

European Prejudices Fade In Shadow Of Red Threat

Ancient hatreds have bloodied Europe for centuries. Now, under the message of communism, the old animosities are tumbling down and the states draw closer to unification. And if it's more a marriage of reason than love, at least it's a marriage, reports Richard O'Brien of The Associated Press in this story of a series on Europe's boom.

By RICHARD O'BRIEN
AMSTERDAM (AP)—Locked inside their tight little borders, West Europeans generated prejudices about each other for centuries.

Now their world is opening up and their national hates and emotional rivalries are disappearing. Millions of Germans—not all of course—often used to think of the French as dirty, erotic and decadent. They saw some attractions in French culture, but more often than not they regarded the "Boche" as bull-headed, arrogant and conceited.

The French on the other hand saw the Germans had contributed much to the world in the way of music and philosophy, but there was an inclination to regard the "Boche" as bull-headed, arrogant and conceited. The Hitler murderers only bowed to French convictions.

Today, 17 years after the war, national prejudice is still strong and persuasive. In the mass, however, Europeans appear to have become aware in the last 10 years that prejudice is a dead dog. They seem to have concluded that, in the nuclear age, Western Europe has only one way to go. That is to abandon national bias and work together.

CHANCE CONCEPT
Instead of their negative attitudes toward each other, a great many Europeans have substituted a positive concept: Unity Europe, but preserve our national cultures and differences.

This correspondent, on a tour of Western Europe, talked to government leaders, social scientists, industrialists, priests, farmers, miners, students and the inevitable man in the street. They backed up completely

the conclusions of the limited number of public opinion polls which have been made on the subject: Europeans want to forget and are forgetting the hates of the past.

Professor Bartholomew Landheer, an eminent Dutch sociologist and head of the Peace Library in The Hague, summed it up.

"What has happened is that West European nations haven't any real power struggles among themselves any more. The colonies are almost gone. There is nothing much to quarrel about. Now we see we have to work together."

It used to be said that the Austrians hated the Czechs, the Czechs hated the Hungarians, the French hated the Dutch, the Yugoslavs hated the Greeks and so on—but everybody hated the Germans. And the greatest disagreement was that between France and Germany.

"We have forged a marriage of reason," said a French historian. "This does not mean that we are falling over each other in love. But we have joined together to wipe out the eternal menace of war on the Rhine."

APPLAUD DE GAULLE
France's General de Gaulle put it this way during a recent tour of Germany in which he was cheered, applauded and welcomed almost as a long-lost brother.

"Time will go by and the wounds will be healed, but the wounds are deep and the healing time will be long."

If you tour Europe, you still can hear traces of bitterness in many places against the Germans.

"I can never forget what the Germans did to us Dutch," said a Netherlands diplomat.

"And I cannot forget what they did to my Jewish relatives," said a young Belgian girl.

"Those Germans," said a French manufacturer, "they still live like they drive: Hard-headed and brutal. They take the right of way, step on the gas, and run over anybody in their way."

DEAD ISSUE
On the other hand, a French teacher said:

"In my class, Hitler is a dead issue. Only the British seem to want to keep him alive. My students travel to Germany and find their German companions friendly and eager to know about France. Neither group seems to fear they are going to have to face each other across the trenches again one day."

The great upsurge in travel and the international exchange of people and labor in Europe is helping to increase understanding.

Said a German factory manager:

"Since my boy went hitchhiking in France, he thinks French art, movies, plays and manners are the only culture left in Europe."

Optimistic Report Presented On Economic Growth Outlook

PARIS (Reuters)—The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development has issued a pessimistic report saying a target of 50 per cent economic growth by 1970 was "well within the physical capabilities of member countries."

But the report warned against complacency and said the goal would not be achieved unless United States expansion was speeded up.

Steps to provide new impetus for U.C. economic growth was the dominating topic at the opening session of the two-day meeting of the 20-nation OECD.

The OECD's members are the U.S., Canada and 18 nations of Western Europe.

A conference spokesman said the attending ministers devoted special attention to the case of the U.S., which takes a 40 per cent share of the organization's expansion program.

WOULD FIT IN
Canada's Justice Minister Donald Fleming told the meeting a much-favored labor-management incomes policy was likely to fit into Canada's federal system.

The policy, which one delegate described as "fair shares"

"You can, in fact, hear some young students say: 'We're European's first, French, Germans or Dutch only second.'"

"of the cake" for everybody, consists of encouraging each country to persuade both labor and management to accept reports saying a target of 50 per cent economic growth by 1970.

Fleming, who acted as chairman of the meeting, said: "While we are watching, great interest the experiments in other countries in introducing an incomes policy, it questions whether such a policy could be applied in Canada under existing circumstances."

Fleming said the difficulty of applying such a policy was partly due to the practice of "plant-by-plant negotiations for wages, but more particularly to the wide responsibilities which our provinces, under our federal constitution, bear in this field."

HIGH POINT

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The portrait of the late Senator J. Walter Jones, for ten years Premier of his native Prince Edward Island, is observed by his son Boyver (Bus) of Charlottetown, after travelling in the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame at the Royal Winter Fair, Toronto. Equally famous as a breeder of Holstein Cattle and

National Development Bd. Resolution Reaches House

OTTAWA (CP)—The government's throne speech promise of a national development advisory body has reached the House in a resolution sponsored by Finance Minister Nowlan.

Touching only briefly on the makeup of the board, Mr. Nowlan said it would have to be headed by a person of "recognized national standing."

Permanent members also would be chosen on the basis of being recognized leaders in the country's economic life. There would be provision for temporary

staff from universities, the business community and private organizations to ensure a steady "flow of ideas and proposals."

The board's objects would be to "investigate, analyze and report on the prospects of the economy as a whole" to provide the government with guidelines to formulate policies.



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