

security, but when the opposite occurred, Yokich circulated a letter attacking the Mayor. This letter was made public a year ago by local Democratic Party officials, and served to crystallize the growing opposition to Archer.

The Gore Fiasco

Archer was a national leader in the disaster called the Gore campaign. He promoted Gore's entire "Southern Strategy," from privatization to free trade. He earned the enmity of many of the core constituencies as a result.

Archer had hitched his wagon to a Gore victory. He was promised the post of either Attorney General or Secretary of Commerce in an incoming Gore Administration. When that scenario evaporated on Nov. 7, 2000, Archer was hung out to dry.

The defections from his mayoral campaign began to snowball. The labor movement quickly began to distance itself from his effort. Teamsters who were adamantly opposed to his promotion of free trade did not support him, city unions opposed him, and the Detroit Teachers Union, which had initially signed onto the privatization of the schools, reversed its position, and publicly disavowed its support.

Yokich himself, Archer's fellow DNC member, refused to endorse Archer, and when the Mayor sent out a plea for

prominent Democrats to support his reelection, the silence was deafening. Few, if any, state representatives endorsed his campaign, and Archer had no options but to capitulate.

Ironically, he had amassed a \$1.3 million campaign war-chest and was far-and-away the leading candidate, in terms of money. That is now history. It just shows that even a nationally backed and promoted politician like Archer can't buy himself the votes necessary to win, not after thoroughly disgusting the city.

Resistance to Archer's thug tactics mounted over the past year. A large coalition, to restore the vote of citizens in the school elections, has emerged to vehemently oppose the Mayor. Citizens who were threatened and intimidated by Archer following a petition campaign last year, have been aggressively agitating for his removal, and prominent school officials and local politicians have been leading the charge for his ouster.

The only opinion poll that Archer scored well in, occurred two days after his announcement that he would not seek reelection. A *Detroit News* poll reported that 63% of the citizens in the city overwhelmingly supported his withdrawal. For increasingly despised "New Democrats," like D.C.'s Anthony Williams, let this be a warning: The handwriting is on the wall.

'New Democrats' Grow Stale in Wisconsin

In a move described as a "sea change" in state politics, the Democratic Party Caucus in the Wisconsin State Legislature went behind closed doors in early May and removed the party leadership. In the shake-up, Reps. Shirley Krug (Milwaukee) and Antonio Riley (Milwaukee) were replaced by Spencer Black (Madison) and Spencer Coggs (Milwaukee).

According to observers in Madison, the ouster of Krug represented a blow against the centrist New Democrats, who have taken the Democratic Party down the road to destruction over the last several years, engineering massive defeats of Democratic majorities in statehouses all across the nation.

The other major casualty of the change in leadership, Riley, a leader of the school privatization policy called Milwaukee's Parental School Choice Program, had been a likely candidate for Mayor of Milwaukee. Riley was replaced on the budget-writing Joint Finance Committee by Coggs.

Coggs is a well-known legislator who has been outspo-

ken nationally on issues that pertain to defense of the General Welfare, as enunciated in the U.S. Constitution. Coggs is a leader in the fight against privatization, especially prison privatization, and has also played a national role in the fight to save D.C. General Hospital in Washington, D.C. In March, Coggs initiated a letter from the leadership of the Wisconsin Legislative Black Caucus to U.S. Sen. Herb Kohl (D), demanding that D.C. General, as the District's only public hospital, remain open. Coggs's letter sparked similar letters from around the nation that catapulted the fight to save D.C. General into the national arena.

The shake-up also put in Black as Minority Leader in the House. Together with Senate Minority Leader Chuck Chvala (D-Madison), the State Democratic Party has new spokesmen.

The changes in Madison come amid the growing strength of an emergent "FDR" reflex in the party, in defense of the General Welfare, centered around 2004 Democrat Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche.

As Riley told the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, "This is politics. This is a sea change. When your team is out of there, they have a right to put their own folks in who reflect their political philosophy. That's what's taken place, and that's why I was removed from the Joint Finance Committee." — *Stuart Rosenblatt*