

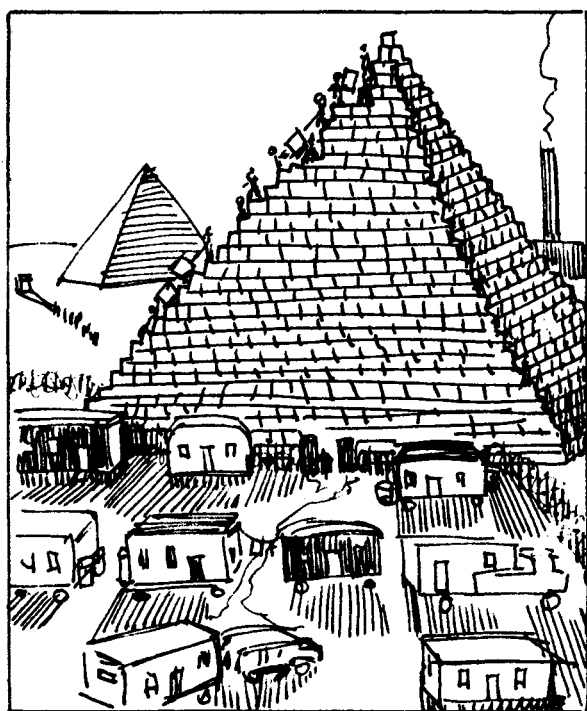
IPS

How Rockefeller is Destroying The Food Supply

Introduction

As the Rockefeller fascist machine mobilizes for the UN-sponsored World Food and Population Conferences, which will promulgate "overpopulation" as the excuse for mass starvation, Rockefeller banking and credit institutions are proceeding with the destruction of world agriculture. Unless stopped by a united front of workers and farmers, Rockefeller will succeed in wiping out millions of independent farmers in Western Europe and North America by late fall. The productive capacity of the entire livestock and dairy sector of advanced agriculture is slated for destruction. Capital intensive grain farming will be replaced by the labor-intensive *latifundia* in both the advanced and underdeveloped countries.

Rockefeller's attack on agriculture is an integral part of his Schachtian plan to institute a worldwide fascist economy. His solution to the depression is to slash the cost of labor, cutting consumption to the bone. As much labor power as possible must be siphoned out of the consumer goods sector and poured into gigantic labor-intensive development projects, i.e., Rockefeller pyramid-building. "Expensive" technology like fertilizer and tractors must be eliminated and replaced with the cheap labor of agricultural slaves. From Rockefeller's Zero Growth standpoint, small and medium farmers constitute surplus population.



The resulting devastating decreases in agricultural productivity and output will cause the death by starvation of tens of millions in Africa and Asia in the next few months and increase the already rising malnutrition throughout the advanced sector.

The financial pre-conditions for this destruction of food production have been laid. The 1973 commodity speculation which pushed food prices sky-high successfully set up farmers for the kill. Now, hundreds of thousands of small and medium farmers are facing bankruptcy. As fertilizer and fuel costs are pushed skywards by Rockefeller manipulations, as prices for livestock nosedive, as the enormous debt accumulated over the past year demands payment, farmers have been deliberately cut off from the credit needed to survive.

Across Europe, enraged peasants are slaughtering pigs, destroying fruits and vegetables, attacking police in a futile attempt to push food prices up in order to bolster their income. Their fight is suicidal, and only hurls them further against their organic allies — the industrial working class.

The Credit Trap

Last year's boom in food prices was not the result of any shift in world consumption or the failure of the Soviet crop. With the U.S. Federal Reserve churning out credit a rate of more than 20 per cent a year, \$2-3 billion a day poured into the commodity exchanges in Chicago. The grain speculators, dominated by the Rockefeller-linked trading monopolies Continental Grain and Cargill Co., bid grain prices upward. In the course of the summer and fall, wheat doubled in price to \$6.20 a bushel; corn rose proportionately to \$4.00, soybeans to \$12.00. As feed grains soared, speculators moved to the livestock markets, bidding beef prices up by 70 per cent, live hogs by 100 per cent and chickens by 110 per cent.

Most of this money never got past the speculators, who funnelled their profits into repayment of Rockefeller financing. Many farmers already had sold their crops earlier in the year and received little benefit from higher prices. Sufficient amounts of money, however, did trickle through to raise farm incomes above their normal low levels. In the U.S., net farm income rose from \$21 to \$26 billion, or about \$9,000 per farm. European peasants enjoyed a similar although relatively smaller increase.

Consequently, after years of low income, millions of farmers rushed to take advantage of the higher prices by increasing production. In the U.S., government subsidies for keeping land idle were dropped, encouraging the extension of production; and land under cultivation

increased by 16 per cent. Throughout the advanced sector, farmers increased their purchases of seed, fertilizer, fuel, tractors, and agricultural equipment to support the expanded production.

To pay for these purchases, the farmers were forced rapidly to expand their debt. Total farm debt increased by 15 per cent in the U.S., 20 per cent in France, and more than 10 per cent in Germany and Italy. This was added to only somewhat less sharp increases in debt in the two previous years. The result was a truly staggering debt load by the beginning of 1974 — \$80 billion in the U.S., \$50 billion in France, \$10 billion in Germany, and \$3.5 billion in Italy. These huge sums represent about three years income for U.S. farmers, five years for French, and nearly two years for the Germans and Italians.

The repayment demand of this debt is correspondingly enormous. Interest payments alone amount to some \$6 billion in the U.S., and \$2.5 billion for the three main producers in Europe. The total amount due for principle and interest in the U.S. alone is above \$65 billion a year.

How could such sums be repaid? Total cash receipts in 1973 amounted to \$83 billion, out of which more than \$48 billion had to be paid in operating expenses. If the farmers were to remain solvent, they had to rely on **both** continued high prices and a continued flow of new credit **at least** equal to what they obtained in 1973. 1974 was to bring devastating disappointment.

The banks which extended such huge credit to the farmers in 1973 were well aware that conditions in 1974 would make repayment impossible. The overextension of credit had been entirely deliberate — a controlled Rockefeller ploy **aimed at wiping out independent farmers the following year, then destroying agriculture.**

Beginning with the great oil hoax in October 1973 and with gathering force after March 1974, savage austerity measures cut into the buying power of the working class worldwide. The high price of meat and general inflation drove consumption down by 10-15 per cent across the board.

As Rockefeller stooges such as Guido Carli of Italy moved to bleed debt payments from the already bankrupt Italian economy, deliberate actions were taken to accelerate the decline in consumption. Credit restrictions on importers greatly decreased imports. The tax on meat was increased to 18 per cent, making meat a luxury item for austerity-squeezed workers. As demand was rapidly contracted, speculators pulled out of the markets. Rockefeller forces began to build up their cash reserves for the coming credit crunch. Pulling their credit out of food speculation, they forced liquidations and spurred sharp price declines. In the U.S., prices of grains dropped by 25 per cent, those of livestock by more than a third.

Livestock was most heavily hit. Common Market

farmers previously had been protected by EEC price supports. As consumption plummeted, these support policies led to the building up of large surplus supplies. By July, more than 130,000 tons of meat had been purchased by the EEC. But last month these support policies were sabotaged by Rockefeller's Trojan Horse in the EEC, Great Britain, which removed all supports on its livestock markets, allowing a price collapse of 25 per cent in a single week and sending continental prices down by 10-15 per cent in response.

Rockefeller's attack on agriculture is an integral part of his Schachtian plan to institute a worldwide fascist economy.

The price declines on the agricultural markets, however, were not reflected in retail prices. Food processors and distributors in both continents are also up to their necks in debt (as illustrated by this week's bankruptcy of a major U.S. supermarket chain, Bohack) and have continued to **increase** all food prices, including meat, to pay it off. Combined with austerity-raised value-added taxes in Europe, prices paid to farmers are less than one-third the prices consumers pay for beef; the average price of beef in Italy and Germany is now above \$3.00 a pound!

In the past year Rockefeller controlled fertilizer firms like W.R. Grace have pushed fertilizer prices up by over 100 per cent, while the oil hoax has increased fuel costs by 50 per cent.

At the same time, Rockefeller has manipulated the cost of food production upward at an ever accelerating rate.

Together, these increases have added more than \$3.5 billion to the expenses of U.S. farmers and \$2.5 billion to those of European peasants or nearly 15 per cent of farmers' income in each case. Livestock breeders are in the most serious trouble. Grain traders have not allowed grain prices to fall as fast as livestock prices; thus feed expenses, which remain much above those of a year ago, are an additional burden of the livestock producers and dairy farmers.

The combined crunch of falling prices and rising costs has devastated farmers' net income. Since January, net farm income in the U.S., has fallen by over 40 per cent and by more than a quarter in West Europe. Livestock breeders in both areas are losing \$25-100 on each animal sold, and prices are still dropping.

In these straits, farmers are in desperate need of credit, credit to cover the rising cost of feed, fuel, and fertilizer; credit to tide them over their losses; credit to pay off their mounting debts.

Throughout the advanced sector, however, credit has become either totally unavailable to farmers or available only at sky-high interest rates. Rockefeller-controlled government and private banks are refusing to lend. The other banks, drained of funds by Rockefeller's manipulations, are unable to lend.

Farmers have been pushed up against the wall.

In Italy, the Banca del'Agricoltura under the thumb of Guido Carli has refused all new credit to farmers. The French Credit Agricole, whose Gaullist director was replaced two months ago with a stooge of Rockefeller man President Giscard, has ended its long policy of low interest loans to peasants and is now asking 13 per cent. In Germany, the agricultural credit cooperatives, which supplied the vast majority of last year's credit expansion, are cut off from funds. Until recently, lending in Germany was done mostly by regional savings banks but now these banks too, trapped by the cabal's foreign exchange manipulations, are without funds.

In the U.S., due to the Federal Reserve's tight money policy, farmers can no longer obtain credit from their suppliers, credit which used to provide fully 40 per cent of total farm loans. Farmers have turned to regional banks to fill the gap. But the banks themselves have been shut out of commercial paper and certificate deposit markets and have been forced to turn directly to the Rockefeller banks in New York and Chicago. These banks, in turn, have been lending almost exclusively to each other, squeezing the regionals out entirely.

While in the first quarter, some 60 per cent of all credit in this country went to the regional banks, by the second quarter not only had total new loans fallen by 50 per cent, but only one-fifth was left to regional banks.

As a consequence, the regional banks have cut off the farmers. One bank stopped lending long term at 8.5 per cent because it was borrowing short term at 14 per cent. Others have threatened liquidation of inadequately secured livestock loans.

Caught between their rising expenses, falling incomes, and lack of credit and pressed towards bankruptcy by the weight of past debts, the peasants and farmers are searching wildly for a way out. French peasants are burning foreign imports. Italian swine producers are holding their product back from the market. Other livestock breeders in Britain and the U.S. are slaughtering their herds, too expensive to feed. The pig population already has declined by two per cent and poultry by nearly seven per cent. British farmers have plowed under their crop. California dairy farmers pour their milk on the highways in the hopes of forcing prices up.

The Goal: Brazilianized Agriculture

If allowed to continue, the present assault on agriculture will result in mass bankruptcies in weeks. The livestock sector, caught between high feed prices and devastating cuts in consumption and saddled with the heaviest debts, will be the first to go. Not only small and medium, but in many cases large producers will be wiped out.

Breeders will be forced to "liquidate their assets," i.e. slaughter their herds.

With the disappearance of livestock, over 80 per cent of the demand for grain will disappear as well, causing the collapse of grain prices and the wiping out of small and medium grain farmers. Such a process actually will begin long before the complete liquidation of the livestock sector. Large sections of grain farming will be devastated before the end of the year; thousands before the end of the summer.

Total control over grain supplies and prices will be ensured by the institution of a World Food Bank which will buy up grain this year to force the livestock sector out. Next year, they will dump the grain to wipe out grain farmers.

In the U.S., according to a spokesman for Chase Manhattan Bank, only 300,000 farms out of the present 2.5 million will be expected to survive the decade. Practically all farms under a thousand acres will be eliminated. In Europe, the notorious Mansholt plan will liquidate 90 per cent of the farm population and the area under cultivation will be reduced drastically.

What farming remains in the advanced sector will be large scale labor intensive operations. The existing trend towards vertically integrated concerns, those in which farm products are delivered directly to monopoly food processors like Purina, will be accelerated enormously. Only these giant firms will be able to buy up this land left vacant by bankruptcies and foreclosures.

While food production as whole contracts violently, the cereals needed to feed the industrial workers of the advanced countries will be produced in the *latifundia* and small farms of Asia and Latin America. Under the McNamara plan these countries are to become "food exporters" through the reduction of food consumption by the native agricultural workers to 1,000 calories a day.

Rockefeller has no fears that the money lent to farmers will not be paid back. Just as bankrupted Greek farmers in the sixties migrated to Germany as *gastarbeiter*, to pay off their debts working in industry at low wages and under miserable conditions, so the farmers who Rockefeller plans to bankrupt are scheduled to work off their debts working in slave labor projects. The huge KOS

steel works in southern France were located there explicitly to "absorb" the peasants expected to be forced off their land next year. In Canada, the government has announced plans for large labor intensive farms, where displaced farmers may work — perhaps on the very same land they once owned! The Argentine government has offered to accept 10 million unemployed Europeans for

work in Argentine agriculture (at 1,000 calories a day).

What food is produced will feed only those capable of working in the industrial development sites. The fate of those cycled through the agricultural and energy development concentration camps is clear from the present Sahel and Indian droughts. Such surplus agricultural population will be left to die.

Emergency Food Program

The destruction of world agriculture which Rockefeller has unleashed must be halted immediately by the international united front of workers and farmers. Not only will the success of Rockefeller's Zero Growth plan result in mass starvation but also it will wipe out already existing agricultural infrastructure necessary for the socialist expansion of worldwide food production.

The destruction of livestock herds, which will take years to rebuild, means the unnecessary death of millions of human beings. Workers and farmers must act now. The following emergency measures must be taken immediately:

1. An immediate debt moratorium on all farm debt. The huge cancer of interest payments must be removed from the backs of farmers. Suspend all debts to the Rockefeller banks.

2. Provision for low interest or no-interest loans. All credit necessary for the purchase of seed, fuel, feed, fertilizer, equipment must be guaranteed.

3. Provision of low-cost fertilizers, fuel and feed. The costs of food production must be reduced to allow farmers to resume full production and utilize technological inputs to the fullest. Oil, fertilizer and other monopolies are to be expropriated if necessary to carry out this goal.

4. Guarantee of a minimum decent income to all farmers and farm labor — protection of the small farmer from destitution and bankruptcy at the hands of banks and speculators.

Measures such as the expropriation of the grain and meat trading monopolies and a moratorium on debts applied to the food distribution network must be carried out as necessary to ensure that the production and consumption of increasing quantities of food are not sabotaged at any point.

Specific administrative measures are to be adopted with the consistent principle of taking money from the income of the Rockefeller financial cabal not from one

sector of the working class. Thus, in France, where the debt to the Credit Agricole is presently guaranteed by taxpayers revenue, such guarantees must be abolished and the full loss transferred to the creditors of the governmental institutions.

These measures will eliminate all financial barriers to the maximum use of arable land and maximum food production. These emergency measures will pave the way for more lasting and broader expansion of food production:

- The supplying of fertilizer and agricultural equipment to the Soviet bloc enabling the massive expansion of Soviet food production.
- The implementation of a crash development plan for fusion power, and the institution of worldwide irrigation plans based on fusion power desalination.
- The qualitative expansion of tractors and fertilizer production needed to mechanize agriculture fully in both the advanced and underdeveloped sectors.
- Massive production of rural housing and investment in agricultural education.

With increasing mechanization of agriculture, collective use of machinery will become more necessary, especially among the smaller farms of West Europe. Financial aid will be supplied to all efforts to improve productivity through such means and through the voluntary collectivization of smaller units into larger, more efficient units.

As the efficiency of agriculture increases with advancing technology, more and more of the present agricultural population will be drawn into jobs in an expanding industry. But this shift out of agriculture will not be, like Rockefeller's, based on the destruction of agricultural production and the immiseration of urban and rural slave labor alike, but on ever-increasing production and on ever-higher standards of living for the entire population.

The choice is between the Zero Growth agriculture based on Roman slavery or the expansion of agriculture based on fusion power. For the survival of humanity, only one choice is possible.