

LaRouche: 'Civility' won't save the United States

by Susan Welsh

Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., addressing a forum organized by the FDR-PAC in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 9, blasted the oh-so-polite excuses that many people give, for the fact that the United States is throwing millions of its citizens on the scrap heap: " 'We must be practical,' they say. 'We must balance the budget. We must balance our expenses against our income. Well, people die. I know, that's unfortunate; but, after all, don't people have a right to their own policy opinions? Doesn't Governor Ridge of Pennsylvania, even if his policies are killing thousands of people, doesn't he have a right to his opinion?' "

Well-meaning people, including President Clinton, will say, "Let's be 'civil' in our choice of language. Let's not call a 'bottle of milk' a 'bottle of milk.' Let's call it something else."

Here we have emerged from a national election in which only 49% of registered voters voted—a record low. The President has been re-elected, but, thanks to sabotage by Democratic National Committee Chairman Don Fowler, he has failed to achieve a majority for his party in the House and Senate. It is a time of great crisis in the world, a time of economic depression and an onrushing financial-monetary collapse, when the leadership of the United States is absolutely vital. What can be done?

The problem, LaRouche said, "is not merely the politicians. It's the people." We must challenge the "axiomatic assumptions which underlie the way people think about issues. And, in that way, to get a constituency going" that can implement new policies.

The forum at which LaRouche spoke, titled "Managed Health Care Is a Crime Against Humanity," was the first of a series to be sponsored by the FDR-PAC in the Washington area, to build momentum all around the country, for new policy thinking on crucial issues. Videotapes of the proceed-

ings of each forum will be circulated nationally. As moderator Debra Hanania Freeman explained, "Our intention is to use these panels to define certain critical areas of policy that must be defined *before* the Congress is seated in January of 1997."

Speakers at the forum, in addition to LaRouche, included Dr. Abdul Alim Muhammad, minister of health for the Nation of Islam and head of the Abundant Life Clinic in D.C.; Barbara Mallory, of the executive board of the Nurses of Pennsylvania; Dr. Kildare Clarke, associate director of the Emergency Room at Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn, New York; and Marcia Merry Baker of *EIR*.

The next FDR-PAC forum, on Nov. 16, is titled "For a Drug-Free America: Jail Cocaine Kingpin George Bush."

The 1996 elections

In his keynote address, LaRouche outlined three general factors of change that occurred between the 1994 and 1996 Congressional elections. These factors provide the basis for building an effective national movement in the months ahead.

First, were the senior citizens and minority groups—those most immediately hit by the Conservative Revolution's Nazi-style cutbacks in medical care and other social programs. "They, especially the senior citizens, reacted. There was a lack of leadership among African-Americans and other groups, so they didn't mobilize as they should have, because of a failure of leadership in the African-American community, which has to be corrected.

"We had a case of this fellow Bedford, Roger Bedford, in Alabama," said LaRouche. "He was way behind. So, we set up a situation where I managed to get on radio for about five-and-a-half hours during the last week of the campaign. And, as a result of that, my being on these radio broadcasts, we increased—with some other help there—we increased the

margin. So Bedford lost, to a vicious racist; but he lost by at least an acceptable margin of a few percentile of the voters. Otherwise, it would have been a total defeat.

“So, this shows that wherever there was effective leadership which would bring out the African-American vote, or at least part of it, you could actually make a change. Where there was effective leadership among senior citizens, you had a change in the composition of the vote.”

The second factor, was the new role of the AFL-CIO. And the third, was the intervention of the LaRouche movement, which was crucial.

“For example, we caused the defeat of a number of candidates, Bush candidates. We didn’t cause the defeat in Florida, though the Florida vote turnout [which] turned the state back, away from Jeb Bush to the Democratic Party, was a result of the turnout of senior citizens, who recognized that Bush politics are the mortal enemy of senior citizens. And, that’s what changed that.

“In Massachusetts, we sunk Weld, the governor of the state, who was running for Senate against Kerry. Our intervention on the drug and other issues, caused Weld to do things which amounted to self-destruction, which is the best way to destroy an enemy, is get them to destroy themselves. It saves a lot of labor. It minimizes the risk.

“Directly, in South Dakota, we worked with Tim Johnson, the Democratic candidate against Pressler, and it is acknowledged that our intervention changed the vote there. Our intervention in Louisiana defeated Woody Jenkins, a Bush-leaguer.

“You look around the country, you find the pattern. You have a sort of an L-shape. In those states which are southern states, which were abandoned by the racist leadership of the Democratic National Committee, that is, Don Fowler and Dick Morris, you will find that there was no money spent, or virtually no money spent, to bring Democrats into office against Republicans. The second group of states, which goes into the Northwest, again; same thing.

“In the states which were formerly characteristically industrialized states, the Democrats tended to carry. In fact, there were senior citizens, minority groups, organized labor, and, in many cases, our direct or indirect intervention. That is, we moralized a number of people who were organizing in elections to win. And either won, or, as in the case of the Bedford intervention in Alabama, despite the neglect of the Democratic Party, we made significant gains against this racist Jefferson Beauregard Sessions, who, now, you’re going to look at as a senator, or a senile, in the upper house of the [Congress]. He’s a friend of the rotten people in the Justice Department.”

The progress made by the three above-mentioned constituency groups proves, LaRouche said, that “Americans are not entirely stupid. That, if you address the issues properly, *without civility*, you can win.”

Rather than engaging in “civil dialogue” with those who are perpetrating Nazi-like mass murder in the health care and

related areas, we must use harsh, truthful language, LaRouche concluded. “We have to say, ‘*We can not be civil*, in the sense of not naming names, where mass murder is present.’ ”

Health care experts testify

Other speakers at the forum provided testimony on the destruction of health care in America, and its moral consequences.

Dr. Muhammad, M.D., from the Nation of Islam, seconded LaRouche’s characterization of managed health care as “Nazi medicine.” “I don’t want to be confused with Dr. Kevorkian!” he said. Kevorkian’s “assisted suicide” murders, in the context of managed care, have brought about a complete change in the nature of the relationship between the patient and the doctor. The doctor can kill you, and get away with it! The doctor works for the insurance company; he may be giving advice to the patient that is dictated by the accounting department.

He described how he himself had learned about “compassion.” When he and Minister Louis Farrakhan visited Ghana several years ago, they encountered a young boy whose face was horribly deformed by a tumor of the jaw, which was killing him. Dr. Muhammad said that he felt pity, but turned aside. But Minister Farrakhan embraced the child and said, “Young man, we’ll help you.” He turned to Dr. Muhammad and said, “Brother Alim, we *can* do something, can’t we?” And they brought the child to America, where he had surgery, which was successful.

Barbara Mallory, of the Nurses of Pennsylvania, next gave an overview of the murderous effects of “managed care” in her state, and the organizing efforts of nurses to rectify the situation through legislation.

Dr. Kildare Clarke, of Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn, is the leader of a movement to unionize the nation’s doctors. He said that there is a “white wall of silence” in the medical community, behind which “we have maimed and we have killed,” as medical services have been decimated (see also *EIR*, March 9, 1990 for an interview with Dr. Clarke). America today, he said, has worse than Third World levels of medicine. In Harlem, infant death rates are worse than in any Third World country. In New York, the hospitals are being privatized and the pharmacies are shutting down. “Absolute imbeciles” are running emergency rooms, where once the best professionals worked. He and fellow doctors are suing the health maintenance organizations (HMOs) for practicing bad medicine.

Marcia Merry Baker spoke last, presenting the material that was in *EIR*’s cover story of Oct. 25, “‘Managed Health Care’ Is a Crime Against Humanity.” A major focus of her report was the Hill-Burton Act of 1946, which mandated that the states shall provide for adequate hospital facilities, including for persons unable to pay for health care. (The texts of all the speeches will appear in *New Federalist* newspaper on Nov. 25.)