### 1340 551 591

How Do We Pay For Those Cut Programs?

## By Willaim Raspberry

WASHINGTON--This is to notify you that we have chipped the car you ordered. In order to reduce the weight and thereby lower your shipping costs, we have removed the wheels. You'll find them in the trunk.

It's an old joke, but the Reagan administration is about to give it new life with its latest tax shenanigans.

You know, of course, that the administration has reduced federal income taxes. The idea, we have been told since last year's election campaign, is to let you keep more of the money you earn, so that you will invest it, or put it into savings accounts, thereby stimulating economic growth.

It's a wonderful idea, in theory, especially if you keep your mind focused on waste and fraud in the federal government. But as Rep. Elliott H. Levitas (D-Ga.) pointed out during recent congressional hearings, not all federal programs are wasteful or fraudulent. How, he asked, do we pay for those efficiently operated, necessary programs that are going to be affected by the cut in federal taxes?

The answer, delivered by Interior Secretary James Watt, who had been sent over to Capitol Hill to speak for the administration, was a model of cynical simplicity: You increase local taxes.

Levitas, with the innocence of the small boy remarking on the emperor's sartorial inadequacies, confessed that he couldn't see how reducing federal taxes would free up money for investments if the savings had to be made up by increasing local taxes.

"The fellow who pays federal tax is the same fellow who pays property taxes," he pointed out.

It is such an obvious point that one might have assumed that Watt had misspoken himself. But then, as if to prove otherwise, Norman Ture, undersecretary of Treasury, suggested that the states increase their taxes to offset the federal tax cuts.

Asked if such an increase wouldn't subvert the president's economic recovery plan, which relies on a federal tax cut to free up money for savings and investment, Ture acknowledged that it would. States, he suggested, "aren't compelled to work with the federal government."

Levitas is still scratching his head. "I have always supported the concept behind the 'new federalism' approach, that is, the concept of turning power and

# NAOMIJ VIEW

Poise is a very important factor concerning life in general, when it is lost, getting it back is a problem. Strength and power/come. from within; they are qualities that can never be forgotten.

Avoid anything that saps the strength of your spirit, it may take a good while practicing, eventually you will win. A sleepless night

will certainly interfere with tomorrow's chores; phone gossip will tear you to pieces; reading articles that create fear is hard on your nerves, so ...

"Shun people who twitter and shake and wobble in their minds. Shun books that create doubt and fear. Shun entertainment that robs you of sleep, of hope, and of courage under the guise of realism. Shun people who worry endlessly, and ask our Supreme being to strengthen you more and more; cultivate the people who believe in and practice moral standards."

All of us need courage, and it is manifested by the way we meet our problems we face daily. Strength and power will enable us to rise to heights when we confront authority back to our state and local governments," the Georgian said.

"However, the concept of 'new federalism' as proposed by this administration is something quite different....It seems that what the administration means by 'new federalism' is simply turning the financial burdens of government over to the state and local governments. This means nothing more than the state and local governments would be forced to raise taxes without additional resources. I find it hard to believe that a president who came into office on the promise of

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providing real tax relief for the American people would support such a plan. But that is the case.'

Ture, the Treasury Department's leading tax expert, made it explicit. Speaking at a meeting of the president's Advisory Committee of Federalism, whose members represent state and local governments, Ture supported Reagan's proposed 12 percent reduction in revenuesharing grants to the cities. It is up to the cities to decide whether they want to continue to operate the existing programs, he said. If they do, they'll have to pay for them.

And where would the money come from? Ture said the 25 percent tax cut (through fiscal 1984) would amount to a "turnback" of an average of \$2.2 billion per state and suggested that state and local governments should look to that "turnback" as a source of new taxes.

But, of course, there is no "turnback". As administration officials never tire of pointing out, the government has no presumptive right to the earnings of the American people. By that reasoning, the reduction in federal taxes

# War From Page 4

agents "honest," since employment, equal opporthey know they have to go tunities, decent education by the book or lose their and housing for all, and case in court. But it does eliminates discrimination more than that, too. It will be a society that is protects all citizens from relatively crime-free. arbitrary police behavior, it mu Negro

From Page 4

I can see it now - on all

increases respect for the law, and it removes incentives for law enforcement officials to abuse their power.

Weakening the exclusionary rule will not add to the love him, and presidential conviction rate. Despite a counsel Edwin Meese would handful of publicized, ex- simply go ape. And why treme cases, Tew people not? My electronic Negro have escaped a guilty ver- wouldn't eat much and all precious promised to satisfy a purely what they're planning to do rhetorical "Get-tough" stance

causes of crime.

does not "give" anybody anything. It simply lets workers keep more of their earnings.

But administration officials, tacitly acknowledging that their economic recovery program is going badly, now seem ready to change their definitions. The 25 percent you will save in federal taxes is not your money at all, according to the new definition. It is nothing more than a windfall to be taken back as state and local taxes. Levitas calls it "neo-new federalism".

"I had thought that the Kemp-Roth tax cut we passed earlier this year was to relieve the heavy burden of taxes on the people who pay them and to provide the savings and investments to spur productivity in the private sector of our economy," he said.

But instead of tax relief, it seems we'll be paying the same taxes, only they'll be recorded in a different box on your paycheck stub. What the administration is proposing is the revenue equivalent of taking the wheels off a car to make it lighter, then putting them in the trunk for convenience.

And it makes just as much sense.



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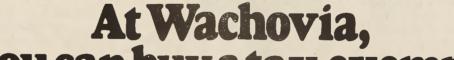
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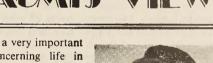


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dict because of it. Again, you'd have to do is pull his this is an instance where a plug if he talked out of constitutional turn. Kinda like what they right should not be com- did to Andrew Young and

to Samuel Pierce. All the talk about building the front pages. Flash !! more prisons and drilling Homemade electronic holes in the constitutional Negro makes good! It safety net avoids the real would be like a dream come issue of attacking the true! What would I name him? "Thomas Sowell, of A society that has full course!"

emergencies, and the real test comes in our ability to carry on in spite. It is hope that gives us strength to pursue the way marked out for us, and people who make progress cultivate the forward look

Possession of poise enables us to control our thinking and organize our acting. The basic principle of thinking affirmatively - never negatively - is what determines success and satisfaction in every phase of our lives.

Seemingly, it is good for us to be made aware from time to time of our human limitations, and, of course, we are facing dangers from without and dangers from within, therefore, unless we hold solid ground as to poise we have lost sweetness concerning life. It takes power and strength to hold fast, plus faith and hope which are true values of life.

# Candid Shots From Page 4

with Curtis Blow rapping Philadelphia. "Black about "The Breaks" on his youths should be urged to Kawazuki 1000.

Talk about breaks. I scanned the letters nosed about the matter, I section of a later Ebony to have enough headaches as see what kind of readership it is. If a youth wishes to reaction was elicited by the invest in a portable radio or article, which incidentally tape player, fine. I only ask was entitled "Take Your that the fast-talking sales-Music with You". The one man (you know, the ones letter which appeared must who turn up the bass have been from the man everytime a black walks who likes Dolly Parton. "I into the store) sell his am positively appalled and customer an accessory to go outraged that Ebony would along with his box.

the Statler Brothers? The approve of but actually poor man sits there, trying encourage such utterly his darndest to look dumb, stupid and inane straight-faced while a waste of time and money,' brother pops on the bus wrote Eugene Griffin of

carry books, not radios.' Although I'm not as hard-

sink so low as not only (to) It is called an earphone.

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