

LaRouche-inspired candidate movement determined to solve crisis

by Patricia Salisbury

A growing movement of citizens determined to force solutions to the economic, political, and cultural crisis facing the United States and the world is announcing candidacies for public office. The drive was initiated with the flagship campaign announcement of Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., the noted physical economist now imprisoned in an attempt by his political enemies to silence him.

On June 23, LaRouche announced from his jail cell that he would run as a Democrat for the U.S. Congress in Virginia's 10th Congressional District. LaRouche stated that his campaign would be run on the model of the successful 1810 campaign for Congress of American statesmen Henry Clay. Now, as then, LaRouche stated, a failure of nerve on the part of the elected leaders of the Republic threatens to plunge our nation and the world into chaos. In 1812, Clay used his campaign to galvanize other patriotic citizens to seek and win office. He then used his newly won position of Speaker of the House to lead a transformed U.S. Congress in adopting policies which renewed the country after over a decade of economic and moral decline.

At the time LaRouche's announcement, the United States, under the mis-leadership of President George Bush, was displaying a failure of strategic nerve with regard to the China crisis, first failing to denounce, and then actually supporting, the butchers of Tiananmen Square. LaRouche pointed out that the major decisions of 1989 and 1990 lay immediately ahead, as earthshaking crises, including the deepest worldwide financial collapse of the century, would hit simultaneously. He stated that to solve these crises would require the reversal of every leading policy trend of the first five months of the Bush administration.

The power of 10 million leaflets

LaRouche's campaign announcement was not symbolic, but was aimed at accomplishing a "political miracle" on the order of Henry Clay's precedent. Over the first four months of LaRouche's campaign, over 10 million leaflets went out nationwide—5 million in July, 2 million in August, 2 million in September, and 1 million in the first week of October. These leaflets were distributed by over 1,000 LaRouche supporters throughout the nation. In addition, LaRouche's campaign committee—appropriately named "LaRouche for Justice"—released 100,000 copies of a 24-page pamphlet au-

thored by LaRouche titled "The Great Crisis of 1989-1992," explaining the economic and cultural reasons for the nationalist upsurge erupting, or about to erupt, throughout all regions of the world.

LaRouche for Justice also sponsored rebroadcasts of two campaign addresses by LaRouche which were nationally televised during his 1988 U.S. presidential campaign. The first, "The Woman on Mars," presenting LaRouche's program for space colonization as the basis for economic recovery, aired on a Washington, D.C. station which also hit Virginia's 10th Congressional District and parts of Maryland. And in early October, the campaign broadcast "The Test of Fire," an address which forecast in some detail the now-breaking economic crisis, over the national cable network of the Chicago-based station WGN.

Meanwhile, statewide and U.S. congressional campaigns have already sprung up in California, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, and Virginia, while campaigns for city office and school board are under way in these and many more states. Here are the highlights:

West Coast

At a press conference in front of California Attorney General John Van de Kamp's Los Angeles office, LaRouche Democrat Mark Calney announced his campaign for governor and released an initial slate of candidates pledged to waging—and winning—the war on drugs. Calney charged that Van De Kamp, his opponent for governor in the Democratic primary, "has been an utter failure" in enforcing anti-drug laws, and outlined Lyndon LaRouche's 15-point program for winning the war on drugs, while presenting model legislation to stop money laundering. California, Calney pointed out, has become the cocaine capital of the United States, servicing an estimated 12 million users, and he charged that Van De Kamp "has opposed the use of paraquat on domestically grown marijuana, which is now California's number-one agricultural crop at an estimated \$30 billion per year." Calney charged that instead of prosecuting the banks and others involved in laundering drug money, "Van De Kamp has chosen to use his office to attack LaRouche supporters and others who are fighting the drug pushers."

Calney's running mate for lieutenant governor is Khushro Ghandhi, who was co-chairman of the Prevent AIDS Now

Initiative Committee (PANIC), which sponsored Proposition 64—the 1986 anti-AIDS ballot initiative. Thirteen other LaRouche supporters have announced for Congress in northern and southern California, with scores more running for school board and other offices.

Midwest

The Midwest “LaRouche slate” is headed by a man whose very name strikes fear into the hearts of anti-LaRouche hacks in the Democratic party: Mark Fairchild, who is running for Governor of Illinois. It was Fairchild, along with his running mate Janice Hart, who captured statewide nominations for lieutenant governor and secretary of state in the 1986 Democratic primary, clearly establishing that the LaRouche strategy of transforming the Democratic Party back to a constituency-based party, was winning.

Another important Midwest campaign is being run in Minnesota by truckdriver and Teamster Kent Herschbach, who is opposing incumbent governor Rudi Perpich. Herschbach has challenged Perpich to take concrete economic steps long before the 1990 election to protect the citizens of Minnesota from the economic collapse. He points out that in Minnesota, as in the rest of the country, the building boom has gone bust, with over 25 major projects in receivership and recently built downtown skyscrapers now empty “ghost buildings.” Herschbach heads a slate which also includes several congressional candidates.

In Missouri, LaRouche supporter Nick Clement has announced a campaign against Rep. Richard Gephardt for the Third Congressional district. Clement gained notoriety in the past months by leading the opposition to the St. Louis concert of degenerate rock star Ozzie Osbourne.

In Indiana, veteran candidate Georgia Irely has announced for U.S. Senate, heading a slate that includes several congressional candidates.

Southwest

In Texas, a slate of four candidates headed by Claude Jones filed for office in the Houston municipal elections. Jones, who was elected chairman of the Harris County Democratic Party in March 1988, receiving more than 54,000 votes, will challenge Mayor Kathy Whitmire in the mayoral race. Jones kicked off his campaign with an attack on Mayor Whitmire’s ridiculous claims that because of her, the blown-out Houston economy is now experiencing an economic recovery.

Meanwhile, Houston’s corrupt Democratic establishment is attempting to disqualify the Jones campaign on a technicality. In 1988, the Party leadership waged and finally won a court battle to remove Jones as Harris County chairman because of his association with LaRouche, despite the fact that he had clearly won the election. The Jones for Mayor campaign has announced it will go into court to fight this new maneuver.

East Coast

In Virginia, Nancy Spannaus, editor-in-chief of the *New Federalist* newspaper, is running a campaign for Senate against Republican John Warner. Spannaus’s husband Edward is one the “LaRouche Seven” framed up and jailed along with LaRouche. Spannaus’s slate includes candidates for state legislature in southern as well as northern Virginia. She is offering her expertise in LaRouche’s economic thinking in a series of weekly tours, meetings, and interviews with local press.

In September, Spannaus was the first Virginia political figure to go to the coal fields in support of the miners’ strike. Spannaus and an aide visited the headquarters of District 28, where the UMW strike against the Pittston Coal Group is being coordinated. Spannaus arrived one day after AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland, UMW President Richard Trumka, and 16 other prominent national and state union officials had been arrested for holding a support demonstration for the miners. She found the strikers in high spirits, given this expression of national and international support, but outraged at the role which the Virginia State Police, at the behest of Democratic Gov. Gerald Baliles and Democratic Attorney Mary Sue Terry, are playing in the strike. The state of Virginia, in an attempt to intimidate the miners into submission, is subjecting them to immediate arrest if police consider pickets out of bounds. In addition, fully one-third of the Virginia State Police force has been deployed into the sparsely populated county where the strike is centered.

Spannaus was invited to address the miners gathered at the main Solidarity encampment, and introduced herself as a LaRouche Democrat and a supporter of the UMW strike. She denounced the current efforts to impose a police state on the United States. When LaRouche was convicted last year, she reminded her audience, he warned that this would happen. And in the seven months since he has been in jail, the police-state measures have gradually been expanded—to labor, anti-abortion activists, civil rights layers, and farmers, in particular, and throughout the world in China, and the East bloc.

Spannaus challenged the miners, as she has challenged other Virginians, to realize that these police-state conditions are occasioned by the impending economic crisis, and are being imposed by the policymakers who would prefer mass murder to a change in policy. She called on every citizen to realize the responsibilities which they each bear for the crisis we face. “Even if we succeed in ‘throwing the bums out,’ ” she warned, “the vast majority of our citizens would generally repeat the very same mistakes that have created the current catastrophic mess.”

That is why she and the other candidates are joining with LaRouche in calling on our citizenry to root out of our own thinking the assumptions that have corrupted our judgment, and the habituated passivity which permits the country to be governed by mediocrities and worse.