

phy, which indicates that only 10% of secondary school graduates have “normal” health. That means that 90% of children are sick at any one time.

“Fifty percent have various pathologies, and 40% have chronic illnesses,” Feshbach said. That’s no surprise, because, according to the Russian Ministry of Health, 60% of children have vitamin deficiencies.

According to a recent report, Feshbach said, the percentage of children under 15 with mental retardation ranges from 15%, to as high as 45% in some oblasts (districts). Feshbach also referred to a report by the chief of the Russian Army, which said that 30% of draftees have psychological disturbances.

### The rise of tuberculosis

The real threat now, Feshbach fears, is the rise of tuberculosis. “The total number of deaths from TB in Russia is greater than the total number of cases in the United States,” he said. In 1994, there were a reported 21,389 deaths from TB in Russia. The official number of new cases in Russia in 1996 was 78,099.

However, Feshbach said, this figure seems not to include those carrying TB in the Russian prisons. There are now an estimated 850,000 to 1 million people in Russian prisons, with an estimated 50% of prisoners infected with tuberculosis. “What happens when these people are released from prison and let out on the street?” he asked. At that point, you will have thousands of carriers of mostly drug-resistant forms of TB, Feshbach warned. “The death rate from tuberculosis has been higher in Kazakhstan than in Russia, but Russia will soon surpass that.”

### Moral indifference

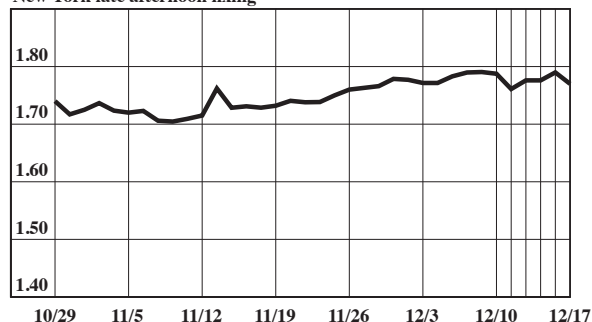
And how have policymakers in Washington, who have given critical backing to IMF “shock therapy” policies, reacted to Dr. Feshbach’s figures? “I have all this information,” Dr. Feshbach lamented, “but nobody will act on it. . . . I can’t convince any macroeconomist. They call what I’m telling them ‘hyperbole.’ The solution costs money and they don’t want to hear it.” Feshbach related how he had given a speech to Agency for International Development workers. After he had finished, former State Department official Tim Wirth gave him the figures for the AID budget, explaining that there was no money for what he wanted to do. Similarly, Feshbach related, “I go to talk to an adviser to President Clinton, and tell him the situation. He looks at me and says, ‘Murray, go home.’ ”

EIR asked Feshbach, “From the devastating evidence you have shown here, it seems to me the only conclusion one can draw is that the ‘shock therapy’ recommended by the economists for Russia has led to a veritable genocide.” Feshbach responded, “The simple answer to your question, is ‘yes.’ ” For the situation in Russia today, he said, “there are no historic parallels, demographically.”

## Currency Rates

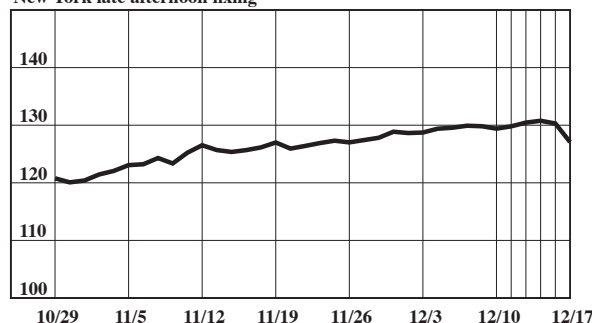
### The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



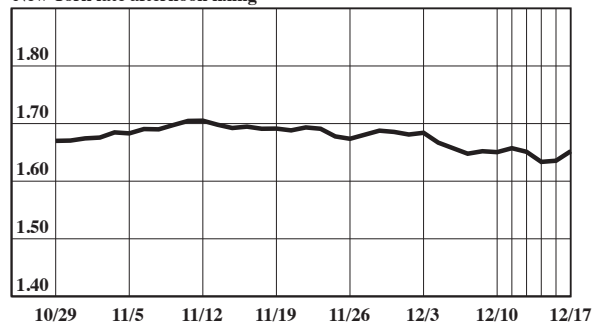
### The dollar in yen

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

