

ACLU CIVIL LIBERTARIAN

A PUBLICATION OF THE CLEVELAND CHAPTER
OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

JULY, 1988, Vol. XX No. 3

Max Wohl Retires

"MAX WOHL - CIVIL LIBERTARIAN OF THE CENTURY." Those words spoken in tribute to Max at his retirement party say it all. His contribution to the A.C.L.U. of Cleveland can never be duplicated.

Max Wohl took early retirement from his job as vice president for finance of Tremco to staff the ACLU office in Cleveland in 1968 when the state ACLU office and staff were transferred to Columbus. On Law Day of that year he began what became 19 years of continuous service as a volunteer staff member of the ACLU.

In his early years at the office, staff and funding were extremely limited. Max worked full-time, directing his efforts to anything and everything that needed to be done. He served as the organization's lay coordinator of its litigation program, taking calls for assistance, recruiting volunteer attorneys to assist clients, organizing the monthly meetings of the ACLU legal committee, and monitoring the progress of pending litigation. He also handled the office bookkeeping and membership records and assisted with ACLU public education efforts. For several years until a solid funding base was established, he supported the office out of his own pocket.

Max continued to work full time as legal coordinator until after heart surgery in 1980. At this point when most people would have quit, or taken things a little easier, Max continued to come in every day for several hours to serve as intake coordinator, taking calls, opening



mail, and reviewing requests for assistance with staff and volunteer counsel.

For the Cleveland community, Max was the telephone voice of the Cleveland ACLU. A quiet, gentle, unassuming man, who patiently assisted even the most difficult of ACLU callers.

In addition to his staff work, Max is and will remain a current board member of the A.C.L.U. of Cleveland. Except for the required rotating off the Cleveland Board after two three year consecutive terms, he has served on the Cleveland Board as well as the State Board for the past 20 years. He has also served as the treasurer of the A.C.L.U. of Ohio, treasurer of the A.C.L.U. of Cleveland, and chairperson of the A.C.L.U. - Ohio Budget and Finance Committee.

Totally dedicated to the Bill of Rights, he has always questioned whether the law serves the spirit of that great document and whether a remedy can be found for a client. Young of heart and of mind, Max embodies the spirit of eternal vigilance for the cause of liberty. We wish you a very happy retirement Max.



1223 WEST 6th STREET
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44113
781-6276

Editor

Eileen Roberts

Contributing

Gordon Beggs

Eileen Roberts

Lois Robinson

Peter Joy

INSIDE

BOARD NOMINEES

1987

ANNUAL REPORT

LEGALIZING DRUGS

DRUG TESTING