
Conference Report

LaRouche presents challenge of leadership to citizen activists

“Last Chance for Global Civilization: Now—Or Never in Your Lifetime” was the theme of the semi-annual conference of the Schiller Institute and International Caucus of Labor Committees, held on Labor Day weekend right outside Washington, D.C. More than 900 citizen-activists gathered under the auspices of the LaRouche movement, to discuss what must be done to meet the challenge of the worldwide financial collapse, which threatens to unleash chaos that would destroy the planet for generations to come.

Lyndon LaRouche keynoted the conference, through an audiotaped address on the subject of “The Challenge of Global Leadership.” From Germany, where he is still convalescing, the statesman engaged by telephone hookup in over two hours of dialogue with the participants, geared toward preparing them to seize the current moment of crisis, and provide the leadership required.

The second keynote was given by LaRouche’s wife, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, founder of the Schiller Institute, who addressed the gathering on the topic “Who Lost Russia? Toward a Union of Sovereign Nation-States.” Zepp-LaRouche used this speech to launch the public phase of a drive to win government-level support for implementing a New World Economic Order based on reestablishing national sovereignty. Her call, already signed by current or former government officials from 15 nations, was released at the conference (see below).

Backing up the keynote presentations were panel presentations on the subjects of American Exceptionalism, the current worldwide need for LaRouche’s New Bretton Woods system, and the principles of Classical musical composition, which represent an essential element of culturally preparing the world’s population to make the necessary axiomatic policy shifts.

During the concluding business section of the meeting, the participants launched two emergency initiatives. The first (see *National*), was a call for saving the U.S. Presidency *so that the President can address the global financial crisis*. The second was an agreement to the proposal by Zepp-LaRouche that the LaRouche movement convene at least 100 town-hall meetings during September, to mobilize the U.S. population for the immediate measures that must be taken by President Clinton to save the world economy.

Transforming souls

LaRouche’s speech was concise and hard-hitting. He began: “*The world is now in a crisis which is best compared to a world war. We must win the world war. If we do not win the war, everything else we do will be, in effect, a waste of time, and a waste of effort.* So, we must concentrate, always, on *winning the war*; that is, to exert the leadership which results in a transformation of the world as a whole, from a world dominated by what has led to the present crisis, the present threatened New Dark Age, into a new world, which is a world of reconstruction and recovery. *We must win that war, and we must keep our eye on that ball, and not be diverted by so-called ‘other questions,’ or ‘questions which must also be considered.’*”

Don’t worry about programs to be presented, LaRouche stressed several times. He and his associates have already presented competent ones. Concentrate instead on changing the *way people think*, transforming their souls. His most trenchant formulation, perhaps, was the following:

“Now, how are we going to win the war? *It’s impossible to change the world in time to save humanity, including the people of the United States, or East Oshkosh, for example, from a New Dark Age, unless the President of the United States changes his mind and behavior, from what he’s been doing up until now, to provide the world the kind of leadership role of the United States and its President which echoes the role performed by Franklin Roosevelt in the late 1930s, and during the war.*

“That’s number one. That’s the number one ball.”

In the remainder of his presentation, LaRouche described the transformations required in U.S. relations with China and Russia, which must be created by President Clinton’s leadership, and how the movement must approach changing Clinton himself.

We cannot simply say, “Support Clinton,” he noted, because of Clinton’s shortcomings, but Clinton has to shoulder his responsibility as President of the United States. “We must provide him leadership, so that he can provide leadership.” But at the same time, it’s necessary to deal with the other major problem, which is the degeneration of the populations of the United States and Europe, under the influence of the cultural shift of the last 30 years. Populations



Civil rights heroine, and Schiller Institute Vice Chairman, Amelia Boynton Robinson (left) introduces Schiller Chairman Helga Zepp-LaRouche, who keynoted the Labor Day conference sponsored by the institute and the International Caucus of Labor Committees.

are demoralized and stupider than before; they have to be inspired to change.

Ending on an optimistic note, LaRouche said: “We have the tools, we have all the knowledge needed, as to *how*, what blueprints are needed for rebuilding this world economy. But we will fail, unless we mobilize the inside of the heads of individual people, starting with the President of the United States, to cause each to provide the leadership, or play the other crucial roles that each must play, in order to make this attempt at a global reconstruction of civilization work.”

American Exceptionalism

The conference’s second panel addressed the potential of the American people to make the necessary change. Historians H. Graham Lowry, Anton Chaitkin, and Jeffrey Steinberg presented the real history of the American Republic, as the leading representative of a universal movement based on the republican principles of mankind created in the image of God. What was elaborated, answered the question, “What really is American Exceptionalism?” From Benjamin Franklin and John Quincy Adams, to Franklin Roosevelt and Lyndon LaRouche, the actual principles of this nation were presented.

Many listeners were shocked to hear the ideas of John Quincy Adams, who has been virtually written out of U.S.

history, and even those of FDR, whose anti-imperialist views have been suppressed in popular culture. “Now I understand where LaRouche came from,” said one guest, in reflecting on the panel. There was a rush for literature by participants eager to learn more, and to bust through common lies about such figures as FDR.

A New World Economic Order

Most of the second day of the conference was devoted to the world economic and financial crisis, and the political failures which have brought mankind to such a turning point.

Zepp-LaRouche’s presentation began with the state of the global financial breakdown, after which she demanded that her listeners face how this desperate crisis came about. What must be learned, she emphasized, are the lessons of the missed opportunity of 1989, the period when the Berlin Wall came down and there was an opportunity to forge a new relationship between East and West around LaRouche’s proposals for reconstruction.

Instead, what was done was, in Lyndon LaRouche’s words, “a crime against humanity.” Through the imposition of the Bush-Thatcher-IMF program on Russia, in particular, a horror was created, which could lead to a total breakdown, with even the use of nuclear weapons—not by states, but by

regions. The solution must be a shift to the policies LaRouche has laid out, in the tradition of FDR—and more, a cultural renaissance as well (see *EIR*, Aug. 14, 1998).

In the afternoon, a panel of six *EIR* desk officers backed up the conference thesis that the world faces either chaos, or global reconstruction. After a review of the financial disintegration by John Hoefle, Linda de Hoyos, Maximiliano Londoño, Dennis Small, Gail Billington, and Rachel Douglas presented vignettes of the devastation of Africa, Colombia, Brazil, Southeast Asia, and Russia, respectively. The horror of the current collapse was contrasted in each case with the potential for dramatic economic reconstruction, plans for which have, in many cases, been on the drawing boards for decades.

The most striking presentation, by all accounts, was that

on Russia, which included video footage from that nation on the degradation which even the nation's scientific elite has been put through, as well as footage from Lyndon LaRouche's warnings, from 1992, of what would happen if the IMF program was put into effect. A presentation by *EIR*'s Ramtanu Maitra, on the role of India in the drive for a new monetary system, was also read.

The last panel, dealing with principles of Classical music, featured Anno Hellenbroich, John Sigerson, and Kathy Wolfe, who used works of Mozart and Bach to demonstrate the method of motivic thorough-composition (see *EIR*, Sept. 4, 1998).

Transcripts of all conference panels will be made available in *EIR* and the *New Federalist*, and video and audio tapes are in production.

LaRouche: We must provide leadership

Here are Lyndon LaRouche's remarks, entitled "To Win the World War, We Must Transform the Soul of President Clinton and the U.S. Population," to the Schiller Institute-International Caucus of Labor Committees Labor Day conference, in Reston, Virginia, on Sept. 5. His remarks were delivered by audiotape. Subheads have been added.

I'll speak to you on the subject of leadership. By *leadership*, I mean to put to one side all ideas about presenting suggestions to various people as to how they should do things, put to one side local programs, local projects, all these sorts of things. And also, in a sense, put aside program.

The world is now in a crisis which is best compared to a world war. We must win the world war. If we do not win the war, everything else we do will be, in effect, a waste of time, and a waste of effort. So, we must concentrate, always, on winning the war; that is, to exert the leadership which results in a transformation of the world as a whole, from a world dominated by what has led to the present crisis, the present threatened New Dark Age, into a new world, which is a world of reconstruction and recovery. We must win that war, and we must keep our eye on that ball, and not be diverted by so-called "other questions," or "questions which must also be considered."

Let me make this clear. As far as a program is required, the program required to take this world out of its present mess, and to launch a program of reconstruction worldwide, which will permit the solution of most of the leading problems of humanity, that program is already defined. *It need not be invented again. It has been invented. We've presented it.*

The events of the recent period have demonstrated that our argument, my forecast, the forecasts of my associates, have been correct. The program we've presented, is based on the same considerations as those forecasts, which means that what we've prepared, as a program, is correct, and all of the alternatives are wrong. So we simply have to go with the program we already have for reconstruction.

What is needed, is to realize that the reason the world is in the mess it's in, is not merely because we've had bad leadership. We've had bad leadership for over 30 years. That is, we've had a shift, for over 30 years, from policies of, say, up to 1963-64, which worked, despite all their shortcomings. And beginning 1964 through 1972, we introduced in the United States and globally, policies which do not work, or work to the effect of destroying the world economy, destroying society—destroying people. A policy which is headed toward Hell.

Now, the problem is not merely that leadership has provided bad advice, or introduced bad principles, although they have. The problem has been, that most of the institutions, and the so-called average people in society in the United States and other nations, *have accepted* these changes. And therefore, their heads don't work properly. Because even if you give them a correct program, they won't carry it out.

Why? Because their heads have been scrambled to fit this post-industrial, utopian New Dark Age/globalization/free-trade psychosis. And as long as people think in the ways that they learned to think, in order to live in the world of post-industrial society and the world of globalization, the world of free trade; as long as people continue to think with the habits