

## **THE TRANSFINITE AS AN ORGANIZING PRINCIPLE**

By Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27<sup>1</sup>--The slow start in rate of distribution of the NDPC's<sup>2</sup> Italy book<sup>3</sup> reflects necessarily a lack of optimal political focus among significant portions of the membership in the U.S. To show that that is indeed a necessary correlation and to show also how to remedy the indicated shortcoming, it is appropriate that we emphasize the sensuous location of the "transfinite" determinants of the political organizing-process.

### The Effects of the Campaign

On examining the contrast between the rate of response to EIR<sup>4</sup>, FEF<sup>5</sup>, and NADC<sup>6</sup> events and the potentials indicated for such events beforehand in the daily organizing-process, it was underlined in the most undeniable fashion that the field organizing was not meshing efficiently with the enormous increase in active potential generated by the 1980 presidential campaign<sup>7</sup>. It is useful to compare the parallel phenomena in the Federal Republic of Germany--even without considering relevant, comparable evidence in other current cases.

Let us outline the case for Germany first.

Despite the massive containment and harassment activities against Helga's<sup>8</sup> candidacy, the television broadcasts and correlated events had a broad and rather profound impact, intersecting carried-forward effects from the European-Parliament campaign earlier. Despite statistical evidence of a massive and crude vote-rigging, the true magnitude of the campaign's impact became undeniable in terms of skyrocketing activity around a series of events beginning with the Schiller conference. The absolute numbers of turn-outs to events are comparable to recent attendances at EIR, FEF, and NADC events here, and, therefore, the relative attendance is to be weighted as somewhat greater.

The key to the comparability of the U.S.A. and Federal Republic post-campaign experiences is, all other matters discounted, the essential identity in method between my own and Helga's campaigning. In brief, the embodiment of the transfinite organizing-principle as the determining feature of television appearances and related campaign activities.

To the extent that the weighted performance in the Federal Republic is presently relatively better than in the U.S.A., the difference is principally to be attributed to the injury to morale caused by misleadership of administrative and related matters during the post-convention period of late August into November. This experience, and discovery of Kostas's' condition and recent policy-actions, has had a combined effect perhaps best described in brief as "depressive." The spark was somewhat dampened, so to speak.

Since we are focused here on problems of U.S. work, we should examine most emphatically two interrelated considerations. On the one hand, that essential feature of the campaigning-process which caused the quantum-leap in levels of activity (e.g., to over \$200,000 weekly by the end of the convention). On the other hand, the corresponding quality which the membership generally has developed in itself. It is the transfiniteness of that quality which we must proceed to bring more sharply into conscious focus.

### The Profile of the Campaign

The dominant feature of the campaign was the use of television broadcasting in a mode employed and proven in the November 1, 1976 half-hour nationwide broadcast.<sup>10</sup> It was my own direct address to tens of millions of viewers during each nationwide broadcast, and to smaller populations in regional and local broadcasts, which essentially defined the campaign as a process. We made use of more broadcasting of this "fireside chat" form than all other candidates combined.

New Hampshire was a foretaste of the kind of success yet to come. Despite the most massive and intensive dirty tricks and libel campaign, the most conservative estimate of the vote secured ranges between the 16-17% indicated by controlled canvass and the 23-24% indicated by exit-polls. After New Hampshire, except for Wisconsin and California, there was no significant expenditure for any primary campaign but the travel and security costs of my own party plus the travel of a few, like Bob Rushman,<sup>11</sup> flanking the main party's travel. Apart from primary campaigning, the only expenditures were nationwide television broadcasts, some Texas work around the convention there, and the New York convention.

The principle correlatives of the quantum-leap in political influence achieved were, foremost, the leap in EIR distribution, and, to a lesser degree, a sharp increase in Fusion distribution. These increases were bellweathers. Despite the statistical results of the New York convention, the activity around that event

consolidated and increased the impact of the campaign. "Never quit. Keep on coming when the adversary assumes that we are crushed or worn down." Those were the tactics which made the campaign unprecedented in sensuous power in the astonished view of many around us.

Granted, much of the opportunity created was dissipated by the let-down permitted during the period between the close of the convention and Labor Day. From that period into November, everything which might be done to demoralize the membership seems to have occurred. Growing distrust of New York's leadership was also echoed in lowered regard for oneself as part of the same national organization represented by what New York appeared to have become. Additionally, mishandling of some opportunities "burned out" parts of those opportunities.

Still, overall, the potential did not decrease, but the subjective perception of the potential within the membership decreased, and practice tended to adapt to the subjective perception rather than the objective evidence as typified by attendance at events. In fact, the final spurt of the campaign, leading to [Jimmy] Carter's landslide defeat, was a joyous resurgence, and should have remained so under anything but the demoralizing effects radiating from the New York center at that time. In terms of the population with which we had been associated during the nomination campaign, our credibility was vastly increased, with associated and justified perception that our campaigning had shaped the overall outcome in numerous, significant ways.

What is it that worked to produce the indicated sort of positive effects? The answer is not to be found in any of the quantitative features of the campaign. The secret lay in what Jack Ferris<sup>12</sup> and some others failed to grasp in connection with the campaign-policy for the New Hampshire campaign. The ruinous side-effects of the August into November post-convention period are chiefly the result of the demoralizing effects of the kind of deployment which Jack and others had proposed for New Hampshire. The idea of campaigning during that period was degraded to "mechanics." Jack did not grasp our political method.

That is not to say that there were not tactical errors in the campaign. These errors all fall into two categories in form, and one category in respect to the kind of erroneous judgment which informed each. The first kind of tactical error was the tendency to substitute "mechanics" for political method, rather than subordinating mechanics to the service of that method. The second variety of tactical error was a tendency toward opportunism, a hunger for support which sometimes became

propitiatory, bringing the campaign down to the level of the prejudices encountered, path-of-least-resistance tactics. Both tactical errors are essentially identical: loss of perspective on political method.

What is this method?

Let us reflect on the way in which the organization was built.

With certain important qualifications, the organization was built through a repeated series of lectures in economics and method. What defined this as more than a series of classes was the orientation to applying the viewpoint elaborated in the class to some immediate tactical focus--establishing a kind of laboratory-classroom interaction, an avoidance of all semblance of the Aristotelian, contemplative conception of knowledge.

The characteristic features of the pedagogy used in the classes is of crucial importance. The focus was always polemical, and the principle of rigorous method in conjunction with a polemical outlook. Rigor and polemic combine as sensuous necessary reason.

As most members readily recall, the organization of the classes was directed to rigorously encompassing what might ordinarily be viewed as several years of academic work in the subject. This was achieved by reducing the entire field to its most-essential features, by-passing large masses of predicates, and using only selected predicates as required to elaborate a succession of ordered conceptions. Having reached an approximate end-point in respect of the essential conceptions needed to master the entirety of the subject-matter, the class-series ended, and a new process began. The student then attacked the predicates which had been skimmed over in the ordered development of fundamental conceptions.

Let us focus for a moment on the significance of the ordered succession. This may be compared with the development of the notion of economic processes in the Italy and Brezhnev books<sup>13</sup>. The succession of conceptions is in fact a progressive, upward succession in defining the fundamental principle of action of the universe. It is a succession of the form  $n$ ,  $n+1$ ,  $n+2$ , and so forth. The successive experience of the succession thus implicitly defines the principle which orders that success,  $N$ . In other words, what is communicated is not the formal sort of description and experimental testing of a bare conception associated with the  $n+m^{\text{th}}$  conception of the succession. What is communicated is the experience of the succession, the experience of  $N$ .

This method of pedagogy, which is the essence of the platonic dialogue, is the only known method (historically) for directly addressing and developing the creative processes of mentation. The function of the class was to address the student's creative-mental potential in this way, and thus to unlock those creative potentials, such that the person matriculating with combined assimilation of the experience and some "laboratory" practice as well was qualitatively more powerful in mental faculties and in power of political communication than any person who had not experienced such a training program.

That was also the method of the campaign. Given a medium of communication, and adapting the predicates of communication to the peculiarities of the medium, the method employed in the cited class-series can be made an instrument to exciting in mass audiences the same general kind of effect as in a half-hour version of a first session of the class-series.

It is the continuation of that method in field political organizing and in published materials which replicates that approach. It is a citizen's re-experiencing of the method he or she experienced in those television broadcasts which effects resonance. It is the shock of the distinctive experience of the television broadcasts in field communications of the organizing process which activates the potential generated in the course of the campaign.

I am no magician. Rather, because of the combined advantages of my discoveries and successful teaching in the mode described, I have mastered a method which makes me perhaps the most effective teacher of conceptions in the world today. This works because my sense of personal identity in political work is free of the encumbrances of "earthly paradise." Rather than expressing something, I am able to be what I am communicating, rather than a describer of a conception which is of a different order than my own sense of identity. The result is a freedom from the disabling problem of being in the position in which one does not really know what one is communicating, but has only achieved the ability to talk cleverly about it. That is the difference between mere pedagogical rhetoric and communicating directly from the standpoint of knowledge.

The same is key to the effectiveness of Helga's campaigning. It was the work of Helga and Jannis<sup>14</sup>, more than any other persons, which crystallized the organization in Germany during 1973, and Helga's grasp of the organizing process which produced the startling impact in Germany during early 1974. This worked because the entire leadership of the European organization had gone through a

process of dealing directly with the notion of the transfinite approach to the organizing process in Muenchrath<sup>15</sup> during early Summer 1973, an effort in Muenchrath which reflected and significantly embodied everything I had learned from the preceding years of political work and teaching and organizing in the U.S.A.

If my own campaign broadcasts and Helga's television broadcasts are compared from this cited vantage-point, the essential point of functional similarities ought to be clear immediately.

In other words, political organizing is moving people's intellects in a specific way. Not "emotionally" moving by appeals to prejudice--all such arts are essentially a form of political pornography. One moves people by stimulating the creative, rigorous discovery of conceptions in their own minds, by increasing, on the spot, so to speak, their power to think, but showing them in that way that they have the mental powers to effect conceptual breakthroughs.

One challenges the intellectual potentials of people, rather than attempting to bring oneself down to the level on which one finds them functioning at first encounter. Political organizing is essentially making a person better than the moment one first encountered that person. It is not a matter of "arguing them into" this or that. It is a matter of enabling them to demonstrate to themselves that they themselves can reach necessarily true, or at least relatively truer conceptions by their own mental powers, so causing them to experience being a better person after that stimulation of their mental potentials than before.

### Problems in the U.S. Leadership

Although the leading personalities of the NCLC,<sup>16</sup> went through such a developmental process, in the NCLC case there was no "Muenchrath process," no concentrated focus on those distinct qualities which separated leadership from non-leadership. Rather, objective accomplishment, in the commonplace usage of that terminology, tended to predominate as a standard for promotion. The NCLC leadership evolved by spates of demotion of leaders who at one point or another struck emotional blocks of one kind or another which inhibited them from sustaining the energetic sort of objective accomplishment a certain turn in the situation required. There was more emphasis on such a weeding-out process.

Although problems have developed repeatedly in the EC<sup>17</sup> leadership for example, these have been chiefly a by-product of the circumstances of aggravated

Socialist International-directed containment, more vicious than anything previously experienced in the United States' NCLC experience. Since leadership nourishes itself in its accomplishments in the organizing process, containment tends to cut one off from the sense of the organizing process as something experienced, something freshly demonstrated in experience. A leadership operating under sharp containment requires more stamina than one under conditions of outward growth of the organizing process.

### The Quality of Laughter

Laughter-irony-discovery-joy are facets of the same experience. It is the motion of the creative process, defined as motion by breakthroughs to new quality of conception, which demands the laughter of surprise. A happy, joking, yet polemically ironical mode of leadership is not a personality trait, an assumed posture, but is the natural mode of leadership.

A teacher who does not joke in class is a bad teacher. A teacher who does not invent new jokes is a teacher gone sterile. Teaching and leading are the same thing. Real teaching, not academic teaching as we ordinarily encounter it today, not contemplative teaching, but teaching which demands practice immediately, demands immediate improvements in the quality of practice. Teaching of sensuous conceptions.

Is the NDPC Italy book a book about a proposal for a heavy lira? That is included in the book, but that is not the book. The book is a platonic dialogue approach to enriching the mind to the level that the reader is then enabled to be able to comprehend the heavy lira policy. If it is presented as a "book about," a rather dull impression is made. If it is presented as a different sort of experience, which aids the reader to comprehend an important matter they probably would not otherwise understand, then the political-organizing approach is being addressed.

The essence of the campaign is typified by the fact that for a few moments, before their television-sets, millions of citizens experienced in themselves an ability to think clearly about policy-making which they had never imagined to exist before. That is the potential created which must be effectively addressed.

30-30-30

## END NOTES

The following notes are provided by the transcriber to clarify various references for the modern reader. These notes were *not* a part of LaRouche's original memo.

1. Although no year of composition is provided, it is clear that the paper was written in 1981.
2. NDPC is the National Democratic Policy Committee, a political action committee, founded in 1979.
3. Italy book. ?
4. EIR is Executive Intelligence Review, publisher of *EIR* magazine from 1974 to current.
5. FEF is the Fusion Energy Foundation, publisher of *Fusion* magazine from 1974 to 1986.
6. NADC is the National Anti-Drug Coalition, publisher of *War on Drugs* magazine from June, 1980 to
7. LaRouche's 1980 Presidential campaign vehicle was Citizens for LaRouche, founded Dec. 21, 1979.
8. Helga Zepp LaRouche. Founder of the Schiller Institute and the Bürgerrechtsbewegung Solidarität party (BüSo) (Civil Rights Movement Solidarity). She has run for Chancellor several times in Germany. Married Lyndon LaRouche in 1977.
9. Kostas Kalimtgis. Member of the National Executive Committee of the National Caucus of Labor Committees in New York, from 1968 until he resigned from the NCLC in December, 1980.
10. LaRouche's first campaign for President of the U.S. was in 1976, under the banner of the U.S. Labor Party. The campaign included a groundbreaking half-hour nation-wide TV broadcast.
11. Bob Rushman. Consultant to LaRouche's 1980 campaign for President.



12. Jack Ferris. Consultant to LaRouche's New Hampshire campaign in his 1980 campaign for President.

13. Brezhnev Book: *Will the Soviets Rule in the 1980's?* Lyndon LaRouche. New Benjamin Franklin House. Jan. 1, 1979.

14. Jannis is a nickname for Konstantine George.

15. Münchrath, Germany. In the summer of 1973 LaRouche conducted a series of intensive organizing sessions there with a number of individuals who later went on to become the core leadership of the European Labor Party.

16. NCLC is National Caucus of Labor Committees.

17. EC is European Committee of the European Labor Party.