

Let's Talk Jobs

With the world standing at the precipice of a thermonuclear showdown and a collapse into the barbarism of a New Dark Age, it might appear to be almost trivial to talk about jobs. Not so. It turns out that taking the correct approach to the jobs question, both in the U.S. and globally, provides the key to solving the global crisis that now threatens civilization itself.

The pivot point will be the creation of 4 to 6 million jobs *immediately* with the launching of the NAWAPA project in the United States—a mission that will uniquely restore both the credit system and national mission of this country, and kickstart a recovery internationally. But first, let's take a look at the problem.

Under the dominance of the British monetarist system, which has reigned increasingly since the death of FDR, the whole concept of employment has fundamentally shifted. The percentage of productive jobs—those in manufacturing, agriculture, and physical goods production—has shrunk. A larger and larger share of the world's population has been “excessed,” having no jobs at all, while those who do “work” see themselves as “making money,” not fulfilling a mission, or even a career.

Even a quick look at current crude statistics provides shocking evidence of this fact. In the United States, more than *80 million* people of working age are *not in the labor force!* That's a lower labor participation rate than any time in modern history—and an utter disaster. Internationally, unemployment rates among young people, including those just out of school, reach into the range of over 50% in countries where they are counted (as in Europe). The picture in the underdeveloped nations is undoubtedly worse, although not quantifiable.

What these numbers reflect is a profound eco-

nomic *and* moral problem. First, from the standpoint of human survival, the productive powers of labor are being thrown on the scrapheap, and the vast unmet needs of current and future mankind are not being addressed. Bridges and power plants are not being built, scientific discoveries are not being made—at our peril.

Second, this utter disregard for the value of human labor and life feeds a worsening problem of morals and morale, where each new generation sees itself more and more disconnected from the purpose and progress of human history, and thus more and more bestial. Civilization is threatened by its own internal rot.

To address what seems to be an overwhelming problem, Lyndon LaRouche and LPAC have homed in on one crucial project, the North American Water and Power Alliance (NAWAPA). NAWAPA is minimally a 30-year project, with vast construction demands over several decades ahead. But, like the TVA and the Kennedy space program before it, NAWAPA requires an immediate commitment to jobs, in this case 4 million jobs—and people employed in productive work. This may appear to make a small dent in the vast unemployed labor force, but it begins a dynamic that will rapidly grow, generating a renewed spirit of optimism, *and* millions of additional jobs in the industries that will be required to support the NAWAPA project.

These jobs represent a commitment to the future, not only of the individuals employed, but to the nation and the world. They will re-establish an economy based on the productive powers of labor, not money, that can, and must, come to characterize the world economy as a whole. Let's dump the London and Wall Street markets—and create the jobs that will build us into a great nation again.