

French-West German Treaty Lacking Unity

BONN, Germany (AP)—The attachment between the French and West German governments has been cooling off ever since Konrad Adenauer and Charles de Gaulle signed their treaty of friendship 18 months ago.

Publicly Attacked

A few days ago De Gaulle publicly attacked the West Germans as uncooperative and too respectful of U. S. leadership. Chancellor Ludwig Erhard's government replied angrily that its policy is independent of both France and America.

The Paris-Bonn match was always the kind that makes the neighbors ask what she can see in him and what he can see in her.

France has been Germany's "hereditary enemy" for centuries. Across the Rhine, French parents still make small children behave by threatening them with "les boches."

Adenauer and De Gaulle, remembering invasions and occupations, wanted to end all that. To them the United States and the Soviet Union were annoying newcomers on the European scene, and even Britain was an outsider. They saw no way to unite Europe except on the basis of a solid alliance between France and Germany in their day Europe's two strongest powers.

But there were rifts that both sides tried unsuccessfully to keep in the background. De Gaulle wants to accept the boundaries that the Communists have drawn for Germany in the east. No West German politician could go along.

Blackballed Britain

Just before the treaty was signed, De Gaulle publicly blackballed Britain for membership in the European Common Market—a membership many West Germans felt pledged to.

Smaller West European countries, eager for a broad European union, grew suspicious of what they saw as a "Little Europe" dominated by a Paris-Bonn axis.

De Gaulle was withdrawing his forces from the Atlantic nuclear air arm and refusing to join an Atlantic nuclear force. All these developments met strong criticism in West Germany, even within Adenauer's own party and government.

Six months after the treaty was signed it became clear that Erhard, a symbol of this criticism, would succeed Adenauer in the fall. Adenauer was quitting office because he was 87. He opposed Erhard's succession and would have been glad to stay on. He was leaving because his Christian Democratic Party had lost its clear majority in the 1961 election, and the price he had to pay for support from outside the party was a pledge to retire.

The West German Parliament ratified the French Treaty. West Germany could hardly afford to oppose friendship with France. But it attached a preamble to the ratification law, expressing loyalty to the international policies that De Gaulle is against.

Erhard Took Over

Then Erhard took over. In Germany, where religious differences often underline political disagreements, it was perhaps significant that Erhard and his team were largely Protestant. De Gaulle, Adenauer and their backers are largely Catholics.

Erhard and the men around him—all younger than Adenauer and De Gaulle—seem more concerned with taking an effective part in the power conflicts of today than in reconciling the hatreds of yesterday. They are impressed with the fact that the United States and Britain keep nine divisions of troops on the continent as a pledge of their involvement in its affairs.

The American and British troops, the U. S. atomic submarines, the U. S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean, the great complex of American nuclear weapons—all these seem to Erhard and his supporters the best guarantee of security they can get.

They do not want to endanger it by getting too close to De Gaulle. They see no advantage in teaming their own 11 divisions, lacking nuclear weapons, with the small and repeatedly vanquished French army which has still to get its first H-Bomb.

Still the French-West German Treaty went into effect, with the frequent high level meetings it prescribes. Cooperation moved forward on things like the exchange of students and TV programs, but it failed to solve serious differences.

Disagreements

Disagreements about the limited ban on nuclear tests. France did not. The two countries still disagree sharply on the basic issue in the Common Market—how to set uniform prices for grain.

They could not get together on proposals for a European political union.

Nor has there been much progress in military cooperation. France and West Germany failed to agree on a battle tank and are now working at competitive models. The French put out feelers to see what help they could get in developing their atomic force. They drew in the feelers quickly when the

Love Affair



Despite centuries of conflict, France and Germany signed a treaty of friendship 18 months ago. Their attachment has cooled recently prompting the question on the part of some observers: What can she see in him and what can he see in her?

Great Britain Has National Mouse Club!

LONDON, (INANA)—"Humm. She's got nice, bold eyes. Carries herself well. Nice long shape. The ears are good. Her color's wee bit off, though. And I'm afraid tail's got a clear kink."

With that last pronouncement, the owner shook his head in defeat, and the offending tail seemed to droop despondently. That mouse wasn't going to win a prize.

The judge was passing his judgment at a show of the National Mouse Club of Great Britain. Founded in 1895, the mouse club is experiencing new popularity, and now has 350 members.

These 350, though, are the connoisseurs of the mouse-keeping world, far removed from the schoolboys who keep white mice in the garden. They raise mice only for breeding and showing fancy mice, they call them. They don't dote on them as pets, and scorn to teach them tricks. They are not mouse-lovers so much as mouse-proud.

This is a working-class hobby, found mostly in the smoky industrial cities of northern England, where people also keep rabbits, guinea pigs and pigeons. The secretary of the mouse club is Mr. Percy Ashley, a 75-year-old retired railroad man who lives in Manchester and grey, silver, and for the 200 miles down to London for shows on his motor scooter.

These shows, the purpose of the club's existence, are a very serious business indeed. A visitor who jokingly suggested introducing a cat, was "frozen."

There are silver cups as prizes, and several categories of entries.

A mouse is judged on its color, condition, coat, shape and carriage eyes, ears, muzzle and tail. There are 40 recognized col-

club is Mr. Percy Ashley, a 75-year-old retired railroad man who lives in Manchester and grey, silver, and for the 200 miles down to London for shows on his motor scooter.

OVER 200 MILLION LACK GOOD WATER

GENEVA—More than 200 million people suffer from a lack of good drinking water, the World Health Organization reports. To provide a proper piped supply by 1970 to twice as many city dwellers as now have it would cost \$400 million a year.

Secondgrader's Knowledge Of Chemistry Is Startling

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Scott Jonathon Sherman is a pug-nosed 7-year-old who is four feet tall and weighs 50 pounds and is a genius in chemistry.

Only Secondgrader

Scott, who is only a second-grader, started his pediatrician a few months ago by asking him questions about acid base reactions and organic chemistry. Since then he has become the pet of Dr. Leo Schubert, head of the chemistry department at American University here.

"He's a genius -- an authentic genius," Dr. Schubert told UPI in an interview. "There's no question in my mind that only one out of 100,000 kids are in his level."

Dr. Schubert estimates Scott's IQ at 200. The average IQ is 100.

Scott visits Dr. Schubert at the university once a week. "I talk to him and let him do lab work," the professor said. "But mostly we just talk. He asks me questions about things and I tell him."

Dr. Schubert also lends Scott college chemistry books -- which he devours the way other 7-year-olds do Donald Duck comics. "He's quite capable of handling a freshman-level course in college chemistry," Schubert said.

Opportune Grocery

Scott is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Burton Sherman. They operate a grocery in a Washington suburb. Neither parent attended college. He has two sisters, Arlene, 17, a high school senior in the fall, and Janet, 19, an education major at the University of Maryland, who are "just real good average students," according to their mother.

Mrs. Sherman admitted she can't understand her son's precociousness. "He's very normal and average otherwise," she said.

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