

LaRouche Democrats launch campaigns to save the nation

by EIR Staff

With the Congressional primary election season coming into full swing, three LaRouche Democrats have been certified for the Democratic primaries to choose Congressional candidates in New Jersey and South Dakota. Dennis Speed and Lewis du Pont Smith of New Jersey, and Ronald Wieczorek of South Dakota, will be on the June 2 ballots in their states. Shortly before that, in Virginia, the Democrats in the Tenth Congressional District will choose between well-known LaRouche

Democrat, and anti-Ollie North fighter, Nancy Spannaus, and two other Democrats, to take on incumbent Republican Frank Wolf.

The outcome of these four Democratic contests will have a significant impact on the shape of the Democratic Party going into the fall elections. While many pundits are saying that the Democrats are well positioned to take back the House of Representatives from the Republicans, the party has, in fact, largely abandoned its traditional base among labor and the poorer strata of society, and turned to “New Age” appeals to environmental, consumer, and “information” issues, rather than the bread-and-butter reality of health care, physical infrastructure, and living standards.

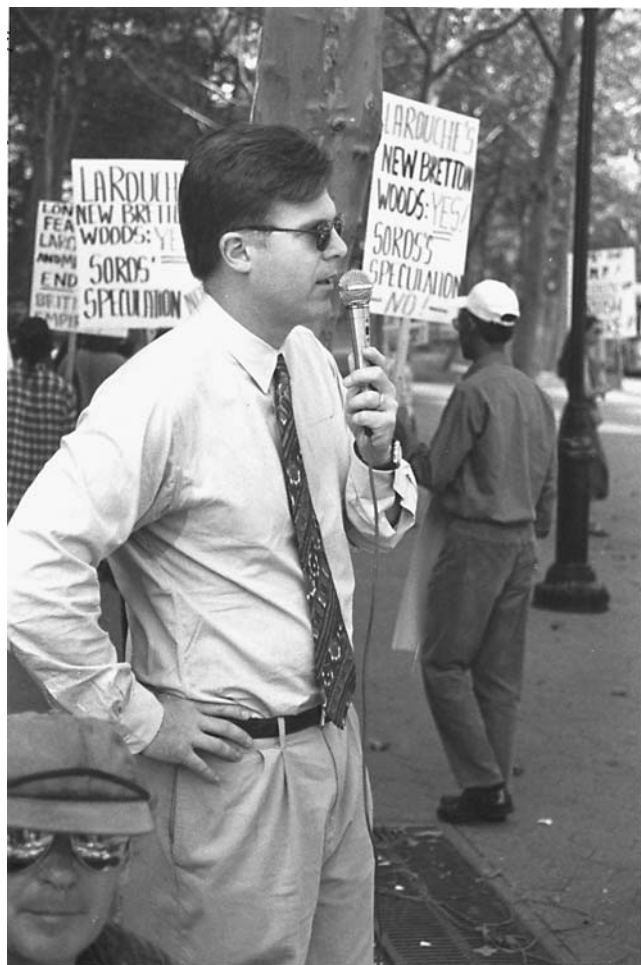
In the 1996 campaign, coincident and coherent with President Clinton’s ill-advised decision to endorse the welfare reform bill, the Democratic National Committee—under the now-disgraced Donald Fowler—chose to shoot itself in the foot by preventing Democratic primary contender Lyndon LaRouche from obtaining his duly elected delegates at the national convention. If the party were to choose to treat LaRouche Democrats the same way in these Congressional races, it would show a similarly suicidal urge, since the LaRouche Democrats are currently the most prominent wing of the party campaigning for the defense of the Presidency, and the necessary shifts in economic policy in the midst of global financial bankruptcy.

On the contrary, a victory—or even a very strong showing—by the LaRouche Democrats in these races, would represent a shot heard ’round the world, with significant implications for reversing many of the evil policies of the past 30 years.

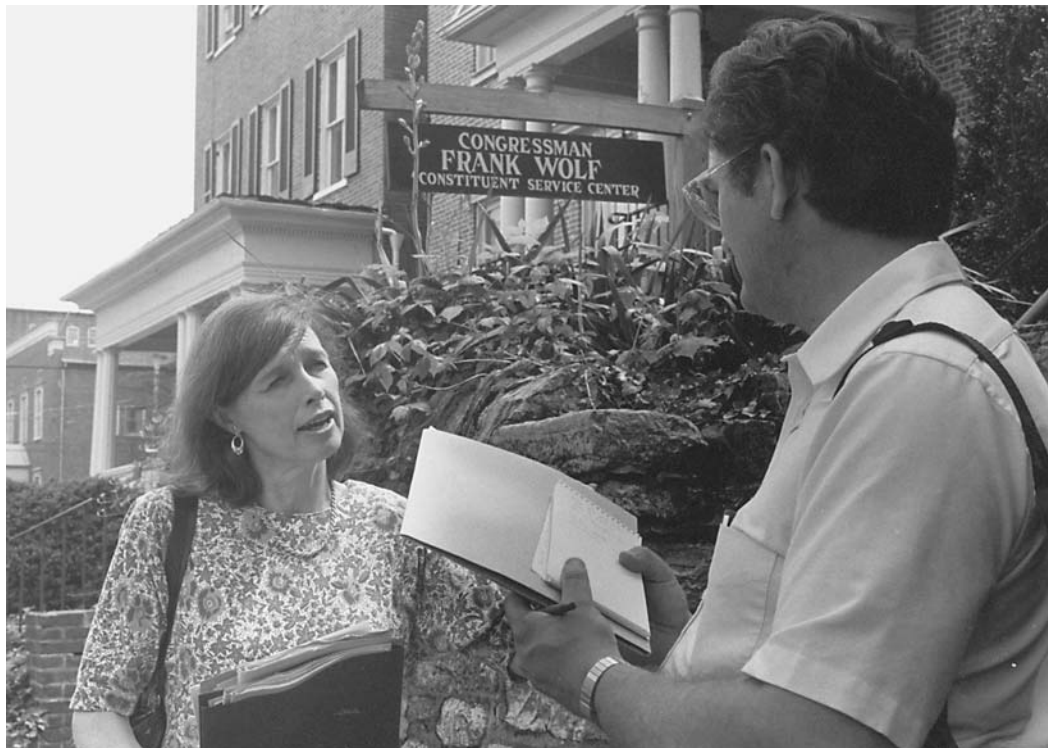
The Virginia campaign

Nancy Spannaus’s campaign, which is occurring in LaRouche’s home district, pits her against two Democrats for the right to oppose 18-year incumbent Republican Frank Wolf. The Democratic Party has generally shown great reluctance to run against Wolf, who has a heavily Republican, rural district, and has an entrenched reputation for constituency service. This year, after the Democratic Party was booted out of state office entirely as a result of a me-too campaign, the impetus to challenge Wolf was even less.

However, the Democrats knew that Spannaus, who an-



Lewis du Pont Smith, candidate for the Democratic Party's Congressional nomination in New Jersey's Fourth CD, addresses a rally at the United Nations.



LaRouche Democrat Nancy Spannaus is shaking up Virginia's Hunt Country, with her campaign against incumbent Rep. Frank Wolf (R). She is battling two others for the Democratic nomination. Here, she is interviewed by a reporter in front of Wolf's office in Winchester.

nounced against Wolf in May 1997, was going to make the fight, and apparently do not wish to repeat the experiment of 1990, when a Democratic Party decision for “no candidate” caused a total uproar in the party. A process has therefore been set up for three announced candidates to compete in caucuses across the district. This virtually secret procedure guarantees a small turnout and little publicity, unless someone changes the rules of the game.

The odds-on favorite is an African-American lawyer and minister named Cornell Williams Brooks, who also serves on the Tenth District Committee. Brooks's platform features issues in the areas of housing, jobs, schools, and the environment, and he has made a special point of opposing the flat tax. Brooks, a young man who uses a Martin Luther King style to declare his pride in having graduated both from Yale Law School and Headstart, has broken from the current Democratic “line” of economic recovery, by noting that the living standards of working Americas have actually declined since 1979. He is campaigning hard, but one gets the sense that his concentration lies in preparing for future campaigns.

Tim Kapper, the third candidate, is a 36-year-old businessman in the computer field, who, in his few public statements, has made a point of being more “conservative” than Brooks. He has failed even to acknowledge that Spannaus is in the race—not a good indication of his moral and political character.

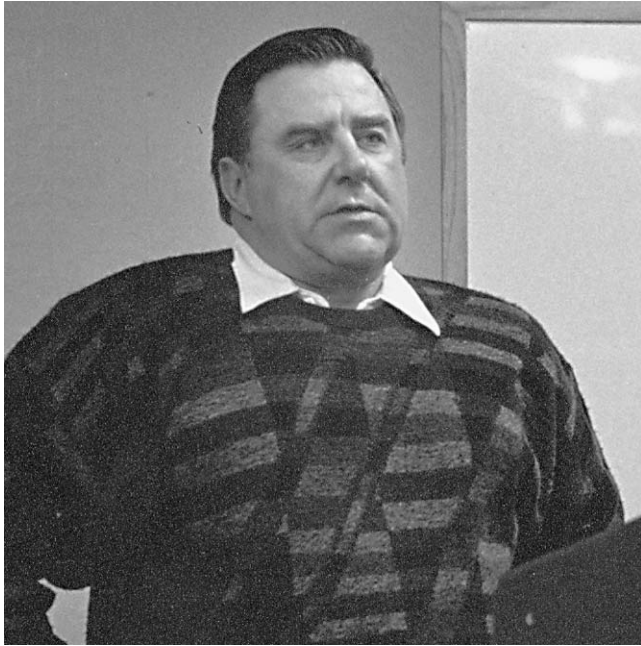
Spannaus, by virtue of her previous campaigns, especially the 1994 defeat of Ollie North, is by far the best known of the

three, and clearly the most feared by Wolf, who is habitually tongue-tied, but even more at a loss when confronted by Spannaus with his hypocrisy on human rights and moral issues. Within the Democratic Party apparatus, Spannaus's linkage with LaRouche is a matter of consternation, especially since many Democrats in this area actually collaborated with the Republicans in the witch-hunt against LaRouche. It remains to be seen whether any funny business will be tried.

The New Jersey campaigns

The LaRouche Democrats have two campaigns in the state of New Jersey, a heavily populated state where the Democratic Party almost ousted prominent Republican Gov. Christie Todd Whitman in 1997. Dennis Speed, the East Coast Coordinator of the Schiller Institute, and a prominent spokesman for African and African-American civil rights and the revival of Classical culture, is running in the Democratic primary in the Tenth Congressional District, which includes Newark and a number of wealthy cities. He will be campaigning against the incumbent Democratic Congressman, ten-year veteran Donald Payne. There is not expected to be any Republican challenger in this heavily Democratic district.

Speed will be on the ballot with the slogan “Support LaRouche's New Bretton Woods,” and he has stated his intent to build a constituency for this new economic policy in the period running up to June 2, and beyond. Payne, former chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, has already been exposed to withering revelations by Speed and his sup-



Left: Ron Wiczorek of South Dakota, a farmer and farm activist, is seeking the Democratic nomination for the state's only Congressional seat. Right: Dennis Speed is challenging incumbent Rep. Donald Payne in the Democratic primary in New Jersey's Tenth CD, campaigning with the slogan, "Support LaRouche's New Bretton Woods."

porters, because of the former Prudential Insurance agent's support for British genocidal policies against Sudan and Central Africa. The potential for Speed's campaign was hinted at by the turnout of 125 people at a recent Newark event commemorating Martin Luther King, which featured an address by Speed.

In the southern part of New Jersey, the Fourth Congressional District, which includes the state capital of Trenton, LaRouche associate Lewis du Pont Smith has been certified for the Democratic primary ballot, in the race to challenge 18-year Republican incumbent Chris Smith. Smith, who, like Wolf, works closely with British intelligence on international "human rights" assaults on nations like Sudan and China, is considered a prominent "right-to-lifer." Yet, while he has covered his rear by voting with labor against the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the fast track, he has been an active saboteur of the international economic measures, and domestic credit policies, which the United States needs in order to lead the world out of the current crisis.

Du Pont Smith, who has gained national stature through his successful fight against the enemies of LaRouche who plotted to steal his inheritance, and perhaps even kill him, is an experienced, aggressive campaigner. He is one of four Democrats running in the Democratic primary.

South Dakota battleground

The fourth major arena in the period going up to June 2 is South Dakota, where LaRouche Democrat Ronald Wiczorek will face off against the state's Deputy Treasurer, Jeffery

Moser, for the Democratic nomination to the depopulated state's only Congressional seat. Wiczorek is famed for his prominent role in promoting Democrat Tim Johnson's defeat of longtime Republican Sen. Larry Pressler in 1996. The Republican incumbent, John Thune, is a first-term Congressman, who has announced for re-election with a statement expressing platitudes on fiscal conservatism and saving Social Security.

Wiczorek has proposed "one debate a week" to his opponent, and plans to campaign very aggressively through a state-wide network. He has said of his opponent, a certified public accountant, that "we don't need another bean counter; we need a bean producer." Wiczorek is a farmer, and farm activist, who has his finger on the pulse of the state's heavily agricultural population, and is highly knowledgeable about the economic development proposals which could bring South Dakota out of its poverty, in the context of a new monetary system.

It is suspected that the Democratic Party only put up Moser, because it was fearful of nominating LaRouche supporter Wiczorek. The party has declined to challenge at least 28 Republican state legislators, for example. But Wiczorek notes that, while South Dakota is considered solidly Republican, his petitioners encountered many individuals who apologized for being registered as Republicans. Wiczorek, who ran for Congress in 1992 and again in 1994 as an "independent affiliated with the Democratic Party," thinks it's quite possible that the population, devastated by low agricultural prices and the lowest wages in the nation, may be ready for the kind of change he represents.