

Quality of Ideas To Shape Mass Strike

by Nancy Spannaus

Oct. 18—The rallying of hundreds of thousands of people in the streets of an estimated 1,500 cities worldwide over the recent weekend, demonstrates without a doubt that the global mass-strike process is alive and well. Increasing numbers of people from all walks of life are holding “Wall Street” and the international financial oligarchy behind it responsible for the fact that they are being crushed, and they are standing up for their right to a future. Despite the occasional successes by anarchists, or outright agent provocateurs who create violent incidents; groups of self-described leftists left over from the 1968 period; and the dominance of today’s degenerate “entertainment” culture, the clear impulse behind these gatherings is an undogmatic search for the ideas which will create a future worthy of human beings.

The interventions of the LaRouche Political Action Committee (LPAC) into these events over the past month have sought to directly address this underlying social process. The two leaflets circulated by LPAC, starting Oct. 15, demonstrate the approach, which the LPAC website (www.larouchepac.com) summarizes as “A Curriculum for a Revolution.” The leaflet by LaRouche Democratic Congressional candidate Rachel Brown (Mass.) declares that “Glass-Steagall is the Tool for Development,” and situates the battle for restoring Glass-Steagall as the crucial blow to destroy the British Empire. An accompanying leaflet by Basement leader Sky Shields asks “How Do We Get There? Well, You’re Going to Have to Make Some Changes,” takes on the explicitly anti-human tenets of Empire ideology, which have so infected American culture since FDR’s death. Both leaflets contain links to a selection of educational videos.

So far, the success of the LPAC intervention can be seen dramatically in the prevalence of the demand for Glass-Steagall, which demand has surfaced far and wide, and continues to be listed as the lead “demand” by various OccupyWallStreet groupings, as in Chicago. The dominance of that demand—which directly



LPAC-TV

The worldwide mass-strike process is alive and well, but in desperate need of leadership. Here, LaRouche Democratic Candidate Dave Christie addresses an Occupy Wall Street rally in Seattle, Oct. 11.

intersects an escalating drive in the Congress for passage of H.R. 1489, a bill that would re-establish President Franklin Roosevelt’s principle—has sent a wave of fear through the top layer of the banking community, which is doing its best to try to prevent this measure from being adopted, with a Hitler-style coup high on its list.

Will they succeed? It depends a great deal on how rapidly Americans rally behind LPAC’s leadership, and move to oust Obama and implement Glass-Steagall.

Hungry for Ideas

Reports from LPAC teams and supporters around the country on their interventions at the “Occupy” events reflect a wide variety of responses, but the fundamental one is that the young people, in particular, who are there are hungry for ideas. Literature tables set up with the Obama Moustache sign, calls for Glass-Steagall, and huge maps of NAWAPA and other great projects for development, bring over a steady stream, if not a swarm of people looking for solutions to the crises they are protesting against. In numerous cases, where “old leftists” of the Boomer generation, who are prejudiced against LaRouche, have tried to shut down the tables, younger people in the crowd have intervened to squelch any such censorship.

LPAC’s presentation of Classical music, or classi-

cally performed versions of Negro Spirituals and American patriotic songs, has been a very effective means of raising the level of discussion, and state of mind, at many of the Occupy events. This often leads to a discussion of how today’s degenerate culture has contributed to bringing on the current crisis.

While support for Obama is skin-deep, if that, the embrace of environmentalism, today’s Zeitgeist, has led to intense discussions, and educationals. Once engaged in one-on-one conversations, many of those who espoused “green” ideology can be brought to reason, as in the case of one person in Detroit, who said, after discussion: “I can see how environmentalism is a genocidal economy policy used by the left, and how right-wing austerity and privatization is being pushed by the right.”

Overall, LPAC organizers report very high recognition of, and support for, the demand to reimpose Glass-Steagall, whose repeal in 1999 is now almost universally seen as a major trigger for the financial bubble and subsequent blowout. Both the “left” and so-called “right,” such as the supporters of Rep. Ron Paul’s (R-Tex.) anti-Federal Reserve movement, are enthusiastic about cracking down on the banking speculation. Of course, as could be expected, very few of the demonstrators actually understand the content of FDR’s Glass-Steagall reform, in terms of its role in mandating a fi-



LPAC-TV

The success of the LPAC intervention into the mass strike can be seen in this flyer, distributed by OccupyWallStreet in New York: Its chief demand is “Reinstate Glass-Steagall.”

financial system oriented to credit for the physical economy, rather than the maintenance of a monetary system. The role of educating the protestors on that principle falls to the LPAC organizers, who are convening teach-ins and video showings in cities around the country.

On the International Front

While this wave of the international mass strike was kicked off in the United States, with the Occupy Wall Street tactic in New York City, the phenomenon has never been a U.S. creation. Not only the Arab Spring upsurge, but also the self-named Indignados movement in Europe have played a direct inspirational role in getting the U.S. street actions going.

As the U.S. activity has increased, the European demonstrations have once again been on the rise—especially as the epicenter of the international bankruptcy crisis now resides on that continent. The non-stop murderous austerity packages, and demands for dictatorship, are

spurring action—but LaRouche associates in Europe note that the fact that many ordinary Americans are now taking to the streets has also had a palpable moralizing effect on the Europeans—especially when they are also briefed on the motion toward reimposing Glass-Steagall sweeping the U.S.

One of the major international highlights was in Spain, home of the Indignado spark, where the Oct. 16 *El Pais*, Spain’s leading newspaper, headlined the events, “The ‘Indignado’ Movement is reborn as a

global force.” There were demonstrations in some 80 Spanish cities on Oct. 15, the largest being Madrid (no estimates of numbers), and Barcelona (60,000). The online daily *Publico.es* reported that, “One of the most emotional moments of the event . . . was when a group of musicians of the M15 movement, the Symphony Orchestra, played Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony before a totally silent plaza. After the performance, musicians and demonstrators raised their hands and instruments in the air and chanted ‘These are our arms!’”

In Mexico City, the LaRouche Youth Movement was present at a rally of about 500 people, and Ingrid Torres spoke at some length from the podium on LaRouche’s Seven Steps to Recovery.

Glass-Steagall to the Fore

The success of this global movement ultimately depends upon its *effect*—specifically, whether it brings about the immediate implementation of



EIRNS/Will Mederski

More and more people, especially youth, are recognizing that Obama has to go, if we are to win the fight against the Wall Street predators, and reinstate Glass-Steagall. Here, LPAC organizers engage people at a mass rally against Obama in Washington, D.C., September 2009.

Glass-Steagall in the United States, and the subsequent moves toward establishing a Hamiltonian credit system for a global recovery. In fact, those forces within the Occupy Wall Street movement who are attempting to squelch that demand, are worse than useless; they are acting as saboteurs, whether they know it or not.

Only the clear and principled perspective being put forward by LPAC, and especially the six LaRouche Congressional candidates, represents a competent leadership.

In Europe, the movement for Glass-Steagall is also moving ahead with striking success. In France, the demand for restoring Glass-Steagall—thanks to the efforts of LaRouche associate Jacques Cheminade’s Presidential campaign there—is now part of the Socialist Party electoral program. In Germany, leading Social Democrats are also mouthing the words, if not necessarily sharing the intent.

And then there’s Denmark, where the very small political party headed by the LaRouche movement, coming off an election campaign by Danish Schiller Institute (SI) chairman Tom Gillesberg, who campaigned

on the slogan “Glass-Steagall—or Chaos,” has brought the demand for this FDR measure into astonishing prominence. On Oct. 18, Gillesberg was brought in as an expert on Glass-Steagall in a 20-minute debate on national radio and television. Danish Radio Program 1 contacted Gillesberg, asking him to explain what Glass-Steagall is, and why it should be adopted, after the issue had been raised at the Occupy Denmark, and other Occupy Wall Street-related demos.

This capped activity over the previous few days, when three articles appeared on the SI’s Glass-Steagall campaign: *Berlingske Tidende* published a report about Institute Vice President Feride Istogu Gillesberg’s speech calling for Glass-Steagall at the demonstration; the *Copenhagen Post* ran an interview with organizer Hans Schults from the demo; and *Information* printed an excellent full-page article with interviews of six Danish and American economists based on Tom Gillesberg’s “Glass-Steagall—or Chaos!” campaign posters from last month’s election.

Real success, however, means actual implementation of Glass-Steagall in the United States—before an unstoppable blowout takes place.

Seven Necessary Steps for Global Economic Recovery

A 40-minute feature video presenting Lyndon LaRouche’s Emergency Program to End the Global Depression

<http://larouchepac.com/node/19282>



1. FORCED RESIGNATION OF BARACK OBAMA & IMMEDIATE PASSAGE OF GLASS-STEAGALL



3. FOR LACK OF REAL ASSETS REMAINING, ISSUE HAMILTONIAN CREDIT FOR NATIONAL PROJECTS



5. IMMEDIATE NATIONAL MOBILIZATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NAWAPA PROJECT



6. ENGAGE LATENT LABOR FORCE FOR SUBSIDIARY PROJECTS SUCH AS TRANSPORT AND NUCLEAR



2. DIVISION OF FICTITIOUS FROM REAL LIABILITIES ACCORDING TO GLASS-STEAGALL STANDARD



4. THE ONLY BAILOUTS WILL BE HONEST BAILOUTS FOR THE BANKRUPT CITIES AND THE STATES



7. EXTEND COOPERATION INTERNATIONALLY TO MEXICO, CANADA, RUSSIA, CHINA AND OTHERS