

National News

Candidate dramatizes education shortfall

Speaking Sept. 29 to his District School Boards Association, state legislative candidate Richard Van Bergen of Buffalo, Minnesota demonstrated that 75 years ago, more was demanded of eighth graders than is demanded of high school graduates today.

Van Bergen, a "LaRouche Democrat," was September primary victor in state legislative district 22b, a rural district located between Minneapolis and St. Cloud. He is running on the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party ticket.

He opened his remarks to the educators with the following:

"I would like to review with you four questions from each of two different and critically important secondary school tests. In the first test, the questions are as follows:

"1. In what state and on what waters are the following: Chicago, Duluth, Cleveland, Buffalo. State an important fact about each.

"2. A rope 500 feet long is stretched from the top of a tower and reaches 300 feet from the base of the tower. How high is the tower?

"3. Write a brief biography of Evangeline.

"4. Give the structure of a muscle in the spinal cord. Define arteries, veins, capillaries, and pulse."

"In the second test, the questions are as follows:

"1. Next to a picture of a circle, the question reads, this is called a) rectangle, b) circle, c) triangle, d) square.

"2. Amy bought a notebook for \$1.98 and a pen for \$.89. She also paid \$3.41 for additional supplies. How much did she spend altogether?

"3. Mary left [blank] books in the car. Possible answers: a) his books, b) its books, c) her books, d) them books.

"4. Basketball scores will be found in what part of the newspaper? a) classified, b) editorial, c) entertainment, or d) sports."

"The first set of questions came from an entry exam given to all Indiana eighth grad-

ers in 1911, prior to entry into high school. The second set of questions came from a current Alabama high school graduation examination."

League cancels debate sponsorship

The sponsors of the first Bush-Dukakis debate won't sponsor the second, because the two candidates have privately agreed to a format not to the sponsor's liking. Apparently the debates have become too rigged even for the ultraliberal League.

The League of Women Voters abruptly canceled its sponsorship of the second presidential debate, saying both campaigns were trying to hoodwink voters, by restricting the format in a way that will keep them both "out of hot water." Apparently the debates have become too rigged even for the ultraliberal League.

Nancy Neuman, president of the League, told a news conference Oct. 3 that the campaigns had presented her organization with a take-it-or-leave-it format. "It turned out the League had two choices. We could sign their closed-door agreement and hope the event would rise above their manipulations. Or we could refuse to lend our trusted name to the charade."

Drug-terror link eludes U.S. officer

A U.S. general claimed he did not know of the link between drugs and terrorism, at a military conference in Uruguay in November 1987. The proceedings of the annual meeting, which are usually kept secret, have just been leaked by the Brazilian press.

The Pentagon delegate to the Conference of the American Armies, Gen. Carl E. Vuono, told the conference participants in Punta del Este, Uruguay, "I am not sure the United States has sufficient information

about the relationship existing between drugs and subversion."

The Chilean army delegate said drugs are a weapon used by international communism: "Without a doubt, all the scourges that afflict humanity, and Latin America in particular, such as narcotics trafficking, subversion, homosexuality, promiscuity, and disinformation are tactics that form part of a strategy for world domination."

The Argentine military representative attacked the role of the above-ground support organizations, such as Amnesty International, which make possible terrorist activity.

Hudson to seek indictment of LaRouche?

Henry Hudson, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia (Alexandria), will seek an indictment of independent presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche prior to the November election, according to knowledgeable sources. Hudson is reported to be near the completion of a grand jury "investigation" which began in November 1986, shortly after a 400-man paramilitary raid on organizations and individuals associated with LaRouche in Leesburg, Virginia.

The Sept. 9 *Washington Post* had reported that the Alexandria grand jury "is investigating alleged income tax improprieties and fundraising fraud by LaRouche and several associates.

Despite all of the highly publicized federal and state indictments handed down against LaRouche and at least 40 associates on more than 280 felony counts, there has not yet been one conviction of anyone, and LaRouche's enemies are complaining that his movement seems stronger than ever. This leads observers to conclude that Hudson will make his move in the weeks before the 1988 election.

Sources in the intelligence community have reported that Hudson is under heavy pressure to indict LaRouche from forces around the Dukakis campaign and from pro-Dukakis elements in the Justice Department.

Bishop blasts 'population planners'

The Bishop of Arlington, Va., John Keeting, sent a pastoral letter to be read Oct. 3 to all Catholic churches in his Northern Virginia diocese on the occasion of Respect Life Sunday. Excerpts follow:

"How do you convince a great and proud nation which has somehow vested a 'right' in all expectant mothers to abort their offspring, that it has thereby threatened the most sacred possession the state is organized to protect—human life itself. The United States Supreme Court decision in 1973 has eliminated millions of human persons from our land—a national holocaust—not good news for the defective, the handicapped, the unproductive, the infirm . . . but good news indeed for the population planners.

"It is not by chance, nor is it unexpected, that we now see arising in the wake of the abortion success in the United States the concerted push for euthanasia, infanticide, and human genetic manipulation."

Probe ties of Lazard and Dukakis

The investment firm Lazard Frères has won two important Massachusetts state contracts on which it failed to submit the lowest bid, while a top official of the firm serves as an important fundraiser for Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis, the state's governor.

Lazard official Michael Del Giudice has been brought into a prominent position in the campaign by John Sasso, the top Dukakis dirty trickster who was fired during the primary season because of his role in the exposure of Sen. Joseph Biden's plagiarism, and then rehired after Dukakis's mental instability was exposed. Del Giudice is now traveling as part of the presidential candidate's entourage.

The Oct. 4 *Boston Herald* reported that

State Inspector General Joseph Barresi has launched a preliminary investigation of the bidding process involved in awarding a contract to Lazard by the Massachusetts Water Resources Administration (MWRA). Lazard won two very lucrative consulting contracts from Massachusetts, although they were underbid by two other companies. Lazard was hired to advise the MWRA on its bond sales, estimated at \$2 billion over the next five years, the largest sum of any government body in the nation.

Lazard serves as underwriter for a number of Massachusetts agencies, including the Convention Center Authority, the Massachusetts Transportation Authority, and the Massachusetts Educational Loan Authority. Lazard has also moved in to take the lion's share of the state's hot bond market.

Federal Election Commission records show that at least three of the 15 members of Lazard's Municipal Finance Department have contributed to Dukakis's campaign. The top lizard of the firm, Felix Rohatyn, is widely considered a likely choice for the post of treasury secretary in a Dukakis administration.

Nixon: Both candidates lack sense of mission

The greatest problem in the American election campaign is that neither candidate has defined a sense of national mission, wrote Richard Nixon in the Oct. 2 *Sunday Times* of London.

Under the headline, "America Misses the Great Issue of Mission," Nixon complains, "The current intellectual fashion is to proclaim that America is in decline. The case is made in purely economic terms. And yet, America was never stronger than it was 200 years ago, when we were weak militarily and poor economically but invincibly strong in spirit."

Nixon asserted, "Only when a nation is committed to a cause greater than itself can it be true to itself. . . . Today America needs a new challenge. It is there for everyone to see. But, so far, neither candidate has."

Briefly

● **ADMIRAL** Huntington Hardisty stated on Sept. 30, the day he took charge of the Pacific Command: "In the Pacific, Moscow's words of peace have been accompanied by more weapons of war—more ships, more submarines, more tanks, and more aircraft." Those Americans who support cutbacks in American forces in the region "fail to understand the broader nature of the Soviet challenge—a challenge for influence and access that has come with *glasnost*."

● **JAMES SCHLESINGER** and Robert McNamara, two former defense secretaries, told a Sept. 30 conference sponsored by the Atlanta-based Southern Center for International Studies, that the United States is spending \$5 billion a year on domestic military bases they insisted the nation doesn't need.

● **CONSTANTINE MENGES**, a former National Security Council official, told an American Defense Institute conference in Washington that a specific formula is being used in U.S.-Soviet regional agreements, which is based on integrating resistance movements into communist governments through "democratic" elections, accepting the legitimacy of the communist governments *a priori*.

● **REP. NORM DICKS** (D-Wash.) has asked the House Armed Services Subcommittee to investigate whether aerospace workers are being exposed to toxic chemicals in defense plants. He said that workers at certain Boeing plants in Washington state have complained of dizziness, nausea, rashes, and loss of memory.

● **SEN. MALCOLM WALLOP** (R-Wyo.)

Institute conference in Washington that the "astrodome" concept of the Strategic Defense Initiative is being scrapped. "By getting rid of the concept" of a total anti-missile shield over the country, he claimed, "we have pushed things forward."