

LaRouche Dems beat Manatt crew in Ohio

by Marla Minnicino

The May 8 Ohio Democratic primary saw LaRouche Democrats grab the Democratic nomination for U.S. Congress in two districts and tally up over 125,000 votes statewide. This was the culmination of a pitched battle between the LaRouche wing of the Democratic Party and the faction associated with Democratic National Committee chairman Charles Manatt, during which the Ohio Democratic Party formally "disavowed" the 14 LaRouche congressional candidates and warned voters against their "dangerous propaganda."

When the dust had cleared, the LaRouche forces were in a stronger position than ever, and Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche was poised to "break out" of media containment.

Not only did LaRouche garner widespread newspaper, television, and radio coverage for his charges against former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger—made at press conferences in Columbus, Cincinnati, and Cleveland—but candidates backed by LaRouche's National Democratic Policy Committee polled between 10% and 47% of the vote in the 14 congressional races they entered. In the 7th Congressional District (C.D.), LaRouche-backed dairy farmer Don Scott won over 60% of the vote in a two-way race, earning the right to face off against Republican incumbent Rep. Michael DeWine in November. In the 4th C.D., LaRouche candidate William Sutton ran unopposed and will challenge Rep. Michael Oxley (R-Findlay) in the fall.

The Ohio Democratic Party leaders of the Manatt stripe, however, will probably refuse to endorse Scott and Sutton—the elected nominees of their own party. In a letter circulated to party county chairmen and other officials two weeks before the primary, Ohio party chairman James Ruvolo listed 12 candidates affiliated with LaRouche and wrote: "I want to make it clear that we do not consider Lyndon LaRouche nor his followers as members of the Ohio Democratic Party, nor do we expect our local organizations to honor any requests for support. . . . This organization is not affiliated with the Democratic Party. In fact, it subscribes to beliefs and practices that are blatantly contrary to the goals and principles that we as Democrats set."

LaRouche candidate Claudia Cortes, in a letter to the state Democratic Party, thanked Ruvolo for advising the public that LaRouche's policies were contrary to his own. "You are

right, sir," wrote Cortes. "We do not support legalized drugs, disguised euthanasia programs, continued economic collapse, or gay rights movements." She also pointed out that Ruvolo's slanders against LaRouche bore striking similarity to recent articles denouncing the candidate which had appeared in Soviet publications.

Ruvolo's blunder opened the way for LaRouche Democrats to put forward their program: a crash program to build anti-missile beam weapons, a gear-up in conventional defenses, and an economic program based on "federalizing" the Federal Reserve and channeling low-interest credit to agriculture and industry.

Who are the real Democrats?

Ruvolo's letter made headlines across the state just as The LaRouche Campaign's media blitz hit full stride. Radio advertisements and TV spots labeling Henry Kissinger a Soviet agent of influence and portraying Walter Mondale and Gary Hart as KGB-controlled puppets were saturating the Ohio airwaves. LaRouche himself would soon deliver a blow to Kissinger with a series of press conferences in three Ohio cities. The Manatt-Ruvolo forces were on the defensive, scurrying to prevent the details of Kissinger's and their own treasonous activity from becoming public.

Their ploy failed. LaRouche's press briefings were attended by over 20 media representatives who questioned LaRouche's electoral prospects, but took down every word he said about Kissinger. Newspapers from Cincinnati to Cleveland printed stories on LaRouche's charges, and the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, in an April 27 article on LaRouche's controversial radio ads, quoted Kissinger himself saying: "The statements about me are utter nonsense and not worthy of any response."

A crushing blow to Ruvolo came in his own home base of Springfield, when LaRouche Democrat Don Scott handily beat his opponent Dennis Geehan in the congressional primary. It was Scott's first run for political office.

Mel Klenetsky, National Campaign Director of The LaRouche Campaign, hailed Scott's victory as "the beginning of the end for the KGB traitors in the Democratic Party." The *New York Times*, which usually blacks out LaRouche and his supporters except for an occasional nasty slander, was obliged to cover Scott's vote May 12, under the headline "LaRouche Backer Wins House Primary in Ohio."

When asked to comment on the LaRouche victories by the *Dayton Daily News*, Ruvolo could only mutter a terse "no comment."

Scott held a press conference in Columbus May 10, and told reporters that his vote was a victory against Henry Kissinger and a rejection by the voters of Ohio of Ruvolo and his policies. The press conference was attended by the Columbus Dispatch, Associated Press, and Ohio public radio.

Asked by reporters about his connection with Lyndon LaRouche, Scott replied: "I support his policies. I support

his policies for parity and debt relief for farmers; I support his economic program. Under the present agricultural policies, my farm will only last one year, so it's Congress or bust."

Scott said that his program is being based on the command of the book of Genesis, that man "be fruitful and multiply."

When asked "does your connection with LaRouche help or hurt you?" Scott answered: "I think it helps, but help or hurt, I'm with him all the way."

In the 8th C.D., where the Manatt-Ruvolo forces expended their heaviest firepower in the form of a vicious slander campaign against philosophy professor Peter Schuller, the LaRouche candidate came within 1,700 votes of victory and won two counties.

Throughout the rest of Ohio, 9 out of 14 LaRouche congressional candidates polled between 10 and 47% of the vote; five polled over 20%; and two candidates won the primary election in their congressional districts.

In Cleveland, candidate Margaret Scott presented evidence to the press of gross irregularities in the vote tallies. In four precincts of the 21st C.D. and five precincts of the 13th C.D., she said, more people voted for LaRouche—as determined by legal affidavits and exit polls—than the numbers

on the counters indicated. Similar irregularities were reported in other areas of the state.

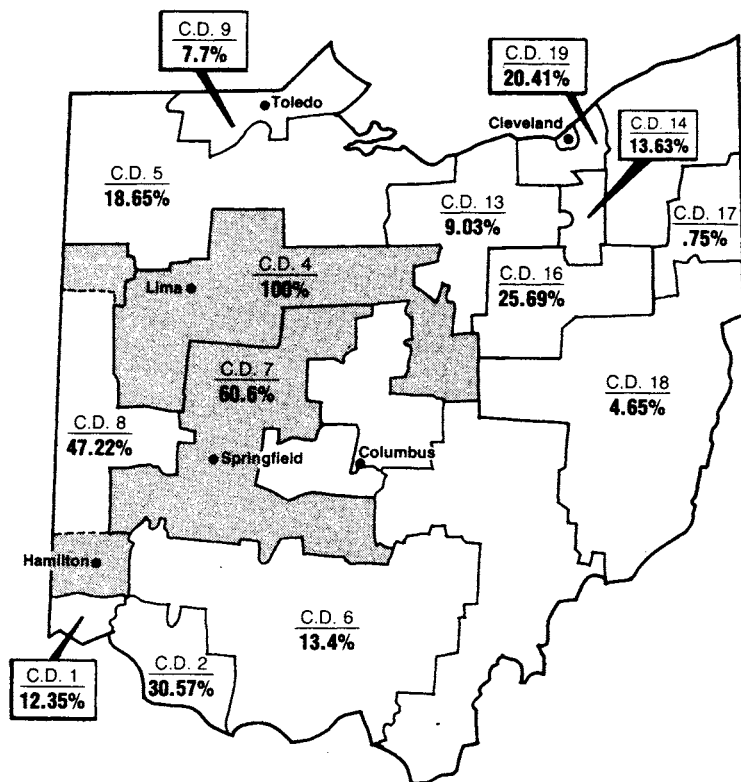
Strike support vs. union-busting

While Walter Mondale, the candidate endorsed by the Soviet newspaper *Izvestia*, was busy cutting a deal with the AFL-CIO's Lane Kirkland to prevent workers from striking against depression-level economic conditions, The LaRouche Campaign was calling for the re-opening of steel plants in Youngstown. It was also mobilizing an international strike support campaign for the members of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers (OCAW) locked out by the Sun Oil Company's refinery in Toledo and for auto workers striking against Toledo's APParts, a major supplier of General Motors.

In a May 10 national television address, LaRouche discussed the wave of desperation strikes against wage-gouging and union-busting, exemplified by the Toledo situation, as a by-product of Ronald Reagan's "Herbert Hoover-style economic recovery."

LaRouche Democrat Carol Winters, who ran in the 8th C.D. (encompassing Toledo), led the strike support campaign in the city. She received extensive publicity in the old labor town for championing the cause of trade unionists who are fighting for their very existence.

Voter support for LaRouche Democrats by Congressional District in Ohio



Shaded areas show victories for LaRouche candidates in all counties in C.D. 4 and C.D. 7 and in 2 counties in C.D. 8 in the May congressional primary.

C.D.	Candidate	%	No. of votes
1	Walter Fleissner	12.35	5,075
2	Anthony Barkley	30.57	9,813
4	William Sutton	unopposed	
5	Larry Benschoter	18.65	8,189
6	David Kit	13.40	5,364
7	Don Scott	60.60	22,865
8	Peter Schuller	47.22	14,420
9	Carol Winters	7.70	4,763
13	Claudia Cortes	9.03	5,898
14	Shellene Dabney	13.63	10,194
16	Charles Martin	25.69	15,105
17	Allan Gillam	.75	887
18	Daniel Cook	4.65	3,941
19	Margaret Scott	20.41	17,718
Total votes for LaRouche congressional candidates			124,232