



The Phyllis Schlafly Report

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Conservatives Win In California Federation Of Republican Women

Grassroots and conservative Republicans won a smashing victory in San Francisco on October 13 when they elected their candidates for President and Vice President of the powerful California Federation of Republican Women over the "moderate" candidates backed by Mrs. Gladys O'Donnell, President-elect of the National Federation of Republican Women.

The press reported that early odds favored the O'Donnell faction, and it was an exciting contest in a huge Convention of 2,059 voters. Mrs. Angela Lombardi, the conservative, was elected President of the California Federation over the so-called "moderate", Mrs. Margaret Rogers. In another conservative victory, Mrs. Elsa Sandstrom defeated Miss Henriette Steinegger for northern division vice president. Without opposition, Mrs. Ann Pike, a conservative, was elected southern division vice president.

The successful campaign for Mrs. Lombardi was led by California National Committeewoman Ann Bowler, who made the nomination from the floor in the enthusiastic, dynamic spirit so admired by Republican women in her state.

The *Los Angeles Times* reported: "The election outcome also marks a defeat for Mrs. Gladys O'Donnell of Long Beach, President-elect of the National Federation of Republican Women. Mrs. O'Donnell had put her chips on Mrs. Rogers' election and had made it clear she could work more effectively with her than with Mrs. Lombardi."

The election was also a defeat for

the former California National Committeewoman, Mrs. Pat Hitt, who had placed her political prestige on the line for the "moderate" candidate, Mrs. Rogers. Mrs. Hitt, a close ally of Mrs. O'Donnell, made the seconding speech for Mrs. Rogers.

A Fair Election

One reason why justice triumphed and the conservative candidates won in the California Federation Convention is that it was a *fair* Convention and an *honest* election. The outgoing president, Mrs. Virla Krotz, who presided at the Convention, was scrupulously fair in every way: with the gavel, about parliamentary procedure, about credentials, and about all the details that are part of a Convention. Mrs. Dorothy Elston was present during the Convention, and it is good that she had this opportunity to observe how a fair Convention is conducted.

Comparisons were inevitable between the Convention of the California Federation, and the National Federation Convention which took place in May in Washington, D. C. California is the largest state Federation in the NFRW, and it was no small task to handle a Convention of nearly 3,000 women (including alternates and guests).

Yet, there were no armed guards as there were at the NFRW Convention in Washington. The women were quite capable of serving as their own sergeants-at-arms, even during a spirited election.

Paper ballots were used — *not* voting machines. The election was con-

ducted with efficiency and honesty. In the conduct of the election, both sides were given equal representation — the only guarantee of an honest election. In any Republican women's gathering, there are many women who have served as election judges, poll watchers, etc., and they are quite capable of conducting the election and counting paper ballots with all necessary speed.

The presiding officer, Mrs. Krotz, maintained neutrality in the contested election in order to be fair to both sides during the campaign and during the Convention itself. If she had any preference between the two candidates, no one knew it. Even her close friends did not know how she voted.

As a result, Mrs. Krotz leaves her office with the esteem of both sides for having served with distinction in a trying and difficult role.

Pre-Election Maneuvering

The contest began several months ago when the 7-member Nominating Committee of the California Federation met and first chose for President the one who was obviously in line for the post, Angela Lombardi, the southern division vice president. Under the California rotation system, it was the turn of the southern divi-

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Conservatives Win In California

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sion vice president to advance to the presidency.

Then, the hidden "powers that be" went into action. The Nominating Committee was summoned back into session to "reconsider" and to listen to the fatuous argument that Mrs. Lombardi "couldn't work with Mrs. O'Donnell," the new NFRW President. So, the Nominating Committee obligingly reversed itself and decided to pass over, not only Mrs. Lombardi, but every other elected officer in line for President. Out of 60,000 members of the California Federation, the only woman they could find to nominate was the local president of Gladys O'Donnell's own club in Long Beach. Two members of the Nominating Committee stood firm and declined to participate in this double play.

Interviewed by the press just prior to the election, National Committeewoman Ann Bowler pointed out that it is customary to elevate a state Federation vice president to the top spot, and that Mrs. Lombardi as current southern division vice president, was next in line to succeed Mrs. Virla Krotz.

"They fought to keep Phyllis Schlafly from moving into the national Federation presidency from her office as First Vice President," Mrs. Bowler said, "and now they are trying to do the same thing to Mrs. Lombardi."

Mrs. Bowler identified Mrs. Lombardi as a "conservative" and predicted: "This time we're going to win."

The *Los Angeles Times* asked Mrs. Bowler why she supported Mrs. Lombardi and opposed Mrs. Rogers, and Mrs. Bowler replied: "I don't like to see a stooge in a leadership role in this Federation, and that's exactly what Mrs. Rogers would be."

Mrs. Pat Hitt urged the election of Mrs. Rogers because she "has never become involved in controversy." This is the argument of those who do not understand how important controversy is to our two-party system. It is only under the one-party Communist, Nazi and other dictatorial systems that political leaders "never become involved in controversy." A politician who has "never become involved in contro-

versy" is like a doctor who has never been involved with blood, or a lawyer who has never tried a contested case.

The Role Of The Men

It is significant that the Republican men stayed completely out of the Lombardi-Rogers contest. Some of them had been badly burned when they tried to interfere in the NFRW election in May 1967. They learned a bitter lesson and, in the California race, they apparently decided to keep hands off, both publicly and under the counter.

The men *should* stay out of campaigns in the Republican Women's Federation. The women are perfectly capable of electing their own officers and should be permitted to do so without any interference or dictation from the men. The whole idea that women must select a president who is "acceptable" to the men is degrading to the women and makes a farce of the election process.

There is another reason why women should elect their own leaders without interference, and that is because the judgment of the women is better. Women are far more critical than men in judging their own sex. Women do not lightly give their support to another woman. When they do, the men should have the good grace to accept the women's judgment.

This same principle should apply not only to Federation officers, but also to National Committeewomen and State Vice Chairmen. Each of these offices should be held by a woman who enjoys the respect and support of the Republican women of her state. *None* of these offices should be held by a woman selected by the men of the Party because she is a stooge for them, or because she fawns over and flatters them, or because she is a large financial contributor.

Grassroots Victory

The election of Angela Lombardi in California was a great victory for grassroots control of the Republican Party as opposed to hidden control in what reporters have called the "perfume-filled rooms." It was a victory of those who stand for principle, rather than expediency and accom-

modation. It was a reward for those who have come up through the ranks of volunteer work for the Republican Party. Mrs. Lombardi has been a precinct worker in every campaign since Herbert Hoover's time. She has been active in the California Federation since 1940, having been elected to many offices in her county, division and state.

Mother of 5 and grandmother of 12, Angela Lombardi is a patriot who well deserves the honor to which she has just been elected. She is worthy of the tireless efforts of the dedicated women who worked in her behalf. Her campaign in northern California was spearheaded by Mrs. Lucile Hosmer, past President of the California Federation, who said: "We are all looking forward to working with Angela because she has real leadership ability. And that is not all. I heard one of the TV commentators covering the Convention say that she is 'articulate, smooth, and witty.'"

The favorite remark heard among California women after the Convention was, "This proves that, when we have an honest election, the conservatives win."

Views On Vietnam

In the business session of the Convention, the California Federation unanimously passed the following Resolution:

"Whereas, the U.S. is fighting in Vietnam, and whereas, our American boys are being killed by armaments supplied by Communist countries, and whereas, our Republican Congressmen have taken a stand opposing trade with these Communist countries, therefore be it resolved that the California Federation of Republican women in Convention assembled in San Francisco, October 13, 1967, do hereby support the Republican policy to stop aid and trade with these Communist countries."

The press reported that the applause to the passage of this resolution was outstanding and that you could hear a pin drop in the audience as the president, Mrs. Krotz, called for the opposing vote and not a sound of protest was heard.

BIG SISTERLY IDEA

The above is the title of an editorial in the *Palm Beach (Fla.) Post-Times* (Oct. 21). It quotes Mrs. Gladys O'Donnell, President-elect of the National Federation of Republican Women, as saying:

"I would suggest that there could be a two-year compulsory education for young men on the junior college level. They would live in barracks, learn to hang up their clothes, make their beds and keep themselves clean. Each young man would be screened for talent and aptitude and placed accordingly. He would finish his two years with a sense of self-discipline and respect, and his own abilities would have been developed."

The *Palm Beach Post-Times* then added its own comment, as follows:

"Well now, Big Sister, there's certainly some merit in a boy being able to make his own bed, hang up his clothes and keep himself clean. But they need not live in barracks to learn these skills. Many mothers teach such things right at home . . .

"Frankly the whole idea smacks of regimentation, is authoritarian, repressive, dictatorial and thoroughly un-American. America did not become the leading nation of the world in less than 200 years by big-government bureaucrats screening each youth and telling him just what niche he should occupy in a supervised Great Society. Americans did not achieve the world's highest standard of living by permitting professional trainers to take over the duties and responsibilities of parents in order to make each generation better than the last.

"Countries that have established systems similar to what Mrs. O'Donnell advocates have also erected walls, fences and death strips along their borders to keep their people from fleeing to other countries where

anyone, 6 years old or any other age, is free to think for himself and choose his own future.

"No, Mrs. O'Donnell, we don't need any more regimentation or government supervision — even for such worthy goals as teaching young men to make beds, hang up their clothes and keep themselves clean."

Mrs. O'Donnell's "Big Sisterly" proposal is reverberating around the country. A California newspaper, *The Register* (Oct. 16) commented editorially:

"Last year when Mrs. Gladys O'Donnell of Long Beach was elected president of the National Federation of Republican Women, amidst cries that the 'liberal' element was staging a 'takeover' of the organization, there were loud claims that it just wasn't so. We were told that Mrs. O'Donnell also was a 'conservative,' that she just wasn't as 'extreme' as Mrs. Phyllis Schlafly of Illinois, the author of *A Choice, Not an Echo*. Some of those who called Mrs. O'Donnell a 'conservative' may be having second thoughts."

National Review said in its issue of October 17: "Mrs. Gladys O'Donnell, President-elect of the National Federation of Republican Women, has fallen prey to a queer idea: In a speech she has given more than once now, she calls for the establishment of government-run two-year education camps, operated under strict discipline, providing vocational or academic training for every boy at age sixteen — all compulsory. She says it will make our youngsters shape up."

Most freedom-loving Americans, and certainly all conservatives, would rather "shape up" on their own initiative without any "compulsory" assistance from Big Brother in Washington — or Big Sister.

KEEP-YOUR-SENSE- OF-HUMOR DEPARTMENT

There is just no limit to the fantastic rumors put out by the Rockefeller liberals. At the Republican Regional meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas on September 27-30, they put out the anonymous rumor that Phyllis Schlafly might be a candidate for Vice President on a third party ticket with Governor George Wallace. This rumor was subsequently printed by newspapers in a few areas. Let's set the record straight:

1. The rumor is wholly false. Some news stories included additional errors, too.

2. I have never met George Wallace or his wife, Governor Wallace, or corresponded with them, or with anyone representing them.

3. I have actively supported the straight Republican ticket all my life and expect to do the same in 1968.

4. Of the 2,500 women who went to Washington in support of me, and the thousands more who helped at home, to my knowledge there is only one woman who has joined the Wallace campaign.

5. My campaign chairman was Mrs. Kate Hoffman of Rockford, Illinois, president of one of the largest Republican clubs in the United States, who did a grand job against tremendous odds.

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The Emblem of America

When God made the oyster, He guaranteed him absolute economic and social security. He built the oyster a house, a shell to protect him from his enemies. When hungry, the oyster simply opens his shell and food rushes in.

When God made the eagle, He said, "The blue sky is the limit. Go build your own house." And the eagle built it on the highest mountain crag where storms threaten him constantly. For food, the eagle must fly through miles of rain and snow and wind.

The eagle, and not the oyster, is the emblem of America.

THE QUESTION BOX

You are invited to send your questions to the Question Box. Please do not expect a personal reply. Questions of interest to our readers will be answered here, as far as space permits.

Do we as Republicans have to be "moderate" on the issue of trade with Communist countries, or can we speak out forcefully against Lyndon Johnson's "building bridges" program?



You certainly can speak out forcefully against trade with Communist countries, and I hope you will. Senator Everett Dirksen expressed the view of the overwhelming majority of Republicans and of the Republican leadership in Congress when he said in May 1967:

"Is trade so sweet and profits so desirable as to be purchased at the price we now pay in death and agony?"

Any Republicans promoting trade with Communist countries (and there are, unfortunately, a few) are simply outside the mainstream of Republican, and American, thinking.

If it were trade, that would be bad enough. But LBJ's "building bridges" program is not trade in any sense of the word. It is a racket by which Communist purchases of desperately-needed U.S. strategic items are financed by various middlemen (to hide the true nature of the transaction), who in turn are financed by the U.S. taxpayers. One of the principal middlemen in this racket is the Export-Import Bank, whose president, Harold F. Linder, contributed \$61,300 to the Democrat Party in 1964. LBJ is showing his gratitude for this whopping campaign gift by asking Congress to increase the Export-Import Bank appropriation from \$9 to \$13.5 billion of U.S. taxpayers' money.

My club president will let us invite only "moderate" or middle-of-the-road speakers because, she says, the Republican Party must win at any price, and U for Unity comes before V for Victory. How can I answer her?

Remind her that U and V are both preceded by P for Principle. The Republican Party must stand for principle or it will be a shell with no substance. The dying Whig Party was replaced by the Republicans because the Whigs had ceased to be a party of principle.

Recently McNamara said he will keep ahead of the Russians by building multiple warheads called MIRVs, which he claim-

ed will enable the U.S. to destroy 5 times as many U.S.S.R. targets as we can now. Is this more McNamara malarkey?

Yes. Every time an election year approaches, McNamara disguises his disarmament with doubletalk. His MIRVs should be called Mini-MIRVs. They do **not** increase, but **reduce**, our nuclear striking power. His plan is to take our present Minutemen and Polaris missiles, and divide and subdivide their warheads into 3 to 10 MIRVs each. These Mini-MIRVs will give us only part of the firepower they will replace because each MIRV must have its own complex guidance equipment, trigger mechanism, and reentry shield, and all this takes weight away from the payload.

By scrapping our 24-megaton bombs and our multi-megaton missiles, McNamara is cutting our firepower down to one megaton per missile while **the Soviets have 100-megaton missiles**. Now McNamara's Mini-MIRVs will fractionate what firepower we have left.

Old McNamara defense deceptions never die — as soon as they fade away, they are replaced by more deceptions.

Do you think there is any connection between the demonstrators who marched on the Pentagon on October 20-22 and the filthy-speech movement?



Definitely. We now have a good picture of the kind of people who oppose the Dirksen-Ford call to back our boys in Vietnam. These demonstrators are **not** sincere pacifists working for peace from idealistic motives. They are foul-mouthed agitators. One of those arrested during the attack on the Pentagon was Norman Mailer, the author of unquotable foul-language books. UPI reporter Louis Cassels described the demonstrators in these words:

"No family newspaper and no television station would use some of the foul language that these 'peace-makers' hurled at the silent troops . . . Reporters who thought they were hardened to any spectacle were shaken by some of the four-letter obscenities that young women screeched at the top of their lungs."