

don't like it? No problem, I'll hire somebody else!" You can see the same mechanism here now, although we have trouble mainly with our government, while in the U.S., the government is, in a sense, an ally of labor. I was in OSHA [the Occupational Safety and Health Administration], where it was the U.S. government that introduced laws regulating mine safety, not private owners.

But if we, trade unionists, do not unite, then the American owner, who pays a U.S. miner \$3,000 a month, will come here and offer \$800! And then he will tell the American unionist: "Why should I pay you so much? They will do the same for \$800!" In Poland, \$800 is quite a lot, but in the U.S., it is hardly unemployment benefits. So, just as capital is uniting, we trade unionists have to become more united. A working man wants to get enough money to support his family, provide all the necessities, and also to save for the future.

In addition, I have heard about a concept, claiming that it would be better if there were fewer people on the Earth—and less problems with it, supposedly. But this is against God, against Christian principles, and the word of the Bible. If we surrender to this passively, we will be guilty as well.

So, I agree that the role of the Schiller Institute is to make people aware of what is going on, but I would not count on quick results in eastern Europe, because this awareness is very limited. In the Katowice *voivodship* [the province which comprises Upper Silesia], 60% of the working people have only basic education [8 years]! Only 7% of the population have a university degree [after 5 years], while in western Europe the number is 30-40%!

Going back to wages: A Polish miner gets \$350-400 a month, while in Ukraine, it's only \$50! and this is where Poland's coal will come from. I am not afraid of American coal. They asked me about it in the United States. I said: "Thank God, we are separated by the Atlantic, and it takes some money to transport over this huge ocean." But coal can come from Ukraine, because they only get \$50 there, so, if somebody invests in Ukrainian coal, and gives them \$100, they will work till they drop dead. This can be a threat to us.

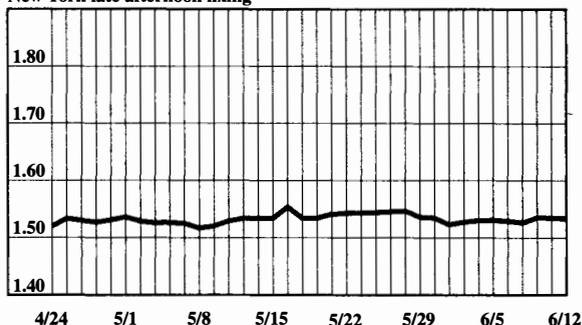
So, as trade unionists we have to invest in educating people, training them. It is a duty of the government and private owners to create new jobs. It is not a duty of a trade union, although some unionists think so.

To conclude: I think one can connect those two ideas, for strengthening trade unions and building infrastructure. I would try to convince [AFL-CIO President] John Sweeney to realize this concept. I have learned a lot from two board members of California's AFL-CIO. They had a lot of comments about the state of trade unions today. They have a tremendous experience! It is my dream to invite them to Poland, so that they can share this experience of 60 years of work in unions. They are now 80 years old: This is a mine of knowledge!

Currency Rates

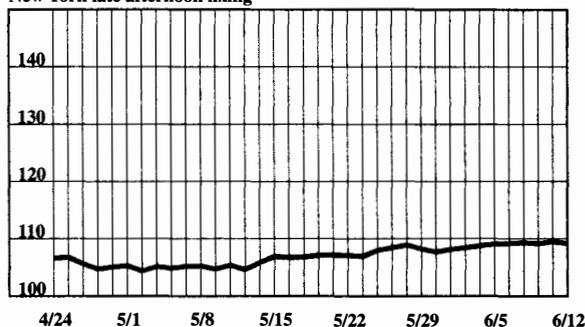
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



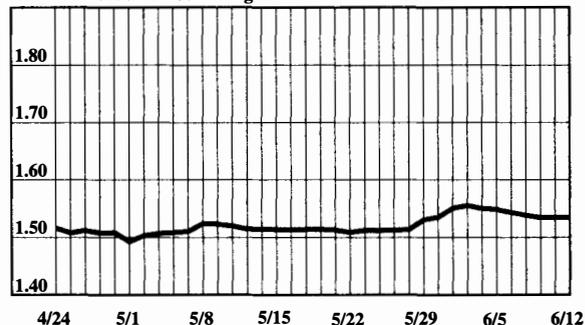
The dollar in yen

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

