

Llewellyn Thompson Important Figure in East-West Power Struggle

Moscow—A middleman in the titanic power struggle between the two mightiest nations on earth is on his way after five years here.

His diplomatic report card—Russian and English—should read more than passing fair.

The man is Llewellyn Thompson, America's "Khrushchev" ambassador to the Soviet Union for the past five momentous years.

As the United States envoy in Moscow virtually from the moment Nikita Khrushchev assumed supreme power by ousting the anti-party group in July, 1957, Llewellyn Thompson has been a quiet but effective middleman.

At times he has been as much a top level negotiator as in his series of Berlin "probes" with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko last

winter or in his Novosibirsk meeting with Khrushchev where he in effect talked for newly-elected President Kennedy.

On Good Terms

He is considered, by Moscow standards, to be on exceptionally good working terms with Khrushchev and other leaders, but his five years here have been anything but easy.

In 1958, the first year after his arrival, there was the off-shore islands crisis in the Formosa Strait and the first of Khrushchev's "time limit" crises over Berlin, almost as serious as the armed test of nerves in Berlin last fall.

Then came the RB47 and the U2 incidents as well as the Summit collapse in 1960, which brought Soviet-American relations to their lowest point since the days of Stalin.

But even during the height

of the U2 crisis, Soviet officials from Khrushchev on down carefully refrained from personal affronts to Thompson himself.

Mark of Respect

Diplomats in Moscow viewed this at the time as a Soviet indication that sooner or later they intended to patch up the U2 affair, but also as a mark of respect for Thompson.

Dignified and patient—he himself claims patience is the number one requirement of anyone dealing with the Russians—Thompson is one of the tight handful of diplomats with the top rank of Career Ambassador.

Russian officials have indicated they appreciate Thompson for what they consider his directness and honesty in his dealings with them and Khrushchev has apparently responded in kind, making the ambassador's pipeline to the

Kremlin that much more valuable.

Although his expressed hopes for some real progress on Berlin or disarmament during his tenure have not been filled, Thompson is known to be pleased by what he considers a marked breakdown of the suspicion barrier that once pervaded Soviet contacts with foreigners, particularly Americans.

Advocate of Invitation

Thompson has long been convinced of the importance of Khrushchev and America's leaders, since Eisenhower and

then Kennedy, having the opportunity to meet and size each other up personally.

From the start he was an advocate of the 1959 invitation to Khrushchev to visit America and of last year's Vienna encounter between the Premier and the President.

He still regards both these events as milestones on the painful march toward better—or at least less acrimonious—Soviet-American relations.

As a bonus by-product, once scarce Soviet dignitaries and public figures are now a relatively familiar site at U.S.

Embassy receptions and dinners in Moscow, even during the gloomy aftermath of the U2 incident.

One acquaintance described Thompson as having the invaluable qualities of doubt and balance. And he would probably be the last to assume personal credit for what is largely part of an evolutionary process away from the Stalin-style conduct of Soviet affairs.

Mrs. Thompson, who is workably fluent in Russian herself, due to a rigorous three-lessons a week schedule

since coming to Moscow, is almost as accustomed as her husband at bantering with the lightning-quick Soviet Premier.

Launched Into Lyrics

When top presidium members Anastas Mikoyan and Evol Kozlov showed up at the U.S. Embassy's Fourth of July reception in the U2 clouded summer of 1960, it was Mrs. Thompson who broke the ice by launching into the Russian lyrics of a Soviet hit tune, "Evening in the Moscow Suburbs."

Before you could say "Ivan Ivanov," both Kozlov and Mikoyan were singing along.

Last year, when Khrushchev himself dropped in at the Embassy's Fourth of July festivities, it was Mrs. Thompson and her daughter Sherry, 8, who again put things quickly on an informal footing by wheeling the corn-loving

Premier out for a look at the stalks growing in the Embassy garden.

In Moscow, where the round of diplomatic parties is often the best way to meet Soviet officials, the Thompsons averaged more than 200 guests for meals and about 400 for cocktails every month.

Thompson, who turned 58 on July 24, made no secret for more than a year of his desire to get his family back to America after some 11 years abroad.

Three Classifications Due at Fair Art Show

Salem—There will be three classifications this year at the Oregon State Fair art show, Mrs. C. H. Rundell, superintendent, said Wednesday.

They are traditional, modern, and young art.

But the Berlin crisis kept him nailed to the job he is turning over to his successor, former Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs Foy Kohler.

Aircraft Components Plant Due at Portland

Portland—A Los Angeles company announced Wednesday it will start construction of an aircraft components plant here in September.

Electronics Specialty Co., which earlier this year purchased the Iron Fireman Manufacturing Co. of Portland, said the plant will be built on a 40-acre tract of land in the Rockwood area.

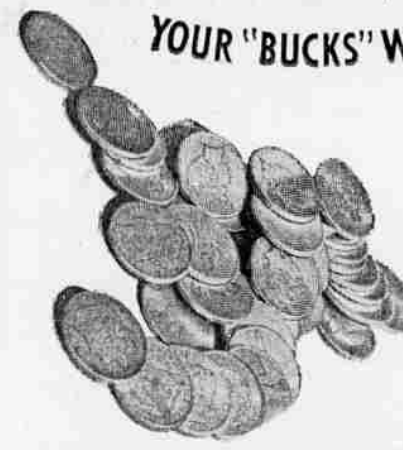
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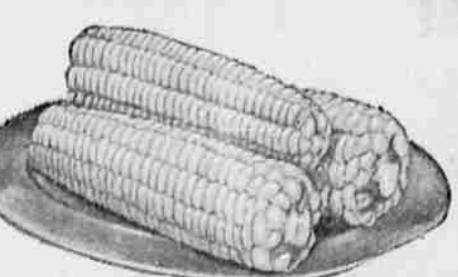
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BAGLEY PEARS No. 2 1/2 Can	4 FOR \$1.00
GRANDVIEW SYRUP 23-oz. Bottle	29¢
SPEAS APPLE JUICE (Limited Supply) 46-oz.	4 FOR \$1.00

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24-oz. Bottle	4 FOR \$1.00
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No. 2 can	4 FOR \$1.00
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