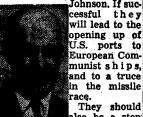
The Washington Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON POST Saturday, Dec.

Pact May Ports to Kussia

By Drew Pearson and

Jack Anderson The most important negotiations with Soviet Russia since



Johnson, If suc-

Pearson toward achieving the peace which men talk back about at the Christmas season but do so little that is tangible to obtain.

In preparation for these discussions, President Johnson went to some pains last fall to select the new American Ambassador to Moscow.

First he talked with vari ous experts, who told him that it was important to get an Ambassador who understood the Russian language and who when invited to spend a weekend on the Black Sea with the chairman of the Communist Party would not have to take his own interpreter

along. five terms as Ambassador dur-

ing the Khrushchev regime. agreed to between the United now trying to make up for difficult to persuade Thomp-son to take the job, since he posed to be announced simul-

seaseful they the President got a phone call was sore. will lead to the from Secretary of Defense opening up of McNamara, who was familiar U.S. ports to son. McNamara said that he furnes at a dinner party. He asked and to a truce at a dinner party. He asked the President got a phone call was sore. in the missile if her husband would be will. They've been asking how it is munist ships can enter only

They should information replied that her with the same time we are in-also be a step husband is a patriotic man at the same time we are in-toward achiev, and joked that if he didn't go creasing our bombing raids which men talk back when the President over the Communist country which men talk asked him she would leave of North Vietnam. him.

Next called Thompson to the White ing Soviet concern over the House, asked him to serve in Chinese border. The leak was Moscow once again. Thompson immediately denied by the bring an outcry from the right lived up to his wife's predic State Department, but the wing in the United States, and tion. He accepted.

-first to undo some recent is to have the rest of the The third important move lunders in Soviet-American Communist world know that which the United States is blunders in Soviet-American relatiosn; second, to put across they have talked to the United making to an all-important agreement.

U.S. Blunders

He will have to tackle Chairman Brezhnev, Premier Kosygin, and Foreign Minister Gro-The President then asked myko at a time when these Secretary Rusk who was the top leaders of Russia are best qualified man. Rusk re-miffed at the United States. plied without hesitation that They are miffed because of he was Llewellyn (Tommy) inexcusable blunders as fol-Thompson, who had served lows: **U.S. Open Ports** 1. The recent space treaty

Rusk added that it might be States and the Soviet was sup. these blunders. has passed retirement age and taneously in Moscow and the time being we are not getthe Test-Ban Treaty are about was looking forward to a more Washington. Instead, someone ting into the race for an antito be launched by President relaxed life with a university, at the Texas White House missile system-at least not Late one evening, however, jumped the gun. The Kremlin until Ambassador Thompson

He is now preparing to consternation in Moscow. The cally leave shortly after Christmas last thing the Russians want move. States about the possibility of protecting the Soviet-Chinese border. To have the United Germany. Germany, with west border, To have the United Germany, Germany, or the states involved, even re-motely, in coming to the aid of Russia against China at the the Germans that they try to time we are fighting Asians allay Russian suspicions and in Vietnam tends to drive work together. Asian countries over to the side of China.

The State Department

In the first place, we have assured the Kremlin that for can discuss the whole matter ing to go back to Russia. Mrs. possible to improve relations two American ports, and even Thompson replied that her with the Communist countries so it takes them one month to

3. A leak from the Johnson- cept for those such as Pearl day the President Gromyko discussions regard-Harbor which are fortified." President Johnson is fully aware that such a move will story was accurate and caused from maritime unions. Politiconsternation in Moscow. The cally it will not be a popular

> making to improve Soviet-American relations is to help smooth relations with West

Drew Pearson will quote some of the pages censored (from the Manchester book at 6:40 p.m. today over Radio WTOP.

C 1966, Bell