

# LaRouche wins N. Dakota primary

by John Sigerson

On June 11 the office of the secretary of state of North Dakota confirmed that the winner of the June 9 Democratic primary election for the President of the United States was Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., the jailed economist-statesman who is inspiring growing numbers of people around the world to stand up and fight for the reconstruction of the depression-wracked economy.

With 50 of 53 counties in the state reporting their final totals, LaRouche emerged with 29.8% of the vote, or 7,053 votes, leading by a wide margin over H. Ross Perot (15.8%) and Bill Clinton (5.7%). The votes for Perot and Clinton were write-ins, since Perot is still not an official candidate, while Clinton had not bothered to apply for official ballot status in this "beauty contest" primary, whose results are not binding on state delegates to the Democratic national convention in July. LaRouche also defeated two other candidates whose names did appear on the ballot: Nevada businessman Charles Woods, who gained 27%, and nightclub comedian Tom Sheikman, a Clinton supporter who had been placed on the ballot by party officials.

LaRouche's victory was the fruit of an intensive campaign by a well-organized electoral machine in a state which has suffered terribly from the grain cartels' genocidal strategy of reducing the world's food supply. Two days before the election, a half-hour campaign broadcast was aired on the state's major NBC television station, detailing LaRouche's industrial and agricultural recovery program, calling for creating 6 million new jobs by nationalizing the Federal Reserve and replacing it with a national bank.

Some North Dakotans remember when their own State Bank of North Dakota functioned in the 1920s to protect farmers and grain elevator operators from the speculators and grain cartels. Today, threatened farm foreclosures number in the thousands. On the other hand, North Dakotans enjoy the highest educational level in the country, and the state ranks lowest in the number of hours of television-viewing by school-age children.

In the days leading up to the primary, hundreds of LaRouche supporters spread throughout the state to distribute literature and posters. The popular talk show host John Ruby—who has interviewed spokesmen for LaRouche's policies frequently in the past—conducted his own preference poll for the primary candidates, and found LaRouche running second behind Perot and ahead of Bush. In the final days,

LaRouche supporters helped get out the vote by telephone, calling through general phone directories.

News of the LaRouche victory was instantly flashed around the world. Cable News Network announced the victory as a "shocking development." The bankrupt UPI wire service attempted to make light of the news, commenting that "North Dakota kissed spring goodby with a presidential primary that made up for humor what it lacked in clout." But in Europe the results were eagerly taken as a sign that finally, Americans are showing resistance to Bush's hated "new world order" and to the International Monetary Fund, whose policies are plunging eastern Europe into war. The Italian daily *L'Unità*, under the headline "Among the Democrats, a Prisoner Wins," reported that "in the American primaries, the vote is more and more of protest," as could be seen when "the citizens of North Dakota, heirs of Sitting Bull, got enraged" and voted for LaRouche. Similar reports were circulated internationally by the Associated Press and Agence France Presse.

Candidate LaRouche, commenting on the significance of his victory, said that "it means no more than it means, but it means a great deal. It means that the issues which I have raised in the course of the campaign, will be forced to the surface and must be debated and discussed at the highest level, not only in the United States, but internationally." He forecast that his victory "will influence significantly major political decisions in economic and other matters in many parts of Europe, and I think, perhaps, to some degree or other, elsewhere as well."

## Media dirty tricks

LaRouche's point was not lost on the establishment controllers of the news media. Twenty-four hours after the news of LaRouche's victory first went out, Associated Press replaced its earlier accurate reports with an item claiming that "Texas billionaire Ross Perot yesterday emerged as the write-in winner of Tuesday's Democratic presidential primary in North Dakota," supposedly with 28%, ahead of "three minor candidates whose names were on the ballot." This lying report, which had no basis in anything being reported by the North Dakota secretary of state, was picked up the next day by many newspapers, among them the *Los Angeles Times*.

In a press release, LaRouche campaign director Mel Klenetsky described the AP release as "willful fraud." "This represents a dirty trick, being run by thugs and gangsters in AP . . . comparable to Watergate and Irangate, and the appropriate heads at AP should roll because of it. A wire service like AP has a moral responsibility to the American people—not to mention to its paying subscribers—to report the simple truth." Klenetsky called for an official investigation of AP's behavior, and said that the LaRouche campaign is asking the appropriate ethics committee in Congress, as well as the Federal Communications Commission, to look into the matter.