

## Illinois Dems exclude head of party slate

In an action which might well have been taken by the Soviet Union's Politburo, the Democratic Party of Illinois excluded its own candidate for lieutenant-governor from the party's state convention on the weekend of June 14-15. State party officials, bent on silencing associates of Democratic presidential contender Lyndon LaRouche, excluded Mark Fairchild, the LaRouche ally who won the March 18 Democratic primary for the number-two post, giving as official grounds that there was "no room" for the party's highest-ranking candidate in the convention hall.

In fact, they were barring the head of the slate, as the Democratic gubernatorial candidate, Adlai Stevenson, has subsequently quit the party, to seek nomination in a new third party, "Solidarity," rather than run with associates of LaRouche. Though he is no longer even a Democrat, Stevenson was an "honored guest speaker" at the convention.

Anticipating that he would be illegally excluded, on June 13 Fairchild sought and won a 10-day temporary restraining order in court, stipulating his right, as a duly elected, high-ranking Democratic candidate, to participate in the convention. But Demuzio and his cronies willfully violated the order, risking fines and/or jail sentences, to keep Fairchild and his associates out.

On June 18, Fairchild filed suit in Cook County Circuit Court, where Judge Anthony Scottillo had earlier issued the temporary restraining order. Fairchild's suit seeks sanctions, a contempt citation, and "other relief as the court deems just" against Demuzio and others complicit in the violation of the court's order.

Judge Scottillo's original order cited Democratic Party rules, which state, "All public meetings at all levels of the Democratic Party of Illinois are open to all members of the Democratic Party of Illinois, regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, economic status, or philosophical persuasion."

In that order, Judge Scottillo stated, "I think it is unfortunate that the case had to be filed here. You wouldn't think after winning the Democratic primary you'd have to ask the court for assistance to address party leaders. . . . The people have decided. They [Fairchild and Janice Hart, nominee for secretary of state] happen to be in conflict with those who are in temporary control of the party." Hart was in West Germany

at the time of the convention, touring at the invitation of the LaRouche-associated Patriots for Germany party, whose Lower Saxony campaign coincided with the Illinois convention.

In his suit, Fairchild will submit ample proof, in testimony and affidavits, that Demuzio's underlings excluded from the convention only those whom they thought were associated with LaRouche, admitting all others, whether or not they had valid credentials.

### The Lincoln tradition

The real reason for Fairchild's exclusion—what Demuzio feared he might say and do—was outlined in a statement Fairchild released to the Illinois press corps at a press conference following Judge Scottillo's ruling. "I live by the principle of Abraham Lincoln, and in that great tradition, the decision of Judge Scottillo is a true victory. I will use my presence at the convention to mobilize patriots in Illinois to repay the debt to Germany and to the German-Americans who helped put Abraham Lincoln into the White House.

"Janice Hart is risking her life on the front line in Lower Saxony, West Germany, in campaigning against the Green Party, who use steel pellets, knives, and guns. In Illinois, I'm fighting against people like Demuzio, who are using exclusionary tactics which will do injury to the voters of Illinois. The citizens of Germany are frightened of the Green Party, and the citizens of Illinois, who are watching these exclusionary tactics, are afraid of them."

Fairchild concluded, "The Judge said I have a right to participate in the convention. Schiller did, 'There is a limit to tyrants' power,' and I will snatch down my inalienable rights from the heavens whence they reside."

At the convention itself, the LaRouche Democrats were the center of media attention, as a sympathetic press corps sought to report on the bizarre turn of events. Fairchild walked, civil-rights-style, arms linked with Democratic congressional nominee Dominick Jeffrey (a LaRouche associate who was also excluded from the convention), and Sheila Jones, Democratic candidate for mayor of Chicago, to the credentials table. As credentials chairman State Sen. Patrick Welch (D-Peru) was turning them away, someone in the jeering crowd behind Welch threw a can of beer at the candidate, striking Fairchild in the face.

Stunned but not daunted, Fairchild quipped, "I didn't think I was being so terrible by being elected."

Turning to the press corps, Fairchild declared, "Vince Demuzio is doing his best to imitate the policies of Moscow. His orders come from those who are cutting a 'New Yalta' deal with the Soviets. . . . The attempt to stifle my voice in this context benefits mainly Moscow."

Judge Scottillo is expected to hold a hearing on Fairchild's complaint the week of June 23, in which Demuzio will be subpoenaed to testify.