

## Report from Bonn by George Gregory and Rainer Apel

### 'A new tragedy can be prevented'

*Their support for a new world economic order will derail the rise of a new Hitler, Helga Zepp-LaRouche has told her countrymen.*

After the liberal Free Democratic Party toppled the coalition government of West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt Sept. 17, European Labor Party Chairwoman Helga Zepp-LaRouche issued a statement urging a national mobilization to prevent a "new German tragedy." Zepp-LaRouche heads a slate of 35 candidates in the Sept. 26 state parliament elections.

After the Hesse results are in, the Christian Democratic Union, Christian Social Union, and Free Democratic Party leaders have agreed to carry out Oct. 1 a "constructive vote of no confidence" in the Schmidt government.

The three conservative parties have pledged to support the election of CDU Chairman Helmut Kohl as a "transitional" Chancellor, with new elections to be held March 6. But at press time none of this looked certain, as CSU strongman Franz-Josef Strauss began to say that elections should be held immediately, allowing the discredited Free Democrats to be ousted from the new coalition. Neither Kohl nor the FDP Chairman Hans-Dietrich Genscher are receptive to this idea.

The Free Democrats are now so widely discredited by their opportunist maneuvering that an opinion poll dated Sept. 22 predicted no more than 2.3 percent of the vote for the FDP if national elections were held now.

Kohl announced the first round of austerity measures he will take if elected Chancellor, in a press conference Sept. 20—"Brüning"-style aus-

terity policies which Schmidt had refused to accept. (Heinrich Brüning was the early 1930s chancellor whose austerity measures and "emergency decrees" helped pave the way for Hitler.)

Kohl said that the 1983 state budget would be scrapped and a new one submitted, including cuts in social spending of 8 percent; wage increases for public workers limited to 2 percent (a decline in real terms); subsidies to students eliminated; and unemployment checks reduced.

But under conditions of full economic collapse, a weak Kohl government will not be enough, and a "new Hitler" could emerge—a role which Franz-Josef Strauss might play. Strauss is being promoted by an international grouping known as "Le Cercle," which at its latest meeting in Washington discussed the need to install Strauss quickly (see page 42).

The text of Mrs. Zepp-LaRouche's statement, titled "How Can We Prevent a Tragedy?" follows:

"For the second time, it is the Liberals who are to blame. The first time was in 1930, when they toppled the Social Democratic government of Hermann Müller—over the same issue that they used this time around, austerity policies—and thereby opened up the way for catastrophe.

"And Kohl? Kohl's will be a second Brüning government, but this time repeated as farce. In fewer than five months, Kohl will be the most hated man in the Federal Republic of Germany. This is the moment Strauss has

been waiting for. If Kohl's government falls, Strauss will be ready.

"We are now in the midst of a world economic crisis. We are faced with the collapse of the world monetary system, just as in 1931-33. There can be no purely domestic political solutions. Only if the genocidal austerity of the International Monetary Fund and related institutions can be immediately stopped can a way out be found. The policies of the United States must be reversed, otherwise the development toward fascism there will propel the whole world toward the abyss.

"The only forces which are consistently countering this are the European Labor Party [EAP] and its international sister organizations in the United States, Europe, and particularly in the Third World, the forces which are organizing for a new world economic order. Mexico has taken up the fight for a new world economic order, and now all of Ibero-America is moving in this direction. The majority of the developing countries, that is to say the major part of mankind, is in agreement with what we are demanding.

"Worldwide fascism or a new world economic order—these are the two alternatives before us. Therefore I would like to ask you to consider these problems thoroughly and not to worry only about issues of domestic political survival.

"The Federal Republic is faced with the prospect of its destruction, and no purely domestic solutions exist. Vote on Sept. 26 for the European Labor Party, to strengthen the party fighting for a new world economic order since 1975, and to implement those measures which alone can be effective, if carried out in time.

"The German tragedy must not be repeated! Help me realize the new world economic order!"