

tions,” as well as matching-funds supplements to self-help, will be provided.

- **Books.** Expansion of the OSI textbook project, through which Soros has already seized the high ground in Russian schools.

- **Internet access.** Development of networks beyond the 33 university Internet centers the OSI is opening in Russia. (There was no special mention here of Chubais, who said recently that he and Microsoft magnate Bill Gates had enjoyed comparing keyboard cursor manipulation techniques and that he, Chubais, spent his entire vacation logged on to the Internet!)

- **Law and local government.** Provision of books and training for local government agencies.

- **Management training and retraining of military personnel.** Soros said that he is promoting “large-scale training of managers,” together with Deputy Prime Minister Boris Nemtsov, and that in Yekaterinburg this would be a joint project with the British Consulate.

In Ukraine, Soros said, the OSI has retrained 50,000 demobilized military personnel, and will begin to do this in Russia, as the military is downsized.

Soros said that his International Science Foundation has ended its program of direct grants to scientists and scientific institutions, of the sort Soros gave in 1992—grants of \$500 to each of 30,000 Russian scientists (including many young scientists who proceeded to emigrate). This is in line with an overall push by Russian liberalizers, to “privatize science.”

Under the not-yet-adopted 1998 Federal Budget of Russia, and a decree that goes into effect next year, the 275-year-old Russian Academy of Sciences will be forced to police its own “downsizing,” presenting to the government recommendations on which institutes should close, and which survive. The government will have the final say.

An Oct. 16 article in the *Vladivostok News* discussed what a shock this is to the prestige, not to mention the existence, of the Academy, which was founded by Peter the Great in 1725. The article quoted Anatoli Kalyagin, a researcher at the Pacific Oceanographic Institute, who wistfully remarked that budget-cutters can’t judge scientific work: “Some scientists who don’t seem productive, may actually be working on significant research. These reforms are designed to annihilate our achievements.”

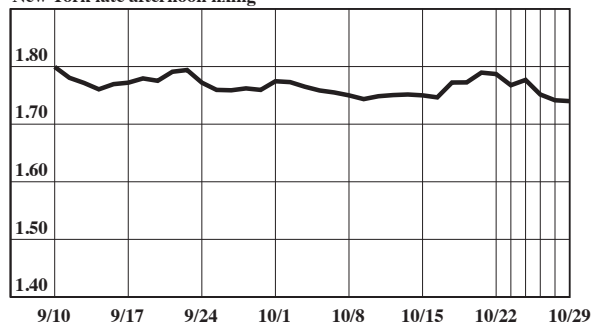
Nationwide, Russian budget financing for the Academy of Sciences is 1/22 of what it was in 1992.

A *Business Week* feature on Russian science, in the Oct. 27 issue, is subtitled, “Can Private Enterprise Pick Up Where the Soviets Left Off?” Reviewing the huge drain-off of resources and personnel from Russian science (see *EIR*, Aug. 8, 1997, “Russian Science: a Strategic Assessment,” by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.), *Business Week* reports that the issue of the day is self-financing by academic institutions, by means of everything from selling the fruits of their research, to running fast-food restaurants on the side.

Currency Rates

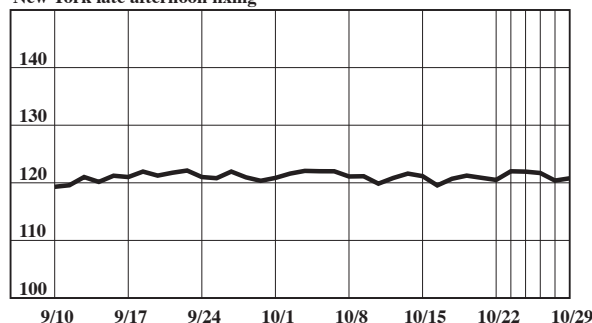
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



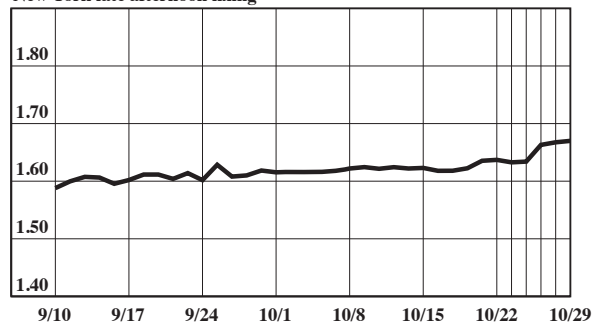
The dollar in yen

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

