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Conspicuous assumption

The Democratic donkey and the Republican elephant have been symbols of political parties for about a century now. Now we have a new symbol, the hippopotamus, which the Island's new Liberal Action Club has chosen as its emblem.

A papier mache hippo in life-size proportions has been made by Clarence Overton, a vice chairman of the club. Anyone will agree that the job took a lot of paperwork.

It's certainly a unique choice for a Liberal Party group, but perhaps it is meant to indicate refusal to be swerved from purpose. As we know, a hippo is not easily moved.

Hillaire Belloc pointed that out in a poem:

"I shoot the hippopotamus
With bullets made of platinum,
Because if I use leaden ones
His hide is sure to flatten 'em."