

## Editorial

### *The Hour of Decision*

During the second half of 1971, beginning with President Nixon's sinking of the U.S. dollar, Lyndon LaRouche and his nascent political association defined the political perspective which they have hewn to ever since. It was at that point, that the philosophical association known as the National Caucus of Labor Committees committed itself to defeat what was obvious to LaRouche, as the clear threat of fascism on a global scale.

A debate LaRouche held with "liberal" economics professor Abba Lerner later in that year, made it clear that it would not be an easy fight to mobilize allegedly anti-fascist professionals into the battle to defeat the fascist threat. During a debate over the policies being adopted, particularly toward Third World nations like Brazil, LaRouche confronted Lerner with the fact that Lerner was himself pushing the genocidal policies of Hitler's economics minister Hjalmar Schacht. When pressed to the wall, Lerner blurted out the remark that led the debate to end in utter embarrassment for him (and for Lerner's backers to vow that LaRouche would never be given access to such a forum again): If Schacht's policies had been followed, Hitler "would not have been necessary."

Since that fateful year, the LaRouche movement has expanded internationally, and continued its fight against fascism. At each phase of the battle—Paul Volcker's interest rate assault in 1979, the Third World debt crisis, the stock market crash of 1987, or the virtual disintegration of the global financial markets in 1998, to name only a few—LaRouche has put forward the alternatives to disaster, in the context of forecasts of what would result, should the prevailing monetarist insanity continue to be followed. In all cases, he has been proven correct.

Now, approximately 37 years later, the hour of decision has arrived. No longer are we simply facing the danger of fascism down the road; it is right around the corner.

It doesn't take a genius to notice that mankind is presently gripped by the onrush of a terminal phase of a general, global breakdown crisis. Trillions of dollars of

putative value have disappeared just since the Summer of 2007, when the financial system itself collapsed. Trillions of dollars have been pumped into the banking system by the world's central banks to try to stem the bankruptcies and stop disaster, to no avail. Some of the largest banks in the world have been exposed as bankrupt, with the latest being Bear Stearns, the fifth-largest U.S. investment bank. On March 14, the Federal Reserve moved to bail out this walking-dead zombie.

Meanwhile, over the same year, hundreds of thousands of American families have been thrown out of their homes, as the result of the collapse of the mortgage bubble; commodity inflation has taken off to the point that food and fuel are rising at double-digit rates; and manufacturing is being shut down to the extent that the United States can soon be called literally a post-industrial society. At the same time, the fiscal crises resulting from these disasters are leading to life-threatening collapses in services, like health, education, and infrastructure.

What this financial-economic breakdown begs is clearly a *political* solution. The fascists, like Felix Rohatyn, George Shultz, and Michael Bloomberg, know this—and the corporatist-austerity programs they are putting forward conform to their conviction that it is the population which is going to pay for the monetarist, post-industrial insanity that has destroyed the United States over the past 37 years. But other politicians, and most of the population, simply refuse to speak, or even face, the truth. Like political opportunists, they are mouthing ridiculous talk about the danger of "recession," and preparing to leap like lemmings off the cliff.

Thus, once again, it is left to the LaRouche movement to issue the warning, before it is too late. Don't sit back and wait to see how the election turns out: That will be too late. Join us in destroying the fascists, who are acting on behalf of the British empire by engineering our destruction, and that of Europe. Join us in building support for the only alternative to total collapse, and subsequent fascism and war: LaRouche's Homeowners and Bank Protection Act, a two-tiered credit system, and the New Bretton Woods.