

Race begins for the Democratic presidential nomination

by Molly Hammett Kronberg

The 1984 presidential campaign battle in the Democratic Party started on the weekend of Jan. 14-16, with the California State Democratic convention.

That convention had been intended by Democratic National Chairman Chuck "Banker" Manatt to consolidate his control of the Democratic presidential candidate selection process; instead, the uproar at the convention over two issues—the refusal of the Democratic Party to allow *EIR* founder and 1980 Democratic presidential hopeful Lyndon LaRouche to address the convention; and the campaign by LaRouche Democrat Ruth Stephenson, a Central Committee member of the California party, for the state party chairmanship against Manatt's law partner Peter Kelly—began to seriously fissure the California party and undermine Manatt's control.

The Democrats, and Manatt, have still not lived down the debacle of the Jimmy Carter-Walter Mondale administration, which destroyed U.S. standing abroad and wrecked the domestic economy with Volcker's high-interest-rate regime. Carter's humiliation at the polls in 1980 should have been a signal to Manatt, Lane Kirkland, and Averell Harriman that zero-growth and kooky environmentalism enraged American voters. That they are persisting in anti-industrial policies which will prolong the depression has opened up large sections of the Democratic base to Lyndon LaRouche and his National Democratic Policy Committee.

The California fight

The triggering issue in the LaRouche-versus-Manatt fight at the California convention was the refusal of California State Chairman Nancy Pelosi (amidst giggles from the closet) to honor the NDPC's demand that LaRouche be invited to address the convention. Every other still-unannounced Democratic presidential hopeful and possible candidate was invited to address the convention: Sens. John Glenn (Ohio), Gary Hart (Colo.), Ernest Hollings (S.C.), Rep. Moe Udall (Ariz.), and former Vice-President Walter Mondale. LaRouche, the subject of a "draft" for president led by the NDPC, has declared that he is "not unavailable." In response, the NDPC filed suit in California State Court demanding

that LaRouche be included among the speakers.

The NDPC's endorsement of Ruth Stephenson's campaign for chairman as a LaRouche Democrat also polarized the party. Stephenson, a 57-year-old California State Central Committee member, challenging Manatt's law partner Kelly, drew endorsements from dozens of labor officials and black and Hispanic leaders organized around LaRouche's four-point program to end the depression. On the other side, Kelly's political profile included his earlier role as sometime-fundraiser for terrorist Tom Hayden's Campaign for Economic Democracy. The fact that Stephenson's campaign—only a few weeks long—won the endorsement of more than 60 labor and Democratic Party leaders was an open challenge to Manatt's control of his home-state base. Stephenson and one other member of the Democratic Central Committee joined the NDPC's law suit to force inclusion of LaRouche—another evidence of the turmoil in the state party.

The Manatt-Kirkland attempt to push LaRouche, from the outset, out of the nomination process is key to their strategy to fix the 1984 nomination process from the top. If they fail to do that over the next months, all Manatt's palaver about party unity and top-down control (which was so unsuccessful at the June 1982 Democratic mini-convention in Philadelphia when it was confronted by LaRouche Democrats) will be given the lie. Any further loosening of Manatt's already tenuous grip on the party will result in an openness to grassroots political pressure unmatched since the 1930s.

The question of program

LaRouche's program makes him unique; no other Democratic figure has any answer to the depression and to the erosion of U.S. power in the world. The LaRouche faction of the Democratic party, along with Republicans and independents, is organizing for a U.S. commitment to develop particle-beam defensive weapons to end the threat of thermonuclear war and drive the collapsing U.S. economy into levels of production and prosperity far exceeding the NASA period. Access to a national platform in surroundings which are highly politicized would give the LaRouche faction the opportunity to spread these ideas like wildfire. In the caucus-

es leading up to the California convention, participation in delegate-selection was at an all-time high, despite the recent wipeout of California's former governor Jerry Brown, who lost the party the U.S. Senate seat and the governorship with his kookiness just last November.

On Jan. 14, a six-sided leaflet went out in California with LaRouche's message: "Don't let the Swiss and London Banks Loot the U.S. Treasury!"—referring to the IMF's debt-bail-out plans. In the leaflet, LaRouche urges Democrats not to fall into petty partisan politics, and urges bipartisan pressure on the White House to reverse its economic policy. LaRouche's program—world financial reorganization of the unpayable \$700 billion debt overhang; a New World Economic Order in which the advanced industrial sector is rescued from depression by enormous production for the industrialization needs of the Third World and the Third World is rescued from genocide by being industrialized—is already catalyzing popular rage about the depression in the United States into political support for a debt moratorium and new credits for the Third World.

LaRouche and his wife Helga Zepp-LaRouche, a European political leader, have circled the globe this past year organizing for the New World Economic Order and what LaRouche calls a "debt bomb" to be dropped by Third World debtor nations against the dictatorship of the International Monetary Fund. With such a candidate with his hat in the ring, Manatt and all his blow-dried candidates look sick. Manatt knows this; so does Lane Kirkland and so do the *éminences grises* of the Democratic Party, Pamela and Averell Harriman.

Except for LaRouche, every Democratic hopeful is in the orbit of the Harrimans. Pamela Harriman, Sir Winston Churchill's former daughter-in-law and now wife to the aged, still evil, Averell Harriman, is the founder of the political action committee "Democrats for the '80s" to which Manatt has delivered the party leadership for brainwashing sessions in zero growth, shrinkage of the Third World economies and populations, and the acclimatization of the U.S. population to a "post-industrial [post-progress] society." Harriman and his family, as *EIR* exposed in depth in 1982, were the leading U.S. supporters of Nazi "race science" in the 1920s and 1930s, policies they support today under the name of population control.

Senator Ernest Hollings is a regular at Pamela Harriman's Georgetown political soirées. Former Democratic Party Chairman Bob Strauss, an intimate of Pamela Harriman's, is reportedly lining up money for John Glenn's candidacy, which Strauss is aggressively peddling. Walter Mondale of the Tri-lateral Commission is cut from the same cloth.

Manatt's attempt to rig the California convention is in the service of this outlook. It represents a combine among Manatt and the candidates, all Harriman-linked. Only candidates "cleared by the DNC" were invited to the California conven-

tion; the same crew will show up as featured speakers at a Manatt-organized Democratic fundraiser in New York City Feb. 9.

The record

If Manatt didn't hope to make these gentlemen the only game in town, the serious flaws in each would make it clear why there is no "frontrunner" in the current Democratic wrangle. Five are current senators; Mondale is a former Senator and Vice-President. Moe Udall is a longtime Congressman. Every one of them by his record is tied tightly to the disaster of the Carter years and the destruction of the American economy. There have been many moves on Capitol Hill to lower interest rates, or break the stranglehold of the Federal Reserve on the economy—but not one of these fellows has been involved in that. Instead, they helped Carter preside over the most precipitous collapse the American economy has ever suffered.

Udall, Cranston, Hart, and Mondale are all self-proclaimed apostles of the "post-industrial society." The millions of American industrial workers now on unemployment lines have no reason to vote for these men, and Manatt knows perfectly well that LaRouche and his program for industrial recovery exert an extraordinary pull on the traditional labor base of the party.

Udall, Cranston, and Bumpers were all enthusiastic endorsers of the most vicious policy of the Carter years—the *Global 2000 Report*, which called for deindustrialization of the globe by the end of the century.

Ernest Hollings is merely a more conservative version of the others, who has acted as a "Johnny One-Note" on the pseudo-issue of a balanced budget, insisting that the depression is caused by too little austerity and too much credit.

Moe Udall (whom some believe will use lower-level Kennedy troops to build an environmentalist-"peace" movement in the absence of a Kennedy candidacy) cannot persist long as a serious candidate. His every press conference opens with a denial that he is terminally ill with Parkinson's disease.

One of the most insidious candidates on the scene is **Gary Hart**. He is the "peace" candidate par excellence; the "peace" movement for which he fronts is that which old Nazi supporter Averell Harriman recently prevailed on Chairman Manatt to endorse on television: the Soviet "peace offensive" now being masterminded by Soviet boss Yuri Andropov. A few weeks ago Harriman himself was on television calling Gary Hart "the most attractive candidate," with a good chance at the presidency, in 1988 if not 1984. What makes Hart so attractive to Harriman is Hart's ability to campaign vigorously and suavely for national suicide along the lines of the Andropov "peace" confidence game. Hart's other qualifications, in Harriman's eyes, include his close friendship with British operative Peter Jay, whose articles in the pages of the London *Economist* hammer at the theme of more austerity

for the United States. Hart also sits on the board of the Georgetown-based Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), which is a major source of opposition to any Reagan administration adoption of the beam weapons development policy proposed by LaRouche and scientist Edward Teller. LaRouche has said that "Hart makes Jerry Brown look patriotic."

Hart's chief economics adviser sits on the U.S. branch of the zero-growth, genocidal Club of Rome. All of this makes Hart potentially able to shape a sophisticated campaign which could destroy Mondale and Glenn's campaigns.

Dale Gumpers, whose presidential campaign is limited to attacks on protectionism, and former Florida Governor Ruben Askew, are second-string candidates of the "New South" liberal variety—opposed to heavy industry and obsessed with the "soft" technology industries which were supposed to make the South and Southwest immune from depression (and failed).

Alan Cranston is another candidate of the environmentalist—"peace" phenomenon. Cranston's candidacy was launched in California using illegal means. California state law forbids either party to support or oppose any candidate before the primary has occurred. Despite this law (which is unambiguous), in the weeks before the Democratic convention in Sacramento, State Party Chairman Nancy Pelosi and the rest of the party leadership organized a week of special delegate caucus meetings for Cranston to address, held fundraising parties for Cranston, did his mailings, ad nauseum.

The party convention was also made into a national media forum for Cranston, with ABC, NBC, and CBS set to do preference polls on the floor, and the major national media deployed to the convention through its entirety. Party official Ivy Cohen estimated an 80-90 percent poll vote for Cranston, which would enable him to go to the 1984 convention as a "favorite son." No one thinks Cranston, a 76-year-old radical from the World Federalist/Bertrand Russell end of the spectrum, has a chance of becoming the party's nominee, but his showing in California is, according to some sources, meant to secure him appointment to Secretary of State in a Democratic administration, and it will keep the California kooky environmentalist movement "warm," so to speak, for a more credible "peace" candidate.

As for **Walter Mondale**—"Prince Valium" himself—his "frontrunner" candidacy has one tremendous, probably insurmountable problem: Jimmy Carter. Because Mondale commands the labor vote that the AFL-CIO's Lane Kirkland and the UAW's Douglas Fraser control, he has support that every other candidate needs; Mondale's own fortunes are hard to predict. His home-state Democratic Farmer Labor alliance, which he inherited from Hubert Humphrey, was undermined badly in the 1982 primary season, particularly when LaRouche Democrat Pat O'Reilly, running for Congress, came within a hair's breadth of defeating the DFL-

endorsed candidate. O'Reilly's campaign caused such consternation that the DFL withdrew \$60,000 from the campaign of its gubernatorial candidate Warren Spannaus to throw into the fight to stop O'Reilly from winning. The result: Spannaus, warmly endorsed by Mondale, lost.

Despite **John Glenn's** astronaut image, he is a leader in the anti-nuclear-proliferation cause, which includes the fight to keep the United States and the Third World from deploying and developing nuclear energy plants for peaceful energy generation. Alongside his anti-nuclear-proliferation stand on weaponry, he champions a U.S. defense policy based on small, mobile ICBMs—no defense at all. Glenn is reportedly being groomed to be "more articulate, with more of an Eisenhower image." It is also reported that top Kennedy staffers are entering the Glenn campaign. This began to occur after a Democratic bigwigs' meeting in Pittsburgh after Senator Kennedy announced that he was not a candidate in 1984. Meantime, lower-level Kennedy people are going into Udall's camp.

If the electorate weren't still afraid of the Democrats, Lyndon LaRouche recently told 350 members of a farmers' "paritycade" in Georgia, the Republicans would have been turned out of office in November 1983. Nothing is more vivid proof of how much Americans loathed Carter than the fact that there was not a huge Democratic sweep at the polls in the last election, with the economy falling to pieces and unemployment at its highest point since the 1930s.

The present Harriman stable of candidates does very little to dispel the fear of the Democrats that Carter engendered. Perhaps this is the real reason Ted Kennedy withdrew from this presidential race.

'I'm not unavailable'

With this vacuum in the Democratic Party, Manatt is haunted by the idea of a LaRouche insurgency. At last count about 80 candidates across the country were running in local elections as LaRouche Democrats. In his speech to the farmers' tractorcade, LaRouche advised that the only tactic he could wholeheartedly recommend was to run for every office in sight at the federal, state, and local level. Asked again about his own presidential plans, LaRouche reaffirmed: "I'm not unavailable. I'm willing to go anywhere and talk to anybody. But we have to get through 1983 before we can think of 1984."

The LaRouche movement will be built during 1983 through hundreds of campaigns launched by supporters of his program around the country. The NDPC has an immediate goal: To force the Reagan administration to carry out LaRouche's program. It is also very likely that a medium-term result will be to give LaRouche the old FDR base of the Democratic Party—labor, farmers, minorities—which could make 1984 the most extraordinary election year in recent U.S. history.