

BALLOT ACCESS NEWS

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REP. PENNY TO SPONSOR BALLOT ACCESS BILL IN '93 WILL BE PART OF OMNIBUS DEMOCRACY BILL

Congressman Timothy J. Penny has told the Rainbow Lobby that he will introduce an omnibus "Democracy" bill next year (assuming he is re-elected), which will include provisions outlawing restrictive ballot access laws in federal elections.

The bill will also include provisions which are in his current HR 791, the "Democracy in Debates" Bill, which currently has 25 co-sponsors.

There has been no ballot access bill in this session of Congress. The bill was introduced in 1985, 1987 and 1989 by Congressman John Conyers of Michigan, but no one would introduce it in 1991. The Penny ballot access provisions won't necessarily be the same provisions that were in the Conyers bill, but the intent of the bill will be to outlaw state election laws which make it very difficult for third party and independent candidates for President and Congress to get on the ballot.

The U.S. Constitution, Article I, Sec. 4, gives Congress the power to write election laws for congressional elections.

Supporters of a federal ballot access bill should write Congressman Penny and thank him for his intent to include ballot access reform in his bill. His address is 436 Cannon House Office Bldg., Washington DC 20515. He is a Democrat who has represented southeast Minnesota since 1982. He was overwhelmingly re-elected in 1990. He is one of the few congressmen who has refused to pocket the congressional pay raise of 1990.

ALABAMA VICTORY

On August 31, federal judge Robert Varner of Montgomery, Alabama, a Nixon appointee, ruled that it is unconstitutional for a state to require an independent candidate to collect more signatures than a third party candidate needs. *Patton v Camp*, no. 92-V-885-N.

Alabama law had required third parties to submit 12,157 signatures for statewide office, but independent candidates (for office other than president) needed 26,367. The state couldn't come up with a rational reason for the difference, and did not oppose the lawsuit. This was the first time a federal court had ever struck down the number of signatures needed for an independent candidate, on the grounds that new parties need fewer signatures. A state court, the Florida Supreme Court, made a similar ruling in 1974.

States which still require an independent candidate to collect more signatures than the candidate of a new party are North Carolina, New Mexico and Delaware. Also, for president only, Maryland and Texas require an independent to submit more signatures than a new party.

ALASKA DEADLINE CASES FILED

Both Andre Marrou and Howard Phillips turned in their petitions too late to be on the Alaska ballot. Marrou is the Libertarian candidate for president; Phillips is the U.S. Taxpayers candidate for president. Both have filed lawsuits in state court in Anchorage, alleging that the August 5 deadline is unconstitutional. The Phillips lawsuit was filed on August 31 and the Marrou lawsuit on September 9.

The Libertarian signatures were turned in on August 31. They were late because the party had trusted the state chairman, Mike Neligh, to turn in sufficient signatures by the deadline, but he didn't do so. It is not known why he didn't do so. The Taxpayers signatures were late simply because the party started late and didn't finish by the deadline, but did finish by August 30.

Alaska lets third party and independent candidates file their petitions by September 8, for all office other than president; only presidential petitions must be filed as early as August 5. Therefore, it is not likely that the presidential deadline has any rational defense, and the cases are likely to succeed. *Alaska Taxpayers Party v Coghill*, no. 3AN-92-7865-Civ, and *Libertarian Party v Lt. Governor*. A hearing on both cases will be held in mid-September.

TAX ON PARTIES STRUCK DOWN

On August 27, the Florida Supreme Court ruled that a tax on all political parties (whether they are on the ballot or not) is unconstitutional. The revenue from the tax was to be used for public financing of Democratic and Republican candidates for statewide office. The Court ruled that it violates the First Amendment to force groups and individuals to contribute to political candidates they may not wish to support. *State of Florida v Republican Party of Florida*, no. 79,696.

The law provided that 1.5% of all contributions to a political party must be turned over to the state. Collection of the tax had been held in abeyance, pending the Court's decision. The vote was 6-1.

The decision will be helpful in Kentucky, where the 1992 legislature passed a bill vastly increasing the filing fee, with the money to be used for public financing for major party candidates. A court challenge to that law is likely.

Florida is the only state ever to try to directly tax contributions to political parties; Florida was the only state to require political party officers to be bonded, until that was defeated in court in July; Florida has the highest filing fees in the nation; Florida is one of only two states to charge new political parties for the cost of checking their signatures.

DEADLINE CASE NEWS

1. California: On September 1, federal judge Barbara Caulfield refused to expedite the case *Natural Law Party v Eu*, which had been filed on August 19 to challenge the August 7 deadline for independent candidate petitions. On September 8 the party filed an appeal with the 9th circuit, which is pending. In any event, there will be a hearing on the case after the election to decide the constitutional issue. The case number is C92-3335 (BAC). Hagelin had collected 225,000 signatures, but since half of them weren't turned in on time, they had no effect.

Caulfield is a recent Bush appointee. It is unprecedented for a federal judge to refuse to hear a request for an injunction, over two months before the election, in a ballot access case. In another ballot access case in California in 1988, another judge, Marilyn Patel, approved a settlement against part of the independent candidate procedure on August 30, which was almost as close to the ballot-printing deadline as this case.

2. Florida: On August 28, federal judge William Stafford refused to enter an injunction against Florida's July 15 petition deadline for presidential petitions, and Florida's July 10 petition deadline for third party candidates for other office. *U.S. Taxpayers Party v Smith*, no. TCA 92-40253.

Stafford, a Ford appointee, said that the state needs to check third party petitions in July, so that it can get this work out of the way, before it handles work for the September primary. This is not a good reason to deny voting rights. The Supreme Court said in *Carrington v Rash* in 1965: "States may not casually deprive a class of individuals of the vote because of some administrative benefit to the State." This year, the Florida run-off primary is on October 1, so the November ballot won't be printed until after that date. The case will be appealed, after the election.

3. Kansas: On September 3, there was a hearing before U.S. District Court Judge Richard D. Rogers over Kansas' law which requires independent petitions to be turned in by August 3. *Hagelin Committee v Graves*, no. 92-4201-R. A decision is expected any day now. The hearing went well; John Hagelin himself testified.

4. West Virginia: On August 20, the state Supreme Court refused to hear a case filed by the Libertarian Party to get its gubernatorial candidate on the ballot. West Virginia requires all third party and independent candidates to turn in their signatures in May, except that presidential candidates have until August. Hess would be on the ballot except for the fact that some of his signatures weren't turned in until the August presidential deadline.

The party immediately filed a new case in federal court, but on September 8, Judge John T. Copenhaver, a Ford appointee, refused to grant an injunction against the May 11 deadline, on the grounds that the federal case had been filed too late. *Hess v Hechler*, no. 2:92-0807. However, the judge seemed to feel that the deadline may be unconstitutional, and this case may be won after the election, when a declaratory judgement is made.

MAINE LIBERTARIAN LOSS

On August 26, U.S. District Court Judge Hector M. Laffitte upheld Maine laws which provide that 1,000 signatures of party members are required for a candidate to get on the primary ballot of his or her party, even if the party doesn't have that many enrolled members. *Libertarian Party of Maine v Diamond*, no. 92-292-P-H. Laffitte is a Reagan appointee and normally handles cases in Puerto Rico, but he is hearing Maine cases this summer while the regular Maine federal judges are on vacation.

The law effectively prevents a small, qualified party from having any candidates. Qualified parties in Maine cannot nominate candidates except by primary, and another Maine law requires as many write-ins in the primary, to get the nomination, that would have been needed for the candidate to get on the ballot in the first place.

Laffitte said the Maine Libertarian Party should never have qualified as a party, if it wanted to run candidates. He said the party should have avoided becoming qualified, in which case it could have run its candidates with the independent candidate procedure (which, in Maine, allows use of a partisan label).

Laffitte ignored these U.S. Supreme Court teachings: In *Williams v Rhodes* (1968) the Court condemned state election laws which resemble "Procrustean beds". Procrustes was a figure in Greek mythology who invited guests to stay; however, if the bed was too long for the guest, Procrustes would cut off as much of the legs of the guests as was needed so the guest would fit the bed. In the same way, the Supreme Court wrote, Ohio laws assumed all parties were of large size, and had laws which made it impossible for small parties to function. Maine is guilty of the same thing.

Laffitte also ignored *Jeness v Fortson*, a 1971 Supreme Court case which said that it is sometimes the essence of discrimination to treat groups as though they were all the same, when in fact they are not.

Laffitte also ignored *Storer v Brown*, a 1974 case which said that courts should evaluate ballot access petitions by dividing the number of signatures needed by the number of people eligible to sign the petitions. If the result is much over 5%, the law is invalid.

The party is appealing. As of September 8, the First Circuit had not issued a ruling. Three Libertarians did manage to get on the primary election ballot for the legislature, despite the law, and the party's presidential ticket is not affected by the problem.

KENTUCKY GIVES IN

Kentucky's Secretary of State accepted U.S. Taxpayer Party petitions on August 27, even though he had said he wouldn't. The 1992 legislature changed the format for the petitions, effective July. The party had already collected many signatures on the old form, but was told that since it wasn't finished petitioning, it must start all over. The party's attorney pointed out that it violates due process to make such changes in the middle of petitioning season.

NEW YORK LOSS

On August 18, federal judge John Martin upheld New York law which requires petitions to include the Assembly District number of each signer. The judge simply said that the law had been upheld in state court before, and didn't do any independent analysis. *Rosen v Smith*, 92-Civ-5880, Sou. Dist.

The case had been brought by Laurance Rockefeller, who tried to get on the Republican primary ballot for U.S. Senate. He needed 10,000 signatures of Republicans.

Martin didn't mention *Pilcher v Rains*, in which the 5th circuit in 1988 invalidated Texas' requirement that all petitions contain the voter's registration affidavit number. The two cases are similar. In each case, the information is something that ordinary voters don't know. Therefore, petitioners must spend thousands of hours, looking up this information and adding it to the petitions, before submitting them.

OHIO BARS LaROUCHE AS "SORE LOSER"

On September 8, a hearing was held in *Brown v Taft*, Court of Common Pleas, Franklin Co., #92-CV-H08-6865. The issue is whether LaRouche should be barred from the Ohio November ballot as an independent presidential candidate. A decision is expected soon.

Ohio says LaRouche can't be an independent candidate, since he ran in the Democratic presidential primary. However, LaRouche ran in Ohio's presidential primary in 1984, and also ran as an independent in November 1984. Ohio hasn't changed its laws on the subject since 1984, but the state now says it made a mistake that year.

Ohio, like most states, has a "sore loser" law which says that no one can be an independent candidate who was defeated in a party primary. However, the law doesn't specifically mention the presidential primary, and no state has ever barred anyone from being an independent candidate because that candidate ran in a presidential primary. No one can ever be truly defeated for a party's presidential nomination in any one state's presidential primary. Conventions make the decision as to whom to nominate for president, for nationally-organized parties.

Furthermore, John Anderson ran in 23 Republican presidential primaries in 1980, and he was on the ballot as an independent candidate in November 1980 in all states. David Duke ran in many Democratic presidential primaries in 1988 and appeared as the Populist Party candidate in November 1988. Theodore Roosevelt ran in all Republican presidential primaries in 1912, yet appeared as the presidential candidate of a new party that November.

PEROT CHALLENGED IN NEW YORK

In New York, petitions are deemed to be valid, unless a private person challenges them. This year, none of the general election statewide petitions were challenged except for the Perot petition. On September 8, the specific objections to his petition were made public. They turned out to be frivolous and will probably be dismissed.

CASES ABOUT TO BE FILED

1. Florida: The Libertarian Party expects to file a lawsuit, no later than September 14, alleging that the 3% petition requirement for non-presidential office is unconstitutionally difficult. The case will be filed in state court and will depend on the State Constitution.

1. Georgia: During the week of September 14, the Libertarian Party of Georgia will file a lawsuit in federal court over the distribution of filing fees. In Georgia, the Democratic and Republican Parties keep part of the candidate filing fees paid by individual Democratic and Republican candidates. Candidates of other parties pay the same amount of filing fees, but their own parties don't receive any of that money.

2. Montana: Lenora Fulani is about to file a lawsuit against the Montana presidential petition deadline of July 29. Montana is the only state in which there had not been a constitutional ballot access lawsuit filed by a third party or independent candidate in the last fifty years.

NO NEW OHIO BALLOT LABEL LAWSUIT

The last issue of *B.A.N.* said that a lawsuit would be filed soon, to obtain appropriate party labels for the various third party presidential candidates who are on the ballot this year. Unfortunately, it wasn't possible to find an attorney to file this suit, in the limited amount of time remaining before ballots were printed.

The suit would have been based on the July 22, 1992 decision of the 6th circuit in *Rosen v Brown*, which said that it is unconstitutional for Ohio to refuse to print any partisan label, next to the names of candidates who get on the November ballot by petition. Ohio will now print "Independent" on the ballot for all of those candidates, even though most of them are not independents, but are candidates of political parties that are not qualified under Ohio's definition of "party".

CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT BILL PASSES

On August 27, the California legislature passed SB 1460. It repeals some of the restrictions that were placed on independent candidates last year. Independent candidates for federal office no longer need to file a declaration of intent in March of an election year (unfortunately, this requirement was retained for independents for state office). Also, the law again makes clear that independent candidates for presidential elector need not be registered independents.

MOST CROWDED BALLOTS EVER

Utah, Iowa, Tennessee and Wisconsin have 14 candidates for president on the ballot. Never before has any state had so many candidates on the ballot in a partisan statewide general election.

There may be bills in Utah and Iowa next year, increasing the requirements. Both states still use mechanical voting machines, and it's difficult to fit that many candidates on the machines, with the format they use.

SOCIALIST PARTY CHOOSES GERSON

The Socialist Party chose Barbara Gerson as its new vice-presidential candidate, to replace the original nominee, Bill Edwards, who died on August 5. Barbara Gerson is most famous for having written the play "MacBird" in 1966.

GRITZ GETS PUBLICITY

On September 1, the *New York Times* and many other major newspapers carried a picture of Bo Gritz, presidential candidate of the Populist Party and the America First Coalition. Gritz earned this publicity by persuading Randy Weaver to surrender to police, after an 11-day siege atop a mountain in northern Idaho.

FLORIDA CANDIDATES

This year, for the first time since 1976, there are some third party candidates on the Florida ballot for congress and state legislature. The only congressional third party candidate who is on the ballot is Barbara Ann Rodgers-Hendricks, Green Party candidate. There are also 6 Libertarians and one Populist on the ballot for the State House of Representatives.

The next issue of *B.A.N.* will tell the number of congressional and legislative candidates each third party is running this year in the entire U.S.A., and the number of independent candidates for Congress as well.

VT. PROG. COALITION EXPECTS GAINS

The Vermont Progressive Coalition, which plans to turn itself into a formal party within Vermont next year, elected two members of the legislature in 1990, Tom Smith and Terry Bouricius. This year, the Coalition is running eleven candidates for the House and three for the State Senate, and expects to elect several. Vermont's only member of the U.S. House, Bernie Sanders, is running for re-election as an Independent and is part of the Coalition. Most of the candidates are on the ballot as "Independent", although Smith and Bouricius are on as "Progressive".

ILL. CONSERVATIVE PARTY QUALIFIES

The Conservative Party will appear on the statewide ballot this November in Illinois. It has candidates for U.S. Senate and Trustees of the University of Illinois.

The party makes history by being the first new party on the statewide Illinois ballot, which does not have a full slate of statewide candidates. Since 1931, all new parties in Illinois have been required to present a full slate of candidates, yet the Conservative Party has no presidential candidate. The state thus tacitly admits that the law is void. The law had been attacked before the U.S. Supreme Court last year in *Norman v Reed*, but that court avoided ruling on it. The State Supreme Court will hear the remand of that case on September 24.

CORRECTION: The last *B.A.N.* said the Green Movement national meeting in Minneapolis endorsed Ron Daniels for president. Actually, the meeting made no endorsement for president.

SOUTH DAKOTA BILL PLANNED

The South Dakota Secretary of State, Joyce Hazeltine, plans to ask the 1993 legislature to provide that small qualified parties nominate by convention, rather than by primary. Also, the proposal will ease the requirements for a party to remain qualified, from 10% of the vote for Governor, to 3% for any statewide office.

AMERICAN PARTY CHANGES ITS MIND

The American Party of Utah has changed its mind and will run a presidential candidate after all. Robert Smith will be listed on the ballot as the party's candidate. He had been chosen by the party's national convention, but he has not qualified for the ballot in any other state, and for a while even the Utah American Party was not supporting him.

MATCHING FUNDS

On September 4, the Treasury mailed checks in the following amounts to these candidates: George Bush \$175,216; Pat Buchanan \$420,544; Bill Clinton \$1,786,327; Paul Tsongas \$48,232; Bob Kerrey \$32,046; Tom Harkin \$19,347; Lenora Fulani \$166,843. Fulani's cumulative total for 1992 is now \$1,621,894.

YIAMOUIYIANNIS ON IN 3 STATES

John Yiamouyiannis is the newest independent presidential candidate (others are Ross Perot and Lyndon LaRouche) to be on the ballot in more than one state. Yiamouyiannis is best known for opposing fluoridation of water. Address: 6439 Taggart Rd., Delaware, Oh 43015.

PETITIONS NOT ON PAGE 5 CHART (for third party or independent presidential candidates who will be on the ballot in at least two states): Ron Daniels, independent, is on in Ca, DC, Ia, La, NJ, Tn, Wa and Wi, and has 1,500 in Mn and 350 in Vt. Socialist Worker is on in DC, Il, Ia, NJ, NM, NY, ND, RI, Tn, Ut, Wa, Wi, and finished in Al, Del, Mn, and Vt. Socialist is on in DC, Ia, Ut, and Wi, done in RI, and has 1,000 in Mn. Prohibition is on in Ar, NM & Tn and has 300 in Mn. Workers League is on in Mi and NJ. Grassroots is on in Ia, Mn and Wi. Lyndon LaRouche, independent, is on in Al, Ak, Ar, DC, Hi, Ia, La, Ma, NJ, NY, ND, Tn, Ut, Va, Wa, Wi, and is finished in Mn, Ms, RI, and Vt. John Yiamouyiannis, indp., is on in Ia, La and Tn.

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1992 PRESIDENTIAL PETITIONING

<u>STATE</u>	<u>REQUIRED</u>	<u>PEROT</u>	<u>MARROU</u>	<u>FULANI</u>	<u>PHILLIPS</u>	<u>GRITZ</u>	<u>HAGELIN</u>	<u>DUE</u>
Alabama	5,000	already on	already on	*already on	*too late	*too late	*already on	Aug 31
Alaska	2,035	already on	*in court	*already on	*in court	*already on	*already on	*Aug 5
Arizona	10,555	*start Sep 9	already on	already on	*start Sep 9	*start Sep 9	*start Sep 9	Sep 18
Arkansas	0	already on	*already on	already on	already on	*already on	already on	Sep 15
California	134,781	already on	already on	*too late	*already on	too late	*too late	Aug 7
Colorado	5,000	already on	*already on	already on	*too late	too late	*too late	Aug 4
Connecticut	14,620	*already on	*already on	*already on	too late	too late	*too late	Aug 12
Delaware	(reg.) 144	already on	already on	*already on	*too late	*too late	*too late	Jul 15
D.C.	3,072	*already on	*already on	*already on	*too late	*too late	*already on	Aug 18
Florida	60,312	already on	*already on	too late	*too late	too late	too late	Jul 15
Georgia	26,955	*already on	already on	too late	too late	too late	too late	Jul 14
Hawaii	4,177	finished	already on	*finished	*too late	*finished	*finished	Sep 4
Idaho	4,090	already on	already on	*already on	*too late	already on	*too late	Aug 25
Illinois	25,000	*already on	already on	*already on	too late	*already on	*already on	Aug 3
Indiana	29,919	already on	already on	already on	too late	too late	too late	Jul 15
Iowa	1,000	*already on	*already on	*already on	*already on	*already on	*already on	Aug 14
Kansas	5,000	already on	already on	*too late	*too late	too late	*in court	Aug 3
Kentucky	5,000	already on	already on	*already on	*already on	*too late	*already on	Aug 27
Louisiana	0	*already on	*already on	*already on	*already on	*already on	*already on	Sep 1
Maine	4,000	already on	already on	already on	already on	too late	too late	Jun 2
Maryland	10,000	already on	already on	*already on	*too late	too late	*too late	Aug 3
Massachsts.	10,000	already on	*already on	*already on	already on	too late	*already on	Jul 28
Michigan	25,646	already on	already on	too late	*already on	too late	already on	Jul 16
Minnesota	2,000	*already on	*finished	*already on	*already on	*already on	*already on	Sep 15
Mississippi	1,000	*already on	already on	finished	already on	*finished	*already on	Sep 4
Missouri	20,860	*already on	*already on	too late	too late	too late	too late	Aug 3
Montana	9,531	already on	already on	*lawsuit	too late	*already on	too late	Jul 29
Nebraska	2,500	already on	already on	*finished	*finished	*too late	*already on	Aug 25
Nevada	9,392	already on	already on	lawsuit	already on	lawsuit	lawsuit	June 10
New Hamp.	3,000	already on	already on	*already on	*too late	too late	*already on	Aug 5
New Jersey	800	already on	already on	already on	already on	already on	already on	Jul 27
New Mexico	2,069	finished	already on	already on	*already on	*too late	*already on	Sep 8
New York	15,000	*finished	*already on	*already on	*too late	*too late	*already on	Aug 27
North Carolina	43,601	already on	already on	too late	too late	too late	too late	Jun 26
North Dakota	4,000	*already on	*already on	*already on	*too late	*too late	*already on	Sep 4
Ohio	5,000	already on	*already on	*disputed	*too late	*disputed	*already on	Aug 20
Oklahoma	35,132	already on	already on	too late	too late	too late	too late	July 15
Oregon	36,092	already on	already on	*already on	*too late	*too late	*too late	Aug 25
Penn.	37,216	*already on	*already on	already on	too late	too late	too late	Aug 3
Rhode Isl.	1,000	finished	*finished	*finished	*finished	*too late	*finished	Sep 4
South Carolina	10,000	*already on	already on	already on	already on	too late	too late	Aug 3
South Dakota	2,568	already on	already on	already on	too late	too late	already on	Aug 4
Tennessee	25	already on	*already on	already on	*already on	*already on	already on	Aug 20
Texas	38,900	already on	already on	too late	too late	too late	too late	May 11
Utah	300	already on	already on	already on	*already on	already on	*already on	Sep 1
Vermont	1,000	finished	*finished	already on	*600	*400	already on	Sep 17
Virginia	13,920	*already on	*already on	*already on	*too late	*too late	*too late	Aug 21
Washington	200	already on	already on	already on	already on	already on	already on	Jul 25
West Va.	6,534	already on	*already on	too late	too late	too late	too late	Aug 1
Wisconsin	2,000	*already on	already on	*already on	*already on	*already on	already on	Sep 1
Wyoming	7,903	already on	already on	*already on	*too late	*too late	*too late	Aug 24

Other qualified national parties: Green in Ak, Az, Cal, Hi, NM; American in SC, Ut; Prohibition in NM; Socialist Workers in NM; Workers World in Mi., NM. * entry changed since last issue. "Required" column shows the easier of the two methods, party or independent. "Due" column is the Independent deadline. "Seek nom" means a qualified third party in that state may nominate the candidate. See page 4 for other petitions. This chart only refers to presidential ballot status. The next issue of B.A.N. will include information about third party candidates for Congress.

ONE-STATE PARTY PRES. CONVENTIONS

- 1. PEACE & FREEDOM (Calif.) nominated Ron Daniels for president on August 15. He defeated Lenora Fulani, 110-91. Fulani says she will support Daniels in California. This is the first time the party has nominated someone who lost the popular vote in its primary.
- 2. AMERICAN INDEPENDENT (Calif.) chose Howard Phillips for president on August 29. Phillips defeated Bo Gritz by 40-8. Phillips was in attendance but Gritz was not. Phillips had been the only person on the party's primary ballot.
- 3. A CONNECTICUT PARTY will probably Bill Clinton for president on September 10. If so, Clinton will be on the ballot twice, once as a Democrat and once as a Connecticut Party's nominee.
- 4. INDEPENDENT VOTERS PARTY (Massachusetts) chose Howard Phillips for president on September 8.
- 5. TISCH INDEPENDENT CITIZENS PARTY (Michigan) chose Howard Phillips as its presidential candidate on August 29. This is the first time the party has ever run anyone for president; the party is ten years old.
- 6. LIBERAL (New York) will undoubtedly choose Bill Clinton on September 26.
- 7. CONSERVATIVE (New York) will undoubtedly choose George Bush the last week in September.
- 8. RIGHT-TO-LIFE (New York) chose George Bush on August 29. This means that Bush will appear on the New York ballot on three places. Bush defeated Howard Phillips by a margin of about 2-1.
- 9. LIBERTY UNION (Vermont) held a final convention on September 6 and chose Lenora Fulani for president and Barbara Gerson for vice-president (Gerson is the vice-presidential candidate of the Socialist Party). Since the New Alliance Party is also on the Vermont ballot, this ticket will be listed under both party names.

NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

- 1. U.S. TAXPAYERS PARTY met September 4-5 in New Orleans. Except for 4 votes for Bo Gritz and one for Ed Mechem, the vote was unanimous for Howard Phillips. Part of the convention was on C-SPAN.
Among the speakers were Ron Paul, Libertarian presidential candidate in 1988, and Congressman William Dannemeyer, Republican of California.
- 2. NEW ALLIANCE PARTY held its convention August 22-23 in New York and chose Lenora Fulani for President and Liz Munoz of California for Vice-President.
The convention was addressed by John Hagelin, presidential candidate of the Natural Law Party, and by Norma Segal, Libertarian Party candidate for U.S. Senate from New York. Part of the convention was on C-SPAN.
- 3. THE PEOPLE'S PROGRESSIVE NETWORK met in Ypsilanti, Michigan, August 21-23. The group is not a political party, but a coalition of groups who may wish to form or to support a new national party of the left. The meeting was initiated by Ron Daniels, independent presidential candidate and Jesse Jackson's Deputy Campaign Director in 1988. 350 people attended, but no concrete plans were made concerning electoral activity.
- 4. TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY PARTY met in Washington, D.C., August 29-30, and adopted a party Constitution, Statement of Purpose, and a national platform. 150 members were in attendance. The party set a minimum age of 13 for voting members and will hold a national convention every year.
- 5. INDEPENDENCE PARTY met in Chicago on September 2. 35 people attended. This is a loose-knit group of influential people who desire to launch a new party of the center, somewhat based on the same issues which propelled the Ross Perot candidacy. The best-known attendees were John B. Anderson and Lowell Weicker, Governor of Connecticut. The group wrestled with the problem of a name. "Patriot Party" and "Reform Party" were rejected in favor of "Independence Party".

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