

U. S. Foreign Trade Pacts To Continue, Boykin Says

Congressman Says Plan Of Reciprocal Agreements Is Excellent Idea

Reciprocal trade agreements between this country and foreign nations will be continued, Rep. Frank W. Boykin of Mobile predicted Saturday.

The congressman, speaking to the Mobile County Joint Legislative Council at the Hotel Admiral Semmes, said:

"With the Democratic administration in full control of both Houses of Congress and the executive branch of the government, it is believed that the reciprocal trade agreements will be continued.

"If it were possible for all nations to live together in peace and harmony and all pay their workers a decent and adequate wage and all have a high standard of living, there would be much less incentive or reason for war."

The principle of reciprocal trade agreements is "excellent," Boykin said, but all nations involved must live up to their parts of the bargains.

"Of course, we cannot police the internal affairs of any other country from whom we purchase goods," the congressman continued.

"However, if some arrangement could be made to insure their paying their workers on a par with what we pay our workers, the

danger of dumping products made with slave labor could be minimized."

Relations between the U. S. and Canada, Boykin asserted, "prove that two nations can live side by side in peace and harmony and the reciprocal trade agreements could be made an important part of our future peace efforts."

Oil-Producing State

In his talk, Rep. Boykin touched on a wide range of matters from the record of the eightieth Congress, which he described as excellent, to a reiterated prediction that Alabama will become an important oil-producing state.

The congressman also said he did not fear reported purges of Democrats who supported States' Rights candidates, that he is continuing efforts to block a proposal that foreign ships be used in transporting Marshall Plan goods and that he plans to "stay close" to President Truman.

Among other things, Boykin said, 21 million dollars have been made available by the U. S. Public Roads Administration for road construction in Alabama, and that "all the state of Alabama must do is match dollar for dollar to get it."

At the conclusion of his address, Mrs. J. J. Tyson, president of the council, called on Frank Keeler, president of the Mobile County School Board, to act as moderator in an open forum discussion with Boykin.

Twenty-one women's organizations were represented at the meeting.