

Support Slipping For Schwarzenegger

by Harley Schlanger

The latest polls out in California confirm what organizing squads of LaRouche Youth Movement (LYM) members have been reporting over the last month: Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's popularity is sagging. A new Field Poll shows that the percentage of voters who approve his job performance has fallen from 65% to 54% in the last four months, while the percentage who believe the state is going in the wrong direction is up, from 38% to 53%, in the same period.

This sharp decline in popularity coincides with the decision of Schwarzenegger's handlers to unleash him, to push through his so-called reform agenda, while his "star power" status still gives him some clout with the voters.

However, the decision to launch a frontal assault on nurses and teachers as "special interests," and on Democrats who oppose him as "evil," appears to be backfiring. His boast that he rejected the request of nurses for a reduced ratio of patients-to-nurses because they are a "special interest" and that, instead of caving in to them, he is "always kicking their butts," has led to renewed charges that he sees women only as exploitable playthings, to be used and cast aside. The Governor reneged on his campaign pledge to nurses to reduce the patient-to-nurses ratio from 6 to 1 to 5 to 1; he also plans to abolish the Board of Registered Nursing, which will give the hospital industry full control over licensing standards and testing, as well as investigation of complaints against the hospitals themselves.

Jamie Court, the president of the Foundation for Taxpayer and Consumer Rights, told the Associated Press, "The arrogance of taking on teachers, nurses, and other professions where woman are underpaid, overworked, and vital to society is beyond the pale. But Arnold," she continued, "is someone who treats women as objects, so it's natural for him to . . . disregard and devalue professions that are made up of women."

California Test Case

Lyndon LaRouche has identified the "reforms" being pushed by Schwarzenegger as a part of a coordinated thrust to destroy the Constitutional guarantee that government will "promote the general welfare." Under the direction of his godfather, the old Nazi George Shultz, Schwarzenegger has

launched a sharp attack on programs which provide minimal aid to the poor, the elderly, the sick, and the disabled. If Schwarzenegger's reforms are passed by the voters, in the form of referenda, people in those categories will be treated as "useless eaters" and left to die—thus, the characterization of these "reforms" as Nazi policies, and the referenda as Hitler-style plebiscites.

Schwarzenegger also intends, as one of his "reforms," to hand the well-funded and well-managed state employee pension funds over to his Wall Street backers, as individual private 401(k) accounts. This is being pushed simultaneously with a similar scam by Shultz's other fascist stooge, President George W. Bush, to loot and dismantle the Social Security system. The Wall Street thieves and their ideological pimps at the Cato Institute hope to use Bush's "good ole boy" persona and Arnie's celebrity to break the resistance to killer budget cuts and pension thefts on the state and national levels, to provide an income stream to sustain their bankrupt financial system just a little longer.

Just as the hula hoop, baggy shorts, and the all-purpose greeting "Dude" spread from California eastward across the continent, Shultz hopes to use his Terminator as the wedge to impose his fascist policies. This was explicitly stated by Grover Nordquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform, a leading promoter of tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans, who told the *Sacramento Bee*, "If it's done in California, it is a good idea.

"California is 11% of the country," he continued. "Whatever you do is huge and big. And these things being picked (by Schwarzenegger) are also models for other states. Because you're voting on a series of initiatives, all of which are eminently transferable to other states. . . ."

Looters for Arnie

To win this fight, Arnie is using the Enron model—i.e., seeking contributions from the interests which will benefit from his policies. As Enron dispensed large donations to get electricity deregulation passed in California, the self-dubbed "Collectinator" intends to build a fund of \$100 million from the real special interests, to dupe voters into backing him.

"The money is not for me," Arnie lied. "It's all to go out and to be able to have TV spots, and to educate the people and let them know which way to vote and that we can together reform California."

If the most recent poll, and reports from LYM organizers, are accurate, then Schwarzenegger's ability to dupe the "people" has been seriously eroded. One California Democrat estimated that circulating 1 million copies of the LaRouche PAC pamphlet, "Bush's Social Security Fraud: Stop George Shultz's Drive Toward Fascism," would be enough to send the doddering Shultz off to a retirement home and Arnie back to steroids. LYM leaders in California wish to assure readers they are up to the task.