

LaRouche Associates Jailed

n Nov. 4, 1993, Judge Clifford Weckstein of the Roanoke (Va.) Circuit Court sent four associates of Lyndon LaRouche to prison for sentences of between 25 and 39 years: Donald Phau (25 years), Laurence Hecht (33 years), Paul Gallagher (34 years), and Anita Gallagher (39 years).

Weckstein acted only two days after Virginia voters had resoundingly rejected former Virginia Attorney General Mary Sue Terry's gubernatorial bid. As Attorney General, Terry had indicted, arrested, and prosecuted a number of associates of Lyndon LaRouche, including the above four. Her gubernatorial campaign ran ads identifying a "public enemies" list that was headed by LaRouche and his associates.

The four political organizers had been tried and sentenced in Judge Weckstein's court in 1990 and 1991 on charges of "securities fraud," after the state of Virginia determined retroactively that political loans were "securities," making it a felony to solicit such loans without a broker's license.

After a three-hour sentence reduction hearing, Judge Weckstein ordered the Gallaghers, Hecht, and Phau to jail for decades—despite the fact that thirteen members of Virginia's General Assembly Political prisoners (left to right) Laurence Hecht, Paul Gallagher, Anita Gallagher, and Donald Phau.

had written to the judge to advise him that the sentences were excessive.

Judge Weckstein is infamous for his correspondence, during the period the defendants faced trial in his courtroom, with the leadership of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL). Judge Weckstein allowed prosecutor John Russell to introduce only three items of evidence at the hearing, including the introduction to a book published by Executive Intelligence Review, The Ugly Truth About the ADL, and a press release written by defendant Paul Gallagher, to argue that no mercy should be shown because the four defendants were members of a "cult."

Instead of rejecting Russell's improper tactic, Judge Weckstein rewarded him with the comment that he, Weckstein, was very familiar with the views of the defendants' organization on the ADL, having recently read two of their books on the subject cover to cover—The Ugly Truth and Travesty. The latter is the story of the 1992 kidnap conspiracy plot against LaRouche associate and du Pont heir Lewis du Pont Smith, in which plot the ADL played a role.

Robinson Honored in Selma

when Mrs. Robinson and her first husband, Samuel W. Boynton, organized sharecroppers to fight for fundamental human rights in poverty-stricken rural Alabama, a commitment which grew into her battle in the 1950's and 1960's, alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Rev. James Bevel, for voting rights for African-Americans.

The program was moderated by Mrs. Robinson's grand-daughter, Carver Boynton, who is named after Dr. George Washington Carver of the Tuskegee Institute, a close friend of the Boynton family. Sam Walker, the museum's director, welcomed the crowd.

A declaration to honor Mrs.

Robinson enacted by the Selma City Council, the majority of whose members are white, named Nov. 14 Amelia Boynton Robinson Day and was read by Bruce Boynton. Helga Zepp-LaRouche, founder of the Schiller Institute internationally, sent a proclamation which was read at the event, announcing that the Schiller Institute will celebrate Nov. 14 every year as Amelia Boynton Robinson Day, in combination with annual events to honor Friedrich Schiller's birthday on Nov. 10. Zepp-LaRouche noted, "I know Schiller would be happy to hear that, given that Amelia is the perfect beautiful soul he was writing about."



Amelia Boynton Robinson