

# France Shows Signs Of Swinging Away From Russian Orbit

## NATION, WEAK, KEEPS KEY TO WEST EUROPE

Without Paris, Continent Has Little Hope of Resisting USSR.

By Scripps-Howard Newspapers  
PARIS, Sept. 16.—One of the few good things to come out of the conference here is evidence that France is beginning to swing away from Moscow control.

She is not yet free. The trend could be reversed. But her present stand is significant in the growing conflict between expanding Russia and the western world.

For many reasons touching on tradition, geography, resources, experience and skill, France is the key to western Europe. Along with Germany she largely is the determining factor for all Europe, and with Britain she shares the same distinction for the Mediterranean and Africa. These prewar truisms still hold.

Through France was terribly weakened by the war and German occupation, relative to a still weaker Europe as a whole her position potentially is strong. She is the most nearly self-sufficient European nation and her post-war recovery has been the most rapid.

Two Currents Felt  
If France permanently sides with Russia there is little hope of saving Europe or the Mediterranean from Soviet domination.

After the war ended two strong currents drew France to Russia. One was the rise of the Communist party in France, for a while the strongest in the country and still powerful. The other reason was the international situation in which Russia loomed as the strongest European power and biggest land power in the world.

So France at the recent security council meetings and international conferences has ridden with the bear because she could not get off. She tried often enough by offering timid compromises but fear prevented action.

But after the first fortnight France increasingly—though not always—has voted with the democratic majority.

Causes Are Analyzed

The causes go deep. They are: ONE: Moscow's reversal of policy currently to favor a strong Germany—thus breaking a Russo-French bargain and destroying the cornerstone of the alliance.

TWO: Moscow's attempted freeze-out of France in the Near East, including proposed exclusion from the Dardanelles control body and settlement.

THREE: The Soviet drive for Italy and the western Mediterranean, an which would separate France from her African empire.

FOUR: The conflict between the role as a Soviet satellite and the French policy of a united front with Belgium and the Netherlands.

FIVE: The growing chasm between the Soviet bloc and the Anglo-American group has made the French balancing act increasingly perilous.

SIX: France as a proud parent of western culture and the largest and oldest center of continental democratic tradition cannot see herself permanently aligned with totalitarian power against the democratic world.

## Discuss Finer Points of Beethoven



Finer points of Beethoven... Hermann H. Rinne (left), director of the Indianapolis Philharmonic orchestra, discusses a difficult spot in the master's second symphony with Greene B. Supple, orchestra president and clarinet-section member.

## Philharmonic Plans Concert To Benefit Symphony Fund

It isn't often that an amateur orchestra turns out to help a professional orchestra.

But that's what will happen March 10, 1947, when the Indianapolis Philharmonic orchestra, directed by Hermann H. Rinne, gives a Muret theater concert for the benefit of the Indianapolis Symphony fund.

Announcement of the March concert was made today by George A. Smith, business manager of the Philharmonic.

The Purdue Concert choir, directed by Albert P. Stewart, who heads Purdue's choral music activities, will assist the local amateur orchestra in the benefit concert, Mr. Smith added.

First rehearsal of the Philharmonic's ninth season will be held at 7:45 p. m. today in the 40 and 8 hall, 119 E. Ohio st.

Philharmonic officers for the season are Graeme B. Supple, president; Charles Glaser, vice president; Miss Ellen Taylor, secretary; Nathaniel S. Steele, treasurer, and Messrs. Rinne and Smith.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16 (U. P.).—For \$18 you soon will be able to buy a set of eight books from the government that will tell you all about the evidence against the 22 Nazis who are awaiting the verdict of the judges at Nuernberg, Germany.

The eight volumes will contain the great mass of documentary evidence collected by the American and British prosecuting staffs. The books will be available—when the printing and binding has been completed—through the superintendent of documents, government printing office, Washington.

Printing and binding work on two of the volumes has been completed. The others will be finished in a few weeks.

TREASURER STUDIES MICHIGAN TAX PLAN

State Treasurer Frank T. Mills today traveled to Lansing, Mich., to confer with Michigan state officials on a streamlined tax collection program recently instituted there.

Mr. Mills heads the Indiana tax study commission, designed to expedite the state's tax collection facilities, now composed of 45 agencies which collect 96 different forms of revenue.

At the same time on the same date, spring begins in the southern hemisphere.

## ELECTION DRIVES GET GOOD START

Townsend and Jenner Open Speaking Tours.

By ROBERT BLOEM

Indiana's fall political campaigns are under way—off to a better start than was expected despite continued prospects for many dull moments.

Democrats made the customary French Lick kickoff over the weekend while Democratic editors, in whose name the two-day parley was held, sat forgotten in the background.

Democratic senatorial candidate M. Clifford Townsend started his two-speeches-a-day campaign schedule at Salem at 2 p. m. today. He speaks at Seymour at 8 tonight.

His Republican opponent, William E. Jenner of Bedford, opened up at Evansville Sunday with an appeal to Hoosier veterans to seize their opportunity to help shape America's future.

G. O. P. Editors to Meet

The rest of the Republican ticket will swing into action after the Republican Editorial association convention at French Lick this coming week-end. While Democrats made their French Lick debut an all-Indiana affair, the G. O. P. will conduct their official opening to the keynote words of national party chairman Carroll Reece.

Two major surprises featured the Democratic meeting at the southern Indiana spa—first, the senatorial candidate completely abandoned the party's avowed intention of fighting

the bulk of the campaign on state issues, and second, the fighting words of the program came from leaders who only a few short months ago were virtually on the retired list.

Townsend Replies to G. O. P.

Mr. Townsend took the outing as an opportunity to reply to the Republicans' strategic hammering on the three C's—control, confusion and communism.

On the control issue, particularly the meat shortage laid at the door of the OPA by Republican leaders, the Democratic candidate charged Governor Gates with insulting the intelligence of Hoosier voters by "fighting the campaign over the meat counter." He predicted that increasing meat supplies would nullify that part of the OPA issue by election day.

On the subject of communism, Mr. Townsend denied that his party was ridden by communist-controlled labor groups or fellow-travelers. The international food policy, he said, has been an endless fight against the spread of communism in famine-stricken countries. He and other speakers pointed to the state platform in which communism is denounced along with nazism and other "isms."

Fightingest Speech

The fightingest speech of the meeting, observers agreed, was given by National Committeeman Frank McHale who lashed at Mr. Jenner and charged a Republican "strategy" committee had been appointed to "wet nurse the candidate through the campaign."

Mr. McHale's table-thumping attitude was in sharp contrast to the editorial meeting a week ago in which he was simply introduced. Since that session, former state chairman Fred F. Bays, with whom the national committeeman had a long-standing feud, has resigned and

## U. S. FIGHTING FORCES SLUMP

War Machine Cut 5-Sixths Since Victory.

(Continued From Page One)

ern lines, emphasizing combat teams rather than regiments.

Most of the existing divisions are below full strength. For instance, the 82nd airborne division is down to almost 5000 men. Even among these cut-down divisions there is a 40 per cent shortage of company officers.

Air forces strength is now down to 400,000 from a wartime peak of 2,411,294 and it is organized into 70 air groups. This strength is to be maintained. Combat efficiency is low because of rapid demobilization which broke up air groups and a shortage of technicians. Pilots are in about ample supply but ground crews are short. Latest available figures on aircraft strength show 36,075 planes of all types on hand May 1. Of these, 19,588 were fighters and bombers. On May 1,

been replaced with Pleas Greenlee of Shelbyville.

While partisans and neutral observers alike were puzzling over the new enthusiasm of Mr. McHale, former Governor Henry F. Schricker, another who was virtually on the blacklist under the Bays leadership, followed with another burst of enthusiasm. Mr. Schricker concentrated his fire on the 1944 registration ruling by Attorney General James Emmert which Democrats still charge disfranchised thousands of their voters.

1945, the AAF had 82,936 planes, 40,983 of them bombers and fighters.

Air reserve training program, calling for 50,000 officers, of which 22,500 will be pilots, and 120,000 enlisted men, is already under way. Thirty-one reserve training bases have been activated and 69 more will be set up. AAF fears that recent order, cutting down civilian personnel will hamper its operations.

NAVY

The navy had an estimated 598,000 officers and men at the start of this month. This compared with 3,408,000 a year ago. Its demobilization program is completed. It has cut its manpower recruiting down to 1625 a month for general service and all the acceptable electronics men it can get. In an immediate emergency, navy estimates it could call up 20,000 reserve officers and 250,000 additional trained men. At least two of its major fleets—the seventh in the far Pacific and the 12th in European waters—are fully manned.

Other ships in the active fleet are manned with about 70 per cent of their wartime strength. But this 70 per cent constitutes a larger number of men than the 85 per cent which manned the pre-war type ships. By March 1, 1947, the navy's personnel is expected to drop to 437,000 men. The fleet strength is difficult to determine because it changes from day to day but it is soon expected to get down to the numbers set for the post-war navy.

This will mean an active fleet of 291 combat ships, a reserve fleet of 42 vessels and an inactive fleet of 632 warships. Last Jan. 1, the fleet had 746 warships in active service.

Naval aviation is getting down close to its proposed peacetime strength but it is hampered by lack of sufficient technical personnel,

especially ground crews. Latest available figures show the navy had 8309 combat planes in operation, in replacement pools and in storage. Naval air reached its peak strength in 1944 when it had 26,000 aircraft on all types deployed.

The marine corps had 112,564 officers and enlisted personnel on its rolls Sept. 6. This was close to its post-war authorized strength. A year ago, the marines numbered 486,000.

The coast guard, which was part of the navy but is now back in the treasury, had 170,000 men in service on VJ-day. Today its strength is down to 19,000.

## BODIES OF GENERAL, FOUR OTHERS FOUND

BREWARD, N. C., Sept. 16 (U. P.).—The broken bodies of an air corps major general and four other army men today were brought down from the heights of Cold mountain where their B-25 medium bomber crashed in exploding flames Friday.

The plane, carrying Maj. Gen. Paul B. Wurtsmith of Tampa, hit the 6000-foot mountain in a heavy fog.

Other crew members were Lt. Col. F. L. Trickey, address unknown; Lt. Col. P. R. Okerbloom, Tampa; M. Sgt. H. W. Merritt, Geneva, Ala., and S. Sgt. H. W. Crump, Tampa.

Army ships spotted the crashed plane yesterday 150 feet from the top of the mountain, third highest peak in this area.

## NAME CAMPAIGN PROBER

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16 (U. P.).—Francis Thomas Kelly, Millers Falls, Mass., today was appointed an investigator for the senate campaign expenditures investigating committee. Senator Styles Bridges (R. N. H.) recommended him.

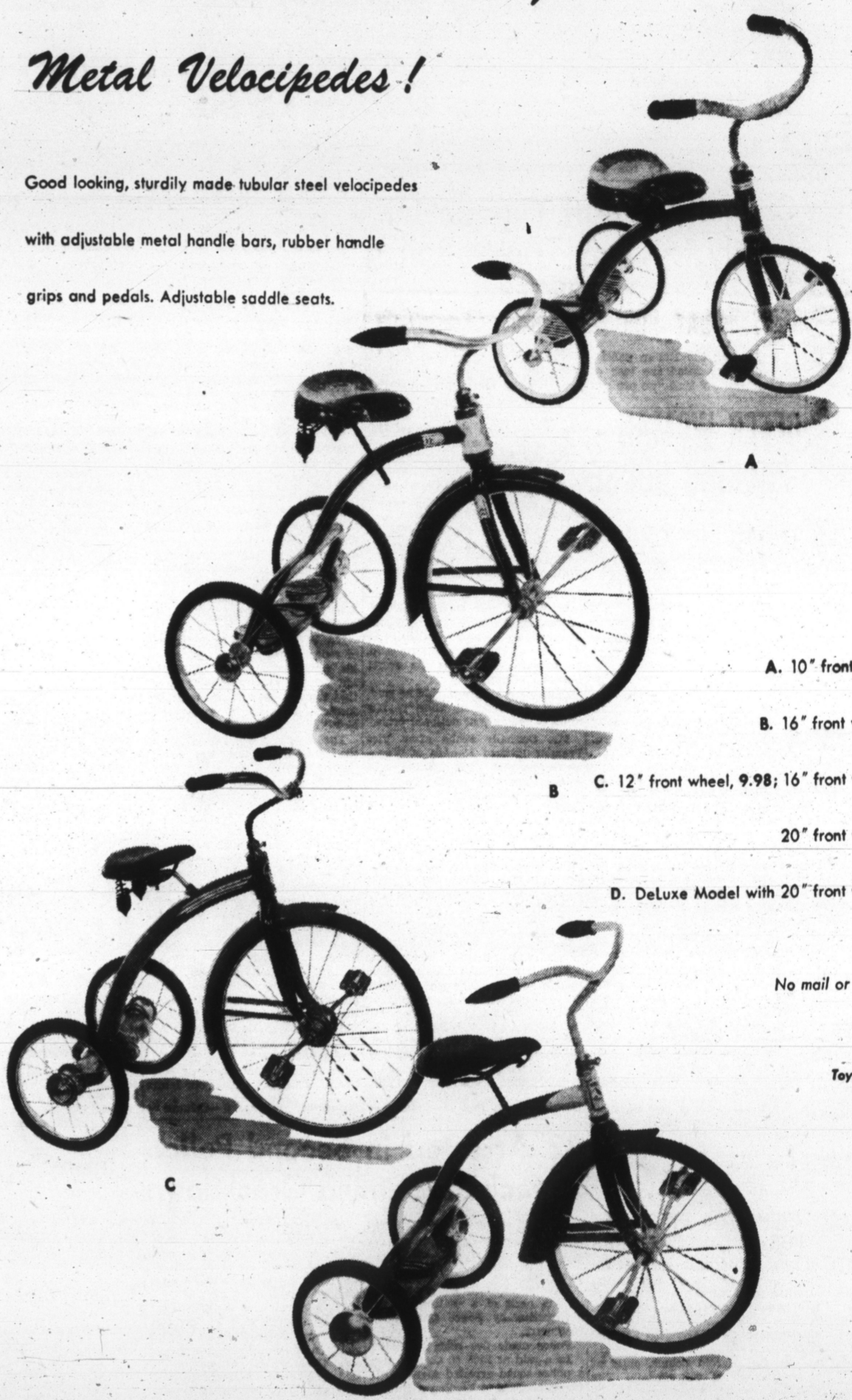
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