

Editorial

Wreck What's Wrecking the Parties

The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) meeting in Denver, Colorado on July 23-26, offered a microcosm of the political problem of America in economic collapse. To legislators desperate over the rapidly plunging revenues of their state governments, organizers with Lyndon LaRouche's Presidential campaign brought an urgent message, in leaflets and printed reports: Help LaRouche knock the Lieberman-McCain "war and Wall Street lobby" out of control of the political parties; then a real political opposition can form around LaRouche to get President Bush to take serious measures of recovery from the economic blowout.

The collapse under way is not denied among these circles. State after state is in, or is going into, emergency session to deal with budget collapses; so much so, that the legislators' attendance at this year's NCSL sessions was reduced because many were home tearing their fiscal hair out. Virtually every representative there had such a story to tell: Kentucky's governor is running the state by fiat because it could not pass a budget; Texas is looking at a \$5-7 billion hole; California's may be four times that; New York just cut \$5 billion spending in fiscal 2002 and already is missing \$1 billion in the first month of fiscal 2003; Virginia is short \$250 million in its first fiscal month; Mississippi, Nebraska, and Tennessee are in special sessions searching for new and larger cuts; Michigan just sliced \$860 million from its municipalities, causing havoc throughout the state. The states revenues fell \$50 billion short in the last fiscal year; the new fiscal year, clearly, will be much worse than that. Such budget conditions have not been seen in many of these states since the 1930s.

And elected representatives of both Democratic and Republican parties can see that the wrecking operation epitomized by Lieberman's Democratic Leadership Council (DLC) and McCain's "Bull Moose" operation, has been making it impossible for the Presidency to be made the instrument of economic recovery. Republicans at Denver were eager to read the *EIR* report on "The Real Scandal: Lieberman and McCain," intrigued

that LaRouche was moving to defend the Presidency and open up an "FDR alternative" for President Bush. They know the U.S. economy isn't functioning, and they can see that the President is being stampeded toward war and more war, as a result. And many Democrats know that LaRouche is right that the DLC has wrecked the Democratic Party as a representative of its core constituencies.

But the most frequently encountered response from the legislators was the most foolish, even politically suicidal: "Yes, LaRouche may be right about the economy, but LaRouche is unelectable" to the Presidency. If he were unelectable in this national crisis, why has the financial establishment and governments spent so much time and money to stop him from winning office, over decades?—the knee-jerk reaction from these officials just reflects the fear of those decades of slanders and armtwisting operations.

The elected officials or labor leaders who say that, are those who most fervently wish to be lied to—and to believe it—that "the economy's got to recover" again on its own. At Denver they heard "expert" nonsense presentations forecasting 3-5% growth for the U.S. economy next year. They knew from painful experience that these "experts" were consistently wrong, and would be wrong again; and that LaRouche's forecasts have been consistently, undeniably right over the long term. Stop denying the fearful reality, admit that the economy is bankrupt—not just in South America, but particularly in the United States—and LaRouche becomes *the most electable candidate* for the Presidency.

But the critical job is to make LaRouche the most electable 2004 Presidential candidate—now, in 2002. That's the only way the Presidency can be saved from plunging into "perpetual war," and directed toward the economic crash. And that requires hitting and defeating the critical "flank," the Lieberman-McCain party of war and organized crime. Those who know how this faction has wrecked the political parties, have a job to do now, with the very electable Lyndon LaRouche.