Campaigning chiefly in New Hampshire, he had offices in eight cities and spent lavishly by that state's standards on television and publications.

In other years before 1980, more than 250 LaRouche candidates ran locally or for Congress, some doing quite well.

BUT PARTY politics is only one of LaRouche's games. He is actively promoting nuclear development, fighting with some unions while trying to infiltrate others, attacking the "Rockefeller conspiracy," pushing the gold standard, selling unidentified magazines, peddling anti-Semitism, publishing a far-out newspaper and flailing out at establishments that offend his goal of domination.

Perhaps his boldest ambition was stated early as taking over the AFL-CIO and the American labor movement, along with radical leftist and "revolutionary" organizations, as steps toward taking power in the United States.

A long article about LaRouche in the Washington Post while he was in the New Hampshire primary stated that two major questions about the movement baffle long-time observers: "How did he get from being a Marxist to a 'conservative Democrat' and where does their money come from?"

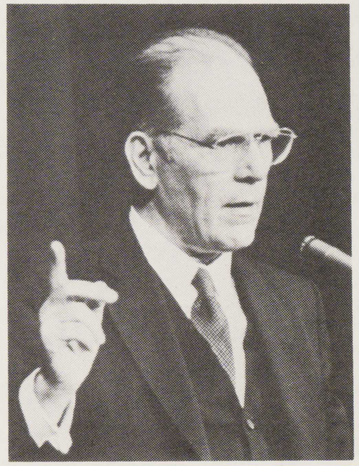
THIS WAS followed by a quotation from Prof. David DeLeon, a student of fringe groups: "There is no one as odd as LaRouche. There is no parallel. You can't talk about it rationally."

Who is Lyndon LaRouche?

We know a lot about him from the autobiography he published in his own newspaper, New Solidarity, for Aug. 17, 1974. At that time, he was using the name of "Lyn Marcus" as some sort of convenience, and his organization was called the National Caucus of Labor Committees, a name it used until it became better known as the U.S. Labor Party, its political arm.

LaROUCHE WAS born Sept. 8, 1922, in Rochester, N.H., in a Quaker home. Ten years later, his family moved to Lynn, Mass., where he claims he started having inner conflicts, described in third-person terms still typical of his language and/or thoughts:

"In 1932, his family moved to Lynn, Massachusetts. There, within a year or so, the intensifying inner conflict between his religious and rationalist commitments impelled him into philosophy, so that he had become a fanatical Kantian by sixteen—thus temporarily reconciling his own youthful pietist and rationalist commitments. His first quasi-political experience occurred shortly after that, as he



LYNDON H. LaROUCHE
Campaigning in New Hampshire

violated his family's organic Republican traditions by joining the CIO shoeworkers' union in connection with a regular summertime job."

LaRouche says he then headed for Communist Party headquarters overseas, but broke with the International very soon and was "a sort of hardened Trotskyist," an allegiance he maintained for some years.

HE JOINED the Trotskyist Socialist Workers Party in 1949 and became involved in early ideological fights within the electrical workers while employed at General Electric. In the mid-Sixties he moved to New York City, became a consultant — whatever that means — and started doing personal research on what became the National Caucus of Labor Committees.

He says that Trotskyism was dying—and died—and that if a viable socialist movement was to exist it had to begin from scratch. The 1968 student strike and disorders at Columbia University gave him an opportunity to become active again by aligning himself with the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS). A split developed in that group with the Maoists going one way and LaRouche organizing the National Caucus of SDS Labor Committees. He soon dropped the SDS and had his own organization.

Both his NCLC, now apparently defunct, and his U.S. Labor Party are part of an international complex of front groups and publications which are reported to spend some $3 million a year and have 2,000 to 3,000 members in this country and perhaps 2,000 more outside the United States. Among his old domestic fronts have been the National Unemployed and Welfare Rights Organization and the Committee for Fair Elections.

His most important front now is the tax-exempt Fusion Energy Foundation which supports atomic energy development, mostly through a very attractive magazine, Fusion, which his disciples sell at airports and elsewhere. He is also behind an ideological magazine, The Campaigner, and another slick publication, Executive Intelligence Review, but his main outlet is still the newspaper, New Solidarity, a title protested by the Auto Workers with whom he has had a long fight and who have long used the title Solidarity for the union's official journal.

Making Mischief in Mexico

The deceptively-named front organizations for the Lyndon LaRouche cult have fooled people in other countries as well as in the United States.

New York magazine reported the confusion in Mexico earlier this year when LaRouche, identifying himself as chairman of the advisory board of the National Democratic Policy Committee, wangled a meeting with Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo. LaRouche puzzled Mexican reporters, who believed him to be the "leader" of the Democratic Party in the United States, by telling them that then-Sec. of State Alexander M. Haig, Jr., and his predecessor, Henry Kissinger, were "non grata"—unwelcome—in Latin America.

The U.S. Embassy and the Democratic National Committee sought to undo the damage by getting the word out that LaRouche spoke only for himself, was not a major political figure, and has no connection with the Democratic Party.

ABOUT four years ago, New Solidarity—then a tabloid—started what the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has described as an "anti-Jewish, anti-Zionist, anti-Israel propaganda campaign" which took the form of inflammatory headlines and special features on various aspects of Judaism.

A little earlier, LaRouche's apparatus entered into a loose relationship with Liberty Lobby, the Washington-based, radical-right organization of Willis Carto, which is also regarded as anti-Semitic.

MORE RECENTLY, as the movement began attracting national attention and curiosity, the New York Times began digging into what makes it tick and reported that LaRouche has some kind of financial liaison with three companies in New York City. They are Computron Technologies Corporation, a programming business that includes Mobil Oil, Citibank, Bristol-Myers and AT&T among its clients; World Composition Services, an advanced computer typesetting complex that does work for the Ford Foundation and major publishers; and PMR Associates, a printing plant.

All three denied such links, but refused repeated requests for interviews. The headlines on the Times stories are revealing about the organization: "U.S. Labor Party: Cult Surrounded by Controversy" and "One Man Leads U.S. Labor Party on Its Erratic Path."

A small town boy has truly been discovered, but no one is yet certain what he is doing or where he is going.

* * *

If nothing else, Lyndon LaRouche is indefatigable. Starting 15 years ago on the extreme left and switching to the extreme right without conceding any change, the energetic movement leader has adopted new names and new techniques to attract attention and new followers.

Although he is generally credited with only 2,000 to 3,000 followers in this country, he retains a cadre of several hundred hard-core workers, even after a block of them defected in the past year.

Starting as the National Caucus of Labor Committees, LaRouche changed the name to U.S. Labor Party and now uses the equally deceptive name of National Democratic Policy Committee. In his later phase, he has sought respectability by such activities as running for President twice, after emerging from the shadows of anonymity.

HIS TACTICS in the earlier phase included harassment and violence, such as beatings by their own account of at least 40 opponents, principally members of the Communist Party and black-power activists. In his more genteel phase—during his 1980 run for the Presidency in New Hampshire—LaRouche supporters began the tactic of impersonating reporters and others, sometimes using harassing phone calls defended as necessary for "security."

The rough stuff was not casual. During the 1980 presidential campaign, LaRouche travelled with armed body guards, and leaders of his motley organization have been trained extensively in terrorist tactics and "self defense" at two centers. One is his own, a farm near Glens Falls, N.Y., where foreigners and Americans took classes in weapons systems, explosives, handguns and close-order drill.

MORE professional training of this kind has been obtained at a compound in Georgia which is run by Mitchell WerBell III, a developer of guns and trainer of bands for abortive overthrows in Latin America. WerBell is also a supporter of the radical-right Liberty Lobby and close friend of its head, Willis A. Carto.

"We train them in martial arts, pistol shooting, paramedical skills, the use of shotguns, rifle countersniper activity, counter-surveillance, and the control of three-car caravans," WerBell told a reporter.

As recently as last year, LaRouche took eight bodyguards sporting sunglasses and walkie-talkies to visit a member of Congress. Though an ardent conservative, the congressman has "steered clear" of LaRouche ever since.

The Real Sara Fritz Seeks Damages for Impersonation

Sara Fritz is the White House correspondent for U.S. News & World Report, a 2-million circulation weekly news magazine. She's a prize-winning journalist who covered labor news for many years. Her reputation and the magazine's prestige usually get her quick access to news sources.

It also got quick access for persons writing for Lyndon LaRouche publications who impersonated her and other U.S. News reporters, according to affidavits filed with a federal district court.

U.S. News and Fritz are jointly asking $1.5 million in damages from New Solidarity Press Service, Inc., and Campaigner Publications, Inc., which they say publish the American Labor Beacon and Executive Intelligence Review. The corporations, which share a suite of offices in New York, are described in the court papers as "affiliated with the U.S. Labor Party."

On at least two occasions, information obtained by persons claiming to be Sara Fritz appeared in what was described as highly distorted fashion under another byline in LaRouche-linked publications.

The person who used her name for an interview that showed up in the American Labor Beacon had left a phone number, so Fritz called and asked to speak to "Sara Fritz of U.S. News & World Report."

SHE WAS promptly connected, the woman who answered acknowledged being "Sara Fritz" and asked who was calling. At hearing it was the real Sara Fritz, she abruptly hung up.

The telephone number was that of Campaigner Publishers.

Later, Fritz testified, she found that her name had been falsely used to get information from an official of the National Association of Home Builders for an article that appeared in the Executive Intelligence Review.

ON ANOTHER occasion, court papers show, a man falsely identifying himself as a reporter for U.S. News obtained information from the staff of the Senate Ethics Committee that appeared in distorted fashion in Executive Intelligence Review.

In addition to compensatory and punitive damages, the suit filed Aug. 18 in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia asks an injunction to bar future misrepresentation by the two publishing firms and their employees.