

# Dangerous Breakfast — Venture Capital Edition

## The Proper Role of Government

By George Scoville

- When government acts like a venture capitalist, it breeds corruption. Rusty Weiss has [a great piece on another company](#) benefiting from influence in Democratic circles.
- [In other news](#), water wet, grass green.
- “The evidence shows that governments are generally larger than optimal, but because the available data include primarily countries whose governments are too large, it cannot plausibly say what the ideal size of government is. The data can realistically only say that [smaller governments are better](#), and suggest that the optimal size of government is smaller than what we observe today.”

## Economy

- Cato Institute’s Ed Crane (who, in my experience, is a one-liner *machine*): “[I]f we are genuinely concerned about runaway government spending and massive increases in federal debt, [somebody has to have the cojones](#) to address this issue.” This is the same guy who once quipped to me that “The Tenth Amendment is like the ‘Constitution for Dummies’.” Indeed.
- [Getting a handle](#) on the pro-union NLRB.

## Odds and Ends

- Holden Caulfield and Draco Malfoy: [BFFs IRL](#).
- If there’s a bright center to the universe, [this](#) is the planet that it’s furthest from — according to some reports.
- Chinese customer service agents [train](#) to have perfect smiles by biting chopsticks.
- A [four-part interactive population density infographic](#) from National Geographic. Of course, these are probably the same folks who took Garrett Hardin’s tragedy of the commons to mean that we should be controlling the population, as opposed to apportioning property rights.