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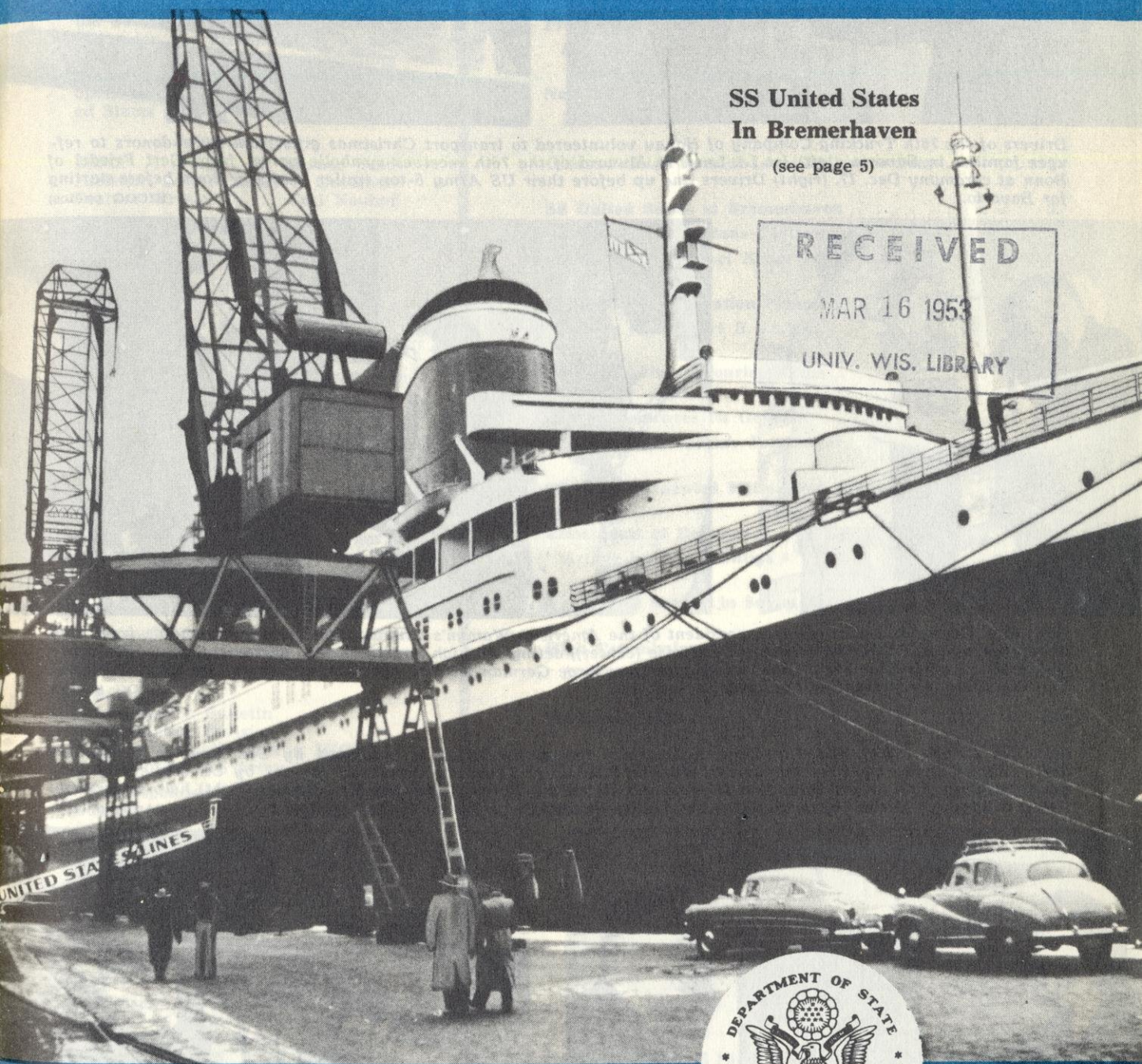
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INFORMATION

MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE OFFICE OF
US HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR GERMANY

Bulletin



**SS United States
In Bremerhaven**

(see page 5)

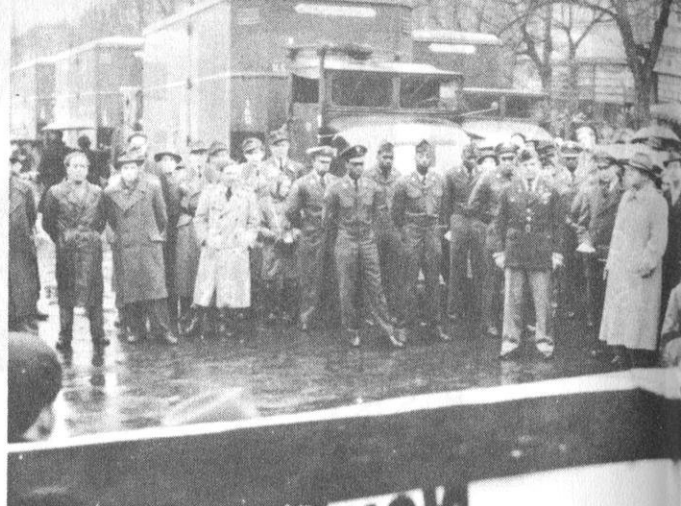
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THIS ISSUE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Espelkamp — "Operation Pioneer" | page 7 |
| HICOG Improves Its German | page 11 |
| Classrooms of Democracy | page 13 |



**JANUARY
1953**

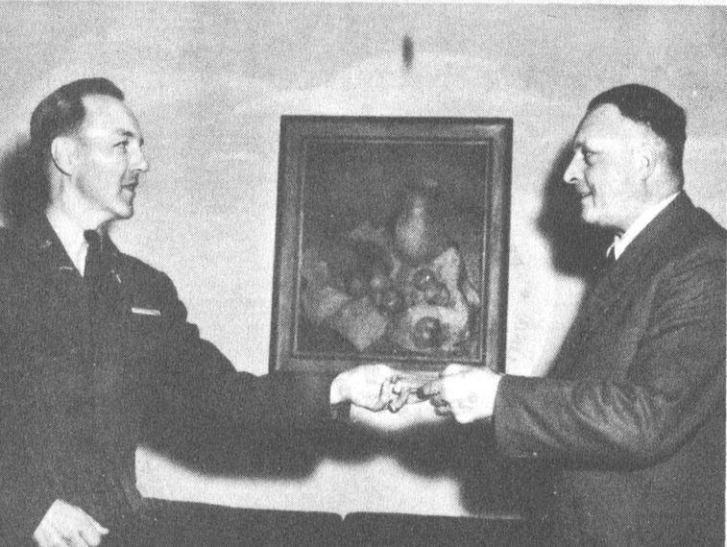


Drivers of the 76th Trucking Company of Hanau volunteered to transport Christmas gifts from Ruhr donors to refugee families in Bavaria. (left) 1st Lt. Levis P. Munard of the 76th receives symbolic parcel from Gert Friedel of Bonn at ceremony Dec. 17. (right) Drivers line up before their US Army 6-ton trailer trucks in Bonn before starting for Bavaria. (HICOG photos)



(left) Mrs. George L. Lynch (center), president of the American Women's Club of Berlin, presents radios from club to refugee camps. (right) Eli Whitney Debevoise (center), acting US high commissioner, presents first CARE package to Mrs. Sophie Kraemer of Bonn of 60 given five large German welfare agencies, as her children and the Rev-Theodor Holling, representing the agencies, look on. (HICOG photos)

(left) DM 2,356.82 (\$560), raised at German-American Friendship Dance, is presented by Col. Douglas G. Gilbert (left), Giessen Detachment commander, to Wilhelm Koehler of Technical University for use by US soldiers of university athletic field. (right) Mrs. Ann Higgins and Miss Faye Barnes (left) and Mrs. Barnes (right) help underprivileged children of Berlin try on clothing donated by the American Women's Club of Berlin. (US Army photos)



Information Bulletin

TABLE OF CONTENTS

January 1953

The Information Bulletin is the monthly magazine of the Office of the US High Commissioner for Germany for the dissemination of authoritative information concerning the policies, regulations, instructions, operations and activities of the United States mission in Germany.

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Prosperity — Liberty — Security	2
<i>Message by Dr. Konrad Adenauer</i>	
New Year's Message	3
<i>Broadcast by Samuel Reber</i>	
Oldest Foreign Service Local Employee Dies	4
SS United States at Bremerhaven	5
<i>Address by Dr. Hans-Christoph Seebohm</i>	
<i>Address by Samuel Reber</i>	
Espelkamp — Operation Pioneer	7
<i>Article by Wilbert B. Dubin</i>	
Berlin Regaining Tourist Status	10
HICOG Improves Its German	11
<i>Article by Friedrich Forstmeier</i>	
Baptistry Presented Plittersdorf Church	12
Classrooms of Democracy	13
<i>Article by Paul Phillips</i>	
Youth Flee Service in Soviet Zone's Army	15
High Commissioner Donnelly Departs	16-17
<i>Pictorial Feature</i>	
Personnel Notes	19
German Editorials	20
Official Announcements	26
Index	27
<i>Listing of 1952 Articles</i>	
Berlin Ceremonies	33
<i>Pictorial</i>	

OFFICE OF THE US HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR GERMANY
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
INFORMATION DIVISION
FRANKFURT, GERMANY APO 757-A, US ARMY

Prosperity Liberty Security

Translation of Christmas Message

By Dr. Konrad Adenauer

Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany

DURING THE PAST few weeks and months, the German people have joined in the most important political issue that has arisen in the Federal Republic since its coming into existence. The subject of the controversy was the German-Allied treaty system whose meaning and significance should have become clear by this time to everybody in Germany. All of you have witnessed also the extraordinary passion with which arguments for and against the treaties were brought forth. Some people will have wondered whether or not propriety was kept at all times. But passion can not be separated from politics, and even appears to be justified, if the issue at stake is vital for the existence of the nation.

In view of the irritation and uneasiness in the minds of only too many of us at the present time, I believe that we rarely did need the rest and recollection of the Christmas season as much as we do in this year. The holidays offer an opportunity to see things at a distance and to approach a deeper and clearer understanding of our situation. We have to realize that in as great a controversy as is going on in our country at this time it is unimportant which person wins or loses. That is hardly a proper, and often rather an unworthy, way to look at the outcome and it makes it moreover more difficult to find out what is right and necessary. In the calm of the Christmas season we should lift our view from the turmoils close by and look out to farther and larger horizons.

We should listen to the voice of other nations many of whom have returned to a friendly attitude towards Germany during the past year. They have watched closely what has been going on in our country. Sometimes their position is detached and objective enough for useful suggestions from their part. In everything we hear from our friends in the Free World we can discern above all this point of theirs: we have the same ideals as you do, and our interests are similar to yours. We have to get together if we want to remain free. We want to trust you. Help us by showing clear will and firm determination on your part.

ONE MORE THING we ought to think about at the close of this year. It seems as if the severity and bitterness of the controversy, in which the Government and the Coalition fought their cause with such passionate zeal, might awaken in us the feeling that we ought to realize more what we have in common and what ties us together. Perhaps the recent events will result in bringing out once more and still clearer that our basic ideas of unity and right and liberty are the same.

At any rate, our still young state is proving capable to support the load and strain of its present troubles. It must emerge stronger from this trial. If that comes true, we want to go on and consolidate what we have attained, and what world opinion calls the German Miracle. Therefore, our major objective is to bring to a conclusion the work we have started upon: re-establishment of German self-determination and integration of all Germany into the community of the free nations. Our motives are simple and strong: we want prosperity, liberty and security for all Germany, and moreover for Europe and the World. We want that everybody who is of good will may find the Peace of which the Christmas Gospel speaks.

New Year's Message

By Samuel Reber

Acting US High Commissioner for Germany

I am happy to be here in Berlin today and to have this opportunity at the end of the old year to wish the people of Berlin and the people of the Soviet Zone a better and happier New Year. In doing so, I am not only following a tradition but also am giving expression to an impelling personal feeling.

With millions of other people in the free world, I have watched with admiration the determined struggle of the Berliners to defend their liberties and resist the harassments of the dictatorship surrounding them. And we have aided them in their battle. We have seen the infinitely more difficult resistance of the population of the Soviet Zone to the encroachments of Communism on their daily life, and their efforts to retain personal and moral integrity in the face of all the pressures a totalitarian state can bring to bear. And the free world has sustained them in their struggle, with the weapons of the spirit, first and foremost through the dissemination of truth — truth about the outside world and truth about developments in the Soviet Zone itself, which the Communist regime attempts to hide and dissemble.

THE EXPERIENCE and the example of these people living on the frontiers of a world that is not free have vividly recalled to us that liberty is not something which should be taken as a matter of course.

I know that it is difficult to give consolation to people caught up in the daily struggle against a monolithic state apparatus directed to quenching their spirit and infusing their minds with false values. But the farmers, the workers, the women and the youth of the Soviet Zone who hold fast to their personal integrity, and keep alive their faith in liberty, are contributing their share to the strengthening of freedom everywhere.

The faith in the free way of life shown here in Berlin and just as persistently by the population of the Soviet Zone is heartening to the people of the free world, and furthers our conviction that personal liberty is a thing so valuable that it must be defended with all our strength. This is the basis of the Western defense effort, and the moving idea behind European integration and the development of the Atlantic community.

In all these vitally important enterprises of the free world, despite certain setbacks, substantial progress has been made during the past year in the economic, military

and political fields. In NATO, in the coal and steel community, in the Marshall Plan, in the European Payments Union, in the European Council, the foundations for the future structure of a strong, viable, united free world have been laid. When it has been finally ratified, the European Defense Community will form an important addition.

THESE DEVELOPMENTS are reflected in the feeling of increased security experienced in Western countries as against a year ago. Aggression has already become too costly for would-be aggressors to begin lightly. On the economic side, the economic upswing of the Federal Republic has continued, with production reaching 167 percent of 1936 during the month of November. Unemployment is down, and employment at a record high. In a sense all this represents the first fruits of cooperation in common ends, and points the way to the **advantages** to be gained from full European integration.

In **Berlin**—in free Berlin—progress toward a better life has been made during the past year. I do not mean to say that I think life in Berlin has become normal—far from it. Harassments by the Soviets and by the Communist government of the Soviet Zone have continued in intensity and viciousness. The flood of refugees from the Soviet Zone has increased and places a heavy burden upon the resources of free Berlin. The line of barbed wire and road blocks shutting off the West Berliners from their countrymen and their property in the Soviet Zone has been drawn tighter. Unwarranted and illegal interference with trade and transportation between Berlin and the Federal Republic has taken place.

Attempts have been made to intimidate Berlin by acts of terror-staged demonstrations on the sector border, kidnapings, such as the brutal seizure of Dr. Linse in West Berlin. Here let me pause a moment and ask the question why with all the detailed information which we have made available to them the authorities in the Soviet Zone still disclaim knowledge of his whereabouts and continue to deny him freedom. Even a few days ago armed assault by Soviet soldiers resulted in the tragic death of a West Berlin policeman. The futility of these attempts to sap the courage of Berliners has been demonstrated.

DESPITE THESE difficulties which block the return of West Berlin to a completely normal existence its economic conditions are steadily improving. Construction mounted substantially during the past year and 10,300 new dwelling units were completed for occupancy in West Berlin. Berlin export trade continues to grow and

This message was delivered by Mr. Reber on New Year's Eve over RIAS, the US-sponsored radio station in the American Sector of Berlin. It was delivered in German to the German people.

"Made in Berlin" is becoming a well-known trademark abroad. Although unemployment still exists and is swelled by refugees, production continues to rise. I know that it is small comfort to persons out of work to cite these facts, but I also know that even those unemployed infinitely prefer life in West Berlin to the dread totalitarianism that begins at its borders.

I am confident that in the year 1953 the free nations of the world will continue to support the cause of free-

dom in Berlin as elsewhere, to strengthen their defenses and to press for peaceful solutions of the problems that face the world, including those of Berlin. Let us combine our strength and wisdom and bring to bear the full power of our resources to preserve the common welfare and peace of the world. This is the New Year's wish I leave with you. Let each of us do his part to insure the fulfillment of the eternal Christmas message "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men."
+END

Oldest Foreign Service Local Employee Dies

Mrs. Ida Hafermann, local employee of the Hamburg Consulate General with the longest term of service in the annals of the American Foreign Service, died Dec. 5 at her home in Hamburg at the age of 80 years. Her death came less than four weeks before her retirement with nearly 54 years of employment of the United States Government in Germany.

Mrs. Hafermann had been a regular employee of the American Consulate General in Hamburg since April 18, 1898. During World War I, she served in the American interests section of the Spanish Mission, the protecting power for US interests. Similarly during World War II,

she was employed by the Swiss Government as the protecting power for American interests.

Mrs. Hafermann had submitted July 22 her resignation from the Foreign Service "due to my advanced age" to become effective at the end of the year. She was honored in Frankfurt Dec. 7, 1949 at a ceremony when John J. McCloy, then US high commissioner, presented certificates and medals for long and meritorious service to officers and employees of the Foreign Service in Germany.

Secretary of State Dean Acheson, in a message of condolences to Miss Ida Spiro of Hamburg, niece of the deceased US Government employee, said:

"I have learned with much regret of the death in Hamburg on December 5, three weeks before her scheduled retirement at the age of 80, of Mrs. Ida Hafermann, a German citizen, after 54 years of conscientious and selfless service with our Consulate General there, most recently as clerk in charge of consular invoices where she became well and affectionately known to German and American business men. Mrs. Hafermann's cheerfulness, loyalty and devotion to duty were exemplary. During two world wars she rendered valuable service to the United States as an employee of the foreign powers protecting our interests in Germany. I join the Foreign Service in mourning the loss of the valued and loyal employee and extend my deep sympathy to her relatives."

Walter J. Donnelly, as US high commissioner for Germany at the time of Mrs. Hafermann's death, also sent his condolences to Miss Spiro, saying:

"I have been informed of the sudden death of your Aunt, Mrs. Ida Hafermann, and wish to express my deepest condolences to you. Your aunt has served almost 54 years with the American Consulate General. This service is unparalleled in the annals of the American Foreign Service. Her service was devoted and selfless and she was known to all in the consulate and the community for her cheerfulness and devotion to duty. She rendered valuable service to the United States in both world wars when she served with the mission of the foreign powers representing United States' interests in Germany. I wish to join the American Consulate General in Hamburg and the entire American Foreign Service in mourning the loss of Mrs. Hafermann."



Mrs. Hafermann (center) with Mr. McCloy at the ceremony in Frankfurt December 1949 for presentation of Foreign Service awards.
(PRD HICOG photo)

SS United States At Bremerhaven

THE UNITED States Line's new passenger liner United States was welcomed into Bremerhaven Jan. 3 at a ceremony marking the first call of the transatlantic record-holder to a German port. Heading the official party greeting the officers, crew and passengers to the North German port were Samuel Reber, acting US high commissioner for Germany; Dr. Hans-Christoph Seebohm, federal minister of transportation, and Wilhelm Kaisen, president of the Bremen Senate. Following addresses by Mr. Reber and Dr. Seebohm (printed below) and brief greetings by Mr. Kaisen, the officials inspected the liner which will continue to call regularly during the next few months at Bremen. Shown in the photograph were (left to right) Mr. Reber, Dr. Seebohm and Mr. Kaisen on the flag deck of the SS United States.

* * *

Translation of Address

By Dr. Christoph Seebohm

Federal Minister of Transportation

I AM SINCERELY glad to welcome this proud ship on its first visit in a German port. I extend greetings also to all of those assembled here for the occasion. For myself, and also in the name of the president of the Federal Republic and of the Federal Government I return their friendly words and wishes.

The entire German nation is greatly interested in this festive event which is taking place today on board of the world-famous flag-ship of the United States Lines now lying in this North Sea port. For, everything which shows evidence of our cooperation with the United States finds a strong and happy echo in our country. We consider it a good and happy sign that we can start this new year with a welcoming greeting for the largest and fastest ship of the American merchant marine which has come to Bremerhaven for the first time. Let us take this event as a symbol for the successful and fruitful cooperation between us and the United States, and especially between the merchant marines of the two countries.

We realize that the free world is in the same boat for better or for worse, and we know how important it is for us to live in stable friendship with all nations which carry and guard Western civilization. However, cultivation of the common elements of Western thought alone is not sufficient. We also need practical-minded men

Continued on page 18



Touring the SS United States during welcoming (left to right), Acting U.S. High Commissioner Samuel Reber, Bremen Senate President Wilhelm Kaisen, and Federal Traffic and Transportation Minister Hans-Christoph Seebohm.

Address

By Samuel Reber

Acting US High Commissioner

DURING THE first days of a new year and on the occasion of the first arrival of the liner United States, the newest ship of the US Merchant Marine, in the newly rebuilt port of Bremerhaven, I should perhaps speak exclusively of new things. But new things must be set against a background of old, which in this case is the long commercial relationship between the United States and the Free Port of Bremen.

I have before me a transcript of a document, signed by George Washington, dated 1794, appointing as United States Consul one Arnold Delius of Bremen. The President said: "I have nominated and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate do appoint him consul of the United States of America for the Port of Bremen."

With these words began the formal relationship between Bremen and the United States.

Despite its ancient traditions and close links with the older maritime nations, Bremen, then as now devoted to the principles of free trade, demonstrated its youthful capacity for growth and its youthful capacity to accept new ideas and trade associations which quickly led to the establishment of its active commerce between its ancient port and the new republic of the West.

By 1830 Bremen was the most important world market for American tobacco, twenty years later it also became the principal continental market for American cotton.

In 1874 a Cotton Exchange was founded in Bremen and this exchange became the focal point for the distribution of American cotton marketed in Europe. Bremen's role in the marketing of US cotton, tobacco and other commodities, which dates from this period, has continued to the present day. As of September 1951, the exports from Bremen to the United States were twice as large as those to any other country and the imports from the United States through the port of Bremen are currently DM 875,000,000 (equivalent to \$208,250,000).

WHAT I HAVE tried to indicate in these passing references to the trade relations between the United States and the Free Port of Bremen is that a firm commercial link exists between this city and our country. A full exposition of this common market will be shown in an exhibition to open in our America House here next week, which I hope you may all have an opportunity to visit.

I have one more historical reference to make. The arrival of the packet George Washington in Bremen in 1847 marked the first occasion when a ship of what is now the United States Line arrived at the port of Bremen. It is a miracle to us today that the sail and steam vessels of the 19th century could make the Atlantic crossing and arrive in this port in 17 days; yet we take it for granted that modern ships, like the United States, can make the same voyage in less than seven days.

It is with pride that I speak to you in the dining saloon of this great ship, the finest ocean liner that the United States has ever built. We are proud that the United States now holds the record for the fastest transatlantic crossing, and I believe that its arrival in Bremen on its first voyage here gives further evidence of the developing Bremen-American and hence of German-American trade relations.

As you know, the United States has, as have other American vessels coming to this port, brought the families of many American soldiers stationed in Germany. These men and their families are here today not so much because of events in the past or because of any belligerent designs for the future, but because my country and its partners in the Atlantic community recognize the urgent need to reinforce the defenses of western Europe including those of Germany. These men have come not as part of an army dominating foreign territory but as members of a defense force needed to maintain a strong position in the face of the Communist might in the East and to preserve the peace. That is their role and as citizen soldiers of a democratic community they recognize their mission and understand why they are here.

THIRTEEN MONTHS ago, when High Commissioner John J. McCloy addressed the National Defense Transportation Association in Bremerhaven*, he spoke

*see "Defense of Common Freedom" in Information Bulletin, November 1951.

with optimism of the understanding of the nations of Europe as to the role they must play as a defensive union to preserve the freedom of the nations of the West.

The signatures in Bonn and in Paris last May of the Contractual Agreements and of the Treaty establishing the EDC, as did the establishment of the Coal and Steel Community somewhat earlier, marked further milestones in the achievement of an integrated European community, itself part of a developing Atlantic community. In the association of free peoples Germany is to be a partner accepting its full share of responsibilities as well as all the benefits which such membership entails. Only through the consolidation and development of such a community of free democratic peoples, strong enough to resist any totalitarian menace from whatever source it may come, can the firm basis of a lasting peace be laid and assurances for a developing prosperity and economic security be given.

The President-elect of the United States has said in his New Year's message, as the divided strength of the western and continental Europe nations becomes combined, "its effectiveness will be multiplied so that western Europe will have a vigorous community for peace and freedom." He added that his ideas on this subject had been reinforced as more and more he saw the "Feebleness of alternatives."

I can only say at this moment, when we are commemorating the continued development of trade relations under peaceful conditions, and when we take cognizance of the enormous economic recovery of Germany in the brief span of years since the close of the Second World War, that progress toward the achievement of this goal has not been as rapid as my government and its people would have preferred to see and that these continued delays, understandable though they may be, can be detrimental if unduly prolonged.

My associates and I in the High Commission for Germany, who have worked so many months to see that the benefits of the new German sovereignty treaties may be realized as soon as possible, believe that the treaties will be approved by all other signatories as have the Bonn Agreements by the United States and Great Britain. We are also confident that the approval thereof will represent more than approval in the letter only and that their entry into force will herald a new day for peace.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the United States Lines on having forged another link of understanding between the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany. In bringing their greatest ship here they have paid the port of Bremen a compliment that it richly deserves and I trust that it is a foretaste of ever-increasing relations in all fields of human endeavor between Bremen as a great port of the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States.

+END

Espelkamp - "Operation Pioneer"

By Wilbert B. Dubin

Press Officer, American Consulate General, Duesseldorf

ONLY SEVEN years ago millions of cartridges, grenades and bombs had been stored in a pine forest in Westphalia of western Germany, where today German refugees from eastern Europe look back on the first phase of a real pioneer resettlement undertaking. On the grounds of a former ammunition depot of the German army a community of approximately 3,000 has mushroomed up since 1946. "Operation Pioneer" offers a singular opportunity for expellees and refugees to build a new life and regain the self-respect that the Communists would destroy.

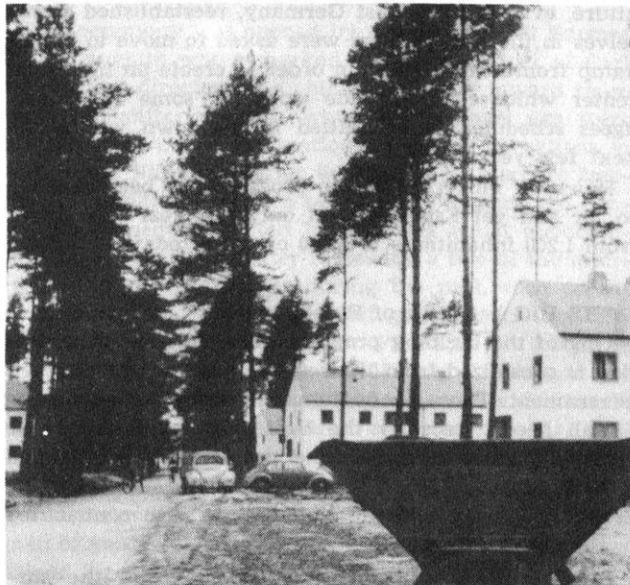
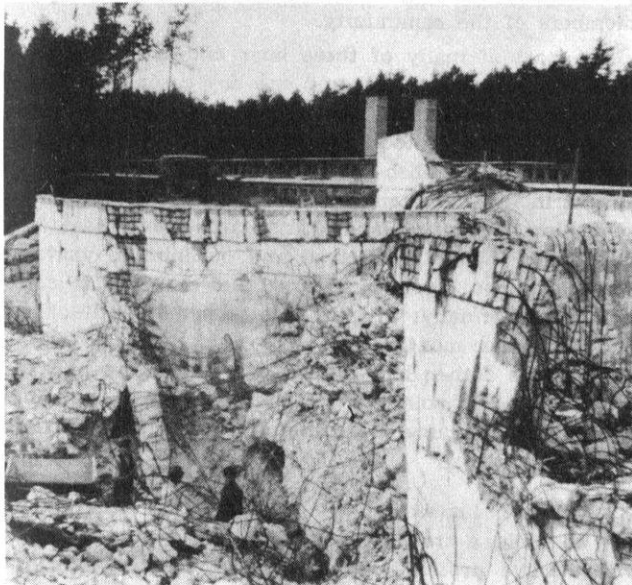
In 1946, when the ammunition depot Espelkamp-Mitwald, 25 miles northeast of Osnabrueck, was scheduled for destruction, a study group of the Relief Organization of the Evangelical Church under the direction of the Swedish Pastor Birger Forrell intervened with British authorities to have the project and its undamaged buildings spared in order to house German refugees. The dynamiting was temporarily halted and the first settlers moved into the sheds and bunkers of the depot.

ALTHOUGH IT was uncertain at that time whether the dynamiting would be continued, the area attracted refugees in increasing numbers. American Mennonites were the first to bring actual assistance to the

settlers from outside of Germany. Tall men with wide-brimmed hats came into the thick-set forest region to live with the disillusioned refugees, mending and remodeling with their own hands the shacks that provided shelter, felling trees and clearing underbrush to provide fields so that potatoes and vegetables could be grown. This presence of the American Mennonites at Espelkamp combined with the sympathetic understanding of the state officials had at the same time a stabilizing effect on the early settlers, many of whom were deeply depressed by their seemingly endless flight through Europe.

In 1948 General W. H. A. Bishop, then British state commissioner of North Rhine-Westphalia, released the area of the Espelkamp depot to the German authorities. So encouraged, the Relief Organization of the Evangelical Church initiated a survey of the economic and traffic conditions of the Espelkamp area to see whether it would be suitable for the establishment of a large-scale refugee community.

THE FINDINGS of this survey prompted the Evangelical Church and the German state to join in a common enterprise for the first time in Germany since 1918. A planning and administrative corporation, known as the "Aufbaugemeinschaft Espelkamp," was founded to



(left) View of one of the destroyed bunkers of the ammunition dump before the refugee settlement project got under way. (right) View in the same area after some of the new apartment houses had been constructed. (photos furnished by Information Office, American Consulate General, Duesseldorf)



Refugee woman working in textile mill, one of the new industries started in the Espelkamp area.

plan and erect at Espelkamp a town which could harbor a large number of refugees and expellees. These people would be living by their crafts and whatever larger-scale industry could be settled in this area. The Church and the German state hold equal shares in this corporation.

The treks of refugees to Espelkamp then were organized by the corporation. The only persons who would be admitted were those who could be employed by the various industries settling in Espelkamp or else were persons who knew a craft useful for the community. Manufacturers of rubber and steel products and furniture, evicted from East Germany, reestablished themselves in the town; others were asked to move to Espelkamp from nearby areas in order to create an industrial center which could provide work for some 15,000 refugees scheduled to be settled in the town within the next few years.

However, only part of the program has been realized so far and yet Espelkamp in only one year has grown from 1,200 inhabitants to 3,000 or more today.

THE BIG headache of Espelkamp has been the financing of the building program. As a rule the construction is subsidized from the refugee funds of the German government. These funds, however, were not enough to fill all needs. Recently the United States financed the erection of two large housing projects from ECA and HICOG funds. Other European countries, including Sweden, Norway and the Netherlands, also contributed to the construction.

Building material came roughly cut from the surrounding forest. Concrete quarried from the dynamited bunkers and pillboxes of the former ammunition depot serves as foundations for the streets. The ammunition

sheds and halls today house the industrial works with newly erected halls apparently following the construction pattern of the old ones. Most firms, when moving into an old shed, set up their machines and start to work long before even the most primitive repairs have been made to the floors, ceilings and windows.

The town of Espelkamp is growing fast and soon the responsibility for electing a community council, a mayor and county representatives will be placed in the hands of the people. There are already men and women in Espelkamp who realize the responsibility of local government and it will be very likely that they will activate the interest of the refugee in his community and teach him to utilize democratic self-government apparatus on a local level.

THE YOUTH present the most pressing problem of Espelkamp today. When the German residents in Poland, Latvia, Hungary and Yugoslavia were evicted in 1945, many children were mostly separated from their parents and put in internment camps where the Communists in most cases either tried to indoctrinate them or consigned them to land labor. Many of these youth were shipped to Germany after a few years and others escaped to the West on their own. They ended up in refugee camps in West Germany or made an obscure living in the big cities for some time. A great number of these young people are presently gathered in an institution at Espelkamp named "Steilhof" (named after a German welfare worker). This is a social welfare institution operated by the Evangelical Church and subsidized by the German state.

Here the refugee youth, mostly orphans, are separated by age groups and at first receive schooling in the German language. Their chief problem, however, is to get professional training so that they can become useful members of the community.

The past of many of these boys and girls is packed with heartrending stories and one boy casually depicted his with the understatement: "It was not easy to come to my parents. It took me two years." He had been interned by the Polish police and then escaped. He was caught in East Germany by the Soviet Zone police who sent him back to Poland. His guards there beat him unconscious when he arrived and put him to work in the coal mines. Again he escaped and managed to cross into East Germany; this time he passed himself off as a Pole. After months he located his parent's whereabouts. His father had died in the meantime and his mother lived in southern Germany but he was unable to join her. He came to Espelkamp on his 15th birthday. He likes it here.

HERE AT Espelkamp the Steilhof Institution plans to build a trade school where the young refugees will receive professional training in crafts which are desirable for the Espelkamp industries.

The area, and the Steilhof in particular, is a good example of the interest the free world takes in the

problems of one of its members. Thus one of the homes for refugee juveniles was erected recently through a donation from the HICOG fund, the costs for other buildings have been contributed by the Lutheran Churches of Norway, Sweden and the Netherlands. A young Dutch pastor has been assigned to the youth camp of the Steilhof by the Dutch Evangelical Church. He and his charming wife have already established a close personal contact with the youths, helping them with their individual problems and increasingly receiving the confidence of even the most suspicious youngsters.

Espelkamp is pioneer country in more than one respect. The town is still quite primitive and there is no entertainment to speak of for either young or old. There is a sporting field on the grounds of the Steilhof and in the neighborhood a swimming pool is being built but that will be hardly enough to satisfy the hungry minds of the refugee settlers and the younger group. The nearest town with a motion picture theater is some 12 miles away and a visit of a traveling movie to Espelkamp has become a major social event.

THEREFORE, the Film Section of the American Consulate General at Duesseldorf recently lent a film projector and equipment to the Steilhof Institution. This



Young refugee, carrying pail of food, stops to read sign on new building, saying: "Thanks to assistance of the United States of America and German state offices, erected October 1951."

equipment presents entertaining and informational films to the refugees and to the youth in particular. Informal discussions after these films combined with a wide variety of pamphlet literature encourage the people to express their opinion freely, thereby strengthening their self assurance and preparing them for active participation in discussions of civic matters of their own community.

One of the main problems has been largely overcome: not to have the Espelkamp project end up as a refugee camp but to make it an integral part of western Germany and North Rhine-Westphalia, where it may well become an important economic and social factor.

A woman teacher at the Steilhof states: "These refugees could be the pride of any nation in the world. They are industrious, enterprising and talented in many ways. But they are disillusioned by their past experiences. The efforts of the West to help them build a new future must not fail to seize the refugees' imagination by getting the fact through to them that they are being received in a free world in a new home." Operation Pioneer has pointed the way. +END

Carl Schurz Exhibition

An exhibition, commemorating the life and work of Carl Schurz was presented in October at the Bremen America House under sponsorship of the Carl Schurz Society of Bremen.

Attending the opening ceremony on United Nations Day Oct. 24 were members of the Carl Schurz Society, the Bremen Consular Corps, the Bremen Senate, as well as Michael Harris, chief of the MSA Special Mission to Germany, and Dr. Peter Mueller, chairman of the Steuben-Schurz Society of Frankfurt.

The ceremony was opened by Consul General Edward D. McLaughlin who remarked that every effort of Carl Schurz was directed on a binational scale toward those basic humanitarian goals which seven years ago were underwritten on an international scale by 50 nations in the United Nations Charter with the aim to secure freedom of mankind to live in peace under a clean and honest government dedicated to affording equal opportunities for its citizenry. After reviewing a few of the international accomplishments during the past, such as the activities of the International Refugee Organization, The United Nations Commission for Prisoners of War, The United Nations Commission for Human Rights and the Ford Foundation, and noting that these activities would have received Schurz' hearty endorsement, Mr. McLaughlin expressed the hope that the exhibition may serve not only to cement good relations between Carl Schurz' homeland and his adopted country but also show men of good will that the desired world order can be attained through cooperative effort.

Dr. Hermann Apelt, president of the Carl-Schurz Society described the conditions prevailing in Germany and the United States at the time of Carl Schurz' emigration.

Berlin Regaining Tourist Status

BERLIN IS regaining its prewar stature as a world-famous tourist mecca, according to a HICOG report which points out that the Western sectors have taken over the city's "historic role as a hospitable center for the trading and sightseeing traveler."

Evidence of Berlin's resurgence as a competitor on equal terms with other cities of Europe, according to the report prepared by the Economics Affairs Division, Berlin Element, HICOG, is to be found in part in the statistics on tourism to Berlin for the past year of 1952.

These figures indicate that the number of travelers reaching West Berlin in the first nine months of 1952 was 49 percent higher than the total for a comparable span of 1950. By the end of September, 1952, more tourists had arrived in Berlin than in any single full year since the war.

Nearly 923,000 persons, both German and foreign, came to Berlin before the end of September. The total for the first nine months of 1950 was 616,249. In all of 1951, Berlin received 837,080 visitors.

IN PART, the Economic Affairs Division report said, the steady rise in tourism to Berlin is also to be attributed to improved transportation arrangements. Three civil airlines "provide frequent luxury airline service to Berlin" so that "the city can be reached just as comfortably and safely by air as any other city in western Germany or western Europe."

Foreign passengers flying to Berlin need no papers other than those necessary for entry into western Germany.

The city's position 100 miles behind the Iron Curtain in eastern Germany — while it deters a few visitors from visiting Berlin — attracts a far greater number who are desirous of seeing at first hand the contrasts between the Eastern Communist and the Western democratic ways of life.

"Berlin is eager and able to attract the world tourist and again offers first-class hotels, restaurants, theaters, operas, good music and the usual amusements of a large city," the report notes, adding that at the same time "the traveler finds in Berlin one of the few areas behind the Iron Curtain in which he can see the effects of Soviet domination."

OTHER POINTS that the Economic Affairs Division report makes include the following:

Despite West Berlin's geographical isolation from the rest of the free West, "living conditions are...normal. Nothing is rationed and intersector movement may be undertaken without restriction."

Sightseeing in the Soviet sector may be "undertaken without special permission and normally without undergoing any personal risk. Conducted tours include the So-

viet-occupied sector of the city and are...the easiest method of visiting" this small area behind the Iron Curtain.

The number of beds available in West Berlin hotels has increased from 800 at the end of World War II to a present total of more than 6,000, and "hotels range from the luxury class to less expensive but comfortable boarding houses or pensions." West Berlin has approximately 450 hotels and boarding houses, many of them comparable to the best in Europe, and about 4,000 restaurants, cafes and night-clubs.

Berlin "always famous for its foods," offers restaurants "for all tastes which not only uphold the gastronomic traditions of many of the countries of Europe, but serve oriental and other exotic foods in many specialty houses. Prices are...reasonable in hotels, restaurants and night-clubs."

"Direct air service or simultaneous connections" are offered between Berlin and all the principal capitals and cities of Europe, while to assist West Berliners and travelers from the Federal Republic and to provide indirectly an additional incentive to foreign travelers efforts are being made to improve air service and reduce fares."

A STEADY development of air travel has taken place — 87,094 passengers came to Berlin in 1950, 142,354 in 1951 and 143,369 in the first nine months of 1952.

International and interzonal modern trailer bus services maintain regular schedules between Berlin and the most important cities in western Germany. International lines connect with the principal cities of Europe. Many of the luxurious international bus lines employ modern trailer buses equipped with reclining seats and built-in restrooms, include stewardess service and serve meals on the bus."

The difficulties for foreign visitors contemplating surface travel to Berlin sometimes make trips by train or automobile impractical. For passage through the Soviet Zone of occupation, the only means of reaching Berlin by land, a special Soviet transit permit is necessary. The permit may be applied for at Soviet consulates in the US and other countries, but delays in granting the documents are the rule.

The development of travel and tourist facilities has been aided by funds from private sources, by MSA counterpart funds and by German government support, the EAD report states. In addition, the promotion of tourism has been taken over by an official branch of the Berlin city government known as the "Verkehrsamt Berlin." The Verkehrsamt has branches in New York and Paris, and works in close collaboration with the Federal Central Tourist office in Frankfurt. The latter has branches in nine West European countries.

HICOG Improves its German

By Friedrich Forstmeier

Assistant Chief, Training Staff, Personnel Division, Office of Executive Director, HICOG

A VISITOR passing through the second floor of Wing V at HICOG Headquarters in Mehlem may be struck by the monotonous babble of voices led by a single voice, the whole sounding like the strange prayers of a remote religious sect. But a step nearer to read the signs on the doors would clarify those curious sounds at once: behind these doors students of the HICOG German language courses are having their German lessons.

Knowledge of another people's language greatly enhances a Foreign Service officer's understanding of that people's way of life, its history, cultural institutions and political philosophy. In addition it enables the officer to find the right psychological approach in dealing with its citizens and discussing the problems they may bring before him. A prominent United States ambassador, in a recent article, urged his countrymen serving as Foreign Service officers abroad "to make an effort to see the country of their assignment and to understand it, and to at least try seriously to learn the language of the people..."

A GREAT number of HICOG officers and employees have been aware of the important role the language factor plays in both their daily work and their contacts with German nationals. During the past two years a monthly average of 600 students participated in the Spoken German program. Even now, after the considerable organizational reduction of HICOG, there are still about 400 students attending classes daily. Since the inauguration of the program, Glenn Wolfe, HICOG executive director, has placed his signature more than 200 times under a "Certificate of Training," awarded to the students who had successfully completed the thirty units of the Spoken German Course.

Despite a heavy daily schedule, conferences, receptions, and a countless number of other duties, office directors, attachés, division chiefs and many more high-ranking officers of HICOG make every effort to take the maximum of their monthly assignment of classes. Seventeen German language classes, embracing up to 10 students per class, meet at the Mehlem headquarters daily to practice Spoken German.

HICOG wives who were given permission to join these study groups have included some of the most eager students of the courses. In addition, instruction in the German language is being furnished at about 30 Foreign Service posts in the Federal Republic, including the US Element Berlin, and the US consulates with their affiliated offices. A staff of carefully selected German language instructors conducts these lessons.

HICOG's German language instructors do not admit that there are "hopeless cases" among their students. Learning a language is primarily not a matter

of intelligence. Even people with a brilliant intellect face extreme difficulties when it comes to learning a foreign idiom. But as one has been able to master his mother tongue he possess the inherent ability to learn a language and patience will work miracles.

In the beginning of the language program a number of students would have been normally listed as "hopeless cases." Those, however, who did not waver in their efforts and determinedly pursued their studies, have finally achieved sufficient fluency to deal successfully with any situation which calls for the application of their German. They are far beyond the *Wo ist der Bahnhof* level.

The instruction method has been developed by the Foreign Service Institute in Washington, D.C. Linguistic experts of the Institute's School of Language and Linguistics, for example Dr. Moulton, Dr. Echols and Dr. Frauchiger, trained the first instructors and started the program in March 1950.*

THE METHODOICAL principles of teaching which they recommended deviate considerably from the traditional pattern. It should be kept in mind that it is not the aim of our courses to prepare a student for a scholarly career, but only to enable him to talk to the natives of this country on matters of everyday life and current issues of public interest. Hence, the be-all and end-all of instruction is conversational German.

The student is required to talk German right from the start. He is not supposed to absorb long involved statements on grammar, he is expected "to learn the language and not about the language" as Dr. Echols phrased it in his "Instructions for the HICOG German Language Program." Grammar cannot be completely brushed aside, of course, but the principle is that one thoroughly learns parts of the language, until he has "gotten the feel," before he tackles the essential grammar of these parts.

The textbooks, generally referred to as the "Spoken German" books, were composed by Dr. William G. Moulton and his wife Mrs. Jenny Karding Moulton. They contain 30 units, each one built around a subject of everyday life: sightseeing in a German town, meeting people, going shopping, seeing a doctor—to mention only a few topics. These books, written in 1944, are still the backbone of the whole program and have found wide appreciation with both students and teachers. Some chapters reflect the need for a 1944 wartime vocabulary, it is true, but the bulk of words and phrases are those you will need any moment if you want to make yourself understood in the German community.

*See Dr. Moulton's article "HICOG Learns German" in Information Bulletin October 1950.

How long does a course take?

Normally 10 hours of study are devoted to one unit of the book. The total course requires 300 class sessions, or regular instruction for a period of 60 weeks. A two-year assignment in Germany offers plenty of time to complete the course. Nor is one handicapped by being transferred to another post within Germany, since he may continue his studies there. It is good to remember that failure or success of his efforts depends on his

energy and diligence, and, most important, on his regular attendance in class.

Learning a language has been boring to many in school or college days. Maybe something was wrong with the teaching system. Here one has a different system. And though it is not said that learning German is just fun in HICOG's courses, we have had a stimulating experience: we have not met a single student as yet who did not seem to enjoy himself thoroughly in class. +END

Baptistry Presented Plittersdorf Church

As a token of appreciation for the generosity of the local parishioners in sharing their edifice of worship, the American Catholic Parish of the Bonn area has presented a baptistry to the parish church of St. Everglisius in the Plittersdorf suburb of Bad Godesberg.

The baptistry, a small chapel lighted by three stained-glass windows, contains a baptismal fount in the center and an altar in a niche at the side. A small tablet bears the inscription: "American Catholics built this baptistry as a token of Christian gratitude."

In a story entitled "A Gift from American Catholics," the Bonn newspaper *Bonner Rundschau* published the

following description (translated from German):

"The baptismal fount in the center of the chapel was hewn from a trachyte block. The lid of embossed brass is ornamented with symbols from the Book of Revelation. Light enters the chapel through three windows of bright pastel colors, arranged in a natural and practical manner.

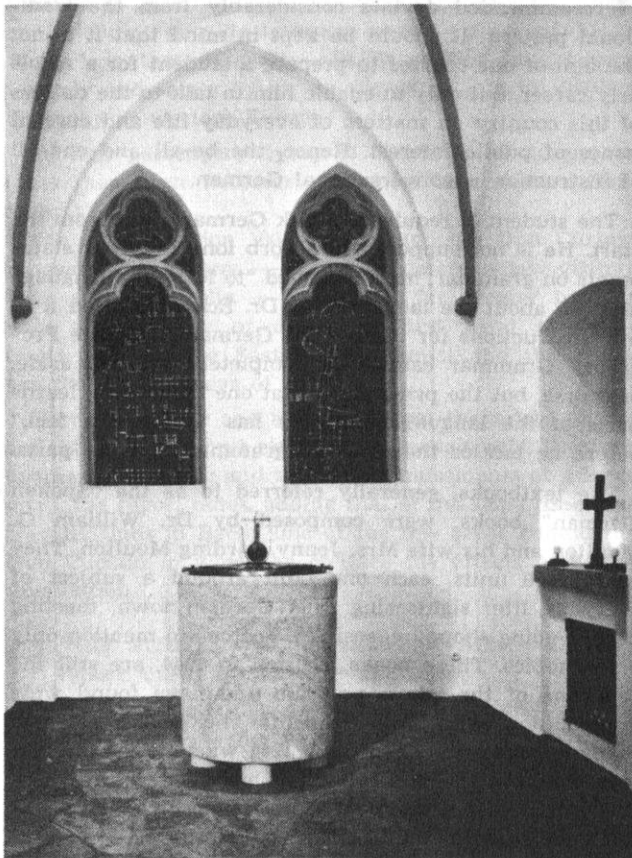
"The windows were made by the glass-painter Geitel of Bochum, and their elaborate symbols refer to the ritual of baptism. The right window shows Jonah the prophet being ejected from the fish and Moses receiving the Tablets in the splendor of the Trinity. In the left window, John the Baptist points toward Christ symbolized as the Lamb of God while the Holy Spirit hovers overhead.

"The niche in the baptistry is lighted through a window with a representation of the crucifixion scene. In the niche is an altar, under which can be seen the baptismal utensils. On the altar are a crucifix by the sculptor Berges of Mehlem and two candlesticks. The forged-iron gate for the chapel has not been completed. Also a memorial for the war dead is still to be added."

American Catholics living in the Bonn area—mostly employees of the Office of the US High Commissioner for Germany, their families and representatives of commercial firms having business in the federal capital—formed the parish in late 1951. The group, which is the only American civilian parish in Germany, is responsible to the Archbishop of Cologne.

Mons. Howard Smith, attached to the Papal Nunciature in Bonn, served initially as pastor of the parish which on Dec. 2, 1951 had its first mass in St. Everglisius Church. In August, the Rev. John P. Dolan, an American priest studying at Bonn University, became its pastor. The local parish priests and German congregation of the church have cooperated whole-heartedly in permitting the Americans to hold regular services in the church, even supplying choir and organist when the occasion demanded.

As a token of thanks for the generosity of the local parish in extending the use of these facilities, the American parish raised the funds for construction of the baptistry which was dedicated in early December.



View of new chapel showing baptismal fount, altar and two windows. (photo by PLB ID HICOG)

Classrooms of Democracy

By Paul Phillips

Information Officer, Northern Hesse District, Kassel

WITZENHAUSEN County—one of the six Hessian counties bordering on the Soviet Zone—has put films of the United States Information Service (USIS) to work in a way that has exceeded even the fondest predictions of the German and American sponsors.

As in most rural German counties, it is the task of the Adult Education Association of Witzenhausen to bring to the many towns and villages of the county an important part of the American cultural and educational programs that reach these outlying communities. The person primarily responsible for furthering the use of the USIS films in Witzenhausen is Werner Grosskopf, director of the county association.

In Witzenhausen County, under Mr. Grosskopf's leadership and with the cooperation of a sympathetic state administrator, school superintendent and other county officials, adult education has been creating citizen interest with USIS films in matters that traditionally have been left to the government official and professional politician.

SOME WEEKS before the Hessian community elections took place in May 1952, Mr. Grosskopf, who had long been introducing subjects on civics into his adult education programs, decided that the coming elections would provide the vehicle for devoting resources available to the Adult Education Association to educating groups in the county about the political facts of everyday life. Rather than attempt to attract large numbers to meetings in the rural communities — an impossible task in any event during the spring farm work — the Association decided to work with small groups of from 20 to 40 persons in the 28 communities of the county where the Adult Education Association had previously established branch offices.

To these meetings were invited representatives from the various groups in each community — farmers, workers, small business people, representatives of youth and other groups, and during the meetings matters that every citizen should know in order to fulfill his role in a democratic state were presented, discussed and illustrated by means of films. Due in part to the late start of the civic education program for the then-approaching elections and in part to the realization that civic education would be important for future elections as well as those in May, the program was continued after the elections.

SEVERAL months ago this first concerted effort by the Adult Education Association to promote a better understanding of the way democracy functions in 28 groups throughout the county came to an end. Let's take a look at the program to see how it worked and how USIS films contributed to its success.

The program lasted eight weeks and included six different courses on various phases of civic education. Each of the 28 communities received the six training courses during the eight-week period. Taking one of these communities, Bad Sooden-Allendorf, only three miles from the Soviet Zone, as an example, the program worked as follows.

The first evening meeting was devoted to the topic "The Democratic System." A short talk was given by either Mr. Grosskopf or a qualified alternate on the responsibilities of the citizen in a democratic state, the differences between a democratic and authoritarian state, and the government of the Federal Republic of Germany. This was followed by three film slide series on the subjects "Basic Rights of the Citizen," "The Structure of the Federal Government" and "The Making of a Law."

Following this was the film "Democracy in Danger," which the Association had borrowed from the nearby Eschwege America House. The subject of the film then became the subject of discussion among the farmers, local officials, workers and youth who were present. At the end of this first seminar, a small pamphlet, "The Individual and the State," also obtained from the America House, was handed to each participant.

ABOUT A week later the second course was presented in Bad Sooden-Allendorf. The subject: "The Role of the Community in the State." At this meeting the USIS film "A Town Helps Itself" was shown and discussed and the pamphlet "What is the Meaning of Self-Government" was given out. The third program some days later had as its theme "The Community Council" and again a USIS film "German Youth Administer a Community" was appropriate to the subject. And so the program went until the sixth evening when the subject "The Citizen and His Community" was discussed and the film "Public Opinion" ended the group's series of evening meetings about their most cherished possession — democracy.

This same program was repeated in 27 other communities with groups of farmers, women, local officials and youth.

The role that USIS films played in making these courses a popular success was pointed out by Mr. Grosskopf. In the first place, he said, one picture was worth many words. Secondly, the subjects covered by the films were exactly those picked by the Association as being most valuable to stimulating the citizen's interest in his government, both local and national. And thirdly, the films were more effective in arousing fruitful discussion than lectures on the same subjects.

THE USE of USIS films in Witzenhausen County has not been limited to the eight-week course which the Adult Education Association carried out recently. For the past several years, first under the sponsorship of the US Resident Office, which was located in Witzenhausen, and after January 1952 under the sponsorship of the Association, the USIS film program has been a daily feature in the lives of the Witzenhausen population. Thus, although the Resident Officer closed up shop about one year ago, the film program has continued to reach the schools, youth groups and adults in the county.

This same development has been repeated in 12 of the 17 counties in northern Hesse and in scores of the counties throughout the entire US Zone of Germany. More recently the USIS film program has been extended into the British and French zones with such success that film attendance figures in these areas of Germany approximate those in the US Zone.

Aside from the more immediate objective of preparing village groups in Witzenhausen County to accept their responsibilities as citizens during the community elections, the continuing purpose of the Adult Education Association's program is to activate the groups that participated in the courses to interest others in the community to take part in public affairs.

THE ASSOCIATION believes that the "classroom of democracy" is to be found in the town hall meeting of the villages and hopes that the persons who have participated in the civics seminars during the past several months will be the leaders in helping the village mayors plan and carry out town hall meetings during the winter months. Despite the fact that some mayors do not look with favor upon citizen's "meddling" in local government and that tradition does not often support the citizens in such efforts, there are signs that the Association's program has made headway.

The Association has found that many of the groups were enthusiastic about the "lecture-film-discussion" method of civics training and has therefore planned a new series of courses for the winter. These courses

cover subjects on purely local matters, such as "Our Community and its School," and also those concerned with international affairs, such as "The Schuman Plan" and "The United States of Europe." For these and the other subjects planned, Mr. Grosskopf is selecting from among several hundred USIS films those that will contribute to an understanding of the topic under discussion.

In addition to employing USIS films in Witzenhausen's regular adult education program and civics training courses, the 40 youth forums in the county are steady customers of the film program, integrating the film evenings into their regular forum activities.

Mr. Grosskopf's outstanding work in Witzenhausen's adult education program has not gone unnoticed. His civics training course and use of USIS films was explained fully in a recent edition of the State of Hesse Adult Education publication. Also the North Hesse district government, which is located in Kassel and performs a number of governmental functions for the 18 counties of North Hesse, recently distributed copies of Witzenhausen's civic training course to all the county adult education associations in North Hesse.

THERE HAVE been many evidences of the effectiveness of the USIS films used in Witzenhausen's various programs. Perhaps one of the most concrete examples is that of a youth group in the county which witnessed the film "German Youth Administer a Community." The film told how boys and girls took over the reigns of their government for several days to acquaint themselves with local government problems. Several days after the youth group saw the film the members asked the local mayor to let them run their local government for a day. The mayor consented.

Another USIS film, "Man and the State," is credited by an organization leader with increasing attendance at the organization's meetings. The film tells the story of an average citizen who never attends meetings, where local problems are discussed but who always criticizes the action taken during the meetings, pointing out that every citizen has the opportunity to help improve his government. There are many similar stories of how USIS films have stimulated local action for the betterment of the community.

In brief, this is the story of the USIS film at work in one county of Germany today. In Witzenhausen, as in many other German counties, an adult education or youth program would be difficult without the help of USIS films. It should be a source of satisfaction to the American to know that he has contributed so much to giving the men and women in Germany active in educational and youth work a helping hand in building the foundations of a new democratic Germany. +END

Youth Flee Service in Soviet Zone's Army

EFFORTS TO recruit East German young people for military or paramilitary service are being stepped up in the face of continued strong resistance from Soviet Zone youth, according to officials of Berlin Element, HICOG.

Reports from young people who have been fleeing to the West at a greatly accelerated rate during the last six months of 1952 and critical articles in the East Zone Communist press itself show that the Soviet-German authorities have been exerting steadily greater pressure to get young people to don a Soviet-style uniform. At the same time, Berlin Element studies reveal, the opposition among East Zone youth to service as "Soviet mercenaries" has correspondingly grown.

Over the last few months emphasis has been shifted from recruitment for the paramilitary sport and labor organizations "Service for Germany" and "Sport and Technology" to propaganda for enlistment in more clearly military formations such as the "People's Police in Barracks."

The uninterrupted flood of recruiting propaganda since Soviet Zone President Wilhelm Pieck's May Day speech announcing the creation of armed forces indicates that Soviet Zone authorities are bending every effort to swell the strength of their armed forces, already numbering more than 100,000 men, officials stated.

The importance attached by Soviet Zone authorities to a speedy build-up of their armed forces is revealed in the public exhortations to individual Socialist Unity Party (SED) members to recruit as many of their acquaintances as possible for military service.

ONE OF COUNTLESS such articles appeared in the *Saechsische Zeitung* (Dresden) Sept. 5. Under the heading "Improve Recruiting for the People's Police," writer Walter Niegisch demanded that "all party members in the lowest echelons participate individually in recruiting in factories under the instructions of the local party leaders." *Junge Welt* (East Berlin), in a similar article Oct. 5, urged that these pressure tactics be carried out in all plants, "in which there are enough young men."

An apprentice approached by a delegation of plant officials urging him to enlist is deliberately placed in a situation where it is very difficult for him to decline, the HICOG studies show.

Press and radio recruiting propaganda follows the customary Soviet Zone pattern of cajolery and threat. Prospective recruits are urged to "rise to the occasion" (the alleged danger of attack from a "capitalist-imperialist" oriented Federal Republic) and to put patriotism first.

In a typical expression of this type, appearing in *Freiheit* (Halle) Sept. 25, the writer chided young men for preferring marriage and family life to service in the

"people's army." "We all want to enjoy family life," she wrote. "And for that very reason it is necessary that the state in which we live be strong, that we have a people's army to protect our women and children..."

"One must not think only of his little private desires and cares, one must be conscious of the whole picture. Therefore: everything to strengthen our people's police."

Constant efforts are made to convince young people that their countrymen expect them to join the armed forces. A favorite method is to attribute militant sentiments to mothers and girls. Thus, in the *Volksstimme* (Chemnitz), the mother and "friend of peace" Lisa Wagner was quoted Oct. 22 as saying, "I am determined to defend peace with a gun in my hand, because, as a mother, I will do everything to secure peace for my children."

Similarly, in a discussion on the question, "What is happiness?" *Junge Welt* (East Berlin) reported Dec. 3 a girl with the symbolic name of Ingrid Tank as affirming that the happiest moment of her life was when she saw "our young people's police march past with shouldered rifles."

A frequent appeal is to youth's desire for prestige. Prospective recruits are told that "all eyes will admire them," when they march down the street in their snappy uniforms, and recruiting propaganda is replete with broad hints that joining the military people's police is a sure way to success with the girls.

An example of this unsubtle but much-used gambit is a story by Gerhardt Neuhof in the Aug. 9 issue of *Das Volk* (Weimar), in which shy Peter wins popular Annelies from his many rivals by the simple expedient of joining up, after dark-eyed Annelies has made her desires clear: "Take a rifle in your hand; that's what is needed now."

The amount of space devoted to a defense of the Soviet Zone army as different from "mercenary armies," indicated deep sensitivity of Soviet Zone authorities on this score. Refugee, East Zone police report widespread dissatisfaction with the fact that the East Zone army is controlled at very step by Soviet officers. These officers, called "Sovietniks," are placed in every unit down to platoon level. Even the new olive-drab uniforms of the East Zone army emphasize the mercenary status of the troops, since they are nearly indistinguishable from Soviet army uniforms.

One conclusion to be drawn from the Eastern recruiting efforts, according to the Berlin Element studies, is that the sustained effort to increase the size of Soviet Zone armed forces and paramilitary organizations in a period in which a defense contribution by the Federal Republic is still only a future prospect constitutes further evidence that Soviet Zone authorities are not interested in a peaceful reunification of Germany, but rather in the most rapid possible build-up of Soviet bloc striking power.



Retired High Commissioner Donnelly

High Commissioner Donnelly Departs

Walter J. Donnelly, US high commissioner in Germany since Aug. 1, resigned in December, retiring from the US Foreign Service after thirty years of service. He and his family departed from Germany Dec. 11 for consultations in Washington before his retirement became effective Dec. 31.

Until the appointment of a new high commissioner, Samuel Reber, deputy high commissioner, is serving as acting high commissioner. Mr. Reber, a State Department career officer, came to Germany in June 1950, to become director of the Office of Political Affairs. Last summer he became assistant high commissioner, and later deputy high commissioner.

Mr. Donnelly succeeded John J. McCloy last August after he had been US high commissioner, and later ambassador, to Austria for nearly two years. Previously he had held diplomatic posts in South and Central America.

In his letter of Nov. 17 to President Truman, Mr. Donnelly said, "It is with genuine regret that I ask you to accept my resignation as chief of diplomatic mission and as United States high commissioner for Germany." Pointing out that "it will be recalled that I reached this decision several months ago," he added, "When it was indicated to me that the Government would prefer to have me postpone my retirement, I agreed to do so until the end of this year."

Stating that "it has been a great privilege to serve our Government from thirty consecutive years at a number of posts in the Foreign Service," Mr. Donnelly declared: "I am proud of the Foreign Service of our Government and of its members with whom I have been associated during the past thirty years. I shall continue to take an active interest in the foreign affairs of our country and needless to say I shall always be available to our Government for consultation."

In a statement made public with the announcement of his resignation, Mr. Donnelly said:

"My stay in Germany has been one of the most interesting and challenging assignments of my thirty years of government service, although it has been far shorter than I would like to have made it. But, as you know, I came here with an understanding with the State Department prior to my arrival that personal considerations would make it necessary for me to leave by the end of this year.

"During my stay I have been impressed by the extraordinary recovery which the people of Germany have made since the war. To me it is nothing short of miraculous that in the past seven years Germany could have rebuilt out of its ruins the present vigorous economy.

"I know that in the field of private housing and in transportation and in certain other areas there are still great shortages in Germany. But what has been done here since 1945 is evidence of what can be accomplished when a people devotes its full energies to reconstruction and rehabilitation.

"I am also greatly impressed by the efforts of democratic forces in Germany — in and outside the government — to foster the growth of democratic institutions and of a democratic political atmosphere here. In twelve years the Nazi regime had almost completely obliterated the great tradition of German liberalism and democracy. It is a great credit to the leaders of Germany that they have been able to re-establish and strengthen this tradition, and that they have firmly and constantly opposed the small but persistent development of neo-Nazism. This is a danger to Germany which must be consistently exposed and resisted. It is reassuring that the overwhelming majority of the German people reject the false philosophy of Communism and have stood firm against blandishments and threats from the East. To me there is no moral difference between the aims of Nazism and Communism.

"The most moving experience of my stay in Germany has been my visits to Berlin. The stand of the people of West Berlin in the face of harassment and terror is an inspiring example of courage and faith in Western ideals. The free world must continue to support Berlin in its struggle to maintain political freedom and economic well-being.

"The genuinely popular support of integration of Germany within a larger European community is an encouraging development. The desire is widespread for better understanding with neighboring countries and for the realization of common goals in Europe, and has been expressed tangibly in cooperation with the European Council and the Schuman Plan. I am confident that the basis of Western unity will soon be broadened and strengthened by the EDC Treaty and the Contractual Agreements.

"I am grateful for the cooperation of my colleagues of the Allied High Commission and the loyal support of my own staff. They have been of immeasurable value to me in carrying out my assignment as US high commissioner. I also appreciate the friendliness and understanding shown by German officials, political leaders and private citizens. To me this is an expression of the good-will of the German people toward the people of the United States."



Acting High Commissioner Reber

Calls on Federal President Heuss



At first press conference, meets 140 correspondents representing German and foreign newspapers, radio and newsreels.



With Ambassador Draper, visits Berlin Industry Exhibition



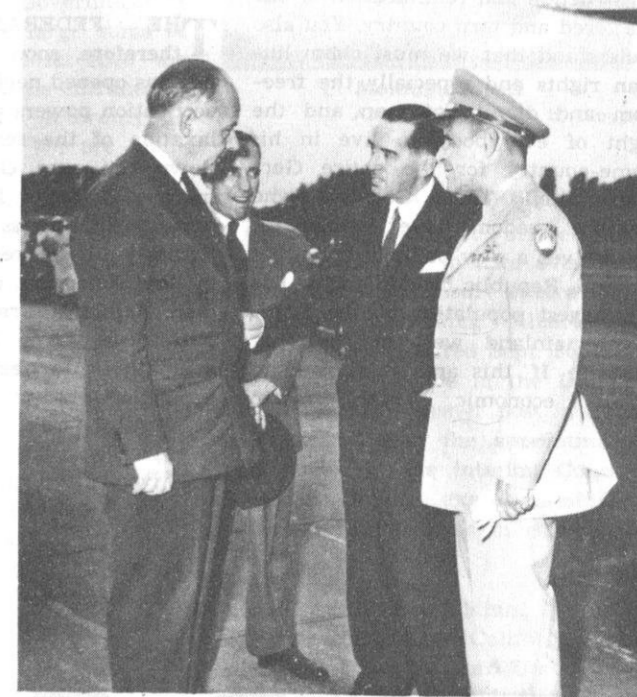
At exchange group meeting greets Dr. Walter Hallstein



With Mrs. Donnelly, welcomes Margaret Truman



Confers with SHAPE Commander Ridgway



Between lines of saluting Marines, the Donnelly family leaves the Bad Godesberg residence for the airport and the United States.



SS United States

who working hand in hand take up political and economic problems of world-wide scope with realism, commonsense and broad-mindedness and who bring about solutions of a definite character.

WE GERMANS thankfully appreciate the sacrifice of the American people for the reconstruction of Europe. We feel much stronger now knowing that this great nation today stands at our side. You understand that we devote our energies in the first place to the reconstruction and reunification of our shattered and torn country. You also understand that we must claim human rights and especially the freedom and dignity of man and the right of everybody to live in his home-country for the entire German nation. Those Germans who live in freedom have formed for themselves a new political body, the Federal Republic, which today has the largest population on the European mainland west of the Iron Curtain. If this area is allowed to regain economic health, moral

strength and good political order, its integration on equal terms with the free world can result only in benefit for the community of free nations.

From this ship our eyes turn beyond the mouth of the Weser river to the sea. Everybody here knows how much we have endeavored during the past few years to join again in world transportation with a merchant fleet of our own. This is not at all a question of prestige, but a compelling necessity for a country which like ours depends vitally on its export trade to ensure its people a good standard of living and to offer them a worth-while life.

THE FEDERAL Government, therefore, soon after taking office has opened negotiations with the occupation powers about gradual relaxation of the restrictions holding down the new German merchant marine. I should like to take this occasion to express our thanks particularly to the responsible officers of the American missions in Bremen, Hamburg, Frankfurt and Bonn where we have found especially sympathetic understanding of our aspirations.

On Sept. 30, 1949, four years after the collapse, our small coastal fleet which remained totaled only 248,000 tons. From new construction, foreign purchase and repair of raised wrecks, German tonnage has increased again to 1,600,000 by the end of 1952. When the projects under way at the present time will be completed, approximately DM 1,500,000,000 (equivalent to \$357,000,000) predominately from our own resources, will have been invested in the German merchant fleet since September 1949. Foreign exchange earned or saved in otherwise unavoidable expenditures for chartering, freight and passenger fares amounted to more than DM 400,000,000 in 1952 alone. I believe that this figure represents quite a considerable contribution to the strengthening of economic stability in Europe. This was achieved in spite of our limitation to freighters and special vessels. Transportation of passengers which in the past was operated by German liners with so much success had to give way to more urgent requirements.

OCEAN TRAFFIC is not only the sum of individual transportation services of the various countries, but rather a task to be taken up and solved jointly by all seafaring nations. For this reason, international cooperation is of special importance here. We are well aware of how much especially the slowly emerging German merchant marine is dependent on this international cooperation. This knowledge is the result of impressive experience in the past and especially of an important tradition which is marked by successful cooperation between the North German Lloyd and the Hamburg America Line on the one hand and the United States Lines on the other. From 1929 up to the beginning of the last war the above companies have pooled their shipping to the benefit of both themselves and the shippers.

I would be happy if the friendly spirit of today's festivity would help to pave the way for new solutions of this kind. Also from this point of view we are pleased to see that the United States Lines as one of the



Huge stern of SS United States is shown above as ship was tied to the new Columbus dock in Bremerhaven. US Lines ship made first regular call at Bremerhaven on January 3. (All photos provided by Information Office, American Consulate General, Bremen. Cover photo by Helmut Maszun, those on page 5 and above by Anneliese Wuestinger.)



C. Montagu Pigott
AMCONGEN photo by Hopp

Consul General in Frankfurt

C. Montagu Pigott arrived in Frankfurt Dec. 14 to take over the duties as US consul general in Frankfurt, succeeding Albert N. Doyle who had retired Sept. 30. Mr. Pigott was on leave in the United States from his former post in Bilbao, Spain, when the appointment was made. In the interim, Consul Byron B. Snyder, executive officer of the Consulate, was in charge of the office.

Born in St. Paul, Minn., Mr. Pigott was educated in California and graduated from Stanford University. After working as a mining engineer in Mexico and sales manager for a rubber company, Mr. Pigott joined the Department of State in 1942. He became a senior economic analyst in the Foreign Service Auxiliary at Montevideo later in that year. He was made assistant chief of Supplies Branch, Petroleum Division, in 1945. He was appointed a Foreign Service officer with the rank of consul and secretary in the Diplomatic Service in 1947, and was assigned to duties in Washington. Mr. Pigott became first secretary and consul at Bucharest in 1947, and was named Consul at Bilbao on Jan. 30, 1950.

first foreign shipping companies has spared no effort to restore their organization in the Federal area, and that they have included German ports in their service already for some time. Fortunately it can be stated that this farsighted decision is not only a valuable gesture, but has also paid off economically. The number of passengers and goods loaded and unloaded by vessels of the United States Lines has more than surpassed even high expectations.

WE BELIEVE the arrangements of the United States Lines for service to Germany justify the hope that American shipping circles will continue to promote the desirable cooperation which I have just mentioned, and that jointly with the German companies they will try to remedy the rather unsatisfactory situation in the shipping conference.* Of course, a solution of the difficulties will only be possible, if some of the companies concerned come to realize that the inevitable acquisition of former German fields of interest during the first few years after the war was of a transitional nature; that the time has come to concede again a proper place to German overseas shipping and to German ports, and that we cannot put up with an insufficient number of German sailings and with range-charges to the disadvantage of our ports. Nobody will be surprised, if especially in this respect we call upon the American companies for understanding and support.

On the other hand, the German shipping companies will regard it as their foremost task to observe again fair play in international competition and to do their share towards smooth cooperation. Also the German ports will endeavor to serve foreign shipping in a way satisfactory for them. Speed and careful handling in our ports should hardly leave room for criticism today. At this point, also Bremerhaven should be mentioned. Bremer-

haven's natural advantages unsurpassed in Germany have been developed specially for overseas shipping. The port is also provided with modern equipment for passenger service. Thanks to large-scale reconstruction and re-equipment, Bremerhaven today offers good and economical facilities for big line service.

IN CLOSE collaboration with the City of Bremen, the Federal Government has given special attention to this port. Channels are maintained by the Federal Port Administration with special care. The required depths are constantly assured. The Federal Government is continually spending large sums of money for this purpose. Also the lights and signals at the entrance to the port are again according to peacetime standards. We are planning to add modern radar equipment. This port, therefore, will be accessible to big liners at all times and its equipment will meet all present-day requirements.

You will understand our feelings: feelings of cordial relations and the joy of welcoming this beautiful big ship in Bremerhaven. With admiration we view this masterpiece of modern ship-building, and we want to congratulate heartily the officers of the United States Lines and the American citizens present here for this wonder of supermodern technology. This ship sailing under the Stars and Stripes carries the glory of the superior skill of North American shipbuilders and workers all over the world. During the months to come it will bring thousands of passengers to and away from Bremen. They all will feel well in the artistically designed rooms of this magnificent ship, and they certainly will be as deeply impressed as we who have come aboard for this celebration today.

May this ship under the proud name "United States" sail at all times with good fortune. May it be a bridge of lasting friendship and understanding between your country and ours. +END

*refers to international conference then in session concerning transatlantic freight rates.

German Editorials

This section is intended to inform without interpretation the American readers of what Germans are thinking. The selection has been made so as to cover the events which caused the widest reaction in the German press, and to give a fair cross section of German editorial opinion. The inclusion of any event, viewpoint or opinion does not necessarily imply concurrence by US authorities. The cartoons have been taken from a selection reproduced by the Press Analysis Section, Press Branch, Information Division, HICOG.

Czech Purge Trial

West German newspapers showed critical editorial interest in the Slansky-Clements trial in Prague during late November. In reporting the development of the trial, the papers stressed especially the anti-Semitic tendencies of the charges and "confessions", the absurdity of some of the charges, the self-incrimination of the accused, the possibility that the trials in Czechoslovakia may lead to similar trials in the Soviet Zone of Germany, the shocking letters in which Lisa Londonova asked a "severe sentence" for her husband and Frejka's son asked the death penalty for his father.

West German papers quickly picked up the anti-Semitic character of the trial. Several papers in editorializing news stories pointed out that a display of anti-Semitism may be very helpful for the Communist bloc in its effort to win the Arab nations. **Nuernberger Nachrichten** (Nuremberg, Nov. 25) also reported



Voice from the grave: "I, Karl Marx, also plead guilty to being a cosmopolitan of Jewish-bourgeois origin." — from *Suedkurier* (Constance, Dec. 5).

that a group of former SS officers with definite leanings toward the East is now active in Cairo, the paper stressing that one of these former SS-leaders, Dirlewanger, is said to be in the pay of the Polish legation in Cairo.

Several papers noted that some of the charges and "confessions" in this trial were so patently absurd that no intelligent person could possibly believe them. **Koelnische Rundschau** (Cologne, Nov. 26), for instance, ridiculed the charge that the extreme leftist British Laborite,

Konni Zilliacus, was named as the intermediary between Slansky and the "Anglo-American imperialists."

Frankfurter Rundschau (Frankfurt, Nov. 26) pointed out that in 1951 Gottwald praised Slansky as a loyal Stalinist, whereas currently Slansky was denounced as a capitalist-Titoist-Zionist conspirator. **Die Welt** (Hamburg, Nov. 25) ridiculed the confessions of the accused that they never were Communists at all.

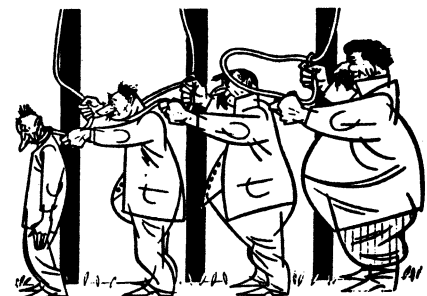
Several papers speculated about the methods used to make the accused confess. Papers mentioned several possibilities: physical torture, psychological torture, even the possibility that a fanatical Communist would be willing to sacrifice life and honor if such a sacrifice would help his party.

Frankfurter Allgemeine (Frankfurt, Nov. 27) reported that "East-Berlin is looking for a Slansky". The paper called attention to an editorial in *Neues Deutschland* (SED daily in East Berlin) according to which two of the accused in Prague had close connections in the Soviet Zone of Germany. **Frankfurter Neue Presse** (Frankfurt, Nov. 28) reported that Paul Merker, former member of the SED Politbureau but long in disgrace, was arrested in the Soviet Zone.

Essener Allgemeine Zeitung (Essen, Nov. 28) speculated that Gerhart Eisler, recently deposed as propaganda chief, may be brought to trial, perhaps also Kurt Mueller, the Communist member of the Federal Parliament who was abducted to the Soviet Zone.



Now it is Pankow's turn (Pankow is residence of Soviet Zone German officials in East Berlin). — from *Hannoversche Presse* (Hanover, Nov. 28).



Peoples Democracies Progress. — from *Rheinischer Merkur* (Coblenz, Dec. 5).



Don't look, it may be catching! — from *Die Welt* (Hamburg, Nov. 26).

The SED publication *Neues Deutschland* (Nov. 25) featured the full text of a letter in which Lisa Londonova asked a severe sentence for her husband. The Soviet Zone news agency ADN reported that the son of the accused Frejka demanded the death penalty for his father. All West German papers which commented on the two letters expressed complete horror at this perversion of all natural feelings. *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* (Munich, Nov. 27), for instance, wrote about the Frejka letter:

"What will go on in the soul of the young Frejka when he hears that his dearest wish has been fulfilled and his father hanged? This is a ghastly world. One shudders. Unfortunately there have always been gallows and hangmen. But sons who beg that their father be hanged are new. Is this not a symptom of an age characterized by fear, ideology and madness."

Using the title of Koestler's book "Darkness at Noon" as a headline, *Frankfurter Allgemeine* wrote about the Londonova letter: "That a government dares to publish such a letter in the hope the letter will be welcomed by the masses, suddenly makes us the contemporaries of the people in the book '1984'."

Frankfurter Neue Presse (Nov. 28) compared the developments in Prague to the horrible events of the Nazi regime and cites Frejka's son

as proof that by its absolute power a dictatorial government can destroy all human qualities of its subjects.

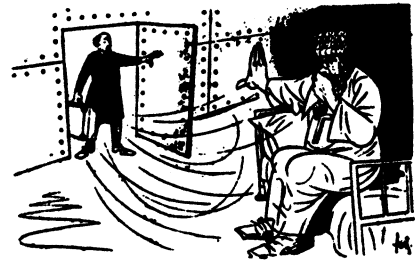
Stalin's Birthday Overlooked

The *Sozialistische Volkszeitung*, a Communist periodical issued in Frankfurt, was reported in the German press to have strongly criticized the designers of the 1953 calendar attached to the New Year's issue of the periodical. Its officials were reported to have received some telephone calls protesting that Stalin's birthday (Dec. 21) was not so noted on the calendar.

Bishop Dibelius

The East Zone Communists' threats to remove Protestant Bishop Otto Dibelius from office and ban him from the Soviet Zone prompted several editorial writers to speculate Dec. 18 on the future of the Protestant Church in the East Zone.

According to *Westdeutsche Allgemeine* (Essen), it is difficult to predict whether or not the anti-Dibelius press campaign in the East Zone press signaled the advent of an SED administration crack down on the East Zone Protestant church. There could be no doubt, the paper speculated, that the East Zone government had plans ready for the "re-organization of the relations between Church and State." One could also assume it was not considered



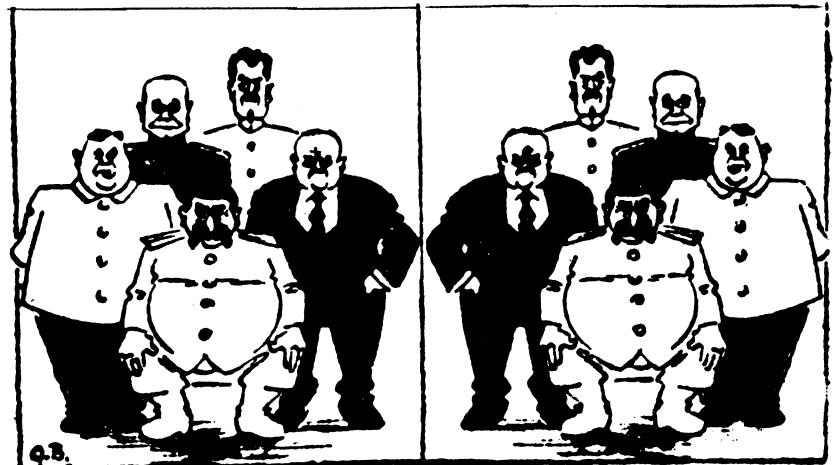
Ill by order of Stalin — Patriarch Alexei: "The Western air is nix goot for me, Tovarich Dibelius." — from *Braunlager Zeitung* (Braunlage, Lower Saxony, Nov. 29).

that Bishop Dibelius would be a "qualified" supporter of such a new "church policy."

Despite all this, the *Allgemeine* went on, it was not impossible that the waves of excitement would abate, and that, at least for the time being, nothing would happen; the "Dibelius crisis" came unexpectedly to the Reds, and the SED had to wait for the green light from Moscow; the Kremlin, however, still hesitated because it felt uncertain about future developments among the Western nations.

Praising Bishop Dibelius for his continuous efforts to hold Christians on both sides of the Iron Curtain together, *Mannheimer Morgen* (Mannheim) contrasted Bishop Dibelius with Pastor Martin Niemoeller: when Niemoeller traveled to Moscow he was severely criticized; when Dibelius accepted the invitation by the

Important changes in the Kremlin. — from *Essener Tageblatt* (Essen, Oct. 16).



The former Politbureau.

The new Presidium.

Moscow Patriarch (later withdrawn), there was not that kind of criticism. The paper explained people trusted Bishop Dibelius to a much greater extent than they did Niemoeller. The *Morgen* remarked "there are people in Germany as well as in other Western nations who always rub their hands in glee when a man, holding a prominent position, fails in his attempts to permit certain ideals which are above the East-West strife to survive; there is no reason to rejoice if the last ships are being burned."

Danger of Shady Side

Rheinische Post (Duesseldorf, Dec. 18) attacked several German newspapers for "making primitive pro-US propaganda." The paper came out against what it called the "civilization hubbub which may be all right for American big cities, but not for a country which has gone through two wars and lost them."

Stressing that many Germans would mix up "comics, jitterbug-competition, Reno divorces, Hollywood, and Santa Claus (i. e. commercializing Christmas) with political matters like the EDC treaties" the paper feared that not only German culture but also German-American relations may suffer by the "invasion of the shady side of American civilization."

Treaties Controversy

The parliamentary debate on the question of German ratification of the Contractual Agreements and the European Defense Convention was

given prominence in the German press during most of December. The editorial comments on this subject settled into a lull over the Christmas holidays.

Stuttgarter Zeitung (Stuttgart, Dec. 18) carried an editorial by F. R. Allemann, Bonn correspondent of the Zurich newspaper *Die Tat*, who, maintaining that the tension between the Government and the Opposition had decreased considerably after the middle of the month, said both sides seemed to realize that continuation of their rigid policies would keep them in the current political "blind alley."

The writer warned the chancellor not to believe that internal political concession, such as new elections or possibly a CDU-SPD coalition, might induce the SPD to subscribe to the treaties in their present form. He considered it unlikely, on the other hand, that the chancellor would capitulate before the SPD's "extremely vague foreign political conceptions."

Allemann proposed a coalition-opposition agreement, if not on a common foreign policy, at least on the methods of policy; the government should consult the SPD in the future negotiations concerning a revision of the treaties, and the SPD should declare its readiness to cooperate, after the elections, in a constitutional reform which would establish the constitutional prerequisites for the Federal Republic's military sovereignty.

Sueddeutsche Zeitung (Munich, Dec. 18.) recalled that the grand

coalition in Bavaria which includes the SPD, had proved successful and advised Bonn to repeat the experiment on a higher level..

Wiesbadener Kurier (Wiesbaden, Dec. 18) commenting on a radio interview by Chancellor Adenauer, called his political explanations "conciliatory" and a good opening for negotiations with the SPD. The paper however, warned, against the thought that an SPD-CDU coalition was possible, for while Adenauer and the SPD basically agreed on the necessity of German participation in Western defense, they basically disagreed on methods, and each side would stick to its views for prestige reasons until new elections changed the situation.

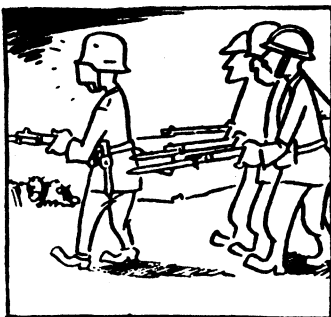
Frankfurter Neue Presse (Frankfurt, Dec. 18) considered the current political crisis in the Federal Republic "extremely serious," particularly in view of possible German rearmament outside the EDC. This would, in the paper's opinion, not only aggravate domestic difficulties in the Federal Republic but constitute a "further strain on Franco-German relations."

Commenting on the submission of the report on the German-Allied treaties to the Federal Parliament Dec. 1 by its Foreign Affairs Committee, the newspapers emphasized the committee's recommendations for five additional clauses: (1) a further Allied request for reparations from Germany, (2) speedy negotiations on private German assets abroad, (3) a statement by the Parliament denouncing the confiscation of private

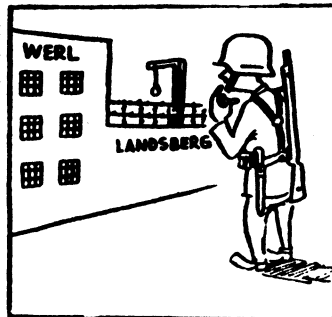
The new German EDC soldier. — from *Aachener Nachrichten* (Aachen, Nov. 6).



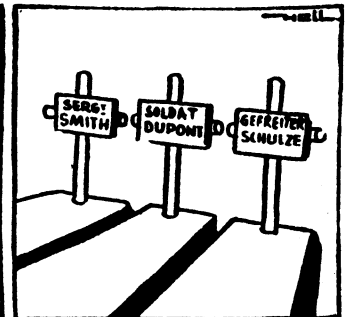
Snappy



Forging ahead



Foresight



Equal

German assets, (4) the return of German trade marks, and (5) return of buildings formerly belonging to German diplomatic missions abroad.

To this, **Frankfurter Allgemeine** (Frankfurt, Dec. 2) stressed that the decision was based on "thorough legal and political examinations," adding that the majority's "yes" did not sound "too enthusiastic," but expressing hope that the additional clauses might help "those delegates who so far have hesitated" to come out in favor of the ratification.

In an editorial previewing the parliamentary debate, **Die Welt** (Hamburg, Dec. 3) said the ratification debate was going to center around three vital questions: (1) Can Germany refuse to become a partner in the free world's defense community? (2) Can she refuse to accept the idea that the Western "balance-of-power" plan is a workable political system? (3) Can she afford to miss the opportunity offered by the West of defending herself against any future Eastern aggression? To all these questions, the papers' answer was an emphatic "No."

Germany, **Die Welt** explained, has to become a partner in the EDC because only then could her "existence in freedom be guaranteed." The "balance-of-power" system was

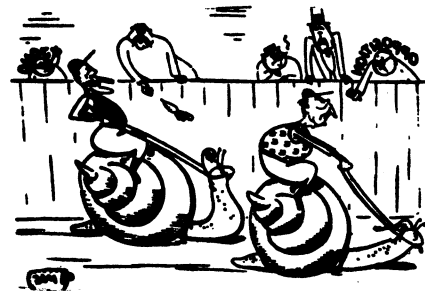
workable because it was the only way of discouraging the East from starting an aggressive war. Like any other nation, Germany has the right to defend herself. For that reason, all arguments that she do so without the aid of other nations were "illusory."

The decisions to appeal to the Federal Constitutional Court (the German Supreme Court located in Karlsruhe) for ruling on the constitutionality of the treaties caused several newspapers to comment Dec. 5 that the decision had been made just for "tactical reasons." The subsequent announcement from Karlsruhe that the court's legal opinion would be "binding for both of its senates" was described in the press as hitting Bonn "like a bombshell." After this announcement President Theodor Heuss withdrew his request for a legal opinion.

Koelnische Rundschau and **Rheinischer Merkur** (both of Cologne, Dec. 11) felt the Karlsruhe court had no right to declare a decision on the request binding for both senates of the court, emphasizing that only the legislature should be allowed to "change" the statutes.

Marcel Schulte, political editor of the **Frankfurter Neue Presse** (Frankfurt, Dec. 12), in an editorial contemplating the "young democratic history" of the Federal Republic, stated the Government coalition and opposition alike were responsible for the current treaty dilemma and charged both with using "cheap shysters' tricks" to get the issue before "their" court senate.

While the coalition and opposition were engaged in this battle, "Communists as well as Fascist" rub their hands in glee, the **Neue Presse** commentary continued, stressing that these radical groups would be only too glad to do away with the free state "which they hate" as well as those who "frivolously play" with politics. The Weimar republic went under in January 1933 because the men who then were leading the republic also had quarreled with one another, the paper concluded.



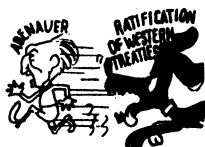
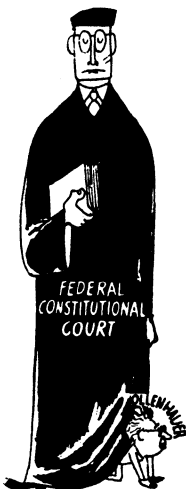
The EDC race. — from **Hamburger Abendblatt** (Hamburg, Nov. 24).



Really, son, it is the only way. — from **Westfaelische Nachrichten** (Muenster, Dec. 5).

Following this, **Telegraf** (Berlin, Dec. 14) carried an editorial by its chief editor Arno Scholz asserting that it did not matter whether or not the ratification took place in January, since the government's latest maneuvers had devalued the treaties so much that none of the measures resulting from the treaties could ever become popular in Germany. The only way out of this situation, he said, was new elections.

In the opinion expressed in the **Telegraf**, the Allies should realize it was wrong to reach such important decisions with the aid of only part of the German people. American voices were wrong in saying the German people were minimizing the American services to peace and economic recovery of the free world: there were only a few Germans who did not appreciate American aid. But, the paper emphasized, the Americans must understand that in spite of all assistance, the Germans must make their own decisions. If such decisions sometimes do not agree with American conceptions, the Americans should not be annoyed, but should study the reasons and have understanding for both standpoints.



Make room, Erich — Here I come. — from **Frankfurter Rundschau** (Frankfurt, Dec. 6).

Views of Labor Chief

Replies by Walter Freitag, president of the German Federation of Trade Unions (DGB), to a series of questions submitted by a staff correspondent covering wages and prices, co-determination, defense participation and alleged employer "propaganda," were printed in the *Westdeutsche Neue Presse* (Duesseldorf, Dec. 10). Translation of the correspondent's questions and the DGB president's answers follows.

Question: In recent weeks, about 80 collective wage agreements were terminated in the Federal area. How do the unions support their wage demands in these negotiations since the employers have been pointing out consistently that the consumer price index has been declining since May 1952?

Answer: The statement about the declining consumer price index is correct. Purchasing is not as it was a few years ago. No one can now buy for his wages what he received two years ago. If the manual workers must complain that their wages are out of line with prices, the complaint of salaried employees in private industry and commerce and particularly of the civil service officials is so much the more understandable especially since their earnings, especially those of civil servants, have lagged considerably. Those who must live on pensions and public benefits are also affected. The employers should not always speak of the wage-price relationship. The gross national product has risen and an adjustment in wages and salaries to the larger national product is therefore absolutely necessary.

Question: What do the unions intend doing about improving the General Co-determination Law? Do they intend asking the Federal Government to postpone the date for the works council elections?

Answer: First of all, it will be the job of the tariff partners to implement the idea of labor co-determination in the individual enterprises and thus to place co-deter-

mination in operation. Negotiations have been held on works council election. The Federal Government wishes to issue a supplementary measure enabling the elections to be held generally in the first quarter of 1953.

Question: At the end of September, the Association for Protection of Shareholders announced in a circular to the executive management and boards of directors in the iron and steel-producing industry that the shareholders intended resuming their ownership function on the basis of the general shareholders' meetings prescribed under corporation law. It is feared that the uniform steel workers' pensions may be torpedoed in this manner. How is this danger to be judged and what is intended?

Answer: We know that State Secretary a. D. Schmidt is trying, to get the shareholders, insofar as they belong to his organization, to adopt measures which would considerably disturb the existing right of co-determining in coal and steel. Characteristically, there are government agencies and broad circles of industry, as well as a part of the government parties, which pretend that only the trade unions are peace-breakers. The action of the former State Secretary Schmidt means that the coal and steel industries may become subject to severe shocks. The workers and employees in these plants will never permit their being deprived of rights they have won. This question is closely connected with Law No. 27 and thus with the exchange of shares in the coal and steel industries. This question urgently requires clarification.

Question: It is not yet definite when parliament will consider and enact the Labor Courts Bill. Does the DGB intend intervening with competent Bonn agencies to expedite matters?

Answer: Yes. Talks led by DGB executive and Federal parliament deputy Willi Richter are now under way. He has drawn in a large number of experts who advise him in this matter.

Question: With the coming Federal Film Bank and reorganization of the Ufi complex (founding of three film unit companies), the danger exists that German film production will be a sphere of government propaganda during the coming year. In this connection, what are the prospects for the North German Film Bureau?

Answer: Together with some state governments in northern Germany, the DGB is developing measures designed to prevent a further movement of the film industry into the hands of certain interested groups.

Question: We are now experiencing a "galloping inflation" of management propaganda means. What counter-action are the unions taking?

Answer: When the unions are charged with attempting to influence workers and employees by word and writing, they have an absolute right to point out that they find themselves in a defensive position. Recent efforts by employers to influence public opinion are really gigantic. They use shop bulletins, publications, of all kinds, and advertisements. The trade unions will defend themselves by increased activity. This fight against the unions is not only being conducted, however, by the employers' associations; it is assisted by political parties and front organizations whose background the DGB will reveal. In the future, it is therefore also a duty of the unions to follow closely changes in ownership of well-known newspapers and periodicals.

New Wage Drive Seen

Referring to recent terminations of collective agreements, the *Volks-wirt* (economic journal, Frankfurt, Nov. 15) stated that the relative calm in the wage sphere which had prevailed in 1952 appears to be coming to an end. About 80 collective agreements in various branches of industry throughout the Federal Republic were terminated by the unions in or about September.

These terminations, however, are not the first signs of a new wage

movement, the journal continued. New wage agreements were negotiated between July and October in 14 branches of industry and 17 branches of commerce and handicrafts covering 13 state districts, particularly metal manufacturing, woodworking, stones and earths, shoes, breweries, and foods and stimulants industries. Wage increases, which differ from industry to industry, amounted to between 4 to 6 pfennigs* hourly for skilled workers.

These new agreements obviously reflected the union desire to obtain an adjustment to the general level in such groups which had been lagging. Now, the question arises, however, whether the new terminations only represent an extended adjustment process or permit more far-reaching conclusions, the journal continued.

The extent of the new terminations lead to the assumption that more than a correction of local differences or a general adjustment is at stake here.

It is remarkable that the unions continued to argue that a decrease in wages and salaries in comparison with consumer prices was the reason for their new wage demands, while, according to official statistics, gross earnings of industrial workers rose by five percent between September 1951 and May 1952, as compared with a consumer price index of 167 in September 1952 which is one point lower than in August and six points lower than in May. This formulation which was obviously chosen for propagandist reasons and which also has a political background, is very effective in practice despite its contradiction to official statistics, the *Volkswirt* stated.

A new general wage movement is confronted with some economic handicaps. Viewed as a whole, the employers have only little or no inclination at all to make concessions. Although the consumer goods industries would welcome a further expansion of the purchasing power

*100 pfennigs equivalent to 23.8 cents.



The New DGB Chairman Freitag: "Now I'll show you, dear Christian, how to make politics." — from *Ruhr Nachrichten* (Dortmund), Oct. 18-19.

of the population, wage increase in many enterprises would be possible only at the expense of investments. Another major reason against a general wage increase is the present export situation. Higher domestic raw material prices already require closest accounting in exports. If additional burdens should result from a new wage drive, an unfavorable development of German exports might be expected, the *Volkswirt* said in conclusion.

Reasons for Wage Drive

Discussing the same subject the DGB journal *Welt der Arbeit* (Nov. 21) said union measures cannot be surprising to those familiar with the wage conditions in the Federal Republic. Arguments that wages had increased by 80 percent against 1938 while consumer prices had not risen to the same extent, completely ignored the circumstance that only wages of industrial labor had reached this level, while the earnings of manual workers and salaried employees in other fields lags far behind.

Investigations conducted by the DGB Economic Research Institute (WWI) showed that in 1949, 13.9 percent of all wage and salary earners received less than DM 100 (equivalent to \$23.80) monthly, 56.4 percent

between DM 101 and DM 250, and 24.3 percent between DM 251 and DM 500. In February 1952, four percent earned less than DM 100, 38 percent between DM 101 and DM 250, and 47 percent between DM 251 and DM 400.

The official consumer price index is based on an average income of DM 360 monthly for the head of the family and a total family income of DM 380 which is spent in accordance with a certain pattern. Clearly, families with a considerably lower income necessarily distribute their income differently. These households are especially sensitive to an increase in such essential expenditures as for food and rent. Prices for basic foods rose by 31 percent during the last two years. A 30 percent boost in rents for social housing construction was announced. These are the reasons for the union activity in the wage sphere, the journal said.

It would be good for the German economy if the American pattern were followed in the consideration of these problems. Here, it becomes evident that an increase of the purchasing power is by no means an economic danger but rather constitutes one of the strongest incentives for higher productivity, particularly in the consumer goods industries.

Official Announcements

Case of Dr. Linse

In a note to Soviet authorities in East Berlin, US High Commissioner Walter J. Donnelly renewed Dec. 10 US requests that West Berlin resident Dr. Walter Linse be released and allowed to return to his home. The text of the letter, addressed to Soviet General V. I. Chuikov, follows.

Tomorrow I shall be leaving for home. Before I go I must once more request your good offices in alleviating the fate, and speeding the release, of Dr. Walter Linse from the detention he has so unjustly suffered in the Soviet Zone of Germany.

You doubtless know the Linse "case." You have seen the police reports, the cold facts and figures; but I wonder if you equally know the tragic drama behind the "case," which has received so much publicity in the press in all parts of the West.

Mrs. Linse has visited me on many occasions. Her story is so full of courage and hope that I must again appeal to you. I like to believe that under similar circumstances you too would be inspired to write and speak on behalf of this woman who has lost her husband who, like her, must live in hope for the day of their reunion.

Mrs. Linse is suffering the same mental anguish which caused the death of Dr. Linse's father a few weeks after the kidnaping of his son. She is constantly tormented by the last picture anyone had of her husband—that of a man brutally dragged off by hooligans, leaving behind one shoe and his glasses as evidence of his brief and brave struggle.

I want to do whatever I can to ease the suffering which Mrs. Linse is undergoing. Though her husband may be lacking many things, she has constantly in her mind he needs glasses, and that he needs shoes. I would like to satisfy her desire to replace these, which she wants especially to do now at the Christmas season.

Mrs. Linse has asked if you could furnish, through me, the prescription for his glasses and the size of his shoes. After she purchases these articles, she will deliver them to me. I shall then forward them to you and ask that you be so good as to transmit them to Dr. Linse. I shall appreciate it if I might then be sent an acknowledgment from Dr. Linse that he has received these articles, so that I may reassure Mrs. Linse.

I also request that you have delivered to Dr. Linse the food package which I am sending him as a Christmas gift in my own name. Dr. Linse must know that I have not forgotten him, nor has my country.

Finally, because I am so deeply moved by the human suffering which has been caused by this brutal kidnaping, I appeal to you, General Chuikov, to leave nothing undone to have Dr. Linse speedily returned to his home. I would like to feel that you and I have been able to make the beginning of the New Year the beginning of a new life for the Linses.

The following statement was issued in Berlin Dec. 10 by a spokesman for the Berlin Element, HICOG.

Soviet authorities in Berlin have returned the Christmas food package sent to Dr. Walter Linse by US High Commissioner Walter J. Donnelly.

Incontrovertible evidence has been advanced to prove beyond the possibility of doubt that Dr. Linse was kidnaped

by agents hired for that purpose by East Zone officials. It has also been proven that Dr. Linse was taken into the Soviet Zone immediately following the kidnaping. Shortly after the abduction Soviet representatives promised to investigate the case and to inform US authorities concerning their findings.

No news of Dr. Linse's condition or whereabouts has been received since the crime was committed last July 7.

By their silence in the face of conclusive evidence that Dr. Linse was the victim of an Eastern kidnaping ring, the Soviet authorities are assuming the burden of complicity in a repugnant crime. There is no excuse for the tactic they have adopted.

It is clear that a crime such as that involving Dr. Linse cannot be tolerated in free West Berlin any more than it could be tolerated in any area of the democratic Western world. US officials will continue to exert every effort in cooperation with other authorities to make West Berlin secure against depredations directed against persons or property. We will also, in the future as in the past, explore every avenue which seems to promise hope of securing the release of Dr. Linse.

Speed for US Vehicles

Lt. Gen. Manton S. Eddy, commander-in-chief of the US Army, Europe, said that no immediate action would be taken to change the HICOG ordinance limiting speeds of US military and civilian vehicles on roads within the German Federal Republic.

The announcement followed passage of a German law removing speed limits effective Jan. 23. The new law allows motorists to choose the speeds but holds them more strictly accountable for their judgment if they are involved in an accident. Speed limits in towns and cities are left to the discretion of community governments.

USAREUR officials said the German government action was under study and how the new law would affect Americans would be explained before it went into effect. Until then, US military and civilian motor vehicle operators would be required to observe present speed limits.

Under HICOG Law 49, the speed limit on super highways and open roads is 50 miles (80 kilometers) an hour for US passenger automobiles and motorcycles, and 40 miles (60 kilometers) an hour for trucks, buses and all other types of US-operated vehicles. Within communities the limit is 25 miles (40 kilometers) an hour for US vehicles of all types, unless posted otherwise. US motor vehicle operators also are required by the HICOG law to adjust the speed of their vehicle to road, weather and traffic conditions.—from USAREUR announcement Dec. 31.

Recent Publications

Listed below are official and important publications received in the editorial office of the Information Bulletin, Department of State Bldg., Annex A, Frankfurt/M, Luebecker Str., during December. Requests for any of these publications should be addressed to the originating agency.

Monthly Report of the Mutual Security Agency, Division of Statistics and Reports, Mutual Security Agency (Washington), Aug. 31, 1952. Devoted to data on "U.S. Foreign Trade."

Official Gazette, No. 97, Allied Secretariat, Allied High Commission (Bonn-Mehlem), Dec. 1, 1952. Official texts of legislation and orders enacted by, or under authority of, the Allied High Commission, including recent orders of the Combined Steel Group.

The Department of State Bulletin, Vol. XXVII, No. 701, Division of Publications, Office of Public Affairs, Department of State (Washington), Dec. 1, 1952. Contents include "Education for Living in a World Community" by Assistant Secretary Howland H. Sargeant and "An Answer to Soviet Attacks on U.S. Policy toward Underdeveloped Areas" by Isador Lubin.

Der Monat (The Month), No. 51, Information Division, Office of Public Affairs, HICOG (Berlin), Dec. 1, 1952. An international political and intellectual magazine in German for December.

Soziale Sicherheit in den Vereinigten Staaten (Social Security in the United States), US Informationsdienst, (Bad Godesberg), Dec. 7, 1952. Special publication in German.

The Department of State Bulletin, Vol. XXVII, No. 702, Division of Publications, Office of Public Affairs, Department of State (Washington), Dec. 8, 1952. Contents include "The Universal Validity of Man's Right to Self-Determination" by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and "Performance of the Dependent Press in the Soviet Union" by Charles A. Sprague.

Handbuch deutscher Frauenorganisationsen (Guide to German Women's Organizations), Informationsdienst fuer Frauenfragen e.V. (Bonn-Bad Godesberg), Dec. 12, 1952. Directory listing approximately 65 women organizations and roster of women leaders in federal government and political parties.

The Department of State Bulletin, Vol. XXVII, No. 703, Division of Publications, Office of Public Affairs, Department of State (Washington), Dec. 15, 1952. Contents include text of release "US Bondholders Urged to Communicate with Committee for German Corporate Bonds."

The Department of State Bulletin, Vol. XXVII, No. 704, Division of Publications, Office of Public Affairs, Department of State (Washington), Dec. 22, 1952. Contents include "US Information Programs at Home and Abroad" by Joseph B. Phillips and Reed Harris and "Foreign Relations of the United States: 91 Years of American Foreign Policy" by E. R. Perkins.

Official Gazette, No. 98, Allied Secretariat, Allied High Commission (Bonn-Mehlem), Dec. 30, 1952. Official texts of legislation and orders enacted by, or under authority of, the Allied High Commission, including recent orders concerning dispersion of Farben assets.

Background Letter (Index for July-December 1952), Publications Branch, Information Services Division, UK High Commission in Germany (Wahnerheide), Dec. 30, 1952. This was the final issue of a small pamphlet issued once or twice a week during the past five years by the British mission in Germany with commentaries on the current events, controversies and problems in Germany.

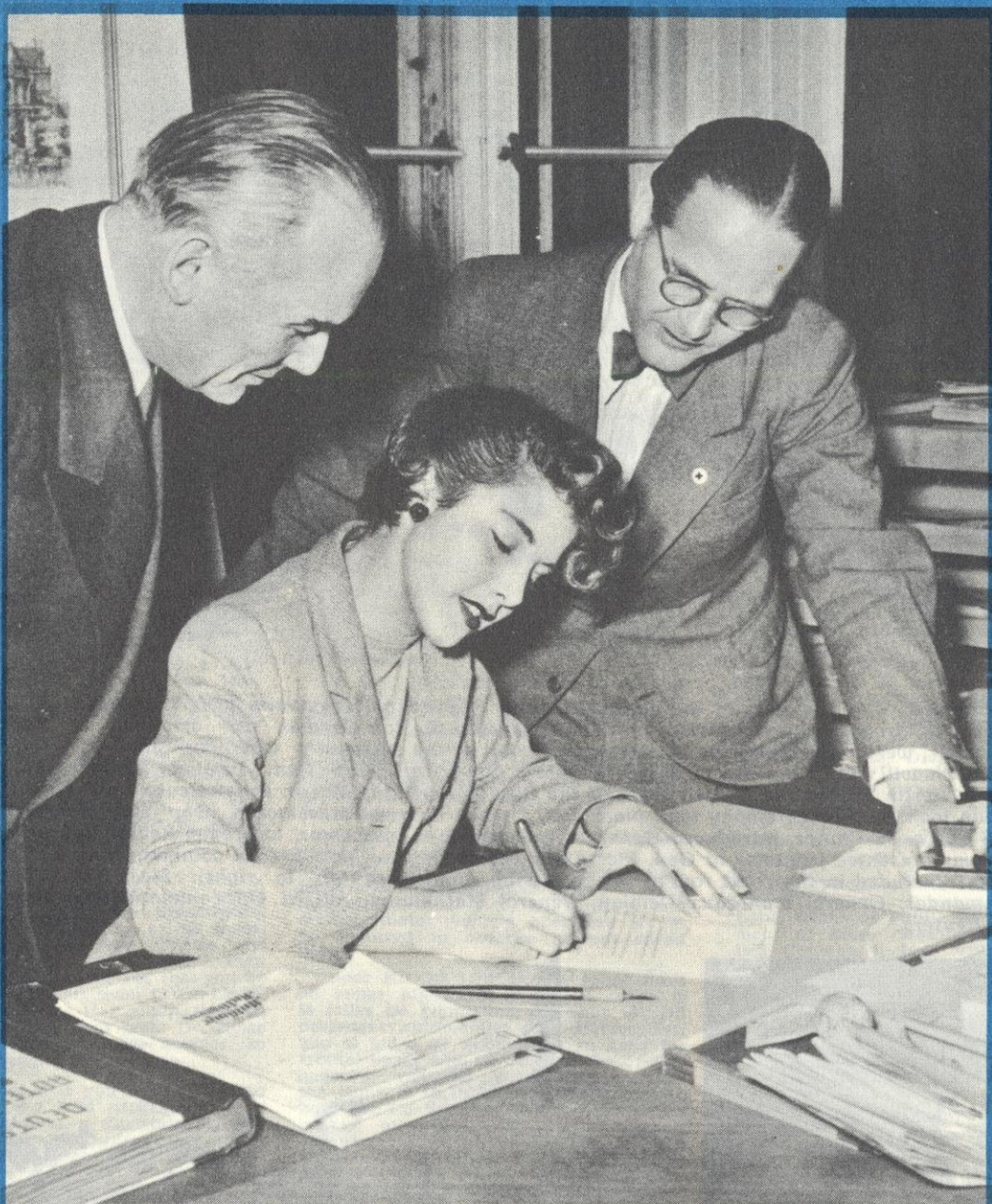
Information Bulletin for November, Information Division, Office of Public Affairs, HICOG (Frankfurt), Dec. 30, 1952. Contains articles and features on US activities in Germany.

Der Monat (The Month), No. 52, Information Division, Office of Public Affairs, HICOG (Berlin), Dec. 31, 1952. An international political and intellectual magazine in German for January.



Berlin Ceremonies — At the start of the new year, three impressive ceremonies were held by the Allied forces in Berlin. (above) US troops, who comprised the detail guarding the top German war criminals in Spandau Prison during December, were relieved by the British guard detail at the customary ceremony Jan. 1 before the prison gate. The British will guard the prison during January. (lower left) Maj. Gen. Lemuel Mathewson, retiring US commander in Berlin, signed the Golden Book of the City of Berlin as Mayor Ernst Reuter and Maj. Gen. Thomas S. Timberman look on. The ceremony took place Jan. 2 when General Mathewson, who was transferred to command of US Forces in France, introduced General Timberman, his successor, to Mayor Reuter. (lower right) A special review was presented in honor of Gen. Pierre Manceaux-Demiau, new French commander in Berlin, succeeding Pierre Carolet. Included in the front row of the reviewing stand were (left to right): Maj. Gen. C.F.C. Coleman, British commander; General Manceaux-Demiau, General Mathewson, retired US commander; a French adjutant and Mayor Reuter. (BE HICOG photos)





Karla Most, 17-year-old daughter of Amicus Most, special assistant of the MSA Mission for Germany, recently turned over motion picture earnings of DM 750 (\$178.50) to the Berlin Red Cross, as Dr. Dietrich Bloss (left), president of the Berlin Red Cross, and Herbert Stamm, general secretary, look on. The money went for the assistance of refugees in the Kreuzberg camp in Berlin. Miss Most, a native of New Rochelle, N. Y., signed a contract with the Red Cross making her a Red Cross employee for the duration of her motion picture work. She earned the DM 750 while working with the International Film Union in Remagen in synchronizing the French film "Entrez les Artistes" for distribution in the United States. She has appeared in amateur theatrical productions in and around New York, had small roles in Italian films while attending school in Rome, and was in the play "First Lady" presented by the Bad Godesberg Little Theater Group before being employed by the German company.

(BE HICOG photo by Schubert)