
Washington State

LaRouche Dem blows open race for Congress

by H. Graham Lowry

LaRouche Democrat Jim Wyrick, running as the sole opposition to the Republican incumbent, has blown the lid off the race for Washington State's 8th Congressional District seat. Any cynical schemes among the state's "Bush-league Democrats" to allow first-term Rep. Jennifer Dunn to waltz her way to re-election unopposed, collapsed in ruins during an extraordinary 48-hour span which brought Lyndon LaRouche's ideas to the attention of hundreds of thousands of voters in this suburban Seattle district—and to more than a million people in the metropolitan area.

On Oct. 19, the Seattle *Post-Intelligencer*, with a circulation of approximately 250,000, published Wyrick's forceful, 750-word reply to Dunn's regurgitation of the Republican Party's "Contract with America." The next day, Wyrick's 300-word campaign statement in the state's official election guide began arriving in the mail to the district's 250,000 voters. The Seattle *Times* the same day ran congressional candidates' views on the recent defeat of campaign finance reform legislation. Though the paper has a circulation of nearly 500,000, Dunn did not reply. Wyrick took the occasion to blast congressional Republicans for their "pattern of sabotage" of needed legislation—and the "ignorance, selfishness, gullibility, and corruption" of American voters as the fundamental problem with Congress.

Educating the electorate

This two-day barrage setting forth Wyrick's campaign platform drove his Republican opponent from hiding—the strategy she adopted as soon as the results of the Sept. 20 primary election were in. Dunn's victory was a foregone conclusion in this largely Republican district, but the alarm bells sounded when Wyrick took 30% of the total votes cast, while daring to enter a race which Democratic party hacks had scratched. After Oct. 20, the campaign escalated to a public battle of ideas—one for which Dunn was completely unprepared. Wyrick, moreover, had clearly seized the ground as the standard-bearer of the Democratic Party in the contest.

In his reply to Dunn in the *Post-Intelligencer*, Wyrick declared that the Republicans' "Contract with America" would better be called "taking out a contract on America." He called it a proposal "to continue those policies that have—as my associate, statesman, and economist Lyndon LaRouche has

stated—put the world on the brink of the most catastrophic financial and economic collapse in world history. . . . Dunn and her Republican colleagues, having blocked and wrecked the entire legislative agenda of this session, now wish to lay the blame on the Clinton administration and the Democrats in the Congress for all the ills of the country."

During the past 12 years of Republican rule, Wyrick declared, "We were transformed from an industrial, agricultural and scientific power in the world into a 'post-industrial society.' . . . Proposals with great sounding names, like the 'American Dream Restoration Act,' may fool some voters who have lost the ability to think . . . [but] those who will compare this nation to what it was during the period of President John Kennedy's Apollo Moon Project, will not be fooled."

Wyrick noted that "Dunn says nothing about foreign policy, which is not surprising because the Bush administration left for President Clinton an array of horrors produced from his new world disorder. Let's be honest. It was under George Bush that the Serbians began the genocide in Bosnia. It was under George Bush that the catastrophes of Haiti and Somalia began.

"What has Clinton done? He has not solved these problems, which have remained on Bush administration autopilot. But it has been during Clinton's presidency that peace has come to the Middle East and South Africa. It was Clinton who defused the North Korea crisis. It was Clinton who arranged the cease-fire in Northern Ireland. Not too bad, given Republican obstruction."

In the state's election guide, Wyrick also hammered at the British role in the attacks on Clinton. "Because President Clinton has shown a tendency to challenge the Bush-leaguers' looting of the world economy, he is under British-directed assault." Wyrick asked, "Will you allow the presidency and the nation to be destroyed by these foreign interests and their Republican Party dupes?"

Wyrick called instead for a reawakening of the "rebuilding spirit" that characterized America during and after World War II. "We must declare an 'economic state of emergency,' and put the present Federal Reserve System into bankruptcy receivership. We must create a Hamiltonian National Bank. . . ; issue new credit for great infrastructure projects creating 6 million productive jobs; tax out of existence usurious speculative activity; and kick-start the economy with a 'science-driver' Mars colonization project."

Dunn, meanwhile, has appeared to face Wyrick at several campaign events, touting women's rights, abortion, workfare, and budget cuts, while asserting her "concern for the people of my community." When a local editor complained of Wyrick's "refusal to address local issues," he countered by pledging to "run a maglev [magnetic levitation] train right through it," to "get those 20,000 [laid off] Boeing workers . . . back to work building major components for the new transportation system."