

Public Library Places Accent on World Trade Week

Five display cases at the Baldwin Public Library will feature world trade during World Trade Week in Birmingham. Four displays, one for each point of the compass, will suggest products from abroad important to American consumers and a fifth display has been developed around the idea that books are bridges to better world understanding. The displays have been worked out by Miss Linda Moore, assistant li-

brarian, and Miss Ruth Watson of the library staff. A collection of books, pamphlets and magazines concerned with world economic problems and world trade has been set aside for the use of individuals and groups before and during World Trade Week.

Tung Oil Duty Free

Tung oil is the only one of five essential imported ingredients used in the making of paints, varnishes and lacquers which enters the U. S. duty free. At least 10 Michigan firms employ several thousand people in the manufacture of paints, lacquers and varnishes.

Final Call for Institute Dinner

Tomorrow is the last day for reservations for the Community Council Institute dinner at the Community House on January 25 at 6:30 when Prof. Dudley M. Phelps of the University of Michigan School of Business Administration will speak on "Rebuilding World Trade". Dinner tickets (\$1.00) may be secured by calling the Community House not later than five o'clock January 23. Persons not attending the dinner are invited to hear Prof. Phelps talk at 7:45 and remain for the world trade panel discussion which follows immediately.

Furniture Exports

Michigan firms making furniture, one of the oldest enterprises in the state, benefited when Canada reduced duties on wood and wood products as a result of reciprocal trade agreements. Canadian imports of such articles from the United States had increased by a third, according to statistics of the U. S. State Department, three years after the agreement was reached. Seventeen other countries have granted concessions benefiting this American industry.

Because World War II created vast changes in Michigan's productive facilities and changed the character of the United States trade with many countries, figures and statistics used on these World Trade pages have been taken for the most part from the pre-war period 1938-39. Sources used are the Census of Manufacturers and Census of Agriculture, the U. S. Department of Commerce and the U. S. Department of State.

Foreign Trade Policies Can Determine the Fate of Our Civilization

By Gordon R. Pennington

(Editor's Note: This is the fourth and final article in a series by Gordon R. Pennington of Bloomfield Hills, chairman of the Engineering Improvement Committee of the Chrysler Corporation, with which he has been associated for the past 14 years.)

Now that mankind has acquired weapons capable of destroying entire cities within a few seconds, all economic and political issues have necessarily become subordinate to our first objective of maintaining peace.

Our foreign trade, which has been important to us primarily because of its contribution to our standard of living, has now become transcendently important as the way to peace. If foreign trade were not the powerful factor which it is in bringing the peoples of the world into closer cooperation, it would not justify as much concern as it does from every American citizen. World trade can be the catalyst of world unity.

Will Want Some Trade
We could be very nearly self-sufficient economically if we domesticated the world. We must continue to import some vital raw materials such as tin, manganese and graphite, which are not available within our borders. We will continue to wish to import Irish linen, Scotch whiskey, French wines, which we cannot ourselves duplicate in quality. We also want real silk, natural rubber and other things which we do not produce. These commodities are essential

to our economy but the problem of obtaining them in sufficient quantity need give us little concern. The countries which supply them are only too anxious to send these commodities to us to obtain our products—dollar—exchange, they call it.

Furthermore, the vast sums we have already loaned abroad could go a long way toward paying for such purchases. Whether our foreign policy be wise or stupid, we shall not lack the funds or the coffee, or any other foreign articles we desire. Antagonism on the part of our statement, or lack of it, will affect the price we pay for what we import. However, the total effect upon our standard of living will not be very great. For us the foreign trade issue is no longer primarily an economic one.

Must Consider Influence
If we are to see clearly the true importance of our foreign trade we must consider its influence on the most critical issue of war or peace—of our survival or destruction. International trade cannot, of itself, compel peace, but it can assist in the relationship between nations which is the prerequisite to peace.

And what is that prerequisite? It has existed for such a long time between the several states of our Union and we take it so much for granted that most of us have lost sight of its basic importance. It is the complete freedom for people residing in any area to move at will, without any political hindrance whatsoever, into any other

area in which they may prefer to live and acquire there the same civil rights as those enjoyed by others who may have preceded them. If Ohioans could set up immigration restrictions against the citizens of Michigan, there would soon be trouble between our two states. Before long many Michiganders would come to believe that Ohioans had secured some advantages at their expense, or vice versa. Envy, on one side of our common border, or the other, could lead to armed conflict if there were no federal government to prevent such an occurrence.

But as long as each of us is free to enter either state and participate in real or fancied advantages which it may offer, any disparity of opportunity between the two states could not be ground for discord. The residents of the less favored side of the border would simply cross the line.

Until all of the peoples of the world possess the same degree of freedom to move at will to any part of the world which they believe offers them greater opportunities, there can be no permanent peace. Every barrier which is set up to restrict the free movement of individuals across borders will also, sooner or later, build up enmities and consequently hatred, which must lead to conflicts.

The political systems which are now the most immediate threats to the progress of mankind towards a better life would not be maintained if every individual and his family could leave any region in which he felt himself to be oppressed and could relocate anywhere else he chose. Dictatorships could not survive that freedom.

Not in Our Lifetimes
Humanity is still very far from the realization of this basic freedom of unrestricted movement. Even we in these United States which have been called the melting pot, are not yet mentally prepared to accept the idea. Sadly, there

has been a steady decrease during the past century in the freedom to change one's residence. National governments have set up increasingly arbitrary controls over immigration and emigration. The prospect for the relaxation of these restrictions is not encouraging. The only tool which we can now use effectively to break down these barriers is foreign trade.

If we, in the United States are going to continue to take the lead in working for one world, the maximum possible extension of foreign trade must be our goal. We must now work for the extension, not primarily for economic reasons, but to increase that cooperation among the peoples of the world which alone can assure the continuation of our present civilization.

Barter a Detriment
The kind of foreign trade which (See PENNINGTON, Pg. 6, Pt. 3.)

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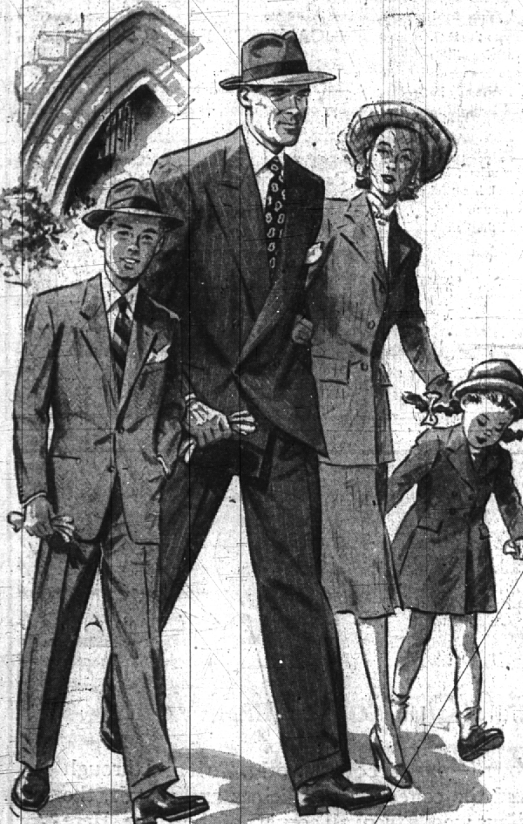
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Here's the way it works: When you exchange travelers checks for another country's currency, it's the same as depositing money to the credit of that country in U. S. banks.

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So, when you look at it realistically, World Travel is really a part of World Trade—the kind of circulation that's healthy for everybody!

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