

Editorial

The spring 1984 crisis is here

The world has now entered the strategic-economic crisis which Lyndon LaRouche has been warning, since October of last year, would occur at the end of March 1984. We are on the edge of a new worldwide financial collapse, comparable to the international banking collapse of 1931. Argentina is going into default on its debt, with unpredictable implications for Latin America and major U.S. banks. Western Europe is undergoing economic and social chaos as a result of the British-provoked collapse of the European Community. The Soviet Union has rejected the Kissinger-sponsored "back channel" of voluntary sellout by the West and placed its nuclear forces on the highest status of combat readiness.

The financial collapse could erupt before this issue of *EIR* reaches you; it might not begin until the middle of April, and with a great deal of luck, it could be postponed until October.

Yet, our government seems to have learned nothing from the bungling of the Coolidge and Hoover administrations. Now, as in 1931, our government is promising "prosperity just around the corner."

The reality is most starkly expressed by the resurfacing of overt Nazi policies, proposed by leading public figures in the United States. It is not a coincidence that in late March Colorado Gov. Richard Lamm, who happens to be a big supporter of one of the leading Democratic presidential candidates, Gary Hart, made a speech advocating active euthanasia for the elderly, and defended that proposal even when it was attacked as the very same crime against humanity for which Nazi doctors were tried and executed in the Nuremberg Trials.

Nor is it by chance that another prominent Democratic governor, New York's Mario Cuomo, is cynically exploiting press scandals over the "Do Not Resuscitate" orders in New York hospitals to force through "guidelines" which would effectively legalize euthanasia. Although Cuomo claims to be appalled by the practice of pulling the plug on the elderly and seriously ill, he was in the forefront of moves to cut back spending for advanced medical technologies on the grounds

that these would "increase costs."

The idea that there are "useless eaters" whom a society in the throes of depression cannot afford to support, is a Nazi idea. If this becomes accepted in the United States, what hope can there be for other countries in the advanced sector, let alone in the economies called "developing"? As *EIR* has warned repeatedly, these are the policies that will prevail unless we take urgent economic-recovery measures, like those President Franklin Roosevelt took to mobilize the U.S. economy in 1939 to be able to fight and win the war against Hitler.

- We must put the U.S. dollar back on a gold reserve basis, reversing President Nixon's 1971 actions, and pricing our monetary-reserve gold at about \$750 an ounce.

- We must suspend the powers of privately controlled central banks like the Federal Reserve to print money at their own discretion, to set interest rates, and to create credit out of thin air.

- We must hold emergency meetings with the Latin American nations' heads of state to agree on reorganizing their foreign debt, and enter into a new international gold-reserve monetary system.

- We must establish a Pacific-Indian Oceans Basin development project, covering about \$200 billion in major infrastructure-engineering projects over about a decade. Similar programs should be created for the Atlantic and Caribbean ocean-basins.

These policies will create about 8 million new jobs in industry inside the United States. They will more than pay for the medical technologies we need to prolong and enrich human life.

The program outlined here is for immediate application in the United States, but the principles upon which it is based are those which must be implemented globally if we are to get through the coming weeks and months without a worldwide economic collapse leading toward certain thermonuclear war.

As the current resurgence of Nazi euthanasia policies attests, we have no moral alternative.