

Mr. Kennedy Made No Concessions

The West Germans, who understandably refuse to accept the perpetual dismemberment of their country, are said to be disillusioned and distrustful at what appears to them as a shift in American policy on the German problem.

The Germans were first of all disquieted over reports that General Lucius Clay, President Kennedy's special representative in West Berlin, had spoken privately of accepting the "reality" of a divided Germany. Then Mr. Kennedy's speech to the United Nations seemed to some to represent a move towards recognition of a Soviet-East German peace treaty. What the President said was this:

"The Western allies are not concerned with any paper arrangement the Soviets wish to make with a regime of their own creation, on territory occupied by their own troops and governed by their own agents. No such action can affect either our rights or our responsibilities."

There is nothing new or startling in this, nothing surely which represents concessions by the West. And certainly this sentence of Mr. Kennedy's is hardly the key towards resolving the whole crisis, as some of our commentators are saying.

Two weeks ago Dr. von Brentano, the foreign minister of the German Federal Republic, made these remarks to newspapermen in Washington. The echoes between them and Mr. Kennedy's words were unmistakable.

"There is no possibility of preventing such a treaty (between Russia and East Germany). All we can do is to point out to the Soviet Union—and to possible other signatories—that there is no legal basis for such a treaty, and that it can have no legal validity."

"There exists no procedure by which the Soviet Union and the Soviet Zone of Germany could be prevented from signing such a piece of paper."

Dr. von Brentano considers the signing of such a "piece of paper" unfortunate. He realizes that it is a step towards hardening the division of Germany. But he is also realistic enough to have recognized, as Mr. Kennedy did, the impossibility of preventing such a treaty. Premier Khrushchev, after all, would not be doing much more than signing a treaty with himself. The important thing to the future of Germany is how the world regards an attempt to legalize a unilateral attempt at partition.

The Berlin crisis will be resolved if and when it is established that Mr. Khrushchev directly or through his lackey, Herr Ulbricht of East Germany, will respect the "deep commitments" of the Western powers and the freedom of West Berlin, as Mr. Kennedy put it. The crisis was made in Moscow and there, unfortunately and ominously, is the power to end it—or deepen it.

Success of 5BX

Amid the new interest in physical fitness aroused by the Government's plan to spend \$5,000,000 a year to assist amateur sports another physical fitness program is still forging ahead. Early in 1959 the Queen's Printer first made available to the public a booklet prepared as a physical fitness course for members of the RCAF. Since then sales of "5BX" (for five basic exercises) have reached almost 200,000 copies, which makes the booklet one of the biggest of Canadian best-sellers. A similar booklet for women, "XBX" (for ten basic exercises) was published a year later. About 145,000 copies have been sold.

No doubt some of them are not in active use. At least one woman bought a copy of "XBX" because "It's such luxury to see how many exercises I'm supposed to do each day and then not do them". And no doubt some buyers have started with good intentions and then been put off by friends who ask, "But what are you getting fit for?"

But the big sales must be some indication of the number of Canadians who are working their way up from the first easy variations of the basic exercises to the rugged workouts in the back of the booklets and gaining assurance that Prince Philip's scorn for flabby Canadians is not meant for them.

Reprieve for Wild Life

Destruction of fish, game and other wild life has often been the price paid to protect crops and forests from insect pests; for DDT cannot separate the sheep from the goats.

But the Department of Agriculture is now experimenting with a new type of insecticide that kills harmful forms of life but spares useful or innocent ones, man included. Instead of poisons, department scientists are testing insect diseases.

One bacterium, Bacillus thuringiensis, has been used successfully

against tobacco hornworm, imported cabbage worm, alfalfa caterpillar and orchard tent caterpillar, spruce budworm, gypsy moth, winter moth and Fall cankerworm. It is applied as a dust or spray, when victims are in the larval stage, and kills them in a day or two.

There has also been some success in experiments made with fungi, viruses and bacteria that cause fatal diseases in the eye-spotted bud moth, codling moth, some varieties of leaf roller and wireworm.

Only diseases to which beneficial insects are immune are being tested. So the insecticides developed from them would spare the ladybug, as well as the trout and robin.

The Prime Minister On Civil Defence

The Prime Minister's weekend speech on civil defence offered neither despair nor easy assurance.

"Fearful as I am as to what would happen should a nuclear war come", Mr. Diefenbaker said, "I am not one of those who believe that mankind would be destroyed". But he warned that if Canada were attacked there might be between 2,000,000 and 6,000,000 casualties. When he spoke of what proper preparation could offer it was "a reasonably high figure of survival".

What the Prime Minister has faced and we all must face is that civil defence is a calculated gamble. We cannot guarantee survival. We can only improve the odds. The course of realism is to do all we can to improve our chances beginning with measures that offer the greatest hope and later filling any gaps we can fill. Demanding absolute protection, which is impossible, could paralyze preparation. A poker player does not win by waiting to be dealt a royal flush. He must play the cards he gets, with a sharp eye for the odds.

Mr. Diefenbaker said for example, that fallout shelters in homes should have priority over fallout shelters in schools. It would be easy to make an emotional issue of that, to say that children in school should be protected from fallout at any cost. But if school shelters were put ahead of home shelters the cost might be the children's lives. Children spend only about 20 per cent of the day in school. Fallout does not follow the blast immediately, except in areas where the heat and blast would be fatal. Children in school would have a good chance of reaching home before fallout started. It would be easier to train children to go home when an alert sounded—as they now leave the school in a fire drill—than to keep them for two weeks in a school shelter without their parents.

Mr. Diefenbaker has said that in a nuclear war he would stay in his house on Sussex Street, in a basement fallout shelter like the one the government has recommended for all Canadians. That is courageous. But after an attack the Prime Minister would be needed. He should have not the average shelter but the best possible shelter, not for his own good but for the good of the country.

Between 'Good' and 'Bad'

A most experienced diplomat is Mr. George Kennan, former U.S. ambassador to Russia, who concludes his recent book, "Russia and the West under Lenin and Stalin", with this sage commentary on international affairs:

"The picture which I hope I have presented is one of an international life in which there is... nothing absolute in itself: a life in which there is no friendship without some element of antagonism; no enmity without some rudimentary community of interest; no benevolent intervention which is not also in part an injury; no act of recalcitrance, no seeming evil, from which... some 'soul of goodness' may not be distilled."

This is an appropriate hour in which to be reminded, as the Manchester Guardian says in reviewing Mr. Kennan's book, that the cold war cannot be won or lost on a single throw, in Berlin or anywhere else and indeed cannot be "won" at all and can only be lost by both sides by being turned into a hot war.

Notes and Comment

The Chinese, quick to adopt and improve on Russian methods, now claim to have discovered North America.

It is said that blondes are becoming fewer. Must every horizon of the future be dark?

Eastview has won its battle to have bilingual "Stop-Arret" signs in Ontario—a good example of democracy in action.

Said Mr. Laurier Regnier in the House of Commons Thursday: "I criticized the agreement without knowing what the agreement was, and I happened to be right". That variety of criticism is common but not always as lucky.

Blockade Threat Still Looms Over Berlin

By JAMES RESTON

PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S speech and performance at the United Nations were well received, but he did not remove the confusion here over Berlin and Germany.

The reason for this is that he is acting on one set of facts and most of the delegates to the General Assembly are acting on another.

Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet foreign minister, and all the other comradely brethren are giving the delegates the soft line on Berlin. This is that the Soviet Union does not want to humiliate the West, but is merely trying to tidy up the existing division of both Berlin and Germany.

No need for any crisis over the West's rights of access to Berlin, Mr. G. says. These will be "guaranteed." All the West has to do is deal with the East Germans on a factual basis, as the West Germans have for years, and nobody will interfere either with the freedom of Berlin or the rights of passage to and from the former German capital.

President Kennedy, however, unknown to most of the delegates, is operating on more ominous information. His envoys have been talking to Nikita Khrushchev personally, and they are sending back a different story.

SPECIFICALLY Khrushchev told one of Kennedy's official emissaries that once Moscow signs a separate peace treaty with the Communist East Germans, not only all of the West's rights in Berlin will cease, but all traffic to Berlin will cease until the West negotiates new rights of access with the East German regime.

Khrushchev was questioned minutely on this key point. His reply was unequivocal: not one truck, or barge, or train, or plane would leave from West Germany for West Berlin after the separate peace treaty until the new arrangements with the East Germans were negotiated.

Now, this is not precisely the same as Gromyko's bland assurances. This is blockade, and blockade is an act of war. Washington has made clear that it is not going to get stirred up if the East Germans merely replace the Russians on the borders between East and West Germany and approve the flow of adequate supplies. But Khrushchev did not support this procedure, and went on to threaten that any effort to break his blockade by force would lead to war.

COMPARE this with President Kennedy's discussion of the East German peace treaty here yesterday and the conflict of principle becomes clear.

"The western allies," he said, "are not concerned with any paper arrangement the Soviets may wish to make with a regime of their own creation (East Germany), on territory occupied by their own troops and governed by their own agents. No such action, however, can affect either our rights or our responsibilities."

Khrushchev, however, is saying precisely the opposite. He is saying that his action not only can, but that it will, interfere with these rights im-

mediately after the treaty is signed, if the western nations do not sign up with Ulbricht, the East German leader.

Maybe Khrushchev and Gromyko do not regard this as a "humiliating" proposition, but a lot of people in Washington do, and this is the situation which explains the contrast between the anxiety in Washington and the foggy euphoria at the United Nations.

The duty of diplomacy now is to remove the ambiguity on both sides and avoid this critical impasse before it gets beyond control. Or what is diplomacy for? Gromyko's description of Soviet intentions may be right, and Khrushchev's may have been overstated, as part of his scare campaign, but President Kennedy cannot be expected to assume that Gromyko knows more about Soviet intentions than Khrushchev.

THE ambiguity on our side has been that Moscow has been left in doubt about what we will negotiate and what we won't. There has also been ambiguity about whether the U.S. would limit its military opposition to non-nuclear weapons.

These ambiguities are dangerous. They have already confused the delegates to the U.N., they could easily confuse either Washington or Moscow with disastrous results.

For in a test of strength over a sudden blockade, both sides would face the possibility of a humiliating defeat. The problem is not that Washington or Moscow would calculate a nuclear war, but that neither would allow its troops to be overwhelmed in the field without using whatever weapons it had at its command.

Khrushchev could remove this ambiguity very easily by stipulating in his treaty with East Germany that all previous rights of access to Berlin were to be maintained by the East German regime.

So long as the ambiguities remain, however, it is not satisfactory merely to say that nuclear war is "unthinkable." Under the present circumstances it has to be thought about if it is to be avoided, and now is probably as good a time as any.

Other Views

PRICKLES AND ALL

Victoria Times

Senior figures in the West may not like many of the actions taken by Charles de Gaulle. They may wish many of his ideas would find their way to oblivion. They cannot wish the same for the General. They need him too much, prickles and all.

NOT UP TO NEUTRALS

Calgary Albertan

The fact that the smaller nations of the world seem to regard American bombs with more distaste than Russian bombs does not make the American ones any more evil. The fact that these nations, many of them arrogating to themselves the label of neutralist, are urging President Kennedy to hurry up and negotiate with the Soviet dictator is no reason why he should.

Letters to The Editors

ARE WE BLAMELESS?

SIR—In Saturday's Journal you published an article by Max Freedman, your Washington correspondent, expressing wonder that Bertrand Russell should apparently equate the morals of free world statesmen with those of the Soviet bloc. While the Sermon on the Mount is so far ahead of the Communist Manifesto that they cannot be compared, we of the free world make a serious mistake in forgetting how our moral position has slipped in the eyes of observers.

The Communist claws were shown in the Hungarian episode, but that was five years ago. Since then we have had (1) the U-2 incident in which Eisenhower was caught out in a barefaced lie; (2) the U.S. destroyer-escorted invasion-party to Cuba, with its sprinkling of Batista jouts which seemed to show a willingness to re-establish a regime of torture and death; (3) offers to provide nuclear devices to West Germany, coupled with the naming of an unsavory Nazi to command NATO troops.

Hurrah for our side, but as long as we continue this sort of conduct let's not be pharisaical about it.

E. A. PHILLIPS

1176 Albany Drive, Ottawa, Sept. 22.

MISS CANADA

SIR—The disqualification of Connie-Gail Feller as Miss Canada brings to light the absurdity of the Canada Pageant under the present leadership.

The judges in Burlington scrutinized the contestants as to beauty, poise, talent and so on, and their decision was made on the basis of merit. How then can the officials of the Pageant disqualify the "Queen" after the contest? Has she committed a crime, or is she guilty of immoral behaviour not becoming to a queen? The act of disqualification is almost an insinuation that to effect, and she has a good case to sue the Pageant for defamation.

If anything, she has very much behaved like a queen. She has shown great intelligence and has thus proven even more her worthiness for the title.

The Pageant's administration may take the ticket to Europe and other material prizes away from her, but to millions of people Connie-Gail is and will remain Miss Canada, namely the representative of young womanhood of Canada.

ARNOLD HALTRECHT,

P. Eng. 43 Avenue Road, Ottawa, Sept. 25.

Side Lights

Patients Need Patience

Financial Post

—In the U.S., public health people and dental associations think they have a shortage because there is only one dentist for every 1,450 persons. But in Canada, the ratio in rural areas can be as high as one dentist per 10,000 residents and even in the cities it doesn't average below one in 1,700. So, rare indeed is the dentist who has to worry about a lack of customers.

Street Theatre

By W. J. WEATHERBY

Written for the Manchester Guardian and The Journal

IT HAD been drizzling and so the show was late in starting. The first act—an accordionist—sniffed at the air like a self-conscious hound dog and pretended that some of the rain had seeped into his accordion. He tried a few notes and the accordion wheezed. His soaked audience appreciated that. You could hear their laughter above the noise of the traffic.

At first the only audience was the queue outside the Ritz Cinema, but as the sky brightened and the accordionist went through his dashing repertoire of rock 'n' roll and military band music, more and more people gathered on the pavements. Critics, coming late to the show and finding no places reserved for them in the front rows in the gutters, had to be content with standing room at the back.

When the accordion solo ended, the hat passed round was soon full to the brim. Foreign tourists in the audience were particularly generous with their currency, for they found this kind of main-road theatre as English as oide inns and thatched houses. "It is truly Brechtian in aim," said one intense German student, as if he had to find a meaning for it all.

A lean little man with a frayed toothbrush moustache and spindly legs next took the centre of the road. He did a tap dance in clogs and mocked the walk of a Hollywood siren with timing as carefully calculated as if the zebra crossing before him were the footlights. As the traffic thundered by, he had a different acknowledgement for every motorist, depending upon the social standing of their vehicles. A sleek Rolls-Royce won an urchin's gesture of disdain, much to the delight of the class-conscious gallery on the other side of Leicester Square. There was a polite tip of the hat for a taxi full of ladies, and a knocked-about prewar Austin received a gracious bow as if it were really the sovereign of the traffic stream. The driver gave an embarrassed grin as the audience cheered and he accelerated as if to escape from this open-air theatre as soon as possible.

WARDOUR STREET

A man in a kilt manfully playing a bagpipe: it was a vigorous performance and a group of Glaswegians down for the week overwhelmed him with encouragement—cheers, money, and finally an invitation to go off to a pub with them. The player took the cheers and the money but not the invitation: he seemed to be sternly telling them in the best tradition that the show must go on. He was playing, he said, the latest pop tune and after hearing the blast of the pipes, we took his word for it. He had made £5 that night, he said, but with Scots in town the audiences were more generous than usual.

In this theatre of the streets, there was generally a much closer contact between players and audience: it was theatre in the round, in the open, and without lights (except street and shop lights), without make-up, without aids. A violinist in a shop alcove in Shaftesbury Avenue played before a notice that outside an indoor theatre would have been snippets from the first-night reviews. This notice told us that the performer was a music student short of funds. In exchange for some fastidiously played classics, could we help? A hat lay with the notice while he played Mozart at the back of the alcove, almost out of sight, as if he had stage fright. His hat was soon full of silver. The motorists on the whole, however, responded with good humor as if they were part of a conspiracy to preserve these strolling players, the last of

25 Years Ago

From The Journal of Sept. 26, 1936 FRANCE backed by Great Britain and the United States moved to reduce the franc's gold content by one-third. There was to be an embargo on gold exports.

The Spanish president, Manuel Azana, was reported to be seeking refuge aboard an Argentine cruiser off the coast of Spain.

Sergeant Major John Barlow was elected president of the Men's Association of Erskine Presbyterian Church, Ottawa.

Hormidas Beaulieu was re-elected president of L'Institut Canadien Francais, Ottawa.

Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers were co-starring in the film "Swing Time".

James Parslow and Doris Turner were senior track and field champions of Nepean High School.

Objective of the Ottawa Community Chest was \$165,000.

Michael J. Devine who obtained his BA at Ottawa University was called to the Ontario Bar.

the line. A policeman hovered in the background and allowed himself a grin at some of the miming going on between the lines of traffic. No doubt he could have cried "Obstruction" if Authority had been keen to close this variety show, but he would have had the crowd against him. It was by then a well-fed audience and whatever the cinema queue among them might find within, it seemed well content with what it found outside. Not forced to pay before seeing the show, they showered money into the hat after it.

THE shrewd performers, as if co-operating with the police, stopped the show whenever the press of people watching them seemed in danger of blocking the pavements, and they disappeared down side streets until much of their audience had dispersed and conditions were suitable to begin another show.

Acts in other neighboring streets included impersonations of the Prime Minister and Mr. Khrushchev banging his shoe, a piercing soprano; an Irish ballad-singer; a guitar-player strumming and humming his own compositions; a reciter of a bridged and amended version of Shakespearean soliloquies... The program, even on a comparatively brief critical stroll, seemed endless. If the standards varied, you had the advantage of being able to walk away without any trouble as soon as you were bored—and without cost. No jangling grimly on, hoping for an improvement because you had bought an expensive ticket: sixpence in the hat was better to the performer than a rave review. The West End theatre on the outside has its advantages: its latest season is obviously a good one.

Broken Pledges

From the Milwaukee Journal

By resuming nuclear weapon tests, the Soviet Union has broken promises it repeatedly made to the world, the west and the Soviet people themselves. The promises both preceded and followed the start of the moratorium on testing that began in late 1958.

No squirming now can change the meaning of such pledges as these:

"The Soviet government stands firmly for the complete and unconditional cessation of atomic and nuclear weapons tests."

—Khrushchev statement in International Affairs magazine, March, 1958.

"The council of ministers of the USSR has resolved not to resume nuclear tests in the USSR if the western powers do not resume the testing of atomic and hydrogen weapons. Only in the event of the resumption by them of nuclear weapons tests will the Soviet Union be free from this pledge."

—Announcement by Tass, official Soviet news agency, Aug. 28, 1959.

"The government which would be the first to begin the nuclear weapons tests would take upon itself a heavy responsibility before the peoples."

—Khrushchev speech to USSR supreme soviet, Jan. 4, 1960.

"I would like to emphasize again that the Soviet government... will also in the future stick to its self-imposed obligation not to resume experimental nuclear explosions in the Soviet Union if the western powers do not begin testing of atomic and hydrogen weapons... Should any side violate the obligations (to refrain from testing) to which it has committed itself, the instigators of such violations will cover themselves with shame, and they will be condemned by the peoples of the world."

—Khrushchev speech to USSR supreme soviet, Jan. 14, 1960.

"We should do everything in our power to make general and complete disarmament a reality, to rid humanity of the arms race and the threat of a new war of annihilation... The Soviet government is prepared to do everything in order that nuclear weapons tests be prohibited this very day, that these means of mass destruction be banned and destroyed."

—Khrushchev speech at UN general assembly, Sept. 23, 1960.

SUSPENDED

Peterborough Examiner Driving while licence is under suspension is a common charge in our traffic courts, yet the penalties handed out for this offence seldom reflect the gravity of the charge. A driver who has demonstrated that he is unfit to hold a licence is prohibited from driving because he is a menace to other users of the road. When such a man is found to have held the court's decision in contempt, he should be automatically jailed and suspended from driving for life.



STORMY WEATHER