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European Headquarters: E.I.R. GmbH, Postfach
Bahnstrasse 9a, D-65205, Wiesbaden, Germany
Tel: 49-611-73650
Homepage: <http://www.eirna.com>
e-mail: eirna@eirna.com
Director: Georg Neudecker

Montreal, Canada: 514-461-1557

Denmark: EIR - Danmark, Sankt Knuds Vej 11,
basement left, DK-1903 Frederiksberg, Denmark.
Tel.: +45 35 43 60 40, Fax: +45 35 43 87 57. e-mail:
eirdk@hotmail.com.

Mexico City: EIR, Calz de los Gallos 39 interior 2,
Col Plutarco E Calles,
Del. Miguel Hidalgo, CP 11350,
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From the Managing Editor

“True scientists, especially great ones, think actually within the setting of the future, rather than the past. Do you?” That is the challenge Lyndon LaRouche poses in his *Feature*. It is also, he explains, the “secret” to any kind of competent economic forecasting.

With the determination to focus on the future and convince others to do the same, organizers from the LaRouche movement waged hand-to-hand combat against Wall Street honchos at the annual meeting of the National Conference of State Legislatures in Atlanta, Georgia. The subject was the Glass-Steagall Law, and our *National* section features the story. While the Wall Street forces bullied, bribed, and threatened their way to win this round, and the conference failed to pass a resolution in support of Glass-Steagall, the battle energized many legislators present to press ahead for victory when Congress reconvenes in September.

In harmony with that event, a group of French and German local elected officials met in Arzviller, France, and vowed to fight for Glass-Steagall-style banking separation in their countries (see *International*). One of them summed up the spirit of the gathering: “We must build the future for our children and our grandchildren. The idea of being a mayor or elected official is to identify yourself with the future. . . .”

In *Economics*, we expose what the global financier oligarchy is doing to try to consolidate their power in a time of political and financial breakdown. We lead with the impact of Wall Street’s looting policies on U.S. state and local economies, specifically the shutdown of hospitals. Meanwhile in Switzerland, the bank regulatory agency has endorsed a bail-in program that would put half a trillion euros of bank depositors’ funds at the disposal of two “too big to fail” banks, UBS and Credit Suisse. But there too, a movement for banking separation, Glass-Steagall-style, is gathering steam.

Where does Russia stand on these questions, as the G20 summit prepares to convene in St. Petersburg on Sept. 5? Rachel Douglas analyzes “Putin’s paradox,” including a history of the pro- and anti-City of London forces in Russia. Her conclusion: Russia should turn its attention to tasks like the Strategic Defense of Earth, infrastructure, and nuclear power: the tasks of the future.

