

For international banking, the effect of the current dollar collapse shows up in the shutdown of international lending in Eurodollars, or dollars banked outside the U.S. Approximately \$2 billion in new loans was on line during the past month. However, the erratic fall of the dollar on the international currency markets forced bankers to pull in their horns.

During the past year, two banks--Franklin National in New York and Herstatt in West Germany--went down as a result of losses in foreign exchange dealings. A collapse of the U.S. dollar, implied by the financiers' "soft line," would tear up the fragile web of international banking.

Any major bankruptcy on the Eurocurrency market would compel the central banks of Europe, Japan, and the U.S. to provide between \$5 and \$10 billion of new credit to cornered financiers--turning the inflationary ratchet one more notch.

Credit Expansion Means 100 Per Cent Inflation

Should the Rockefeller faction commit itself to a new period of credit expansion--along the lines of 1970-1972--the stakes this time are not double, but triple-digit inflation.

Considering their "critical choices," the Trilateral crew are still testing out the possibility of reintroducing their "hard line"; so far they have had little success. Exemplary is the Shah's threat Dec. 19 to destroy the international monetary system if the Europeans use their gold reserves to obtain new credit. European press and governments alike ignored the Trilateral balloon, and, two days later, the Shah denied that he had ever made the threat.

While their day-to-day actions have been in the direction of reflation, the Rockefeller financier faction is sharply aware of where this road leads. Some desperate action from the cabal cannot be excluded--including a new adventure in the Mideast--in an attempt to resuscitate the "hard line" strategy of November.

NEXT PRESIDENT OF MEXICO "UNVEILED"

Dec. 24 (IPS)--The stir around the "nomination" of the next President of Mexico in mid-1975 is mounting as President Luis Echeverria carefully arranges to insure his own succession. Reports obtained by IPS indicate that Echeverria is considering circumventing the constitutional measure prohibiting him from serving more than one term by having his wife, Maria Ester Zuno de Echeverria, designated as the next President.

The pre-nomination atmosphere already has prompted the leftish Socialist Popular Party to announce, "The problem isn't one of names nor of men, it has to do with elaborating a progressive

and revolutionary program that will assure the continuation of the present regime's work.

The rabid cult of the Madonna around the late Eva Peron in Argentina and surveys which reveal that Isabel Peron is the most popular national leader in Argentina demonstrate to the CIA that a female leader can be relied upon to con the Latin American working class into accepting genocide and slave labor policies.

Mrs. Echeverria is the daughter of the leading patriarch of Guadalajara (who achieved world fame when he was kidnapped last September by CIA terrorists), has demonstrated her counterinsurgent capabilities. Assuming much greater responsibility than previous first ladies, she has not only led the National Institute for the Protection of Infancy (the traditional role of first ladies) but also has formed an all-female Social Service Volunteer Corps which is involved in self-help and food control programs. Mrs. Echeverria has proved a fervent advocate of genocide through her "programs for the Mexican family" and "responsible parenthood." In the following weeks, she will receive a major boost with a scheduled tour to Latin America and possibly Cuba.

Over the past months Echeverria has magnanimously paved the way for his wife by attacking "machismo" and calling for "greater participation of the female in the country's tasks." He has even gone so far as to establish a National Feminine Service of Social Action within the military.

EUROPEAN CONFERENCE PLANS TRANSATLANTIC CONFERENCE

WIESBADEN, West Germany, Dec. 24 (IPS)--Nearly 400 socialist organizers concluded a conference here today that mapped out "an interlocking strategy for Europe and the U.S. needed to bring about the defeat of Rockefeller." Such a strategy, the participants of the European Labor Committee-sponsored "Strategy for Socialism" conference decided, would demand viewing themselves as the leadership of the entire European working class movement.

Already significantly responsible for the left motion of the Communist Parties worldwide, the United Front organizers present analyzed how the establishment of internationalism in significant parts of the North American working class--as demonstrated in the large worker turnout for the U.S. Labor Party and its program--had shifted the workers' movement internationally. Now, the actions of American workers--reflecting the motion of European workers--can be used, in turn, to further the organization of European workers. It will be this self-reflexive internationalism, noted a keynote speaker, that will maintain the morale of the working class in the struggle for a workers' government.