

Secretary of State race crowded

The Secretary of State is first in the line of succession to the Governor. This office is at times likened to the office of Lieutenant Governor in other states, but also has come under attack as failing to justify its existence in recent years.

The office holds a number of vital responsibilities:

- The Secretary of State is the state's chief auditor and is responsible to audit all state agencies.

- The Secretary of State is a member of the state's three member land board, managing the state's land holdings, swamp lands, and overseeing land conservation.

- The Secretary of State is the chief elections officer, and responsible for the administration of elective law, overseeing elections, and publication of the Voter Pamphlet.

Paulus — Republican

Norma Paulus was raised in Burns, Oregon and after high school graduation became secretary to the Harney County District Attorney and later to an Oregon Supreme Court Judge. Although she had not attended college, she was tested and accepted by the Willamette Law School. In 1962 she was admitted to the Oregon Bar and has practiced appellate law in Salem since that date.

Paulus is serving her third term in the House of Representatives. She was Vice Chairman of the Joint Committee on Land Use, has been vice chairman of the House Elections Committee and served as a member of the House Revenue Committee. She was Republican Floor Leader in the 1973 Legislature. Her interests have included environment, natural resources, land use, civil rights, women's rights, alternate energy sources, criminal justice and prison reform.

In the office of the Secretary of State, she advocates a uniform accounting system for state agencies, more detailed audits and review of agencies to determine if they are complying with legislature intent.



Kelting — Republican

A self-employed general contractor, John P. Kelting has been active in political campaigns in Tigard, California and Florida. Stating that "you don't have to be a big wheel or politician" and that it does not take a lot of money to run for office, Kelting has filed for the Republican nomination for Secretary of State. Kelting is active in civic organizations in Tigard including Little League, Tigard Jaycees and SOLVE. He advocates planning for Oregon to prevent haphazard development or financial bankruptcy.



Densmore — Democrat

Al Densmore is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Secretary of State. Densmore is a three term Representative from Jackson County. His committee assignments include: Chairman of Elections Committee, Energy, Local Government/Urban Affairs, Intergovernmental Affairs. He was House Majority Leader in the 1973 session.

Densmore advocates the establishment of all state agencies for a two to eight year period, with a review to determine if that agency should continue to exist based on its performance. "If elected, I will investigate agencies and programs as the state's chief auditor and make sure tax dollars are being spent wisely."

Wilkins — Democrat

Caroline Wilkins, former Chairman of the Democratic Party in Oregon, is a candidate for Secretary of State. A resident of Corvallis, Ms. Wilkins became state chairman in 1969 and was re-elected in 1970 and 1972. In 1972 she was elected National Committee Vice Chairman and served on the DNC Executive Committee.

When she took office the party was in debt and had suffered failure in the 1968 election. During the time she has served as chairman the party has achieved a majority in both houses of the state legislature, elected a Democratic Governor and holds all four Congressional seats.

Ms. Wilkins advocates improving government efficiency through audits that measure the service that the public is getting for its tax dollars.



Whipple — Democrat

Blaine Whipple is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Secretary of State. Whipple represents Washington County in the State Senate, elected in 1974. During the 1975 legislature he was vice chairman of the Local Government and Election committee and a member of the Revenue and Transportation Committees. Whipple was the principal sponsor of the law requiring mortgage lenders to pay interest on property tax reserves.

Whipple was elected Democratic National Committeeman in 1968 and 1972. He was co-chairman of the McCarthy campaign in 1968 and chairman of the McGovern campaign in 1972.

Whipple stresses accountability in government and advocates performance audits of state agencies to insure effective use of state funds. Current audits do not measure performance of agencies or determine whether they are progressing toward a goal or meeting legislative intent. He also proposes to reduce required paperwork and to streamline state business.



Groener — Democrat

Dick Groener, who seeks the Democratic nomination for Secretary of State, has served in the legislature for eighteen years. He lives in Milwaukie, and is a partner in a general insurance agency.

Groener advocates no change in the auditing system of the Secretary of State's office, seeing the basic problem a need for follow-up on irregularities that are found.

Groener advocates a greater role for the Secretary of State's office, viewing it as part of the team of Oregon's highest elected officials, "with the common goals of building job opportunities, strengthening the state's economy, and creating a new spirit of cooperation among all elements of our society."

He cites his bringing together of industry and labor representatives to write Oregon's new Uniform Building Code, which he describes as demonstrating his ability to bring about cooperation in solving the state's problems.



Lieutenant Governor Mervyn Dymally and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley endorse the presidential candidacy of California Governor Edmund Brown, Jr. (center).

Dymally, Bradley endorse Brown

LOS ANGELES — California Lieutenant Governor Mervyn Dymally and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley have endorsed Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. for President.

Their joint announcement was made at a press conference which all three officials attended at Brown for President headquarters.

"No one has been as close a Jerry Brown watcher as I have in the last fifteen months," said Dymally. "I'm satisfied that he has done an outstanding job in California and that the people want him to run for the Presidency."

"People are looking for some leader-

ship that will give them a new sense of confidence in their governmental structures and in the elected leaders of the country," Mayor Bradley commented.

"Jerry Brown has provided that in California and I am confident he will be able to carry that message across the nation."

When asked why he had changed from his neutral stand in the Presidential campaign, Bradley commented, "Because of the candidacy of a man whom I respect and admire and a man who I believe will offer a great deal to this country."

Right wing grabs foreign policy initiative

by Robert Waite

(PNS) — For the first time in over a decade, the initiative in remolding American foreign policy has passed to the right.

With anti-Vietnam war sentiment no longer a driving force and the specter of successful Cuban and Soviet support for revolutionary movements fresh in the nation's memory, conservative Ronald Reagan has chosen foreign policy as the decisive issue in his attempt to mold a new conservative majority.

He has already forced a rightward shift in President Ford's foreign policy: the administration has dropped the word détente; hinted that the policy's architect, Henry Kissinger, may also go; and take a tougher line on Cuba and defense spending.

And for the first time in years, Congress — apparently reacting to Soviet and Cuban moves in Angola — has voted strongly for a defense budget as big as the administration requested.

But as former Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger, a key Reagan advisor, told the press recently, an administration will have the proven support for bold new foreign policy moves — like retaliation against overseas Cuban involvement — only if a "new constituency is created in the course of the election."

And only the final stretch of primaries and the November election can show whether the American people are ready to shake off ten years of Vietnam related doubt about the U.S.'s self-appointed role as world policeman and make a decisive return to cold war politics.

If they are, the results could include the end of Soviet-American arms limitations talks, an escalating arms race, American involvement in the defense of southern Africa's white minority regimes, intervention against Cuba for its role there and armed confrontations to preserve control of the Panama Canal.

Less known to voters, the Reagan foreign policy would likely also include a new alliance with China against Russia — a turnabout for the rightwing — that would include the sale of weapons to the Chinese advocated in recent weeks by Schlesinger.

POLLS

So far, however, the depth of voter sentiment on foreign policy remains unknown. Polls taken after the first primaries, including conservative New Hampshire and Florida, showed it to be of minor concern compared to issues like jobs, federal spending and decentralization of government power.

Unable to mobilize enough support with his conservative stands on those issues, however, Reagan is pushing hard to challenge the Ford administration's foreign policy — particularly détente with the Soviet Union.

He signalled the shift with a major television speech in North Carolina, and subsequent polls indicated it was his successful polarization of the electorate on the defense issue that gave him his first victory there.

Since then Reagan has gone for broke on the defense issue, accusing Henry Kissinger of accepting second-power status behind the Soviet Union and hammering home his message that "our nation is in danger, and that danger grows greater and greater with each

passing day."

Beyond the Soviet issue, Reagan has thrown down the gauntlet to the increasingly militant third world bloc in the United Nations, betting the American people are ready to vent their frustration on critics abroad. Attacks on Panama for its attempt to regain control over the Panama Canal have been symptomatic of his America-first stance.

The new strategy gave him a surprising 45 percent of the Republican vote in liberal Wisconsin, where he was expected to do much worse. And the latest national poll shows him moving from 33 to 40 percent backing by Republicans.

But the gap will have to close much more dramatically if Reagan is to succeed in creating a new constituency. And the latest national poll shows a heavy majority of Republicans still more concerned with issues like crime, energy and jobs than foreign policy questions.

DEMOCRATS

Although the Democrats have their own version of Reagan on foreign policy — Senator Henry Jackson — Democratic voters have shown less concern with the issue than Republicans. Surveys of Democratic voters in the first six primaries found only one in fifteen concerned about the Soviet Union and one in ten concerned about the defense budget.

Jackson's votes in several of his better states — including New York — were narrowly based, with many coming from Jews backing his tough pro-Israel and anti-Soviet stands.

The two fastest-rising Democrats in the country, former Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter and California Governor Jerry Brown, are virtually ignoring defense in their campaigns. Carter, though rarely venturing forth on foreign policy, says he backs a careful five percent spending cut in the defense bureaucracy.

Senator Frank Church of Idaho, the latest entry in the race, is the only liberal candidate giving foreign policy much emphasis. But his focus on "needless foreign intervention" by the U.S. and his criticisms of multinational corporations and the CIA have yet to stir the electorate.

If the Reagan appeal for a tough new stance does bring him the nomination — or is substantially adopted by Ford — the Democrats' avoidance of foreign policy may leave them vulnerable in the face of a groundswell.

Other than Jackson, the Democrats, though increasingly suspicious of cold war ideologies and American involvements overseas, have thus far failed to evolve a new ideology with which to replace cold war assumptions of Soviet-dominated communism behind every left movement or civil war around the world.

Thus they have been able to respond only negatively in cases like Angola, where they stopped American covert involvement but offered no positive program. With no consistent long-range alternative to the renewed anti-communism of the right wing, they may be unable to mobilize opinion against a rising cold war consensus.

[Robert Waite, former regional editor for a chain of Massachusetts newspapers, recently won the 1975 Best Column Award from the New England Press Association.]

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