

National News

Science quarterly interviews LaRouche

U.S. statesman Lyndon LaRouche gave an interview to the Spring 1995 issue of *21st Century Science & Technology* on the subject of "Creativity, Technology, and Transforming the World," as part of a special report on "Transforming the World," LaRouche laid out for Editor-in-Chief Carol White the history of his unique discoveries regarding human creativity. "Contrary to those who are misguided to believe that you learn from experience, man does not learn from experience. Animals learn from experience. Mankind learns from fundamental discoveries which are essentially revolutionary in character," he said.

"It was already obvious to me when I undertook the refutation of [Norbert] Wiener (and John Von Neumann) on this issue, that all human knowledge occurs in the form of metaphor. That is, that sense perceptions or concepts derived from sense perceptions or experimental observations are not truly knowledge. Rather knowledge is the validation in practice of those discoveries which have a revolutionary character. . . . Progress in technology involves discoveries which cannot be derived from a formal mathematical representation of preexisting knowledge, but occur only as previously existing knowledge is overturned. . . .

"How impractical these practical people really are!" he continued. "Without these processes of discovery, mankind would never have exceeded the population level of the higher apes."

Census shows rise in black childhood poverty

Two recently released studies by the U.S. Census Bureau show that the rate of poverty among the nation's African-American children is nearly three times that of white children and rising. In 1993, forty-six percent of black children were living below the official poverty level (\$15,141 per year for a family

of four), compared with 17% of white children.

The studies, "The Black Population in the United States: March 1994 and 1993" and "Characteristics of the Black Population: 1990," also reveal the devastation that has occurred to African-American families. Only 36% of the nation's black children live in two-parent households, an all-time low. The overall poverty rate for black families was 39% in 1993, the studies found, up from 32% in 1969. During the same period, the poverty rate for white families climbed from 8% to 14%.

The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, which studies trends in the black community, issued a statement on the Census Bureau studies on Feb. 22, which said: "This situation constitutes a grave threat to the future of African-Americans and society at large."

Arkansas banker rebuffs Starr plea-bargain

Neal T. Ainley, who is the former president of the Perry County Bank in Arkansas, which lent money to Bill Clinton's 1990 gubernatorial campaign, has refused to buckle under to months of pressure for a plea bargain from Whitewater Special Prosecutor Kenneth Starr. Starr offered to let Ainley plead to a single criminal count, if he would appear as a witness against others, starting with Bruce Lindsey, who had been the treasurer of Clinton's 1990 campaign and who is today a senior White House adviser and close confidant of the President's.

When Ainley would not cave in, Starr hit him with five felony counts for failing to file currency transaction reports on cash transactions of over \$10,000 having to do with the Clinton campaign. Ainley now faces up to 40 years in prison.

The vindictiveness of the indictment is made clear by the fact that Starr was hoping to use a plea by Ainley against Lindsey, who, as campaign treasurer, once wrote four checks for \$7,500 to withdraw \$30,000, rather than writing checks for more than \$10,000, which would require reporting. The implication is that Ainley was assisting

money-laundering by Clinton's gubernatorial campaign, although Starr's office gives no motive.

Ruling denies Bush control of records

Federal Judge Charles R. Richey has declared "null and void" a controversial agreement signed in the waning hours of the Bush administration, according to the *Washington Post* on Feb. 28. The judge ruled that the Bush agreement had circumvented the Presidential Records Act, created after Watergate to prevent presidential ownership of White House records. Archivist Don W. Wilson agreed to the deal with Bush on Jan. 19, 1993 (just before Bush left office); Wilson was soon thereafter named director of the George Bush Center at Texas A&M University.

In the ruling, Richey called the agreement "arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, and contrary to law," noting that "no one—not even the President—is above the law." As a footnote, Richey described the agreement as curious, because it was not time-stamped or written on White House stationery. Bush signed it solely with his name, rather than "President George Bush."

Richey additionally ordered acting archivist Trudy H. Peterson not to honor the Bush-Wilson agreement.

The agreement had also given Bush, as a private citizen, veto power over release of documents he considered personal, and he could even order the archivist to destroy selected documents.

Barry budget for D.C. rattles austerity-mongers

Washington, D.C. Mayor Marion Barry submitted a municipal budget containing no severe expenditure cutbacks in early March, raising a storm of protest from Republican congressmen and political representatives of crisis-rattled bankers. They have demanded that Barry impose harsh austerity measures, and ease the way for imposing a

Big MAC-style financial control board.

While the proposed budget does include about \$70 million in wage cuts, Barry has said no to the wholesale cutbacks in medical and other services.

A fact sheet from the mayor's office said the city will seek from the federal government: \$267 million to cover Medicaid debts; \$279 million which the federal government owes the city from the 1970s; and payment of unfunded pension liabilities from the "federal control" period; "transfer of some non-municipal functions, such as prisons and Medicaid." Thus the federal government would take over functions normally handled by a state rather than a city.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.), by contrast is offering up "on the cheap" solutions, such as enterprise zones for poor neighborhoods, which would include payments of \$8,000 per child per year for school vouchers, according to the March 12 *Washington Post*. Under this system, says Gingrich, with \$160,000 for a first-grade class of 20 students, "a gifted teacher could rent a room, buy the teaching tools and provide breakfast and lunch and still be one of the highest-paid teachers in America."

Clinton CIA nominee withdraws under fire

Another nominee to replace Adm. James Woolsey as head of the CIA has been forced to withdraw, as the FBI dredged up allegations that the family of Gen. Michael P.C. Carns had violated immigration laws. Carns had reported the story as a potential problem when President Clinton first nominated him, but felt that the issues were old, and the violations of immigration law minor.

The allegations, wrote the *New York Times* on March 11, involve the relationship between the Carns family and Elbino Runas, the nephew of the Carnses' housekeeper when the general was stationed in the Philippines. Runas became an informal member of the family, and came to the United States when the family returned, under provisions which allow domestics to accompany families returning from foreign postings. Runas was never employed as a domestic in the

Philippines, and although there apparently was some sort of contract written in order to meet immigration regulations, he never worked as a domestic in the United States.

President Clinton has asked Assistant Secretary of Defense John Deutch, who had earlier refused the appointment, to replace Carns and Deutch has agreed to take the post.

Orange County flooded with cuts and layoffs

Orange County, California is now in the process of disintegration, as a new chief executive officer, William Popejoy, has put forward a program of layoffs, deep cuts in services, and a selloff of county assets. A tax increase has been ruled out as politically inexpedient in this county, a conservative Republican stronghold.

Popejoy's three-month program of cuts began on March 7, and would mean laying off 1,040 county employees and leaving an additional 563 vacant jobs unfilled, for a total job reduction of 1,981 out of a workforce of 18,000 since January. Most severely affected would be the county's social service agency, which helps the poor, mentally ill, and abused.

Popejoy has also floated plans for privatizing nine county-owned libraries, a juvenile correctional institution that had already been proposed for closing, and several buildings housing sheriff's stations, courts, and other facilities. Popejoy claims that \$100 million could be raised within a year on the sales of a dozen properties, and that another dozen, including the libraries, would take longer to sell. The privatization would transfer to independent contractors many of the county's building maintenance and custodial services as well as support work in the sheriff's department and in road maintenance.

But Popejoy's axe-wielding has not gone very far toward filling the giant crater left by the county's gambling its finances on derivatives. Moreover, the county faces an Aug. 10 deadline to cover \$1 billion in bond debt. Popejoy is claiming that his program will leave the county only about \$382 million short of what is needed to repay debt due.

Briefly

● **MICHAEL BILLINGTON'S** *habeas corpus* petition was dismissed in one paragraph by the Virginia Supreme Court in March. The LaRouche associate, who is serving an outrageous 77-year sentence, is now clear to present his case to the federal courts.

● **THE SCHILLER** Institute is planning another national round of conferences on "Economic Development in a Period of the Collapse of the Financial System," beginning on March 29 in Washington, D.C. Other conferences scheduled for April include Chicago, Houston, Pierre, South Dakota, New York, and Norfolk, Virginia.

● **'THREE STRIKES'** laws are killing plea-bargaining, according to the March 8 *Washington Post*. In California, for instance, the year-old law that sends a third-time felon to prison for 25 years ("three strikes and you're out") has resulted in a drop of plea-bargaining in felony cases from 90% to 14% of second felonies and 6% of third felonies. Now, the state prison population is expected to grow by 70% over the next five years, costing \$9.5 billion for new prisons.

● **THE DEATH PENALTY** was signed into law by New York Gov. George E. Pataki on March 7. Pataki's predecessor, Democrat Mario Cuomo, was a staunch opponent of capital punishment. Pataki made a big show of the signing, gathering seven relatives of murder victims into his office and using the pens of two slain police officers to sign the bill, saying, "Justice will now be served."

● **AARON BURR** also wanted to balance the budget, Sen. Robert Byrd (D-W.V.) reminded his colleagues on March 6. In 1795, Sen. Aaron Burr also wanted to impose a time limit to balance the federal budget. Byrd reported that on Feb. 28, 1795, the Senate rejected an amendment to a bill that Burr had sponsored requiring repayment, during a 12-20 year period, of the principal on a subscription loan to fund the foreign debt.