

Republican Congress celebrates Belshazzar's Feast

by Edward Spannaus and Mel Klenetsky

The onrushing collapse of the world economy is the factor of reality which was left unmentioned in the election campaigns, *EIR* Contributing Editor Lyndon LaRouche said in an interview on Nov. 6, indicating that this economic crisis is going to come around and hit the new Republican Congress very quickly.

While the Republicans are now crowing about their narrow victory in the House and Senate, LaRouche told *EIR*, they are going to be confronted with a political "Thermidor," just as was faced by Robespierre, in France in 1794, as the reaction to the revolutionary terror. The reader should recall that Newt Gingrich marched on the Capitol after the 1994 elections, proclaiming himself "a genuine revolutionary," and equating his freshman class to the Jacobin mobs of the French Revolution of 1789-93 (see *EIR*, Feb. 17, 1995, p. 22). To carry Gingrich's analogy forward: Now comes July 1794.

'A financial Thermidor'

LaRouche explained the problem this way: As International Monetary Fund Managing Director Michel Camdessus has been warning repeatedly this year, "We're headed right into the greatest financial landslide you can imagine: a general chain-reaction of collapse in the international banking industry. This means that all bets are off."

"You can say that while Gingrich is not as important as he was before, in the last Congress, the Gingrich Robespierres are going to face a financial Thermidor very soon," LaRouche said. "You can imagine what all these potential Herbert Hoovers are, on the Republican side of the aisle, who command a narrow majority for this purpose, when they're suddenly hit by the collapse, chain-reaction financial collapse of the whole blasted system. They're going to look like Herbert Hoover."

The problem, LaRouche said, "is to get through the next two years, until the next election, at which time I think the Republican control over the Congress will be wiped out.

"But, in the meantime, we've got to get the country through the mess, which means that what these birds have got to worry about, on the Republican side, and what the Democrats have to worry about, is, how is the President going to react, and how is the Congress going to react, to the measures which must be taken, very soon, perhaps even before inauguration now, when the bailout has to stop, finally, when this financial system goes belly-up.

"That means that the key issue faced by the United States government now, is not any of the things which the Republicans have mentioned, or most Democrats, during the election campaign; or the President himself. The key thing, *the center of everything*, is the ongoing collapse of the world economy; and, there's a worldwide collapse going on, despite what the President was induced to say for election purposes, on the hustings. And, on top of that, the greatest financial collapse in history, at least since Europe's experience in the middle of the 14th century, is about to hit. That's the issue."

"*Every other issue in the world pales* behind that one," LaRouche declared. "And, we've got to deal with it."

Pointing out that the Republicans are obviously completely unequipped and unprepared to deal with this reality in a sane fashion, LaRouche commented: "I was reminded, at exactly the seeming height of his power and dangerousness, Maximilian Robespierre and his sidekick, Saint-Just, in the spring of 1794, were running amok, just like the Republicans today. Then, on the famous July 27, 1794, Robespierre and Saint-Just, in the famous Thermidor coup, were going to the guillotine to get *their* heads shaved—at the neck.

"I think the same thing is going to happen politically," LaRouche added, noting that, "I'm not wishing bloodshed, but, politically, it'll happen, the same thing, to the Republicans, in a short period of time."

Bush-babies falling

In terms of the immediate election results, LaRouche expressed his happiness over some of the results, particularly, as he put it, that "a number of George Bush flunkies fell out of their Senatorial tree."

LaRouche cited the case of Massachusetts Gov. William Weld (R), who lost to incumbent Sen. John Kerry (D), in a race in which Weld's coverup of Bush-linked drug trafficking and money laundering was an issue; the fact that Florida, a Bush stronghold, went into the Democratic column for Clinton; and the role that associates of LaRouche played in causing Louisiana GOP Senate candidate Woody Jenkins, whose involvement in Bush's Contra operation became a hot issue, to lose to Democrat Mary Landrieu.

And, of course, LaRouche was extremely pleased at the strong showing made by his associate María Elena Milton, in the 4th District of Arizona; against incumbent Republican John Shadegg, the chairman of Newt Gingrich's GOPAC. Milton received 33.4% of the vote—about the same vote as the previous Democratic candidate in this strongly Republican district, despite efforts by the state Democratic Party leadership, under Chairman Sam Coppersmith, to sabotage her campaign, combined with a campaign of vilification by some of the news media (see p. 64).

'The Fowler side of the election'

LaRouche put the responsibility for the Democratic failure to take control of the House of Representatives squarely on Democratic National Committee Chairman Donald Fowler. LaRouche noted that the Republicans had significantly outspent the Democrats, especially in the South. But, he said, Fowler made the situation worse, by not putting DNC support behind the Democratic Congressional campaigns.

Working hand-in-glove with the unlamented Dick Morris (who was fired as a campaign consultant in August), Fowler took a good deal of the money that was raised on the Democratic side; Fowler and Morris diverted it into certain areas such as advertising commissions, polling consultants' commissions, and the like, for themselves and their cronies. "If that same money, instead of trying to *count* the votes, had been spent to *increase* the number of votes," LaRouche remarked, the Democrats probably would have recaptured the Congress, or at least the House of Representatives. "So, if there's any 'bad guy' to blame for the 'performance,' relatively speaking, of the Democratic Party in not retaking the Congress, and the House of Representatives," LaRouche declared, "it's Fowler."

Post-election perspectives

Asked about his plans for the period after the elections, LaRouche cited a number of things on which he and his associates intend to concentrate.

First, is the economic crisis, LaRouche said, and he said that he will personally have to deal with this situation, since no one else in the world is prepared to face it.

Secondly, LaRouche indicated, "I'm going to have to put a good deal of the effort on the fact that what's wrong with America, and the world, is what is called 'mainstream thinking,' especially on things that are related to economics. That is, over the past 30 years, Americans have been conditioned to accept, as mainstream thinking, ideas which are directly opposite to those which made the United States a great power, up until 1966.

"In other words, in the past 30 years, especially the past 25, when the effect has been seen, the U.S. economy per capita and so forth, has been collapsing. And, it is that collapse, and it is that bad policy that we have, which is responsible for what's happening on a world scale. Therefore, Americans are going to have to suddenly *change*, and get free of what is called 'mainstream thinking' on economics, and they're going to have to do it fast. If we don't, then we lose."

So the problem, as Shakespeare says, is that " 'the fault lies within ourselves,' " LaRouche said; "that we Americans have got to *change*, and get rid of mainstream thinking. That is also part of my job, because I don't think other people are recognizing *how* the problem works. I do."

The third area to which LaRouche pointed, is that he and his friends are going to be working on a series of public policy caucuses, in which they will engage, with the aid of a number of experts in specific areas, in a policy discussion on some of the leading issues, particularly social issues and some foreign policy questions, in order to organize the constituency which was set into motion by the activities of the LaRouche movement, by the activities of the AFL-CIO, and of a few others, during the recent campaign.

LaRouche concluded his discussion of the elections as follows:

"Remember, there's a very good side to this election, and the good side is that the labor vote, the industrial vote, and others who are sympathetic to that in the formerly industrialized sectors of the country, were mobilized, and gave the Republicans a major defeat. That the Republicans were able to hold their position, *only, chiefly*, in areas that were under the influence of the so-called Nashville Agrarians and that kind of thinking, as in the Southern states. The minute the world is in a crisis, the Republican position is going to lose.

"Now, our job is to take the cutting edge of the people who came near to carrying the Democratic Party to victory in the Congress, and take that edge, and mobilize that, and equip it to provide leadership for the nation as a whole. So, that's what we're going to have to concentrate on."