

Brown, Hayden lose ground with voters

by *EIR's* Los Angeles Bureau

With less than two weeks left before the Nov. 2 general election, both Gov. Jerry Brown and Tom Hayden are losing in their respective bids for U.S. Senate and State Assembly. Two other liberal Democratic Congressmen, Ron Dellums and Phil Burton, are in extremely close races, and the bilateral nuclear freeze initiative, Proposition 12, is now considered a toss-up. Thus, despite the fact that Democrats will probably benefit nationally from President Reagan's capitulation to the policies of Federal Reserve Board Chairman Paul A. Volcker, it now appears that at least Brown and Hayden may not succeed in convincing the electorate that their program of "economic democracy" is better than the so-called Reaganomics against which they campaign.

After the June 8 primary election, San Diego Mayor Peter Wilson enjoyed a 22 percent lead over Governor Brown in the U.S. Senate contest. By September, Brown had reduced Wilson's lead through demagogic tactics, and the polls were showing 46 percent for Wilson and 42 percent for Brown. However, a mid-October poll conducted by Mervin Field indicates that Brown may have peaked. The October poll shows Wilson with 46 percent to Brown with 41 percent. Should Wilson win, his victory will in no way amount to a mandate for him personally or for the course currently pursued by President Reagan. Rather, two-thirds of those who say they will vote for Wilson indicate they will be casting a vote against Brown. This includes 21 percent of the Democratic voters in the state.

While Brown has attempted to make the election a referendum on Reaganomics, Wilson may succeed in making it a referendum on Brown.

Wilson has pointed out that shortly after Brown appointed the son of a convicted pornographer, Milton Luros, to the Los Angeles municipal court bench, he received \$9,000 in contributions from the Luros family and attended a fundraiser held in his honor at the elder Luros's home. Brown is now attempting to elevate Michael Luros to the California Superior Court.

Brown's constitutional crisis

Revelations late in October by California State Comptroller Ken Cory, a Democrat running for re-election, are also helping to write the Zen Buddhist Brown's letter of

introduction to the political hereafter. Cory revealed that the state now has an unconstitutional budget deficit of \$230 million. Brown, as the state's chief executive officer, is now heading a government in violation of its own longstanding balanced-budget constitutional provision. Brown must either further cut state programs and increase taxes—neither course of action a reserved ticket to public office in a depression—or reschedule state debt and hit a number of his powerful financial backers in the pocketbook.

Brown's fiscal predicament, which is becoming a primary issue in the last few days of the campaign, may also hurt Hayden. Brown's opponent Wilson is increasingly attacking the Governor for his connections to the liberal-environmentalist Hayden. In a recent debate, Wilson attacked Brown for his appointment of Tom Hayden to two state posts. Brown was forced to say he had "no regrets" about the appointments.

In Tom Hayden's race against Bill Hawkins in the 44th Assembly District (Santa Monica area), Hayden claims to be ahead, but refuses to release poll results. Hawkins, on the other hand, has released professional poll results which show him at 43.3 percent to 38.6 percent for Hayden, with independents drifting from Hayden.

Hayden spent over \$750,000 to barely win his primary election, and is spending a minimum of \$100,000 on TV ads portraying him as having mellowed since his radical days and, according to the *Los Angeles Herald Examiner*, attacking Lyndon LaRouche's political action committee, the National Democratic Policy Committee (NDPC), although not by name.

During the primary election, Will Wertz, the NDPC-backed candidate for U.S. Senate waged an aggressive campaign against both Brown and Hayden, identifying their liberal Democratic faction as fascist-environmentalist. As a result both Brown and Hayden won their respective primaries with only 51 percent of the vote. Neither has since been fully able to win back broad-based popular support.

There are two other significant races in the state. First, Democratic Rep. Ron Dellums, a supporter of marijuana decriminalization, and Global 2000 depopulation, is being challenged by Claude Hutchinson, whose father was formerly Mayor of Berkeley. After redistricting, Dellums's district is somewhat more conservative. Also the Dellums backed slate for City Council lost in recent elections. Hutchinson is the first opponent of Dellums, who has sponsored euthanasia legislation, to be given a chance to win.

The other important congressional race is that of environmentalist Rep. John Burton against Milton Marks. Marks is a liberal Republican; he is a state Senator and formerly a San Francisco county supervisor. Marks was enjoying a 7 percent lead over Burton. One reason for this is a backlash against Burton for his role in the redistricting. Burton heads the California Democratic Congressional delegation and is one of the more powerful Congressmen in Washington.