Optimism of LaRouche Youth Movement Dominates U.S. Schiller Conference

The emergence of the LaRouche Youth Movement as a powerful political force and "university on wheels," dominated the Presidents' Day Conference of the International Caucus of Labor Committees (I.C.L.C.), and Schiller Institute, held in Northern Virginia over the weekend of February 15-16. Despite a blizzard of near-historic proportions, almost 750 people attended the semi-annual meeting of the LaRouche political movement. About a third of them were youth, who remained after the conference proceedings ended, for two days of educationals.

The conference, entitled "This Is Our Time," began with a keynote by I.C.L.C. founder Lyndon LaRouche, the Democratic Presidential pre-candidate who called for the

founding of the youth movement in September 2002. LaRouche focussed his remarks on the process by which a revolution in world public opinion had been made on the question of the alleged "inevitability" of the war against Iraq. LaRouche emphasized that he and his movement had played a crucial catalytic role in jamming up the war, providing the time for the current anti-war movement, and strong European resistance, to develop; and he elaborated on the way in which this tested leadership must now turn the American population away from tragedy, and onto the path of a real economic regovery, as LaRouche himself has laid out.

The leadership question came up in every session of the conference, which

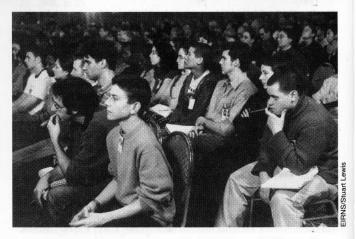








Conference keynote speakers Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. (top) and Helga Zepp LaRouche (above, right), with youth participants in conference plenary sessions and youth cadre school.



kept returning to the question of the sense of immortality, which a true leader must invoke against public opinion, if he or she is to inspire a political movement that will create a future for

mankind. This point was made in great depth, during a long evening tribute to Marianna Wertz, the late vice-president of the Schiller Institute, who passed Please turn to page 59 in Eurasia, especially China, India, and Russia

Chandrajit Yadav, chairman and chief organizer of this event, began and concluded the conference with the happy announcement that Bangalore, the beautiful "garden city" of India, and its center of science and high technology, will now also be known as the "city of peace and harmony."

Helga Zepp LaRouche addressed the conference on May 27, on the theme of the dialogue of cultures and religions. Her study and discussion of the great culture of India, and its millennia of dialogue with the cultures of Europe and China, especially impressed the younger conference participants.

Ongoing Strategic Discussion

The Bangalore conference is the direct continuation of the strategic discussions held at the Schiller Institute Bad Schwalbach conference this March—on stopping the drive of the Cheney-Rumsfeld "war party" in Washington, which could set off nuclear world war; on the urgent need for cooperative development of Eurasia to save the world economy; and on the rapid growth of a political movement among youth [SEE the "Bangalore Declaration," issued at the conclusion of the conference, page 5 of this issuel.

In India, young people are facing the same "no future" crisis as they face in the Americas and Europe, and there were many interventions from the lively contingent of about 50 young people in Bangalore, in the same spirit as the LaRouche Youth Movement panel at the U.S. Presidents' Day Conference in the Washington, D.C. area, and the Bad Schwalbach Conference in Germany. A leading youth organization participating was the Nehru Bal Sangh, with the Centre for Social Justice, dedicated to the ideals of India's great first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru. These youth movements should join hands to generate an international youth forum for peace. The final day of the conference, May 27, was the anniversary of the death of Nehru, and the delegates honored his memory with two minutes' silence.

Prominent Participants

Four leading Ministers of the state of Karnataka addressed the conference and contributed to its great success, and the state Governor, Shri T.N. Chaturvedi, was Chief Guest.

The conference was attended by delegates from the state of Karnataka and all over India: from states as far as West Bengal, Bihar, and Uttar Pradesh, as well as Hyderabad and Madhya Pradesh. Among the delegates were several leaders of the fight for Indian freedom, one 88 years old. National M.P.'s, leaders of women's groups, youth, professors from New Delhi and Bangalore, all attended. There was very good media attendance.

Foreign guests and speakers included Nouri A.R. Hussain, Secretary General of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization, based in Cairo; high-level representation of the embassy of China, and the chargé d'affaires of the embassy of Cuba. The head of the Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament in Beijing, which was unable to send a delegation due to the measures being taken to control the SARS epidemic, sent a message of greeting to the conference. Air Commodore Jasjit Singh, a noted writer on security issues, also spoke. The Chief Minister of Karnatka sent a message of support and congratulations.

Press Tells the Truth

On May 24, LaRouche gave a very wellattended press conference in Bangalore, and his views were honestly reported in excellent and broad press coverage in the Karnatakan-, Hindi-, and Englishlanguage press and television, not only in south India, but as far away as Calcutta. Some headlines focussed on the U.S. economic crisis. Excellent television and newspaper interviews were also published during his visit to India.

One of the best reflections of the impact of the Bangalore conference itself was a report on one national television station on May 26, which noted that just at the time when the visit of Indian Prime Minister Vajpayee to China is being planned, an event of so much importance for these two great nations of Asia, the conference on world peace was being held in Bangalore!

U.S. Conference

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away January 15. And the sense of scientific optimism and mission which is embodied in the LaRouche Youth Movement, was conveyed beautifully in the final session of the conference, which was conducted by the youth themselves.

Overcoming the U.S. Tragedy

LaRouche's keynote took up the situation after January 28, when he gave his State of the Union address, and reviewed the tremendous progress shown in the phase shift which was reflected in the February 14 United Nations Security Council meeting, and the massive demonstrations against the war the next day. The world has shifted from pessimism to determination that the war will be stopped, he said. This was his point of view starting months before, and, he argued, "It's time to examine the basis for our near-victory, to adduce that principle of victory, and to consciously apply it now, to make our victory total."

The Sense of Immortality

That quality of leadership to which LaRouche referred, was elaborated for the specific case of Marianna Wertz, in the celebration of her life which was held during the second conference panel. The lengthy event included musical presentations, appreciations by Amelia Boynton Robinson, Marianna's husband Will Wertz, Helga Zepp LaRouche, and Lyndon LaRouche, and drama and poetry. Moderating was Anton Chaitkin, Marianna's brother, and a founding member of the LaRouche political movement.

Marianna was well described by Zepp LaRouche as having been the "soul" of the American Schiller Institute, and the evening's artistic offerings in many cases featured her work in translating Schiller's poetry, as well as stressing the fact that she expressed the kind of love for mankind which Schiller identifies as the characteristic of a "beautiful soul." The evening was capped off with the sublime presentation of Johannes Brahms' "Four Serious

Songs," sung by bass-baritone Andre Solomon-Glover.

Fight for Universal Principle

Zepp LaRouche, founder of the international Schiller Institute, opened the second day of the conference with a keynote presentation that went from a review of the revolution occurring globally against the "American Empire" faction, to an elaboration of the universal principles put forward by the German poet of freedom, Friedrich Schiller, and the Schiller Institute, in order to put humanity back on course.

Assisted by Will Wertz, Zepp LaRouche focussed on the fundamental conceptions of Schiller concerning the role of man in the image of God in the universe,

and linked his ideas to those of the American Revolution's championing of the "inalienable rights" of man. This included a reading of the Declaration of Independence, alongside Schiller's "Rütli Oath" from the play Wilhelm Tell. The fact that the youth had presented this scene from the play the night before, reinforced its impact for the audience.

Zepp LaRouche concluded with a challenge to the audience, and the youth in particular, to "heal the soul of America" by using Schiller's ideas and method.

An Effective Youth Movement

Following an afternoon session of open dialogue with LaRouche, the conference

Celebrating the "beautiful and sublime life" of Schiller Institute vice-president Marianna Wertz.



concluded with what, to many, was its highlight: the youth panel. The panel discussion was entitled "Shattering Axioms, Fighting for our Future." Working essentially on their own, eight of the youth from the East and West Coast groupings put

together short, largely pedagogical, presentations on conceptions in art and physical science which are crucial to conveying the Classical method. Under the



Above: Husband Will Wertz narrates, as Marianna's picture is projected at rear. Left: Bass-baritone Andre Solomon-Glover performs Brahms' "Four Serious Songs."



West Coast LYM organizers perform the Rütli Oath scene from Schiller's drama "Wilhelm Tell."

leadership of Cody Jones, the panel included: Jennifer Chaine, speaking on Rembrandt's two paintings of Lucretia; Alex Getachew, on Percy Bysshe Shelley; Anna Shavin, on the musical comma; Jennifer Kreingold, on the musical comma; Jason Ross, on measurement; Sky Shields, on mapping; Rianna St. Classis, on mapping; and Brian McAndrews, on the organizing process.

Helga Zepp LaRouche's keynote presentation on fundamental conceptions of Friedrich Schiller appears on page 15 of this issue. The full Conference youth panel will be featured in the upcoming issue of Fidelio.

Combined Schiller Institute Chorus/Youth Chorus performs "Va Pensiero" from Verdi's opera "Nabucco," conducted by Alan Ogden.

