run, increases of population, by increasing the opportunities of the division of labor, increase the world's capacity to maintain population.

The danger of population growth, I have shared myself, it was so dominant in the last 20 years. It took me some time to emancipate myself from it. I no longer believe that population growth as such is a danger, except where we finance it in places where the population will never be able to maintain itself, for instance, the Sahel. . . . We are subsidizing population growth that may cause local catastrophes. But where the population is growing as a result of productivity, that does not cause a danger.

Murawiec: The present youth movement—greens, peace movement, social movements of the last decade—share many ideas with you; they reject bigness, centralization, etc. They think of themselves as leftists. Do you think that with the proper steering, this movement can be usefully led?

Von Hayek: Yes, except that I do not know how long it will take. In the long run, yes. There is a much stronger support for libertarian ideas now than at any time that I could remember! Provided the politicians do not destroy the world in the next 15 years, with the next generation, there is hope in the U.S. and Western Europe.

**Murawiec:** What about Eastern Europe and Russia? Where do you find food for hope?

**Von Hayek:** In Hungary and in Poland I certainly find hope—if the Russians will allow it.

**Murawiec:** Once the movement sheds its left-wing colors, this libertarianism can then be used?

Von Hayek: Oh yes, certainly. The Mont Pelerin Society grew from 37 members, 37 years ago to 600 attendants at our world conference in Berlin recently. We make efforts to cut down the numbers. The Society has had offspring. It has child-societies. It is becoming a movement.

**Murawiec:** Do you think that the present German government will listen to the Mont Pelerin Society?

Von Hayek: Certainly, not as much as if Franz-Josef Strauss were the chancellor. He is completely on our side. It's funny, the man who is regarded as a fascist is in fact a thorough liberal!

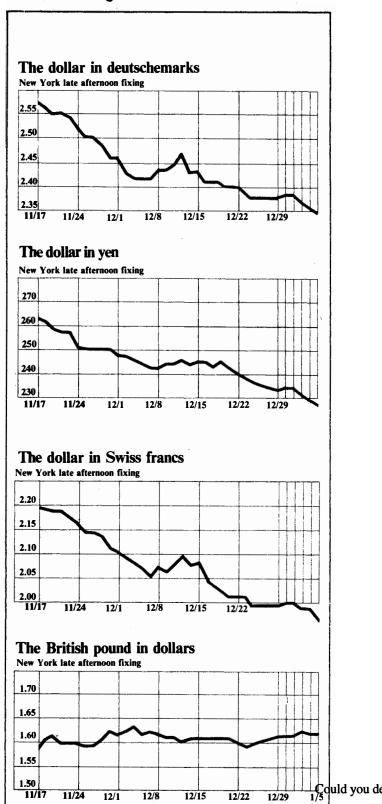
**Murawiec:** Then if Archduke Otto von Hapsburg became emperor of Europe, what could happen?

Von Hayek: He is a very remarkable man. He has extraordinary factual knowledge. He speaks 13 languages fluently. . . .

Murawiec: You speak often of the "tradition" with a big "T."

Von Hayek: Honesty, property, and family. Essentially Roman law and English common law.

## **Currency Rates**



**EIR** January 18, 1983