

pen over the next four years. When the Feds take D.C. prisoners, half of them are to go into the Federal Bureau of Prisons, and half are required to go into private prisons under that law.

Interestingly, one of our greatest allies in this is the Bureau of Prisons. They don't like privatization any more than we do—probably for different reasons. They've got the sense that they can do it better than anybody in the country and they know what they're doing, and they don't like to be told that they have to bid out part of this to a private entity. They don't like it any more than we do and are bristling under this obligation. But it is coming, and it's coming in a big way for the District. I think after what we've seen in Ohio and the experience we've had here in the District—we have another privatized facility that is not as troubled as the Youngstown prison is, but has significant problems—it scares me. It scares me to death.

EIR: I recall that when George Bush lost his bid for reelection, that J. Michael Quinlan, the head of Bush's Federal Bureau of Corrections, went over to CCA to head its strategic research division.

Smith: Right. I think he's now heading up their real estate development corporation, or something like that. But he's still with them.

EIR: So it's the Bureau of Prisons under Clinton that doesn't like this?

Smith: The bureau didn't like it before either. I think Quinlan was probably offered a tremendously large amount of money. That can influence your position.

Interview: Vermel Whalen

Representative Whalen (D-Cleveland), a member of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus, was interviewed March 30.

EIR: What is your view of the prison privatization bills?

Whalen: Personally, I am against privatization of the prisons. I believe that is the state's job. I do not believe we can monitor what is going on inside, running the prisons, and what is going on with the administration of them. One thing we do know: When you start talking privatization, it's cutting corners and making a profit. That speaks for itself. For that reason, I am afraid that the services that we are supposed to provide once we incarcerate a person, perhaps will be cut, in order to make a dollar. Just briefly, because of that, I'm against it. I think the state should not privatize the prisons and the state should run them as we do the majority of them already.

EIR: I understand there is a bill, H.B. 590, that would privatize all new prisons.

Whalen: Yes, that is what I understand. You can be sure I'll be voting against it.

Interview: Ron Wieczorek

Campaigning for a New Bretton Woods

The following interview with Ron Wieczorek was conducted on March 20 by Marianna Wertz. Wieczorek, a LaRouche Democrat, is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for U.S. Congress in the June 2 primary. South Dakota's only House seat is currently held by John Thune, a Republican. A cattle farmer,



Wieczorek is 55 years old, married, with two children. His family farming tradition goes back to 1879, when his great-grandfather homesteaded in the state.

The Schiller Institute leader in South Dakota, Wieczorek has also travelled to Europe and Mexico in recent years with the Schiller Institute, organizing against free-trade agreements and food control, such as the starvation of Iraqi children by UN sanctions. He calls his campaign the Wieczorek "Committee for a New Bretton Woods."

EIR: You're running for the only U.S. House seat in South Dakota, currently held by Republican John Thune. You have a Democratic primary on June 2, and I understand you're now petitioning to be on the primary ballot. What's the relationship of this campaign to your political fight for the economic policies associated with Lyndon LaRouche and his call for a new Bretton Woods system?

Wieczorek: We're aware of the economic crisis that is about to come down on us. We're looking at a collapse of the economy, as Mr. LaRouche has said, almost certainly before the November election, a major economic crash, very similar to what has already happened in Indonesia, where commerce has come almost to a standstill.

Here in South Dakota, I see it every day, with our hog market falling this winter to one of the lowest levels since the levels that took out 25-30% of the hog producers in 1993-94. Today, we're at \$30 hogs again; the cost of production is about \$38 on those animals. We have the large corporations moving in, which claim to be much more efficient, but they are buying the feed to feed these hogs at about 30% of what it's actually worth.

EIR: How do you see the mobilization for a new monetary

system in this situation?

Wieczorek: We have to follow through with LaRouche's program. I've watched Lyn for ten years now, and studied his program. This man is in the tradition, and has expanded on the tradition, of Hamilton, Lincoln, and, when we talk about Democrats, Franklin Delano Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy. He is for nation-building policies, promoting the sovereignty of our nation, the national banking system, the creation of state credits directed to specific areas of the economy, so that when you create a debt, you get wealth out of it. You get a process of expanding the economy. You get a process of growth.

EIR: One of South Dakota's U.S. Senators is Tom Daschle, who's the Senate Minority Leader and would be crucial in bringing about a shift in U.S. policy toward LaRouche's policies. Have you discussed this with Daschle or tried to get him involved?

Wieczorek: Yes, I've had several good discussions with Senator Daschle, including a meeting in the past few years where I presented him with the LaRouche materials, gave him several copies of the *New Federalist*, Lyn's books (*So, You Wish to Learn All about Economics?* and *The Science of Christian Economy*). I told him that he may not believe what I was saying at that point about an economic crisis, but there would be a time when he would have to relate back to these books to solve the problem.

Senator Daschle needs to follow up on the work he did on the Bingaman-Daschle report around the time of the last Presidential election. He and the Democrats need to pick up the ball and do what needs to be done.

What I mean by this is the statements back in January by Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, calling for some kind of a "new architecture" for our international financial system. The administration and Rubin have called for a meeting on April 16. They have invited 22 nations to this meeting, and coming out of it, we have to have a "new architecture."

After World War II, the banking faction in Europe was bankrupt and many of the African and Third World countries were in similar conditions. The Bretton Woods conference created an international system which provided credit for the Marshall Plan to rebuild Europe. The United States economy and manufacturing benefitted from that, because we did much of the production that was needed to rebuild Europe. This also helped achieve progress in the Third World nations, the former colonies of Great Britain. With this mechanism, we proceeded very well until 1971, when we had another attack by the British to destroy the office of the Presidency, and Nixon was forced to take us off the gold standard. This was the beginning of the end of the Bretton Woods system.

EIR: You have been organizing among the National Farmers Union (NFU) and other farm organizations to support the new Bretton Woods perspective. Can you give us an idea of what

the progress is in that?

Wieczorek: The progress has been very slow. As with most of the population, we have a baby-boomer problem. These people want to "go along to get along." The leadership of most of our farmer organizations has that attitude. So, rather than taking solid stands on sound principles, they tend to compromise. As I've watched over a period of years, starting with the NFO [National Farmers Organization] back in the late 1950s, moving to the American Agriculture Movement in the 1980s, and the NFU all along, they have tended to compromise, to where they've become totally ineffective in standing for what the farmer needs.

What we need is some real leadership, like we had back in the '30s, with William Lemke, the president of the farmers union in North Dakota, who took some very brave stands to support FDR at that time, in 1933, when he had to come out and make a brave statement, that we're going to shut the banks down on Friday and we're going to reopen them next week; the ones that can be reopened will be reopened. Lemke really fought with the kind of leadership that was needed to get the support for the President to do the things that needed to be done at that time.

This is the kind of leadership that we need in the farmers union today. We need to stimulate the agricultural people to look at this not as a farm problem, but as a world problem, a consumer problem. We have to educate the consumers. This thing is not so complicated that the average consumer couldn't understand it, if we put forward the effort and the proper leadership.

EIR: You gave a personal invitation to Sen. Tim Johnson (D-S.D.) to attend the March 18 *EIR* seminar in Washington, at which LaRouche outlined his plan for a new Bretton Woods system. What was his response?

Wieczorek: It was thanks to the LaRouche people in this state that Mr. Johnson defeated Sen. Larry Pressler [R] in 1996. In fact, he was the only Democrat in the nation that won a Senate seat in that election. I had a call back from his scheduler and one of his aides.

I'm challenging my two senators to do the things that need to be done. I challenge my two senators to do what they can to move Lyndon LaRouche into an advisory position to the President of the United States, with this impending crisis, that is coming down on us right now.

EIR: In terms of your campaign, are you getting any backing from the Democratic Party? What are you challenging them to do?

Wieczorek: I am very upset with the effects of the New Age Democrats. By the New Age Democrats, I'm referring to the people who surrounded and supported the national Democratic chairman in the 1996 election, who threw the election, as far as I'm concerned. There was no reason that we should have lost the good Democrats that we lost in the last election,

except for what Don Fowler and purported Democrats like Dick Morris did.

We need to steer the party in the proper direction, back to the tradition of FDR and JFK. And Lyndon LaRouche is the key man to do that.

This is a world crisis that we're looking at, but it's going to affect the people in South Dakota, and it's already affected the people here. The crash in Asia has affected our exports. Our grain prices today are lower than they were in the winter of 1947 and 1948. Homestake Mine, the largest gold mine in North America, has been temporarily shut down, and 2,000 jobs lost since peak employment. We have seen the collapse of the pork industry, including the closing of a plant in Huron, where 850 people were laid off.

EIR: You were looking at commodity prices from 50 years ago, when your father was a farmer.

Wieczorek: I had the South Dakota Agriculture Statistical Service fax me a paper on this. The average corn price received in South Dakota in 1947 was \$2.04 a bushel. Today, they're paying \$2.15 at the Chamberlain elevator and \$2.50 at Mt. Vernon.

EIR: That's not counting inflation.

Wieczorek: No, we're talking straight dollar figures here. Barley was another interesting figure. Barley was \$1.92 in 1947. The local elevator is quoting barley today at \$1.45. The average price for seeds for rye in 1947 was \$2.31. The price at the elevator today is \$1.80.

EIR: How can farmers survive?

Wieczorek: They're not. Neither is the nation.

EIR: I understand that the biggest industry today in South Dakota is Citibank's credit card division, because there's no usury law in South Dakota. It has replaced farming as the biggest business.

Wieczorek: That's right. Governor Janklow is bragging that South Dakota has the lowest unemployment rate in the nation. But that's because we have the lowest wages in the nation. Plus, in billionaires per capita, we're in the top six.

Twenty-five years ago, and prior to that, the state depended on a real estate tax to maintain the schools, the county roads, the townships, and so forth. But today, despite "tax cuts," because they raised the valuations of property, I will be paying more taxes on my real estate, with a 25% reduction, than I did before the reductions were taken. I don't know what kind of new math these people use, but it's not working here in the state. Primarily, the reason is, that our state has been taken over by usury and speculation, and gambling.

EIR: On the Indian reservations?

Wieczorek: All over. South Dakota has the most lenient gambling laws of any state in the nation today.

EIR: I understand it also has an increasing private prison industry, as well, which goes along with that.

Wieczorek: Yes. Rather than giving our people a Classical education, over the past five to six years we have locked up the state university at Springfield and turned that into a state prison. We have closed down Yankton College, and turned that into a Federal prison. Many hospital units have been shut down and turned into juvenile detention centers. An area of the hospital in Chamberlain was turned into a juvenile detention center. One of the hospitals in Sioux Falls is the area law enforcement center. These are the type of things that have been happening.

EIR: Has all this occurred under the Janklow administration?

Wieczorek: Most of it. Janklow was the governor when our usury laws were deregulated and Citibank was brought in.

EIR: I understand there will be a constitutional amendment on the ballot in November, called Dakota One, which would prohibit the use of property taxes to fund education.

Wieczorek: Under the Republican leadership, South Dakota is in a situation where the lack of economic growth has hooked it on gambling revenue. Now they put up the Dakota One proposition, which is a proposed amendment to the state Constitution, which would prohibit property taxes from funding education. Some of the Democrats are also supporting it. If this passes, there will be a crisis in education in the state, and they're already "maxed out" on gambling revenue.

But, the state leadership refuses to consider the proposal for a 0.2% transfer tax on sales of speculative instruments, such as futures, options, indexes, derivatives, swaps, and so on, which the Schiller Institute has twice proposed. It was estimated by one state senator that this tax would bring in over \$2 billion, more than enough to cover the state's budget.

EIR: I understand the life expectancy and infant mortality rates in south-central counties, where the Indian reservations are, is among the worst in the world.

Wieczorek: Yes. Along with that problem, the suicide rate is probably the highest of any area in the world. On one reservation, we had eight suicides since the beginning of the year. The city of Chamberlain had eight teenage suicides in the last two and a half years. This is a community of 13-14,000. Most of this is economic stress. This farm crisis in these rural communities is unreal.

EIR: So your campaign is the only thing that's offering hope.

Wieczorek: That's the only reason I'm running. The LaRouche movement is the only organization that I've been associated with, that has delivered the truth to me. I invite everybody to take a look at Lyn's work and the work of the Schiller Institute. We desperately need leadership in these times.