sance, based on the dignity of the individual citizen. The upward course of human population since the Renaissance had been doubted or denied, particularly by British "authorities." Süssmilch estimated that the human population was doubling per century—not then accurate, but approximately true as of about 50 years after he wrote.

Growth without limits

Still more crucial, Süssmilch demonstrated the thesis that this growth had no determinable future limits, would easily surpass 5 billion, and (quoting Frederick Crum's summary of their views): "The power, prosperity, and happiness of a state or nation depends upon the number of its inhabitants and upon the rapidity of their increase."

This truth—recognized by great national leaders up to the present—was precisely the target of Ortes's obsessive attacks in his *Reflections on Population*. Ortes railed incessantly against "a school of political economy" he would not name, which he describes as believing exactly what is quoted above from Süssmilch.

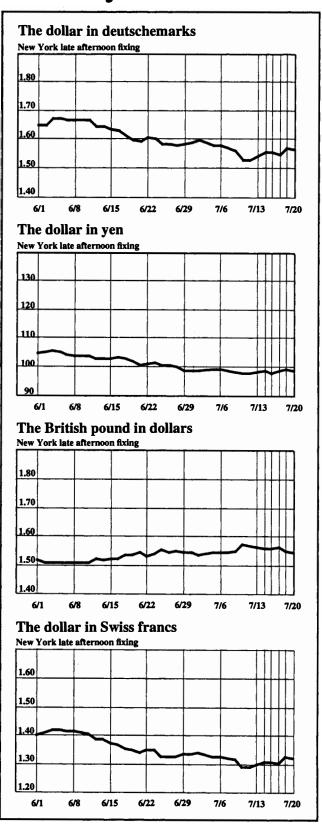
Ortes and Malthus not only used the cameralists' figures for world population. Ortes even appropriated Süssmilch's estimate that the *population density* of Europe should rise to 200 persons per square mile. But Ortes would only allow that this population density was possible for a few *very small city-states modelled on Venice!* And Ortes maintained the absurdity that there was nothing sovereigns or governments could do to affect this growth of population, or to increase wealth per capita.

Süssmilch had shown 40 years earlier that population growth depended, above all, upon the intervention of sovereign governments to build their nations—by opening land, by improvements, fostering technological development, incentives for family formation and child-bearing, lightening the burden of taxation and prices, and improving public health and medicine. He recognized that "the pleasures of a people are enhanced by their being in close relations with each other. . . . The exchange of products, and the satisfaction of varied needs, can be more easily accomplished when the population is compact [densely settled]."

Süssmilch insisted that "the ratio of births to marriages is a state barometer" which statesmen must know, and "in it is reflected the true gains and losses in the wealth and power of the state." Giammaria Ortes's heirs, today's neo-malthusians, are still insisting on the upper limit of 3 billion people today, when it means the genocidal elimination of half the existing human population.

Today, Lyndon LaRouche's attacks on the U.N.'s Cairo '94 "killer conference" are in the tradition of Leibniz's political economy. LaRouche has forecast that the foreseeable technologies of the 21st century can support 25 billion people, and has defined the great projects of economic reconstruction for the nations and continents of the Earth which reopen the pathway to rapid population growth.

Currency Rates



EIR August 5, 1994 Economics 11