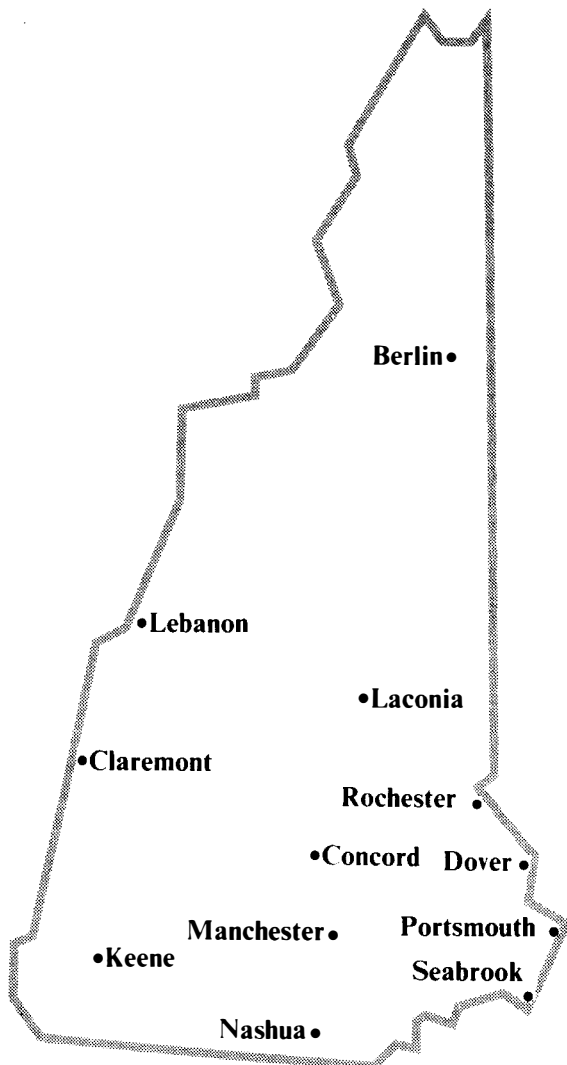


EIR Cover Story

New Hampshire: Upset in the making?



by Konstantine George

American voters confront a 1980 election year that is without historical parallel since the election of 1860. Now, as then, the presidential election is dominated by one overriding question: will the United States choose a leader who can rescue the nation from the gravest crisis in the history of the American republic? Consequently, the first presidential primary in New Hampshire on February 26 takes on decisive significance in this year's campaign.

1980 follows four years of what many regard as the worst administration in U.S. history, with an unbroken record of economic and foreign policy disasters. The disasters are the product of an administration and Federal Reserve run by individuals committed to promoting what they term "controlled disintegration" of the global and domestic economies.

The United States is currently in economic crisis, threatened with a depression worse than the 1930s, and in foreign policy a crisis that is systematically disintegrating American national interests abroad. And reaching epidemic proportions, the proliferation of drug usage among America's youth, if not arrested and reversed by the next President, would alone, through destruction of the minds of the nation's youth, settle the question of the nation's future.

The American voter knows, at least in the back of his or her mind, that 1980 will not merely determine a four-year presidential outcome, but indeed the question of America's continued existence.

In this unique election year, a candidate equally

unique in credentials has entered the picture: Democratic candidate, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. Although his name has been conspicuously absent from the national media, he is widely known in both international and domestic policy-making circles. His general aim is to revive the principles of the American System pioneered by Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton under the first administration of George Washington. LaRouche is regarded as the "intellectual author" of the European Monetary System, cornerstone for the creation of a new international gold-based system—the first point in LaRouche's six-point program. LaRouche has also designed domestic programs, consistent with Hamilton's American System, summarized in his mass-circulation program.

LaRouche's strategy, as his national campaign director Warren Hamerman explains, is to take the New Hampshire Democratic primary and use the upset victory as the springboard to eventual triumph at the party's national convention.

For that, New Hampshire voters hold the key. The state's electorate exemplifies the "reality principle" that upwards of 70 percent of America maintains a firm belief in the principles of scientific-technological progress and economic growth. The state's voters, furthermore, take seriously their singular role in determining the outcome of presidential elections.

An influential New Hampshire Democrat, not alone in his thinking, recently summed up the stakes in the February 26 primary: "Kennedy's election means the death of the Democratic Party in the state, and Carter's

election means the death of the nation." Were the primary contest a question of Carter versus Kennedy, and the GOP field only, a predictable "lesser of two evils" mindset would prevail, with Dems turning to the GOP, or simply abstaining.

The New Hampshire primary would then be mere theater. Three years ago, one insider to Republican National Committee discussions involving Henry Kissinger, revealed that a "deal" had been struck in Anglo-American policy-making circles whereby a Republican candidate would secure the 1980 election; no matter which GOP candidate was chosen at the 1980 convention, the policy course for the 1980s would not differ.

Such revelations, though apparently dated, shed interesting light on the actual course of the current GOP presidential sweepstakes, and pinpoint the term theater as an accurate description for the current eight-man charade in progress. All the frontrunner GOP candidates—Bush, Connally, and Reagan—have endorsed the fiscal austerity policies of Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker. And the eight have never attacked one another on any issue.

Whichever candidate acquires the GOP nomination, the same Council on Foreign Relations-based crowd of stringpullers gains the presidency.

Election '80: Up for grabs

The GOP situation is sewn up at the top levels, for now. The 1980 electoral outcome is a total uncertainty, however, because the New Hampshire Democratic pri-

mary is up for grabs. The reason: it's a three-way race—Carter, Kennedy, and...

Every political machine in the country is now watching the New Hampshire primary as the bellweather defining, through voter turnout and preference, the mood of the citizenry. Party professionals' "New Hampshire watch" now includes a hawk-eye look at the "LaRouche factor."

Professionals start their study of campaign prospects with the following basics. The state of New Hampshire contains 176,000 registered Republican voters, 146,000 registered Democrats, and 159,000 Independents. Given a three-way race (and throw Jerry Brown in as a minority fourth) and an approximation of a turnout in the 60 percent range, and 40,000 votes is the base line for victory. It can only be secured by a large combination of Democratic and independent votes. (Independents, may, under New Hampshire state law, change their registration to party affiliation anytime during the primary campaign and be eligible to vote.) This combination corresponds politically to the non-GOP portion of the bloc of voters subscribing in outlook to the principles of the American System. That combination, once mobilized and pulling for a candidate, means victory for that candidate.

The party professional then gauges the capability of a given candidate in pulling that winning combination behind him. Pertinent to the New Hampshire watch are the 1979 Democratic mayoral primaries and elections, and how that crop of candidates identified with or endorsed by Sen. Edward Kennedy fared.

They in fact fared miserably. The press took careful note that identification with or endorsement from Kennedy was a political kiss of death.

—In Cleveland, Kennedyite incumbent Mayor Dennis Kucinich lost in a city with a 7 to 1 Democratic voter registration edge, to Republican George Voinovich. Voinovich's victory was effected through an alliance catalyzed by the LaRouche organization in the city, involving predominantly Democratic black and white ethnic urban machines.

—In the Boston mayoralty contest, Kennedy liberal Joseph Timilty was crushed by incumbent mayor Kevin White.

—Also in New England, in the Connecticut Democratic primaries in Hartford, New Haven, and Bridgeport, Kennedy-linked contenders were soundly beaten. In New England, as in the Cleveland case, the Kennedy crew lost to a white ethnic/black political machine alliance.

—In Erie County, New York (Buffalo), James McGuire, for whom Kennedy campaigned, lost to a Republican in the race for Erie County Commissioner by a margin of over 2 to 1. This is the greatest margin of

defeat ever suffered by a Democrat in Erie County history.

Those are the highlights of the wreckage of the Democratic Party left by Kennedy endorsements. The perception now throughout the party—as charged by Cook County Democratic regulars—is that the Kennedy campaign is a vehicle to fragment the party and throw the election to a Republican.

With Carter, the overriding problem is that he can in no way avoid running on his and his administration's record. In the public's view, that is not a winning platform. A Carter victory in New Hampshire would launch Carter into the nomination, and given his record of failure and moving the country to the brink of ruination, would certify Democratic Party defeat in November.

Presidential primaries, however, never take place in a vacuum, despite the theater. The voters' minds are never off the issues, and that holds doubly true in this most critical of elections. The need for a leader with a clear program to get the country out of the economic and foreign policy mess is what the voter knows is required.

Volunteer organization Makes the difference

Presidential primaries, and this holds especially true in New Hampshire, are won or lost depending upon the quality of the volunteer organization built by the presidential candidate. In the eyes of hard-nosed professionals, this factor more than any other, has led to the conclusion that the three-way Democratic race in New Hampshire is up for grabs, and to intense speculation that a LaRouche upset can in no way be ruled out.

The largest on-the-ground organization in the state is the LaRouche campaign, with a full-time staff of 28, manning eight offices located in eight of New Hampshire's ten largest towns and cities. The LaRouche volunteer organization, consisting entirely of New Hampshire residents, several hundred in number, is also the largest in the state. At this juncture in the primary campaign, with a total of 12 candidates listed on the ballot, only three, Carter, LaRouche, and Baker, have filed with the Federal Election Commission for matching funds.

LaRouche has used a town hall meeting tactic to engage in a dialogue with the electorate on foreign and economic policy issues. LaRouche has held many such meetings, with participants ranging from 50 to 250 in number.

For the public record, LaRouche's Democratic opponents and their spokesmen tend to downplay LaRouche's chances for scoring an upset. Their actions, however, speak far louder than their words.

Since the take-off of the LaRouche campaign, Carter, Kennedy, and Brown have set up the largest professional

campaign staffs ever recorded in New Hampshire primary history. The Carter campaign now has 20 full-time staffers, Kennedy has 25, and Jerry Brown has a total of 20. The norm for Republican candidates, and also for most candidates in all past primaries is a staff of eight or nine on the average. Carter, in 1976, took the state with a staff of 12.

LaRouche's opponents are not only buying huge staffs, but, as the case of Carter shows, importing volunteers for door-to-door canvassing, to make up for the lack of a strong state resident volunteer organization. Next week, the "Georgian invasion" of New Hampshire begins, with over 100 "volunteers" from the state of Georgia arriving to spend the month of December canvassing the state's voters. Jerry Brown's "volunteers" consist of greenie and prodope imports from other states.

The New Hampshire primary is being turned into a mandate on policy issues determining America's future. The fight centers on what candidate LaRouche has termed the two methods by which an American election can be won. The first, termed by LaRouche the "Kleenex

method," compares the candidates preferred by the Anglo-American Eastern Establishment as so many tissues in a box, with the policy-making Council on Foreign Relations plucking a winning candidate-tissue out of the box.

The second method is the method by which Abraham Lincoln won the election of 1860, mobilizing that 70 percent of the American population that supports the American System outlook, forging an alliance of labor, industry, minorities, and farmers across party lines with a program in the national interests. Each President since Eisenhower has won on the "Kleenex method." Given the electorate's comprehension of the gravity of the crisis confronting the nation, 1980 offers a unique opportunity for the mobilization of the United States electorate around the Lincoln method. Provided it has the resources and support, the Lincoln method is unbeatable. The employment of this method by LaRouche in New Hampshire has already created a situation where the primary is up for grabs, and the greatest political upset in the century could be in the making.

How It Worked in 1976

In the 1976 New Hampshire presidential primary, then-unknown Jimmy Carter was the Democratic Party's winner with only 24.5 percent of the vote cast in a "beauty contest" of 29 contenders, including favorite son candidates. The chart below shows only the four top runners, who together polled only 2/3 of the votes cast by Democrats. Four names appeared on the GOP primary ballot that year, including four of the Democratic contenders. The only actual Republican candidates running were incumbent President Ford and former California Governor Ronald Reagan.

