

LaRouche's Prospect of Hope

Lyndon H. LaRouche's keynote address to representatives of 42 nations, gathered together on May 26 in Bad Schwalbach, Germany, which is reproduced in this issue of *EIR*, develops a lawful contrast, or contradiction, of extreme intensity. On the one hand, his reasoned demonstration of the art of economic forecasting, as further substantiated by each of his own forecasts during more than a half-century to date, shows in the final analysis that the present moment is one of those rare, unfortunate moments, when a short-term forecast can be made with certainty: namely, that the present world financial and monetary system is ineluctably doomed over the short term.

But, on the other hand, LaRouche's further exposition shows that without a thoroughgoing revolution in thinking and in action, the inevitable short-term evaporation of the world International Monetary Fund system, must result in the rapid destruction of the current remnants of civilization, and a plunge of humanity as a whole into a generations-long dark age of "barbarism or worse."

Such a catastrophe has never been seen throughout all of recorded history. The millennium-long Dark Age of European civilization which accompanied and followed the long collapse of the Roman Empire, was contemporary with renaissances in China and with the Arab Renaissance. The interdynastic collapses of Chinese civilization, were not worldwide Dark Ages, like that now threatened. Perhaps some such worldwide eclipse of all humanity's historic conquests did occur at some time during the millions of years of human pre-history, but never since then.

But now, absent a sufficient voluntary intervention to prevent it, it must occur very soon.

To some, this will seem too dismal a prospect even to consider: "Hard words—who can hear them?" as the Bible asks. But to those whose perspective is deep enough to see the accelerating collapse of civilization during the entirety of the 20th Century, which began with perhaps the most destructive war in European history, the coming crisis is a cause for optimism.

Very soon, there will be a once-in-many-lifetimes chance to reverse the collapse of our culture. That collapse did not begin with Littleton, nor did it begin with the introduction of the rock-drugs-sex counterculture in the 1960s. As LaRouche points out in that address, the assassination of U.S. President William McKinley in 1901 was a key turning-point. Since 1901, with the exception of the Franklin Roosevelt era, and of the brief moments allowed to Franklin Roosevelt-admirer John Kennedy before he was killed, the United States has not had a Presidency reflecting the traditions of Lincoln.

As a result, during most of the 20th Century, the United States was unable to play its necessary role in world history. Had McKinley not been assassinated, the British Monarchy would never have been able to bring about World War I.

During almost all periods in history, popular masses and ruling elites alike, cling to their outworn ideas, to their long-disproven delusions, "as a dog returns to its vomit," as the saying goes. But when a great existential crisis, like the present one, combines with great leadership, which revolutionizes popular opinion rather than bowing to it, then populations can regain their lost reason and morality, and boldly turn away from a historical dead-end, like that which confronts us now.

At such moments, the innate goodness which each human being brings once more into the world, steps forward to become an active factor in history—indeed, the controlling factor over history.

Thus, where some sense a prospect too dismal to even consider, others see the greatest cause for hope. This is why Muriel Mirak-Weissbach opened the conference at which LaRouche spoke by saying that this is the best of all possible times to be alive, because the final collapse of the corrupt system is now happening. There is danger, of war, chaos, and conflicts, which can be seen around the world, but the demise of this old order is a unique opportunity. It is a revolutionary moment, she said.