The Labor Day conference of the Schiller Institute and International Caucus of Labor Committees, held in Northern Virginia August 31-September 2, saw a revolutionary new development, with worldwide implications. At this extraordinary event, Lyndon LaRouche gathered together the forces of a new international youth movement, some 200-300 of the 1,000 or so in attendance. As he emphasized in his keynote address, this movement will not be focussed around “issues,” but personalities. Throughout history it has been the leadership provided by personalities, or the lack of such leadership, which has determined the direction of progress or regression.

LaRouche stressed that the key to acquiring the courage required to lead in a time of crisis, is the sense of personal identity, based on the knowledge that, although life is mortal, one achieves immortality, through doing something “which was needed, in honor of past mankind, and for the sake of the future of mankind.”

Over the course of the past generation of those born after World War II, known in the U.S. as the “Baby Boomers,” everything that had been achieved by President Franklin D. Roosevelt has been destroyed. The introduction of the “consumer society,” the rock-drug-sex counterculture, and the fixation on “personal needs,” as opposed to the common good, dealt the death blow to the culture associated with FDR.

The ‘No Future’ Generation

Thus, the need for a revolutionary youth movement. As presented in a panel discussion at the conference by Phil Rubinstein and Harley Schlanger, two associates of LaRouche who have pioneered the youth recruitment on the West Coast, this process is already in motion. Drawing on their experience of organizing youth over the past three years, Schlanger and Rubinstein painted a vivid picture of the challenges presented by the current generation, the children of the Baby Boomers. It is rightly dubbed the “no future generation,” because no future is offered them in school or society. Cultural pessimism is pervasive; they have no sense of truth or mission. The dominance of the counterculture has eliminated Classical culture, most importantly, robbing youth of a sense of history, of science and technological progress. Schlanger and Rubinstein were seconded by a score of young
LaRouche’s perspective, and genocide, in Ibero-America. Steinberg located LaRouche’s ongoing battle against the war faction, now dubbed the “chickenhawks,” and demonstrated how the LaRouche movement had already played a crucial role in slowing the war drive. Small concentrated on the pedagogical example of Argentina, where one can see both the horror of precipitous descent into a New Dark Age, and the potential of development under a new monetary system.

The second keynote of the weekend was given by Helga Zepp LaRouche, founder of the international Schiller Institute. She spoke about the growing movement against the “Clash of Civilizations” war, which has been catalyzed in Europe, and the promise of the Eurasian Land-Bridge policy, which she and her husband had initiated in the late 1980’s, and which is now taking off and can succeed, if the war drive can be stopped.

See page 62 for Special Feature coverage and photos of the LaRouche Youth Movement. An excerpt from Helga Zepp LaRouche’s keynote presentation appears as a Commentary on page 102.

Right: Panelists Harley Schlanger (top) and Phil Rubinstein discuss recruitment among the “no-future” generation.