
The Democratic Party

Leftists try coup in California party

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On Saturday, July 18, some would-be modern Robespierres linked to Jerry Brown and Tom Hayden passed through the small executive committee of the California Democratic Party a resolution censuring the traditionalist wing of the party organized around the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC). What is the meaning of this new sociological phenomenon, where the far left wing of the Democratic Party, typified by Brown and Hayden, goes on an attempted rampage against the traditionalist or moderate Democratic Party forces, typified by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.?

While the new sociological phenomenon can be observed elsewhere in America—for example, in the collapse of the Michigan State Democratic Party or the activities of the notorious William Winpisinger—the clearest example of the new process can be seen in England.

In the recent local elections in Warrington, an industrial town racked by widespread unemployment and economic collapse, the new moderate Social Democratic Party of Roy Jenkins and Denis Healey polled a huge vote of 42 percent in its first electoral test, nearly outpolling the left-wing Labour Party of Wedgwood Benn. Margaret Thatcher's local conservative candidate finished with a dismal 7 percent of the vote. No one expected the new Social Democratic Party of Jenkins—formed in opposition to the left-wing rampages of British Labour Party leader Anthony Wedgwood Benn—to get such a large vote. Because of widespread hostility to the economic austerity policies of Thatcher, the new Social Democratic Party enjoyed many cross-over votes from disgruntled conservative Tories.

While we in the National Democratic Policy Committee are anything but social democrats, the sociological phenomenon in the Warrington by-elections is precisely analogous to the actions of the California State Democratic Executive Committee. In the United States, when left-wing Democrats go on a rampage and try to throw normal Democrats out of the party, they will stimulate the normal, traditionalist-oriented rank and

file of the Democratic Party and its constituencies to rally instantly and forcefully around the “censured” traditionalist wing.

In England the insane left-wing antics of Anthony Wedgwood Benn (the friend of Willy Brandt and Mike Harrington), combined with the voters' disgust for the disastrous economic policies of Thatcher, propelled the voters to cast 42 percent for the new party.

In California, the would-be modern Robespierres will catalyze the ranks of the Democratic Party to rally around the traditionalist LaRouche. This phenomenon will be greatly augmented by the widespread fears in the American population that Ronald Reagan, despite his decent personal intentions, is wrecking the economy by capitulating to Paul A. Volcker's insane high interest-rate policy and allowing a foreign policy mess to worsen because of the President's failure to remove Alexander Haig as secretary of state.

Across the United States the left wing of the Democratic Party is attempting to move against the traditionalist orientation of the Democratic Party's own rank and file. This explains, at a moment of generally increasing perception of economic crisis in the country, the rapid growth of Lyndon LaRouche's National Democratic Policy Committee. From California to Michigan, Texas, and Pennsylvania, the left wing of the Democratic Party, excited by the successes of the left Socialists in France and Italy, are moving to wreck the Democratic Party at the expense of the sentiments of Democratic constituencies themselves.

The process is most advanced in California, where Jerry Brown is in serious trouble for his mishandling of the fruit-fly situation *because he acted not from sensible thinking, but from the blind emotional commitment to his ideological prejudices* against “big agriculture” and for “environmentalism right or wrong.” Tom Hayden, the radical Wedgwood Benn of California, has infiltrated the Democratic Party with an organization he calls the Campaign for Economic Democracy (CED). At the last California State Democratic Convention Hayden controlled 419 delegates—192 of them elected and the rest appointed by Brown-linked party officials. Hayden is a warrior against all forms of economic progress: big labor, big agriculture, big industry, and big science. He therefore calls for the overthrow of “America's gods of power, technology and profit.”

French President Mitterrand's allies in America call themselves the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee (DSOC). Recently one of the leaders of this organization told the press that they are organizing their faction in the Democratic Party through umbrella groups, putting forward their socialist ideas as ultra-“liberal” because they will sell better. Already the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee (headed by Michael Harrington) has three members on the Demo-

cratic National Committee: William Winpisinger, president of the International Association of Machinists; Jerry Wurf, president of AFSCME; and Jolene Unsoeld from Washington State.

The Socialist International of Wedgwood Benn has also inserted its machinery into the state levels of the Democratic Party. David Livingston, president of District 65 in New York, recently affiliated with Doug Fraser's UAW. In the state of Washington, the Coalition for Democratic Socialism backs Karen Marchioro for state party chairmanship. Four members of the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee already sit on the Kansas State Democratic Committee and they are taking the lead in drafting a state socialist platform for the Kansas party. Forty elected officials are members of DSOC, including Ron Dellums of California, Ed Wallace and Ruth Messenger of Ed Koch's City Council in New York, and Detroit City Council President Mary Ann Mahaffey. Also in Michigan, the man who wrote the McGovern rules of the Democratic Party—Morley Winograd—has presided over the wrecking of the state party.

Mainstream Democrats on the line

The intensified actions of the left wing of the Democratic Party directly defy the sentiments of the mainstream of the Democratic Party. For example, at the Rules Committee meeting the night before the California State Executive Board voted its censure of the National Democratic Policy Committee, three reasons were presented for censuring LaRouche:

1. LaRouche and the National Democratic Policy Committee have forcefully attacked Paul A. Volcker's depression-causing high interest-rate policy at the Federal Reserve as well as the botching of American foreign policy against the interest of the nation by Alexander Haig;

2. LaRouche and the National Democratic Policy Committee have exposed Jerry Brown as the "candidate of sodomy" whose policies promote the moral and physical destruction of youth;

3. LaRouche and the National Democratic Policy Committee have been the most visible opponents in Europe to Willy Brandt, Mitterrand of France, Craxi of Italy, and their Socialist International allies.

Each of these policy positions taken by LaRouche and the NDPC reflect the policy orientation of the mainstream of the Democratic Party. The would-be Robespierres in California, as the left socialists in England, will now find broad forces rallying to LaRouche and the National Democratic Policy Committee in answer to their pledge to rebuild a strong traditionalist-oriented Democratic Party to defend the interests of Democratic constituencies, and pursue policies in the national interest.

U.S. Social Democrats

Winpisinger on the Jacobin gameplan

In a rambling interview last month, William "Wimpy" Winpisinger, the socialist president of the International Association of Machinists, spoke of the need for a "grass roots education campaign" that could produce mass unrest against the Reagan administration. Winpisinger was an important participant at a "Eurosocialism and America" conference last December in Washington, where Socialist International president Willy Brandt, Sweden's Olof Palme, and French President François Mitterrand gathered to plot the overthrow of the American government—first, by "Hooverizing" the President through manipulating him into disastrous economic policies, and then, by organizing riots and other forms of "class warfare" among the disaffected populus.

Winpisinger, vice-chairman of the Socialist International's American arm, the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee (DSOC), concentrated his interview remarks on the second, "class warfare" aspect of the anti-Reagan plan. In the process, the structure of both the labor movement and the Democratic Party would have to be changed, he indicated.

"The main thing the labor movement has to do is change its image," stated Winpisinger. "We have to go on a massive public education campaign and bust the Reagan myth. The idea that this guy got a mandate from the population last November is a crock. Look at the budget fight. This proves what this guy is all about. The whole budget fight went up in smoke, with Reagan trying to ram his program down the throats of Congress. We have to get the Democratic Party to take the role of the loyal opposition. Tip O'Neill sitting on his big tuchas finally started to get off it after it was almost too late."

The IAM president wants people out in the streets: "We have to start now with a grass roots education campaign, showing people how this right-wing nut is trying to rip up social programs; this will be the way we will change labor's image. If we don't start doing something about this guy now, this country will be turned into a fascist corporatist state."

Winpisinger spoke of "getting coalitions going all over the place to stop this Reagan business," reminiscent of Washington conference speaker Anthony Wedgwood