
Campaign 1986

High stakes in Oregon primary

by Marla Minnicino

The stakes are high in Oregon's May 20 primary. With candidates associated with 1988 presidential candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. on the ballot in 3 out of 5 congressional districts, 5 state legislative races, and vying for 11 party positions, the "Atari" Democrats and their dope-lobby cronies have their backs to the wall.

LaRouche has been the man the dope lobby fears the most since he commissioned the book *Dope, Inc.* back in 1978; and that book was just republished on April 30, in a much-expanded second edition. *Dope, Inc.* was originally written to fight efforts under the Carter administration to legalize marijuana.

At issue in November in Oregon is a state ballot initiative which goes beyond bills to decriminalize marijuana. The first of its kind in the country, the Oregon ballot initiative would, if passed, legalize "the personal possession and cultivation of marijuana." The National Organization to Reform Marijuana Laws (NORML), an arm of the dope lobby which entrenched itself in the federal government under Carter, is carrying out a nationwide campaign to ensure victory for the Oregon initiative, as a precedent for the rest of the country. The stakes are considered so "high" that NORML will be holding its June national convention in Portland. Its aim is to bring thousands of potheads to Oregon to work on the initiative and make it a major campaign issue.

It is well known that marijuana is illegally grown in isolated rural and forest areas of the Pacific Northwest such as Oregon. Josephine, Jackson, Curry, Coos, and Douglas Counties in the southwestern corner of Oregon have been cited as major marijuana production centers. Organized crime links to local growers are suspected, but have never been investigated.

Therefore, it is not surprising that Oregon would be the test case for NORML's lobbying efforts. The rock-sex-drug counterculture has been firmly entrenched here since author and MK-Ultra dabbler Ken Kesey—one of Oregon's more famous "personalities"—dumped LSD into vats of Kool Aid on college campuses during the 1960s.

The dope lobby's hold on Oregon is exemplified by the current goings-on in Portland, the state's largest city. Once a conservative town populated by blue-collar workers, dockers, and lumbermen, Portland's new constituents are primarily "yuppies" who were key in electing Mayor Bud Clark. A

popular tavern owner, Clark's contribution to "culture" was to pose in an open trench coat for the best-selling poster "Expose Yourself to Art."

Clark then won notoriety by appointing a female police chief, Penny Harrington, who immediately eliminated the narcotics and vice divisions of the police force, giving its duties to overworked detectives and precinct officers. Since then, the city has been rocked by one drug scandal after another.

Harrington's husband—a police officer himself—is under departmental investigation for allegedly tipping off a friend that he was among the suspects in a citywide crackdown on drug trafficking. Recently, the mayor's top aide was forced to take a leave of absence while he was being scrutinized for his role in a cocaine scandal.

Veteran police officers have testified that anti-drug efforts in Portland have been crippled under this new regime, and that dealers openly peddle dope on downtown street corners. No wonder Portland, with only 350,000 people, has a crime rate that ranks among the top 10 in the country.

As a by-product of the dope culture, hearings are now being held throughout the state on Senate Bill 812, one of the most vicious and far-reaching euthanasia bills in the country. The law, if passed, will allow a relative to decide on the life or death of a patient. It will also mandate the withholding of food and water from incapacitated patients.

A bipartisan slate of LaRouche candidates is challenging the liberal Oregon politicians who have allowed such atrocities as the euthanasia bill and the marijuana ballot initiative to become popular measures. In CD 1, Tom Repasky is challenging arch-traitor Rep. Les AuCoin for the Democratic nomination. AuCoin is one of leading supporters of the nuclear freeze in Congress and an outspoken opponent of the MX missile.

Well-known LaRouche Democrat Sam Kahl is taking on Rep. Ron Wyden (3rd District), a major spokesman for pro-drug and anti-nuclear causes, who is trying to use the Russian nuclear disaster to bolster his attacks on the region's nuclear power facilities. LaRouche Republican Duane Fulmer is running against incumbent Rep. Denny Smith, a liberal Republican, in the 5th CD.

In the Oregon voter's guide, slate-leader Sam Kahl outlined the LaRouche platform for economic recovery which would go a long way to reversing the collapse of agriculture and industry and conditions of cultural pessimism. The crux of the LaRouche program, says Kahl, is to "throw-off the culture of death represented by the dope counterculture, and launch a cultural renaissance of reason, beauty and scientific progress."

State legislative candidates running on the LaRouche program are: Ruth Willis (Dist. 33); John Billows (Dist. 7); David Morgan (Dist. 8); David Kahl (Dist. 20); and Marian Robertson in the 30th District. Billows is running in the Democratic primary. Morgan, Kahl, Willis and Robertson are running in the Republican primary.