

## Editorial

### *A branching-point*

The exciting developments reported in this issue, with respect to the Eurasian Land-Bridge, pose a strategic choice of the utmost importance for President Clinton.

While merger mania and “irrational exuberance” reign in the capitals and financial centers of most Western countries, Chinese President Jiang Zemin is undertaking tremendous initiatives, with the leaders of Russia and Japan, to promote infrastructural and industrial development, to build the Land-Bridge, and thereby to place the economies of those nations on a solid footing, as the bankrupt world financial and monetary system plunges toward collapse. Former Mexican President José López Portillo has joined with Helga Zepp-LaRouche, at a conference in Mexico City, to support such initiatives, and specifically the approach elaborated by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. “It is now necessary for the world to listen to the wise words of Lyndon LaRouche,” President López Portillo told the audience.

President Clinton must choose the path blazed by LaRouche, and reject the monetarist, free-trade insanity of Wall Street and London. He must do so quickly, as time is running out.

In a press conference on Nov. 30, Clinton expressed some thoughts in the right direction. He invoked the work of Alexander Hamilton, the founder of the American System of Political Economy—in opposition to the British free-trade system of Adam Smith. Hamilton’s exposition of the concept of total surplus value in an economy, the role of technological progress, the need to foster the skills of the workforce, and the role of government in allocating credit for vital projects in the national interest, was the seed-crystal of a system that was elaborated by Mathew and Henry Carey, Friedrich List, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt, reaching its high-point today in the work of LaRouche.

“Our nation was founded,” Clinton said, “at the dawn of a period, not so very unlike this one, a period of enormous economic upheaval, when the world was beginning to move from an agrarian to an industrial economy. Alexander Hamilton, our first Secretary of the Treasury, understood these changes well. In his remarkable *Report on Manufactures* and other of his writ-

ings, Hamilton identified new ways to harness the changes then going on so that our nation could advance.

“Listen to this. He proposed what many thought were radical ideas at the time: a central bank, a common currency, a national system of roads and canals, a crack-down on fraud so that American products would be known all over the world for quality. He created the blueprint that made possible America’s industrial age and, many of us believe, the preservation of the American union.”

But the only example Clinton gave of how Hamilton’s concepts might be implemented today, was the so-called information highway—the Internet! Yet, for a worldwide economic recovery program to succeed, we are going to need *real* highways, as well as railways and waterways. We need farmers to produce food, at a parity price, to feed a hungry world. We need heavy industry and nuclear power. We need revitalized urban centers, centers of culture and education. We need government investment in the science and technology of the future, including the space program. We need to curb the hedge funds and other speculators, who are wrecking nations.

Now is the time for the President to implement such a program. For this, the connection to China is crucial. In *EIR* of Oct. 10, 1997, LaRouche wrote a memorandum on the upcoming summit meeting between Clinton and Jiang Zemin, titled “The U.S.A.-China Partnership.” “Whether President William Clinton succeeds, or not,” LaRouche wrote, “in establishing a strong U.S.A. partnership with China during the coming ‘summit,’ may be decisive in predetermining whether or not the United States survives the presently onrushing collapse of the present international financial and monetary systems.”

One year later, that warning is even more to the point. Clinton must act now, to kick out the “China bashers.” Further, he must bring in LaRouche as his economic adviser. As we go to press, 58,000 people from around the world have signed a petition calling on the President to do just that. Keep up the pressure, and organize others to, as President López Portillo said, “listen to the wise words of Lyndon LaRouche.”