

The Trade Stalemate

THE United States dropped a hint last week that Russia and her satellites might be able to buy more American goods if they would mend their ways.

It is the first intimation and on what conditions the U.S. might ease a tight, 15-month-old ban on Soviet purchase of industrial materials. It came from Secretary of Commerce Charles Sawyer in a speech at the Canadian International Trade Fair in Toronto.

Sawyer said Washington is utilizing export control to implement American foreign policy but declared that no "rigid formula" had been set up. He declared:

"It is clear that so far as possible we should, and we wish to, permit the free flow of trade between all parts of Europe and between all parts of Europe and the United States.

... If improvement in relations between eastern and western Europe takes place, we can look for a larger volume of trade to the benefit of both east and west."

Vain Search

Meanwhile at Geneva, Switzerland, representatives of east and west labored in search of a way of exchanging information to help expand trade.

The new Committee on Development of Trade, set up by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, deadlocked on its primary problem—collection of information on which an increase of east-west trade could be built.

Paul R. Porter, American delegate to the Commission, said, "The meeting was a complete failure, resulting from refusal of the Russians to disclose any information which had not already been published. With this Russian refusal, the satellite countries, regardless of their own view, fell in line."

No Soviet view on the meeting could be obtained.

Officials of the commission's secretariat do not view the meeting as a complete failure, however. They say the meeting brought out all the issues involved and governments of east and west now can determine how far they wish to go.

Wool Conference

Also in progress at Florence, Italy, was the 18th International Wool Conference, concerned with economic, technical and scientific problems in the production and manufacture of wool. The U.S., Canada, the Union of South Africa and Australia are participating.

A technical commission is studying aspects of reform of the international price and quality arbitration system in force before World War II.

There was unofficial talk that world wool stocks, which had been expected to last four or five years, were nearing exhaustion.

Science

Prospecting by Air

Buried oil and minerals now can be found quickly and economically by aerial prospectors. A new technique makes use of magnetic, gravity and electrical records of the earth taken from the air, which show likely spots where oil and minerals may lie.

This aerial prospecting takes but a fraction of the time needed for customary ground surveys and costs run from 1/20th to 1/50th as much.

A Canadian engineer, Hans Lundberg of Toronto, described the new method last week in a report to the United Nations Scientific Conference on Conservation and Utilization of Resources.

In use now with airplanes is the magnetic airborne detector, developed during the war to find submarines. It records differences in magnetic fields in the earth, and indicates the location of likely oil-bearing rock or other ore-bearing formations.

"Already the new routine has been tried in many parts of the world and in all cases it has proven superior, cheaper, faster and more revealing than routine surface surveys," Lundberg said.

Sidelights

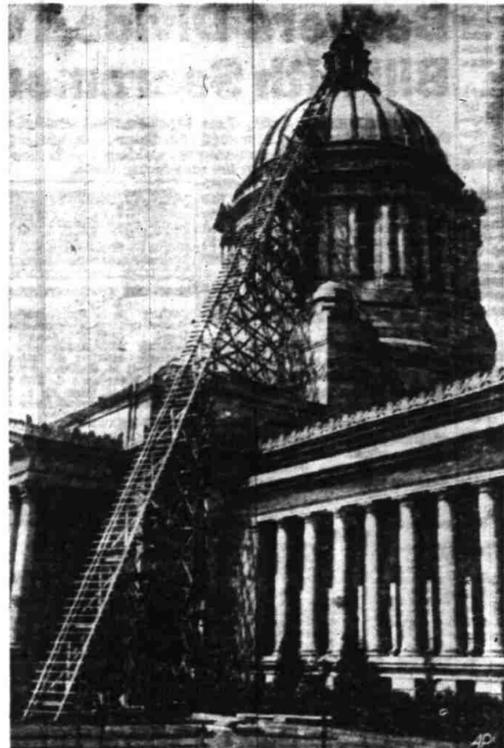
● The Post Office reports that the West Virginia town of Mole Hill, population 93, has officially changed its name to Mountain.

● In Buenos Aires, Princess Ileana of the exiled Romanian royal family pawned a jeweled crown for \$60,000. It is now for sale at the municipal pawnshop.

● At Dravosburg, Pa., work on a new high-level bridge across the Monongahela River has been "detoured" around a steel pier on which robins built a nest and hatched two eggs. Bridge workers built a steel cage about the pier to insure privacy and put up a sign: "Danger Keep Away—Do Not Disturb Robins."

● In Houston, Tex., Ella Friddle filed suit for her seventh divorce in five years from her husband George. Ella is 59, George 59. They married for the first time in 1944 after a Lonely Hearts Club correspondence. George and Ella were each married four times before they started marrying each other. George has eight children and Ella two. "Six months married was a long time," Ella said. She said it was the longest time they had been married at one time since they met.

The WORLD This WEEK



QUAKE DAMAGE—Workers prepare to repair the 100-ton cupola atop the Olympia, Wash., state capitol, damaged in the April 13 earthquake. The 280-foot inclined hoist will be used to lower the massive stones on a cradle held by steel cables.

PARIS: Talk, Talk, Talk

THE Big Four conference went into a familiar tactic last week in Paris. The foreign ministers stopped talking on a subject on which they could not agree and started talking on another. The theory is that somewhere in the shifting, if they can talk on long enough and about enough topics, someone somewhere may make a concession.

The subject on which the Big Four deadlocked was the political unification of Germany. Soviet Russia wants a centralized government with headquarters in Berlin and, of course, a veto power on all decisions. The western powers want a federalized democratic state for all Germany under the Bonn constitution, already adopted by their three occupation zones.

Both sides were adamant. Each refused to accept the other's views even as a basis for discussion.

Experts on the staffs of foreign ministers feel now that the only hope for any agreement in Paris is to arrive at some working arrangement for revival of east-west German trade and solving the Berlin problem. Those were the next questions on the docket.

Radio

War of Words

American and British broadcasts to Russia now are breaking through Soviet jamming only for brief and scattered periods.

The Voice of America and the British Broadcasting Corp., working together, are able to use only 61 stations to beam broadcasts over the Iron Curtain. A Voice spokesman said that as many as seven and eight Soviet transmitters are being used to jam a single Anglo-American station.

Both British and Voice programs have been drastically changed. All music and features have been dropped. Only news, commentaries and headline summaries are broadcast on a 24-hour a day basis.

The Russians had been jamming Voice programs intermittently for months. Two months ago they stepped up jamming operations, virtually drowning out Voice broadcasts in the Russian language.

The Voice has 36 transmitters in the United States, four in Munich, two in Manila, one in Honolulu and five leased from the BBC.

A new Soviet jammer, used for the first time last week, consists of eight musical notes broadcast simultaneously at high power. The discordant blast blots out everything else and makes use of earphones extremely unpleasant.

Britain

Conservatives Alerted

Winston Churchill has called on the Conservative Party to mobilize for a possible general election in Britain this fall.

The ruling Labor Government is empowered to call a general election at any time. Normally, general elections are held every five years but there is no specified time for balloting.

The last general election was in 1945 when the Labor Party swept into power. The Conservatives made substantial gains in the elections of big city, borough, district and rural governments in England, Scotland and Wales early last month.

Churchill said he had heard the opinion expressed that it might be better for the Conservatives not to win the general election and to leave the Laborites "to reap the folly they have sown."

He said he hoped and believed "no such attempt to sabotage the free workings of constitutional government" would be supported by the British people.

Stage

Good Will Ambassador

U.S. Ambassador Lewis Douglas and British public leaders praised American stage and screen star, Danny Kaye last week at a luncheon in the Savoy Hotel.

Douglas, wearing black glasses to shield his injured left eye from the glare of Klieg lights, described Kaye as "a better ambassador of good will than all the sedate personalities of officials."

The Lord Mayor of London declared: "I'd like to see every meeting of ministers preceded by a little turn of Danny Kaye. That might even have an effect on Mr. Vishinsky."

Kaye, in a nearly gales speech, said he thought emotions were the same the world over. The actor, currently at London's Palladium, has made a terrific hit with the English public, attracting repeated visits by members of the royal family.



IT'S SO EASY TO ADVISE OTHERS

Atom Quarrel Splits Official Washington

THE fight between David E. Lilienthal, chairman of the United States Atomic Energy Commission, and Sen. Bourke Hickenlooper (R-Ia) last week became one of the most bitter, wide-open quarrels in recent Washington history. It concerns the whole atomic energy program and the way it is being handled.

The eyes of the world, some of them hostile, shifted from the Paris parley of foreign ministers to the more dramatic and potentially more dangerous show in Washington.

Hickenlooper began the quarrel by attacking Lilienthal, charging him publicly with "incredible mismanagement" and demanding his removal.

Lilienthal, a veteran of many Congressional hearings, was stung by the attack. He said it went beyond "political stuffing" and accused the senator of "smear" and "un-American" tactics.

Quotes

Dr. Cecil Northcott, executive secretary of the London Missionary Society: "The freedom given to the Christian Church in Soviet areas is a freedom of condescension and suffering."

Frank J. Starzel, general manager of The Associated Press: "Courage in the editorial chair is the real bulwark of freedom. Our way of life cannot survive once we succumb to the sugar-coated pill instead of the bitter draught of straight, unvarnished facts and truths."

Confrontation

The Senate House Atomic Energy Committee, of which Hickenlooper is former chairman, opened a public inquiry into the charges. Both antagonists confronted each other before the committee with Hickenlooper presenting his case first.

Both Hickenlooper and Lilienthal asked full public exploration of all the facts. The AEC chairman said the gravity of the charges was such that unless they were proved false they would "undermine the confidence of this country and the people of western Europe in the principal security enterprise of this country."

Sen. Brien McMahon (D-Conn), the joint committee chairman, said he hoped the inquiry could be completed in three weeks, but indicated he was not too optimistic about this.

Full, Fair, Factual

"The American people are not going to be satisfied with anything less than a pretty complete report from the committee, and a fair one," he said. "Let it be written on the events that are to come."

The Federation of American Scientists, which includes many of the men who helped develop the atomic bomb, lined up in Lilienthal's support. They said on the basis of evidence, so far presented, none of the attacks on commission policy appears well-founded.

Sen. Robert Taft of Ohio, Senate Republican policy leader, supported Hickenlooper. Taft said he voted against Lilienthal's confirmation two years ago because "I didn't think he was the right man for the job and I don't think so now."

Labor

Cars & Coal

The Ford Motor Co. and the CIO United Auto Workers opened talks on a new contract last week while the bulk of the company's 106,000 workers still were in the doldrums resulting from the 24-day strike on speed-up charges which ended last Sunday.

Ford executives estimated it might take another week to 10 days before full production could be resumed. They said the key River Rouge plant will have to get into full swing making parts before the other 43 Ford plants in the nation can reach normalcy.

Contract negotiations had been slated to start May 15 but Ford refused to enter them while the flare-up strike continued. In the new contract to start July 15, the union is asking a \$100-a-month pension plan, health and accident insurance and some form of wage increase.

Safety in Mines

Meanwhile in Washington, John L. Lewis asked Congress to act now for greater safety in the nation's coal mines by approving a proposed bill giving federal inspectors the right to close dangerous mines.

Lewis dramatically denounced some mine operators as "bolshaks" with no concern for human life. Testifying before a Senate labor subcommittee, the United Mine Workers' chairman said 1,259,081 miners have been "maimed, mangled and killed" in the coal mines during the past 19 years.

Glowering and shouting, Lewis said if he had the powers of a magician, he would march "the quick and the dead" before Congress so that lawmakers might see for themselves the blood and gore on which the industry is run.

AERIAL: Big Bomber Probe

The B-36 Controversy

The B-36 is the world's biggest bomber in mass production. It is capable, says the Air Force, of delivering a formidable bomb load anywhere in the world.

Its specifications are awe-inspiring. They include wingspread 230 feet, speed over 350 miles an hour, operational ceiling over 40,000 feet, range 10,000 miles with a 10,000-pound bomb load, armament of 16 20 mm. cannon, crew of 15. It is powered by six "pusher" engines with a total of more than 20,000 horsepower. The newest models are equipped with four jet ports.

Service Rivalry

The Air Force claims the B-36 is the nation's first line of defense, that no fighter plane can shoot it down at the high altitude at which it operates. The Navy says its new Banshee jet fighters can take the B-36, and so can some foreign makes.

Since the first of the year, the Air Force has cancelled contracts with four other aircraft companies in order to build up its fleet of B-36s. In January the Air Force, with approval by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, cancelled orders for 81 lighter bombers to concentrate on the big 36. In April orders for 43 Boeing bombers were voided to find funds for 36 more B-36s.

Louis A. Johnson, who took over as Secretary of Defense on March 28, quickly squelched the inter-service fight. One of his first acts was to halt

construction on the Navy's supercarrier.

Congress Stirs

Within the past fortnight, repercussions of the feud boiled up on the floor of Congress. Rep. James Van Zandt (R-Pa.), a Navy Reserve captain, called for a complete Congressional investigation. He noted the following claims:

Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corp., maker of the B-36, is controlled by Floyd Odum, reported to have been a heavy contributor to the Democratic campaign last fall.

Defense Secretary Johnson was a director of Consolidated Vultee before he became a Cabinet member. There were rumors that Air Force Secretary Symington is about to resign and accept an executive post with Consolidated Vultee.

Fact and Fiction

Democratic House leaders rallied to the defense of Johnson and Symington but quickly agreed that an investigation was necessary to sift fact from gossip about bomber procurement and the relations—past, present and future—of top defense officials with commercial aircraft interests.

Chairman Carl Vinson (D-Ga.) of the House Armed Forces Committee personally asked his committee to expedite the inquiry and made arrangements to conduct public hearings.

One of the first prospective witnesses was Air Secretary Symington. He said he welcomed the inquiry as a chance to prove that Van Zandt's statements about him were "obviously and demonstrably false."

People

Haven for Gerhart

Gerhart Eisler, described by a Congressional committee as the top Communist agent in the United States, succeeded last week in ducking behind the Iron Curtain.

The British dragged him off a Polish liner a fortnight ago at the request of the U.S. State Department. Eisler had jumped bail of \$25,500 and stowed away on the liner in New York. Then a British court ruled the United States had failed to prove Eisler had been convicted of an extraditable offense. The decision held that Eisler's falsification of passport information was not the equivalent of perjury under English law.

Eisler triumphantly quaffed a mug of English beer, addressed a few British Communist meetings. The best thing for the rest of the world, he

Dates

- Monday, June 6
 - Anniversary (5th), D-Day, invasion of Normandy, France.
 - American Medical Association meets at Atlantic City, N. J.
 - Swedish Flag Day.
 - Anniversary (105th), Young Men's Christian Association.
- Wednesday, June 8
 - International labor conference opens at Geneva, Switzerland.
- Thursday, June 9
 - National Open golf tourney opens at Medinah, Ill.
- Saturday, June 11
 - Belmont Stakes horse race, New York.

Botany

New Alfalfa Strain

American agriculturists, combing the world for alfalfa to resist diseases attacking the American variety, came across a single, amazing alfalfa plant in a Turkish goat pasture.

The plant covered several square feet. It grew like Bermuda grass, which no known alfalfa had done. From a single root, runners spread, putting down roots at short intervals, and sending up leaves at that point.

The alfalfa plant has changed genetically in self-defense. The Turkish goats had grazed so closely that the alfalfa could not produce seed. But instead of dying, the plant had developed runners which replaced seed.

This single plant was carefully dug and nurtured during a month-long trip to the United States. Here the new alfalfa proved unadapted to this country.

Thereupon, says Dr. P. V. Cardon, administrator of the Agricultural Research Administration of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, plant breeders were called in to finish the goats' work. The breeders produced seedless, still like Bermuda grass, that grows well in the nurseries of several states.

The potential value of this new strain, says Dr. Cardon, cannot be overestimated.



FUGITIVE EISLER
... Freed to Run ...

erated, would be a few more setbacks like this for American imperialism.

Last Monday he boarded a Czech airplane plane and made a non-stop flight to Prague. He was accompanied to the London airport by three Czech embassy officials but his name was not on the passenger list and his baggage bore no labels.

The British government revealed it had issued him a travel permit. Eisler said he planned to go to Poland and then to Germany where he had been offered a professorship at Leipzig University in the Russian zone.

In Prague, Eisler said U.S. Attorney General Tom Clark was a "damn fool" who ought to be fired. In Washington, Clark said he did not care to comment.

Last week the Communist-dominated People's Congress, meeting in the Soviet sector of Berlin, named Eisler one of 400 candidates for the People's Council, highest body in the republic to be set up in the Soviet zone of Germany.

In Short ...

Killed: In a traffic accident near Washington, W. A. Julian, treasurer of the United States, whose flourished signature appears on every piece of currency.

Placed: By the Bolivian government, the whole country under a state of siege; officials declared striking Andean tin miners brought about a "state of civil war"; the death toll exceeded 30, including two American engineers.

Agreed: President Truman and his Congressional leaders, on a new Senate legislative program, giving repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act priority over the North Atlantic Pact.

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LAIN-BELLON—Police dynamite a cave hideout in the march for Salvatore Gulliano, Sicilian bandit, who challenged government leaders to a duel recently. P.S. He wasn't there.



PRINCESS RITA—This closeup of Prince Aly Khan and his bride, actress Rita Hayworth, was made after wedding at Vallauris, France.



BERLIN STRIKE—Red Army officers try vainly to pry switches open while German railway men look on. Non-Communist workers demanded payment in west rather than east marks.