In a widely discussed article entitled "Sources," published around June in Novy Mir (a popular journal in the Soviet Union), retired academic Vasili Selyunin presents a strongly critical assessment of the anti-property policies of the Soviet Union’s revered founder, Vladimir Lenin. As reported in the Washington Post (6/7/88, p. A1), Selyunin describes how Lenin made serious mistakes when he abolished private property, laying the groundwork for Stalin’s massive repressions. Selyunin points out in his article that because Soviet leaders outlawed private property, "they looked at the state as if it were something of their own." He contends that private property is essential for other individuals to exist, and without it, individuals tend to be treated as "slaves."

- The cover article of U.S. News and World Report (June 20) reported that billionaire Ross Perot is "dead serious about turning over majority control, 60% of the stock [in his new company Perot Systems], to employees over a period of time and shaping their work environment in a way that he hopes will show how floundering American corporations can become competitive again."

- CESJ director Kris Ludwiniak is working in Paris with a publishing house to finish publication of his now-completed Polish translation of Every Worker an Owner, the CESJ collection of writings on the moral underpinnings and practical strategies of expanded capital ownership. On May 6, this document was sent out by USAID Administrator Alan Woods to every AID mission world-wide.

- The Pittsburgh Chapter of CESJ has confirmed nearly all the speakers for its Oct. 17-19 retreat. The gathering will bring together representatives from labor, management, religion and academia, to discuss ways of transcending the conflict theory of labor-management relations. A central focus will be on expanded capital ownership as a new paradigm.

- We are pleased to report that CESJ’s first official membership drive continues to swell our ranks, both in the U.S. and in other countries. We are honored to welcome all our members, particularly those who are helping to "spread the message" in other parts of the world.

  Among those who have recently joined us are Remy Schlumberger, Chmn. of FONDACT (a Paris-based organization promoting employee participation); Guy Plunier, Pres. of the Tocqueville Foundation (Paris); Judith Bingham, Pres. of L’Association Tocqueville (Paris); Sham Turnbull, a pioneer of ESOPs in Australia; and Dr. Kanezo Ichikawa, professor of law at Kagawa University in Japan (Prof. Ichikawa’s letter to CESJ is featured in this month’s Newsbriefs). And, of course, we cannot neglect to mention those trailblazers of the nearly 30-year-old ESOP movement: members Jim O’Dell and Winnett Boyd of Canada, and Joe and Marilu Recinos in Guatemala.

  For those interested in joining CESJ, please drop us a note at P.O. Box 40849, Washington, D.C. 20016, and we’ll send you a membership application packet.

- CESJ Pres. Norm Kurland recently travelled to Egypt and is returning there for two weeks in July, to help structure what he hopes will be a landmark ESOP for the TRENCO-Pirelli truck tire manufacturing joint venture in Alexandria, Egypt. He reports that the deal is progressing well and that there is an increasingly positive climate for expanded capital ownership in Egypt.

- CESJ member Bruce Mazzie has developed a concept paper for launching a Center for Equity Expansion in Egypt. Bruce, who also serves as manager of USAID’s Investment Program in Egypt, says that the idea comes as a result of a groundswell of interest in the ESOP concept among Egyptian officials.

- Norm Kurland has been invited to speak in South Africa Nov. 23-24 before a number of labor and business groups on the potential of ESOPs for building a foundation of justice to facilitate future democracy in South Africa. He expects to remain in the country for about a week for more informal discussions.


**July Meeting of CESJ**

When: Saturday, July 16, 1:00 p.m.
Where: National Graduate University
1101 N. Highland St., Arlington, VA
(across from the Clarendon Metro station)
Information: Call Dawn Kurland at (703) 243-5155

This month’s gathering will be dedicated to familiarizing CESJ members and friends with the 10-session Information and Education Program that CESJ will be launching, and eliciting ideas for its future application in areas such as chapter development. All CESJ members will be given an opportunity to enroll free of tuition charge in this pilot program.

**Board Meeting: July 16, 9:30 a.m.**

**Closing Thoughts**

"Without some form of private property, individuals have no private rights and tend to be treated as 'slaves.'"

Vasili Selyunin, retired Soviet academic
(from "Sources," June 1988 issue of Novy Mir; as reported in the Washington Post, 6/7/88, p. A1.)