

- As reported in the January Newsbriefs, CESJ is sending a delegation to meet with officials at the Vatican on Feb. 4-9. Following this visit, three of the delegation members--Rabbi Herzel Kranz, Norman Kurland, and Bruce Mazzie--will go on to Israel. They will make presentations to a number of labor groups, government officials, and think tanks, describing **Project Economic Justice** and the benefits of expanded capital ownership for the Israeli economy and society.

- La Perla, the 40% employee-owned coffee and cardamom plantation in northern Guatemala, has found a new friend in Mr. John Miles, a businessman from Erie, N.Y. who is also the President of Americans for Free Central America. Mr. Miles recently visited La Perla and was deeply impressed by the determination of the worker-owners, who have doubled productivity and have successfully fought off numerous guerilla attacks against their property. Mr. Miles is raising money from the private sector to build a 25-mile road to connect the isolated plantation to the outside world. Since the La Perla owners have had to use air transport to ship out their produce, such a project could bring them substantial savings. It has been suggested that the road be organized as a corporate toll road, financed by credit to a leveraged ESOP and owned by currently unemployed campesinos who would be needed to build, maintain, and protect the road. Future dividends and cash to repay the ESOP loans would come from tolls charged to the plantation and others who use the road.

- Upon his return from a recent trip to South Africa, CESJ board member "Mac" McGrath received an expression of interest and a request for information on the use of ESOPs in the efforts of the non-profit South African Privatization Center.

- CESJ President Norman Kurland recently met with officials of the Global Strategy Council (composed of

many former high-level U.S. officials and businessmen) to discuss expanded capital ownership as the economic keystone of U.S. global strategy. Steven Trevino, the Director of Operations for the Council, has for several years been a strong advocate of ESOPs.

Project Economic Justice update:

- Project Economic Justice (PEJ), the plan for promoting peace, democracy, and free enterprise in Latin America and the Caribbean through expanded capital ownership, has been receiving increasing attention. On Jan. 14, through the recommendation of Mrs. Isabelle Middelendorf, Norm Kurland was interviewed by Voice of America for a detailed explanation of the concept. VOA, which translated the interview into Spanish, plans to conduct at least two more interviews with Kurland as a follow-up.

- CESJ member and executive director of the task force, Bruce Mazzie, recently presented a report on Project Economic Justice to Ambassador Keating, the U.S. Executive Director at the World Bank, on specific ways that the World Bank could encourage employee stock ownership in developing countries.

- On Jan. 15 at the invitation of Paul Weyrich, Norm Kurland gave a briefing on PEJ to the Stanton Group, a body of influential Capitol Hill conservatives.

- On January 29, Norm Kurland, Bruce Mazzie, and Rabbi Herzel Kranz conducted a seminar on PEJ for a group of officials at the State Department.

- The task force report has reached a number of influential people in the Philippines. One of these leaders, Jose Concepcion, Minister of Trade and Industry in the Aquino Cabinet, is a key figure in a Philippine government commission on privatizing state-owned enterprises. Concepcion, it turns out, has been an ad-

vocate of the expanded capital ownership theories of Louis Kelso since the 1960s. One business leader who has very favorably received the report is Augusto De Leon, head of RFN Corp. (the "General Foods" of the Philippines).

- Former radio show host, public relations consultant, and CESJ associate Anne Orleans is organizing the White House "kick-off" for the Task Force report expected to take place in late February.

Invitation to February meeting of CESJ

When: Sat., February 21, 1:00 p.m.

Where: National Graduate University

1101 N. Highland, Arlington, Virginia

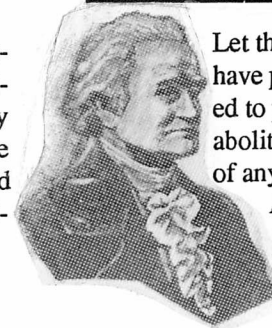
(across from the Clarendon Metro station).

Information: Call Dawn Kurland at (703) 243-5155

Dr. William Halal, Professor of Management at the George Washington University, futurist and author, will discuss the subject of his recently published book, *The New Capitalism*. Dr. Halal offers 40 major trends which are driving America toward an economic renaissance in the 21st Century, including democratic worker participation and the ESOP.

Invite your friends to join us to hear this outstanding lecturer.

- Closing Thoughts -



Let the people have property and they will have power--a power that will forever be exerted to prevent the restriction of the press, the abolition of trial by jury, or the abridgement of any other privilege.

Noah Webster