

public figure, 70-year-old Lyndon LaRouche, is in his fifth year of confinement in prison in Rochester, Minnesota, due to judicial tyranny.”

The letter contrasts the “official version,” that LaRouche was guilty of financial infractions, with “the more than a thousand lawyers and hundreds of parliamentarians,” among others, who have “condemned the trial as a violation of justice, and advance convincing facts and arguments to show that the case against LaRouche was fabricated, since in reality he was condemned for political reasons.”

The Russian writers express their familiarity with LaRouche’s criticism of the Bush administration, “but also

the useful humanitarian, anti-totalitarian, and anti-fascist activity of the Schiller Institute, which he created, through its publications, scientific conferences, and seminars.” They note the resonance of LaRouche’s philosophical and economic conceptions with the best Russian scientists of the past, such as Dmitri Mendeleev and Vladimir Vernadsky.

“We join the international coalition for the freedom of LaRouche,” they conclude, “and we urgently ask you to launch an initiative on the need for a presidential pardon of Lyndon LaRouche and other political prisoners in the U.S.A. Such a noble gesture would meet with full understanding and broad approval, all over the world.”

The cultural meaning of the ‘derivatives’ market

Economist and political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche made the following comments on May 23:

If you were a visitor from another solar system looking at Earth and looking at the situation here, and taking into account derivatives, would you advise anyone to invest in this planet?

I think the answer would be, on first impression: No. The significance of the derivatives, is the fact that they can be tolerated. The fact that they *are* tolerated in the way they are tolerated, in the way they are discussed in the financial community, indicates that *no one in their right mind* would invest in this planet, as long as the kind of thinking behind derivatives is hegemonic.

What are derivatives? It’s risk management. It’s called capital. What kind of capital? Is it industrial capital? No, absolutely not. Rather, it is a manner of participating in a bubble which sustains itself by taxing the real economy, by sucking the life’s blood out of it as premiums to pay these charges on risk management. Because it is the net charges on risk management, as against risk, that is the basis of the system. In order to have a charge which exceeds the risk, you must extract that relative amount from the real economy.

Where does it come from? It comes from not maintaining infrastructure, water systems, and so forth. It comes from not maintaining industrial capacity; it comes from shutting down a plant in order to get something cheaper, presumably, from a cheap-labor area in a foreign country. It means looting of eastern Europe. It means looting the former Soviet Union. It means looting China

through slave-labor projects, such as those in Hainan, or the enterprise zones, where Chinese are being gobbled up in Auschwitz-like patterns.

Destruction of the labor force

Now look at the United States and Europe. Think of what has happened at the universities. . . . Think of a Stanford University where it is no longer obligatory to compel students to master the works of “dead white European males,” where the educational program would reduce the planet to a network of zoological theme parks of kook cultures, in place of a culture of the type which built this planet.

The people coming out of college in these kinds of programs, are not fit to manage anything; and already, the management of corporations is below the quality of managers of corporations in the same positions in the 1970s and 1960s. They are utterly incompetent. The universities are incompetent, the educational system is incompetent, and increasingly so.

Would you want to hire any labor of this type?

Now look at the labor force. What are their mental habits? What are their technological potentials? The only thing you can do, is scrape from around the edges of the labor force, and get a few people who are still educable, put them through an apprentice program, and then hire them, as some German firms are doing. . . .

The American people are now being forced to compete with Chinese labor by being reduced *culturally* to the level of Chinese rural labor forced into slave-labor camps by reducing their wages.

We are now in the process of killing off old people because they cost too much. It’s called “reform” in the health-care program. We are killing off the sick and the lame because it costs too much to treat them, in order to save money so we can distribute bandaids to the survivors.

That is what this derivatives market means. . . .