

## Editorial

### *Who are the pedophiles and swindlers?*

These days the mass media seem to exert a virtually unchallenged control over the public mind. Perhaps the situation is worse in the United States, but it is not good in Europe either. A glaring instance of this has been the repeated slanders against Lyndon LaRouche and his associates, but members of the cold fusion community have fared little better. Now a leading Italian newspaper, *La Repubblica*, faces a suit in which five scientists stand to win millions of dollars.

On Oct. 20, 1991, that newspaper published an article in which they characterized Martin Fleischmann and Stanley Pons—the discoverers of the remarkable phenomenon of “test-tube” fusion at room temperature—as scientific swindlers. Along with them, three leading Italian scientists also came under attack for sponsoring the Second Annual Conference on Cold Fusion held in the summer of 1991, at Como, Italy. These were Giuliano Preparata, Tullio Bressani, and Emilio del Giudice.

The libelous article, which *La Repubblica* repeatedly failed to retract, included the sentence, “If there is a more abject human, a being lower than a fornicating priest, or say a pedophile school teacher—it is a lying scientist.” Pretty strong words for five men who are part of a scientific renaissance which promises to give the world not only a new source of inexpensive, clean energy, but a new science as well.

It is true that lately there have been a number of lying scientists—or perhaps men who were so blinded by their animosity to the new science that they have seemed to be lying deliberately, in their attacks on cold fusion. But worse than them surely, are the whores and deceivers of the mass media.

Laws against slander are generally more stringent in Europe than the United States, so *La Repubblica* would in any case have had a hard time defending itself in this lawsuit; however, it is being tried in the Italian courts at a time when that newspaper, and all the other detractors of cold fusion, stand to be devastated by the increasingly dramatic results coming from experiments not only in the United States and Japan, but in Italy as well.

One of the Italian plaintiffs in the case, Dr. Bressani, reports impressive results from a cold fusion experiment which uses a different technique from Fleischmann and Pons (gas-loading rather than electrolysis) but nonetheless is a proof-of-principle that deuterium fusion in a palladium lattice can take place at room temperatures or slightly above them. Indeed, the climate against cold fusion is dramatically reversing in Italy, where even *La Repubblica*, as well as other leading dailies, have felt it incumbent upon them to report the dramatic results in cold fusion coming from Japan.

We hope that this case will not only put an end to the lying press campaign against cold fusion, but serve to inoculate the public against media manipulation in other areas. But the press is only the towel boys for larger forces arrayed against scientific progress and industrial development.

Cold fusion promises a great potential for inexpensive energy. Stanley Pons told a reporter from the Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera* on March 17 that he expected to produce a demonstration heating device by the end of this year. It was this obvious result of the great discovery just over three years ago of cold fusion, which prompted environmentalist Jeremy Rifkin to call the discovery of cold fusion a potential tragedy for the zero-population gang pedaling the fraud that the world could no longer support a growing population. Cold fusion also opens the door to a great scientific revolution.

Stanley Pons referred to this in his *Corriere* interview when he pointed to his collaboration with the Italian theoretical physicist Giuliano Preparata (a co-plaintiff in the libel suit). Dr. Preparata not only has a theory which accounts for the occurrence of the anomalous behavior of deuterium fusion in a palladium cathode, but he has offered a challenge to all of quantum physics with his theory of superradiance, which asserts that coherence rather than chaos characterizes matter and energy.

It is the theoretical as well as the practical effects of the Fleischmann and Pons discovery that its enemies fear and hate.