

Can It Be Done?

After nearly 26 years of trying to encourage people to help change the Profit System to the Priceless System, I have just about given up.

This, I think, is the wrong approach. With this approach people just sit back and wait for the government or somebody else to make it happen. So therefore it doesn't happen. They write to me saying how glad they are that I'm working on it, but they don't offer to help!

I do have power over my own life, because I have chosen to take that power. I can't force other people to change. I have made myself almost free of the wage-slave system. "When you take pay, you must obey." I encourage others to take their own Freedom, if they desire more happiness and less stress. It can be done. I did it 26 years ago and others write to me saying they have done so too or are devising ways to edge out of the Rat Race.

Dale Speirs, editor of Opuntia, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2P 2E7 (\$3. for sample copy), wrote in his issue #23.5 of his interesting experiment with discontinuing his habit of absorbing the mass media. This is a very important step in relieving the stress and tension in ones life. You may be very surprised to learn that you don't miss all that fear-mongering bullshit one bit! It also gives us more time to lead our own thinking into self-beneficial lines of thought. When we are not listening, reading or watching the propaganda, we then have a chance to design a path to Freedom for our self.

The whole world may tag along after us, as they become aware of the possibility. Or as in the Hundredth Monkey story, our idea may reach a saturation point and then everyone will jump on the band-wagon. In the meantime some of us are enjoying some of the fruits of Freedom -- that we caused to happen from our own efforts. We don't have to live in a community to get started. If we have a mate and/or kids we work with them to create some Freedom

for our little group. If we are alone it is even easier.

Those who don't put out the effort to take their Freedom, will remain shackled to their TV, newspapers and their wage-slavery. And rightly so! We can't do it for them, they must do it for themselves.

Be Meek?

The meek and humble will not inherit the Earth. The law of the survival of the fittest is still operating. The meek and humble will only inherit their little niche in slavery. The Shepherd says, "Be good sheep and believe and obey. Give Caesar his taxes and give me your blind faith."

Maybe the world will always have some slaves, if some people refuse to think for themselves. They have every right to be slaves if that is their desire. There may always be people who will be happy to be their slave-masters, I don't know. Some people may look at it as; taking-care-of the retarded. Yes! We are either children or retards when we allow others to control us. I was too. That part of our education -- about wage-slavery -- was kept a secret from us. They retarded our maturation by making us believe that we had Freedom. They never came right out and said, "When you take pay, you must obey." did they? No, we knew we had to obey the boss, but we thought that was a normal part of Freedom. How retarded we were. Most people still are. Believe me! I've had 26 years of nearly total Freedom to speak from.

Informers?

Is it our job to inform people of this? Hell no! But look how some of us have got ourselves caught up in this fucking thankless pursuit. Are we doing it out of love for our fellow humans? Or from a desire to see and live in a free and happier world? Are we affraid to go-for the whole thing? Maybe we do it from a stupid slave-mentality learned from taking care of the masters. Maybe we extended that, after we achieved some degree of Freedom, into taking care of the slaves. Shit! Why not take care of ourself?

Whatever it is, I surely hope I can free myself from it and just

enjoy creating even more Freedom for myself. I have only X more years to live, why not live them to the fullest?

Pissed-off

I really got pissed-off the other day. A long time LFP reader wrote and was complaining and criticizing me for not organizing and protesting and for not doing anything to take care of the poor and the imprisoned. She has been getting the LFP off and on for at least ten years. I once met her and she seemed like a normal 40 year old working person. She even knew how to save money. I respected her for that. But now it sounds like she is pissed because I haven't created Freedom for her. Over the years she never mentioned once that she was trying any of my suggestions to gain her own Freedom nor reprinting my papers to encourage others.

Is this the way people are? Are they just sitting before their TV's relaxing with their beers, cocktails or drugs waiting for Godot to fetch for them? Is this the kind of people I should help and feel sorry for?

Sometimes I have felt like joining the slave-masters in tending the flock and shearing the sheep. But I'm too old for that. I think I would be much better off in just learning how to play and enjoy life more in my remaining years. Will I ever talk myself into it??? To be a slave-master requires a certain kind of effort in tending ones income and ones slaves, that I really don't wish to exert.

I wonder if the slave-masters look upon us, like a farmer looks at his livestock, as dumb animals that he must take care of and exploit? Perhaps the slave-master is a good guy after all and is just taking care of us dumb sheep. He may even be happy that some of us are evolving enough to look after ourselves and relieve him of a little of his burden.

Meet People

I've found a great deal of happiness, contentment and satisfaction in doing things and going places that cost me very little money. And in doing these nearly free things, I meet people who

have already discovered the same secrets *and they is good people.*

Letters to the Editor

Dear Ernest,

I have been reading the Little Free Press since I read an article about you in the Christian Science Monitor (the only paper I read or trust) about eight years ago. Over the years, your PES has made more and more sense to me. When I first got out of college 18 years ago, all I wanted to do was make lots of money!! But I found that the more I made, the less happy I was.

So a few months ago, I dropped out!! After 20 years as a Purchasing Manager in the electronics business, I quit my job (paying \$55,000 per year) and joined a buddy of mine in his long-haul trucking business. I got tired of working for rich guys who never appreciated my efforts, even though I helped them make tons of money. You know the kind of guys I'm talking about. No matter how many hours I worked, it was never long enough; no matter how much money I saved them, it was never enough; no matter how good of a job I did for him, every time I was up for salary review, he always told me I was no good. "When you take pay -- you must obey." -- it sure is true!

Fortunately, my wife (who quit her computer programming job five years ago to be a full-time mom to our two young children) was totally supportive. Both she and I have been actually scaling down our lives over the past eight years. Now our family lives on about \$400 per week. I'm having the time of my life driving all over the country and when I'm home, I get to spend full days with my children instead of just in the evenings like I used to. I feel I have made the first important step towards PES by "dropping out" of the work-for-money life I was in before. Now I work to enjoy life and don't worry about money anymore. And you know what? I'm much happier, have no stress, and we always seem to have the money we need. It's amazing how little money you can live on when you want to.

You have influenced my life over the past several years in a very positive way and I just wanted to say thank you!

A man from CA

Hello!

I just wanted to thank you for LFP, I've just now finished reading the three issues you sent me (113-115), and have truly enjoyed them; though I don't really agree with all of the political statements you made (I think perhaps you're a little too inclined towards Taloula Rasa, and like my anarchist friends, have a little too much faith in the giving nature of humans), I do like the way you think! Actually, my favorite parts were your stories! And having grow up on the coasts of Texas and North Carolina, I sense you, too, have not just a sea gypsy in you, but beyond that, a sheer emotional affection for the water -- perhaps you could join us sailing some time (my drummer's parents have a boat we occasionally take out in summer). I also appreciate your emphasis on self-determination, but have mixed feelings about the idea of playing the profit game so you don't have to play the profit game; on one hand, it makes perfect sense to me (I'm doing it right now); on the other hand, it just seems so damn untenable as a philosophical construct, like having a war to end war . . . is it really fighting fire with fire, or is it just rationalization? Does it matter?

Hey, I dunno, but here's a mess of stamps, I hope you'll help me figure it out!

(A person from NC.)

Editor's response:

Thanks for your interesting and thought provoking letter.

Many people have criticized me for using money to change the system. Welcome to the club.

Perhaps you people are right. If I think the money system is wrong, perhaps I should totally quit using it. I may just do that. But then of course I won't have money to print a newsletter and not have the money for stamps to send it out. Not many of my stamps are paid for by my readers. So then how will people find out about the ways I (and others) are getting our selves free FREE of the Rat Race? They will have to re-invent the wheel. Is that how you want it?

I must admit I got a lot of my Freedom ideas from books and newsletters other escapees paid money to publish or got paid for writing. But you may be right and I may just quit publishing. Now does that seem pure enough for you?

Your criticism may just be the additional straw that finally broke this old camel's back, or made him see the light!

I do not intend to write stories about my adventures just to entertain people even if they paid me. Many of my readers seem to think that this is the best part of my work. Well, you can all find much better written and more exciting stories in your public library, free of charge and no postage to pay. The libraries won't handle my work because it has too much truth in it, which you don't seem to agree with. Well, so be it.

Fire to Fight Fire?

Here is another thought on this subject of my using money to fight money. Are people who use this argument like some anti-religious arguers who ask, "Can God, who is all powerful, create a stone so huge that he can not lift it?" Is this just some kind of mind-fucking?

I could probably go far away and hide in a forest, jungle or on the water and survive like the primitives did if I studied sufficiently for it. But then I would be no help in making change, would I?

Work Hard!

We have been taught to work hard and save our money so that some day we can retire and take it easy, living off our savings. Pensions are savings we put aside as we worked. It was to be given back to us when we retired. (We didn't count on the government and other pension fund guardians being poor investors and even embezzlers.)

Well, some of us worked harder and invested better and were able to retire at a younger age. I managed it at age 42, back in 1969. Can anyone tell me what is wrong about using my hard earned savings to pay for printing and the other costs of publishing ideas for a better system, where we would have no need for money, credit or barter? It is my money. I can spend it as I damned well please. Right?

Fight fire with fire? Fight the money system with money? Some people seem to think that it is not fair to do this. Just exactly what else is there to fight it with? How about prayer? But no, you must use money to live or you will die and not be able to pray. And you are supposed to leave money in the church too.

All I can say is that I use the Priceless Economic System all that I can to fight the Profit System. The PES is where you work for free and get all products and services for free. Right? So I give my work, the Little Free Press newsletter, free of charge. (I let people pay the postage for its delivery.) If you think that the LFP newsletter is not work, then you just try to write one. It usually takes me several days to get one written and then re-written at least ten times to get it as good as I'm able. Then I take it to the printer and come back and pay for it and take it home. Then a trip to the PO to buy stamps. Then buy envelopes. Then the monotonous grunt work starts; folding, collating, stuffing, sealing, affixing postage, applying a return address, making the address labels, peeling them off and affixing them to the envelopes, then hauling them to the PO and then taking care of the endless correspondence that follows. Most people get paid to do this kind of work. Someone asked me what I do with all my time. Ha!

I make no income, profit or wages from this newsletter or my books. In fact it cost me a considerable amount of money to publish. But I do it, and have done it for 26 years, because I believe in the PES idea and think that its time has come and that someone must do it.

So I'm doing half of the PES. I work for free. It is true I must pay for nearly everything that I want. But I do get lots of things I need free of charge from dumpsters and many things almost for free at yard and garage sales. This exploring for free stuff and bargains is lots of fun in itself, like treasure hunting.

Now if that is not the politically correct way, then I certainly don't know what is. Perhaps you can tell me the correct way to make change from our insane profit system to a sane system. Please don't tell me to ask the politicians to do it, nor any government departments. And please don't ask me to just wait for the system to collapse and that it will change its own diapers after that.

Another Way to Think

One doesn't need to fight fair against slavery. Slavery is not fair. A slave escapes any way he/she can. Slavery is not a natural state

in nature. You don't just go up and ask the slave-master to set you free. Try it, but you already know his answer, "Obey or you're fired!" and then how will you pay your bills and mortgage or rent? How will you get food?

Slave-masters are bullies. They bully weaker dumber people into working for them. Just like the farmer does his horses.

In the olden days a bully would send his slaves across the border, under the direction of his head whipping-boy (a general), to try to capture more land and more slaves from another bully. When they brought new slaves home, the head bully told them that if they were good slaves and worked hard for ten years or so he would set them free. He told them that after that they would become wage-slaves instead of Slaves. The new slaves fell for it; hook, line and sinker. However a few who had a few brains and guts, escaped in any way they could. They didn't stop and ask themselves, "Is my escape tenable as a philosophical construct?" No. They knew that slavery was an untenable philosophical construct, so they got the Hell out of it as soon as they made a chance for themselves. Right?

You A Slave?

You work for pay today, you got to obey, or you get fired, right? A slave has to obey, so when you work for pay you are a slave -- like it or not! Only they use euphemisms now: Boss or employer for slave-master, employee for slave and Profit/Wage System for Slave System. What's the difference?

There are no rules for escaping from slavery, except for the ones the slave-master makes. He/she says pay-up your indentures (mortgage/credit card, etc.) and then you are free to be wage-slaves. **Slave-masters are really crafty bastards!**

Well, some slaves are shedding part of their shackles by saying, "Take-back all this overpriced furniture, cars, houses and junk that I'm indebted for. I'll find something old and used that I can pay cash for and find my way to Freedom much faster. Your junk is not worth the hours (years) of my life needed to pay for it."

Now, this may not seem like a tenable philosophical construct, but by God it works! A bad credit record is an asset. It keeps one from charging deeper into inden-

tured slavery. When dealing with these bullies, one may need to kick, bite, scratch and sneak to escape from their slavery.

We don't have to give anyone the right to bully us!!! Some of us are finding ways to get around this bully system (Profit/Wage System).

Skinny?

I just seen an ad for Barbie dolls in our free weekly Walmart ad paper. Are these dolls indoctrinating little girls to think that they should have very very long and very skinny legs? The leg length looks way out of proportion to the body. Is that a role model that is unachievable? Is this role model saying that it is right to be malnourished and as a result, sickly? And is it infering that there is something wrong with girls with shorter legs? How will this idea make little girls feel?

Say, is the Walmart Corporation like the Rockefeller Corporation that goes in an area with cheaper prices and drives all its competitors out of business and then raises its prices higher than ever?

Corporations are legal entities. They are not human. They have no conscience. They are mainly concerned with their bottom line. What better way to create more Profit than creating a monopoly situation?

Sure is fun though, to go into Walmarts and see the huge volume of stuff and get a bargain now and then and have a kindly-smiling-harmless-old gent or lady say "Hello!" to you on entering and try to push a cart on you.

After they bankrupt their competitors in your area and raise their prices and try to lower their wages, do you suppose an armed guard will replace the reception committee? *Just wait and see!*

Zine Review

RIPENING SEASONS, 6545 Ravenna Ave., N.E. #307 Seattle, WA 98115 (206-528-6122) (by donation) by Irv Thomas. Remember Irv wrote a book about his travels through Europe, on less than \$100 per week, a couple of years ago. Years ago Irv put out the paper called, Black Bart Brigade (a paper for middle-aged outlaws). Here's something from his current paper:

Peace Pilgrim

By Irv Thomas

I'm sure all of you know who Peace Pilgrim was . . . the woman who spent the last 28 years of her life criss-crossing the country on foot in the cause of Peace (she

died in 1981 at the age of 73!). It was an utterly remarkable demonstration of faith and Providence, for she carried no money or gear and accepted no transportation. People along the way supplied her with all her other needs.

But you may not know about a small volunteer organization called Friends of Peace Pilgrim, dedicated to disseminating material on her life and work, which includes a 224-page book, along with newsletters and pamphlets. They are located at 43480 Cedar Ave., Hemet, CA 92544 (909-927-7678), and all of their material is free (though donations certainly help with the work they do).

I'm going to close this issue with a quoted passage from Steps Toward Inner Peace, one of their booklets. These are Peace Pilgrim's own words:

"So I got busy on a very interesting project. This was *to live all the good things I believed in*. I did not confuse myself by trying to take them all at once, but rather, if I was doing something that I knew I should not be doing, I stopped doing it, and I always made a *quick relinquishment*. You see, that's the easy way. Tapering off is long and hard. And if I was not doing something that I knew I should be doing, I got busy on that. It took the living quite a while to catch up with the believing, but of course it can, and now if I believe something, I live it. Otherwise it would be perfectly meaningless. As I lived according to the highest light that I had, I discovered that other light was given, and that I opened myself to receiving more light as I lived the light I had.

"There are those who know and do not do. This is very sad. I remember one day as I walked along the highway a very nice car stopped and the man said to me 'How wonderful that you are following your calling!' . . . He then began telling me what he felt motivated toward and it was a good thing that needed doing. I got quite enthusiastic about it and took for granted that he was doing it. I said 'That's wonderful! How are you getting on with it?' And he answered, 'Oh, I'm not doing it. That kind of work doesn't *pay* anything.' And I shall never forget how desperately unhappy that man was. But you see, in this materialistic age we have such a false criterion by which to measure suc-

cess. We measure it in terms of dollars, in terms of material things. But happiness and inner peace do not lie in that direction. If you know but do not do, you are a very unhappy person indeed."

Some years ago I read her book and some of her pamphlets that someone sent me. It was very worthwhile and inspiring reading. Not enough religion in it to spoil the wisdom she was sharing. Thank God!

This little reminder of her focus, may be just what I need at this time.

My Life

I've been working like a dog on this mobile home; repairing broken water pipes, broken sewer fittings, replacing faucets and fixing the furnace. I've been riding my ten-speed bike exploring dumpsters and garage sales to get all those little things one seems to need to run a home. I've been buying supplies for different repair jobs yet ahead me. I've waited two months for the anchor tie-down man to do his job. That cost me \$180.

I had about \$2,000 in savings before I bought this mobile home. Now it's all gone, but now I have a home that is all paid for, that will soon be finished enough to sell and get my money back, plus some Profit.

Now that may blow your mind! *Me* making a Profit! But I've explained before, that I have had a need to get one foot back into the Rat Race for a while and build up a reserve of money. That was how I escaped in 1969 . . . I had built up a reserve.

I don't feel insecure though, as I have my Social Security Retirement Pension and my Vet's Pension that amount to \$670/mo. I also now have two small contract for deeds that pay me monthly payments, so I'll be saving part of that to build up another reserve. Even a dumb squircle knows it must have a little reserve stash of nuts on hand.

We have had marvelous weather. Could have used an air conditioner about two weeks this year. Instead, I put aluminum foil in the widows facing the sun and stripped down to short pants. I'm OK. I just don't think about the temperature on those days.

Now I'm almost half done putting skirting around the bottom of my trailer. This is a re-invent

the wheel job, as I've never done it before. I'm slowly learning a few little tricks-of-the-trade. (Because I learned a few skills in my life, I'm able to put them to use for myself, now and then, to make a little money or to save myself some money.) The trailer is looking nice. It is comfortable and homey after living in my car for four months.

And all this while trying to write and take care of my correspondence. What do I do with my spare time? I do my own cooking, housekeeping and read a little.

Books

My two books are available from:

Marathon International Book Co.
Box 32

Madison, IN 47250-0032

A New Book?

My third book is all typeset and ready to go to a printer. It will contain the best parts of all my newsletters since FREE I GOT was published. My book distributor had planned to publish it. I don't have the money nor the inclination to do so and I'm not sure my distributor has either the money or the time. So it may not get published. If people think my writings should not survive, they won't. That is certainly their prerogative. Maybe I have been just spinning my wheels. But no, by my writings, I have at least taught myself how to get free. Well, so be it.

Back Issues of LFP

Back issues are available from:

Dryan

Box 640

Elk River, MN 55330

Send him a stamp for an LFP back-issue catalog-sheet that has a review of each issue and prices.

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Free, but you pay for the delivery. Please send US stamps, US money, a check or international postal credits for postage for as many future issues as you desire.

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My subscription list is very very small, so if you think these ideas are any good, please make copies of this paper and pass them along, *or else cancel your subscription and I'll refund your postage. I'm not likely to write any more entertaining accounts of my travels, so let's not waste each others time and money! OK?*

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FREE

9-5-95

Ernest Mann

The Money Game

We get so very very busy playing and trying to win at the MONEY GAME that we don't realize the fact that there *is* another Game in town.

When we are not busy earning money, we keep ourselves busy spending it. We have been mind-conditioned to think that it is *fun* to spend it . . . then we must work some more.

The Other Game

The other Game we could call, *Living our own life as a Free person Game*.

Just what would it be like to live like a Free person, i.e., like a *natural* person? But I'm not sure that there ever was a Free natural person. I rather think most people have always been slaves to someone; be it boss, mate, King, tribal Chief or family elder.

Perhaps a few loners have always escaped (or become Chiefs?), but I doubt if there is any clear-cut definition of how a Free person would live.

Just what would life be like for a truly Free person? When you take pay you must obey, so I guess we wouldn't work for pay. Probably all jobs are exploitative. No job gives one a fair share of their productivity. Employers all make a big *Profit* on our labor. The champion exploiter of workers in the U.S.A. in 1984 was the Mesa Petroleum Corporation¹. It made a net profit of \$397,400 from *each* of their 700 employees' labor.

What is a slave anyway? We think of a slave as a black person who was captured in Africa and sold to a rich white person. We have also read that people long ago were captured during wars or raids on another country and brought back by their captors and used as slaves. Those slaves had to obey and do someone's work for them, right? Do we have to obey and work for someone? That is what a slave does!

More Slaves!

Have you noticed, that after each war and each invasion the U.S.A. has been involved in, we have always had a large influx of

immigrants from that country, even if we failed in our invasion? More slaves?

Is a Free person, one who doesn't have to obey or work for some one else?

Of course even a Free person has to *work* to find, make or grow his/her own food, shelter, clothing, etc. That, is working for ones own survival and for ones small children's survival. It seems like the natural and necessary thing to do. But a slave would, in addition, do work for their Master's survival. Then the Master does not have to work but can spend his/her entire life playing.

Free persons get 100% of their own productivity and can choose to share it with their loved ones. So a Free person must work to survive. But getting *all* of his/her own productivity, means not needing to work nearly as many hours as a slave. The primitive Tasaday Cave People² who were discovered in the Philippine jungle some years ago, were found to work only about *two* hours per day to provide everything that they wanted. The article said that they were a very happy, friendly and healthy people. Are we a very happy, friendly and healthy people? How many hours do we work a day? Think about it!

Live Near Slaves?

A Free person living near slaves must *obey* the laws. Laws are made for slaves! The people who are super-rich don't seem to have to obey these laws. They hire politicians to make laws to govern their slaves (us slaves). Even though you think you are a Free person, just try going nude in your neighborhood. The other slaves will call the police and get you arrested for breaking the law. Slaves help to enforce their own slavery. They not only take all the jobs in government but they even take jobs as cops, FBI, CIA, and National Guard. So, can we be totally Free living near slaves or Masters? Does this mean that people who desire to be totally Free, must live where there are no slaves or Masters? Looks like it. Perhaps that is why I enjoyed the six years I lived in the

woods near Cushing, Minnesota. Perhaps that is why I now desire to live on a sailboat on the sea.

Because the Slave System is world-wide and it is the only Game going, I guess we must work as slaves for a while, but, *beat* the Game! You win in the Money Game by learning how to *make* money and how to *save* money. You also win at the Money Game by *not* wasting your time (life) and savings on all the things and activities you have been mind-conditioned to blow it on.

You can build up a nice nest-egg and retire at a very young age. You may retire for a month, a year, several years or maybe even for a lifetime. By investing that savings into something you have expertise in and control over, you can make that savings work for you. The savings will be your slave. This method of gaining Freedom works. I did it! I retired at age 42 in 1969.

Pure Freedom

I dream of an even more pure Freedom. I dream of the Priceless Economic System and I promote it and attempt to live it. You know and I know, that *I* cannot change the world by myself. I'm nearly ready to throw-in the towel and just say, "If you people won't help spread the word around about PES, I may as well quit promoting it and just do my best to more fully live a Free life and enjoy myself." I will assume that rather than exert the effort to get free, people choose to *be* obedient slaves. They certainly have that right.

I dream of living on some kind of a funky home-made wooden sailboat, with no rent, taxes, electric or insurance to pay. I dream of catching sea food (including sea weeds) and traveling with the wind, far and wide. I might trade fish, sea weeds, sea shells and salvaged things for some things I need. I may even find some sunken treasures.

This kind of Free life sounds better to me than spending most of my time (life) trying to wake-up the slaves by surfing on the Internet and being a slave to all the expenses involved in buying and owning a state of the arts

¹ Fortune or Forbes Magazine, Apr. 29, 1985.

² National Geographic Magazine, Aug., 1972.

computer and all the necessary software.

When I was a three piece business suit person trying to succeed in the Rat Race, I don't think I would have believed anything that I now say. So what do we say to wake up the people who are busily trying to get ahead or just to survive in the RAT RACE?

Perhaps I can stop writing and reading and then just experience life and adventures, first hand.

Grandson

I've got myself involved again in raising a grandson. He is living with me again and has now turned 17. He is much more mature and much easier to live with than he was the last time he lived with me.

Busy, Busy!

I've also made myself busy getting this mobile home liveable and weather-proof. Just finished building skirting all around the trailer and gave the roof a final coat of aluminum colored tar. Mostly inside work left now. I just found a rotted-out area of floor behind the couch and have two peeled inside walls beneath nearby windows where the water had leaked in for years. This plywood must be replaced.

I taped an electric heating cable to my water line under the trailer and wrapped it with insulation. Then I wrapped the sewer drain with fiber-glass insulation and crawled around on all fours under the trailer stuffing the stuff in all the open holes.

I got so cold on 9-20-95, I had to turn on the gas forced-air furnace. It didn't work quite right. The fan that blows the air through the air ducts went on only once in a while. I took the heat switch for the blower out of the furnace and bought another one. That didn't help the problem one bit. I took it back and brought all three heat control switches in and they all tested out ok.

Then after many problems and swearing I got that blower motor removed and cleaned up and oiled and reinstalled. (I think I can understand now why some plumbers have a little bottle of whisky handy.) The blower fan blades were all clogged with dust so they got cleaned too. But still the same problem! It did somehow manage to keep the trailer warm but the damn thing was clicking on and off much of the time. It was hard to sleep listening to that and wondering if it might blow-up or just

quit trying. Also I kept awake thinking about how to solve the problem, but sleep finally came.

Finally I decided the problem might be in the wall thermostat. So I took it apart and discovered something I had never seen before. It had a cycle slide. After I figured out how that worked, I set it accordingly. Now my furnace works just fine. A little noisy, but after I tighten everything down it may be quieter. That really felt good to succeed at that furnace job when even the heating and plumbing expert couldn't solve the problem.

The biggest and most costly jobs are done now, so I hope I'll soon be able to find some free time for myself. I think I can now see the light at the end of the tunnel with the ocean out there beckoning me.

I really don't feel any more hope that people will wake-up from their media mind-conditioned slave-mentality. Perhaps they never will. Maybe history will continue with slavery and with just a few of us waking up and escaping each year.

Not Acceptable!

Perhaps people are unable to accept the fact that they are slaves and have been gullible all their lives. Do they refuse to believe they have given the best part of their lives (their productivity) to their slave-master? Would they be ashamed to admit that they were not their own Master? That they were just a slave? Who would admit that? No one! So people can not acknowledge an escape route from slavery when they fantasize they are Free already.

It is obvious that I haven't been able to figure out anything to say that would reveal their slavery to them. So why try any more?

Good Time?

I don't listen to, watch or read the news, but as far as I know, we are not engaged in any major war or invasion at the moment. So it would *seem* the optimum time to promote a better economic system.

There are people who tell me to wait until the system goes broke again, like in the 30's. Then, they say, people will be ready for the PES. Trouble is, in hard times, people are spending all their time and thoughts on getting some food and rent money. There is no time for thinking about change when you have an empty stomach and the bank or landlord is banging on

your door or the kids are crying for food.

We can't make change *during* a war. When they start their next war we will be too afraid of retaliation and worried about our personal survival to think about change.

So if we are going to make change we had better "shit or get off the pot," because we probably won't have this "lull before the storm" much longer.

It seems like they start a new war as each new generation of boys reach 18. Girls too now. Kids reach this age and don't believe what their parents or the old people tell them about war and the cause of war. No, the kids are at the rebelling age trying to escape their parents rule to become independent adults. Then some of them join the army or navy to escape parental rule. They don't realize it, because it is all so new to them, but they have just jumped from the frying pan right into the fire. They just lost what little Freedom they had gained.

Most of the adventures on TV, glorify fighting and make it look like fun. This also helps to entice kids into the armed forces so that the ruling class can start another war whenever they think the time is ripe. I was once a dumb farm boy and I enlisted in the Navy. I ain't quite so dumb any more. I was one of the lucky kids in 1945 . . . I didn't get killed.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Ernest:

While I am reading your books and newsletters I have this one haunting thought that keeps coming to me but I am never able to seem to resolve it. Therefore I am going to share it with you. Perhaps you can shed some light on it for me.

What about the millions of people who are on public assistance programs in this country? We have over 100 public assistance social programs available now. I recently heard where young people with drug or alcohol addictions were eligible for payment from the Social Security Administration. We have immigrants both legal and illegal who have never paid one cent into the Social Security Administration but are eligible for a host of payments from Social Security. We have young women, some who are mere children, who are being supported by the tax-

payers while they play house with their latest heart throb. The father can tom-cat around completely free of any responsibility to his genetic progeny. The taxpayers fulfill the father's traditional role.

Alas, I have tried to outline the failings of public-assistance-social programs. In reality, the recipients of these programs, (I am not including retired persons who spent a lifetime contributing to Social Security), are living in a PES. Food stamps work the same as money in the grocery store. In some areas, I am given to understand, that they are used as money. Anything, yes even sex, can be purchased with food stamps. The recipients do not earn their keep. The recipients make no effort to earn their keep. They have a lot of time on their hand to do things; travel, read books, sell drugs, conceive children, steal, kill etc., etc.

Actually, as I see it, the US Government, and I suspect that the governments of Canada, France, the United Kingdom, Sweden, the Netherlands, and West Germany have all pioneered the PES. They have taken it one step farther than you. Their system requires NO personal responsibility. Their system does not require an individual perform any work at all. I call their system the Free System.

Now, to support these huge population blocks in a manner that affords them huge blocks of free time, gives them food, clothes, shelter, medical care, free schooling, and cash payments so they can maintain their drug or alcohol addiction, a whole new class of slaves has been invented. Not only are those who receive pay for their time, effort, skill, and labors, included in this group, but also those who pay the wages. The employer must match every dollar a worker puts into Social Security. Business and corporation taxes and special taxes levied by various state, federal and local governments, clearly puts the businessman in his place. Many are finding their places in third world countries to escape this yoke of slavery.

The first world countries are at a turning point. The economies in the first world are failing. As more service jobs replace industrial, and value added industries, and as the demands of the ever growing people who live free, in a Free Society grow, the slaves are being crushed. Their wages are

being garnished to give to the Free Society masses who will not work. Their slave masters are deserting them, leaving the country and seeking out freedom in third world countries who do not support large segments of the population. Slaves are finding themselves without masters. Some take advantage of the situation to start new lives, productive, rewarding and happy. Others move into the Free Society making the remaining slave's lot much worse.

I am on your side Ernest. I like the idea of a PES instead of a FS. I am disgusted with the notion of a FS. Therefore, I have started living my life in accordance with some of the ideas I got from your PES. What I do not need I give away or trash so some dumpster diver can find it and use it. I spend my free time in libraries or in the field growing food that I store and eat all winter. I find my own forms of entertainment and seldom watch TV, I listen to short wave radio to get the scoop from around the world. I only work so hard at my job. I have a good job and I like doing what I do. I limit myself working at a mediocre pace. I can do this for I am only paid for what I do. I am not paid by the hour. My employer loves the quality of my work, so everyone is happy. This is my way of striking back at the FS. If I do not make a lot of money, they do not get a lot of taxes from me. Let the creators of the FS divest themselves of their huge estates and fortunes (some of which were built directly from criminal activity) first. Then perhaps I will consider being a better slave and working a little harder to support those on the FS.

I have given up slavery. It is only a state of mind. I have the best of both worlds. I do enough to make my nest comfortable and that is all. Perhaps the government and my employer think I am a slave, but I am merely playing their game. They've not taken control of my mind. I do not need all the fancy stuff advertisers tell me I need. I do not need a boat, vacation home, a vacation, a house full of clothes, three cars and a pick-up truck. I do not need pre-cooked food, processed food, pro-sports and I could care less who plays these sports. I am so proud that I cannot name even three pro-athletes and the sports they play. I do not care. Multi-million dollar

salaried entertainers, executives, doctors, lawyers, and athletes are all very good slaves. We feed their egos and fat heads, and they pay for the FS. Not only do they give more to keep the FS going, but they often entertain the members of the FS for hours on end.

Keep it up Ernest. I am on your side. I am all for a PES. I am totally against a FS. I am totally against socialism for it always ends up dying from too many FS types feeding off the system. In a way, I have already stopped doing things the old way. I am in the economic system on my terms. I refuse to support those who will not support themselves. I am not a slave but I sure as hell am glad we have the slaves we have. I found the easiest way not to be a slave is to not owe. If you don't owe, you can do just about anything you want to do at any time. No one can make any demands on your time.

G.H.

Greenville, PA

Editor's response:

Your letter makes good sense. It doesn't feel good to support non-workers. I think that is what you are saying. I feel that way too.

The Profit System just doesn't work for the worker. He and she don't get their fair share of their productivity. The rich people get most of it and a little is doled out to the people who won't or can't play the Game.

This dole is peanuts compared to what the rich guys get. Look at what just one corporation, Mesa Petroleum, makes from each of their workers.

Could it be that the mass media focuses on the poor people's public assistance to use as a scapegoat to give us someone to be angry at so that we won't check out what the rich guys are taking.

You worry about the young mothers who are playing house with their latest heart throb. Well, what about the rich guys who are forcing themselves on pretty young people, with their gifts or jobs and getting whatever sex they desire from them? The Masters always took a pretty young slave whenever they desired one. They are still doing it! And don't they tom-cat around.

I hate to see people give-up and go on welfare. But they may be smarter than the people who supply the labor to allow this Profit System to exist!

The super-rich have huge blocks of free time . . . their whole lives!

I agree, the small employers are slaves too. The larger employers move to a third world country so that they can exploit workers even more than they do here.

I don't see the PES being a burden on anyone. In the PES I see work as a privilege instead of a duty. We'll work only at a job if it is fun for us.

Buckminster Fuller said that 90% of our jobs are unnecessary. So the few that are left will be taken by people who can find joy in them. The rest will not get done or we will find a way to make those jobs fun too. Work will then not be something that we are forced to do. No one likes to be forced. We are mostly all forced to work in the Profit System or else beg for Welfare. Who can enjoy a job if they are forced to do it.

With the Priceless Economic System we will not be supporting non-workers. We will just be having fun doing a job we enjoy doing and yet everyone will have free and equal access to all our products. Everyone will have access to free training in whatever kind of work they would like to do. They can join in the fun or not, we would care less whether they worked or not. They could waste away with their free drugs or not. Then the fittest would survive.

It sounds like you have found a way to make the system work for you. Congratulations.

Dear Ernest,

Enjoyed reading about your adventures in the Free Press. You're holding senility and old age at bay by being active and not falling prey to it. Most important, your mind is still going full forces.

In the old Eugene O'Neil play, the Ice Man Cometh, Larry, the disillusioned anarchist was saying, the only thing wrong with the party were the people in it. The only thing wrong with PES is that it makes too much sense and it fails to deal with the inherent underlying force that dominates people, "evil." Good is an acquired trait and must be taught . . . unfortunately, most of the time, through fear. I would like to believe otherwise, but it is evident. So what does one do to survive, better than survive, to live a worthwhile life in his time? He does what you do, with intelligence, he lays out a way of life that "SATISFIES HIM" and he lives that way to the extent that he

can. Getting others to join him may not enhance his life unless, like many, that is what satisfies him too. By living a certain way and doing certain things, without proselytizing he offers an example to others. That's all he can do. Maybe others will think. That may be his best method of teaching.

Just between you and me, these days thinking has been relegated to the back of the bus in favor of letting TV and passive entertainment and letting the purveyors of greed like Newt and far right conservatives, do their thinking for them. Will it change? I can only speculate. I watched some old newsreels of the Great Depression and people were essentially passive in the face of armed police and the military. It's anyone's guess how repression will be tolerated in the future.

R.F.

Colorado

Editors response:

I do not believe in evil. I think some people do bad things to others and to the environment, but I don't think that it is a natural trait. Nor do I believe that all people are born sinful.

My observation is that kids who had a very miserable childhood sometimes do bad things. In the book HIGH RISK, the authors say that if babies do not achieve a bonding with at least one parent they often grow into psychopaths. They said these are on the increase.

I have also observed that most people are good if they are given half a chance. I think it takes mental and physical beating to make a kid bad.

People have been led to believe that everyone is bad by the mass media. Just look it over. Mostly everything in it is fear mongering, telling of all the bad things happening all over the world or that probably will happen, in their estimation. They don't tell about the billions of good interactions that are going on all the time. So that gives us a very unbalanced picture of what is going on. Oh, you may say, "That is what sells newspapers!" Good stuff sells even better! The movie "Dinner With Andre" filled the movie theater some years ago for three months while other theaters were almost empty with their violence. If papers had articles in them that made people cry with gladness or laugh until tears came -- wouldn't that sell papers?

You are certainly right about people's thinking, having stopped.

The mass media has them in trance mode. With their expertise in subliminal implants it wouldn't surprise me at all if people are taught to laugh and reject anything that suggests that they are slaves. And they are further taught that they have all the Freedom that they need, etc.

Zine Reviews

LUNO, by Gene Lehman, 31960 SE Chin St, Boring, OR 97009 (\$1 + stamp for sample.) If you have any interest in self schooling and in the farce they call schooling, you will be delighted to read this. Issue 10:6 was an especially great issue. Lots of real truth to chew on. Several excerpts from interesting zines.

COFFEEHOUSE, Box 77, Berthoud, CO 80513 (\$4 for 2 years) A little literary magazine of narrative poetry and short-shorts. I usually don't care for poetry, but I read all of this with interest.

Books

My two books are available from: Marathon International Book Co Box 32 Madison, IN 47250-0032

My New Book

My third book is typeset and ready to go to a printer. I'll give it to anyone, FREE of charge, who will publish and distribute (sell) it. As I've said more than once, I'm not out to make money on these ideas but just wish to share them.

Back Issues of LFP

Back issues are available from:

Dryan

Box 640

Elk River, MN 55330

Send him a stamp for an LFP back-issue catalog-sheet that has a review of each issue and prices.

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FREE
Ernest Mann

(YOUNG PEOPLE'S SECTION)

How to Be a Winner!

Are you getting all that you want from life? If not, here is a way that may help you discover what you are doing wrong.

Begin to keep a little note pad and pen with you at all times. Every time you spend even *one penny*, mark down what it was for and how much you spent. (Of course, I have told you many times to destroy all your credit cards.) Keep track of all you spend, for at least a month or more. Then add up all similar items and see what it tells you. As an example, take the total expenditures for; cigarettes, beer, wine, booze, pot, other drugs, gambling and other recreation. Then ask yourself if that lump of money could have helped you get some of the things that you *really* want in life.

Then make an estimate of how much time it took you to procure and consume those items. Then figure out how much time you were spaced-out and how much time (and misery) it took to come-down. Add up all this time and ask yourself if you could have found a way to use that same *time* to help you get to where you wish to get in life.

What Do You Want?

Do you have any idea of what you would like to achieve? Or the kind of work you would like to be doing? There are vocational counselling books that will tell you what all jobs are like, what they pay, skills required, advancement possibilities, etc.

There are tests you can take that may reveal some abilities you have that you are not aware of. They may steer you into some new possibilities for making your pile of money.

After a careful study of what is available and of what you can do ... make a decision. Choose a type of work and begin preparing for it. Even a wrong choice is far better than no choice at all, because it gets you started. If you find it was the wrong choice you can always change. Even with a wrong choice you learn something.

Learning what not to do is also valuable and will save you time later in life.

People who achieve what they desire in life are the ones who make a *plan* for their advancement and always look for ways to improve that plan and keep at it. They don't waste their time and money on the diversions that the mass media constantly recommends as the in-things to be doing.

Learning to become successful becomes their recreation. They discover that learning gives really good feelings. One becomes proud of ones-self. I know! I went through it eight years ago when I taught myself how to run a computer and Microsoft Word word processor and Q & A database.

When you divorce yourself from TV, videos and the rest of the mass media you will have a lot more free time to mold your life into what you would like it to be.

Libraries have a tremendous amount of helpful information that is totally *free* and they also offer a quiet place to study. Some used book stores also have information books that could be very useful to you. You may need to buy a book *new* occasionally. With these information sources you can gain more and much faster than you could with a \$50,000 college course. With these sources of books you are not forced to read unusable, redundant and make-work stuff, nor putter along with the slow-pokes. You can choose to read and learn only what you desire. That is what Thomas Edison did. It worked just fine for him.

It is a good idea to make an appointment with a successful person who is doing the kind of work that you think you'd like to learn. Most successful people will be happy to take the time to talk about their work, to help someone along. Do your homework and have a list of intelligent questions to get some insights that books couldn't tell you.

With what you can learn from reading and observing you may be able to start your own business or work for a small company where they are interested in what you can do, not in what a diploma or a degree says you can do.

You may be able to persuade an employer to take you on as a helper or as an apprentice and learn skills that way ... and actually get paid while learning. Helpers and apprentices don't get paid much but it's better than *paying* money to learn. Then you learn from *experts*, not from teachers who couldn't cut the mustard in the real world.

I Did It

I read all the books I could find on my work and tried out all their ideas and I made enough money to support myself, my wife and three kids.

I looked about me and noticed that some of my clients were making more money than I was. So I watched to see how they did it. Then I started using their methods and began making a *lot more* money.

I had no teacher to tell me how to retire at a young age. It never occurred to me that I would or could. Then one day I got my fill of the government's invasion of Vietnam. Year after year I had watched the government wasting my tax dollars. With the cumulative effect of this and then all the killing that our government forced our boys to do in Vietnam ... broke this camel's back. I could then see the government in a clear light. They appeared to be a bunch of gangsters taking orders from the super-rich people. I got real angry. I retired and vowed I would not give government my vote nor my money to support it. I did it legally. I reduced my taxable income to the point where I didn't need to pay income taxes any more. Oh, they still get me for sales and hidden taxes but that is all.

I retired at age 42 in 1969. Now after 24 years of Freedom from the Rat Race (I recently got back in for two years and made some more money) I see that I could have retired at a much younger age. It takes only a few street-smarts to live on less and enjoy it more.

Trust

Successful drop-outs learn to develop and trust their own *self* instead of a government, welfare,

parents, hand-outs, boss or religion. We either become our own savior or we just don't get Free. When you put your trust outside yourself . . . you become a slave to; it, them or whatever. We each choose to be a *slave* or to become *Free*!

A slave works and wastes his/her spare time and money and therefore must work forever.

People who are trying to get Free; work, save and put that money to work making more money. They don't borrow money! If they owe money, they lose independence. When they have some surplus cash, they can get bargains. They study and make themselves richer and soon have made enough money to retire and have 100% of their time for themselves.

However, most people who learn how to win in the money game get *hooked* and enjoy winning. Instead of retiring and taking their Freedom, they continue playing and piling up far more money than they will ever need. They never figure out what life is really all about. They just think that life is just making and spending money. How sad. They don't take the time and effort to see what the Profit System is doing to people and to their environment. They cannot have the Profit Game *and* a stable environment. The two are incompatible.

The Profit System is destroying our life-support systems. It is causing species to become extinct and eventually the homo sapiens will follow. We can hardly afford that.

People who have trapped themselves into the Profit Game cannot learn the peace and joys of Freedom. They are caught-up in the hurry, hurry, hurry dance. They had the skill to lay this trap, therefore they have the skill to remove it, if they set their minds to the task.

We each have a choice. The less-bright people absorb the mass media and conform to its many suggestions. They are running-scarred from all the fear-mongering. They are afraid to be different! They never learn to *think*. It is so much easier to allow the media to *lead* their thinking and music to set their moods, i.e., how they feel. They never discover that elusive idea called *Freedom*.

Wisdom?

According to Random House dictionary; wisdom is, "knowledge

of what is true or right coupled with good judgment."

You may be surprised what you can learn from old people. If they are still alive it speaks well for them. They must have done a few things right. I've found that each one of them has some wisdom that they gladly share, if they are asked. They feel honored and useful if they think someone values information they have or for their opinion on something. Most old people have tried out thousands of things and discovered some that work best.

You can proceed much faster on your quest for success if you don't have to re-invent the wheel with each step up the ladder.

Us old codgers may be able to tell you some short cuts and "tricks of the trade" that we have learned the hard way. We now have nothing to lose by telling you. We are out of the competition. We only gain *good feelings* by thinking that we are helping someone. It makes us think that we are smart. That makes us feel good too.

If you question your *own* parents and grandparents and let them know how you appreciate their information . . . they will then realize what a smart kid you are. Most kids act like they know it all already and thereby show how dumb they are. Old people can remember when they were in that stage of development.

If you can help your old folks keep their minds and bodies active you may keep them out of a nursing home. Also when they keep busy they don't feel lonely and are less sickly.

(EVERYBODY'S SECTION)

Letter to the Editor

Dear Ernest,

This is a communication from one Freedom seeker to another. I've read and enjoyed copies of the Little Free Press for years now, copies handed down to me by a little bird (a long time correspondent of yours), and now I think, its high time I wrote myself and made copies of LFP to give to my friends!

I find the LFP chock full of truth and inspiration. Let others call you a dreamer, Ernest: you actually live what you dream about, "creating more Freedom for yourself." I hope you don't really believe putting out the LFP is a "thankless pursuit" -- by telling

others of your experiences, you just *might* inspire another to do likewise. Call it the power of example. By the way, I find your stories of how you live your day to day life the best part of the zine. (Now don't winch -- I know you've heard this before!) So, they are "entertaining" -- you could do worse! They are so, in the "right" way, to inspire others and validate yourself (which is all we all have anyway), not to make others forget about the misery of their lives and fall into mere inaction.

I'm 23 and just moved down to Florida. Now I've gone from student drone to being a worker drone, slaving in a large office sweat shop for a corporation. But this is largely by choice, but a fear driven choice, half irrational fear and half real fear (my, how will I ever make ends meet). I have the awareness of my perilous situation, but not the practical knowledge or street smarts to break away from the work-spend-work cycle. Well, I might just be making excuses. The reality of me having a job and being on my own is still a novel one, and not yet intolerable.

I guess I just have to reach out more and keep communicating with others who have a little bit of Freedom. I don't know, I just don't feel I have much control over my life right now. (Personal aside: I was sent down here to go to a "treatment" center, for back home I sensed how dismal my future was and instead of fighting inertia gave in to it: I was drinking and isolating and generally very miserable. Yet it was ultimately a voluntary move, to get professional help. All they really do is hand you over to 12-step groups which have both sinister and wonderful aspects, from this anarchist's perspective.)

Keep up the good, uh, work with the writing and the trailer maintenance. I hope at your age I have only a fraction of the Freedom you enjoy. I'll be very lucky indeed! But I know I'll have to use my brain and courage to get there! C.S.

Florida

Editor's comment:

Thank you. I think you have given me good reasons to continue to mention some of my adventures and daily life.

Make some money. Save some and invest it into something you have expertise in and control over and you'll soon be able to retire.

Being already aware, at your young age, of how things are and of the Freedom you can get . . . my guess is that you, will get more Freedom than me and will get it much sooner than I did. I was 40 before I even started to think about Freedom. Go for it!

My Life

I made a list of repair jobs that need to be done on this 12'x50' two bedroom mobile home that I recently bought and moved into. I keep adding jobs to the list and marking off jobs I've completed. I gave the jobs priority ratings and have most of the high priority jobs completed. Most of the remaining jobs are inside jobs and can be done at my leisure this winter.

A coincidence? This trailer home was built the year I dropped-out, 1969. Several sailboats I've looked at were built that year too. That was a good year for me.

I hope to buy a cheap row-boat and trailer this fall. They should be at their cheapest now at the end of the boating season. There was a boat, motor and trailer in the paper last week for \$195. I called them but it was sold already.

I'm going to check with the D.N.R. (Department of Natural Resources) and see if they can tell me of any unpolluted lakes nearby where the fish can be eaten daily. In many of our 10,000 Minnesota lakes, the fish can be eaten only once a month because of the high poison content of the fish.

(Some successful money making friends of mine, choose to disregard this fact and think that the government has the polluters under control and that everything is getting better. I ask them, "What about when *all* the fish are too poisoned to eat or are all extinct?" They reply, "We'll eat something else instead!" They wear blinders and they won't take them off!

The thing is . . . they are busy making money and dare not give time to these thoughts because then they would get out-of-step and not make as much money. Also they may not wish to dig into this mess, called the Profit System, because they may have some hidden fear that they would have to quit doing what they are doing. People hate to change. It's a lot of work to change and there is the fear of the unknowns that may lie up ahead for them.)

I don't think I'll buy an out-board motor. Instead I'll row. It is good exercise. Actually it is a *real* rowing-machine, only it takes you fishing.

Later, I'll build the rowboat into a sailboat. Just put a mast at the bow seat and have a catboat. Building a rudder and lee boards will be easy. I'll try to find a book on sail making. I just don't understand how they design a sail so that it has a belly in it, i.e., an airfoil shape.

I may eventually go so far as build a little cabin in the boat to sleep and cook in. This feels like a real fun project to keep me busy up here in Minnesota while my 17 year old grandson is with me.

I won't attempt to make it look like the latest design. Just make an enclosure for two bunks and a little place to cook.

The funkier the better as far as I'm concerned. I don't have a need to impress people any more. Even a bath tub will sail if it has enough floatation. (When I was in the Rat Race I would buy *new* cars to make people think I was a successful hot shot. I fooled some of 'em. It took me three years to pay for the damn things. What a waste of my money that was!)

I'll have at least a year to fish and sail our 10,000 lakes. I may miss a few of them. Eventually I hope to do the same thing on the seven seas.

If you don't have a dream . . . you can't succeed! If you can't succeed . . . suc eggs! Ha, ha.

Computer Desk

I bought a kitchen table at a yard sale some time ago for \$7 to use as a computer desk. I clamped a 2x4 under the center of it for additional strength. It has worked fine, but I had printer paper, manuals, correspondence, etc. scattered all over . . . under chairs, lamp tables, etc. So I built two and one half shelves to put over the computer and dot matrix printer. I keep the huge and heavy heavy ancient H.P. Laserjet printer under the table/desk.

We have a swell lumber supplier here in LF. Marv's Wood Products stocks odd lots of lumber at lower prices. I bought one 12"x3/4"x8' board that was already finished on the two wide sides and on one edge. It has a black semi-gloss finish. Marv even cut it up for me along with some 1x2's to screw the shelves to. The two shelves are 40" wide x 12" deep

and the half shelf over the printer is 18" wide. I built it from only one 8' board plus a 28" board and 10 1/3' of 1x2's. I also got a strip of plywood to back the two top shelves to give it more stability. I also put a 40" 1x2 along the bottom in the rear.

I fastened this all together with 1 1/2" square drive head screws with my multi-speed electric drill.

It didn't take long to throw it all together because I had Marv do all the cutting on his electric saw.

The lumber and cutting cost me only \$9.59. Now I have a great computer work space.

Underground Railroad

Perhaps the LFP is part of an unorganized underground-railroad like they had before the Civil War . . . to help the slaves escape.

The internet could speed-up this railroad . . . to the speed of light! The copy machine was our big kick-off. Then came the computer and now that train is really rolling. Will internet really get it off the ground? I sure hope so. We have been ignorant slaves toooooo long.

People have a choice . . . to use internet for gossip, games and greed or to educate people about their entrenchment in slavery and show them ways to escape it.

Internet

A dedicated reader from Florida put my two books, I WAS ROBOT and FREE I GOT, on internet. They are available to anyone, to download, free of charge. They are LOCATED AT: ftp, etext.archive.umich.edu THE DIRECTORY IS: pub/politics/essays THE FILES ARE: freeigot.txt.gz and irobot.txt.gz.

Back Issues: It would be helpful if someone would put all the LFP back issues from #91 through the current issue on internet so that anyone in the world, who has access to internet, could get them free of charge and not even have postage to pay. If you wish to do this, I'll send you the back issues on disk.

This would allow lots more people to learn about the Priceless Economic System. If we can make the PES common knowledge, then there would be a chance for it to be adopted. The PES would end the reason for wars, polluting, stealing and starving. Would that be worth a little effort?

Little Falls Library

Our library is starting a section for zines that are donated. So if

you would like to have your zine available in a library, (LF has a 7,374 population) send some back issues to: Carnage Library, 108 N.E. 3rd Street, Little Falls, MN 56345.

Off-My-Back!

Look here! If you don't believe in the PES enough to make copies of the LFP and pass them around, then please please get off-my-back and cancel your subscription to the LFP. I'll happily refund your postage.

I'm 68 years too old to waste my remaining life away, entertaining anyone (and for free at that).

My subscriber list is very small. It is so small, in fact, that I sometimes wonder if most of the people on it are actually working in one spy department or another of the government and all the other subversive groups that are pushing for one *ism* or another. Wouldn't that be ONE BIG JOKE on poor old innocent do-gooder me? What a waste of the last 26 years of my old life. I know for certain, of at least one person in that category. He never prints anything about the PES in his zine. His *ism* is a little bit different.

I do hope that there are at least a few innocent non-spy readers out there who are helping to promote the PES (like the reader in FL who put my two books on internet).

I know that the PES is a good idea. It has been working for me for the past 26 years. I have far more Freedom in my writing than do writers who *must* please an editor, publisher and readers. When you take pay, you must obey!

I can write *how*, *when*, *where* and *what* I please. *Why*? I write for my own good reasons . . . not for money. I give it to *who* ever I please. I withhold it, if I please. Therefore my work of writing and publishing is more fun now, than when I had to please people. Now I write only what I sincerely believe to be truth. Hoping to help create a better system for all people. That incidentally includes me and my kids and friends. So, I have a selfish motive for promoting the PES. Now, you know what a selfish person I am! I am *not* an altruist!

I live the PES as much as I can. If you desire the Priceless Economic System, you will have to act on it! Start using it now! Be an example as much as you can.

Free Is Power!

After you have built up a little surplus money and get a little feeling of security . . . try giving some of your skill or products away, free of charge (not barter). That is what the PES is all about.

Note the *Power* you get over the situation when you work for free. You can no longer be bossed around, insulted or haggled. Then you have the *Power* to give or not to give. The receiver dares not bite the hand that gives (or he/she won't get).

It is a bit of a strange and glorious feeling to have Power over your own labor . . . for a change.

You have got to try the PES to see how good it feels. It's like sex . . . you got to try it before you knock it! It will enrich your life and happiness.

If a simple farm boy like me can do it, you can certainly do it even better! "Where there is a will, there is a way." You merely need to exert the will, e.g., I *will* find the way to take my Freedom, or I *will* continue to allow the Profit System to kick the ladder right out from under me, i.e., to destroy my species. Take your choice!

Zine Reviews

DRIFT, Clif Kennedy, Box 40, 90 Shuter St, Toronto, Ont., Canada M5B 2K6. (Send Clif at least a dollar as his postage was 52 cents.) #75 was an unusual zine. Part looked like it was hand printed and I thought, "This is going to be a bitch to read." But, it read fast. It sure looked hand printed but on closer examination I found all similar letters to be identical. Someone created a computer font of a hand-printed-like alphabet. Very clever.

One article pointed out what the Canadian government is doing to the poor people. Lots of interesting and indepth zine reviews. Some neat graphics and a short story.

WELL HEALTH, Frank Bowman, 10 Corporation Street, Flint, Clywd, England CH6 5PG (tel: 01352 761857) Frank and his friends are doing a Free Flea Market. People bring things and people take things. No barter. No money. Give or/and take. They don't exactly put out a zine but if you send them a donation (it will cost them at least a dollar for postage alone), I'm sure they will send you some reprints of local news coverage of their project, etc. It sounds like they are having fun. It

is really a show case for the Priceless Economic System and they have been doing it for some time.

He also sent me a short satire on Democracy which helps one see the flaw in it. It was called, "The Smug does it Democratically." It even gave cynical me a deeper insight. Ask for a copy.

They sound like good and smart people to me. They are *doing* something to help themselves and others, survive. They are not bitching and moaning and waiting for government to take care of them.

Book Review

ANTHEM, by Ayn Rand, 1937, Signet Books. Here is a book that tops BRAVE NEW WORLD and 1984. It portrays the worst and most complete kind of a slave-world imaginable (Is our system leading to this?) but in the end it shows the awakening and escape of two slaves. A most powerful book! It gets my #10 rating! I can't recommend it enough for people who are already aware of slavery. You will see similarities already present in our System.

My Adventure Stories

If they interest you, you will find several of them embedded in back issues of the LFP.

Back Issues of LFP

Back issues are available from:

Dryan

Box 640

Elk River, MN 55330

Send him a stamp for an LFP back-issue catalog-sheet that has a review of each issue and prices.

Books

My two books, I WAS ROBOT, \$7.95 and FREE I GOT, \$8.95 (both postpaid) are available from: Marathon International Book Co Box 32

Madison, IN 47250-0032

Subscriptions

Free, but you pay for the delivery. Please send US stamps, US money, a check or international postal credits for postage for as many future issues as you desire. They usually weigh a little over a half ounce.

Please send subscription orders to LFP (address below).

Copy

If each reader makes copies of this paper and passes them out and if the people who receive your copies do the same . . . a lot more people will soon learn about the Priceless Economic System.

Reprinting Permissible **FREE**
10-9-95 Ernest Mann

Book Reviews

THE LAST MOUNTAIN MEN, Harold Peterson, 1975, Belmont Tower Books. This book is an interesting and detailed story of a man who found ways to be self-sufficient and take care of almost all of his needs. He lived away from people and rarely had visitors or made the long trip into town. It shows how a good life can be had with very little money.

THE GOD PROJECT, Stan Lee, 1990, Grove Weidenfeld publisher. An interesting exciting spy expose' on government. On page 386, Halliday, the President said, "We lie, we manipulate, we cheat, we con. Every politician in this country is bought and paid for, and that includes me."

One reason why this expose' of government was allowed to be published, I think, is because it contains a fear mongering clincher . . . the good-guy gets assassinated. It exposes the crooks but makes people afraid to do anything about it.

SPHERE by Michael Crichton, Alfred A. Knopf publisher, 1987. This is an exciting adventure story. It deals a lot with how people think. In fact the crux of the story is about a sphere found in a time-machine. The sphere somehow changed a person and gave them direct linkage with their powerful subconscious mind. This allowed a person to manifest their thoughts into reality. If you had good thoughts stored, you created good things. If you had bad thoughts stored, you created bad things.

It was almost like being a God. The sphere told people that everyone had that power but didn't realize it.

I have seen some examples of this myself. There have been a few times in my life when I thought to myself that I needed such and such. And in a few days I came across just what I had told myself I needed. Some people will say that this was just a "chance" happening. Maybe it was. A few will say that there is a Universal mind network. Some will say it was God answering a prayer. I don't know what it is but I think I'll put more time into experimenting with the phenomena and see if I can figure

out how to make it work. I hope I can remember to do this. Something tells me that it is vital to learn this secret.

Some people think that thinking bad thoughts really manifests bad happenings in the thinkers own life. It sure looks like that to me too.

THE POWER OF POSITIVE THINKING by Norman Vincent Peale, 1952. I read it 30 or 40 years ago and found it again at a garage sale and am now reading it again. A terrific book. It talks about manifesting ones desires as does **SPHERE**. It could be called a "guide-book" on manifesting, but it uses the word God instead of subconscious.

It is quit religious but for un-religious people, just substitute the word subconscious, higher self, ones essence or your own term; for the word "God" and you can derive much good inspiration and common sense from Peale. It offers ways to reach that Power that we all have private access to.

THE LONG WALK (A Gamble for Life), Slavomir Rawicz, Harper & Row, 1956. His true life experience as a Polish army lieutenant. He was taken by the Russians in 1939. He was unjustly accused of being a spy and tortured to get him to sign an untrue "Confession." It details the torture he suffered along with 5,000 other captive Czechs, Poles, Fins, Latvians, Yugoslavs, Lithuanians, Americans, Estonians and others.

He tells what life was like being packed shoulder to shoulder standing in boxcars on a 3,000 mile trip. He tells of the additional 1,000 mile walk they, all chained together, had to make in winter to arrive in northern Siberia at a prison work-camp. (Prisons very often have *very real* slave-labor factories even in the U.S.A.)

Hero worship is strongest where there is least regard for human freedom.

Herbert Spencer

(7 pages of "sports" heros in the Star Tribune.)

He also tells a very descriptive and interesting story about his eventual escape.

It is a book well worth reading. It helps to remind us of what war is really like. We had just better *remember* so that we won't fall victim to it again, when the government starts another draft or/and advertises to entice young people to "Be more than you are." (Become a paid legal murderer!)

This book reminds us of just one little horrible phase of War. There are plenty of others. Just ask a one armed Veteran!

If you have studied the PES you can see that wars are unnecessary, so let's do all that we can as individuals to change the system so that there is no longer a *reason* to start wars.

There is no end to the number of ways certain people make huge Profits in wars. Let's get rid of the Profit System. Just look at how they are killing people in Yugoslavia. You can bet your bottom dollar that someone is or will make some huge Profits from this "skirmish."

What is War Like?

"War is Hell!" War is not good for the people who are being killed, wounded or forced to flee from their homes. This includes the people who were forced or lured into wearing a uniform.

The civilians being killed don't like it. No matter what country they live in, they have feelings just like you and me. No matter the color of their skin or how primitive they may look to us . . . they have as much right to enjoy life and not have to worry about being shot at or bombed as you do.

Let's face it: War is primarily, and always has been, the cold-blooded murdering of human beings. The victims are just like you and me. They would rather be home tending to their families, gardens, jobs, joys and loves. And why shouldn't they?

Who has a right to murder them? If you allow a group of psychopaths calling themselves "Government" to start a war or an invasion of any kind for any purpose . . . then you are condoning

this mass-murdering of your fellow human beings.

If there is a God, where do you think you stand on his list, if you allow Government (and pay their way) to send our young men (and now women also) out with guns to do murder? "Thou shalt not kill!" Remember?

Distracted

They keep us distracted from reality by calling a war; a *religious, ethnic or civil-war*, as camouflage, like in Yugoslavia, to try to make us think it is a "just war."

Everyone falls for this cover-up and sympathizes with the underdog. No one stops to question who the Profiteers are who sent in the agitators to stir up the people and arm them and get it started. In a Priceless System there would be no Profit in starting wars.

I don't know which group in government has the psychopaths. Our little government in Little Falls seem to have all very nice people, even the policemen. Actually I didn't see any psychopaths in the Minneapolis government in the 40 years I lived there. I saw the government wasting our tax dollars in everything they touched in Mpls. They don't seem as wasteful here in LF.

Perhaps the government psychopaths hang-out in the Pentagon. It figures . . . they are lop-sided people . . . they would be happy in a lop-sided building.

After War

I interviewed a German lady who was three years old when WWII ended. Her small mining town (1,600 population) didn't get bombed much but she said that they were very short of food when she was little. She said her mother would have to walk out into the country and beg for food for her family and would sometimes be gone for a week before she got some. She said all they had to eat sometimes was cabbage soup.

Her father told her that some of the American soldiers did some very mean things to the Germans during the occupation. Wars make people do insane things. The hate lingers even after it is over.

She told me we must dig out the roots of war instead of cutting it off at the surface level. War has always grown back in 20 years or so.

I told her that the root of war is called Profit. That is what we

have to dig up and get rid of. She agreed. If we plant enough PES, it will smother out the very roots of the Profit System.

The Wise Ones?

We older people are supposed to be the wise ones! But we are a bunch of weak-livered pussies. We are so well indoctrinated with fear that we dare not say or do anything to put a stop to this psychopathic-insanity called WAR!

Perhaps the main reasons why people keep still about this, is not only that we have been made to believe that war is inevitable, but that we have made ourselves DEPENDENT on the Profit System.

Most people have got themselves so deeply in debt that they fear to make waves against the system, thinking that they may get fired and not be able to get another job and consequently lose everything that they owe money on. *They got'cha*, if you owe money! There is a real danger of getting fired in the Profit System.

If you wish more Freedom to do what you think is right, then the first thing to do is to get yourself out of debt. Sell everything that you owe money on and pay off your debts. If you can't sell it, give it back to the loan sharks. It will mean a bad credit record. So much the better . . . then you can't charge things any more or take out another loan.

Just see how good you feel when you don't have all those maggots chewing on you all the time. What a relaxed feeling. Oh, how good life can be!

People without debts and a little reserve cash, can and do, tell their boss to piss-off if they feel like it. If they have good skill and are good workers, the boss must treat them a lot better to keep them.

When you save up your money, to pay cash for things, then you evaluate your desires more and ask yourself, "Is this thing I want to buy worth the hours of my life it will take to pay for it?" Then you will no longer have the burden of *interest* to pay. You get nothing for the interest you pay except enslavement to a loan (mortgage).

The same is true for a car loan, only more so. The interest on car loans is very deceiving. It is much higher than they advertise. They charge interest by the month. On a house they charge by the year.

People who buy a *new* car are really "stuck-Royal." They pay more for a new car than we used to pay for a house. (In a small town 100 miles or more from a large city you can still buy a house for less than a new car.)

What insanity! Going deeply into debt to buy expensive transportation, so that you can get a job good enough to make these high car payments. How can we be so stupid? I'll tell you. We have been conditioned to think that a new shinny undented unscratched car is a very high status symbol. Because of our competitive-training we think we must have a better new car than our friends and neighbors . . . to make us feel good. As long as we remain a "sucker" to competitive conditioning, we are "hooked" into wage-slavery.

Beat the Game

To become more independent, reduce your expenses and attempt to learn the skills needed to make more money. Learning to live well on less, means more money for savings and thus more wise investments. Investments in an area where you have some expertise and control will help to insure a very early retirement for you from the Rat Race.

Then you can experience 24 hours a day of Freedom to do as you please with your time (life) while you are still young and spry enough to enjoy it. You do not have to be a slave until you are 65. Believe me, it is a wonderful feeling to be retired and have all this Freedom. I have had 24 years of it, since I was 42 years old.

"Money is like an arm or a leg
-- use it or lose it."

Henry Ford, 1931

The two years I recently spent making money again were fun too, because I managed to be my own boss in that endeavor. I made a little pile of money, invested it and retired again. It really doesn't take much money to retire if you live simply. *Use the System to beat the System!*

Since I retired in 1969 I have had no debts. I do not absorb the mass media, so I am not troubled by *fear*. I have not been afraid to talk against the government or the

rich guys all these years since. I can not even remember what it was like to be fearful. That is pleasant. Consequently, I¹ am healthier than anyone that I know. Fear and anxiety make people sick. It makes them tense and reduces their resistance.

So, if you wish to speak-out and act for what you believe is right . . . get rid of your debts and your rent. Your debts effectively tape your mouth shut!

Rent or a mortgage payment is the biggest nut you have to crack. Get rid of that *and* your car payments and you will have easy going. Then you are relieved of much stress and tension and will be much healthier and happier. Even the small garden (20'x50') I had in town, was a great joy to me and I raised lots of good eats.

"Better to live rich, than to die rich."

Eli Johnson

As soon as you can buy a home for cash, do it, because rent is slavery too. But if you insist on a home mortgage, then pay it off with concentrated speed! But don't be a sucker and buy one of those expensive homes. A cave is a cave. If you play the Game and allow your cave to be a status symbol . . . then you're screwed and tattooed. You'll never get it paid for and consequently never get Free. And that is just what they want, an *indentured* slave!

A newer house will most likely start falling apart before it gets paid for because they are making the newer ones so very poorly. Get a cheap old one; they were built much better and have cheaper taxes. Then you won't have to work as long to pay for it or you won't need as large an income. Fix it up yourself. Learn how from books and from experimenting. It is a fun adventure . . . an experience in learning. It beats paying out money for entertainment. After you escape from the Rat Race you won't give a shit for status

¹ I do not recommend a violent overthrow. They have never freed the slaves. It is, "fighting fire with fire." I try to show people how to free themselves from the Profit System, i.e., how to escape from it. Those who don't wish to escape can stay in it and play the Profit/Slave Game. There is plenty of room on this grand old Earth for both of us. Just travel around a bit and you will see all the vacant space.

symbols. You won't need them any more.

Everybody used to take care of their own cave. We can too. It is vital if you wish to become independent and earn your Freedom.

Of course, you can remain glued to your TV, videos, radio, newspaper, music and games and be led around by the slave-chain you have glued to your mind. Wash off the glue . . . dump the masses media! Think for yourself!

Trained?

Have we been trained to expect other people (or the government) to do things for us? This has made us **DEPENDENT** on these others. Then we have to knuckle-in and beg to get what we want.

Whatever happened to the self-reliant people who knew how to take care of themselves? Have we become drones in a bee-hive or an ant hill? I don't know, but I do know that I'm learning ways to take care of myself. And I love the feelings of independence and satisfaction it is giving me. See my book review of "The Last Mountain Men."

When I bought my first computer about eight years ago, I had some tough learning to do. There was ecstasy and agony, but I loved it. I rediscovered the fact that; *learning is fun* and that, "An old dog *can* learn new tricks."

Libraries

About a year ago I donated a large bagful of zines to our LF library. I also gave our head librarian a copy of, "Librarians at Liberty."

The L @ L zine may have been a help in getting our library to consider a zine section. I had also given them a copy of an article, "Pushing the Zines and Libraries Boundaries" which appeared in the U. of Minn. Wilson Library Bulletin, May 1995, by Chris Dodge.² This was an especially persuasive article promoting a zine section in libraries. If you would like a copy of the Dodge article, I could Xerox a copy for you if you send me a stamp.

I also gave the library a copy of the MSRRT newsletter. I plan to give them my last copy of Factsheet Five.

As soon as they set up the space in our LF library I plan to

² He is a cataloger at the Hennepin County Library in Minneapolis. He is also co-editor with Jan DeSirey of the MSRRT Newsletter.

donate all the zines I receive to them *after I've read them*. That will expose zines to more people.

Zine Reviews

LIBRARIANS AT LIBERTY, 1716 S.W. Williston Road, Gainesville, FL 32608. 16 pages (\$10 yr. Low income: \$5/yr) A very interesting and useful zine to help you wake up your librarians if they don't realize the value of displaying a zine section for the public. I make a copy of mine and give the original to the LF library. It is more durable than Xerox copies. I keep a copy for reference.

Just think how many more people we can reach with our zines if our home town library has a copy. I didn't put much energy in trying to persuade our head librarian. I was actually very sure that they wouldn't start one. I just provided him with a pile of zines. He did the rest. I was very surprised and elated, when he told me that he was planning a space.

MSRRT NEWSLETTER, 4645 Columbus Avenue S., Minneapolis, MN 55407 (Ten issues/year \$15/yr) This would be a good one to recommend to your librarian. MSRRT might send you a sample back issue to show to your librarian. If you publish a zine, send MSRRT a copy for review.

It has lots of zine reviews. It even included LFP once, so it must not be censored.

FACTSHEET FIVE, Box 170099, San Francisco, CA 94117-0099 (sample \$6 or \$3.95 at newsstands) This is the very best and oldest zine directory. 128 pages with over 1,000 reviews. Be sure to have FF on your mailing list. This is a real fun catalog to explore and cheap even at \$6. You will not wish to part with this but you could at least show it to your librarian. It is also on Internet.

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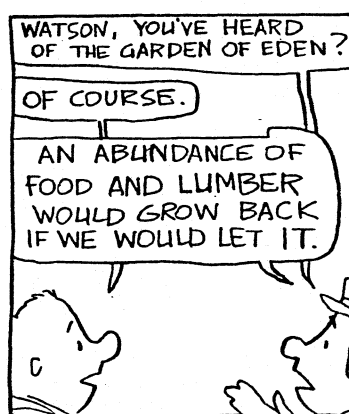
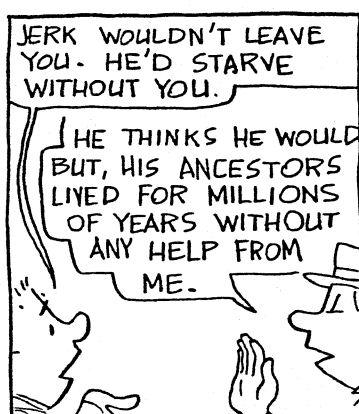
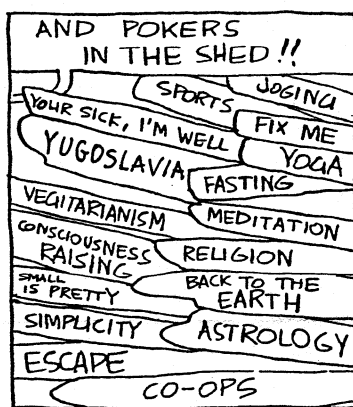
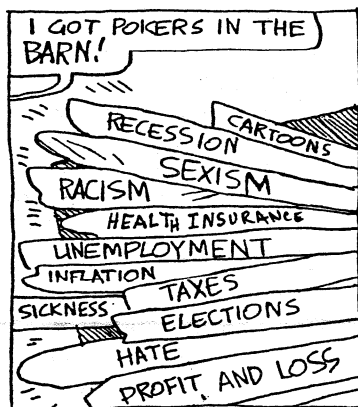
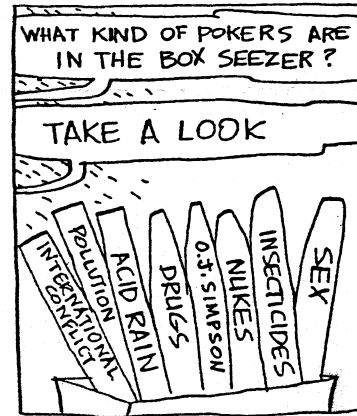
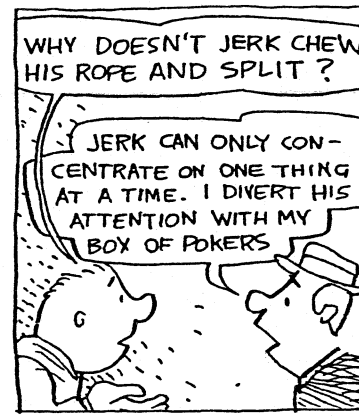
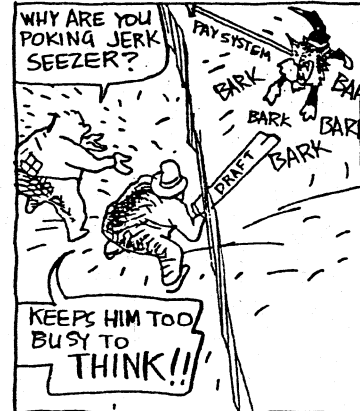
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JERK, THE DOG

STORY, ERNEST MANN, ART, P. DODGE



Incongruous

Has it seemed odd that I have advocated making a lot of money and have raved about how bad the Profit System is?

I have tried for about 24 years to propagate the Priceless Economic System to the point where people would demand a vote on the PES and then just change-over to it. That seemed like a very simple and easy way to change the world in a non-war fashion. Then we would all stop using money at the same time.

Some people have to get Free before they can believe they were slaves.

People did not seem to understand the PES, so the last few years I've changed methods.

I came to the decision that each individual who wants Freedom and Liberty may need to get out of the Rat Race for a while and have the Free time to observe the Profit System from the perspective of a person who is not under the command of the Profit System for his/her immediate survival.

That was how I learned for myself how unfair the Profit System is for 98.6% of the population.

I dropped-out of the PS because of my anger at the government for their Vietnam War. Then I gained 100% Free time. I read all the books I could find on Utopias, good foods and health. I traveled extensively. I observed. I discovered and read underground papers (now called zines). I talked with other people who had created Free time for themselves. I achieved a whole new concept of how the world is run. I could no longer believe what the schools had taught me nor what the mass media had to say each day. The mass media was no longer my Bible!

So a while ago I began to think that perhaps there may not be a short-cut to gain all those new realizations. I can't expect people to believe my conclusions. They may have to go through steps of gradually learning these radical ideas much as I did.

So I began to show a way out of the Rat Race that has worked for me. There must be several

ways to get out and gain the Free time necessary to find out the truth about the Profit System.

My escape route was to accumulate some surplus money. That is, to use the System to change the System! So I try to show people how to beat the system at its own Game. That is, to make yourself as expert as you can about a job to get the highest pay. I suggest thrift and saving. I suggest investing in something you have expertise in and control over. Let your money work for you so that you can retire at a *much* younger age.

Then in this retired state you will have the leisure to pursue truth. One is always benefited more by truth than by the untruths that are taught in the mass media. The untruths benefit the people who control the mass media.

Hopefully this will explain what may have looked like incongruity to some of my readers.

Anger

Some people are so angry at the slave-masters that they want to kill them. But in reality the slaves should be angry at themselves for being dumb enough to fall for and be part of the Slave System (Profit System). Placing the anger in the correct place, gives us Power! Then we can admit that we were ignorant and *that* is something that we *can* change.

"Ignorance is of a peculiar nature; once dispelled, it is impossible to reestablish it. It is not originally a thing in itself, but is only the absence of knowledge; and though man may be kept ignorant, he cannot be made ignorant."
Thomas Paine (1791)

Zine Inspiration

Have you ever felt the synergy that exists between zine editors? I read something in another zine and it sometimes sparks an idea. I've often felt this inspiration, after reading other zines, when I've been discouraged with my PES work. Then I can get back to work on my own writing.

Of course, *all* zines don't inspire me. Only a select few are geared to the attempt . . . to make life better for everyone.

8-Ball

How many people do you know that don't have any money saved up? How many people do you know that have an addiction of one sort or several? Do you know people whose entire checks go to pay their bills? Do you know people whose paychecks are spent before they get them?

Then you know people that may soon be living in the streets, if they lose their jobs and can't find another job in *two* months.

Wouldn't a situation like that keep a family in a lot of anxiety and stress? Is there anything these people could do to escape this stressful situation before it's too late?

Easiest thing in the world! They just need to chop up their credit cards and focus on getting rid of their debts and in the future always pay with cash or check.

To live on a cash basis they will have to reconsider all of their purchases. See if any purchases are addictions and are unnecessary . . . maybe even a hindrance to their success.

People who still absorb the *masses* media are constantly bombarded with urges to buy on credit. Then they usually have to pay a higher price, *besides* all the interest. That is one reason they are always behind the eight-ball and have no ready cash when a *real* bargain comes along. So they remain indentured slaves in the Profit System.

The Massa's media never teaches his slaves how to get Freedom. The Masta's media is controlled by the Slave-Masters. In order to beat the Game you simply must stop absorbing the *mass* media.

Let's face it! We humans are highly "suggestible" creatures. I often notice this trait in myself. I'll be reading an exciting spy, detective or adventure story where the hero is enjoying a drink or a smoke and the notion crosses my mind that I should run out and buy a bottle or some cigarettes. *They got to me!* (You don't suppose that publishers give special preference to authors who include such subtle suggestions? Would the liquor and tobacco industry stoop

so low as to offer incentives to publishers?)

Years ago I went to see a French film with English subtitles. I got such a craving that the next day I bought a ticket and flew to France. When I got there I had to ask myself, "What the Hell am I doing here?" I didn't find France to be as it was portrayed in the movie. But it was a learning. I think we learn a *little* from our mistakes.

I gave away my TV 24 years ago. I rarely absorb any of the masters' media (that includes movies). I have no debts and rarely use my credit card. I have a little money in the bank. That is why I was able to buy this mobile home when it appeared on the market for a bargain price. That was why I could pay cash (\$5) for those storm windows instead of about \$50 if I would have charged them at the hardware store. (A credit card is a charge account.) I can still remember buying on credit when I didn't have the cash. And I remember that I knew I was paying a higher price.

Masses-Media Divorce

That is one way to get out of the fast lane and start learning to THINK for yourself. You can not trust what the media tells you. You can not trust what anyone (that includes me) tells you until you try it out and see if it works for you. You have tried out credit. Has it given you Freedom?

It is a splendid idea to try out new things often.

Try going to work or to the store by a different route. Every so often you will find a better way.

Walker

I've decided to start walking instead of bicycling around our little town. Walking is better exercise. But best of all, it is far easier to stop and talk with someone or look into a dumpster. I was able to enjoy the beautiful cloud display today as I walked.

Yesterday morning on my walk to Coborn's super-market (They have a deli with free coffee where I usually buy a Danish for 35 cents.) I seen a beautiful energetic little bird fluttering from branch to branch and from tree to tree, stopping just long enough to pick up a bug or something. He was about the size of a sparrow. He

had a black colored head with two white stripes and a breast about the color of a robin. He had quite a long beak too. He fluttered around so fast for his breakfast it reminded me of the *contrast* with the people who refuse to do any fluttering for their breakfast and expect someone else to do their work for them. This includes the rich guys *and* the people on welfare.

Bag Mann

I heard it was supposed to snow here in a couple of days. I went out and raked up most of my leaves and bagged them. I put 36 bags around the north and west side of my mobile home to insulate a little against the prevailing northwesterly winter winds.

My grandson thought that I was weird because no one else in the trailer park had done it. I told him that there were not very many smart people in this world. He looked a little puzzled as he left for work this morning.

Home Schooled

Grandson was home-schooled in what I thought a hap-hazard way until he was 13 years old. Then he was given some tests. His reading ability was 12th grade level. He was put in the 7th grade here in Little Falls. He passed with high grades and did the same in 8th grade. He did his 9th grade in a California school and attended less than half the time. He failed, but he had taken his G.E.D. test there and passed it. He is now 17 years old and has a job in a LF restaurant.

I had thought it would have been better for him to learn what he could from the school system, but he thought otherwise. I think he has some wisdom that I'm not aware of.

After reading a reprint in LUNO¹, I have come to believe grandson did the right thing. He has a *very* strong will of his own.

That reprint, "Nine Assumptions of Schooling" by John Taylor Gatto², really caught my interest. It was about the Swiss educational system and how Switzerland has the highest per capita income and a low percentage of high school and college graduates. The Swiss

have a very high number of apprenticeships in both blue and white collar employment.

This guy, Gene Lehman, puts a lot of great stuff in his LUNO zine. It's well worth the money.

Minneapolis

I drove the 100 miles to Mpls. the other day. I bought 8 O'Clock coffee beans at the Rainbow Foods. They are about half the price of the other coffee company beans. (I grind them fresh for each cup I drink.) I bought spices and grain at the North Country Co-op³ grocery. (I grind corn or oats each morning that I eat grain, in my Corona hand corn mill that was made in Columbia, S.A.) The co-ops' prices are about half the price of health food stores. It was started in about 1970. I think North Country was the first "peoples" co-op grocery store in the U.S.A., and now the oldest.

In the Mpls. yellow pages I found four Salvage yards. I visited one and it was a gold mine of used things taken from dismantled houses. I found five storm windows with glass a little larger than what I need for my mobile home. I'll cut them down to size. The hardware store here wanted \$13 for just one piece of glass. This guy said \$10 for all five storms. I offered him \$5. He came down to \$7.50. Then I offered him \$5 plus an antique mechanical pencil I had bought for 50 cents at a garage sale. He took my offer and we were both happy. An antique pen dealer had offered me \$2 for the pencil. I, needless to say, gave him a copy of the LFP also.

I must go back to that salvage yard and look it over completely to see what treasures are there that I may need some day.

I need a metal return-air-grill for my Coleman gas FA trailer furnace. I may find something I can improvise to fit the 20 3/4" x 22 7/8" opening.

Caesar's Circus

Have you noticed how people are still occupying their thoughts with O.J. Simpson? (Ha! The initials for Orange Juice. Easy to remember, eh?) Was O.J. just an actor hired for this diversion-script? Remember what Caesar said, "Give the people circus and bread and they won't rebel."

Simpson is a current example. They are still getting millage out

1 10:7 issue, dated 10/13/95, Learning Unlimited Network of Oregon, 31960 SE Chin Street, Boring, OR 97009 503-663-5153 \$10/yr.

2 SKOLE, 72 Philip Street, Albany, NY 12202, 518-432-1578 Fax: 462-6836 \$20/yr.

3 2129 Riverside Avenue S., Mpls., MN 55454.

of it. I wonder why they needed a public distraction? What were or are they doing that has need for a cover-up?

Is gambling (including lotteries) part of the circus? It keeps people occupied buying and watching to see if they have won and dreaming of all the things they'll buy and do if they win. But of course, it also helps to keep them broke and in debt so they have to remain slaves.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Ernest,

I don't relate to some of your new angles on the PES about "negative" music and revolutionary change being bad, undesirable things. Don't you think these are healthy and even necessary expressions?

Furthermore, you oversimplify when you say, "good guys" vs. "bad guys," and you oversimplify further when you say "there are not bad guys." Yes, many are just caught up in a stupid game, but at best a few are purposely compromising and exploiting it, and are certainly to blame. Anyway, I like your newsletter and ideas, and it has been a pleasure to cross your path in Minneapolis. I just wanted to tell you that some of what you see as negative, I see as life affirming. Keep up the good work.

Aaron
Cometbus, Box 4726,
Berkeley, CA 94704

Editor's response:

I'm re-reading *POWER OF POSITIVE THINKING*, by Norman Vincent Peale, which I read about 40 years ago. It is still around in used book racks in Sally stores, Goodwill, etc. I have tried to live by positive thinking. It may be part of the reason I've had a pretty good life and was able to retire by the time I was 42. I've had very few troubles in my life. I think I can say that this book ranks right along side of the best book that I ever read in my life. (that was not the Bible) This book is easy reading for a believer in God. It is a little more difficult for unbelievers. "God" needs to be read as; subconscious, higher self, essence, central control system or some such term for one to learn the *POWER* over ones life that this book teaches!!!

When we say or hear negative ideas or songs, our subconscious believes whatever it hears. Then it goes about its business of manifesting those things into our life. So we want to be damn careful of what we tell our self or allow a

song, or other sources to tell us. Is it wise to allow rap music to implant a hate mood in us?

The rich guys have known for thousands of years how music can be used to make people march to their tune.

Aaron, they are a lot more sophisticated at that trick now. I don't trust any of the mass media's music. I trust my own music that I compose as I blow into my little old harmonica. I can blow music that makes me happy or that makes me sad or that makes me feel peppy. Music is a very powerful mind-conditioning force used on everyone who absorbs the mass media. Besides that, they probably have subliminal implants in their music that may be making us believe that we are not slaves and causing us to believe lots of other untruths.

I do agree with you that we need to express our feelings about the bad things that are in the System. And get angry too. That is good. But not to linger and lounge in anger. When we are angry we can't think and act as efficiently. We need efficiency if we are to change the bad system to a good system. We need to say, "This is a bad system! What can we do now to change it?" From that point on we need to think positive thoughts.

I didn't say there are good guys and bad guys. You said that. I will agree that there are people who are doing bad things. They are good at playing a bad game, called the Profit Game. You win most at that game by cheating and being mean. They are good at that Game.

I said there is a bad system that will eventually extinct the homo sapiens. I say there is a better system, the PES, which I think, would make life better for all people on this planet. It makes my life better the more I use it.

I don't see a benefit for the downtrodden to fight in a revolution. They just get killed or crippled. Bloody revolutions have never freed the wage-slaves, it killed them. The rich guys hire poor guys and put a uniform on them and have them kill poor guys, i.e., the revolutionaries. That's what a revolution is! Poor guys killing poor guys. Does that make sense?

We need to use our brains and create a system where there is no Profit in doing bad things!

If you mean a "Revolution" in the sense of revolving the system around to a better one, then I agree. But first we need to reveal a better system to the people. Show them things that they can do right here and now, within the Profit System to make change in their own life. When each person is living the PES as best he/she can and feeding the Profit System as little as possible . . . it will have to die. When we fight the Profit System we give it energy. It hires more cops. It raises taxes. The reverse is true if we don't fight it. We change it by creating something better!

Dwelling on negative thoughts, attracts bad shit to one. I surely don't need that!

Kill!

Some fellows told me that when they were in basic-training for the Korean War they were required to yell together, something like, "Kill, kill, kill! Kill those Gooks!"

Some of the rap tapes I've heard make me wonder if they have brought that "Kill-strategy" into civilian life. Could it be more government tactics to arouse the young to start a revolution or is it just getting them primed to make it easier to get enlistments?

I've only heard blacks do the Rap Tapes. Are they using blacks as the scapegoats in this Hate-Production? Would it serve yet another purpose . . . make the whites angry at and fearful of the blacks?

Zine Review

Abolish Money, Law & State, Bruce Friedemann, Box 1417, Tucson, AZ 85702. For \$1 or two stamps, Friedemann will send you a bundle of reasons why we should get rid of money and state, including quotes from the bible and other literature.

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U.S.A.: \$0.32, Canada: \$0.52, Mexico: \$0.46, All others: \$1.00

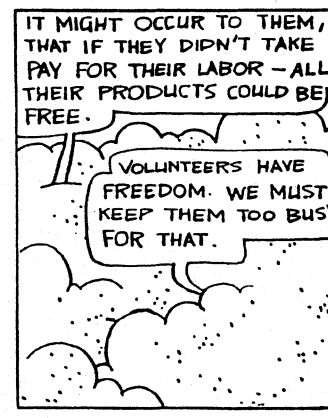
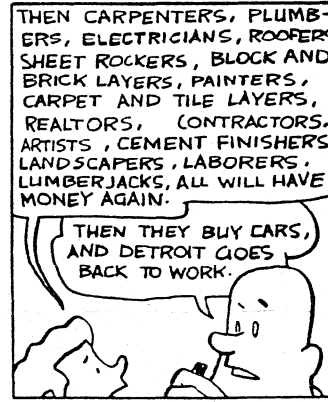
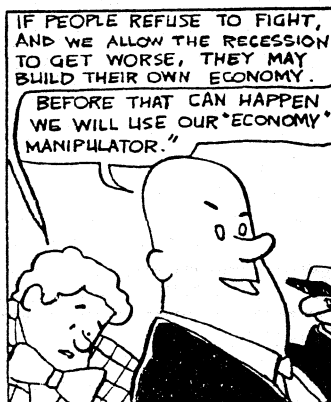
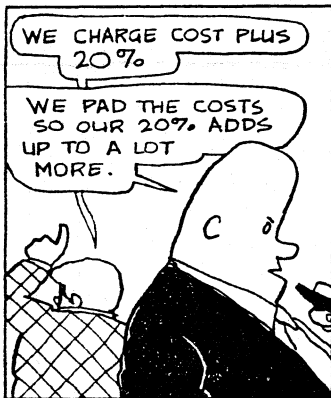
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If each reader makes copies of this paper and passes them out and if the people who receive your copies do the same . . . we will plant a lot of PES seeds. If we plant enough seeds maybe a few of them will grow.

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FREE
Ernest Mann



Computer Upgrading

A computer is really a nice tool to have. It saves a lot of grunt work and enables one to do a *much* better job. At least it is true for a writer and for keeping a mailing list up to date.

But, there is this constant desire somehow created in us computer users, to get us to upgrade to a faster and more powerful computer. If we do that, then we'll want to upgrade all our software too. This can mean a lot of bucks. It's fine if you got lots of bucks. But to go into debt (that's what they want us to do) keeps us behind the 8-ball.

So what the heck do we do? By some unknown means I've held myself back from spending my small stash of savings on upgrading . . . so far. By waiting I'll soon be able to afford to upgrade about half way to the latest state-of-the-arts model for a very low price. I may do it. But there is something nagging in my mind that says don't do it! I think it's an addiction I'm trying to get out of, not get deeper into.

Then there is the "Internet." They paint a pretty picture about how much fun it is and how we soon won't hardly be able to live without it.

Looking into it on first glance makes it look almost free. But it would probably soon induce a person to upgrade at least to a 486. Then after one gets on line there are probably a bunch more hidden costs that will constantly nibble away at my savings. I just don't trust the big \$hots who do, or soon will, control the Internet!

Freedom?

Now there is a gas station chain called "Freedom." Some years ago I noticed a "Freedom Battery" and a "Freedom Bra." I suppose they are using "Freedom" as trade marks on other items too.

The meanings of important words get diluted when we use them to mean something entirely different. They lose their potency. Soon people won't even remember what the word "Freedom" means to us. Some have already forgotten what Freedom is! Most people

imagine they already have Liberty and Freedom. They put it in their gas tank this morning!

Many years ago they gave people the "Liberty Nickel" (a 5 cent piece). They called a magazine, "Liberty Magazine." As I recall, it had nothing about Freedom or Liberty in it.

Oh, they are a tricky bunch . . . the Ruling Class! But they have had centuries of practice. They were brought up and trained by parents who knew how to rule slaves.

You don't hear or read the word "slave" much anymore except in the *underground* papers. You might hear a mechanic talk about a brake slave-cylinder. The word "slave" was not in my Microsoft Word dictionary. I had to add it. Can you see how the Establishment tries to take the *Power* and even the memory of certain words away from us. Even the meaning of the ERA women's freedom movement got sucked away by the ERA real estate signs and advertisements you see.

You don't see the term "underground paper" much anymore either. That has been replaced with "zine," a very harmless word. They take the *POWER* out the words that describe our thoughts of escape from wage-slavery, or remove the words entirely.

This was all predicted years ago in the books, "Brave New World" by Aldous Huxley and "1984" by George Orwell.

What can we do about this destruction of our inspiring words? For one thing we can boycott all products using names like Freedom. If the boycott caught on, it might push the product off the market. I can stop diluting the meaning of "Underground" by not using the word "zine" in my paper.

Most people think there is *not* a conspiracy against the wage-slaves. That, I think, is a strong part of the subliminal mind-conditioning in the mass media. If we avoid the mass media we will miss most of the mind conditioning that takes the *Power* from our "Freedom" words. I expect they prefer to keep us as contented wage-slaves always striving to buy more shinny

machines, more powerful computers and big houses on credit, so that we will be indentured to work for them. That used to be called indentured slavery! Now it is called small loans or mortgages . . . harmless little unthreatening sounds, eh?

Retire?

I ran into an old friend the other day when I went to Minneapolis. He was disgusted with the local bureaucrats who had been harassing him in his business.

I knew he was very successful in his business. He is probably in his late forties. I asked him why he didn't retire and get away from all that grief. He said he did retire a few years ago but he couldn't stand it. He said he couldn't keep himself busy enough and got bored and went back into his business.

If people who can afford to retire would read Norman Vincent Peale's book, "The Power of Positive Thinking" and John A. Schindler's book "How to Live 365 Days a Year," they would know better how to control their emotions, i.e., their lives.

Boredom is a feeling, an emotion, as is fear, anger, love and joy. Learning how to control these feelings is far more important to a thinking person than gaining more success in business. Better to be a live happy person than a dead rich one.

It takes some quiet time too, to see how, not only the world is run, but to see how our thinking process works. And to experiment with learning how to be in control of it. When we figure out the secret of controlling our thoughts we are then in control of our emotions, i.e., our feelings.

Are We Fully Awake?

We are not really awake or really alive until we learn this trick of knowing how to control our thinking. Most people go through their whole life allowing what they see, hear, touch, smell and taste, lead their thoughts. They never learn to lead and control their own thinking process. Our thinking is about all that differentiates us from vegetables or slaves. I'm beginning to learn a

few little tricks on controlling my thinking process but I keep myself too busy to learn more.

When we really take the time to learn how to control our thinking process, I think we will be able to recognize slavery and find it . . . totally unacceptable!

You're Needed!

The world badly needs people who can retire early . . . who still have most of their marbles intact, to help with the worlds biggest remodeling job. We need some more good brains working on changing the economic system into one that will work for all people. Like Bucky Fuller said, "We need to be playing a Game where everyone is a winner."

I think the Priceless Economic System is such a Game. You may invent an even better Game. But the PES would certainly be a better game for everyone than the Profit Game is. We need more minds working on how to get the PES started.

I have certainly not been bored in the 26 years I have been retired. I try to play for a while when I get discouraged with this world saving work and it doesn't take long before some good new ideas pop into my head and I start promoting the PES again.

You may think it better to help in the task of feeding the poor, saving the animals, working the bio-region plan, stopping war or some other good cause where you can see more results from your efforts.

But don't you see that the solutions to *all* of these immediate problems will fall into place as soon as we quit using the PROFIT motive to run our Earth. Then it will make no sense (\$) to do these bad things to our Earth and to people.

Divide and Rule

The Establishment uses this trick to keep us divided and thereby powerless to make the change to Freedom.

It isn't difficult for them to prod and irritate us with one of the many arms of their thousand tentacled monster called Profit. Then we fight that one tentacle.

Think what an impact it will make when each of the tentacle fighters drop the tentacle they are fighting and all start chopping on the brain of this Profit monster. It will then die a very quick death.

Before we can be effective in making change in this world we need to wake-up to how the Game is played. Become aware of the "Divide & Rule" trick.

They divide us slaves in all kinds of ways to keep us from co-operating to gain all our Freedom.

They divide the whites against the blacks, women against men, children against parents, Chinese against Japanese, plant eaters against meat eaters, no-choice against pro-choice and many other divisions.

We also need to become aware of Caesar's trick, "Give the slaves bread and circus and they won't rebel." The O.J. Simpson and the wars are examples of circuses and of course the news is one continuous circus. The TV and all the other mass media are ongoing circuses to keep the slaves too busy to even stop to ask if they are getting their fair share of the Profit that their slave-master makes from their work. They don't even know that they have a right to the products of their labor.

But of course slaves have *no* rights. Only the rights that they *take* for themselves.

If we wish to be effective in helping to make change for the betterment of LIFE we had better stop chipping away at the tentacles of the monstrous SLAVE DRIVER and each one of us go for the brain of the monster. Then we'll succeed.

No Chopping

Actually we can then leave our axes (anger) behind and instead of fighting the monster we will starve its brain to a quick and painless death. The Profit monster feeds on our fear, our anger and on our labor.

Each one of us is important in making the change-over to a Priceless Economic System. Each one of us in our own individual way can help in making this change-over.

We need to first understand how this Slave & Master Game is played and then start playing the new PES Game as much as we can in our present mode of life.

To be successful we got to stop absorbing the slave drivers control tool, the mass media. Then we start thinking for ourselves. We then start taking the long term view of our actions. We look ahead and ask our self, "What will happen years from now if I do such and such?"

We got to continue to play the Game as we are doing now in order to keep food in our bellies. But gradually we need to find ways to give less and less of our labor to the Profit System and continuously learn ways to keep more of the efforts of our labor for our self and our family.

But you won't be a valuable part of this Big Change-over if you continue to waste your time being entertained.

Entertainment

This is the Circus idea again. Just by holding the slaves' attention for X number of minutes or hours, that is X number of minutes or hours that the slaves are not planning their escape to Freedom. And then if the entertainment (circus) is emotionally exhausting enough, the slaves will be too wore out to even think of escape for some time.

They have another cute trick. They encourage people to smoke pot and do other drugs by passing laws against them. When people are stoned, tripping on other drugs or even high on alcohol they are really not very effective in solving their slavery problem. They may think that they are thinking very profound thoughts but they are fooling themselves.

I have been high on pot or other hallucinatory drugs and did what I thought at the time was some very profound writing. But the next day after I had come down from the drugs, I read my writing and discovered it to be trash and threw it away. The drugs sure had me fooled.

The Establishment uses the old, "You can't have it!" trick to get people to waste part or all of their Free time doing the "no-nos." Does this then become a safe channel to divert people's rebellion? Besides they have the drugs priced so high that people are kept broke and at their slave job forever.

There is only 24 hours of time to regulate each day. About a third of it is already taken care of by sleep. Another third is taken up by work, i.e., slavery, this is what they want from us. So the slave masters only have to divert our attention for less than eight hours per day. Much of that time is already taken care of by eating and cleaning. They manage to steal what little free time we have left with their mass media entertainment.

Can you now see that our first step to escape from slavery, is based on our ability to stop absorbing the mass media and drugs?

Talk to Each Other

If we now use our old mass-media-time to think and talk with each other, we will start learning more tricks of being Free. Then we can learn to get more of the profit from our work.

My Sixth River Trip

This is the last in a series of my previous attempts to travel the Mississippi to New Orleans.

This took place a year or so after my attempt to sail to New O. from Minneapolis.

I decided I would try to motor to New O. I went to the Lilydale Marina where I had ended my last trip and asked if the marina had any motor yachts to sell.

Brown thought for a while and said he had a 16 foot fiberglass motor boat with a cuddy cabin that he got for non-payment of storage fees that he would sell me for \$200.

I looked it over good. It was up on blocks. It looked sturdy. A heavy fiberglass hull built in Florida. I bought it with the understanding that he would launch it for me and give me free dockage for one month. He agreed.

He said it was built for two 50 h.p. outboards. I figured that they would take too much gas for such a long trip. I looked for one 15 h.p. outboard. I finally found an old Evinrude that I bought for \$150 (or somewhere around there) that ran good. I was living aboard most of the time for about a month while searching for a motor and building a shelter around the steering position while tied up at the slip.

I would often fry a T-bone steak on my little one burner Primas propane stove and enjoy that on board. That was real living!

That was a wonderful time. I didn't own a car and I walked a lot. I was living in an unfinished basement (Unfit for human habitation, the city would have said, if someone had squealed on me.) in a near downtown slum area in Minneapolis. I had quite a bit of money them days, but was reluctant to spend much. I was only paying \$50/mo. rent.

I would take a bus from Mpls. to St. Paul and walk along the river to Lilydale. It was always such a peaceful walk. Lots of trees

and birds along the way. I found some wild grapes that were ripe and enjoyed eating them on my walks to and from St. Paul.

It was around the middle of October when I shoved off for New Orleans. The same lady friend who accompanied me on most of the other trips decided to come along. We left on a chilly drizzling day. We headed down stream toward New O. at the cruising speed of the 15 horse Evinrude, which wasn't very fast. We were secure under the bimini and wind break I had rigged. But it was a chilly and glumly day.

I had only a couple of 5 gallon gas tanks along and we tried to stop to buy more gas, but most of the marinas were already closed for the season. After about three hours of cruising downstream we found one still open and refilled both tanks. After paying about \$9.00 for the gas I got to figuring it was going to cost me at least a thousand dollars to get to New Orleans. Well, that didn't seem prudent so we turned the boat back upstream toward Lilydale, Minnesota.

When we got there I called an old buddy of mine and asked him how he would like to buy a motor boat with a cuddy cabin for \$350, including the motor. He jumped at the chance and drove right down to the Marina.

I took him for a little ride up the river to the Mandota Bridge and back and he bought it. I threw in the case of beer and some other stuff that was on board.

He was going to take the boat up to his lake cabin. That ended that attempt at Old Man River. Next time I think I'll start at Baton Rouge.

Book Review

TIME GLADIATOR, Mack Renolds, Lancer Books, 1969. Mack is a very unique author. In most of his books he sets up a different political-economic system in the background of an interesting and exciting science fiction story.

I have read 39 of his books so far . . . most of his books, I guess.

Mack had moved to Mexico. Said he couldn't afford to live in the U.S.A.

Anyway, in this book the masses had all been replaced by automation and given a fixed annual income. They spent all their time, "in front of the bub-tube, sucking on tranqs." Even the ruling

class were going to pot and disintegrating. It is an interesting look at what could happen to us.

Underground Papers

NEW WORLD RISING, Fred Fratiello, Box 33, 71 Hope Street, Providence, RI 02906 (Donation) #23 was an 8 page tabloid. The format was a collage of graphics and print. Lots of concerned people writing in about mother earth, leaving their names and addresses. They seem like people who see a need for change and desire a way to do it.

KOMBAT, Anthony Jankowski, Box 20311, Indianapolis, IN 46220-0311 (\$2.50) #12 had 43 pages. An easy to read, well laid out underground paper with graphics. Letters from readers with responses. Articles reveal what's wrong in the System. If you don't believe there is a conspiracy against the working people, you need to read this.

Back Issues of LFP

Back issues of LFP are as current as this issue and are available from:

Dryan

Box 640

Elk River, MN 55330

Send him a stamp for an LFP back-issue catalog-sheet that has a review of each issue and prices.

Books

My two books, **I WAS ROBOT**, \$7.95 and **FREE I GOT**, \$8.95 (both postpaid) are available from:

Marathon International Book Co
Box 32

Madison, IN 47250-0032

Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to *encourage thinking people to help change the world-wide slave system* (When you take pay -- you must obey.) to a Free System.

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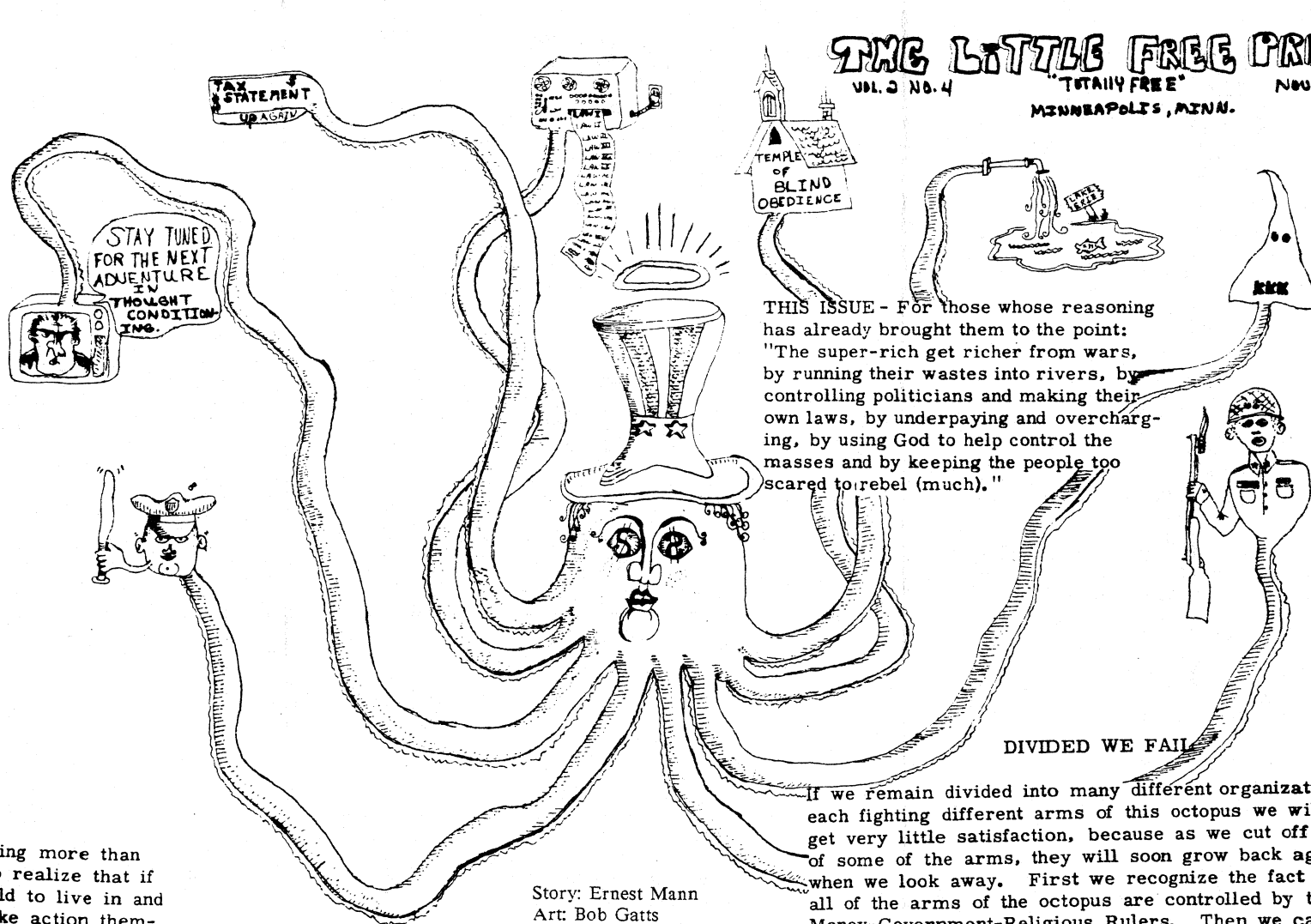
FREE

Ernest Mann

DEFINITION OF NON-RESISTANCE
GOLD MARKET
MY TIME

If this paper does nothing more than awaken a few people, to realize that if they want a better world to live in and on they will have to take action themselves and not rely on leaders who always end up exploiting them, I will feel it has been worth my time and \$.

Ernest Mann



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THIS ISSUE - For those whose reasoning has already brought them to the point: "The super-rich get richer from wars, by running their wastes into rivers, by controlling politicians and making their own laws, by underpaying and overcharging, by using God to help control the masses and by keeping the people too scared to rebel (much)."

DIVIDED WE FAIL

If we remain divided into many different organizations each fighting different arms of this octopus we will get very little satisfaction, because as we cut off parts of some of the arms, they will soon grow back again when we look away. First we recognize the fact that all of the arms of the octopus are controlled by the Money-Government-Religious Rulers. Then we can all work together to remove the cause, and as a result the arms will all disappear.

by W. H., Oregon

Story: Ernest Mann
Art: Bob Gatts

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Time Gladiator

I just finished this 1969 book by Mack Renolds. This story runs kind of parallel to our present world situation. His slaves are content with their TV and drugs. They have *no* desire to make change in the status quo!

His rebels were having problems similar to ours trying to wake-up the masses. They got more and more frustrated when the masses refused to see what they pointed out.

Some critics say, in a disparaging way, that we radicals end up just talking with each other, with our papers. But, while it may be true that the thinkers are our only readers, at least it is reinforcing to know that we are not alone in our beliefs. That maybe we are right and are headed in a good direction. But, surely we do awaken another *mass-hypnotized* thinker once in a while.

What most convinces the people, who are going along with the masses, is to see others who are living more independently and Freer. If they can see that we are having lots more Free time to do as we like, that we are able to take life easy and not have to hurry, hurry, hurry as they all seem to do, then they *may* ask how we manage to be Freer than they are.

The masses are like teenagers. They don't want or like advice unless they ask for it. This may be our big mistake . . . pushing our findings and solutions on them without their asking.

How can I stop doing this? I could quit publishing and focus all my efforts on my independence.

In what ways am I dependent?

1. I buy *all* my food.
2. I buy most of my clothes used.
3. I rent space to park my trailer.
4. I buy gas for my car.
5. I pay for electricity, natural gas, telephone and long distance.
6. I buy books.
7. I buy computer supplies and pay for printing.

What could I do to become more independent?

1. Food: I'll start fishing this winter and hunt & garden when I get land.

2. Clothing: I'll look more in dumpsters.

3. Shelter: I'll buy 40 acres and build a cabin and cut wood for my heat. I might buy a junker mobile home to live in while I'm building.

4. Travel: Maybe I'll build a wood burning car or a boat or just walk.

5. Trade: Maybe I can figure out a way to trade my skills instead of money, for some of the things I need. This way I would avoid the middle-man, called money and perhaps effect a more even trade.

Getting Free

Getting Free one step at a time.

1st step: Become aware of a lifestyle that I like better.

2nd step: Get rid of all debts. Pay them off as fast as you can. Another way is to sell the goods or property and use that money to pay them off. The trouble with this method is that they will rarely sell for as much as you owe on them. If they won't sell for as much, you can just let them foreclose and take the stuff back. However if you have a regular job or a good business they can garnish your wages or maybe your business income. Sometimes it's better to sell and make up the difference from your savings. Or take bankruptcy. Getting out of debt has a high priority if you wish independence and Freedom.

If you have an expensive house with a big mortgage . . . sell it and buy one you can pay cash for or pay off quickly. Same with cars.

3rd Step: If you've got kids, get in touch with a home-schooling group. Home school your kids. Teach them to read, write and arithmetic. After they learn to read they can learn whatever else they are interested in. Of course you'll teach them how to care for their health. Teach them a trade or some other way to make a living and/or apprentice them in work they like with someone you trust.

4th Step: Make a list of how you are dependent on money.

5th Step: Pick out the easiest dependency to cure and begin figuring out how to become independent in this *one area* of your life. Then pick another. It will be more of a challenge, more fun and more satisfying than TV, games and

videos. It will be your *beginning*, into Independence and Freedom from the need for government to guide you and for your dependency on money and the Rich Guys. Independence is security.

This is the REAL REVOLUTION that has *not* been revealed by any media. Using this personal and private escape route, from slavery to the almighty dollar, is a Freedom within itself. We are Free to go about this *escape* plan in any way we choose and as intensely as we please. We have total Freedom as soon as we decide to escape, to choose our own method. We need to follow no one else's plan. We can soon feel some Freedom in this little area of our life.

We can start to cut the strings that bind us to the world-wide Profit/Wage System. We can also cut the strings that make us dependent on government.

Our own little Revolution hurts no one. No one will suspect what we are doing (unless they are also doing it). There is no one to stop us or harass us in these Revolutionary Acts. They are not against the law. They don't cost anything. They are cheaper to do than what we are normally doing. No dues to pay or courses to take. We *can* become less dependent on money and government.

We don't have a leader to follow (obey). Leaders are *not* infallible! They are actually a pain in the ass. I like being my own leader. I can be my own pain in the ass. There is no way a movement like this can be stopped. No leaders to kill or jail. Everyone is a leader . . . by just being an example of someone who is becoming happy and secure. If we share these ideas with two people or more who become sold on the ideas and if they do likewise and share ideas likewise . . . then in just 33 doublings, these ideas would be shared with 8.5 billion people (if we had that many). Check out the mathematics yourself. See page 4.

Count Your Blessings

Make a list right now of all the good things about your life. Add to it whenever you think of another. Read this list over when you're feeling down. Your luck will improve.

Make Plans for Your Future

You can't expect to get to a place you would like to be, if you don't make a plan.

How Can I Get More Independent

1. Start fishing, hunting and foraging for food.
2. Change diet to only local foods. Don't be dependent on trucking.
3. Walk more, drive less.
4. Focus on improving *my* independence instead of other people's.
5. Write more in my journal, less in LFP.
6. Watch my daily activities and try to increase my happiness.

My New Plan

I think my new plan is to focus *most* of my time perfecting my independence, instead of writing about a hypothetical independence. If I feel like writing I think I'll write in my journal. I'll try to write in the LFP my actual achievements along this line.

I'll start today to taper off from coffee. Coffee is not grown locally. It is also a stimulant and my heart may be better off without it. Each day I'll try to think about what else I can do to make my self more independent.

Missing the Mark

I think we radicals have been missing the mark when we've been trying to organize others and sit at meetings and vote on new rules and bylaws on what should be done. (What group does that sound like? Did you see the Monte Python film, "Life of Brian"?).

The PES won't give us total Freedom until everyone is Free. Then we will be free, to be *free-slaves*. We'll be *dependent* on the rest of the people. To be slaves in the PES would be much better than being wage-slaves. We would work because we want-to instead of because we have-to. We would get everything that we want for free. Most people would still seek leaders to tell them what to do. The PES would be the Ultimate as the best Slave System imaginable. Best for the slaves and best for the slave masters. The slave masters would work for free too. They would con us into doing whatever they wanted us to do. They know how! A slave obeys a leader. It might be the closest system to the bee hive and the ant colony yet thought of. Just look how I am ranting against my own PES!

I have realized this fact about the PES for two or three years . . . yet, I have continued to promote the Priceless Economic System. I figured that at least we would end wars and we slaves could be much happier and get all the education we wanted, free of charge and we could still strive to be Free.

Communes

In the past 26 years I have read about communes, visited them, been a landlord of one and thought about joining one. But something always held me back. Maybe it was my farmers independent nature. Farmers 50 years ago were very independent. I grew up on a farm. I just couldn't (and still can't) see giving up my vote to a consensus or a group leader.

Consequently I now envision a Utopian world where people are independent and can survive without the help of the group or of slaves. A world of 5 billion sovereign nations learning the Golden Rule. Where people can co-operate with others if they can see a mutual benefit in doing so. Where people feel like independent individuals, and not just a part of that "*whole*" (ant hill) that some people are pushing.

In this Free world there would be no Profit in causing war, sickness, famine, pollution and other troubles. In the Profit/Wage System someone makes a Profit from each of these money-hungry conditions.

Personal Independence System

What could we call this independent system? How about Personal Independence System?

What would be the individual's focus in the PIS? I think it would be to ignore all propaganda and proceed to find all the ways needed to become as independent of other people, money and government as one can. To ask oneself as the Japanese farmer, Nasanobu Fukuoka¹ did, "What would happen if I stopped doing this or that?" Then we can begin to eliminate many of our dependencies. Those we can't seem to eliminate we can focus on to see what we can use as a substitute.

This is just the beginning of my thinking on the PIS. I hope to get feedback from my readers to better visualize the PIS theory. Maybe we can formulate a PIS test.

I can see that I am now 100% dependent on money. That fact is almost overwhelming.

I am a TOTAL slave, for my existence, to Money.

That is a hard one to face! It is almost too depressing to think about. It is the bottom of the pits. That is where we are . . . we are down as far as we can go. There is no place to go except up and out of the pits.

How am I to climb out? I have been climbing out these past 26 years by reducing my needs for money. I don't spend nearly as much as I used to.

Since I retired in 1969, I have looked for ways to get what I wanted as cheap as possible. My purpose was to stretch my savings as far as I could in order to stay retired.

Now my purpose is different. Now I wish to become as self-sufficient as possible. That is, independent of money. Not necessarily independent of people. I like people. I like to do nice things for people. I like it when they do nice things for me. Is that weird? Is that a slave mentality? I just don't know. I get good feelings when I do something nice for someone. Is this the way I have been mind-conditioned or is it an instinct of survival? Perhaps it is an instinct which makes survival more fun and thus makes it easier and more worthwhile to survive?

I *allow* my money to be my master. Therefore *I* can change that by merely finding ways to survive and be happy without the use of money or credit.

How can I reduce my dependency on money? I can't make myself totally independent all at once. *Reducing* my need, I can start doing right away.

Why do I want to reduce my need for money?

1. Because the Profit/Wage System is the cause of most of the bad things that are happening, e.g., wars, pollution, starvation, sickness, stealing and taxes. I don't wish to supply the money or labor.
2. Because I don't like all the hassles involved in getting money, worrying about how to save it, worrying about investing it, and lastly, in worrying about losing it.
3. Because I wish to help in establishing a better System.
4. Because I don't like to have the money people control my life.

¹ In his book "One Straw Revolution."

5. I don't like to waste my time (life) doing all the things necessary to earn money.

6. I resent seeing other people take the biggest share of my productivity. See LFP #119.

My Progress

How I have reduced my dependency on money so far:

1. I got rid of all my debts, loans and mortgages.
2. I buy used clothing and find some in dumpsters.
3. I have my mobile home paid for.
4. I buy almost no processed foods. I process/prepare my own. I just made a loaf of 100% whole wheat bread and a pumpkin pie from a real pie pumpkin. I dropped the bread on my toe and almost broke it. I'll try again.
5. I stopped absorbing all the mass media.

What Else?

What else can I do or not do to reduce and/or eliminate my need for money?

1. I can quit consuming food that can't be grown locally. I'll quit drinking coffee as soon as my two pounds are used up. I quit once before, several years ago. I soon felt no desire for it. Water and milk suited me just fine.
2. I'll quit using sugar. I'll use honey instead.
3. I'll sell a contract for deed and buy 40 acres of land that is mostly woods. I can live rent-free there (except for taxes) and build a cabin from the small logs or hire a portable saw mill, to saw lumber from *big* logs if I have any. I'll heat with wood. I'll build an electric wind generator from old car generators or perhaps from alternators. I'll have my own well. I'll build a toilet to catch my human waste and dump it into a tank and use the methane gas it generates for cooking and use the sludge by-product for fertilizer on my garden. I'll raise all or most all my own food. I'll have some animals for meat, eggs, wool, leather and down, and have their manure for the garden.

I know a couple who did this. They had fun getting it all organized and built. They birthed two children and home schooled them in their geodesic dome and log cabin addition. They finally began to have lots of Free time. They developed their musical abilities and started a band that was very successful and played for years. They got divorced and now after

about 15 years, he has disbanded the band and gone back to the land. He got fed up with leadership hassles and being exploited by his employers.

Investment

I'll invest some of my money in 40 acres of wooded land. I think I can get it for about \$200 per acre around here. That will be a better place for my investment than in a contract for deed. I spend the money (interest *and* principal) as the contract payments come in. Soon I would be broke again. Because there is a limited amount of land and an ever increasing population desiring it, land will surely be the safest investment, providing I keep some extra money so that I will always be able to pay the taxes.

But before I move on to the land, I'll begin my Sea Gypsy life. And before that I'll keep my promise to my grandson and continue to provide a home for him until he is 18. That will be for about a year more. I'll have plenty of time to make more plans for my life aboard a sail boat. I might even buy one and use it in the Minnesota lakes next summer.

I think I'll start fishing through the ice this winter. This will provide me with part of my meat. It will be a fun way to reduce my need for money. I like to fish.

I don't wish to be a slave in a bee hive or an ant hill. If other people like to let someone else tell them what they must or must not do . . . that is their prerogative. They may get enough courage some day to change, if they see enough people getting Free.

I think this is a turning point in the purpose of the LFP. I'm going to *try* to quit promoting the PES and even the PIS and try to make the LFP into just a chatty paper telling about my successes and failures in getting more Freedom.

Car & Computer

What about the machines that I still want from the Profit/Wage System? And the libraries and book stores? How can I rationalize keeping these if I wish to quit using money?

I guess I got to start with my motive or purpose in life. What do I really want from life? What it really all boils down to is; I wish to be happy. I wish to enjoy life. I have no desire to be a martyr, to be humble, to be a hermit or to try to be a proper example. I just wish to be me and discover more

of my capabilities that will give me pleasure and power over my remaining years.

I sure hope I can give-up my world-saver fanaticism and focus all my strength on making myself happy. That is, doing things I like to do . . . not what I keep thinking I *should* do.

What Do I Like?

1. I like to write
2. travel
3. talk with friends
4. fish
5. I may think of something else.

To do these things I like to do, I need to spend money. I don't wish to go back to living as a primitive cave-man with a stone knife. I can not think of a "perfect" system or a way to avoid using the money system completely. So, I guess I must make myself content with doing some slave-labor to get the things from the Profit/Wage System that I want. The less I desire from them, the less slave-labor I'll have to give them. I guess I can live with that until a better idea comes along.

Your Philosophy of Life

If you write to me about your lifestyle or the one that you aspire to, I'll try to share it with the other readers. Be sure to tell me what name and how much address I should include.

Underground Paper

PADDLE FISH FIRST, Drew Hempel, 1024 Osleola Avenue #B, St. Paul, MN 55105 (stamp) #6 had 4 pages. Really packed with all the bad shit that is happening in our system. If you know people who think that everything is just dandy . . . show them a PFF.

Subscriptions

The LFP seems to be coming out *about* twice per month. The LFP is "free" but you pay the postage for each issue.

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Please pay with US stamps, US money, check or IRC's for as many future issues as you desire.

Copy

If each reader makes copies of this paper and passes them out and if the people who receive your copies do the same . . . we will plant a *lot* of PIS seeds. If we plant enough seeds, a few will grow. At least try to get two of your best friends interested in PIS.

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11-13-95 Ernest Mann

**There is no enemy
only ignorance.**

**Learn what's natural
and teach it.**

(If you want a better world to live in.)

1st week → 2
4
8
16
32
64
128
256
512

10th week → 1024

2048

4096

8192

16,384

32,768

What can one person do?

65,536

131,072

262,144

524,288

Teach 2 of your friends, in one
week so well that they each teach
2 more people the next
week to do the same.

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2,097,152

4,194,304

8,388,608

16,777,216

33,554,432

67,108,864

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