

Showdown On Trade Policy Nears

A CONSIDERABLE number of Republican congressmen are now arrayed against their President on the Bricker amendment, with a majority of Democrats supporting the Republican President. Before this amendment is passed, the battle lines may be drawn in similar fashion on another important issue—U. S. trade and tariff policy. The Randall Commission's report, and the vigorous dissents to it by members of the commission who are also influential Republican congressmen, underlines the seriousness of the division.

The Randall Commission did exactly the opposite of what commissions are expected to do. The President optimistically hoped that this study group would minimize the differences on trade and tariff views. But instead, as the report indicates, partisans of various viewpoints became more adamant.

The majority of the 17-member commission, including Democratic Senators Byrd and George, Representatives Battle and Cooper, and several liberal outlook on trade, it called for three-year extension of the Reciprocal Trade Act, instead of the usual one-year renewal. It wants the President to be authorized to cut tariff rates more drastically, to have more authority to disregard pleas for higher tariffs by the Tariff Commission and industries which protest rates. It wants to waive the "Buy American" statutes, which sometimes require our government to purchase at home items that could be bought cheaper abroad.

This majority asked Congress to repeal

legislation which requires half the government-financed seagoing freight to be sent abroad in American bottoms. Repeal would permit foreign shippers to earn more dollars with which to buy American goods.

Some of these recommendations correspond to views expressed by the President. Various commission members dissented from parts of the report. But most importantly, two commission members, the chairman and another powerful member of the House Ways & Means Committee, Representatives Reed and Simpson, objected to the entire report. And Chairman Eugene Millikin of the Senate Finance Committee, also a member of the commission and the man who, along with Rep. Reed, will chair a congressional committee which will make trade policy, registered numerous reservations and dissents.

There is a good deal of similarity in the basic reasoning of the dissenters to the Randall commission and the advocates of the Bricker amendment. Both groups—and they overlap considerably—after 20 years in the opposition party are ranked by executive authority, even when exercised by a member of their party. Furthermore, they are angered by any stance advocacy of internationalism, which they hoped to be done with when the Democrats were ousted. In sum, there is no mood for substantial compromise. Because of the key positions held by opponents of liberal trade, it is unlikely that a major overhaul of trade and tariff legislation will be made this year.

The Wrong Way To Build Up NATO

IN HIS BOOK, *AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY, 1900-1950*, George Kennan gave some succinct advice that the State Department ought to heed. Mr. Kennan was writing about the danger of building grand but shaky alliances, and he made his point in these words:

"As a circle of military associates grows in any conceivable political-military venture, the theoretical limit of available military strength may increase, but only at the cost of compactness and ease of control. And the wider a coalition becomes, the more difficult it becomes to retain political unity and general agreement on the purposes and methods of what is being done. . . . the more circumscribed the least common denominator of agreement."

The U. S. government appears determined to make the North Atlantic Treaty Organization into the unwieldy sort of grand alliance Mr. Kennan warned of.

NATO was sponsored by but seven nations, the United Kingdom, France, the Benelux countries, Canada and the U. S. By the time the treaty had been worked out, Norway, Denmark, Italy, Iceland and Portugal had been added.

Then it was decided to reach into the Mediterranean, and add Greece and Turkey to the pact.

Last week, THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR's U. N. correspondent reported that the "United States is determined to link Pakistan and Iraq to NATO."

Thus the organization which held much promise of cementing lasting ties between several like-minded nations is becoming a heterogeneous alliance, with admission open to most any country which will take a non-Communist oath and promise a few divisions of troops.

The horizontal growth of NATO would be desirable if some progress were being made in strengthening the organization internally, in diminishing the economic, political and cultural barriers among the various members. Only by this kind of integration can a lasting international organization be built. But instead, more diverse ethnic and political groups, more paper divisions, will be added to NATO if the most recently proposed additions are taken in. As Kennan warned, the effectiveness of the organization may be seriously impaired by this kind of expansion.

No Hero, Perhaps, But An Humble Man

WHEN Maj. Gen. William F. Dean was awarded the Medal of Honor we wondered whether he really merited the nation's highest military award. He had gotten himself captured, while doing a patrol leader's job. He had knocked out a tank, and organized some disorganized troops, but both of these chores were commonplace among non-coms and company grade officers. It seemed that his selection for the award was in the same category with Capt. Colin Kelly's. He was a B-17 pilot who crashed and died after his crew had bailed out. Kelly received, posthumously, the first Medal of Honor awarded in World War II. In both cases the military seemed overcautious to produce heroes, perhaps to aid recruiting drives.

Since his return from captivity Gen. Dean has repeatedly made the point that he did not deserve the honor bestowed on him. His protests go beyond those required of all duly modest heroes.

From The Sanford Herald

THE H. L. MENCKEN SHELL

POOR H. L. Mencken! When his name pops into print, as occasionally it does, we always think of what George Bernard Shaw said on occasion: "I simply can't not die." G. B. S. was jesting, of course. But Mencken, we think, deserves to quit this world. Having lost his ability to read and write, he is miserable most of his hours.

He even has reached the point where he can tolerate a President of the United States; in a news story the other day William Manchester quoted him as saying Mr. Eisenhower is doing a better than average job. Of course, the present White House tenant has a German name, but the Mencken of other years could have got around even that somehow.

Our favorite Mencken story concerns the presidency. It had its origin in 1926, when someone persuaded the crusty editor of the *Maconry* to tour the South—"the Bible Belt" was the name he gave it.

His last act before leaving Baltimore was to endorse Gov. Albert C. Ritchie of Maryland for President.

When he got to Richmond he mounted a rostrum and came out strong for Virginia's Gov. Harry F. Byrd.

In Raleigh he told the North Carolina press that far be it for a magazine editor to interfere in local politics, but . . . Gov. Angus W. McLean for President!

Then in Georgia he singled out Maj. John S. Cohen, the state's Democratic national committeeman, as the nation's hope.

Incredible as it may seem, all the books took hold. In this state, both THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER and THE WINSTON-SALEM SENTINEL went into McLean's chances with great editorial seriousness, and in Virginia the Byrd-and-Anderson DAVENPORT REGISTER called Mencken "a shrewd analyst of people and an even keener judge of existing conditions."

'You Know, You Fellows Really Ought To Reform'



Russians Luring The French

Western Pact Threatened

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

THE STAKES in the center of the poker table at the four-power conference in Berlin are very high. It would be an exaggeration to say that the game is being played for all or nothing. But nevertheless the final outcome, if the luck turns really bad, could mean the beginning of the end of the Western alliance.

The Russians hold cards in the hand that have superficially at least, a glittering appeal. They are almost certain to make France two offers with a considerable propaganda allure.

The first is a proposal to end the war in Indochina by negotiation. For weeks the Communists have been hinting that a negotiated peace is possible. The French are sick to death of the bloody struggle that has gone on for more than eight years in the Indochinese jungle with no sign that it can be resolved in a clean-cut decision.

What's the use? A powerful political undercurrent has developed in France in favor of ending the conflict and bringing back most of the troops as quickly as possible. One factor has been the insistent demand of the Indochinese Associated States for a negotiated settlement. What is the good of these heavy casualties and the cost of a billion dollars a year if at the end we are to turn everything over to the Associated States' many French are asking.

To United States policy-makers this seems incredibly short-sighted since if Indochina goes Communist, all of Southeast Asia is very likely to fall. At almost any time in the three years of the Korean War we might have asked the same question the French are now asking.

In the belief of those who try to look realistically at the struggle for Asia, a negotiated peace would mean in a relatively short time Communist control of all of Indochina. One can, however, understand the attractiveness of such an offer to many in France, where neutralism is the equivalent of the well-known philosophy of many Americans who would like to adopt the Bricker amendment, roll up the oceans and barricade fortress America.

The second card in the Russian hand is a proposal to maintain a permanently demilitarized Germany. This is even more plausibly than the Indochina offer. If a draconian peace had been enforced on Germany, such as the Soviet Union wanted and as was envisaged in the Morgenthau plan for reducing the Germans to an agricultural people, then permanent demilitarization might have been possible.

But even under those circumstances it would have been dubious, necessitating a continuing large-scale occupation by foreign troops.

Given the extraordinary vitality of the Germans, their will to power, it is inevitable that sooner or later they will use the instruments of military force. As American policy makers see it, therefore, this force must be contained within the framework of some supra-national organization such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization or the European Defense Community.

But as with the bait of peace for Indochina, this offer will have a great attractiveness. The allure of a Franco-Russian treaty to hold Germany permanently in check has already exerted its fascination for those same elements who in the years leading up to 1939 believed that France could make terms with Nazi Germany, allowing Hitler to turn against Russia instead of the West.

The attraction that these appeals will exert on the French is quite evident to Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and the other members of the American delegation in Berlin. But they cannot take the lead in

knocking down these proposals at the conference. It is this fact which makes Dulles' position singularly difficult. In view of all the circumstances, his role must be more or less of a passive one.

UP TO BIDAUULT

The initiative belongs to the French, and specifically to Foreign Minister Georges Bidauult. The role of saying no may not be a happy one under the circumstances. It will go counter to the hopes of many Frenchmen. But unless Bidauult steps into this role, supported quietly behind the scenes by the British and American delegations, the conference is likely to end in defeat for the West.

The consequences, if Dulles were to step conspicuously into the "no-say" are all too apparent. He would seem to be reaching a decision for France that only the French people can take. Already in France there is widespread resentment of the role of the either-or position Dulles has taken—either France must ratify the European Defense Community treaty or America will be compelled to revise its foreign policy. There is a feeling that this is an intolerable threat to a proud nation.

So now Dulles must wait in the background for the final slight Bidauult must carry the burden in this time of testing. What the ministers—the United States' Dulles, Britain's Eden, France's Bidauult, Russia's Molotov—said in the first two days they had said before. They restated their positions.

The Western position, as in the past, was this:

There must be a single European army called the European Defense Community (EDC). France and West Germany must be part of it. This means rearming West Germany.

Dulles argued, was the best way to keep Germany from being a military threat again to her neighbors. With her troops in EDC, she would never have an army of her own again. Here he was talking to the hesitant French, the Russians only incidentally.

Bidauult made a strong pitch for EDC. Yet, it's the French who, through their fear of a rearmament in any form, have refused to go all the way to join EDC and have therefore prevented its going into existence.

And although Bidauult told Molotov EDC is necessary, he himself doesn't know whether France will ever join EDC. The French Parliament won't vote on joining for weeks.

The truth of this could not be lost on Molotov, whose govern-

ment, leaving an EDC that contains France and Germany and knowing that without EDC Europe's defenses would be weaker, has been trying to get the French away from it.

Naturally, Molotov followed that line in Berlin. To scare the French some more and widen the split between the United States and Russia, he warned that once Germany was allowed to rearm, even within the limits of EDC, it couldn't be trusted.

The French also are sick of their war with the Communists in Indochina. Without mentioning Indochina by name, Molotov made a veiled suggestion that maybe Russia could bring about an end to the fighting.

If the war ended and the French withdrew from Indochina, the Communists would take it over later without a shot, making the rest of Southeast Asia a wide-open target.

Molotov then tried to put the United States over a barrel by suggesting the big powers agree on outlawing the atomic bomb.

The United States has already laid down terms on which it would consider that, but the Russians long ago refused to meet them. By talking about it, Molotov made a little more Russian propaganda.

Quote, Unquote

Then there was the perfume saleslady who told prospective customers her product contained an ingredient that makes a man think he can capture a wife. —Barrow (Ga.) Herald.

It is difficult to believe that it has been 50 years since the first flapper made his appearance. It has been 50 years since a young man with a good head on his shoulders and a proud owner broke his arm trying to crank up a Lizzie—Lynching Herald.

The question is, is money the color green because it is easy on the eyes, or is green easy on the eyes because it is the color of money. —Kingsport (Tenn.) Times-News.

Not proceeding as it agreed to proceed when we went to Alaska," thundered the usually mild Sen. Barrett of the rugged state of Wyoming. "I would not have taken the time to go to Alaska if I knew you were going to by-pass the whole works. To take the judgment of Sen. Anderson and put him up as over and above this whole committee does not look good to me. I will tell you that, and I do not like it. I don't think it is playing fair, and I do not think that he is doing what he has agreed to do in Alaska on this matter."

"Just a moment, please," shouted Butler, rapping his gavel.

One reason that Chairman Butler was so upset over combining Hawaiian and Alaska statehood was that earlier in the hearing, he had committed himself to vote for the bill. But this was not perfectly safe at the time, not knowing that Dwerkhak was ready to switch his vote.

"I think this committee is

Some Variety Of Travelers Is Aboard The 'Australia'

By ROBERT C. RUARK

AT SEA, Australia-bound TRUE UNFOLDING of the personalities on a ship full of different nationalities is as fascinating as any drama I know, and the M. V. Australia, which I've been riding, is no exception.

There is, for instance, the bright old girl of 67 years who enrolled in a university in America when her husband died, and when she was 50 years old, and who now roams the globe for fun. She smokes cigarettes and drinks Martinis and shaves a wicked lip in the rumble and looks as trim as a filly in her bathing suit.

There is the German family from China, going out to meet the head of the house in Australia. The Russians came to see father one day and asked him to go for a stroll. Father told mother to keep his supper hot; he'd be right back. He came right back—four years later. They took him to Siberia, where he informed them he was a cook instead of an engineer. I believe he got to be a pretty good cook.

SHANGHAI LIL There is the redheaded Russian lady who always has the turn-of-the-century and an acute sea sickness of the soul, like a great many old-fashioned Russians. She and the bartender, William, were friends years ago in Shanghai. We call her Shanghai Lil, but she doesn't know that we do.

The second surgeon on the ship is a handsome young chap who is only 31, but who was fighting with the Italians in Eritrea when he was 18. After Italy capitulated he joined a partisan band and made a rather private war on the Germans. He was captured and questioned, and refused to talk. He dances very well, especially when you consider that each of his toenails was pulled out and he has rather heavy scar tissue on the soles of his feet, caused by cigar burns.

There is the young Australian lady who has left Italy in a where

years, and who seems to have a secret sorrow. She does not confide what this sorrow may be, but from the symptoms it would appear that she is incurably afflicted with love, and that she love now resides in Italy while she goes home to Australia.

We have the Jewish couple from Israel who have left Israel to go to Australia to live, because the man is weary of fighting. He has been in uniform since 1949, five years of which he spent in the British Navy. He has acute inflammation of the chest, due to brass-button poisoning.

Then we have Master Hugh and Miss Victoria Williams, aged 11 and eight, respectively, who have reaffirmed my faith in children. They are polite and obedient, full of high spirits and smart as mustard, healthy, happy, and have never been subjected to psychiatry, even secondhand. They love their parents and respect their parents and have not been raised progressively, since father Tom Williams, a former RAF pilot and a wood grower, believes in the Biblical axiom about sparing the rod and spoiling the child.

SORT OF ENGAGED I am a little embarrassed about Miss Victoria Williams, because it seems we have become engaged in a typical shipboard romance, and I am wondering how Miss Williams is going to do it. Miss Williams does not appear to have heard of biology.

We had one wonderful three-cornered love affair, which looked like it might end up in a duel for the fair lady's hand, but she solved the problem by getting off in Colombia with one sailor, leaving the other one gnashing his teeth on the ship. But he seems to have conspired with the captain and now is dancing strenuously, check to check, with another damsel.

These people are culled from the first class. The second class, which has 800 people in it, is where the real action takes place.

Foreign Ministers Repeat An Old Refrain At Berlin

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON

EVERYTHING'S NORMAL at Big Four foreign ministers meeting in Berlin: The United States and Russia spent the first two days bashing each other.

And at this conference in a Berlin room to find solutions for the world's ills, first of its kind in five years, the United States and Russia began doing cleanup what they had done long before they had come to Berlin.

Before the talks began there was small hope East and West would reach agreements. Judging from what has been said so far, this meeting may become, as was suspected, just another propaganda war across a table.

For Russia the whole business will be a success if it can weaken the links between the United States and France. For this country it probably will be a success if France comes out of it a tighter ally.

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

ONLY an angry rumble could be heard through the heavy mahogany doors, but Senate Interior Committee members pounded on the table and roared at each other last week in a free-for-all over Hawaiian-Alaskan statehood.

It is strictly against Senate rules for one senator to question another's motives. Yet, at one point, Chairman Hugh Butler of Nebraska angrily accused those who had thwarted him on Hawaii of "some ulterior purpose."

McKeaneyed Sen. Frank Barrett, Wyoming Republican, also turned red in the face and shouted: "I may be against the whole works here, but I get through with it—Alaska, Hawaii, and the whole damned mess!"

What set off the fireworks was a neat parliamentary move by Sen. Clint Anderson, New Mexico Democrat, which tied Hawaiian and Alaskan statehood together. This upset GOP strategy to push through statehood for Hawaii but not Alaska, with

Tempers Lost In Statehood Hassle

its two probable Democratic

Republican leaders thought they had all the needed votes ready, but here "labored" Sen. Henry Dwerkhak jumped the traces and voted with the Democrats to keep Hawaii and Alaska together in one bill.

The resulting blowup rocked the secret hearing, but this column can report what happened.

Chairman Butler, flushed with anger, rasped: "I want to say for the record that I am keenly disappointed at this action. . . . I think it is irregular and is done for some ulterior purpose. I am frank in that. I think you are doing an unfriendly act to the Territory of Hawaii."

Sen. Long of Louisiana, a Democrat who earlier had switched to the Republicans, was also irritated by the surprise vote. "I will be very frank," he said, "that as far as I am con-

Queen City's Smoke Hard On Asthmatics

Charlotte

Editors, The News: I wish to congratulate Mr. Reimer on his article on Charlotte's smoke problem in Tuesday's News. I'm especially concerned because I come under the category of the asthmatics.

It's bad enough to have to put up with dust and smoke on your car, but to have to breathe it is slow death.

Charlotte is known as the Queen City, but the Queen City of what—smog and smoke?

Mrs. DONALD LAMBERT

prejudice Alaskan statehood.

I shall vote for it because, since we now find ourselves more or less tied in knots with personality questions from motives involved, I think it is better that we take the matter to the floor of the Senate."

"Mr. Chairman, I think it is unfortunate that there have been any remarks implying anybody's motives," muttered Sen. Malone. There was so much ranting and raving going on, however, that Malone's mumbled remarks could not be clearly heard, and at one point Butler shouted: "Louder, please, George!"

The most striking blast, however, was aimed at Sen. Anderson by the ruffian Republican senator from Wyoming.

Anderson, a Democrat, is a former international president of Rotary and was given credit for changing the Republican vote of Sen. Dwerkhak, an international director of Rotary. "I think this committee is