Self-Styled 'Labor Party'
Making Bid to Capture White House this Year

On April 23, three days into the strike against the Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., Peter Bormarito, international president of the United Rubber Workers Union, found it advisable to issue a three-paragraph press release.

*The URW has become aware that certain Communist-oriented organizations such as the U.S. Labor Party and the October League are using our strike as a vehicle for their disruptive activities,* he said.

*"We categorically disavow any connection with these groups,"* he asserted, adding, "*We do not seek and will not accept their support.*"

**THE REJECTION** of the attempted involvement on the picket lines in Akron and elsewhere seems likely to apply to the political front as well.

The U.S. Labor Party is in the midst of a strident, if little noticed, campaign to place its ticket of Lyndon LaRouche, Jr., and Wayne Evans on the ballots of 35 states and to secure an operational base for them in Congress by electing 10 of its own to the U.S. Senate. It is also contesting for 52 House seats in 17 states.

LaRouche predicts he will win and says,

*I, as socialist President of our democracy, shall be presiding officer of a capitalist dictatorship.*

He admits he would prefer "a dictatorship of the proletariat," but he views either as a transitional form to the overhaul of a nation's social and economic structures.

LaRouche's timetable calls for taking the steps necessary to stave off economic catastrophes today; getting more men and women sympathetic to his viewpoint elected to Congress in 1978 with the crucial vote coming in 1980 when, presumably, he will stand for re-election.

**WHILE** these pretensions may look like a put-on from a distance, to LaRouche's followers they are a plausible blueprint for the immediate future.

At 53, LaRouche is the father figure as well as the founder executive of the National Caucus of Labor Committees. As such, he presides over a complicated international structure of which the U.S. Labor Party is the major political expression.

The NCLC has about 700 hard core members (or "Elsies") and an annual budget which appears to this writer to be about $850,000. (The Elsies claim both the membership and budget figures are on the low side). Even conservative estimates have the NCLC the best-financed avowedly revolutionary organization in the land.

**BOTH** the Revolutionary Union, most aggressive outcropping on the Maoist Left, and the Soviet-oriented Communist Party-U.S.A. view the Elsies as a hostile force, a relationship established in 1973 by the NCLC's Operation Mop Up.* This was an unsuccessful attempt to establish what LaRouche termed "hegemony" over the Left by force.

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Some meetings were broken up and a few heads were bashed, and in the aftermath, a faction broke away from the NCLC.**

The major segment remained, however, battle-tested and loyal to LaRouche. Today it is seeking to achieve by political means the dominance denied it in physical confrontations three years ago.

Its search for allies has included a yearlong courtship of the Soviet Union and an attempt to secure a working relationship with the CP-U.S.A. While the latter has been rejected, the Soviets appear to maintain at least an interest, probably because both here and in Europe the Elsies are counters to the Maoists.

Last year LaRouche went to Iraq at the invitation of the Arab Ba'ath Socialist Party and one of his supporters, Dr. Morris LeVit, attended a meeting of scientists in Moscow—both sure signs of Soviet favor. However, the relationship is not close. There is no indication that the Russians are attempting to fund a serious political challenge to the major U.S. parties.

THE COMBINATION the Elsies expect to produce victory is the drawing power of the U.S. Labor Party's name and an economic deterioration which they expect to reach catastrophic proportions.

This March, in a dispatch from Europe, LaRouche told his followers:

"I will be elected — if that probable event occurs — by a large number of people who reluctantly support me as the only candidate competent to put the national and world economy back together again under conditions of the worst depression since the early 17th Century."†

LaRouche concedes that his movement is "merely mass-based," but not at this point "a mass-organized machine."

The Elsies view themselves as a vanguard force to be propelled into leadership when the mass reaction occurs. So far the second-level of support is the U.S. Labor Party which appears to this writer to have about 500 members in addition to those who belong to the NCLC.‡

For the past three years, the NCLC-USLP has carried on a vituperative propagandapropaganda campaign against the leadership of the national trade unions. The obvious objective is to stimulate dissent and convert that into an expanded base. While the organization claims many NCLC cells have been established in local unions, it offers no substantiation.

TO THOSE trade union officials who pay any attention to the U.S. Labor Party, it is—at best—a minor irritant, and—at worst—a potentially violent force.

Copies of New Solidarity the NCLC-USLP's twice-a-week newspaper, are often hawked at plant gates. The stock line has it that the nation's major trade union leaders, Nelson Rockefeller, the CIA, FBI and Law Enforcement Assistance Administration are all part of a conspiracy to enslave the world and, incidentally, destroy the Elsies.

Last January, the U.S. Labor Party tried unsuccessfully to get a UAW group in Detroit to take up a resolution in which the Steelworkers' I. W. Abel, the Government Workers' Jerry Wurf, Lane Kirkland, secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO, and the UAW's Leonard Woodcock were called "labor traitors."

One of the cornerstones of its platform is opposition to the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment Bill, passage of which major unions would like to make a focal point of the 1976 campaign.

THE ELSIES have little interest in reform. What they want is revolutionary change. Their justification for calling themselves a "labor party" is their dream of a working class uprising for which they would provide the intellectual guidance, rather than any actual involvement with the trade union movement as such.

As an organization, the NCLC is composed primarily of graduates or heirs of those campus Left organizations which flowered during the Vietnam war and wilted for lack of any subsequently binding purpose.

Some of their candidates would cut impressive figures as major party contenders. Dr. Gene Inch, seeking to represent New York's 15th district (Brooklyn) in Congress, is a bona fide physician, and quite dapper. Graham Lowry, 32, bidding for Teddy Kennedy's senate seat in Massachusetts, is the son of W. McNeil Lowry, a past vice president of the Ford Foundation, and was until recently an articulate member of the faculty at Boston University.

Elijah Boyd, 30, a former Black Panther, seeking James Buckley's New York Senate seat, is an effective stump speaker. (He is also the only Black with any visible status in the NCLC.)

Whatever their qualifications, their dedication to LaRouche seems absolute. To them, his victory seems possible.

In the past four years, the U.S. Labor has run candidates in more than 200 contests and not one has come close. The NCLC blames this showing on widespread election fraud and a conspiracy to deny its members office.

LaRouche himself has never held any elective office.

HIS ONLY direct tie to the labor movement was in 1949 when he was employed in General Electric's River Works in Lynn, Mass. At the time, the work force was represented by the Communist-dominated Electrical Workers and the old CIO was in the midst of the drive which ultimately ousted UE and replaced it with IUE, a union formed for that purpose nationally.

Vice presidential candidate Wayne Evans, however, actually was a member of the United Steelworkers, working at the Dow Chemical plant in Midland, Mich.
During the 1974 Steelworkers strike against Dow, Evans toured the cities where Dow plants are located, urging the strikers to abandon the effort on grounds that local union strikes hamper the overall effort to restructure the society. At that time, he was sponsored by the National Unemployed Welfare Rights Organization (NUWRO), which the NCLC had established to supplant NWRO, a Communist Party-U.S.A. front. A special NUWRO supplement carried in the February 12, 1974, issue of New Solidarity was entitled, "HOW NUWRO WILL REPLACE THE AFL-CIO WITHIN 4 MONTHS."

Instead both NUWRO and NWRO have disappeared.

The next year Evans ran for lieutenant governor of Michigan, getting less than 1% of the vote.

Now he is in yet another campaign. He is sincere. At 49, with 27 years' seniority at Dow, he quit his job three years short of pension vesting to carry on his NCLC activities full blast.

By contrast, with the exception of a weekend trip to New York, for Socialism XI, the equivalent of the NCLC's annual convention, LaRouche spent the first four months of 1976 in Europe with no announced plans to return.

From there he has dispatched a torrent of position papers supplementing the U.S. Labor Party's elaborate '76 platform, published in May of 1975.

Questioned about the effectiveness of an absentee candidacy, Nick Syvriotis, NCLC's director of intelligence, told HOMEFRONT that LaRouche was on to something at the outset.

LaRouche's followers advance his proposals with messianic zeal. New Solidarity regularly reports the alternatives to the NCLC programs as being war, pestilence and starvation. One recent issue pegged at precisely 364,000 the number of deaths in one week caused by "the delay of the International Development Bank."

Last November 13th, Eric Lerner, the Elsies' chief science writer, warned in New Solidarity, "If we are to stand a chance of avoiding catastrophe, a centralized credit-allocating institution along the lines of the (NCLC proposed) Int'l. Development Bank must be fully operational within the next 90 days."

Approximately 150 days later he wrote in NS' lead article (4/9/76) that the world rat population is now out of control bringing Bubonic plague to Burma and elsewhere. "Unless stopped by coordinated political action in the next five to six weeks, these outbreaks will be the beginning of a generalized irreversible breakdown of the earth's ecology. Plague will spread across the globe to New York, Detroit, Naples and Hamburg, merging into a pandemic by fall which will doom hundreds of millions and perhaps the human race itself."

(By the time these words are being read, doomsday presumably will be at hand.)

The Elsies are kept constantly on short rein with similar predictions of terrible events about to happen which only they, working through the NCLC, can prevent. Their programs never get...
adopted, but the expected catastrophe somehow never quite develops giving way to yet another monster threat of global proportions.

While this looks paranoid to the outsider, to the Elsies it is an expression of a higher consciousness than those outside their ranks have attained.

Their durability is impressive. Some of them have been with LaRouche since the 1967 strike at Columbia University. Then he led a committee into Students for Democratic Society, which was in control of the strike, and on out to form the NCLC.

TODAY, the NCLC has an elaborate suite of offices occupying most of six floors in a building in Manhattan's fur district; a suite in a downtown Chicago building; other regional offices in Boston, Buffalo, Charlotte, N.C., Cleveland, Detroit, Denver, Newark, Philadelphia, San Francisco and Seattle. It has a presence (sometimes little more than a room) in 52 U.S. cities, plus outcroppings in Canada, Mexico City and South America.

The allied 250-member European Labor Committees, launched in 1973, have working offices in four German cities, Paris, Rome and Milan, Brussels, Stockholm and an outpost in Denmark.

The seven largest European offices are tied by Telex to ELC headquarters in Wiesbaden. In turn, Wiesbaden is in 24-hour teletype contact with NCLC headquarters in New York. New York has teletype ties to 13 district offices in the U.S., Montreal and Mexico City.

Every day the Wiesbaden office tele-types digests of world developments to the New York nerve center. There the various foreign language desks, as well as the financial and scientific sections, refine the information, factor in reports received from the North American outposts and distribute the day's message.

It includes the marching orders for the entire operation.

LaRouche, in Rome or Wiesbaden, can keep as close as the Telex to what is transpiring.

THE ELSIES frequently work as reporters in the quest for information, interrogating all whom they talk to them, and sometimes publicising the result through the International Press Service, another element of the LaRouche complex. They also seek confrontations at press conferences, a device which sometimes annoys spokespeople for both the trade union and scientific communities.

While the Marxist Left implies that this massive effort is underwritten by the CIA,** and there is speculation that some money is diverted into it by the Soviets, this writer concludes that most, perhaps all of the money, is raised within the organization.

Members of the NCLC pay a dues of $5 per week, or $260 annually. In addition, the dues for the U.S. Labor Party is $5 monthly.

Money for the constant round of legal battles is raised through the Labor Organizers Defense Fund, about all of it apparently coming from the Elsies. At one point the NCLC had 34 cases simultaneously processing. On most, the general counsel for the NCLC was Jay C. Carlisle II, of Buffalo, an assistant dean of the State University of New York.

UNTIL RECENTLY, a major source of funds was the inherited or accumulated assets of LaRouche's followers. Tessa DeCarlo, daughter of the president of Sarah Lawrence College, for example, is believed to have donated nearly $90,000 to the NCLC. Philip Ulanowsky, 18-year-old orphan whose pianist father used to be singer Lotte Lenye's accompanist during her U.S. tours, is believed by his family to have loaned or donated all of his inheritance to the cause, about $150,000.

NCLC members sometimes drop out of school to carry on its work. They support themselves with menial jobs, devoting nearly all of their remaining time to the NCLC crusade.

Selling New Solidarity at 25 cents a copy, the monthly Campaigner ($1), and the flood of position papers and special reports is a constant chore for the organizers.

Daily quotas are assigned each district and city. No doubt some members "eat" their papers, paying the organization for them, but they also sell them on street corners, at shopping centers and plant gates.

Recently NS claimed that a record 40,000 copies were sold in a single week, roughly an average of 75 for each of the 525 members with quotas to fill. That would produce $10,000 income from sales of New Solidarity alone.

According to its published 1976 budget, the NCLC has a weekly income of $17,722, of which $12,332 comes from sales, and must nearly double its revenues to carry out its '76 program.

Members pursue sales of New Solidarity the same way followers of Sun Myung Moon push ginseng tea and those taken up with Hare Krishna offer flowers in airports in return for contributions. The followers of LaRouche are as much a cult as the Moonies or Krishna's flower children.

LIKE the young people absorbed into other cults, LaRouche's cadres tend to come from middle and upper income homes where social problems were a daily family concern. They, too, maintain contact with their parents, often seeking funds from them (a source income now largely dried up), and like the parents of the Moonies, parents of LaRouche's followers often find to their dismay that they can no longer make meaningful contact with their own.

My interviews with Elsies leave me believing that many of them simply have not measured up to their own idealized concept of what they should achieve in this world. Main stream organizations have not offered them goals they find both attainable and

**The CP-U.S.A.'s Daily World has published a 5-part series on the NCLC, much of it devoted to "exposing" what it sees as ties to the CIA. The fifth Estate, publisher of CounterSpy is carrying on a running written feud with the NCLC, but finds no evidence of CIA funding.
worthwhile. The conversion to an Elsie is a long, tortuous process involving many lectures and great deal of study, but ultimately the true believers become absorbed into a way of life. Their realities simply are not the realities of the unconverted.

Elsies tend to pair up with Elsies, sometimes but not always formally marrying. In the field, the office becomes a kind of commune where the Elsies bed, dine, and work. Fatigue seems a constant companion.

Even those who break away to form other factions rarely renounce the apocalyptic “truths” of their organization.

**THEIR BIG EVENTS** after Mop Up were LaRouche’s discoveries that both the CIA and Russian KGB were out to capture him, allegedly because he had cracked the secret of how to deprogram victims of brainwashing.

First he found in Europe that Konstantin George had been programmed to kill him. LaRouche said that he discovered the plot just in time and managed to deprogram this German citizen who had married LaRouche’s former wife, Carol, had been programmed as a part of an assassination plot against LaRouche.

The more celebrated event was the discovery that Chris White, a British citizen who had married LaRouche’s former wife, Carol, had been programmed as a part of an assassination plot against LaRouche. The latter managed to deprogram him as well, with Carol and Dr. Gene Inch present throughout. The proceeding was tape recorded and at least two newspaper reporters have heard portions of it at LaRouche’s suggestion.*

**ONE OF THE MEMBERS** who attempted to leave the organization during this period was held in her apartment for possible deprogramming. She managed to sail a note out the window which brought the police and a New York Times reporter and the first press exposure of the organization.**

In this period, LaRouche was warning his followers that he expected a collapse of Elsies, which brought the police and a New York Times reporter and the first press exposure of the organization.**

"I am going to make you organizers—and taking your bedrooms away from you until you make the step to being effective organizers. What I shall do is expose to you the cruel fact of your sexual impotence, male and female, in such terms that you cannot deny this to yourselves. I shall show you how this pathetic impotence in your sexual life is merely one aspect of the same impotence you experience in your political work—such that you will know that you can’t cure one without curing the other."

Not all members were convinced. One who left after Operation Mop Up sent a memo to her former comrades in which she warned:

"If you do not now take a principled stand against the madness masquerading as leadership, the result will be, as it is for any victim of brainwashing, that your capacity to act with integrity ever again will collapse of its own rottenness."

There is speculation that LaRouche’s long stay in Europe is dictated by his inability to endure hostile questioning. If so, it is a problem likely to be exposed in the months ahead.

LaRouche is a prolific, if not gifted, writer. Last year he produced a textbook, *Dialectical Economics*, which was published by D.C. Heath & Co., a major textbook house.† He is credited by his followers with breakthroughs in Marxist philosophy. He once lectured at New York’s New School on the subject—and with penetrating new concepts in psychology. The written lectures and position papers pouring in from Europe involve tens of thousands of words.

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† The member’s name was Alice Weitzman. Parents of other NCLC members have told this writer of being physically assaulted by NCLC guards when attempting to literally pull their offspring out of the NCLC’s clutches.

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**WILLIE EVANS “strikes are futile”**

Although LaRouche is clearly the spiritual leader, the NCLC-USLP is by no means a one-man show.

**CAROL LAROUCHE WHITE, Ed**

*CaroL LaRouche White, Ed and Nancy Spannus and some of the others associated with LaRouche a decade ago still hold significant policy posts. The two key men however are Costas (Gus) Axios, an American of Greek extraction, and Nikos (Nick) Syvriotis, a Greek national.

Syvriotis told HOMEFRONT that he was in a Communist cell in New York University before returning to Greece in 1965 for the mandatory two-year hitch in the armed services. Axios went with him to study. They stayed on after the military coup before returning to the U.S. where they ultimately joined forces with LaRouche.

Observers suspect that both had ties to the Communist underground and that the latter helped lay the base for the European Labor Committees.‡

Today Axios, a dynamic speaker, is the hard-driving chief of staff, while Syvriotis is the urbane, sophisticated director of intelligence. He presides over the teletype apparatus which binds the far-flung Labor Committee operation together.

Syvriotis personally wrote the key *New Solidarity* exposures of last fall’s big scare, Hilex-75. He reported this to be a planned NATO maneuver, likely to trigger a nuclear confrontation with Russia. The original information, he says, was contained in a magazine serving German military in-
“Either we will win (in ’76) in the United States or all hell has to break loose to save the human race.”

interests, and appears to have been fed to the European Labor Committees by concerned officers looking for allies.

The maneuver did not take place for whatever reason.

Now the attention is on politics.

SO FAR, the U.S. Labor Party has secured ballot positions in five states. In Ohio, where 5,000 signatures were needed, LaRouche and Evans will be listed as independents since the USLP failed to measure up to the Buckeye State’s criteria for a political party.

In Kentucky, Delaware, North Carolina and New Jersey, they will be running under the Labor Party designation. NCLC-USLP organizers can be switched from state-to-state to meet the various qualification deadlines.

The 15 states they have already written off are Texas, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Arkansas, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Nebraska, Montana, Wyoming, Kansas, and West Virginia, all for having “prohibitive” requirements to get on the ballot. Legal action is planned for California and Missouri, but the chances for success by fall are not bright. The Elsies expect to be making their political stand in all the others.

Banking heavily on general economic collapse, the LaRouche forces clearly hope to trigger mass defections from labor.

FOLLOWING this pronouncement, New Solidarity observed editorially (3/23/76) that “smashing the fascist Humphrey-Hawkins Bill will remove the last shred of pretense that superficially keep the Democratic Party and the agent trade union bureaucrats together.”

In Office, LaRouche clearly plans to install his own program.

“Without an International Development Bank-type political-economic innovation, the human race would simply not survive in a civilized form beyond somewhere between a possible 1977 general war and an ecological collapse during the 1980’s,” he says.

He goes on, “From this standpoint, we must agree that the ordinary notion of the subject of political freedom —individual differences of opinion— includes something that which is potentially pathological. In matters of current policy and related practices, there exists an identity well-defined current short term policy besides which all contrary opinion is essentially pathological.”

He concludes that ultimately individuals will not be forced to give up “pro-capitalist ideas” but will “cheerfully give them up in due course.”

As one of his innovations, he would create a cabinet level post of Director of Political Intelligence which, he said, would be modelled after the NCLC’s own intelligence operation. While LaRouche presumes the office would inform, scoffers will conclude that he is intent on establishing Big Brother’s “Thought Police.”

In the past, the NCLC has often reminded its members that the Nelson Rockefeller-led conspiracy is responsible for the U.S. Labor Party’s poor ballot box showing. The same conspiracy is intent on raping NCLC’s female members and beating up or killing the males.

While FBI Director Clarence Kelley calls the NCLC “a violence oriented, marxist revolutionary organization,”† there have been few reports of actual violence since 1973.

Members still train in the Korean martial arts, and sometimes hold target practice on a farm in upstate New York. They are presumed responsible for the harassing, often obscene telephone calls that have plagued labor and political targets, calls which seem designed to provoke a violent response.

As a practical matter, however, the NCLC organizers are rarely in a position where they are not greatly outnumbered.

Last November, LaRouche told campaign workers at a meeting in Trenton, N.J., “Either we win (in ’76) in the United States or all hell has to break loose to save the human race.”

Indications are that come November, the Elsies’ moment of truth will have arrived.—C.R.B.