

Foreign Ministers' Conference Included Thirty-One Meetings

GENEVA (Reuters)—The Big Four foreign ministers' conference, which opened here May 11 and went into adjournment Saturday, included 16 plenary meetings and 13 secret sessions during the 41 days.

Apart from these formal discussions, ministers met informally in varying pairs, threes or fours over meals.

The conference opened with a wrangle over the shape of the table to be used at sessions. The issue involved an implied recognition of East Germany by the three western powers.

The two German delegations sat not at the plenary meetings, but on the private sessions.

May 12: Andrei Gromyko of Russia proposed Polish and Czechoslovak representation at the conference. In the face of Western resistance he dropped this proposal.

May 14: The West submitted a step-by-step "package plan" for uniting Berlin and reunifying Germany. The plan also included disarmament proposals and measures against surprise attack.

May 15: Gromyko rejected the western plan. He introduced a draft peace treaty for signature separately by the two German states and proposed for a "free city" of Berlin, from which Western troops would be withdrawn. This draft treaty was first published by Russia in January.

May 22: The West gave further details of its package plan and declared it would not discuss the Soviet draft treaty.

May 26: Gromyko and Britain's Selwyn Lloyd at a private meeting decided that a Big Four restricted session should be held on the return of the four ministers from Washington where they attended the funeral of John Foster Dulles the next day.

May 28: The four ministers met President Eisenhower at the White House and had private talks during the flight back to Geneva.

May 29: The four ministers

and the news of the agreement, secret talks, which it was hoped would produce better progress than the speech-making of semi-public plenary sessions.

June 4: The West offered "a limit, though not to cut, the size of their occupation garrison in West Berlin."

June 9: Gromyko proposed a one-year continuation of western occupation rights in Berlin while an all-German committee prepared reunification and a peace treaty. At the end of a year, failing agreement by the committee, Russia would sign a peace treaty with East Germany.

June 10: The West rejected this, and refused to negotiate under the duress of a one-year deadline.

June 11: Christian Herter of the

United States informed Gromyko of the "serious view" the West took of the situation. The Soviet minister denied his new proposals were an ultimatum or threat.

June 16: Gromyko asked if the West intended to make any new proposals. The West handed Russia their "last offer" for an in-

SECOND SECTION

BRITISH LOCOMOTIVES
Railways in Britain had 16,004 steam locomotives in 1959, compared with 20,000 in 1948.

Police Use Tear Gas In Fight With Women

DURBAN, South Africa (Reuters)—Renewed disturbances hit the Durban area Monday as police used tear gas against 200 women and 15,000 Negroes started a bus boycott.

At the same time the government announced it had acquired 30 armored vehicles for police use.

The two incidents broke the lull following last week's riots in which four Negroes were killed and 18 persons injured in battles between police and rioters in poverty-stricken Cato Manor Township.

Police at Kwa Mashu Township used tear gas Monday against 200 Negro women demonstrators who were protesting against new municipal water meters. The township is one of several where Durban is trying to resettle some of the 80,000 who live in squalid native quarters.

Township manager E. G. Jenkins, who later received a deputation of the women, said "the major difficulty is that their income is low and water being metered assumes major proportions when you are living from hand to mouth."

NEGROES OBJECTED
The bus boycott was staged at Clermont Township, 16 miles from Durban. The Negroes protested against the proposed appropriation of land to build a bus sub-station.

About 400 women warned travellers that if they used the municipal buses they did so at their own risk.

The demonstrators were noisy but not threatening. Police were rushed to the spot.

A member of the Clermont Taxpayers Association pointed out that the land for the bus station "by act of Parliament . . . belongs to the Africans." He said the demonstrators were also protesting against the demolition of a cemetery "which has annoyed the women greatly."

Meanwhile, life in Cato Manor on the northern outskirts of Durban slowly returned to normal.

In Capetown, Justice Minister Charles Swart announced that his department had acquired 30 armored vehicles for police use.

TRADE AGREEMENT NEAR
OTTAWA (CP)—Trade Minister Churchill reiterated Thursday that he hopes soon to be able to announce conclusion of a trade agreement with Russia. He was replying in the Commons to Opposition Leader Pearson who asked whether a treaty has been signed to replace one that expired in February.

Mr. and Mrs. Eyard Thurber and family returned to their home in Truro N.S. after spending the weekend visiting friends in Bloomfield and West Prince.

Mrs. Pearl Campbell who spent the winter months in Hamilton Ont. arrived here by plane where she will visit with relatives and friends for the summer.

L.A.C. Wenzel Harris and L.A.C. Wilfred Harris returned to their duties at Greenwood N.S. after spending the weekend at their respective homes with their parents Mrs. Isaac Harris Union Vale and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Harris O'Leary.

Mrs. Reginald MacAusland Mrs. Harry Arbing, Mrs. Errol Stetson and Mrs. Alban Craswell all from Bloomfield were among those attending P.E.I. Prebyterial in Trinity United Church Charlottetown.

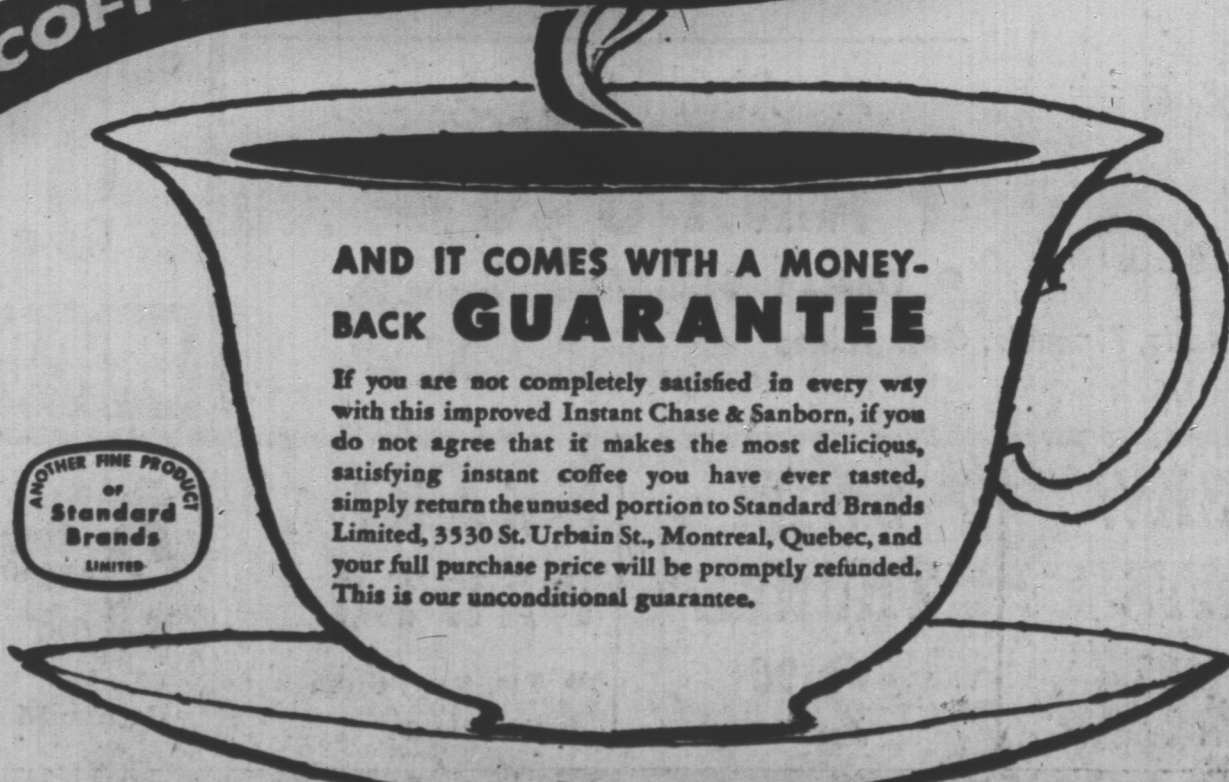
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