

# ATLANTIC TREATY NATIONS MEET

By the C.N. Diplomatic Correspondent

THE responsible Ministers of 15 countries will discuss their examination results when they meet in Paris next Monday as the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

This indeed is no fanciful way of stating what is about to happen in the progressive development of N.A.T.O. The examination was undertaken after the last full meeting of the Council of Ministers at Lisbon in February.

N.A.T.O. may be regarded as a kind of club in which each of the Powers agreed as members to state what they could do to further the plans considered essential for defending peace in the West. The answers have been submitted, checked, and analysed by panels of experts; and next week they will be reviewed by the Council.

Without any doubt these answers will bring some change of direction in policy. For both the defence plans and the economic plans made at Lisbon are likely to be thoroughly reconsidered in the light of new circumstances.

Whereas defence will be an important part of the discussion, stress will certainly be laid on the equally important need to examine the economic problems of the club and to rouse the community spirit among its members.

Priority tasks will be to find the best ways of sharing the cost, dividing the labour, and consulting more closely on economic matters.

This all means that the great Atlantic federation we call

N.A.T.O. is feeling its way towards a free world, with opportunities for real prosperity and progress but with no opportunity for putting peace in jeopardy.

The difficulties are tremendous. The Ministers, for example, must be aware that they have not yet succeeded in making the young men and women in their respective allied countries realise the high ideal behind the plans for adequate forces.

Though they feel no undue pessimism about the prospects, they and their governments feel that the defence arrangements should be more precise.

## THE REAL PRIZE

Until this is done, and the club is strong and confident, the consideration of those wider aims and ideals which would arouse the enthusiasm of youth seem destined to be postponed.

And yet all the Ministers are determined that, whatever the sacrifice, the real prize—freedom to make a new world in a vast free community—must be achieved.

For Britain, Mr. Anthony Eden, the Foreign Secretary, will go to Paris accompanied by Earl Alexander, the Defence Minister. Mr. R. A. Butler, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is to supervise our proposals on the economic side of the conference.

Mr. Churchill for his part has already made it clear that Britain's defence programme must be spread, and met, over a period of four instead of three years. The French Government, too, are particularly anxious for more economical methods in N.A.T.O.

## AMERICAN CONCERN

The new policies of the United States have yet to be formulated by the President-elect, Mr. Dwight Eisenhower, and Mr. Foster-Dulles, the Secretary of State. As the American rearmament programme has also been spread over a longer period they may well see the need for adjustments. The Americans are especially concerned with the hesitations in France and Germany for reaching a firm basis of understanding.

Opinion has been divided in Germany on what their policy should be, but Dr. Adenauer, the Chancellor of their Federal Republic, holds that the Germans should show their willingness to co-operate in the cause of peace. As a result there is now more confidence in France.

What all Ministers are prepared to do is to survey scrupulously and carefully the problems of the club as a whole, rather than treating members individually.

In this atmosphere the important meetings in Paris will begin next week.

# CARPET BUG ON THE CARPET

To live unobserved among giants a thousand times bigger than oneself, and to find that their clothes were made of plum pudding and mince-pies, would be a fine idea—so long as they did not notice the holes in their garments.

Something like that has happened to a little-known bug that is born in a bird's nest and grows up to eat carpets and clothes. All seems to have gone well with it until lately, when it attracted the notice of the Pest Infestation Division of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Sometimes called the Carpet Beetle, it is a tiny creature between one-sixteenth and one-eighth of an inch long. It can wreak enormous havoc on fabrics of many kinds. In Yorkshire it has caused great damage in stores of wool, and in private houses it feasts on fur coats, carpets, and any kind of clothes put away for a period.

## LIKES WARMTH

It likes a warm billet such as a hot-air cupboard with a lavish food supply in the form of clothes, or hot-water pipes wrapped round with material.

The young carpet beetle, or buffalo bug, or woolly bear, as it is also called, generally makes its way to an attic when it leaves the bird's nest, and feeds on such hard tack as suitcases. But as it grows older it learns better, and makes its way to the warmer and more succulent regions downstairs.

Alas, its life of snug feasts is likely to end as the scientists devise methods of exterminating it.

## AN OLD EXPLORER PASSES ON

Dr. Sven Hedin faced death many times in distant lands, but he has died at home in his native Sweden at the ripe age of 87.

He was famed for his exploration of wild and little-known regions of Central Asia. He crossed the Takla Makan desert in Sinkiang—visited by Marco Polo—made the first detailed map of Tibet, and discovered the sources of the Indus and the Brahmaputra.

He was also a great writer, some of his books on the lands he explored becoming classics. Geographical societies in many countries honoured him.

## HIS OLD BUSH HAT

Field-Marshal Sir William Slim is keeping his baton, but he has given to the County Military Museum at York the bush hat he wore in the momentous Burma campaign.

This neat-looking hat, together with a signed photograph of the Field-Marshal wearing it, now holds a place of honour in the display of the West Yorkshire Regiment, of which he is colonel-in-chief. Sir William wore this hat all through the big, decisive battles of Kohima, Imphal, Mandalay, Meiktila, and in the dash down to Rangoon.

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# News from Everywhere

## LUMBERJACK SCHOOL

Students from 18 Far Eastern countries are now studying modern lumbering methods at a training centre at Manila, Philippines. They will also be taught the rudiments of road and rail construction.

An ankle-length coat of finest Welsh wool which was first worn by a Shrewsbury man in 1865 is still worn constantly by his grandson.

Sixteen-year-old David Dick, of Mains o' Throsk, Stirling, recently beat 32 men in winning a first prize at the British national ploughing championships.

The falling of rock in a cave near Ischia, Viterbo, Italy, has revealed a forgotten church of the 11th or 12th century.

## RARE BATH NIGHT

Between seven and eight per cent of Britain's population take a bath less than once a week, says a Government report.

A bicycle of transparent plastic is being produced in Holland.

Over 8000 relics of passenger travel in London through the years will be exhibited at Euston Station next year.

Cod liver oil is being supplied to miners at Atherton, Lancashire. Officials hope it will keep down colds and so maintain good attendance.

## THRILLER!

An unopened pay packet was a bookmark in a book returned to Irchester Library, Northamptonshire.

The vicar of Hellesdon, Norwich, has plans for turning the disused local railway station into a Sunday School.

London schoolchildren are being tested for the choir of 1000 boys and girls who will sing at a Coronation Concert at the Royal Albert Hall next June.

## NO PROGRESS

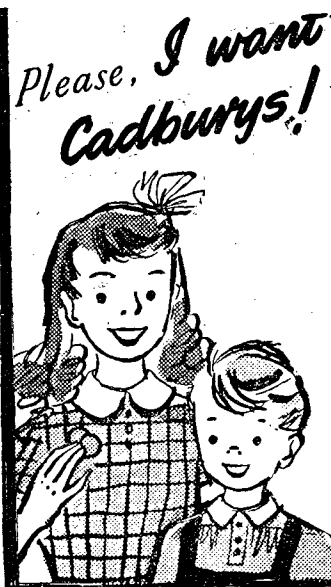
People of Toronto reported that an airplane was in trouble when they saw it flying backwards. Later the pilot said that he was flying at 65 m.p.h. into a 75 m.p.h. wind.

A collection of over 1000 prehistoric implements—flint axes, arrowheads, and so on—have been presented to Scunthorpe Museum. All of them were found in and around this Lincolnshire town.

Zurich will honour our Coronation next year with a festival which will include a British industrial exhibition, performances of British music, plays, and films, a British art show, and a sports match against a British team.

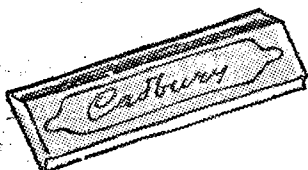
## SKILFUL SIX

Six brothers who are bus-drivers in Manchester have all won diplomas for safe driving.



Please, I want Cadburys!

Yes, they both want Cadburys Milk Chocolate, because they love its beautiful creamy taste. And Cadburys make milk chocolate bars which fit in well with young people's pocket money. So when you call in for your weekly ration, just say 'I want Cadburys, please!'



## A ROUND Colour Box for Christmas!



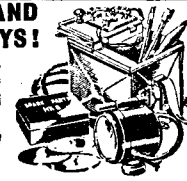
Here is something new in colour boxes: circular and made of ivory-toned plastic. The top unscrews with half a turn and when reversed can be used as a palette and water cup. The "Ostwald Circle Box" contains ten tablets of clear, easy-flowing colours and twelve deep mixing wells.

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## WHAT A GRAND PRESENT, BOYS!

Get Dad to buy you one. Hours of entertainment and fun.



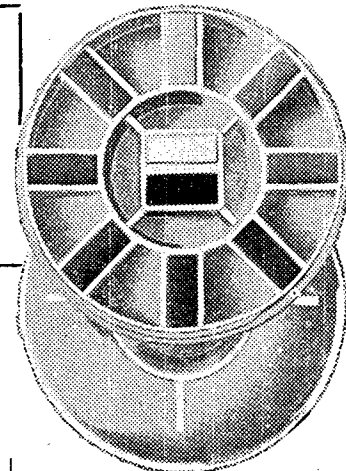
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