

signed a two-year grain pact with Moscow. France announced a 2 million-ton cereals sale to the Soviet Union for January 1989. The GATT Australian delegation head, Michael Duffy, reported that a commodities agreement is under negotiation between Australia and the U.S.S.R. U.S. agricultural trade negotiator Amstutz said that the Soviet-Western food trade will continue, regardless of GATT, and "with or without treaties."

The means by which "free trade" would be imposed over the sovereign rights of nations was indicated in several proposals made by the GATT secretariat from Geneva, and by the representatives of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank. GATT director general Arthur Dunkel called for "closer collaboration between the GATT, the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund." World Bank President Barber Conable and IMF chairman Michael Camdessus concurred with their view. Camdessus also castigated the developed nations as heartless toward the developing sector, if they did not agree to open their borders to unrestricted imports.

### Cartel practices free trade

The advance picture of what worldwide agriculture free trade would look like, is taking shape in Canada, the United States, Europe, Australia, and New Zealand, where farmers are being driven out of business. Farm income in England is at a postwar low. The milk quota system has forced down production and farm income throughout the EC. In New Zealand, over one-third of farms are being forced out of operation. In the United States, the drought, plus the credit squeeze and programs to reduce production, are dispossessing farms at disaster rates.

In the midst of this, the international food cartel companies are tightening their grip over farm production, processing, and trade. In Ontario, Canada, for example, the giant Cargill Corp. has bought 25 grain elevators. Cargill is building a huge hog facility in Alberta, and making other changes. The head of Cargill's Canada operations, Kerry Hawkins, said: "There's no doubt about it. The free-trade agreement enhances our ability to look at the U.S. market. The beef industry was very supportive of the free-trade agreement." In Europe, the Ferruzzi group is expanding in the same way, including extensive deals with Russia.

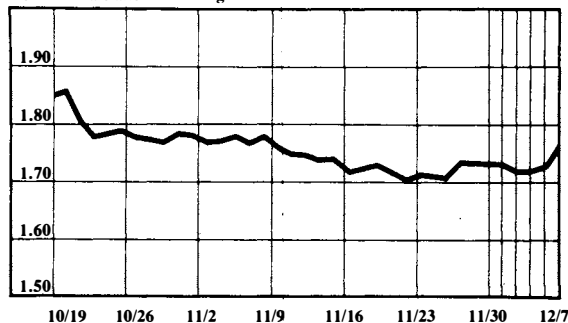
The reduction of food output which this cartelization entails is called necessary "adjustment" by the GATT free-market advocates.

Representatives of the food cartel were personally on hand in Montreal. Two Cargill executives, Robbin Johnson and Robert Pearce, participated in U.S. "private group" press conference on the opening day of the conference, to state their advocacy of eliminating all farm and food subsidies worldwide by the year 2000. And U.S. delegate Daniel Amstutz was a top Cargill international executive for 25 years, before joining government service in 1983.

## Currency Rates

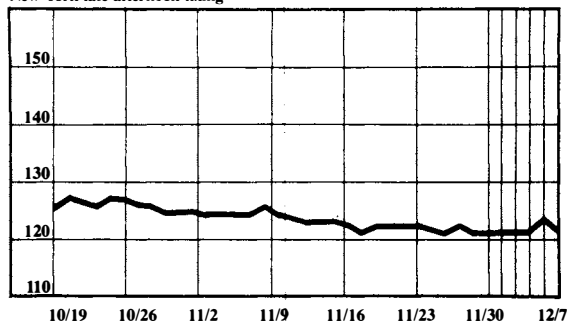
### The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



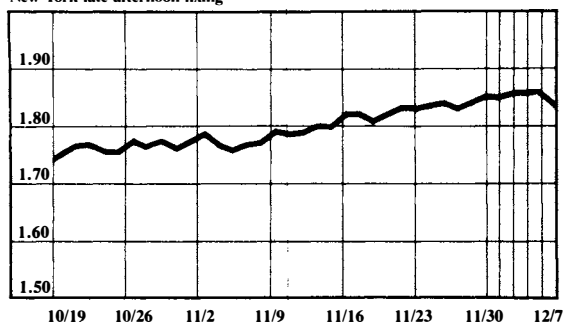
### The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



### The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



### The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing

