

LaRouche to black legislators: Here's how to solve the crisis

On Dec. 2, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. spoke before the National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL), in person, at their annual conference in Baltimore, Maryland. The event marked a breakthrough in LaRouche's campaign for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

In a 23-minute speech before an audience of about 200 people, reprinted below, LaRouche outlined the three principal dangers that the nation faces: a financial collapse; a financial hyperinflationary blowout; or a breakdown of civilization under these economic conditions—the spread of terrorism, social upheaval, and wars around the globe.

So, what do we do? he asked. "What has to be done, is very simple. But it's also very dangerous and very complicated. What we have to do, is immediately declare the present world financial system—which is bankrupt, hopelessly bankrupt, can not be saved—has to be declared bankrupt." In the place of this bankrupt monetary system, we have to set up a new monetary system, of the type that worked after World War II: a New Bretton Woods System.

How are we going to do that? In part, by changing the way we do politics in the United States, he said. We've got to bring the people back into politics. This will not be done, in such a time of global crisis, with "bite-sized slogans." It will be done by bringing together constituency groups to *think* about what must be done.

LaRouche's appearance in Baltimore shows that those in the Democratic National Committee (DNC), and London, and elsewhere, who believed that they could keep the LaRouche campaign in a box, or wipe it out, have been proven wrong. The climate of fear, which has prevented millions of Americans—and others around the world—from stepping forward to recognize and support LaRouche's ideas, has been penetrated by the leading constituency group of African-Americans in the United States.

In a webcast dialogue with civil rights leaders on Nov. 23, LaRouche had pointed out that his major problem was the

many supporters who held back, out of fear of speaking out. But now, a crucial group of those supporters has stepped forward, and set an example for others.

LaRouche was the third Democratic candidate to speak at the Baltimore conference. Vice President Al Gore, Jr. had spoken the day before, and Bill Bradley spoke on the morning of Dec. 2. LaRouche was eloquently introduced by former South Carolina state legislator Theo W. Mitchell, who was himself the victim of a political witch-hunt run by the U.S. Department of Justice against black elected officials, and, like LaRouche, was unjustly imprisoned.

Campaign against DNC racism

LaRouche's speech to the NBCSL came as a series of ads was beginning to run in African-American and Hispanic newspapers around the country, under the headline "Stop Racist Attempt to Overturn Voting Rights Act" (see text, below). The ads include an open letter from more than 350 state legislators, civil rights leaders, and others, to Democratic Party Chair Ed Rendell and DNC Chair Joe Andrew, demanding that the party leaders issue a public repudiation of arguments made before a Federal district court on behalf of the DNC by attorney John C. Keeney, Jr.

Keeney was speaking at a hearing related to a 1996 lawsuit brought by LaRouche and others, which charged that Donald Fowler, then chairman of the DNC, violated the 1965 Voting Rights Act, when he ordered state party chairmen to "disregard" the votes of Democrats who had cast their ballots for LaRouche in the primaries. Keeney's argument concluded with a call for nullification of the Voting Rights Act as "unconstitutional."

LaRouche has vowed to turn up the heat against these racists, and those who tolerate them. "We are going to take a hard-ball position," he told supporters from New York State during a webcast on Nov. 27. "We're going to put firecrackers under their feet, and they're going to dance."