

Community Comments for January 16, 2013

This is Phil Arnot for Community Comment on KINS Radio

Once a year The Heritage Foundation publishes its President Essay. For 2012 President Edwin

Feulner wrote the Essay by writing about the American Conservative Movement.

President Feulner writes about Conservatives that we have all heard about, such as Russell Kirk, Milton Friedman, Ronald Reagan and William F. Buckley, Jr. but he also cites others such as F. A. Hayek, Ludwig Von Mises, Richard Weaver and Norman Podhoretz..

Friedrick Von Hayek was a Nobel Prize Winner in Economics. He was intrigued by the mind of man, the markets he has made and the way those markets have made man and society what they are.

Hayek's greatest accomplishment was his profound treatise that man does not and cannot know everything and when he acts as if he does, disaster follows.

*Remind you of anyone in Wash, DC right now?*

Ludwig Von Mises wrote that a socialist system cannot make rational economic decisions because the only way to determine whether resources are used effectively is to calculate profit and loss.

Von Mises believed that the true Western social philosophy is individualism, meaning that the individual is free to think, to choose and act without being constrained by government.

Richard Weaver wrote two books that have become Classics, The Ethics of Rhetoric and Ideas have Consequences. This second book published in 1948 centered on modern conservative ideas. He had three proposals for our country, First, we must defend the right of private property, Second, we have an entitlement mentality and third that man will prevail over the dark forces of our time.

Norman Podhoretz, a liberal in the beginning found more rational thinking in the Conservative philosophy. For 35 years, Mr. Podhoretz edited the Commentary Magazine originally liberal, later became a critic of the radical left. He rejected charges of the Left that America was racist or imperialistic. In 2004 Norman Podhoretz received the medal of Freedom from President George W. Bush. The honor was for his patriotism.

I will talk more about Conservatism in future Community Comments.

I leave you with a point to ponder: Don't you think that these authors originally on the left bank found a more hospitable and rational home in the Conservative Movement.

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