

# Vast Economy Program By Nikita Seems Based On Confidence Of Peace

WASHINGTON (AP) — Western leaders expect to draft within the next month a new formula for German reunification. They hope it may promote serious negotiations with the Soviet Union for uniting East and West Germany.

The shape of the formula is still to be determined, but it is expected to push the Western request for free all-German elections somewhat into the background.

Many experts now believe that the unifying process could go on for as much as two years before nationwide elections were held. In the meantime practical steps in the economic and political field could be taken to bring the two Germanies closer together.

Diplomatic informants said today that the United States, Britain, France and West Germany are guided by two main tactical considerations in the wholesale review of their German policies which is now under way.

Their primary aim is to test to the limit — without sacrificing vital Western interests — the possibility that the Soviet government may be ready for serious negotiations and compromises on the unity issue.

Their other concern is to demonstrate to the world a Western readiness to negotiate with initiative and flexibility.

Several Western concessions al-

ready have become known as a result of exchanges among the governments in Washington, London, Paris and Bonn. These concessions include:

1. A decision to propose in a forthcoming note to the Soviet government that German advisers participate in a prospective East-West foreign ministers conference.
2. A declared readiness—recently stated by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles—to have a foreign ministers conference with the Soviet Union without advance agreement on a detailed program of discussion. The only agreement required from the Soviet Union is to talk about all aspects of the German problem so that both sides could bring up any proposals they wish.
3. A decision that the reunification of Germany through free election — the formula to which the Western powers have clung for many years — is not the only possible way to obtain German unity.

Initiated by Dulles, this change broke down the West's rigid position on one of the crucial German issues.

Authorities said today that any merger plan acceptable to the West would require at some point all German elections to choose a new unity government but that the elections would not have to be a first step by any means.



THE SEA CLEFS of Coos Bay, representing a "fierce" group of barbershop singers in that city, known as the Coos Bay Pirates, will appear in the barbershop quartet performance at the Pelican Theater on April 18. Dressed in presentable civilian garb, left to right are: Tom Graham, tenor; John Anderson, lead; Harold Mitchell, baritone and Ivy Warner, bass.

# Logging Men Ponder Taxes

EUGENE (AP) — Taxes were the principal topic of discussion at the 21st Oregon Logging Conference continued here today.

At Thursday's opening session, delegates heard a plea for lower taxes by W. D. Hagenstein, executive vice president of the Industrial Forestry Assn. He commended the Legislature for its resolution to encourage expansion of resident industry and development of new industry in the state.

Salem accountant Bernard Davis suggested several possible changes in the present inventory tax on logs. He said the present program tends to discourage mill operators from maintaining year-around payrolls. Davis suggested changing the inventory date from Jan. 1 to May 1. Another possibility, he said, would be to make the tax work as it does for farm products — elimination of inventory tax if the produce is sold by May 1.

Carl Raynor of Springfield, president of the conference, called for improved industry public relations.

# Earlier Opening Of Polls Opposed By Voting Aides

SALEM (AP) — Election officials told the House Committee on Elections and Reapportionment Thursday that opening the polls in Oregon two hours earlier would cause hardship on election board members and lead to increased costs.

Supporters of the bill said it was worth the additional cost if the earlier time would lead to a greater turnout at the polls.

The bill, already approved by the Senate, would open the polls at 6 a.m. instead of 8 a.m. But polls still would close at 8 p.m.

The committee took no action on the bill.

John Weidon, Multnomah County registrar, said the vast majority of election workers in Multnomah County oppose the bill. He said earlier opening time would cost \$75,000 in the state in addition to making it more difficult to find election board members.

Benton County Clerk Ralph P. Schindler said it might work if the opening time were left up to the counties.

Sen. Alice Corbett (D-Portland), one of the bill's sponsors, said the cost would be about \$24,000 and actually less because money would be saved because the counting of the vote would be faster.

George Brown, Portland, of the AFL-CIO, said voting should be made as convenient as possible. He suggested the possibility of keeping the polls open later in the evening.

Dick Fymann, former state representative from Lane County, said equal opportunity should be given to all voters. He noted that state employees have election day off to aid in their getting to the polls.

A female housefly may deposit up to 2,500 eggs during a life span of two to four weeks.

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# Rumors Follow Releasing Of New American Coins

By MELVIN CARMICHAEL.

It happens every time a U.S. coin with a new design is released: We consider it a safe bet that the rumors concerning the initials V.D.B. for the sculptor Victor David Brenner, on the new Lincoln cent reverse are as unfounded as the other coin design rumors of the past 75 years.

Working backward, the first stop is 1948 when the Franklin half dollar was released. The rumor here was that the Liberty Bell on the reverse had a large crack in it and the government was going to call them in because of this error. The rumor repeats, evidently ignoring the fact that the original Liberty Bell that served as a model for this design bore the crack.

The Roosevelt dime, first coined in 1946, bears at the bottom of the bust, the initials J.S. When this dime first made its appearance, the rumors said the initials were those of Joseph Stalin and were placed on the die by Communists in Roosevelt's cabinet. Actually, the initials are those of John Sinnock, then chief engraver at the Philadelphia mint and the designer of the dime.

When the Jefferson nickel made its bow to the public in 1938, many were hoarded and changed hands at several dollars each because of a widespread rumor that the government was going to call them in and pay prices variously quoted at from \$8 to \$50 each. This, because the building on the reverse of the coin had no flagpole and government buildings require a flagpole. The building on the coin is Monticello, the home of Jefferson, and required a flagpole no more than your home or my home.

When the Mercury dime showed up in 1916, the "call in" rumors started circulating again. This time the supposed objection was to the main design of the reverse which bears a close resemblance to the Fascist emblem. The emblem lasted the life of the coinage, from 1916 to 1945.

The rumors concerning the Standing Liberty quarter, which also first appeared in 1916, took a year or so to get started. Due to a peculiarity of the obverse die used for these coins until 1925, the date was in a raised and prominent position on the coin with the result that several months of circulation were enough to wear the date completely off the coin, leaving only a black and shiny rectangle where the date had been.

The rumor then started that these dateless quarters were excellent counterfeits smuggled in from Mexico, China, Russia, or Switzerland, and one rumor bearer even gave Albania as their source.

The only thing wrong with them, said the rumors, was that the counterfeiters forgot to put a date on them, but the rumor continued, they were being smuggled into the U.S. in such vast numbers that the government was going to call in all Standing Liberty quarters to put a stop to the circulation of the counterfeiters, and to avoid disruption of the U.S. economy which would result from such vast distribution of these spurious quarters. The obverse die was redesigned in 1925 to produce a more durable date.

A larcenous stunt used in 1883 when the Liberty head nickel appeared was the basis for the rumors connected with the first appearance of the Buffalo nickel, in 1913. The first issues of this nickel had the initials standing on a shield around which also bore the name of the designer of the coin. Five years later, the rumor was started that the five eagle wings would wear off and "shavers" would mutilate the result and pass it as a \$5 gold piece, since it would then bear nothing on it to indicate its true denomination. Therefore, the government was going to call them in and pay a large premium. Later, in 1913, the die was altered to show the five eagle wings in a more prominent position.

In 1914, when the Lincoln cent was first released, the rumor was

that the initials V.D.B. (for Victor David Brenner) appeared quite conspicuously at the bottom of the reverse. There was considerable public outcry against the initials being displayed so prominently on the coins and the rumor started that Uncle Sam was going to call them in, resulting in considerable gain for the lucky holders of the coins. Literature of the period states that the public "queued up at banks" to get "some of those Brenner pennies." They are still worth only one cent to Uncle Sam.

Around the middle of 1909 the initials were removed from the dies. In 1918 Mr. Brenner was again given credit for his product, this time with the initials placed obscurely under Lincoln's bust.

In 1883, the first Liberty head nickels had only a large V (the Roman numeral for 5) in the center of the reverse to show its denomination. The fast buck boys of the period goldplated them and passed them as \$5 gold coins, since nowhere did the coin state whether it was V cents or dollars. After several weeks of call in rumors and hundreds of letters to the Treasury Department offering to sell their V nickels, the reverse die was considerably altered. The E Pluribus Unum which had been at the bottom of the reverse was moved to the top of the wreath and the word cents was placed at the bottom.

Rumors could be quoted back to 1793 when the first U.S. coin appeared. Actually the government has only once called in a coin, and rather than paying a premium for it, the value of the coin was officially cut nearly in half. The trade dollar, coined from 1873 to 1878 to compete with the Mexican dollar in the Orient, was not a successful competitor, so, in 1883, the government gave the holders of the trade dollars six months to redeem them at face value. At the end of the six months they were demonitized to their silver content, 60 cents.

# Sons Cited By Father

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Richard Paulsich, 41, a jeweler and the father of six, filed a complaint of "incorrigibles" against three of his sons in Juvenile Court Thursday.

He charged they ignored him, threatened him and threw stones at him. The boys are 13, 15 and 16.

"In the last couple of years," said Paulsich, "they've been getting worse and worse. I don't know why. They could be good boys. I want them to get straightened out before they get into serious trouble."

Paulsich accused his sons of having drinking and gambling parties in his home. He said they threatened him when he objected.

He and his wife Wilma, 46, have three other children, two girls, 12 and 14, and another boy, 6.

Police said the three older boys were surly and bitter when taken to Juvenile Hall pending a hearing. One muttered: "We'll get even."

TO SCALE MOUNTAIN  
VIENNA (UPI)—An eight-man Austrian expedition was en route to Nepal today to attempt to scale one of the last unconquered Himalaya mountain peaks. The group, headed by Fritz Moravec, is scheduled to start climbing 28,000-foot Mt. Gannangiri toward the end of March.

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