

# The LIBERAL



The Liberal magazine was the Journal of the Friendship Liberal League (FLL) of Philadelphia Pennsylvania; and the most respected hero of the FLL was Thomas Paine. These four issues of the Liberal tell the story of how the Thomas Paine Center came into being. We thought this honoring of Thomas Paine would be of interest to those who would obtain this CD. We hope to reproduce many more old Freethought magazines on future CDs.

These four issues show the FLL was a vibrant Freethought organization dedicated to keeping religion out of our American Government. But the efforts of this gallant organization were destined to fail because the Government was already being used to destroy all advanced religions that were in competition with the old established religions. A history of the various Freethought organizations of this era, and the harassment they suffered, has never been written; anyone having knowledge of these organizations please contact the Bank of Wisdom.

It is amazing that the FLL survived as long as it did, until May 1970, during the time generally known as "The McCarthy Era" when our Government pretended it could not tell dedicated pro-American Freethought religious\* groups from Communist front organizations -- Some evidence indicate they were more interested in destroying the Freethought movement than Communism.

The destruction of the Higher Religions by confusing them with Communism ended with the fall of Communism in Russia. Now there has been a resurgence of Freethought and there are several National Freethought and Atheist organizations, as well as many local independent organizations. Many of these independent groups have formed a federation of such local organizations known as 'The Atheist Alliance.' For a list of address of these various organizations send a SASE to the Bank of Wisdom at the address below.

Emmett F. Fields  
Bank of Wisdom.

\* There is much disagreement in the Freethought Community as to whether Rationalism, Secularism, Humanism, etc., are properly regarded as religions. Being well read in objective religious history, Freethinkers are reluctant to being classified with the evil history, and foolish beliefs, of "organized religion."

**Bank of Wisdom**  
P.O. Box 926  
Louisville, KY 40201  
U.S.A.