

Ad Hoc Platform Hearings Held by Democratic



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Left: Partial view of panel includes (left to right): State Reps. Erik Fleming, Ed Vaughn, LeAnna Washington, Joe Neal, former Sen. Eugene McCarthy, State Sen. Carlos Cisneros. **Above:** Panel chairman Erik Fleming.

Right: Witnesses (left to right): Melvin Muhammad (Nebraska AFSCME), Marty Jewell (Richmond Housing Coalition), Terri Bishop, Robert Cebrina (Michigan UAW), Steve Whitehead (Portsmouth Central Labor Council). **Below:** State Rep. Thomas Jackson.



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Call for New Bretton Woods Passes Alabama State House

A resolution calling for a New Bretton Woods Conference, passed the Alabama State House of Representatives on May 4.

The resolution, which was sponsored by Alabama State Rep. Thomas Jackson, reads as follows:

Whereas, the 1944 agreement of Bretton Woods mechanism contributed to the realization of monetary stability and to postwar economic reconstruction; and

Whereas, there is a divergence

between the real economy and the financial economy since the decoupling of the dollar from the gold reserve system; and

Whereas, financial crises have exploded in different parts of the world, especially since 1997; and

Whereas, the international monetary and financial institutions, in carrying out their tasks, are malfunctioning; and

Whereas, it has been ascertained that the "speculative bubble" has had devastating effects for the economics of devel-

oping countries, completely transforming the structures of the world economy, and reaching the level of at least \$300 trillion, compared to the world GDP of about \$40 trillion; now therefore,

Be it resolved by the legislature of Alabama, both houses thereof concurring, that we call for the convocation of a new conference, similar to the one at Bretton Woods, with the following goals:

(1) Creating a new international monetary system to gradually elimi-

Officials

A group of 11 high-ranking elected Democratic legislators from 10 states were joined by former U.S. Senator Eugene McCarthy in the nation's capital on June 22, to preside over an Ad Hoc Democratic Party Platform Hearing. The prestigious panel heard extensive testimony from a battery of witnesses, many of them elected officials, in three policy areas: the economic crisis, health care, and Constitutional law and justice.

- During the first panel, on the economy, wide-ranging testimony and discussion focussed on the devastating effects on the majority of American people of free trade, NAFTA, budget cuts, and privatization.

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Terri Bishop, executive director, Community for Creative Non-Violence Homeless Shelter, Washington, D.C., testifies.

nate the mechanisms which have led to the "speculative bubble."

(2) Evaluating the possibility of anchoring currency values to an element of real reference, and to better and more completely control the movement of currency rates.

(3) Proposing the creation of new credit lines oriented to developing investments in the sectors of the real economy.

(4) Defining infrastructure projects of continental dimensions.

Peruvian Patriots Turn to LaRouche To Stop 'Dope Inc.'

Under the headline "International Drug Trade Wants To Topple Fujimori," Peru's second-largest weekly magazine, *Gente*, featured a seven-page interview with Lyndon LaRouche associate Dennis Small on the cover of its issue, which hit the stands on May 24. The interview detailed the Dope Lobby interests that had picked up opposition Presidential candidate Alejandro Toledo as their instrument to topple Fujimori, using him, as *Gente* quotes Small, "like toilet paper. After you use it, you throw it away."

Small told people during his visit, that the objective behind Organization of American States (O.A.S.) calls for democracy was not to secure free elections, but to overthrow Fujimori. This is documented in the dossier, "Ten Uncomfortable Questions for Toledo," which showed that Toledo is run by the same team—speculator George Soros and Harvard punk Jeffrey Sachs—which had already bled nations from Bolivia to Russia, for the benefit of the drug trade.

Drug Legalizers

Small slammed O.A.S. credibility as a "neutral" observer. The head of the O.A.S. election observer mission, former Guatemalan Foreign Minister Eduardo Stein, is a Soros man, Small pointed out. Soros promoted him in a failed Vice Presidential bid, and his brother heads the Soros Foundation in Guatemala.

With the global financial system crashing, Small explained, financiers like Soros and New York Stock Exchange president Richard Grasso, are on a mad drive to legalize the dope trade, in order to prop up the global speculative bubble. Fujimori is an obstacle to that drive, because under his leadership, Peru crushed one of the worst narcoterrorist attacks any country has faced.

One of Peru's leading journalists, Patricio Ricketts, interviewed Small for



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LaRouche representative Dennis Small.

eight minutes on his widely viewed TV show, "Democracia 2000," on May 24. Ricketts began by asking Small, if "free elections" were occurring in the U.S. itself, allowing him to report what has happened to the LaRouche campaign and voting rights in general in the United States.

On May 25, national television Channel 10's lead nightly political talk show, "Mesa Politica," interviewed Small live for half an hour. The station then re-broadcast the interview many times, generating calls from around the country.

The next day, *Extra*, a national afternoon daily with a readership of 200,000, ran an interview with Small, headlined: "Those Who Have Handed Over Colombia on a Silver Platter, Want To Hand Over Peru." *Extra* asked why the U.S. didn't begin by cleaning up its own house. Small replied that "very grave violations of election law have been carried out in the U.S." against Lyndon LaRouche, "Al Gore's only opponent in the Democratic Party. . . . So much so, that one asks why the State Department does not pay attention to that, before directing its artillery against Peru. . . . There is a great hypocrisy occurring here, and a desperation to ensure that no viable alternative to speculation arises."

Platform Hearings

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zation. Witnesses included high-ranking representatives from organized labor and farm organizations, and from advocates for the urban poor and working poor.

- The health-care panel included direct testimony from five witnesses, and videotaped testimony from several more. The testimony addressed the collapse of health-care delivery to all segments of the population, from the very young to the very old, with a special focus on the combined impact of poverty and of the Nazi-like practices of the HMO/managed-care system, which denies treatment to those who need it, whenever such treatment stands in the way of profits.

- The final panel, devoted to issues of Constitutional law and justice, heard from 11 witnesses, who testified about racial profiling, prison privatization, the harassment of African-American public and elected officials by the Department of Justice, and the injustice of the death penalty.

In welcoming remarks, Dr. Debra Hanania Freeman, national spokeswoman for Lyndon LaRouche, whose campaign committee facilitated the hearings, explained that they were necessitated by the Democratic National Committee's failure to hold comprehensive platform hearings. The D.N.C.'s reasoning was to insist that "the fundamentals are sound."

State Rep. Erik Fleming (Mississippi) chaired the prestigious panel, which included:

- Former U.S. Senator Eugene McCarthy (Minnesota)
- State Senator Carlos Cisneros (New Mexico)
- State Senator Joe Neal (Nevada)
- State Rep. Perry Clark (Kentucky)
- State Rep. John Hilliard (Alabama)
- State Rep. Thomas Jackson (Alabama)
- State Rep. Harold James (Pennsylvania)
- State Rep. Ernest Newton (Connecticut)
- State Rep. Coy Pugh (Illinois)
- State Rep. Ed Vaughn (Michigan)
- State Rep. LeAnna Washington (Pennsylvania)

Los Angeles Concert

'A Tribute to the Spirit of Man'

On April 29, 150 people gathered in a church in Arcadia, Calif., to hear to a concert sponsored by the Schiller Institute. As Dr. William Warfield, the world-renowned operatic baritone, had told a group of students and activists the night before, normally man only nourishes his body—but music nourishes the soul.

Musicians from China and the Americas performed an entire spectrum of Classical music: from Bach, Verdi, and Puccini, to American spirituals, Mexican, American, and Chinese folk songs, and classical Chinese music.

It was without any doubt Warfield, at the age of eighty one of the world's leading experts on Negro Spirituals and German *Lieder*, past president of the National Association of Negro Musicians (1985-90), and a board member of the Schiller Institute, who anchored the very diverse program, pulling together the offerings from around the world.

On the first part of the program:

- Three singers from the National Association of Negro Musicians, ages ranging from 75 to 85, performed Verdi and Puccini arias, American folk songs, and spirituals.

- Mexican music educator and

choral director Alfredo Mendoza presented a Mexican folk song, and an aria from Mozart's *The Magic Flute*.

- Zhao Gui-jin introduced the audience to the Chinese reed flute with a folk song from southwestern China, and Wang Lian told the story of the "Pavilion of the Yellow Crane," music inspired by the poet Li Bai from the Tang dynasty (c. A.D. 778).

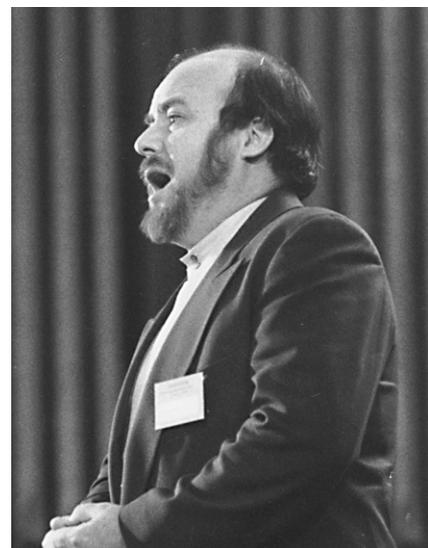
- William Warfield performed "Du bist wie eine Blume," and "Die beiden Grenadiere," both by Schumann, and ended the first half of the program with two haunting spirituals, "Li'l Boy, How Old Are You?" and "Chillun Did You Hear When Jesus Rose?"

The second part of the program was even more densely composed than the first. Mendoza performed three songs, from Schubert's "Winterreise" and "Die Schöne Müllerin," and a song from Schumann's "Dichterliebe," followed by Warfield with "Wanderers Nachtlied" and "Der Erlkönig." Wang Lian increased the tension by performing "Under Heavy Siege," composed in 202 B.C.

At the end, Warfield closed the circle by singing "Deep River," which moved many in the audience to tears.



Baritone Dr. William Warfield



Tenor Alfredo Mendoza