

compassion may find enduring confirmation in Kennedy's 1962 message to Congress: 'We are not developing the nation's wealth for its own sake. Wealth is the means—and people are the ends. All our material riches will avail us little if we do not use them to expand the opportunities of our people.' And just perhaps it may not be forgot: 'If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.'"

In contrast to his account of his own efforts to forge a bipartisan alliance on behalf of the general welfare of all Americans and in support of peace, Wright strongly criticizes House Speaker Newt Gingrich: "Throughout his career, Gingrich has engaged in vicious attacks upon the patriotism and personal character of his colleagues and political adversaries. He has sown the seeds of hate, whose weeds threaten his own garden. . . . In one sad sense, Gingrich is like an arsonist who torches the building without supposing that the flames could consume his own bedroom."

The Kind of America We Want

In the epilogue to the book, titled "The Kind of America We Want," Jim Wright outlines what must be done to

end the Age of Gingrich.

First, he argues that we must end the Tyranny of Hate, which has come to dominate American political life, for which he blames not only Gingrich, but the voters themselves.

Second, Wright advocates campaign finance reform: "When public offices are virtually auctioned off to the highest bidder like seats on the New York Stock Exchange, the public loses control."

Third, he argues that we must defend America's Social Compact against the new conservatives, under whose direction the gap between the poor and rich will continue to grow.

Fourth, Wright, who served in the Congress on the Public Works Committee, calls for restoring what he calls America's Public Lifelines, i.e., *infrastructure*.

Fifth, he stresses that our best investment is education. "Our biggest and most important investment deficiency has been our neglect to reinvest adequately in our national future through education. . . . While it grows harder to get in college, it grows easier to get in jail. The United States prison population grew in 1995 to an all-time high of more than 1.1 million. Our country locks up a bigger percentage of its citizens than any

other nation does. And a year in prison costs the average taxpayers more for each inmate than a year in one of America's best universities would cost."

Sixth, citing cases of abuse of power on the part of the nation's law enforcement agencies, including the I.R.S. and the Department of Justice, Wright argues that the Justice Department "must be consciously restrained from engaging in vendettas against American citizens."

And finally, seventh, he calls for a restoration of "civility" in American political life. Referring to the attacks on President Clinton as "the work of a professional hate machine," Wright at the same time, takes the American citizen to task for his appetite for "political pornography."

1996 is the Year of Decision. As the November elections approach, Jim Wright continues to shoulder his responsibility, and with this book he has imparted an understanding of what can be done in a period of crisis. It is now our responsibility to reaffirm the vision of government, which we have inherited from the generation who lived through the Depression and World War II. We owe this to our posterity.

—William F. Wertz, Jr.

Documents of the American System

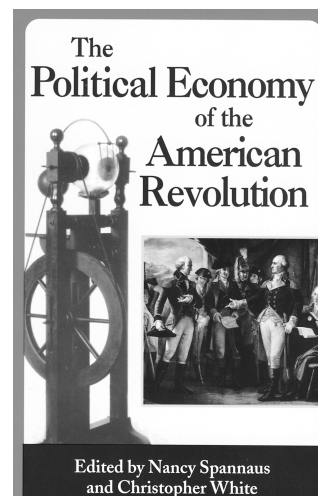
The second edition of *The Political Economy of the American Revolution*, was released July 17 by Executive Intelligence Review. This slightly expanded edition has been brought out nearly twenty years after its first publication in 1977.

The book is primarily a volume of writings from the American Founding Fathers, and their predecessors in Europe. Editors Nancy Spannaus and Christopher White have selected the writings, and written introductory essays. White's essay, "Jean-Baptiste Colbert and the Origins of Industrial Capitalism," is the fruit of his work with previously unpublished writings by King Louis XIV's Finance Minister. Colbert holds the distinction of having been both a sponsor of the universal genius Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz, and a hero of the United States's first Treasury Secretary, Alexander Hamilton.

Spannaus has written a preface on the cameralist school of economics, of which both Leibniz and Hamilton were representatives, and which has culminated in the Christian economics of American statesman Lyndon LaRouche today. The reprint also contains her 1977 essay attacking the "Treason School" of American history.

Many of the crucial writings which define the American System as a continuation of the Italian Golden Renaissance tradition, and a war against British imperialism and free trade, are assembled in this 481-page volume. It includes, along with writings by Franklin, Washington, and Paine, major excerpts of Hamilton's seminal "Report on Manufactures," two pivotal economic writings by Leibniz, and documents from England's Tudor Renaissance.

—Molly Kronberg



The Political Economy of the American Revolution edited by Nancy Spannaus and Christopher White Executive Intelligence Review, Washington, D.C., 1996 481 pages, paperbound, \$15.00



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