



# California Water and Infrastructure Report

## For April 2, 2020

### by Patrick Ruckert

Published weekly since July, 2014

An archive of all these weekly reports can be found at both links below:

<http://www.californiadroughtupdate.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaDroughtUpdate>

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*“The American system is the only one ever devised the tendency of which was that of elevating while equalizing the condition of mankind throughout the world. Such is the true mission of the people of the United States. To them has been granted a privilege never before granted to mankind — that of the exercise of the right of perfect self-government. But, as rights and duties are inseparable, with the grant of the former came the obligation to perform the latter.*

*“Well, what duties do American citizens think they have, other than voting? To raise the value of labor throughout the world, you need only to raise the value of our own. To raise the value of land throughout the world, it is needed only that we adopt measures that raise the value of our own. Through the substitute of true Christianity for the detestable system known of the Malthusian, it is needed that we prove to the world that it is population that makes the food come from rich soils. And that food tends to increase more rapidly than population, thus vindicating the policy of God to man.”*

*Henry Charles Carey*

*American System Economist and advisor to Abraham Lincoln*

## A Note To Readers

President Trump, over the past two weeks has taken several actions that reflect the early months of his Presidency as he promoted the “American System.” The president then cited Alexander Hamilton, Henry Clay, Abraham Lincoln and William McKinnley as his models for how he would run the U.S. economy. After three years of an attempted coup against him, and his administration personnel largely made up Wall Street scum, his actions now do put him on the pathway of adopting the entire package of LaRouche's Four Laws. [Four Laws for economic recovery in 2014.](#)

Not only has he, like Lincoln and President Franklin Roosevelt, taken command, and through the Defense Production Act, ordered companies to produce what is required for our hospitals and healthcare workers, but this week announced that he was going to fight for \$2 trillion to rebuild the nation's infrastructure. And then today, President Donald Trump said that he would consider opening up Medicare and Medicaid to those nearly 30 million uninsured Americans as the coronavirus spreads across the US.

A good beginning, Mr. President. And, next as the first item below this introduction makes clear, his policy and that of Wall Street cannot coexist in the same universe.

The **Feature** this week focuses on the life and death battle reflected in the president's policy versus that of the massive Federal Reserve ongoing bailout of Wall Street and London, which is pumping in several billion dollars every week attempting to plug the growing whirlpool of collapsing derivatives, corporate debt, and the rest of the everything casino. And, as Zepp-LaRouche stressed yesterday, "What we need is a completely new system. All the rules of the liberal economy, of the neo-liberal model, the cheap labor markets, the outsourcing, all of that has to be replaced; and it has to start with the immediate building of a world health system where a decent health system is being built up in every single country. That must be the beginning of an industrial revolution for the whole world. Nothing short of that will do. That means we need a New Bretton Woods system, and a new credit system to finance that."

## **The Rest of This Week's Report**

The snowpack and the developing California drought is featured immediately after the article below. Slowly, the drought intensifies as the snowpack on April 1 is only about 50 percent of the average for this time of the year.

The **Feature** has seven sections, under the title: **Trump vs Wall Street Is There For All To See**

**Section 1: Real economy collapses, but the Wall Street parasites gorge themselves.**

**Section 2: The real economy: The Kaiser report.**

**Section 3: Trump sounds and acts like FDR.**

**Section 4: Mobilizing the former "Arsenal of Democracy"**

**Section 5: Governors, China and Russia Join With Trump**

**Section 6: Zepp-LaRouche: 'Systems Are Manmade—You Can Change Systems When One Breaks Down'**

**Section 7: Malthusian and Eugenicists Unleashed Once Again**

So, we begin:

## **Trump's Plan and Wall Street's Plan — They Cannot Coexist**

<https://larouchepac.com/20200401/trump-s-plan-and-wall-street-s-plan-they-cannot-coexist>

April 1, 2020

President Donald Trump Tuesday afternoon issued a tweet, which, if acted upon, quickly, could mark the beginning of a recovery—not only from COVID-19, but from the festering collapse of the American economy since the assassination of John Kennedy and the launching of the Vietnam War. Trump wrote: "With interest rates for the United States being at ZERO, this is the time to do our decades long awaited Infrastructure Bill. It should be VERY BIG & BOLD, Two Trillion Dollars, and

be focused solely on jobs and rebuilding the once great infrastructure of our Country! Phase 4.”

Can this work? With the Democratic Party leadership forced to cooperate with the President in the face of the worst crisis since World War II—passing three large humanitarian aid and stimulus packages to address the devastated economy and the decades of looting by Wall Street of the nation’s public health, industry, and infrastructure—the Democrats will almost certainly back Trump on this as well. The problem lies elsewhere.

At virtually the same moment Trump issued this historic tweet, Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell was announcing that the Fed balance sheet has reached an historic high of \$5.3 trillion, having risen this week alone by 12.4%. Further, Wall Street pundits added that this was just the beginning, with the figure by the end of the year likely to reach \$10 trillion. This is assuredly not for the real economy, but is going directly into the purchase of increasingly worthless derivatives and other speculative paper from the banks—and not only Wall Street banks, but all the Western central banks as well. This massive injection of money, backed by absolutely no production, is precisely what Lyndon LaRouche has pointed to—since Richard Nixon destroyed the fixed-exchange-rate Bretton Woods system in 1971—as the almost certain cause of a hyperinflationary collapse, turning the savings, wages and pension funds of the working people of this nation into toilet paper—and you can be certain this is not intended to solve the problem of our supermarkets being out of toilet paper.

Printing money as a form of credit, with the intention of creating productive wealth for the future, is the precise opposite of printing money to bail out bad gambling debts. One creates wealth, the other steals wealth from the real economy to prop up the (actually bankrupt) British imperial oligarchs who run the City of London and Wall Street. As LaRouche loved to say: Money is stupid, credit knows what it’s doing.

Trump has been campaigning for an infrastructure bill for years, since long before he decided to run for President. He also campaigned for the Hamiltonian “American System” and the Glass-Steagall Act, knowing that without these, the credit for restoring the American economy and infrastructure would be sucked dry by the Wall Street bottomless pit. But—he has not had the political strength to take on Wall Street.

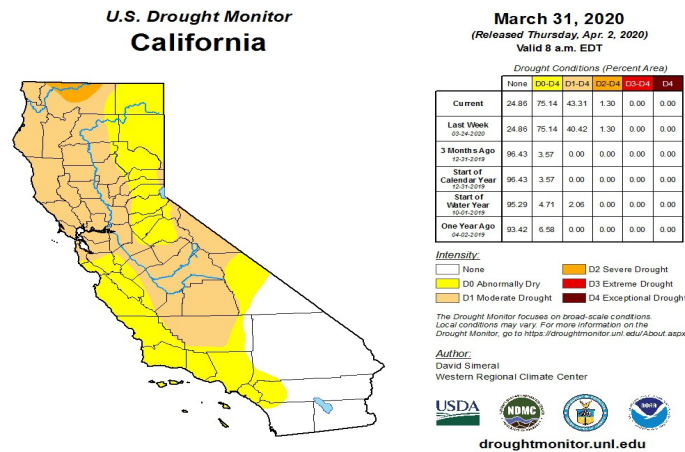
This “double virus” crisis—COVID-19 and the derivatives virus—has already created a “phase change” in the mind of the population. People increasingly know that the old system is dead. No patchwork can fix it up. But they are also scared, not sure how to prevent the new Dark Age whose visage is rising before them.

Yesterday, Helga Zepp-LaRouche held a two-hour videoconference call with youth from across the U.S., Ibero-America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. She motivated them to participate in the required mobilization of the world’s nations and peoples, to demand that an urgent series of summits be held by the Four Powers and allied nations to build an alternative to the old, dead paradigm—noting that the passion and vision of youth are an integral part of any revolution and renaissance. In particular, she called on them to mobilize thousands of people internationally to attend the [International Conference of the Schiller Institute, to be held online on April 25-26. Please plan to attend, and organize all you know to join in this critical event.](#)

## **Snowpack, Drought and a Big Question Mark for What is to Come**

## U.S. Drought Monitor

This week's U.S. Drought monitor shows little change in the developing drought in California.



## Statewide, the Sierra snowpack is 53% of average

April 1, 2020

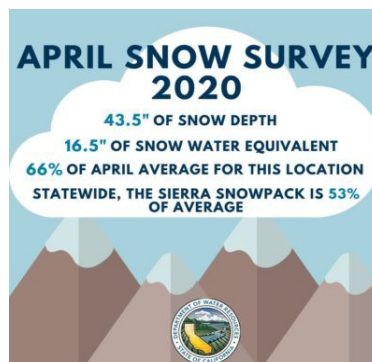
*From the Department of Water Resources:*

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) today conducted the fourth manual snow survey of 2020 at Phillips Station. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, DWR is providing [video of the results](#) in lieu of conducting a live media event on site.

Today's manual survey recorded 43.5 inches of snow depth and a snow water equivalent (SWE) of 16.5 inches, which is 66 percent of the April average for this location. The SWE measures the amount of water contained in the snowpack, which provides a more accurate forecast of spring runoff.

Measurements from the 130 electronic snow sensors, scattered throughout the state, indicate that the statewide snowpack's water equivalent is 15.2 inches, or 53 percent of the April average.

“While today’s survey results show our snowpack is better off than it was just last month, they still underscore the need for widespread, wise use of our water supplies,” said DWR Director Karla Nemeth. “California’s climate continues to show extreme unpredictability, and February’s record dryness is a clear example of the extremes associated with climate change.”



California is experiencing increased extremes and variability due to climate change. In one year, California has gone from having the fifth best recorded snowpack to one of the 10 worst.

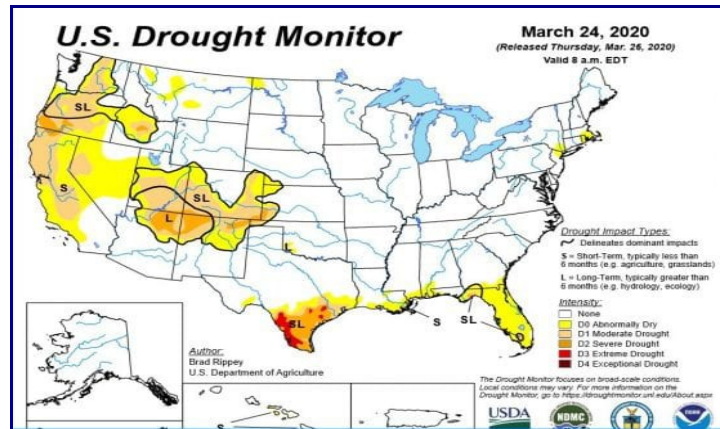


“Over the last decade, California’s snowpack has been alternating between extremely wet and extremely dry,” stated Sean de Guzman, chief of DWR’s Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecast Section. “In the past 10 years, we’ve seen three of our smallest snowpacks on record, but we’ve also seen three of our largest snowpacks on record.”

On average, the snowpack supplies about 30 percent of California’s water needs as it melts in the spring and early summer.

### **Snowpack Half Normal; California Experiencing Drought** | Sunday, Mar 29, 2020

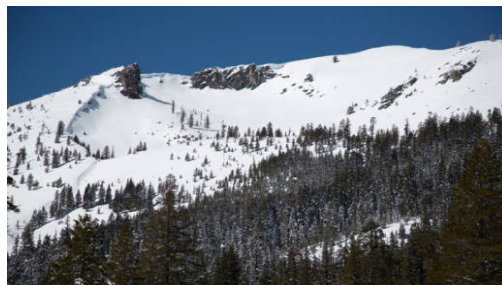
<https://scvnews.com/snowpack-half-normal-california-experiencing-drought/>



Much of California remains in abnormally dry conditions and several regions in the north state are experiencing drought, according to a Thursday report from the U.S. Drought Monitor.

Despite a series of late-season storms giving the thirsty state much needed precipitation during March, it was not enough to make up for the rain and snow deficit run up during the inordinately dry winter.

“While the late-season precipitation has reduced irrigation demands and has provided a nice boost in soil moisture and snowpack, the moisture is generally too late for drought-stressed rangeland that has already lost forage yield potential due to winter drought,” the agency reported.



A snow-covered Sierra Nevada mountain peak to the northwest of Phillips Station snow course near Lake Tahoe. (Dale Kolke/California Department of Water Resources)

California’s reservoirs are not yet up to full strength, a foreboding sign for a state that historically draws the lion share of its precipitation during the winter months and stores it for the dry summers.

Folsom Lake, for instance, is at 48% full at present and is at 78% of its historical average. Similarly, Lake Oroville is 64% full currently, 86% of its historic average.

The border of Oregon and California continues to be one of the hardest-hit areas in the American West.

“Below-normal seasonal precipitation was reflected by dry soils, sub-par snowpack, and unusually low streamflow,” the monitor said. “Patches of dryness and drought also stretched from the eastern slopes of the Cascades onto the northern High Plains.”

Near all of Oregon and most of central Washington remain categorized in “abnormally dry” conditions or varying levels of drought.

## **Feature: Trump vs Wall Street Is There For All To See**

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### **Section 1: Real economy collapses, but the Wall Street Parasites Gorge Themselves**

#### **Fed QE Frenzy Disrupts Derivatives Markets—Close Them Down!**

March 30 (EIRNS)—Schiller Institute President Helga Zepp-LaRouche, so far alone among political leaders, has demanded the speculative stock and bond and derivatives markets be closed down immediately now, so that massive losses can be stopped, Wall Street banks reorganized, and lending banks protected from a crash. Events of the past week further vindicate her proposal.

American mortgage bankers are now demanding that the Federal Reserve stop buying mortgage-backed securities (MBS). The U.S. Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA) wrote a letter to regulators March 29 complaining that the mortgage market is “in danger of large-scale disruption,” because the Fed bought \$250 billion in MBS in two weeks, including \$183 billion last week. The purchases blew up mortgage bankers’ derivatives—interest-rate swaps—and left them with margin calls into the tens of millions each. The list of large commercial mortgage-financing real estate investment trusts (REITs) which defaulted on margin calls just last week, includes Invesco Mortgage Finance; MFA Financial; AG Mortgage Investment Trust; TPG RE Finance Trust; and ED&F Man Capital. Since commercial mortgage-backed securities are derivatives to begin with, the Federal Reserve in the REITs’ case has blown out their derivatives on their derivatives!

The MBA said: “The dramatic price volatility in the market for agency mortgage-backed securities over the past week ... is leading to broker-dealer margin calls on mortgage lenders’ hedge positions that are unsustainable for many such lenders....

“Margin calls on mortgage lenders reached staggering and unprecedented levels by the end of the week. For a significant number of lenders ... these margin calls are ... threatening their ability to continue to operate.”

Meanwhile, a first mid-size regional bank in the United States has needed a bailout of its derivatives exposure—and gotten one, of course. The bank is Capital One, headquartered in McLean, Virginia; on paper it has \$372 billion in assets. It, too, was hit with large margin calls it may not have been able to meet—i.e., it may have defaulted—on oil-price and interest-rate swaps. So the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) stepped in and exempted it from meeting the margin calls! But this came with conditions which, as Reuters reports, may now restrict the bank’s ability to keep lending, so it remains in some trouble. A CFTC spokesman was quoted admitting they had bailed Capital One out: “We have actively encouraged all market participants to identify regulatory relief or other assistance that may be needed to help support robust, orderly and liquid markets in the face of this pandemic.”

The Federal Reserve’s planned new \$4 trillion quantitative easing spree—with more trillions to follow—is not for the purpose of “helping U.S. businesses,” as media constantly put it. Even Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Presidential National Economic Council Director Larry Kudlow are more forthright—it is to “preserve financial markets” and is being backed with \$450 billion in taxpayers’ funds to help the Fed do that presently destructive task. Wall Street must be quarantined to fight the coronavirus.

### **Mnuchin Talks Up Aid for ‘Main Street America,’ but Hands Trillions to Wall Street and City of London**

March 29 (EIRNS)—Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin appeared on at least two Sunday news shows to talk up the CARES Act, signed March 27, which gives benefits for “Main Street America,” all the while Mnuchin made clear he is trying to save his ilk on Wall Street. Trump National Economic Council Director Larry Kudlow did the same on ABC News. Kudlow said “There will be temporary emergency financing to unlock massive reserves from the Fed, to stabilize financial markets.”

Mnuchin told Fox News, there will be \$4 trillion available Monday, March 30, and more can be expected, for liquidity injections into the financial markets. He said, “We’ve rolled out many programs,” and they will provide “temporary support.”

On CBS News, Mnuchin affirmed that he speaks with Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell several times a day. Mnuchin said that Powell requests things, and “I have approved all his requests.” Mnuchin said, there are “broad-based programs,” of support to the markets. BlackRock will lead one of the programs and they were hired because they have experience from the last crisis. “Larry Fink has enormous experience.”

Otherwise, Mnuchin and Kudlow recounted the individual parts of the CARES Act on what is available to individuals, families, small businesses and local and state governments. Mnuchin says that within three weeks, disbursements will be issued in the form of direct deposits to recipients, or notification to them of how their money can be received.

### **Another Day, Another Couple of Trillion Dollars from the Fed in Bailout Largesse**

April 1 (EIRNS)—Yesterday the Federal Reserve announced that it would be opening a new set of financial floodgates to dozens of foreign central banks, by allowing them to join in the repo feeding frenzy at the Fed trough. Concretely, those banks (which so far have not been named) can now get their hands on urgently needed dollars through an overnight exchange of their holdings of U.S. Treasuries for cash from the Fed, with the promise of repurchasing them (repo) the next day. Only, of course, nobody really expects them to return the cash and buy back their Treasuries; the loans can be “rolled over as needed” every 24 hours, the Fed stated. The program is slated to start up on April 6, and last at

least six months. How much money this will involve has not yet been revealed.

One day earlier Fed Chairman Jerome Powell had announced that the Fed balance sheet now stands at \$5.3 trillion, and counting. Some analysts believe that it could reach \$10 trillion by year-end; but under the British Empire's current policy of trying to bail out the entire global speculative bubble of \$1.8 quadrillion—a fool's errand, if ever there was one—we will be seeing that \$10 trillion in the rearview mirror in another few weeks—if the system survives that long.

The problem that the new repo facility is meant to solve is that the desperately illiquid central banks around the world have been dumping Treasuries on the open market, wreaking havoc on the market. As the Fed put it in their announcement, "This facility should help support the smooth functioning of the U.S. Treasury market by providing an alternative temporary source of U.S. dollars other than sales of securities in the open market." Reuters noted taciturnly in a March 31 wire: "That could be particularly important in coming weeks as measures to control the spread of the virus shuts down commerce and potentially leaves companies and countries that do business or borrow in the U.S. currency struggling to stay afloat."

Yesterday's announcement, according to a compendium published by Reuters under the headline "What the Federal Reserve Has Done in the Coronavirus Crisis," adds to an alphabet soup of desperate bailout operations that the Fed has already activated. "The Federal Reserve has moved into overdrive rolling out new efforts almost weekly," Reuters wrote. They now include:

- Interest rate cuts;
- Repo market operations;
- Quantitative easing;
- Discount windows;
- Central bank foreign currency swap lines;
- Term Asset-backed Securities Loan Facility (TALF);
- Commercial Paper Funding Facility (CPFF);
- Primary Dealer Credit Facility (PDCF);
- Primary Market Corporate Credit Facility (PMCCF);
- Secondary Market Corporate Credit Facility (SMCCF); and
- Money Market Mutual Fund Liquidity Facility (MMFLF).

## **Section 2: Kaiser Study: Half of All U.S. Counties Have No ICU Beds; Seven Million Americans Over 60 Reside There**

March 27 (EIRNS)—Lyndon LaRouche's decades-long warnings on the gouging of U.S. health-care infrastructure is writ large in a just-released study by the Kaiser Health News (KHN) service which states that "Half of the counties in America have no intensive care beds, posing a danger for more than 7 million people" over the age of 60 and up who reside in those counties. Further, their study indicates that even where there are intensive-care (ICU) beds, the numbers available for senior citizens "vary wildly." See their article and interactive map at <https://khn.org/news/as-coronavirus-spreads-widely-millions-of-older-americans-live-in-counties-with-no-icu-beds/>. The study's data are a comparison



between hospital data and number of persons over age 60 and up.

As for those counties with hospitals but which have no ICU beds, KHN reports that this affects 18 million people, and that of those, "about a quarter of them are 60 or older." Plus, there are 11 million more people who live in counties with no hospital at all in which "2.7 million of them [are] seniors."

The real evidence of what LaRouche always identified as Wall Street gouging is seen in KHN's data comparing numbers of the available ICU beds to the number of seniors who might need those beds in a given county. "Among counties with ICU beds the average, is 1,300 older people per bed in each county." Some incredible examples are given: Michigan's Clinton County has 8,469 residents aged 60-plus per ICU bed; or California's Santa Cruz County with 2,601 seniors per ICU bed. Those are the most extreme.

The farm belt states are outstanding in the lack of hospitals and ICU beds. For example, in Kansas, 68 of the state's 105 counties have no ICU beds at all, and ten of those counties have no hospital at all. In the same counties, the over-60 cohort ranges from 25% to 33%.

It's no better in the big cities: San Francisco has one ICU bed for every 5,323 older residents.

### **Section 3: Trump sounds and acts like FDR**

#### **Trump backs infrastructure bill as next phase of coronavirus relief**

By [Brett Samuels](#) - 03/31/20 11:02 AM EDT

<https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/490353-trump-backs-infrastructure-bill-as-next-phase-of-coronavirus-relief>

[President Trump](#) on Tuesday encouraged Congress to pass a \$2 trillion infrastructure bill as the next piece of legislation to boost the economy amid the coronavirus pandemic.

"With interest rates for the United States being at ZERO, this is the time to do our decades long awaited Infrastructure Bill," Trump tweeted.

"It should be VERY BIG & BOLD, Two Trillion Dollars, and be focused solely on jobs and rebuilding the once great infrastructure of our Country!"

The president and lawmakers in both parties have long discussed the possibility of a sweeping infrastructure package, considering it one of a few areas with bipartisan support. But talks have consistently stalled over disagreements on how to fund such a bill.

#### **Trump says it 'doesn't seem fair' that 30 million Americans are uninsured and suggests he may expand Medicare or Medicaid (excerpts)**

Eliza Relman,  
[Business Insider](#)

April 2, 2020

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/trump-says-doesnt-seem-fair-164144207.html>

- President Donald Trump suggested on Wednesday that he would consider opening up Medicare and Medicaid to more uninsured Americans as the coronavirus spreads across the US.
- "It's something we're really going to look at, because it doesn't seem fair," Trump said at Wednesday's White House briefing. "If you have it, you have a big advantage. And at certain

income level you do."

President Donald Trump [suggested on Wednesday](#) that he would consider opening up Medicare and Medicaid to [nearly 30 million uninsured Americans](#) as the coronavirus spreads across the US.

He said it "doesn't seem fair" that so many Americans can't afford to purchase insurance but don't qualify for Medicare or Medicaid — appearing to suggest those programs could be expanded to include more people.

"John, I think it's a very fair question though, and it's something we're really going to look at, because it doesn't seem fair," Trump said. "If you have it, you have a big advantage. And at a certain income level you do."

Sen. Bernie Sanders has aggressively pushed "Medicare for All," while former Vice President Joe Biden has advocated a public option, also known as "Medicare for all who want it."

"I think we're going to get to it," Trump said. "I don't think the other group will get to it. They haven't even spoken about it."

But Trump said he wasn't "committing" to doing anything. "I can't commit," he said. "I have to get approval from it. I have thing called 'Congress.' But it's something we're going to look at, and we have been looking at it."

## **Section 4: Mobilizing the former “Arsenal of Democracy”**

### **GM Turns Shuttered, Abandoned Michigan Factory into Mass Producer of Medical Face Masks**

March 31 (EIRNS)—In November 2018, as part of its cost-cutting campaign, General Motors cut 4,000 white-collar workers, and shut down four U.S. auto factories, one of which was the plant at Warren, Michigan. The innards of the Warren plant, including its valuable machine tools, were left idle. Now GM has broken profile, and reopened the Warren plant to convert it, a perspective that [Lyndon LaRouche](#) proposed for entire sections of the shutdown or misused layers of the auto industry in 2005.

The Warren plant used to produce seat belts and interior trim; now the personnel are becoming experts at manufacturing face masks. The March 31 *Detroit Free Press* reports that “More than 30 engineers, designers, buyers and members of GM’s manufacturing team helped to develop the machinery and materials, such as metal nose pieces, elastic straps and blown, nonwoven fabric filter materials, to make the masks. They also laid out a plan for the production process.”

On March 20, GM started gutting the Warren facility. GM cleared nearly 31,000 square feet of space to accommodate the mask production lines. The crews installed new electrical service lines, some of which were made by JR Automation in Holland, Michigan and Esys Automation in Auburn Hills. In just one week, GM’s first prototype mask rolled off the line. “It was amazing to see how fast the team pulled it off,” said Monte Doran, a GM spokesman, stating “it would typically take about two months to retool a plant to build a new product, and GM and the workers did it in seven days.”

By April 8, the first 20,000 face masks will roll off the line for distribution to offset a severe shortage of production of masks caused by the novel coronavirus pandemic. GM plans to get production to 50,000 masks per day, or 1.5 million per month, and then perhaps to as many as 100,000 masks per day. This is just one of the several facilities that would need to start producing masks.

As the automotive sector rekindles its capabilities through reconversion—and it could soon be joined by the aerospace sector—the question is raised whether now isn’t the time to permanently reconvert a

healthy portion of this capacity to the mass production of nuclear power plants; prefabricated quality modular units for the production of hospitals, which is how many Chinese hospitals are built; high-speed and maglev rail; tractors, nuclear plants, water systems and hospitals for Africa, Asia and Ibero-America. Out of this crisis, the time for LaRouche's vision has come.

## **An Awakened Ford Motor Shifts Focus to Production of Respirators and Medical Shields**

March 31 (EIRNS)—The U.S. automotive sector, once the hub of what President Roosevelt called the Arsenal for Democracy, is now shedding its lethargy, scraping off the rust, stretching its limbs, and initially doing what is in part in its DNA—when it functions: to design, innovate and mass produce.

As the *EIR Daily Alert* reported in its March 26 issue, General Motors and ventilator producer Ventec Life Systems are gearing up to produce some 200,000 ventilators, beginning in April at GM's Kokomo, Indiana plant; that total of ventilators would approximately equal the America's existing inventory.

Ford Motor Company is partnering with 3M and GE Healthcare, whose products include medical equipment, to scale up production, by as much as tenfold, of power air-purifying respirators and ventilators, respectively. "One of the things with the auto industry is that it is good at making things at volume with high levels of precision," said David Cole, chairman emeritus of the Center for Automotive Research in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Such precision is needed for medical equipment. A group of Ford employees decided they knew of ways to incorporate Ford processes to make medical equipment. According to the March 24 *Detroit News*, they "floated their idea and kicked off discussions with health care officials, equipment manufacturers, and the White House's medical consultants."

One idea they came up with was to develop a filtration system for a respirator that uses a Ford fan that Ford deploys to cool seats in its F-150 pick-up trucks. Respirators filter the air for health caregivers and last longer than the N95 face masks. Ford and 3M in this production project are designing respirators, with this Ford fan, to last up to eight hours. Mike Kesti, global technical director of personal safety division of 3M, asserted, "We're trying to be resourceful, agile and creative on how to make this work and build capacity." A production schedule is being worked out.

The Ford workers have dubbed their operation "Project Apollo 13," named for the damaged lunar spaceflight 50 years ago, when the astronauts and Mission Control had to bootstrap the systems of the command module and the lunar module after there was an oxygen tank explosion and they had to figure out how to get the astronauts home safely.

In parallel, Ford is already testing face shields that would protect medical professionals, factory workers, and store clerks at the Detroit Mercy Hospital and other Detroit hospitals. Ford plans to produce more than 1 million of these shields per week at its subsidiary, Troy Design and Manufacturing in Plymouth, Michigan.

## **Section 5: Governors, China and Russia Join With Trump**

### **Governors, Trump Join To Ramp Up Emergency Logistics; 'Project Airbridge' Brings in Supplies from China**

March 29 (EIRNS)—White House Task Force members today indicated that the 15-day Federal Guidelines on COVID-19 for social distancing, ending March 30, will be extended a month. Details will be made available March 30 or 31.

Many governors and President Donald Trump were outspoken over this weekend, on aspects of the collaboration to ramp up logistics for emergency diagnostics and care for COVID-19 patients and surge

requirements. National Governors Association Chairman Larry Hogan, of Maryland, told Fox News that there are “big pinch points” everywhere on supplies: “There is frustration,” but “we are all in it together.” Governors gave specifics on this all weekend, especially from the hotspot states of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Louisiana, California, Washington, Florida and Michigan.

Both New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy and Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards said today that respiratory ventilators are their number-one issue. Murphy further said of the White House Task Force, “They’re trying to work with us. We’re trying to find common ground.”

This afternoon, Trump attended a meeting of business executives on supply lines for medical materials. He then had several speak, including UPS, at the daily White House Task Force briefing.

Trump himself announced the “Project Airbridge,” a public-private partnership (PPP) arrangement to rapidly distribute supplies, including coming in from China. A planeload of medical supplies arrived in New York today from Shanghai. The plane carried 130,000 N95 respirator masks, nearly 1.8 million other face masks and gowns, more than 10.3 million gloves, and some 70,000 thermometers. A handful of American healthcare distributors purchased the supplies, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency brought them in on a Shanghai-to-New York flight. A White House statement said, the “majority of these supplies will be provided by FEMA to the states of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut with the rest going to nursing homes in the area and to other high-risk areas across the country.”

FEMA is covering the shipping of this part of Project Airbridge. The equipment was all produced in China, and was available for the U.S. New York had requested more equipment from China, but a question arose how to get it to the U.S. with the current restrictions on air travel. FEMA stepped in to take the load, which was no doubt a result of the March 26 phone discussion between President Trump and President Xi Jinping on the matter.

Another outstanding feature of the logistics mobilization is the rapid Army Corps of Engineers response in many parts of the country for helping on contingency hospital beds and domiciling medical staff, in “alternative” structures of all kinds. Corps commander Army Lt. Gen. Todd Semonite gave an overview on March 28, saying, they are looking at 114 structures in 50 states, for various kinds of adaptation. New York’s Javits Center, a convention venue, was one such facility-turned-hospital in four days. The Corps of Engineers is working side by side with FEMA, the Department of Health and Human Services and local governments, the general said, stressing that the team effort that involves talking with mayors and state officials to determine what works best.

Stadium conversion projects are now underway in many cities. There is even a pop-up hospital underway in Central Park, Manhattan. Samaritan’s Purse, the charity associated with Franklin Graham, Billy Graham’s son, is building a 14-tent complex on 50,000 sq. ft. in Central Park’s East Meadow.

## **President Trump Praises China for Providing Nations with Medical Aid, as U.S. Will Do When It Can**

April 1 (EIRNS)—While media headlines focus almost exclusively on President Donald Trump “casting doubt” about Chinese statistics on the coronavirus inside China in tonight’s Task Force briefing, his adamant support for China’s efforts to aid other countries hit by the pandemic just a few minutes later is buried, if it is reported at all.

He was pounded by a reporter to comment on “Chinese propaganda.” They are selling or donating masks and other medical aid to countries around the world, Africa, Europe, “really pushing this narrative that they are taking on a leadership role in fighting the pandemic—” Trump interrupted her:

“I don’t mind. I view that as a positive if they are helping other countries. We have 151 countries that are under siege by the virus. Some are doing really badly. These are countries that aren’t highly sophisticated. They can’t do social distancing. They don’t have all that we have.

“If China can help them, I’m all for it. I’m for everybody helping everybody.”

The U.S. is building thousands of ventilators here, he went on, and when we have more than we need, we will ship them to countries which need them, too.

### **Positive Results of Trump-Putin March 30 Phone Discussion**

April 1 (EIRNS)—Positive developments are in place following telephone call between President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin on March 30. First is the dispatch yesterday from Moscow that a Russian plane carrying medical equipment for the United States would depart as early as March 31, reported TASS. The flight was confirmed by the Russian Defense Ministry and the United States government, which is ready to receive it.

Commenting on the shipment on March 31, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said the idea had been discussed between the two Presidents the day before, and stated: “Technical coordination and preparations for the flight of a Russian plane went on during the day. The plane is expected to take off by the end of the day [March 31].

“Being aware of the serious epidemiological situation in America, the Russian side offered medical equipment and protective gear as assistance.... Importantly, when offering assistance to the American colleagues, President Putin is guided by the following consideration: When U.S. manufacturers of medical equipment gain momentum they will be able to reciprocate if need be.” Peskov further confirmed that such reciprocal strategy has been the model between the governments of Russia and China. “Now, when the current situation affects each and every one and can be characterized as global, there is no alternative to working together in the spirit of partnership and mutual help,” Peskov stated, reported TASS, whose coverage was also posted on the Russian Embassy’s Facebook page in both English and Russian.

The two Presidents had also discussed energy issues. It is now reported that U.S. Energy Secretary Dan Brouillette and Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak had a productive discussion yesterday as a follow-up to the Presidents’ phone call. “Secretary Brouillette and Minister Novak discussed energy market developments and agreed to continue dialogue among major energy producers and consumers, including through the G20, to address this unprecedented period of disruption in the world economy,” the U.S. Energy Department press service readout today said, TASS reported.

### **Section 6: Zepp-LaRouche: ‘Systems Are Manmade—You Can Change Systems When One Breaks Down’**

<https://larouhepac.com/20200402/zepp-larouche-systems-are-manmade-you-can-change-systems-when-one-breaks-down>

April 2, 2020

President Donald Trump delivered a very sober, and sobering, report to the nation at the March 31 daily White House coronavirus press briefing, in which he warned Americans to expect an extremely difficult period in the next few weeks ahead, as the coronavirus pandemic hits the nation with full force. He announced gravely that, if serious national “mitigation” efforts are put in place, deaths could be held to 100-240,000, based on modeling projections put together by medical experts. If that is not done, the deaths could soar into the millions. He stated:

“Our country is in the midst of a great national trial.... Success in this fight will require the full absolute measure of our collective strength, love, and devotion.... Every citizen is being called upon to make sacrifices. Every business is being asked to fulfill its patriotic duty.... Frankly, it’s a matter of life and death.... This is going to be a very painful, very, very painful two weeks.”

Clearly moved, President Trump again recounted the scene he observed at Elmhurst Hospital in New York City: “I watched as doctors and nurses went into a certain hospital in Elmhurst this morning. I know Elmhurst, Queens, I grew up right next to it. I know the hospital very well, been seeing it all my life, my young life. And I will tell you that to see the scenes of trailers out there and what they’re doing with those trailers, they’re freezers and nobody could even believe it.... And I watched the doctors and the nurses walking into that hospital this morning. It’s like military people going into battle, going into war. The bravery is incredible.”

Although President Trump did not mention it in his press briefing, the crisis produced by the other virus—the virus of casino economy—is also threatening to escalate exponentially over the next 2-4 weeks, with more and more desperate (but doomed) bailout efforts by the Fed to save the world financial bubble. Official U.S. unemployment will soar up to more than 32%, according to the latest estimate published by the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank.

What this all amounts to, [Helga Zepp-LaRouche said today in her weekly strategic webcast](#), especially when you consider the way the COVID-19 pandemic is beginning to hit the developing sector, “is an unprecedented crisis, and I think none of us has experienced anything like that in our lifetime....

“You have places like Jakarta in Indonesia—10 million people in one city. Half of the people don’t have access to clean water. A similar situation exists in many developing countries, including Mexico and Peru. So, we are really looking at an unprecedented world crisis. The danger is that this will overwhelm the health systems; there is not enough production possible of urgently needed equipment. The winter, which is now developing in the Southern Hemisphere, will favor the spread of the virus. You really will probably see many millions of people dying. I think this makes very clear that we need urgently a completely different system. Nothing will be like it was before.”

In providing an overview of the devastating crisis facing mankind, Zepp-LaRouche reminded viewers that “systems are manmade,” and can be changed when they break down. She pointed to the promising personal diplomacy that President Trump has reestablished with President Xi Jinping of China and President Vladimir Putin of Russia, as well as the “incredible efforts being made in the U.S. to retool some of the industries. There is an air bridge which has been established with many planes from China and other Asian countries—50 planes all together. Yesterday, the first Russian airplane came to the United States delivering medical support.

“So, there is an incredible mobilization going on, but it is also very clear that this is a pandemic, and you will have mass unemployment and death.”

Zepp-LaRouche issued an urgent call to action:

“I think we have to go into a mass mobilization internationally, which the Schiller Institute is already engaged in, to establish a new world economic order. We have called for that for a very long time, but immediately in this situation it requires a summit of the most important powerful countries: China, Russia, India, the United States. They have to establish a new system. What we need is a completely new system. All the rules of the liberal economy, of the neo-liberal model, the cheap labor markets, the outsourcing, all of that has to be replaced; and it has to start with the immediate building of a world health system where a decent health system is built up in every single country. That must be the beginning of an industrial revolution for the whole world. Nothing short of that will do. That means we need a New Bretton Woods system, and a new credit system to finance that.



“If you agree with that,” Zepp-LaRouche concluded, “then help us in this mobilization, because what is at stake are the lives of many millions of people, and maybe yourself.”

## **Section 7: Malthusian and Eugenacists Unleashed Once Again**

### **London’s Economist Magazine Hails COVID-19 for Cleansing the Earth of Human**

#### **Activity**

April 1 (EIRNS)—“COVID-19 and Climate Change: The epidemic provides a chance to do good by the climate,” The Economist wrote on March 26. This magazine has functioned since its founding in 1843 as a key mouthpiece for the British empire, and here it baldly expresses the population-reduction intent of the British “climate change” fraud.

“As human activity grinds to a halt, natural rhythms resume,” it proclaims. Venetian canals are cleaner, while “around the world, levels of toxic air pollutants are dropping as places go into lockdown in an attempt to curb the spread of Sars-Cov-2, the virus causing a pandemic of a new disease called COVID-19. Emissions of greenhouse gases are following a similar pattern.”

The Economist points to how nitrogen-dioxide and carbon dioxide concentrations have fallen over China’s Hubei province, Italy’s Po Valley, and now New York City. These are the areas where the coronavirus has or is now killing the most people, and where industry and economies have been brought to a halt, but The Economist writes that “an optimist might see these changes as a silver lining to what is an extremely dark cloud.”

That optimism, it warns, however, “would depend on their being sustained when things return to normal.”

The Economist worries that countries will surge ahead with industrial and scientific development, when the pandemic is defeated. It points out that the 2008-2009 financial breakdown also lowered worldwide CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuels and cement production, but a year later, emissions were growing again, and by the end of 2010, annual emissions were greater than they had ever been.

The Economist blames rapid economic growth in China and India for that earlier outcome, and insists this must not happen this time. The “green” agenda —decarbonization, deindustrialization and depopulation— must win out.

### **‘Culling’ the old & weak: Eugenics and social Darwinism rear their ugly heads in the Covid-19 pandemic (excerpts)**

Neil Clark

1 Apr, 2020 15:39

<https://www.rt.com/op-ed/484696-eugenics-social-darwinism-coronavirus/>

The coronavirus pandemic has seen some great and heroic acts of humanity, but we’ve also seen the re-emergence and mainstreaming of the morally repugnant ‘survival of the fittest’ ideology.

One thing about a health crisis, it sorts out the humane from the inhumane. Those who think all lives are equally precious from those who seem to think that some lives count more and that the ‘weak’ are a burden who have to be sacrificed so the strong can continue to dominate.

Probably the most repulsive take I’ve heard so far on Corona is the one which goes: “*What are we having these lockdowns and ‘social distancing’ for? It’s only – or predominantly – the old and already ill who are dying from Covid-19 – and they didn’t have too long to live anyway.*”

Writing for the Critic, UK commentator Toby Young, who has previously advocated what he called ‘progressive eugenics’, [said](#) that *“spending £350bn to prolong the lives of a few hundred thousand mostly elderly people is an irresponsible use of taxpayers’ money.”*

What, I wonder, does he regard as a ‘responsible use of taxpayers’ money? Invading Iraq? Bombing Libya? Bailing out the bankers? And how much monetary worth would he put on the lives of ‘a few hundred thousand mostly elderly people’? The Oscar Wilde epigram about the man who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing springs readily to mind.

Young complains that the UK’s so-called ‘lockdown’ (it isn’t actually a proper one because flights from Covid-19 hotspots are still coming in unchecked) is extending the lives of 370,000 people by an average of one-and-a-half-years. He wants the lockdown to end straight after Easter, and if this leads to a surge in Covid-19 cases and the NHS being overwhelmed, well, that’s ok because *“the majority of people whose lives could have been saved only have one or two years left and those will not be good years.”*

Young’s piece quite rightly was roundly attacked on social media, but he’s not the only one who’s been pushing this odious, anti-human line. On March 3, in the Daily Telegraph, financial writer Jeremy Warner [opined](#): *“Not to put too fine a point on it, from an entirely disinterested economic perspective, COVID-19 might even prove mildly beneficial in the long-term by disproportionately culling elderly dependants.”*

Got that? As one tweeter put it: *“We’ve gone from ‘only the vulnerable will die’ to ‘it’s good that the vulnerable will die.’”* How absolutely sickening.

Even Establishment-licensed, Inside the Tent over-70s have joined in on the psy-ops to make the elderly feel guilty for wanting to stay alive in the Age of Corona. *“What we have to worry about is being a dead-weight on the NHS,”* the author and former newspaper editor Max Hastings [said](#) on the radio. *“We must try and promote getting economic activity going again. If we the elders, must pay an additional price for this then so be it.”*

In similar ‘the elderly should be sacrificed’ vein, Sir David King, the Blair/Brown governments’ former chief scientific adviser (and former senior scientific adviser to UBS Bank), urged over-90s to stay away from [hospitals](#) to avoid ‘overburdening’ the NHS.

The real scandal is not ‘90-year-olds clogging up hospitals’ but the fact that in November 2019, NHS beds were at a record low in England. The Guardian reported that 17,230 [beds](#) had been cut from the 144,455 that existed in April-June 2010, just before the austerity-imposing Conservative/Lib Dem coalition came to power.

It’s not just the very old who the new social Darwinists (now billed euphemistically as ‘contrarians’ or ‘free thinkers’) are happy to throw under the bus. It’s also those who have ‘underlying health conditions’. Coronavirus is taking a high percentage of these people, we’re told, so what’s the big fuss? They were ‘sick’ anyway! But people with ‘underlying health conditions’ can live meaningful, quality lives for a long time. I personally know of one person who was told in 1944 that he had only six months to live because of an acute heart problem. He’s still alive in 2020.

The idea that in a pandemic, the lives of those ‘with underlying health conditions’ are dispensable or worth less than those without ‘underlying health conditions’ is – again – totally repugnant to anyone in possession of a moral compass.

Most people are rightly appalled by the utterly heartless eugenicist and social Darwinistic ideology and thought they’d seen the end of it several decades ago. But it’s back and ‘mainstreamed’ – and in the long run it arguably poses as big a threat to society as the wretched coronavirus itself.