

FEE TODAY

Bringing Freedom to Life

A Quarterly Newsletter from
The Foundation for Economic Education



Winter 1998-1999

FEE: Making A Difference for Liberty

David Burrell is a classic entrepreneur. Risking his own wealth, he invented a device to test which onions grown in Vidalia, Georgia, possess the full sweetness that makes them so popular. Onions that pass the test are labeled with a brand that assures consumers that the onions are sweet and succulent. Farmers with confidence in the quality of their onions applaud Mr. Burrell's invention as, of course, do consumers.

But farmers whose onions aren't up to snuff have cajoled the Georgia government into harassing Mr. Burrell. Georgia's State Agricultural Commissioner promises to squelch Mr. Burrell's invention forever.

Mr. Burrell's story speaks volumes about modern American attitudes toward freedom and free enterprise. A creative entrepreneur who makes millions of consumers better off is hamstrung by bureaucrats acting at the behest of a shrill special-interest group.

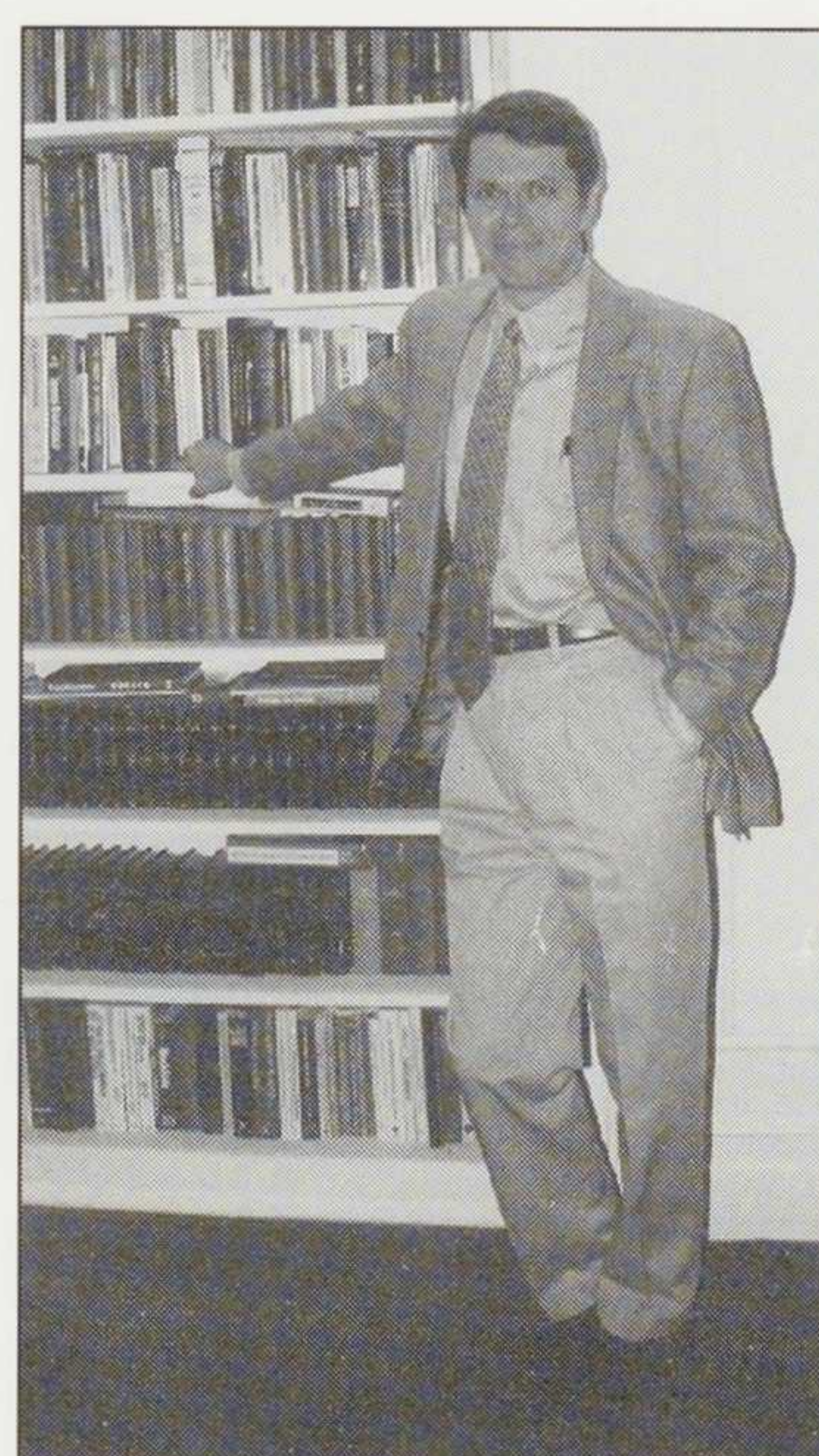
In a truly free society, such obnoxious uses of government power would so disgust most citizens that public officials would never even think to engage in them. Unfortunately, in America today, public officials increasingly do little other than broker such abuses—a sure sign that Americans no longer cherish freedom. And until ordinary Americans again learn the ideals of freedom, government will have the license to exploit

and plunder us.

At FEE, our task is to counter this drift by promoting an understanding and appreciation of the virtues of a free society and free markets. Our mission is to create a culture hospitable to liberty, responsibility, entrepreneurship, and the rule of law so that everyone may enjoy prosperity, dignity, and opportunity. We want to tell the true story of freedom—a story full of excitement and success. And we need your support to do this important work.

I'm especially excited to announce that FEE has received a major new **challenge grant** from two anonymous contributors. If FEE raises \$150,000 in new money (gifts received and deposited) by March 31, 1999, these supporters will give to FEE an additional \$100,000. Put another way, if we meet this challenge, every three dollars you help us to raise will yield an additional two dollars! With your help, we can meet this challenge and do more than ever to bring liberty to life.

In addition, to better advance



*Don Boudreaux in
his office at FEE*

liberty FEE is establishing an innovative Friends of Liberty levels program for our annual giving. This program will designate various levels of giving ranging from Liberty Sponsor (\$100) to Liberty Entrepreneur (\$5,000 and above). At each level we'll offer special benefits for your contributions.

As you know, FEE plays a unique role in educating young people and interested adults in the fundamental ideas of liberty and free enterprise. FEE leaves to other organizations the job of influencing today's legislative agenda. Ours is the far more important task of influencing the deeply rooted ideas and ideals that ultimately determine what government does and doesn't do.

That is, FEE is an idea shop rather than a policy shop. We promote the ideas of freedom in many ways, perhaps most notably through our monthly magazine, *The Freeman*:

continued on p. 2

INSIDE

John Stossel at
Annual Dinner, p. 7

The New *Freeman* p. 3

Learning & Liberty Meet p. 4

FEE's Timeless Books p. 6

Renewing Friendships p. 7

A Look Ahead p. 8

