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# Freedom Can End in Bureaucracy

EVERYBODY knows that the Declaration of Independence was the document that set the United States of America on the road to liberty. Seldom do we think of it as a protest against big government and a demand for the right to transact business freely.

It was not dislike of things British which led the colonists to revolt, says Robert K. Heimann, food executive, in the introduction to "The American Revolution, Three Views."

The liberty, the independence, the civil rights and other freedoms that they were seeking were realistic ideals, but they rested upon an economic base, Heimann points out.

Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., speculates upon what Patrick Henry might have said about our present government in these words: "What none of us ever imagined was the enormous concentration of power in the hands of a bureaucracy built ostensibly to alleviate human suffering and better the lot of the poor, the crippled, and the disadvantaged. Nor did we consider the possibility of an age of permissiveness during which people boldly decided for themselves what laws were 'moral enough' for them to obey."

Secretary of the Treasury William F. Simon says "Government at all levels today is taking about 32 or 33 per cent of our gross national product. If it continues to grow, it's going to be the end of our free enterprise system."

The same conclusion was observed long ago by the English historian, Alexander Trotter, who wrote:

"A democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government and can only exist until the voters discover that they can vote themselves largesse from the public treasury.

From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates promising the most benefits from the treasury, with the result that a democracy always collapses over loose fiscal policy, always followed by a dictatorship."

Thomas Jefferson, in his correspondence with John Adams, wrote: "Yes, we did produce a near-perfect Republic. But will they keep it or will they, in the enjoyment of plenty, lose the memory of freedom? Material abundance without character is the surest way to destruction."

As Heartsill Wilson told the Oklahoma City Men's Dinner Club in an

address a few weeks ago, we have no guarantee for survival. He said we have the tools but do we have the will?

"All nations have failed, either by being conquered by external powers, or by internal militant factions, abetted by an unconcerned majority." He was talking about America, today!

As we observe the 199th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, there seems to be no doubt that the majority of us want to maintain our freedoms, but do we want liberty as strongly as the militant subversive minorities want to destroy our nation?