

and fair exchange of sound rewards for honest labors long endures and fills its individual citizens with everlasting pride and joyful spirit.

We further resolve that the tranquility of the state shall not be an ephemeral condition unsupported by tangible factors but shall be that condition guaranteed by the unfettered right to work and receive just compensation, the right to livable housing and all dignities of physical life, the means to as advanced an education as possible, the access to scrupulously honest mediums of public communication, the total integrity of all public officials, and the absolute right to a physical, mental and emotional environment that promotes peaceful and healthy intercourse between the neighboring citizens, their communities and national state.

**THE LAND AS PUBLIC TRUST**

We hereby resolve that the lands of the United States of America, its several states, municipalities, districts and territories shall constitute the national physical heritage of all the People. Each citizen shall have the right to own or lease land in accordance with those proper laws and ordinances promulgated by the People. But no individual or group of individuals shall be permitted to use or cause the use of such lands to the detriment of neighbors that in any way infringes upon their lives or well being. The ownership of land is a sacred trust shared with all Americans and when an individual assumes the responsibility for a specific portion of that public trust he/she may in no way assume prerogatives of usage that transcend the public law and well being. The separate and legal ownership of land in no way establishes an autocracy of conduct that would allow activities upon that portion to interfere, poison, pollute or in any way adversely affect the citizens or adjacent land. It is a continuing responsibility of all the People to design and approve the usage of land under the aegis of far-seeing plans that provide for an integrated system of practical usage while maintaining perpetually the conservation and enhancement of natural resources.

**THE INSTRUMENT OF FISCAL EXCHANGE**

We hereby resolve that the Congress of the United States of America shall enact addendum to the Constitution prohibiting the design, issuance or exchange of any instrument denoting fiscal value that cannot be redeemed in equal face value in either precious metal, land or other valuable tangible asset. At no time shall the Government be allowed to print or issue currency, bonds, notes or any instrument that would tend to diminish or devalue the established rate of common exchange between the citizens for services rendered or items purchased. The instrumentality of exchange in this Nation shall be tangible evidence of the credibility of values assigned to services and goods and cannot and shall not be cheapened by governmental fiscal policy or action that extends the actual value of currency beyond the actual value of tangible assets at hand. In view of the departure of this Nation from the historic processes of a goods barter system and the institution of a mutual currency, it is imperative that such currency be maintained with an inviolate stable value in order to preserve the tranquility of American commerce and protect it from confusion and disruption from either domestic or foreign interests.

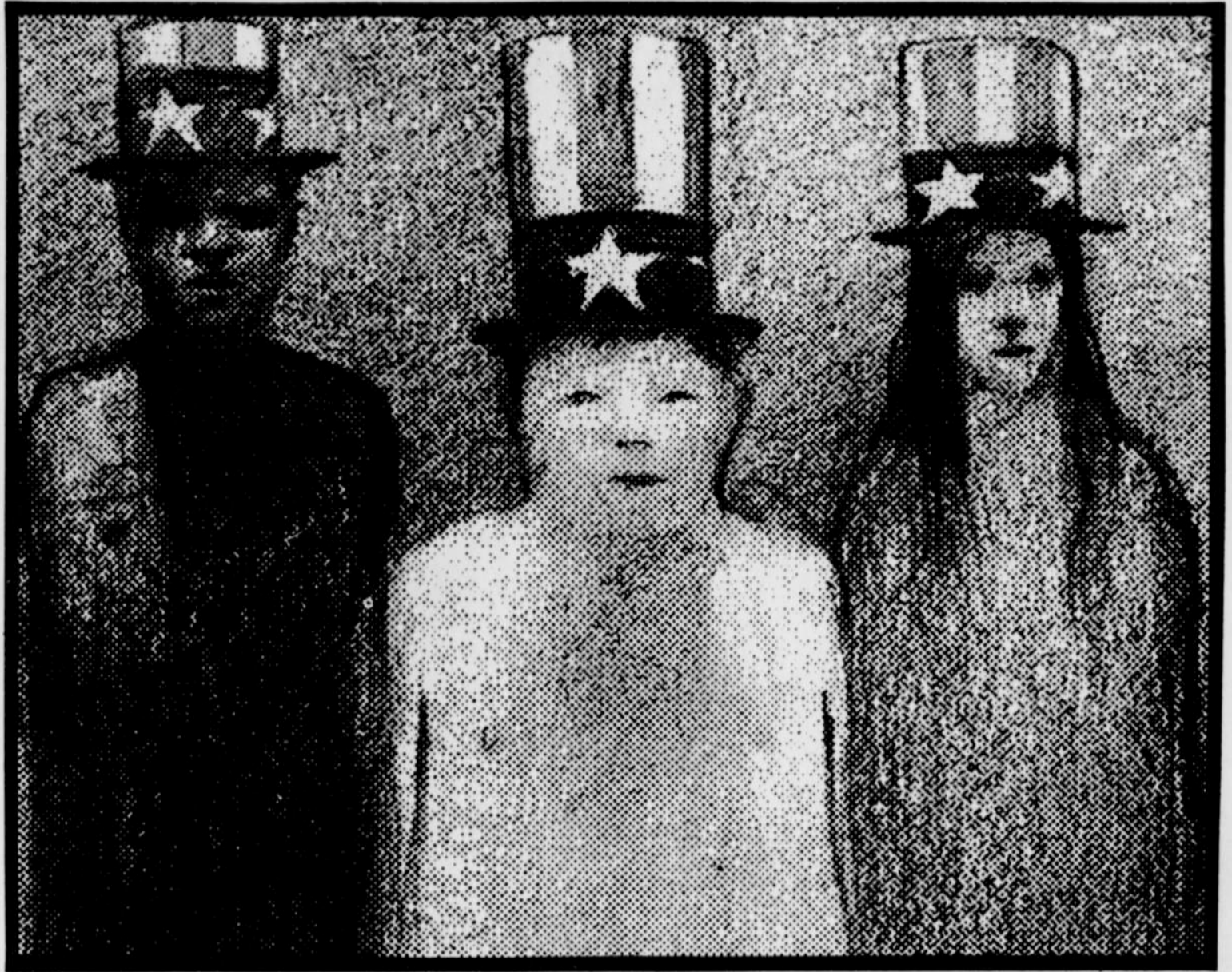
**THE PROTECTION OF FREE ENTERPRISE**

We hereby resolve that the Congress of the United States of America, or any other public officer, shall not propose or enact, regulate or enforce any statute, law, ordinance or regulation inhibiting the conduct of free enterprise in this Nation. Congress shall, however, provide for continuing surveillance, and the Department of Commerce shall enforce a continuing system of regulation of private commercial enterprise that forbids the establishment of any monopoly controls of the production of goods, exploitation of natural resources, or the rendering of services. The right of commercial management and labor shall be equally protected and regulated and in no instance shall the Government allow or condone the acts, operations, activities or results thereof to infringe upon or inhibit the well being of the general public. The right of each citizen to engage in commercial activities or to seek employment shall never be prohibited or infringed upon because of race, creed, sex, age, or political inclination.

**THE DEMAND FOR EQUITABLE TAXATION**

We hereby resolve that the Congress of the United States of America shall neither propose nor enact, regulate or enforce any statute, law, ordinance or regulation that allows any officer of the Government, the several states, municipalities, districts or territories to collect any tax on personal income, annuities, properties, or other possessions, or on private companies, corporations or other organizations, that is unequally assessed among the category taxed.

Further, it be resolved that the Congress and all other governments of states, municipalities, districts and territories shall establish an Annual Budget declaring the current and proposed taxation and that such budget be submitted in proper but accurate summary to the electorate for approval or rejection.



MATT MAHURN

**Robert Stanley Need was the founding publisher of the original North Coast Times Eagle, which was published in Wheeler, Oregon, from 1971 to 1976. He was a verbose and extravagant writer. He wrote the 2nd Declaration of Independence when it looked like his newspaper was about to die from financial malnutrition, which it persistently seemed about to do from its birth, a common thread between the Old Bird and the Born Again Bird, which was resurrected from a three year crypt 21 years ago on July 20, 1979.**

The process of taxation must return to the direct sovereignty of the American citizen in compliance with the precepts of the Declaration of 1776. No citizen shall be taxed without his/her consent and therefore his/her assent to the responsibility of taxation must be attested to through his/her approval of those funds necessary for the conduct of Government and support of the protection of the Nation.

**THE ILLEGALITY OF GENERAL WAR**

We hereby resolve that the Congress of the United States of America shall cause amendment of the Constitution to prohibit the participation of this Nation in general warfare other than explicit defense of the lands of the union, the several states, municipalities, districts and territories. Further, such amendment shall prescribe that the President shall not be empowered under any circumstances other than explicit national emergency to deploy for a period of more than 14 days pending formal deliberations of war by the Congress. A national emergency shall only be a reasonable and specific assumption of direct armed attack upon the United States or its possessions. Military assistance of any type to any foreign nation shall only be upon the consent of the Congress. Only Congress may declare and direct the conscription of citizens for national defense.

**THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE AMERICAN CITIZEN**

We hereby resolve that this Republic & Union cannot exist and that our personal liberty cannot endure unless we now resolve to each and severally exercise our solemn responsibilities as AMERICAN citizens. Unless we each reestablish our individual responsibilities as segments of the general sovereignty of the People of These United States we shall abrogate the provisions of the First Declaration; we shall abolish the protections of the Constitution; we shall dishonor those who gave their lives in obtaining and sustaining our freedom for two hundred years; we shall diminish our treasures; we shall engage in unjust wars; we shall further divide our peoples with violent bigotry and hatreds; we shall fall subservient to the tyranny of excessive bureaucracy; we shall allow our lands and resources to be fouled to inhabitability and depletion; we shall lose all social tranquility and fall into violent disorder; we shall lose sight of justice and fall prey to increased inequality, leaving a disorganized and powerless United States of America, its several states, municipalities, district and territories prostrate before the evil dictates of the selfish within and the threat of foreign domination from without.

**OUR MANIFEST DESTINY**

So, let us now highly and solemnly resolve that, as our founding fathers declared their independence from foreign tyranny and in the heat of armed rebellion fought to forge this state as "man's last great hope for humanity," let us declare our independence from the corrosive entanglements of this modern era that threaten division among us and disillusion within our state. Two hundred years ago we were given a mandate that no other peoples in the long span of history have ever been given.

The First Declaration summoned not only a handful of colonists living along the eastern seaboard of North America, but all men and women throughout the world, to throw off tyranny forever, to establish their institutions solely upon the precepts of Truth, and to bring enduring Liberty to all humanity.

The shackles we once wore in slavery to kings have been broken and replaced with the stronger bonds of brotherhood that bind us, knowingly and unknowingly, to all living to the very ends of the Earth. As we were once called the Cradle of Liberty, we must now turn to the building of the Temple of Freedom.

The founding fathers saw a manifest destiny opening before the feet of free men and women who would dare the terror and disappointments and yet fearlessly tread the dark pathway of the future. We have come so far and yet there is so much farther to go. Where our forefathers threw off despotism, let us throw off ignorance; where they threw off chains of slavery, let us throw off the shackles of hunger and fear; where they threw off imperial mandates, let us throw off the dictates of the selfish and corrupt. As they fought to build a new and free Nation, let us resolve now to build a new and free World.

**EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT**

**Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.**

The pretense that half the human race is unequal and subordinate to the other half is a persistent malignancy. It has been chronic through history, especially in periods when muscle and force held sensitivity and intelligence in thrall. Yet the need to be equal and free is the most stubborn human hunger. It has taken centuries for women to emerge from the dominance of their male counterparts — it took almost a century for American women to gain the vote. So it should be no surprise that the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution will not stay dead.

The ERA was last defeated on July 2, 1982, the date the nation's forefathers declared themselves free from England's tyranny and promised equality to "all men" in 1776. The ERA failed even though it had support of 80% of the electorate because of a handful of men in three state legislatures: five other states which had initially approved the measure, rescinded their votes. Those who regard women as chattel celebrated and pronounced the ERA dead.

The ERA has been sent to the grave more than once in almost 80 years since Alice Paul wrote the amendment in 1923. On July 14, 1982, the same month as ERA's failure to be ratified on deadline, and the same day celebrated as the beginning of the French Revolution in 1789, fifty-one U.S. Senators and 201 Representatives co-sponsored the ERA in both houses of Congress. That attempt also failed.

A national referendum would probably make the ERA law within a few months. Instead when, revived again — and it will be — it must once more travel the tortuously long trail through the states: 38 states must ratify it, and even the most optimistic believe it will take years.

One possibility to encourage the process of making the ERA a part of the Constitution is for women to vote all who oppose it from office and support only candidates who endorse it. In the words of Susan B. Anthony:

*There shall never be another season of silence until women have the same rights men have on this green earth.*

-MICHAEL McCUSKER

