P.Sa to the NEWS

by PHYLLIS SCHLA.FLY

Box 618, Alton, Illinois 62002
Phone: 618-462-5415

RELEASE: November 2, 1976

NOBEL PRIZE TO FRIEDMAN

The announcement that Milton Friedman, probably the world's most famous champion of the free market, has receiva:lthe Nobel prize for economics, is the latest in a series of events this year confirming the new respectability of conservatism.

In the most unexpected places, people are demonstrating their discovery that Socialism is a failure. The voters in Sweden this fall defeated the Socialist government that has ruled there almost steadily for 44 years.

The British Socialist leaders, faced with the plummeting value of the pound, have finally recognized what should have been a self evident truth, namely, that wealth cannot be redistributed unless it is first created, and that government has no creative powers.

Dr. Friedman was honored by the Nobel trustees for his "achievements in the fields of consumption analysis, monetary history mid theory,and for his demonstration of the complexity of stabilization policy."

"Stabilization policy" is academic jargon for wage and price control. Milton Friedman didn't merely prove that wage-price control is ''complex." He **demonstraaeddthat** it is "inherently immoral," inescapably inequitable, and, in plain language, doesn't work. For this, he deserves not only coveted **hontls** from the elite, but the gratitude of the general public.

One of the proudest achievements of what we affectionately call ''the American way of life" is the substitution of the rule of law for the rule of men. The rule of law isn't perfect, since laws can

be tyrannical. But the rule of law rather than men is a primary factor in extending individual freedom and narrowing our subservience to the a:rld.trary ·whim of btg government.

Dr. Frie man h s been AD eloquent and often lone voice in academic circles e,qileining that wnge and prioe controls are A ginnt step awny from the rule of law beck into the despotism of man. It ta s gove1 unent out of its proper fu ction as referee ena enforcer of voluntnry contract5, and gives it the Authority to set millions of prices and wage rates that rest solely on arbitrary judg ment political powe .

Dr. Friedman has pointed out the many unjust effects of government-managed stabilization policy. Not only is Big Brother continually looking over our shoulders, but our neighbors are, too. The system builds a nation of informers. If one man doesn't like the price he has to pay, he runs to a government bureau and tattles.

Another unhappy effect of government interference is the minimum wage law, which Dr. Friedman calls "the most anti-black law on our st.tJtute lmo1rn -- tn its e:f'fE:H:t, not it,., ird;ent. [11] fl/ po:i.nts out that many bleoka and te nagers, on the average, have lower kills than whites and older workers.

Both grou1rn 1:'H'O nu:1de 11:n.n·s(! off whN> th,o mlntmum waff:I 1.;;;-w -Lie·- eou1·ages emph1ye1·e1 from hir:i.ng them. 'l1he m:lnbn.ua wage law 1.ibus cke prives both blacks and teenagers of on-the-job-training,which is the main route whereby unskilled workers can become skilled.

Fur nearly forty years, the Keynesian eoonoraiets have been in near-total control of American universities. It is devoutly to hoped that Milton Friedman's well-earned distinction will encourage other conservative professors of economics to spenk out to teach their students the fallacies of ce controls.