
Development Conferences

'No one else is talking of solutions'

by Marianna Wertz

Moving into what one former state governor describes as a "leadership vacuum," the Schiller Institute has called a series of conferences with the theme of using large-scale economic development as the lever to lift the world out of the deepening economic collapse. As previously reported in *EIR*, the series was kicked off at a Washington, D.C. seminar entitled "Development Is the New Name for Peace" on Nov. 30, where *EIR* founder Lyndon LaRouche and his wife Helga Zepp-LaRouche, the chairman of the Schiller Institute's international board, as well as several *EIR* editors, addressed about a hundred listeners from embassies and constituency organizations. Regional conferences have already been held in Philadelphia and Los Angeles. Now that it has been published, *EIR*'s special New Year's 1995 issue (Vol. 21, No. 1) on world development, will serve as a handbook for many such events during the coming months.

One official of a foreign consulate summed up the response of many in policymaking positions during the conference in Los Angeles: "This is what governments should be doing. No one is talking about solutions to the economic collapse except your organization," referring to the Schiller Institute and LaRouche-associated publications like *EIR*.

Maps show physical economy

The conference held in Philadelphia on Dec. 13 was attended by 75 people and addressed by both local political leaders as well as by *EIR* Asia editor Linda de Hoyos and historian Anton Chaitkin. Former Pennsylvania gubernatorial candidate Philip Valenti opened the proceedings by reviewing the chronology of LaRouche's warnings against derivatives speculation, to establish the validity of LaRouche's physical-economic method. Valenti had made such warnings a motto of his own electoral campaigns. Mrs. de Hoyos then presented a comprehensive survey, using some of the new series of graphs and maps developed under LaRouche's direction by *EIR* News Service, of infrastructure projects on every continent, focusing on the "Silk Route" of proposed high-speed rail lines connecting Europe, Asia, and Africa.

In Los Angeles, the Schiller Institute conference took place on Dec. 14, in the immediate wake of the blowout of Orange County, California finances due to speculation in derivatives. Eighty people, including elected officials, con-

sular representatives, trade union and religious leaders, and business and trade association representatives, participated in the day-long meeting. The keynote speaker was Harley Schlanger, Schiller Institute Southwest regional director. He emphasized that the Orange County bankruptcy is no local or isolated incident, but the beginning of a full-blown financial breakdown (see article on p. 11).

EIR Agriculture Editor Marcia Merry, an expert in physical geography who has played a vital role in developing the *EIRNS* map series, presented a "grand tour" of worldwide development projects, focusing on the transportation, water, and energy infrastructure proposals developed by LaRouche and his associates, but also showing how similar ideas are being proposed by diverse political forces in the Middle East, the European Union, and elsewhere.

Rebuilding the civil rights movement

Two January conferences will put a spotlight on the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose birthday is a national holiday celebrated on Jan. 16 this year, and on rebuilding the civil rights movement as a vehicle for realizing Dr. King's famous "dream" of economic justice for all men. The conferences will occur on Jan. 14 in Lincoln, Nebraska, and on Jan. 18 in Washington, D.C.

These conferences have been endorsed by local and national leaders, who support the work that the Schiller Institute is doing to build an expanded movement in the footsteps of the martyred Dr. King. A call for the Washington conference has been endorsed by some of Dr. King's former collaborators, including: Amelia Boynton Robinson, a board member of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change and vice-chairman of the Schiller Institute's international board; Rev. Hosea L. Williams, one of the best-known of Dr. King's lieutenants; Rev. James Bevel, who organized the Children's March in Birmingham in 1963 and was the Direct Action Coordinator for Dr. King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC); and Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, of Cincinnati, Ohio, a founding member and currently a national board member of the SCLC.

A news release announcing the Jan. 14 Nebraska conference was circulated on Dec. 16 in Lincoln by former three-term Nebraska governor Frank B. Morrison, Sr. Governor Morrison's statement cites the manifold crises facing the nation and concludes, "There are organizations moving into this leadership vacuum; among them is the Schiller Institute, which advocates a vast program for resource development in both America and throughout the world as a substitute for war, military buildups, and bloodshed." He extends an invitation to all to the conference, which is co-sponsored by former Nebraska State Sen. Don Eret; Msgr. Robert P. Hupp, executive director emeritus of Boys Town; the Rev. Thomas M. Rollerson, director of missions to the Black Church for the Southern Baptist Conference; and football hero Johnny Rodgers, Nebraska's Heisman Trophy winner.