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WEST GERMANY JOINS THE WEST

The West German bundestag, which corresponds to the U. S. house of representatives and the British house of commons, has just approved two treaties under which that government is to arm and furnish 500,000 men to a two million member international army for the defense of western Europe.

The votes were 224 to 165 and 226 to 164, which will appear somewhat close to Americans but which are hailed as decisive over there. They represent a triumph for West Germany's elderly chancellor, Konrad Adenauer, who insisted upon ratification and finally carried it over the most formidable opposition.

Against ratification were all the communists, many of the socialists, former Nazis who want no cooperation with the countries that beat Germany in the war, and the cynical "neutrals" who want to do nothing, like their numerous counterparts in France, thinking that if you ignore a crisis it will go away and let you alone.

There have been times in recent months when it looked like Adenauer would lose and that West Germany would refuse to help defend western Europe, but he held doggedly to his course and has now been vindicated by a favorable vote.

Whether the death of Stalin and the truculent attitude promptly shown by the new dictator influenced the German vote cannot be known to a certainty, but it probably did. Anything that would indicate greater danger of Russian attack would make a naturally virile people like the German react positively rather than negatively as the French might.

Two questions remain: Whether the upper house of the German parliament will follow the lead of the usually dominant lower, and whether a threatened court fight over the constitutionality of the vote will seriously delay the armament project. But the project is over its highest hurdle and its fulfillment now appears extremely probable.

This could well be the turning point in European rearmament. France has been holding back, but faced with a new German army anyway the French are likely to go along. Otherwise they will sink into a minor position in Europe. If both France and Germany arm the west will soon acquire enough strength to make a Russian attack considerably less attractive and more dangerous than now. Maybe within a few years Europe can defend itself and the American troops can come home.

SPRING OFFICIALLY ARRIVES

Promptly at 2:01 p.m. Friday, winter officially departed and spring returned. Winter's reign lasted since the winter solstice on December 21, and spring came with the vernal equinox when the sun poked its way over the equator, and moved northward from the southern hemisphere.

The last hours of winter saw a whirling blizzard in the high California Sierras, and about 300 motorists were reported stranded on the two main mountain passes, Donner and Echo Summits.

Winds up to 80 miles an hour whipped the new storm into towering drifts, and a new storm was believed moving southward from the Gulf of Alaska.

Only in the central plains did spring announce its arrival with a warm kiss as southerly breezes swept the prairie from Canada to Mexico. But the weather man warns of another cold spell for the middle west.

The dying winter was one of the mildest on record in many areas, including the Pacific northwest, especially in Oregon. The coldest day in Salem was November 28 when the thermometer dropped to 15 above, the next coldest 24 above on February 24 and March 1. Most of the time the thermometer hovered around the freezing point, 32 above. This area escaped snow and sleet and dreaded "silver thaw."

Many of the rose bushes and other deciduous shrubs still retain their last year's foliage, in spite of frost, while apricots, plums and some peaches are in bloom and the leaf buds on the maple, oak and other trees are swelling. Camellias were late in blooming but are on their way out. Wild flowers are in delayed flowering.

Spring seems here, with perhaps some setbacks as winter lingers in the lap of spring, as

"Night's candles are burned out and jocund day stands tiptoe on the misty mountain top."

A WELL DESERVED "OSCAR"

It is hard for the layman to understand the theories on which film "Oscars" are awarded but the honoring of one of moviedom's founding fathers—Cecil B. DeMille, whose "Greatest Show on Earth" became his first Oscar winner in 40 years of epic making was well deserved. It is one of the few times Hollywood has honored one of its greats while he was still living to appreciate it. It was therefore the only surprise of the evening.

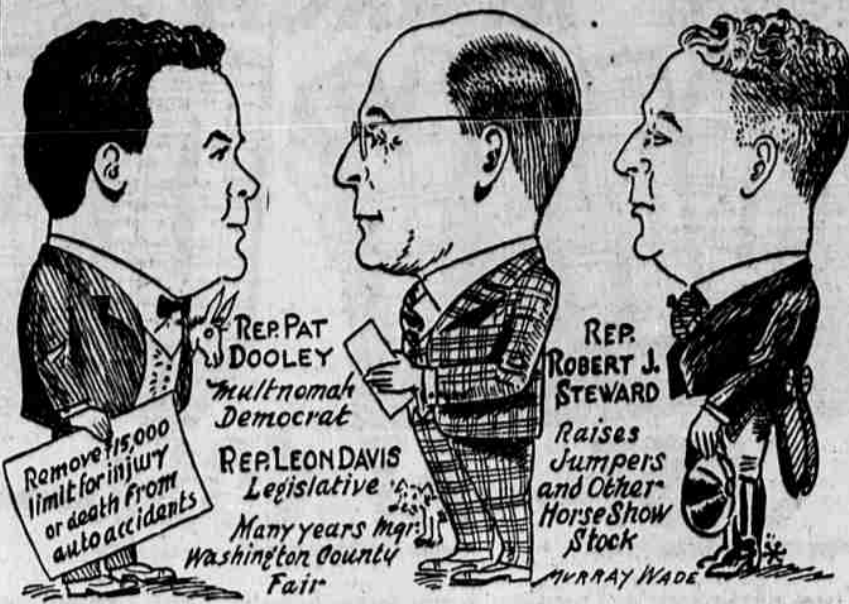
The 72-year-old movie pioneer was the big star of the silver jubilee Academy Awards Thursday night and was wildly cheered by the film colony audience as for the first time the ceremony was carried by television to millions of people, most of whom were delighted with the verdict pronouncing the "Greatest Show" the best picture of 1952.

De Mille, whose 70 pictures previously had won only in box offices, admitted being the most surprised of them all. "High Noon" was the favorite and its win was expected.

Among the spectacular productions created by De Mille which have won high public favor during his long career are: The Ten Commandments; The Volga Boatman; The King of Kings; The Sign of the Cross; Cleopatra; The Crusades; The Plainsman; The Buccaneer; Union Pacific; Northwest Mounted Police; Reap the Wildwind; Story of Dr. Wassell; Unconquered; Samson and Delilah and other photoplays.

Only the late D. W. Griffiths had produced more spectacular pictures but Hollywood let him go to his grave unhonored by the Academy despite the success of his productions which included The Birth of a Nation; Intolerance; Hearts of the World; Way Down East; Broken Blossoms; Orphans of the Storm and America.

LEGISLATORS as Seen by Murray Wade



WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Eisenhower Finally Tipped Balance for Loan to Brazil

BY DREW PEARSON

Washington — Some will-of-the-wisp, sleight-of-hand diplomacy reminiscent of Truman days took place backstage before the Eisenhower administration granted the recent \$300,000,000 loan to Brazil.

The diplomats didn't know it, but it was like himself, not the state department, who finally OK'd the loan. And the man who deftly secured Ike's OK was Fortune Publisher C. D. Jackson, now head of psychological warfare.

The inside story indicates the difficulty of forming a definite policy on foreign loans, especially to Latin America. Secretary of State Dulles announced some time ago that the republicans would push the good-neighbor policy. But at the same time he himself almost reneged on the Brazilian loan, and in a conversation with suave Brazilian Ambassador Walter Moreira Salles, the new secretary of state made this rather undiplomatic remark:

"Don't forget, Mr. Ambassador," Dulles said, "the republicans are in control now. We're not democrats. We don't buy friendship."

"And Brazil's friendship," snapped the ambassador, "is not for sale."

DOWN ON BRAZIL
Earlier the ambassador had met with something of a rebuff from Undersecretary of the Treasury Randolph Burgess when he called to discuss the loan.

"My boss doesn't like Brazil very much," Burgess stated bluntly, and went on to tell how the M. A. Hanna company of which Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey was long the president, had been negotiating for the manganese concession in the territory of Amapa, North of the Amazon, when suddenly it found that Bethlehem Steel got the concession instead.

Undersecretary Burgess, formerly of the National City Bank, a company which negotiated a sour loan of \$100,000,000 to Peru in the 1920's, was one of the chief opponents of the current loan to Brazil. Finally he proposed that Brazil take one-third — or \$100,000,000 instead of \$300,000,000.

Simultaneously, Assistant Secretary of State Linder lectured the Brazilians about not letting American oil companies operate in Brazil.

"What does Brazil mean," he asked, "by blocking oil exploitation and then turning round and importing \$280,000,000 worth of oil a year? You'll never be solvent."

When the result of these negotiations was cabled back to Brazil, it hit the front pages with a bang. "U. S. Abandons Brazil!" flared the headlines. Other papers talked of Yankee imperialism wanting oil in return for a loan.

It was at this point the ambassador called on Secretary Dulles, held an hour-long session reminding him that Argentina—no friend of the USA—had received a healthy loan, that Brazil had come into two World Wars on the side of the United States while Argentina flirted with the enemy. The ambassador's potent appeal partially converted Dulles.

But in the end, Nelson Rockefeller, who knows Latin-American problems better than anyone else around Washington, put the facts before C. D. Jackson inside the White House, and Jackson got them to Eisenhower. Overnight, the President acted where his secretary of state and secretary of the treasury had delayed. The full loan to Brazil was OK'd.

INSIDE RUSSIA
U. S. diplomats and intelligence experts have worked out some theories on why the new Kremlin has been shoot-

Dallas Auxiliary Has Initiation

Dallas — Initiation of nine new members was held Wednesday by the auxiliary of Dallas No. 3203, Veterans of Foreign Wars. New members came from Dallas, Independence, and Valseltz.

Initiated were: Mrs. Thomas Franklin, Mrs. Richard Benson, Mrs. Lillian Frink, all of Dallas; Mrs. Elaine Rogers, Mrs. Barbara New, Mrs. Donna Jean Agard, and Mrs. Mary E. Turenne, all of Independence; and Mrs. Lillian Cheney, of Valseltz.

Following the initiation ceremonies there were refreshments and a social hour during which greetings were extended to all those who had become new members during 1952 and 1953. Mrs. Gary Hanson, Mrs. Ray Carlson and Mrs. Eva Larson were in charge of refreshments.

The meeting was brought to an end with a silver drill, the proceeds of which were contributed to the Oregon Cottage Fund.

Guests from Valseltz and Independence were present for the initiation.

No 'Equal Rights' for This College Student

Los Angeles (AP)—One of the men students at Los Angeles Metropolitan junior college balked at joining an "equal rights" movement started by the 40 other male students on the campus where there are 700 women.

"I can't understand those guys," he said, "I like being outnumbered."

ADLAI VISITS FORMOSA

Taipei, Formosa (AP)—Adlai Stevenson and President Chiang Kai-Shek of Nationalist China conferred 42 minutes Friday shortly after the 1952 U. S. Democratic presidential nominee arrived on his world tour.

Against his close friend, Barak Mattingly, wealthy St. Louis political boss. It was Mattingly who started the steam-roller for Dewey at Philadelphia in 1948. Recently he's been an unofficial patronage adviser to Herbert Brownell... Tatitites refer to Wes Roberts as "Mr. Peanut."

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POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Should Woman Who Stays Wed Get Medal?

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—Should women who have stayed married to the same husband 25 years get a medal?

"In industry a man who works for the same firm 25 years gets a pin to wear in his lapel," a wife complained to me recently. "But who routed him out of bed every morning and got him to his job on time all through those years? His wife."

"And what is her reward? Nothing! Nobody ever thinks of honoring her with a pin or medal."

This does seem unfair. A lady with a quarter century of matrimonial seniority today has had to steer her child hus-

band through troubled waters indeed — a great depression, two and a half world wars, and a big inflation.

She certainly deserves some kind of recognition for long and valorous service on the homefront. All she often gets now is a tired orchid and dinner out at beefsteak Joe's neighborhood diner. That is hardly enough.

Well, how about a pin or medal then? I surveyed a number of married couples on this point, and regret to say I found nothing but disagreement.

The wives, by and large, were against the idea of wearing the same pin, medal or

medallion, even if it were set with diamonds—and who suggested that?

"We should all look like policemen wearing the same badge," one said "women would not go for that at all."

"I'd rather have a cash bonus," said another. "The men are welcome to their 25-year pins. Nothing would look better to me on my 25th wedding anniversary than some nice fresh cash I could call my very own."

"In any case, it oughtn't to be a pin," sighed a third. "It ought to be a slave bracelet—if anything."

Surprisingly, most husbands I consulted were heartily in favor of a medal for 25-year wives. The only reservation they made was that the coat, naturally, should be borne either by their employer or the government.

"My wife gives me pin money," said one henpecked Henry, "but not diamond pin money."

All the husbands were interested in the design of the proposed housewives' medal. Here are a few they suggested:

1. "A brass shield decorated with 25 silver teardrops—to show the lady has given the best tears of her life."

2. "Patience on a monument."

3. "The figure of a woman rising triumphant from a shattered paycheck."

4. "It ought to be just a long silver needle with the figure 25 on it—standing for all the years my wife has been giving me a big needle."

5. "An angel with a halo over her head and a broken vacuum cleaner in her hands."

As you can see, any husband who gave his wife a medal with any of these weird designs on it would probably soon be paying alimony.

One husband had a counter proposal. "If they give medals to 25-year wives they ought to give them to 25-year husbands, too," he said. "The wear and tear is equal on both parties."

"And I know the design I want on my medal—a mouse on a treadmill."

Guess we'd better drop the whole idea.

Salem 14 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL

March 20, 1939

Governor Charles A. Sprague has named the following persons to the Willamette Basin commission created by the legislature to cooperate with the federal government in construction of the proposed \$56,000,000 Willamette Valley project: Claude Buchanan, Corvallis; O. D. Eby, Oregon City and Elmo B. Chase, Eugene.

Don Uphoff, Capital Journal's Sipps for Supper, mentions in his column for today that "the legislator did pass a law providing standards of purity for fortified wine. Only grade A canned heat may now be used."

An autist driving on newly completed Monitor-Silverton road struck a lame horse that had wandered onto the highway and the animal died on the road. The driver could not remove the animal and drove on to Silverton for help. Meanwhile a car occupied by Frank Lanham and his brother, Lloyd, came along and struck the dead horse. Both of the Lanhams were seriously injured and their car almost completely wrecked.

Frances Sparks of Silverton is winner of the Willamette valley drum majorette championship contest sponsored by Salem Elks.

This evening Aldermen David O'Hara and Ross Goodman will introduce a resolution for council consideration whereby the city will purchase a small amount of privately owned land between Madison and

Erickson streets to allow opening of McCoy avenue.

Governor Charles A. Sprague praises the recently adjourned legislature because "no wild laws were enacted, no burdensome taxes imposed."

Increased use in commercial fertilizer has recently been noticed in Marion county following distribution of 90 tons of four per cent treble phosphate sponsored by the AAA farm program.

Silas Galser, superintendent of Salem schools and a college friend of William O. Douglas, nominated by President Roosevelt for the United States Supreme court, praises the nominee as a "superior person. He is western in his point of view and not a radical in any way."

Salem high school students today paraded through downtown Salem in celebrating the victory of their basketball team, winners of the state title championship.

Antiques saved from destruction when the state capitol burned have been placed in the new statehouse in accordance with plans of Mrs. C. C. Geer, state chairman of the D.A.R. committee in charge of the project.

DOERFLER NAMED TO FCC
Washington (AP) — John C. Doerfler of West Alibi, Wis., was nominated by President Eisenhower Friday to be a member of the Federal Communications Commission for an unexpired term running until July 1, 1954.

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