

Two Mergers Makes New Developments

Closer Work With Allies Is Favored in Decisions Subject

Corvallis — Closer work with U. S. allies in basic science, technology, and new weapons was favored by nearly three-fourths of the persons voting this month in Oregon's "Great Decisions" discussion groups on the issue "Can We Deal With Russia?"

Ballots from throughout the state showed reluctance to increase U. S. defense spending, especially for research and development, on an emergency all-out basis. Voters favored, instead, a long-range stepped-up education program in science and engineering.

Closer cooperation with allies in international trade and another "summit" conference of East-West major powers had strong support in the Oregon balloting.

Ballots Tabulated

Ballots were tabulated this week at Oregon State college, summarizing results for the first of eight foreign policy discussions slated for the 1958 Great Decisions series. Discussion groups are meeting in 32 Oregon county, state chairman Mrs. Mabel Mack, assistant director of Oregon State college extension service, said.

On the question of what basic attitude should govern U. S. policy toward Russia, Oregon ballots rated policy alternatives in the following order:

Seventy-nine per cent thought the U. S. should continue toward a workable general settlement with Russia, while only 8 per cent thought no real settlement with Russia is possible.

Second and third-rated alternatives favored working toward peaceful coexistence of East and West. Only a handful of voters, 6 per cent, thought America should shape policies on the assumption that communism is bound to collapse.

Fifteen per cent said the U. S. should formulate foreign policy on the basis that communist leaders will stop at nothing until they dominate the entire world.

On the question of whether the U. S. should tool up for a "crash program" to compete with Russia in basic science, technology, and new weapons, alternatives were rated as follows:

Seventy-one per cent favored working more closely with our allies in these fields.

As the second alternative, 59 per cent voted for in-

creased private support for educational institutions to step up science and engineering education. Use of tax money to support such educational programs was favored by 45 per cent of the voters.

Only 14 per cent thought the nation should consider increased military assistance to friendly countries as an alternative for strengthening defenses of the non-communist world. Lowest rated alternatives with 11 per cent was increased U. S. defense spending on an emergency "crash program" basis.

On the question of whether the U. S. should take more vigorous steps to compete with Russia in the economic sphere, alternatives rated as follows:

Sixty-six per cent said the U. S. should cooperate closely with our allies in international trade in order to strengthen the combined ec-

ILLINOIS VALLEY Report On Tract Heard

By HELEN BOTTEL

Cave Junction — At the regular meeting of the Illinois Valley Soil Conservation District board of directors Friday evening, E. W. (Jiggs) Morris presented a report made by the forestry committee on long-range plans for the administration and management of the district-owned woodland conservation tract on Thompson creek, near Selma.

The report, as accepted by the board, will be used as a guide in setting up District policy on this tract, which is being managed under the best woodland conservation technical knowledge now available.

Plans were finalized for the annual Soil Conservation District meeting to be held Saturday, March 15, at 1 p. m. in the Illinois Valley High school vocational agriculture building.

With all collections now in, March of Dimes Chairman Dr. Joseph Meyer announced a total of \$366.07 has been contributed to the fund from the Illinois valley.

This includes an additional \$73.63 recently turned in from Kerby Grade school, \$15.35 from Evergreen school, \$211.32 in the Mothers March, plus over \$65 from coin boxes and other sources.

Illinois Valley Lions have been appointed trustees for an over \$300 grant, made recently to local Boy and Girl Scout groups by the now-disbanded Oregon Caves Bowman.

The newly organized handicapped Troop 85 of the James Boys Home is the first recipient of funds from the Lions club, which has voted \$50 to the troop for merit badges, pins, caps, and other necessities. The club is sponsoring this new valley troop.

Kathy Tyner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Tyner, and Russ Beem, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Beem, were crowned queen and king of the Illinois Valley High school Valentine dance Friday evening.

Mrs. Mary Seat of Elsinore and Los Angeles, Calif., returned to Cave Junction recently with her son, Oris Seat, who had been in the south. Although she still uses a wheel chair part of the time, Mrs. Seat is recovering from a broken hip, sustained in a fall at her home last year.

Mrs. Delbert O'Brien returned last week to her home on Waldo road, after receiving treatment at Josephine General hospital. She shared a room with another O'Brien, Mrs. Ed George.

Del Sack of Grants Pass is substitute driver on the Crescent City mail route this month, while truck owner Ed Holland recovers from surgery.

The Rev. and Mrs. George Gray are expecting delivery of their new house trailer, which will be stationed on the Oris Seat property. They are currently staying at the home of their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Oris Seat.

A Valentine party was held Thursday after practice by members of the Cave Junction Community church choir and their friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Martin attended a meeting of the Holstein-Friesian association at Corvallis Monday, Martin, who with his brother George P. Martin, owns and manages the Illinois Valley dairy, is a director of the State Holstein-Friesian association.

Powers Are Slow In Giving Their Official Views

(Editor's note: This is another in the series of discussions on the foreign policy of the United States. This week's Great Decisions discussion concerns the Middle East and what responsibility the United States has in that area. The information for the discussion was prepared by the Foreign Policy Association and distributed in cooperation with the Oregon state system of higher education through the general extension division.)

Twice in two weeks the map of the Middle East has changed. On Feb. 1 President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt and President Shukri al-Kuwatly of Syria announced the merger of their two republics into one United Arab Republic. Only 14 days later King Faisal of Iraq and King Hussein of Jordan counter-moved by proclaiming the merger of their two kingdoms.

The Egyptian-Syrian move may have triggered a whole string of new developments in the Middle East, and both Washington and Moscow have been unusually slow and cautious in giving their official evaluation. And with good reason, observers say.

Elements of Promise

For both Moscow and Washington the recent events may contain elements of promise and peril alike. The merger of Egypt and Syria brings together the two countries which, according to the State Department, have received 60 per cent of all Soviet foreign aid, long-term barter arrangements commit the economies of both countries to the Soviet bloc and their armed forces rely to a large extent on Soviet equipment.

To be headed by Egypt's ambitious President Gamal Abdel Nasser, the United Arab Republic is now in a position to cut off 80 per cent of Western Europe's oil supplies by blocking not only the Suez Canal but also the vital pipelines which run from Iraq and Saudi Arabia through Syria to the Mediterranean.

Nevertheless there are reports that Soviet diplomats are not happy about the new developments. One theory has it that President Shukri al-Kuwatly, a conservative nationalist, pushed the Egyptian-Syrian merger in order to check influential pro-Soviet and Communist elements in Syria.

Outlaws Party

Nasser has outlawed the Communist party in Egypt and has imprisoned some of its leaders. Under the merger plan, all competitive political parties will be dissolved. There will be only one "national union" political party.

Whether and to what extent the Syrian Communists will participate in this national front remains to be seen. Khaled Bagdash, the Syrian Communist leader, did not attend the session of the Syrian parliament at which the union with Egypt was announced and, on Feb. 5, he left for Moscow with his entire family.

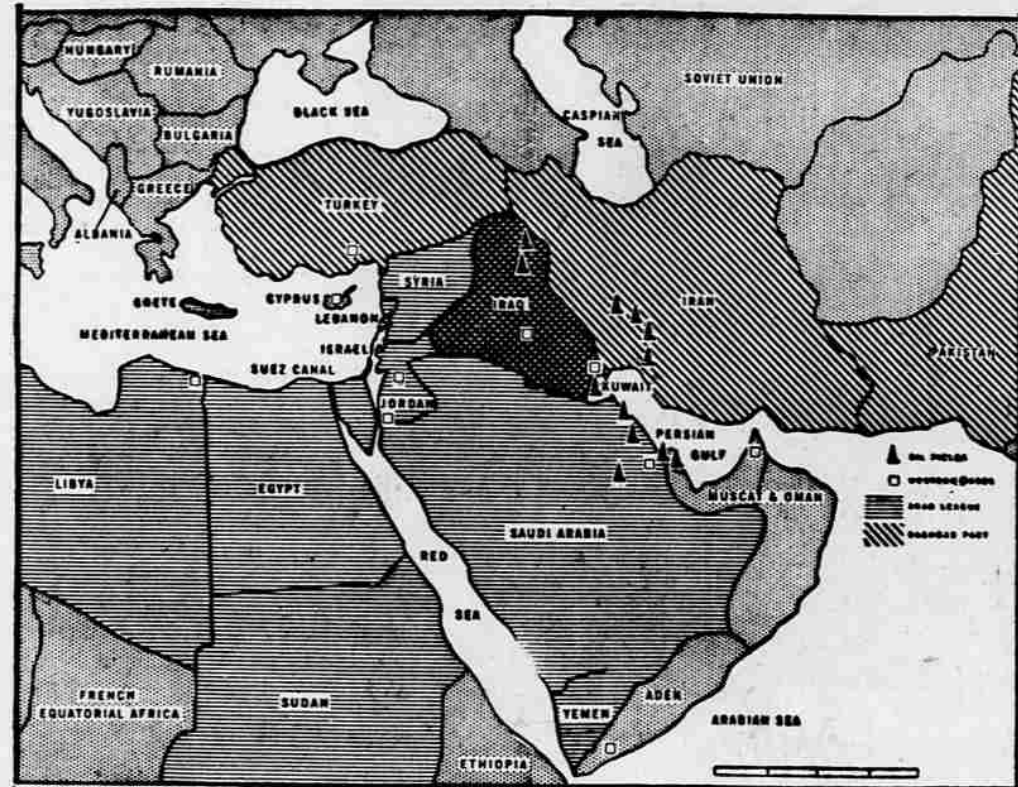
Other observers see some significance in the fact that Nasser's announcement of the merger includes a guarantee to safeguard private property against expropriation without due compensation.

Early to Predict

It is too early to predict whether Moscow will continue to favor Arab unity on these terms. Western diplomats, on the other hand, find little comfort in the mergers for a different set of reasons.

What worries Washington diplomats most about the Egyptian-Syrian merger is that it unites the two most anti-Western Arab states and gives them a potential stranglehold on the oil supplies of America's key European allies. Further, the new union will be led by Nasser, whose announced goal is a single Arab nation "from the Atlantic to the Persian Gulf."

Observers agree that the idea of Arab unity has long



MIDDLE EAST—Map above shows re- and Syria organized the United Arab sources and politics of the Middle East countries, which are discussed in this week's Great Decision program. Recently, Egypt and Jordan proclaimed a merger of the two kingdoms.

had a tremendous emotional appeal throughout the Arab world. They were not surprised that the proclamation of the United Arab Republic in Cairo had almost immediate repercussions in other Arab countries, such as Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia.

Implications Urgent

For Jordan, the small desert kingdom which (along with Israel) separates Egypt and Syria, the implications were most urgent. In the spring of 1957 Jordan's King Hussein barely managed to put down a rebellion believed to have been inspired by Syria and Egypt. The United States has since invested 40 million dollars in strengthening Hussein's regime.

The recent union of Jordan with Iraq is widely interpreted as an attempt by these two monarchies to counterbalance the Egyptian-Syrian merger and to keep Jordan from being swallowed up by Nasser's new republic.

But these goals are by no means secure, observers warn. Below the governmental level there is considerable popular support for Nasser and for the dream he symbolizes, a single politically powerful Arab nation. There is a distinct possibility, experts believe, that a second rebellion might succeed.

Where King Saud of Saudi Arabia stands in these moves and counter-moves is open to conjecture. Most observers believe he is a "middle-of-the-roader," not so pro-Western as Iraq, not so anti-Western as Egypt and Syria, yet determined to avoid an open split within the Arab world.

The union of Jordan and Iraq raises another serious question for U. S. policy — will Iraq remain a member of the U. S.-supported Baghdad Pact? Iraq is the only Arab state in this military alliance, which pledges Britain, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan and Turkey to "cooperation" in mutual defense.

The idea of the Baghdad Pact originated with the United States, which is not a formal member but participates in the work of all the pact's committees. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles envisaged the pact as the connecting link between the NATO alliance in Europe and the SEATO alliance in Asia. It was to be a "northern tier" separating the Middle East from the Soviet Union.

In late January Secretary Dulles gave further demonstration of America's interest in the pact by personally attending the meeting of the Baghdad Pact Council in Ankara, Turkey.

But the merger of Jordan and Iraq raises questions about Iraq's continued membership. The pact has never been popular in the Arab world, Iraq has been under constant pressure from other Arab states to drop its membership in this Western-sponsored alliance.

The terms of the Iraqi-Jordanian federation provide that both nations will continue to honor their international obligations.

Pressures Noted

Presumably this includes the Baghdad Pact. Many observers fear, however, that both internal pressures in Jordan and Iraq and external pressures from other Arab states are working in the opposite direction.

Saudi Arabia, the only other Arab monarchy, is particularly vigorous in its opposition to the Baghdad alliance. If Saudi Arabia were to join the Iraqi-Jordanian federation — a possibility — the odds would be even greater that Arab membership in the alliance would lapse.

This, observers agree, would detract seriously from the effectiveness of the alliance and would be a direct challenge to U. S. military policy in the area.

The new developments in the Middle East may call for a re-examination of U. S. policy in this vital area.

Eisenhower Doctrine

After the Middle East crisis in 1956, the Administration developed the Eisenhower Doctrine which authorizes the President "to use armed forces to assist any nation or group of nations in the Middle East . . . requesting assistance against armed aggression by any country controlled by international communism." It also authorizes \$200 million in economic aid to nations in the Middle East.

However, Lebanon and Iraq were the only Arab countries to endorse the doctrine.

Since Egypt's seizure of the Suez Canal, U. S. aid to that country has come to a halt. (Syria never did accept U. S. aid offers in the first place.) Now Senator Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) has suggested that the U. S. resume aid to Egypt, at least to the extent

of permitting shipments of CARE relief. Nationalism, he argues, can still serve as a bulwark against communism, even if it is an "anti-Western" brand of nationalism.

Nasser's handling of Syria's pro-Soviet elements may provide a clue to the validity of this argument and may well influence the policy-makers in the Administration.

This and other proposals are being warmly debated. But there is little disagreement that the right answers must be found soon. The West has not yet "lost" the Middle East but Western policies are on trial.

New Records Set by Insurance Company

New records were set for the eighth year in the operations of the Connecticut Mutual Life insurance company, according to Robert Elliott, district supervisor for Medford.

Sales during 1957 totaled \$460 million or \$30 million more than 1956, he said. Policy holders received \$57 million in benefits, including \$26 million in dividends. Death benefits amounted to \$21 million, he added.

Membership Drive Report Is Given

Young Men's Christian association membership drive division heads workers met recently to report their progress.

Paul Mitchell, drive chairman, announced that a section

under the direction of Mrs. Owen Kunkel and Dr. Frank Wilson are leading. In second place is one under the direction of Alex McDonald and Glenn Jennings.

Other division heads reporting at the meeting were Charles Jones, Fred Sears, Jay Pierce, Mrs. Lanell Wilkes, Mrs. Virginia Wickersham, Ed Hass, and Jake Toews. The total group has reported 130 memberships on a total goal of 777. There is one more week of membership drive activities.

Saleswomen Honored At Recent Meeting

Mrs. Florence Zimmerman, 219 North Oakdale ave., Medford, ranked first among saleswomen at a recent sales meeting of Avon saleswomen at the Jackson hotel.

Ranking second was Mrs. Idella Williams of Ashland. Mrs. Zimmerman ranked first among saleswomen from the five-county southern Oregon. Both received a trophy and orchid corsage.

About \$3 billion worth of school rooms will be built in 1957. Meanwhile school officials estimate an additional one million students will enroll next September.

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Area Students at Mock UN Meeting

Students from Medford and Jacksonville High schools took part in a mock United Nations held on the University of Oregon campus Friday and Saturday.

Medford High school students represented the Soviet Union and Jacksonville students represented Ghana. All students taking part in the model UN are members of International Relations classes.

Sponsors of the annual events are the Oregon Education association and the University of Oregon. About 500 students took part in the event.

Attending from Medford High school were Sandra Arant, Nancy Becken, Eric Eitrem, Jim Frohmayer, Harold Head, Lynn Latham, Randi Peterson, Marcia Williams, Nancy Wilson and Marcia Winshall.

Jacksonville high students attending were John Allen, Marjorie Edens, Romelle Fossen, Linda Hardy, Rita McBeth, Nancy Niedermeyer and Paul Winingham.

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Highway Traffic in Area Shows Increase

Traffic on Highway 66 east of Ashland and on Highway 62 south of Shady Cove showed an increase in January over a year ago, the state highway department has announced.

The average daily count last month on Highway 66, five miles east of Ashland, was 701, compared to 542 in January, 1957, an increase of 29.3 per cent.

On Highway 62, four miles south of Shady Cove, the average daily count last month was 1,100, compared to 1,031 a year ago, an increase of 6.7 per cent.

Highway traffic recorded at 44 rural automatic traffic counters throughout the state showed a statewide increase of 13.7 per cent last month compared to January, 1957, the department noted.

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