

LaRouche Candidates Take Lead in Mass-Strike Process

by Harley Schlanger

March 21—While the attention of those watching the unfolding mass-strike process in the United States has been focused on the political upheaval in Wisconsin, where state employees and their supporters mobilized in unprecedented numbers against a fascist Governor Walker, there is another process underway, which would be missed, if one relied on the lying mass media for political intelligence.

This process was described by Lyndon LaRouche in his March 10 webcast, when he spoke about how teachers and their students have come to the fore, in the battle to save our nation from destruction by the London/Wall Street financial interests, through their puppets, such as President Obama and Governor Walker. He spoke of the commitment of teachers to the future of their students, and how it is lawful that they would emerge as leaders in a mass strike.

The savage budget cuts in education, proposed by newly elected state governors of both parties, with full backing from the White House, has created an awareness that it is the future itself which is threatened by these mindless proposals for draconian cuts. While some Democratic legislators and union leaders have agreed to compromise with the budget cutters, on pensions, wages, health care, etc., teachers and students realize that there is even more at stake in the present crisis than these usual “bread-and-butter” issues.

It is their involvement which is changing the nature of the ongoing battle, from a partisan stalemate, into something potentially transformational. And it is this

sector of the mass strike which is now demonstrating an increasing openness to the intervention by the six LaRouche Democratic candidates for Congress (see <http://larouchepac.com/campaigns>).

No Compromise with Killers

In a statement issued this week, titled “Burn Wall Street and London—Don’t Kill the People,” which is being distributed throughout California, Summer Shields, a candidate for Nancy Pelosi’s U.S. House seat from San Francisco, identified the problem with the approach of much of the self-appointed leadership of the resistance to the budget cutters. “We, the young people of the world,” Shields begins, “are opposed to an economic policy that is both stupid and insane!” (See full text below.)

Throughout the nation, while health care, infrastructure expenditures, and pensions are under attack, it is the cuts in education which have drawn the most fire. Schools are being targeted by Obama, with his Bush-on-steroids “Race to the Top” policy, which blames teachers for the growing numbers of failures among students on standardized tests; by brain-dead governors such as Walker, Snyder of Michigan, and Scott of Florida; and by local school boards, which face a collapse in funding.

For example, *every* K-12 teacher in Providence, R.I. received a pink slip, as local governments cannot promise that there will be funds for any of them to have a job next Fall. In California, tens of thousands of teachers

have been informed that their jobs may be gone, as Gov. Jerry Brown, a recycled Democrat, is playing a dangerous game of “chicken” with stubborn, ideologically driven Republicans, over how to close a \$25-billion-plus deficit.

Perhaps the most egregious example is in Michigan, where a Big MAC-style dictatorial executive, with virtually unchecked power, has been established in most school districts, to slash the number of schools and teachers. In Detroit, the state-appointed emergency financial manager announced two weeks ago that almost half the city’s schools would be closed within two years, meaning that there will be as many as 60 students per classroom.

While the unions have mobilized their members—including teachers—to fight, the approach of most union officials there was characterized by LaRouche Democrat Bill Roberts as “muddle-headed,” almost as a “business-as-usual” approach. A demonstration on March 16, at the Michigan state capital of Lansing, drew a number of students, who spoke of their anger at this “business-as-usual” approach. Rejecting the calls for “shared sacrifice,” and “bipartisan compromise,” which have typified the impotence of the United Auto Workers (UAW)—which has failed to stop the dismantling of the auto sector and its machine-tool component, while presiding over the collapse of its union membership—students were focused on going after Wall Street, and were chanting “We got sold out; banks got bailed out.”

These students were open to hearing from Roberts and LaRouchePAC organizers about the direct connections between the bailouts and the budget cuts—that while there is plenty of cash and loans for Wall Street swindlers, there is nothing for the physical economy, and those in the workforce who produce real, physical wealth. They were also interested in LaRouche’s solution: how the immediate re-implementation of Glass Steagall regulations would end the bailouts; clean up the “Too Big To Fail” banks through bankruptcy reor-



LPAC-TV

At a rally in Austin, Texas March 14, students and teachers protested brutal budget cuts; Kesha Rogers’ Congressional campaign intervened with the LaRouche Plan for Glass-Steagall and NAWAPA.

ganization, so they could be used for the generation of new, Federal credit into major job-creating, wealth-producing projects, such as NAWAPA; and give the Federal government the capability to provide funds directly to states, to prevent austerity-crazed governors and legislators from imposing killer budget cuts!

Will the Youth Have a Future?

The question on the minds of most of the student demonstrators is whether there will be a future for them, if Obama and the Walker-types are not stopped. This was eloquently expressed by a 12-year-old student from Dallas, at a large rally in Austin, who said, “We need our teachers. We need books. We need classrooms. We also need music, art, and culture. We need these things to feed our minds.” If the budget cuts demanded by Texas Bush-League Governor Perry go through, magnet programs in areas of science and culture will be cut, to cover the deficit of more than \$25 billion.

Organizers from the Kesha Rogers Texas Congressional campaign have been speaking with university students throughout the state. While students have gone in large numbers to Austin to protest the cuts, they admit they have not been given solutions. Rogers has intervened with the “LaRouche Plan” of Glass-Steagall, NAWAPA, and funds for the state, and has found a growing openness from students and teachers.

The same process is underway in California, where up to 20,000 students participated in a march and rally

at the state capitol in Sacramento, on March 14, despite heavy rains. Organized by campus groups, including the California State Student Association (CSSA), which represents students at 23 campuses of the California State University system, the Shields campaign was prominently represented in the march by a large “Glass-Steagall or Die” banner. All afternoon, students approached the campaign organizers to ask about Glass-Steagall, and to complain that they were not being taken seriously by legislators of both parties, who insist that they have no choice but to cut.

The CSSA held a conference March 19, at Cal State Pomona, to take up the question of “What next?” With representatives of all 23 universities present, the major “talking point” was to “tax oil companies.” The controlled environment was broken, to the delight of most of the bored participants, by the intervention of LaRouchePAC organizers, who challenged them to break out of the containment of the false budget fight, and take up their roles as leaders of the mass strike. LPAC organizer Cameron Peterson read them the Shields campaign leaflet, and explained to them why only Glass-Steagall will work, to save funding for not only education, but other areas slated for slashing.

He was followed by Pia Maelzer, from the LaRouche Youth Movement in Germany, who has been working with the Rogers campaign in Houston. She told them that what Walker and Obama are doing is what Hitler did in Germany. As Bernanke is preparing to hand another trillion dollars to Wall Street, she said that every one “in this room has to think much bigger right now. Think about yourselves and your own role in history.” She told them they must not compromise, but fight as leaders for the whole population.

The response among CSSA leaders was typical of what is emerging among the younger people engaged in the developing mass-strike process, and conforms to how LaRouche has described the way the mass strike evolves—they know they must do something, so they have been drawn into the fight. Yet, they don’t yet know exactly what to do. Thus, the intervention by the six LaRouche candidates and their LaRouchePAC organizers is capturing their attention. Organizers in California are mapping out follow-up events with leaders from the CSSA on a number of campuses.

‘Clean Break with Culture of Extinction’

To further this process, the Six Candidate Slate has issued another statement for national distribution, to

drive home the importance of the role of the younger generation, to provide leadership.

After attacking the lies of the media, which is trying to misdirect the anger against the fascist policies of Obama and the right-wing corporatist governors, into an anti-nuclear Jacobin mob against science and technology, the LPAC candidates speak directly to this younger generation: “We, the six candidate national committee, are calling on our generation to join us in making a clean break from the political cowardice, the economic insanity, and the cultural pessimism of the last 40 years. The future cannot be seen clearly in any other way. The era of mediocrity that has tolerated Presidents like Obama, or scientific frauds like environmentalism, belongs to the former generation. If it isn’t relevant to making the revolutionary changes that are necessary today, then it is not worth our time.”

Summer Shields

Candidate Addresses California Students

LaRouchePAC candidate Summer Shields issued the following statement, titled, “Burn Wall Street and London; Don’t Kill the People!” on March 14; it is being distributed at student rallies and other venues throughout California, where Shields is challenging Nancy Pelosi for the 8th Congressional District seat.

Students:

From Tunis, Cairo, and Tripoli, across Europe, and to Madison, Austin, and Sacramento, young people are taking to the streets in protest to inhumane, deadly, and idiotic policies. They are absolutely justified in their actions.

We, the young people of the world, are opposed to an economic policy that is both stupid and insane!

The belief that cities, states, or even our Federal government, can solve the crisis of growing budget deficits and debt burdens through increasingly harsher budget cuts is dangerously immoral, but stems from a failure to understand the ABCs of how an economy

actually works. The first lesson to be learned is that there can be absolutely no compromise with the budget cutters.

When President Obama and Ben Bernanke talk about a “recovery,” they are lying. Their so-called recovery is based on an expanding stock market bubble, artificially pumped up by zero percent credit given to bankers and related swindlers. The result of this policy has meant devastating hyperinflation in the price of food and raw materials. With the money given to them in the last three years, the exact same crooks are accelerating the exact same corrupt practices that caused the 2007 financial blow-out.

Cutting the budget has never solved a budget or debt crisis. California is a perfect example of this. Eight years of drastic budget cuts under Schwarzenegger, and the deficit is still at record levels. The problem is that *revenues* have dropped over decades—we are no longer producing the physical wealth required to pay for the necessary expenditures of government. The temporary fake profits resulting from the dot-com and housing bubbles vanished when those bubbles popped and made things far worse.

Lyndon LaRouche, the only economist with a catalogued 40-year record for completely accurate economic forecasts, is warning that if we do not stop the insanity of the recent years, particularly the policy under both Bush and Obama, then the world will be crushed by the weight of a global hyperinflationary blowout which will wipe out what is left of every government on this planet, and create a new dark age for all humanity.

The recent report from the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission (fcic.gov) accurately presents the 40-year historical process of deregulation and free-trade globalization that led to the financial disintegration of 2007. LaRouche uniquely called the shots every step of the way, while other economists, either through corruption or incompetence, failed to speak the truth.



Summer Shields

LPAC/Chris Jadatz

The Solution: LaRouche’s Plan—The People First!

1. If Gov. Jerry Brown wishes to avoid becoming a budget-cutting fascist like Schwarzenegger, Scott Walker, or Chris Christie, then he must lead the fight to restore Glass-Steagall banking regulations on the Federal level. All moral state and local officials must demand the immediate re-introduction of Franklin Roosevelt’s 1933 Glass-Steagall bill. This would force a separation between commercial and investment banks. More specifically, this would lead to an end of the hyperinfla-

tionary bailouts of the swindlers who built up the repeated bubbles; it would write down, or write off, over time, trillions of dollars of worthless, toxic paper, presently being propped up by free “liquidity” from the Federal Reserve. This would free the banks to begin to make credit available for physical production.

2. This credit would come from the U.S. Congress, for major job-creating, and wealth-creating projects, beginning with the North American Water and Power Alliance (NAWAPA). The 6 to 10 million jobs created by such credit extension, in combination with the revival of engineering, construction, and manufacturing firms, would immediately vastly increase the revenue to local and state governments, as well as to the Federal government.

3. Since the Federal government will no longer be guaranteeing liquidity to criminal bankers, it can “bail out” the state and local governments on an emergency basis, maintaining crucial functions such as education, health care, and police and fire protection.

No cuts would be necessary, and no compromises with the likes of petty would-be dictators, like Scott Walker, would occur.

We must say in unison to our legislators: “Millions have taken to the streets, to fight for economic justice, and a future. Don’t sell them out, by compromising with the puppets of crooked Wall Street and City of London financiers, such as Walker and Obama. Pass Glass-Steagall now!”