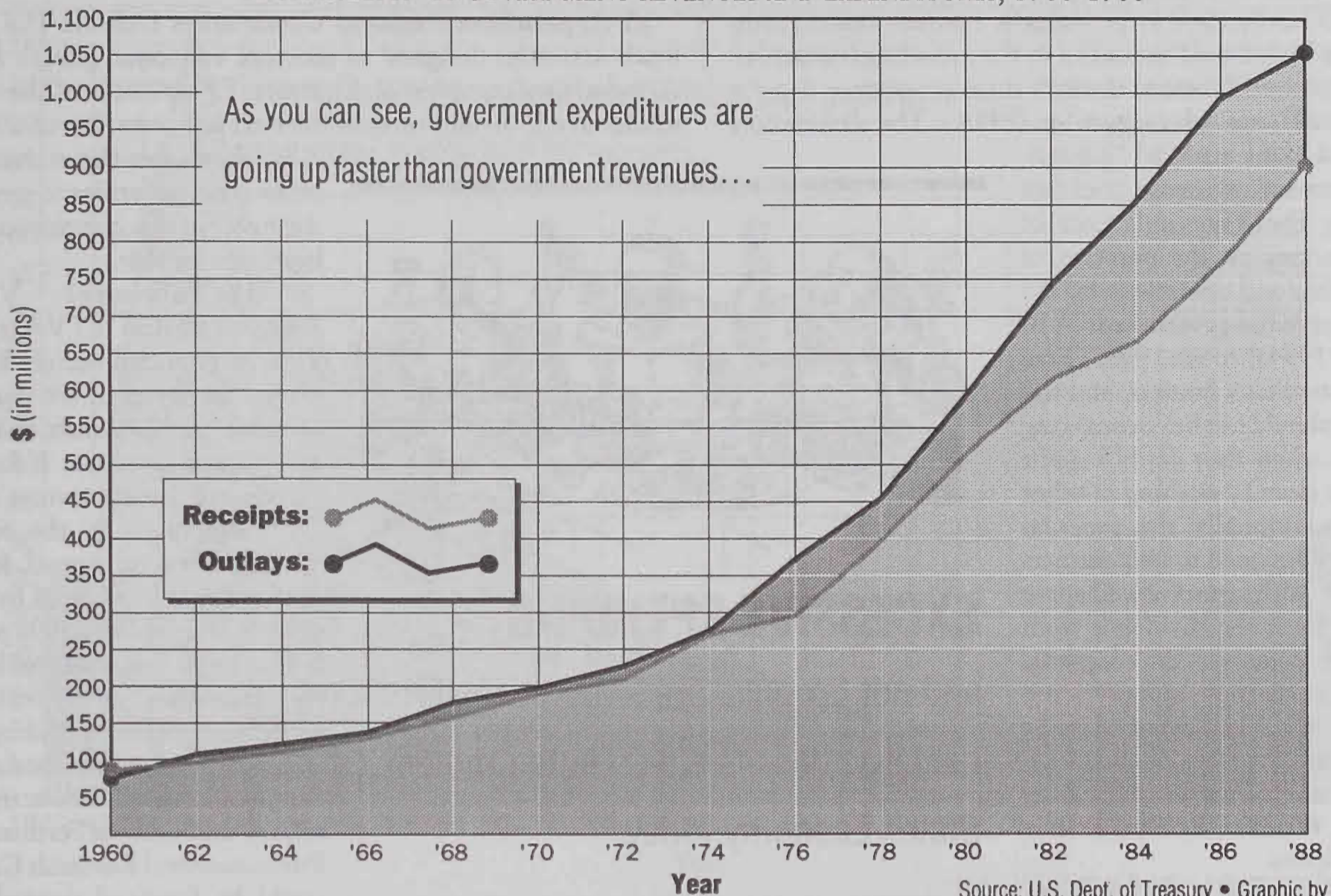


TAXES

will have to be raised to obscene levels, and vital government services will have to be cut, in order to finance the debt and its interest if action is not taken now.

Easy Come, Easy Go...

A COMPARISON OF GOVERNMENT REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES, 1960-1988



Source: U.S. Dept. of Treasury • Graphic by René Bruckner

billion over the next five years. These projects are not of primary importance to state transportation officials. For example, a 1987 survey found that about half of the projects funded under these programs did not appear in state transportation plans. Additionally, federal highway program officials do not consider these programs to be of primary importance.

8-Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR): The purpose of the SPR is to provide oil, gas, and other petroleum products in case of another oil shock. If the acquisition of crude petroleum for the SPR were halted, the federal government would save \$1.05 billion over the next five years. Currently, about 580 million barrels of oil are held by the SPR. To put this in perspective, only 20 million barrel were sold by the SPR in 1991 in response to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Unquestionably, a halt of oil purchases would not compromise the ability of the SPR to respond to another oil shock. Further, purchases of reserves could be resumed in the future if an oil shock depletes the reserve. Additionally, since the SPR would not be purchasing 30,000 barrels of crude per day, consumers would enjoy lower prices because of the drop in the quantity of petroleum demanded. This decrease in the cost of oil should benefit the economy by reducing the production costs for energy-intensive industries, and should thus help spur economic growth.

9-Rural Electrification Administration (REA): Currently,

the REA provides assistance to electric and telephone utilities that serve rural areas. If the interest rate subsidy on direct loans to utilities were eliminated, and an origination fee of 1 percent

on the amount of new loan guarantees provided by the REA were charged, \$660 million would be saved in the period from 1994 through 1998. Although this would eventually result in higher utility rates, the overall impact on customers should be small, as interest rates typically only cover a small percentage of a utility consumer's bill.

10-USDA/Research and Extension: If funding levels for the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), the Cooperative State Research Service (CSRS), and the Extension Service (ES) were reduced by 10 percent, the federal government would save \$750 million over the next five years. Grants for the ARS and CSRS, designed to support agricultural research, would likely be replaced by the private sector if eliminated. Further, a reduction in funding for the ES, whose purpose is to introduce farmers to new technologies, would have a relatively minor impact on farmers.

11-USDA/Export Activities: A reduction in funding levels for the Foreign Agricultural Service and Organization for International Cooperation, both designed to promote exports of

CLINTON

thwarted a recent attempt by Congressmen Tim Penney (D-Minn.) and John Kasich (R-Ohio) to reduce government expenditures.

basic commodities such as grains, cotton, and peanuts, by one-third would free \$65 million over the 1994-1998 timeframe. It is uncertain whether these programs are providing enough benefits to farmers to justify their large budgets. Further, brand-name advertising, which should be paid for by the exporting companies themselves, is often financed through these programs.

12-Farmers Home Administration (FHA): The elimination of below-cost loans made to "limited-resource borrowers" at interest rates that approximate the Treasury's cost of borrowing money for the purposes of farm ownership and operations by the FHA would save the government \$510 million from 1994 through 1998. There are already too many farmers, and the government should not be encouraging new farmers when they could benefit the economy more by working in other industries. Additionally, this program was originally designed to help farmers temporarily—until farmers could apply for commercial credit. Evidence from the General Accounting Office suggests, however, that current borrowers are unwilling to apply for commercial credit when the alternative is below-cost loans. Eliminating these loans would help encourage farmers to take out commercial loans.

If the FHA stopped providing loans to developers of rental projects in rural areas, federal outlays could be reduced by about \$1.4 billion over the 1994-1998 period. Additionally, more savings would be realized as the cost of administering a shrinking loan portfolio increases. Turnover among current residents of existing projects would ensure that some new income-eligible families would be assisted each year.

Finally, the provision of mortgages to low-income borrowers by the FHA in areas with shortages of mortgage credit could be stopped, resulting in a savings of \$1.6 billion over the next five years, not counting the savings that would result from reduced administrative costs.

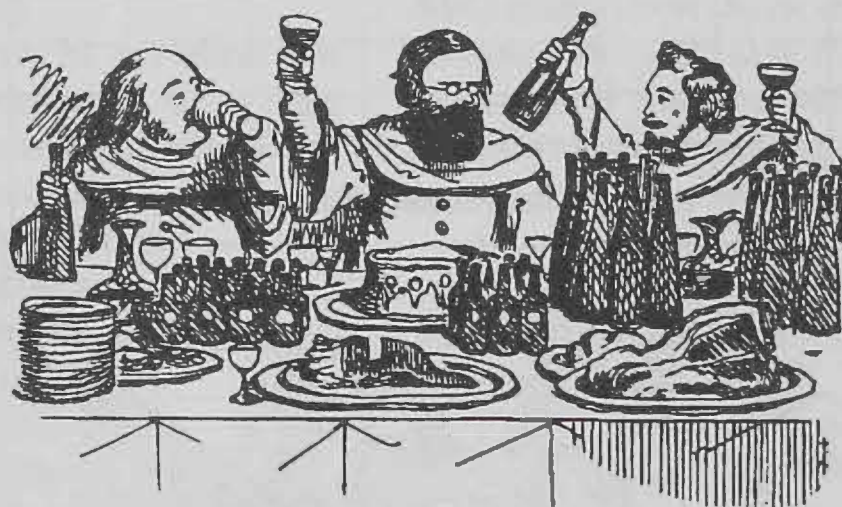
13-U. S. Postal Service (USPS)/Postal Subsidies: The subsidized postal rates that charitable organizations, small-circulation newspapers, and some political committees receive could be discontinued. This policy would result in savings of \$320 million over the next five years. This will lessen the overuse of mail services by some not-for-profit groups, including multiple solicitations for money from the same not-for-profit groups, and will hold mail users more responsible for the costs they impose on the USPS. This would also simplify postage-rate administration and further the goal of requiring mail users to pay for the cost of mail services.

14-Export Administration (EA): The EA enforces U.S. export laws to promote national security. If the budget of the EA were reduced by 25%, \$55 million would be saved by the federal government over the 1994-1998 period. This cut would further lead to an increase in the United States GNP, as the enforcement activities of the EA would no longer reduce U.S. exports.

Because of the end of the Cold War, and the elimination of sanctions against South Africa, the EA should be able to absorb this cut.

15-Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC): The ARC funds activities designed to promote economic growth in the Appalachian counties of 13 states. Elimination of the ARC would save \$530 million over the next five years. Given that the ARC duplicates the activities of many other government agencies, the need for this commission is at best questionable.

16-Tennessee Valley Administration (TVA): The TVA is provided money by the federal government for purposes of maintaining its lands, facilities, and natural resources. If funding for some of these activities of the TVA supported by the federal government were ceased, federal outlays could be reduced by \$580 million over the 1994-1998 period. Some TVA activities, including the provision of recreational facilities, could be paid for by state and local governments, or through user fees. Other TVA activities, such as the National Fertilizer and Environmental Research Center, could be financed through the private sector.



EXCESSIVE SPENDING,

and not tax cuts, are to be blamed for the large deficits afflicting the United States Economy today.

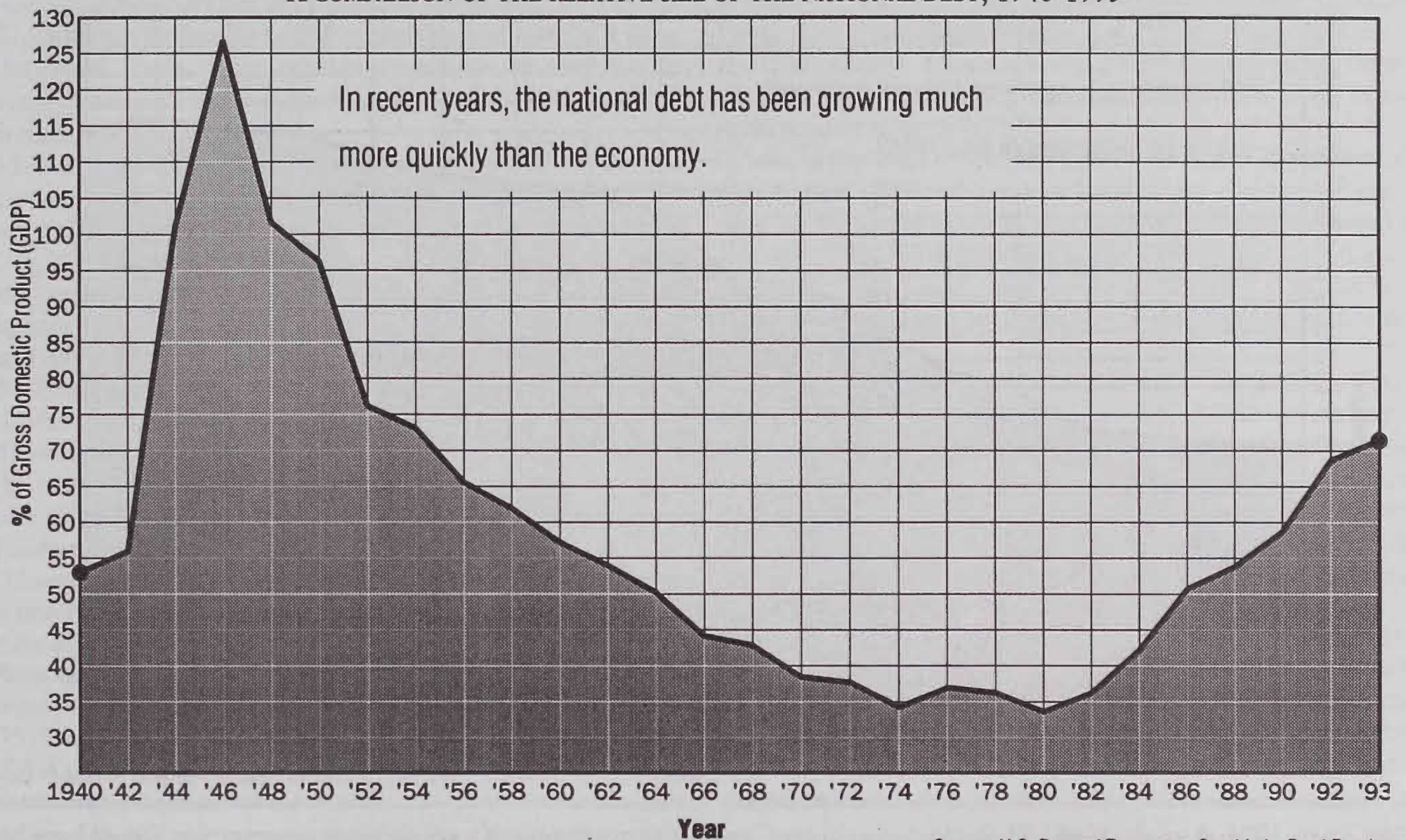
17-Rental Assistance Communities: An end to the expansion in the number of rental assistance communities formed under Section 8 and other public housing programs would result in a savings of \$5.7 billion over the 1994-1998 timeframe. These communities provide housing assistance for low-income households. No current recipients would lose their housing assistance under this proposal, and existing communities would continue to assist those eligible for the programs in question due to turnover among assisted renters.

18-Rent Subsidies: One option to reduce federal expenditures is to use Internal Revenue Service income data to identify unreported income of households receiving rent subsidies through a variety of programs, including Section 8 and other public housing programs. Implementation of this policy could potentially reduce outlays for means-tested housing assistance programs by \$1.65 billion from 1994 through 1998. This option would result in fairer treatment to all recipients of housing assistance. Better methods of verifying income would improve the targeting of rental subsidies, as new applicants for housing aid who do not qualify for this program would not receive assistance, allowing needier households to receive assistance instead.

19-Low-Income home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP): LIHEAP helps pay for the energy costs of some low income households by providing grants to states, which use these grants to help pay for the energy bills of low income households. Scaling back this program by as much as 55% could reduce government expenditures by as much as \$5.15 billion over the next five years. Since LIHEAP was formed in 1981, real energy

In the Red...

A COMPARISON OF THE RELATIVE SIZE OF THE NATIONAL DEBT, 1940-1993



Source: U.S. Dept. of Treasury • Graphic by René Bruckner

prices have declined by about one-third. In addition, 30 states have used over 10% of their LIHEAP funds for other purposes, indicating that states believe that energy assistance does not have a high priority.

20-Veterans' Hospitals: The VA could achieve greater efficiency by closing smaller VA hospitals or by converting hospitals into facilities that offer other services. While the level of savings that this cut could achieve depend on many factors, if the savings from this proposal equals that of the gradual closing of 4% of VA hospital beds, total federal savings would total \$1.1 billion in the 1994-1998 timeframe. Closing or converting these facilities would not eliminate VA care for veterans. Closure or conversion should improve the quality of care veterans receive as veterans will be transferred to facilities that have greater resources or that perform certain procedures more frequently.

21-McNamara-O'Hara Service Contract Act: This law sets basic labor standards for employees on government contracts whose principle purpose is to furnish labor. Contractors under this act must provide wages and benefits equal or better than the previous contractor. Allowing new contractors to pay lower wages or offer fewer benefits would save the federal government \$900 million from 1994 through 1998. This act discourages potential contractors, who would provide their services at a lower cost, from bidding on government contracts because they do not offer the benefits of the existing provider.

22-Drug Enforcement Administration: By reducing appropriations for interdiction, international activities, and other supply-side efforts in fighting the "war on drugs" by one-

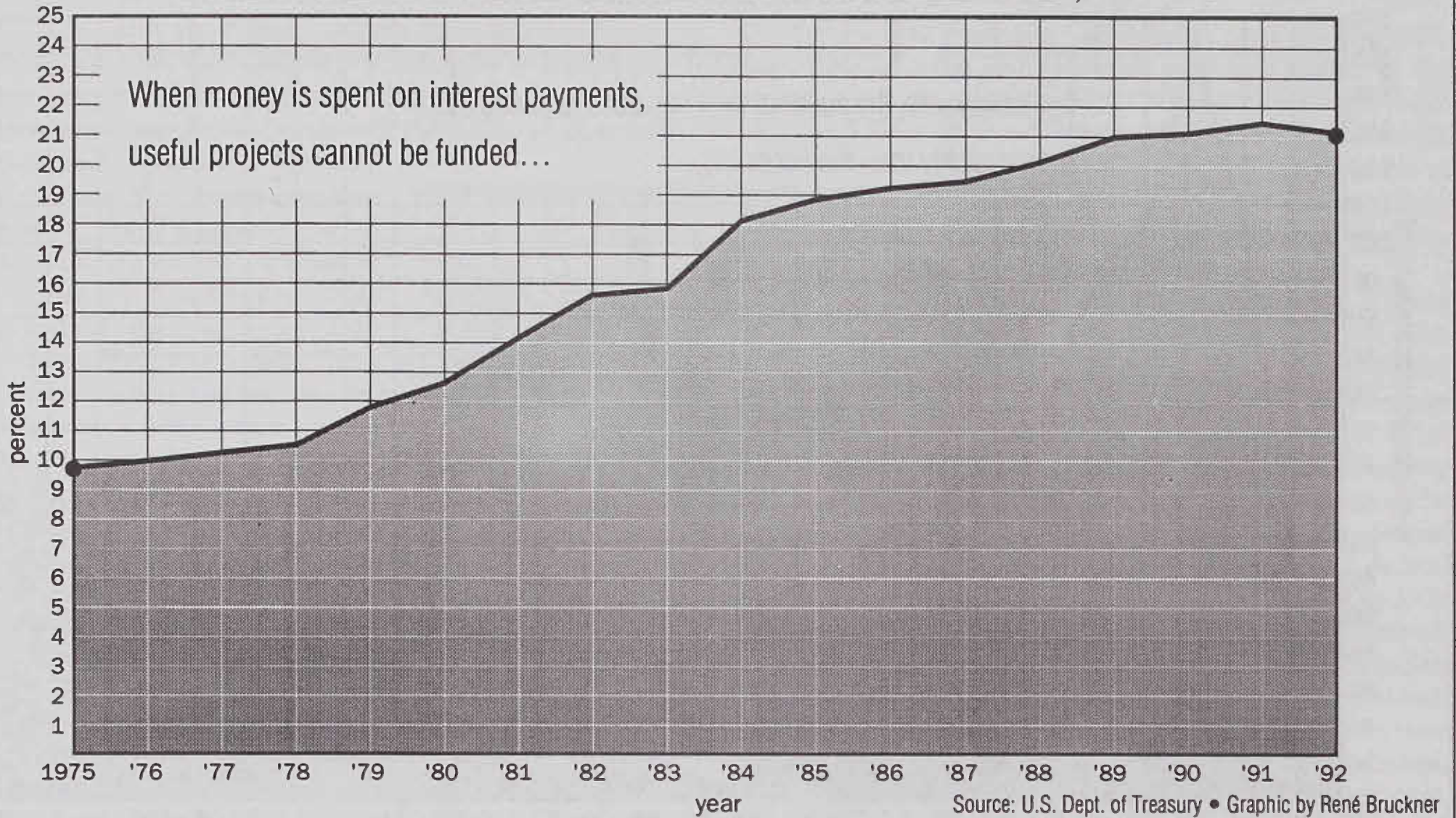
third, \$9.35 billion could be freed for deficit reduction or spending elsewhere over the next five years. Interdiction and other international activities have done little good in keeping drugs out of the United States. Instead, these efforts have caused the price of illegal drugs to increase, making the drug trade more lucrative. If the federal government is serious about reducing drug use, it should focus its efforts on education and treatment of drug addicts.

23-Commodity Programs: Deficiency payments to farmers constitute the primary form of direct government farm subsidies. Deficiency payments are calculated based on the difference between the market price of a crop and its target price set by the government. The reduction of deficiency payments to farmers participating in commodity programs as a result of lower target prices would result in a savings of \$11.2 billion over the 1994-1998 period. This assumes target prices are maintained at the same level over the 1996-1998 crop years. Because the price floor on feed grains would be reduced under this option, livestock producers would benefit from lower feed costs. Also, consumers would benefit from lower costs for corn, rice, wheat, and cotton, as farm production would be increased in reaction to lower target prices. A reduction in target prices would also make farmers more responsive to market forces, rather than government benefits, in making production decisions.

24-Export Credit Program: The reduction of loan guarantees, from \$5 billion to \$4 billion, made under the USDA's Export Credit Program and the elimination of loans to risky borrowers, such as the former Soviet Union, would result in a savings of \$1.6

Money Down the Drain...

INTEREST PAYMENTS ON THE DEBT AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE FEDERAL BUDGET, 1975-1992



billion from 1994 through 1998. These loan guarantees are potentially very costly, due to the risk of default by some nations. The riskiness and cost of these guarantees far outweighs any benefits they may provide by boosting exports.

25-Export Enhancement Program (EEP): Elimination of the EEP, whose purpose it is to subsidize the export of agricultural products, would save the federal government nearly \$3.2 billion over the 1994-1998 timeframe. Although it is unclear whether this program has helped increase U.S. grain sales, it has helped raise animosity toward the United States in nations like Australia and Argentina where farmers suffer due to depressed commodity prices resulting from these export subsidies.

26-Market Promotion Program (MPP): Elimination of the MPP, which was created for the purpose of assisting U.S. agricultural exports, would result in a savings of \$900 million in the 1994-1998 period. Those groups that benefit from this program should pay for its benefits. Additionally, brand-name advertising is subsidized under this program. Just as government funding of agricultural products is wrong through the Foreign Agricultural Service and Organization for International Cooperation, so is it wrong through the MPP. The government will not advertise for other American industries. Why should it advertise for farmers?

27-Dairy Price Supports: Costs for this program could be reduced by requiring producer contributions in the form of increased assessments on dairy farmers' production from \$0.1125 to \$0.25 per hundredweight. This policy would result in lower prices of dairy products for consumers, as well as a savings of \$1.2 billion over the next five years for the federal government.

28-Wool and Mohair Price Supports: The elimination of the federal support programs for wool and mohair would result in a savings of \$760 million over the 1994-1998 timeframe. This is the

typical example of a government program that should have been eliminated a long time ago. Wool, considered a strategic material when subsidies for this crop began in 1954, is no longer a strategic material. Additionally, the General Accounting Office found that this program does not encourage wool production, or an improvement in the quality of wool produced. These wool and mohair subsidies mostly supplement the profits of wool producers with no benefit to consumers.

29-Auctioning of Broadcasting Licenses: If a band of 30 megahertz were made available by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to create two additional licenses, and licenses to operate on these frequencies were auctioned off, \$3.5 billion could be generated over the 1994-1998 period. This would ensure that new licenses would go to those who value the licenses most. This would also decrease the cost to the government of assigning licenses, and would lead to quicker assignment of frequencies than provided by holding hearings or conducting lotteries for the licenses.

30-FCC User Fees: An increase in user fees charged by the FCC and paid for by license holders would increase receipts by \$400 billion from 1994 through 1998. License owners should cover the cost of the services the FCC provides.

31-Air Traffic Control (ATC) User Fees: The establishment of user fees by the Federal Aviation Administration for use of the ATC system would raise \$6.75 billion over the next five years. Fees would force users of the ATC system to moderate their demands. This would free controllers to take care of other tasks and increase the overall capacity of the system. The implementation of user fees for the ATC system would also allow planners to judge how much new capacity is needed, as well as where it should be placed.

32-Medicaid Estate Recovery Process: The strengthening of transfer-of-asset rules to restrict further the giving away of property in order to qualify for Medicaid, along with changes in other rules regarding estate recoveries and processes, would result in a savings of \$1.75 billion in the 1994-1998 period, and substantially more in the future. These changes would reduce Medicaid's liability for the cost of nursing home care for those who could otherwise afford this care.

33-Medicare Prospective Payment System (PPS): Under this option, Medicare would freeze PPS hospital rates at their 1993 levels for 1994 by setting update factors to zero. As a result, \$15.3 billion would be saved from 1994 through 1998. This freeze would force hospitals to become more efficient. In addition, data on hospitals' revenues during the past several years suggests many hospitals could absorb these reductions in payments.

34-Medicare Supplementary Medical Insurance (SMI): If legislation were passed directing that Medicare freeze rates for SMI services, including clinical laboratory services and durable medical equipment, for one year, over \$16 billion could be saved in the 1994-1998 timeframe.

Further, an increase in the SMI deductible from \$100 to \$150 on January 1, 1994, along with the indexing of this deductible to the rate of growth in SMI charges, would yield a net savings of almost \$9.3 billion in the next five years.

Both of these changes would enhance the economic incentives against overuse of medical care.

35-Social Security/Restriction of Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs): If COLAs were limited to two-thirds of the rate of inflation over the next five years for non-means-tested benefit

programs, \$47.55 billion could be saved. The programs affected by this proposal include Social Security Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance; Railroad Retirement; Federal Employees' Workers' Compensation; Veterans' Benefits; and retirement benefits for the Foreign Service, the Public Health Service, and the Coast Guard. These cuts, along with changes in the benefits of those newly eligible for these programs, would result in even more savings long after 1988.

36-Social Security/Elimination of Some Benefits: The elimination of Social Security benefits for children of retirees aged 62-64 would result in a savings of \$1.8 billion from 1994 through 1998. This would encourage some early retirees to stay in the work force longer, and would eliminate the incentive for those whose children would receive Social Security from retiring early.

37-Social Security/Lengthened Benefit Computation Period: If the average indexed monthly earnings (AIME) of workers was based on 38 years of employment, instead of the 35 years currently used, \$2.3 billion could be saved in the 1994-1998 timeframe, and even more in later years. People are living longer, and the normal retirement age should be changed to account for this. Further, using more years to calculate the AIME would reduce incentives for early retirement.

These suggestions represent only a first step towards deficit reduction, as the deficit would not even be cut in half if all of these proposals were implemented. Spending cuts will have to be made in all departments if any sense of fiscal order is to be restored to the federal government. These cuts, however, would certainly represent a good start towards that goal.

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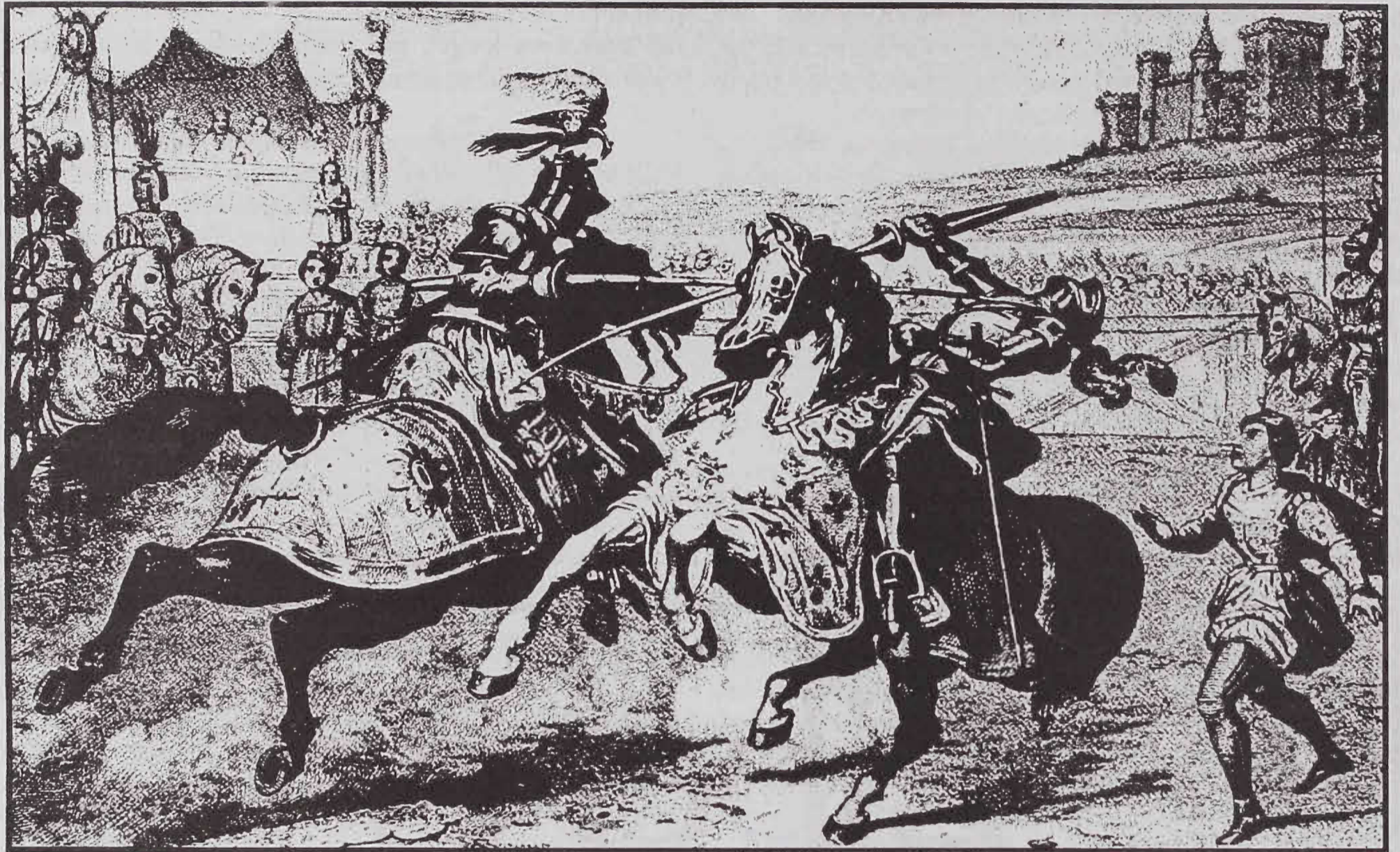
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CALIFORNIA'S TRIBES WOULD BENEFIT FROM WEAKENED GAMBLING LAWS

Don't Chop Indian Gaming

By David Givner

In 1979, the United States Supreme Court ruled that Indian tribes could offer certain forms of gambling on their reservations. Since then, Indian gambling has evolved considerably. Bingo, Pai-Gow, live poker, and, more recently, blackjack have all found their way to these Indian casinos. Gambling on the reservation has allowed Indians to improve their way of life, yet they remain unsatisfied due to lingering state restrictions.

Indian casinos are restricted to Class II gambling. Due to their Class II status, Indian casinos cannot pay off winning bets and collect losing bets. In other words, the house cannot "bank a table." Instead, bets are collected by a person at each table who is designated the banker. This person pays off all winning bets and collects all losing bets.

How do the Indian casinos make money then? A fee, usually 50 cents per hand, is charged to each player by the casino. In essence, the casino makes its money by renting its tables to gamblers.

Even though these casinos are raking in large sums of money by charging these fees and assuming no risk in each game, these restrictions are keeping them from realizing their full potential. In Las Vegas, for example, casinos make money because of volume. Each game is tailored so that a slight mathematical advantage, combined with many players, translates into millions of dollars annually for the casino. If Indian casinos like Viejas, Sycuan, and Barona were given the opportunity to take advantage of these slight advantages, gaming could be a more lucrative industry on the reservation.

The "pay to play" fees keep some gamblers away, hurting the

Indians further. These fees, combined with the disadvantage players face in any game, make it harder for players to come out of the casinos as winners. Therefore, some gamblers who would otherwise have gone to Sycuan will instead opt to play in Las Vegas.

Moreover, the Indian casinos are unable to run any Class III-type games, such as craps and roulette. This further restricts the profits a casino can make, as it is unable to offer a diversity of games that would otherwise attract new business. Ironically, the

California Lottery has been allowed to add Keno, a Las Vegas-style game, to its list of legal gambling games in California; yet, Keno is nonexistent on California Indian reservations.

Indian gambling has done much to improve the lives of those on reservations. At the Sycuan Indian reservation, for example, gambling profits have been used to build new homes, fund college scholarships, and fund a new medical clinic. Sycuan's gambling industry has completely eliminated unemployment, welfare, and government subsidies on the reservation. Yet, tremendous restrictions placed upon these are inhibiting the full potential they have to improve the lives of Indians.

These casinos allow Indians to run a profit-making venture and improve their standard of living. Yet, by restricting Indians to Class II gaming, California has given the Indians bullets but no gun. California should allow Indians to operate full-scale Class III casinos, instead of the Class II quasi-casinos that California law currently allows these tribes to operate. Such a change would permit Indian tribes to make more money, and would enable more players to come of the casino as winners.

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A Conservative's Guide To Talk Radio

B y W a l t e r C z e k a j

All too often the mark of ideological liberals can be found in the media. This is especially true on the television networks and in major newspapers like the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*. Fortunately, one medium has yet to knuckle under to the liberals' "American Agenda". In fact, this medium is well-stocked with conservative perspectives and viewpoints. Before one dares to delve into a source of information other than from the mouths of "Dan Rather-Biased" or "Peter Perfect-Jennings" (nineties kind of guys with ninties-style hyphenated names), not only is an open, rational mind a prerequisite, but a change of habit is essential. One needs to switch over their radio to the AM band.

Three factors contribute to the quantity and quality of conservative programming found on today's AM dial. First, there is the current bumbling Democratic presidential administration, so vulnerable to criticism, it could start up a television sitcom called "The Glass House".

The second and most important reason for the success of conservative talk radio is the inherent ideological nature of conservatism. Rational, unemotional, substantive discussion and reasoning comprises the bones of conservative thought as well as the fist of conservative argument. Talk radio provides a forum for conservatives to elucidate upon their perspectives within these guidelines in a matter that is fluid and dynamic. This reason also explains why there are few liberals on the airwaves that make sense: too few liberals base there

ideologies on these sound principles but instead resort to emotional arguments and name calling. A noted difference between most conservative and liberal hosts is that the liberal frames an argument by first starting with an ideology and then hunts for facts to support it. The conservative starts with the concrete which reinforces his ideals.

Thirdly, talk radio is more egalitarian, a characteristic missing from the media of television or print. This is because the ideas of any talk show host is open to challenge by listeners who call in. Not many can publish their own ideas. Fewer still can produce a television show. True, one could write a letter to the editor or type something on the Internet. But compared to the former, talk radio is live and spontaneous, and, unlike the latter, its access is not as restrictive.

Reasons two and three should keep the thought police up at night, because they insure the continuity of talk radio. New technology will almost certainly change how "talk radio" is broadcast in the future, but most certainly the service it provides and its spirited debate will continue. Talk radio isn't a fad; it's not going away.

Many conservative talk shows seek to inform and entertain listeners in the Southern California area. All the following listings are live - listeners can call with their two cents at no cost (most have toll-free phone lines). The AM frequencies for the three stations mentioned below are: KFI-AM 640, KCEO-AM 1000, KSDO-AM 1130.

Art Bell, KSDO, M-F 2-5 am

Bell has a no-nonsense talk show, nationally syndicated from Las Vegas. If your radio is powerful, you might be able to pick

up his show live on KDWN-AM 720, in Las Vegas, from 1-6 am.

Pat Buchanan, KCEO, M-F 9 am-noon

An alternative to Rush, Buchanan is less egotistical and more articulate than Rush, although sometimes Pat is too stuffy. Pat makes a much better talk show host than a presidential candidate. Buchanan's show is nationally syndicated

Joe Crummey, KFI, Saturday and Sunday 3-6pm

Even though Crummey is a psuedoconservative, his show is well worth tuning into because of its irreverent and riotous humor. Past highlights include discussion of home fetal tissue research kits and a proposed Rodney King theme park. This show is not recommended for the Church Lady. Sometimes Joe's cult following even steals the show. Like most of KFI's programming, Crummey is locally broadcast from Los Angeles, but can be heard throughout the Western U.S.

Bill Handel, KFI, weekdays 5-9am

Another psuedoconservative, Bill has the most obnoxious voice in radio. It is highly recommended that you set your clock radio to his program. This show is hard to categorize. Handel sometimes is funny, sometimes serious, but almost always spontaneous. A lawyer by profession, Bill offers legal advice and insight on his show.

Roger Hedgecock, KSDO, weekdays, noon-3pm

Out to do battle with the forces of big government, Roger regularly exposes government waste and inefficiency. Not by coincidence, his targets are usually liberals and Democrats.

Hedgecock is a former mayor of San Diego. Check out his show to keep abreast on local San Diego politics.

Hugh Hewitt, KFI, Sunday evening, 9-midnight

Another lawyer by trade, Hugh is another host confident that he has all the answers. Mr. Hewitt is perhaps the most articulate man in talk radio. This quality, along with his background in constitutional law, makes for interesting listening. After much sparring on the airwaves with liberals, Hugh has scored many a KO without so much as breaking a sweat.

G. Gordon Liddy, KSDO, weeknights, 4-6 pm

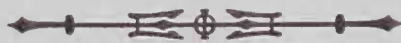
A reputation as a right-wing crackpot precedes him, but the "G-man" keeps the spirit of debate alive and well, being both articulate and enthusiastic. Liddy has a special interest in military matters, Second Amendment rights, law enforcement, and philosophical issues.

Rush Limbaugh, KSDO and KFI, weekdays 9-noon, and KCEO, weekdays noon-3pm

The show everybody loves or hates. If any superlatives are deserved, Rush by his own style has certainly beat them into our heads by now. While not as educated or eloquent as Hewitt or Liddy, nobody has the passion that Rush brings to the airwaves. With his army of twenty million listeners he wages a war against all that is inept and inane in American political life. Talk radio has created a fourth branch of government, and currently the enigmatic Mr. Limbaugh is the executive.

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Parting Thoughts...

It has been said that though God cannot alter the past, historians can.

—Samuel Butler



The first lesson in civics is that efficient government should begin at home.

—Charles Evans Hughes



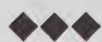
There is a lure in power. It can get into a man's blood just as gambling and lust for money have been known to do.

—Harry S Truman



When the government talks about "raising capital" it means printing it.

—Peter Drucker



Politics is perhaps the only profession for which no preparation is thought necessary.

—Robert Louis Stevenson



The strength of a nation is derived from the integrity of its homes.

—Confucius



A lie can travel half way around the world while the truth is putting on its shoes.

—Mark Twain



There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure.

—Gen. Colin L. Powell

It is easy to take liberty for granted when you never had it taken from you.

—Dick Cheney



The will to win is not nearly as important as the will to prepare to win.

—Bobby Knight



The object of war is not to die for your country but to make the other bastard die for his.

—Gen. George Patton



There can be no liberty unless there is economic liberty.

—Margaret Thatcher



Whatever their other contributions to our society, lawyers could be an important source of protein.

—Guindon Cartoon Caption



What this country needs is a few more unemployed politicians.

—Edward Langley



I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody.

—Bill Cosby



The nearest thing to immortality in this world is a government bureau.

—Gen. Hugh S. Johnson

It is possible for a student to win twelve letters at a university without his learning to write one.

—Robert Maynard Hutchins



The power of accurate observation is commonly called cynicism by those who have not got it.

—George Bernard Shaw



The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well-meaning but without understanding.

—Justice Louis D. Brandeis



A liberal is a person whose interests aren't at stake at the moment.

—Willis Player



A disordered currency is one of the greatest political evils.

—Daniel Webster



Collecting more taxes than is absolutely necessary is legalized robbery.

—Calvin Coolidge



Concentrated power has always been the enemy of liberty.

—Ronald Reagan



The brain is as strong as its weakest think.

—Eleanor Doan



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