

The Term 'Statism' Dons Coat Of Another Color

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These certainly are fast moving times in which we live—so fast, in fact, that frequently fixed ideas which we hold one day go up in smoke with the morrow's dawn.

What set your columnist off on this melancholy thought is the confusion that has arisen as a result of a new definition of the word "statism"—a subject which has drawn complaints recently in the writings of several political observers. Most of us were brought up on the definition which is given in my unabridged Webster: "Belief in a state government, as in a republic, in contrast with belief in communism or a Soviet government."

New Definition
Now, without much warning, we find this definition reversed by many folk, because of its comparatively recent usage in restricted but prominent circles. Some of our diplomats in Washington have been using it, and the president of Columbia university (General Eisenhower, that is) has employed it at least twice in recent speeches.

It would be interesting to know just when the "reverse English" was first put on the old definition of "statism." I noted its use in Washington maybe two years ago, and since then it has cropped up on numerous occasions.

Faced with two definitions I turned to the dictionary department of Funk and Wagnalls here in New York for light on the subject. I was told that the new definition has indeed come into use and that the House's "new College Standard Dictionary" defines statism as follows:

Meaning Stated
First meaning: "A theory of government which holds that the returns from group or individual enterprise are vested in the state, as in communism."

Secondary meaning: "Loosely, adherence to state sovereignty, as in a republic."

Well, there you are. You can pay your money and take your choice. The trouble with two opposed definitions is that confusion must arise unless the context of the speech or article makes clear which definition is being employed.

Of course "statism" is only one of the words (many of them political) which have undergone changes since the war. Take that term "fascist," for example. Originally that applied only to the political doctrine developed by Mussolini. But because Mussolini created fascism to combat communism, Moscow started to use "fascist" as synonymous with "anti-communist."

Thus gradually "fascist" has become a generic term among communists for anyone or anything which is in opposition to communism. That's a fact which a lot of folk don't recognize in employing this widely used word.

Friendship Everlasting, Labor Head Tells British

BRIDLINGTON, Eng., Sept. 9.—(AP)—Dave Beck, an American union leader, told British labor that "there can be no barrier formidable enough to stop the everlasting friendship of our people."

Beck, of Seattle, Wash., is vice-president of the U. S. Teamsters union and one of the leaders of the American Federation of Labor.

He brought formal greetings from the AFL today to the 81st annual meeting of the British Trades Union congress.

"Labor in Great Britain," he said, "has continued to present to the world an inspiring example of fortitude, self-sacrifice and devotion to the principles of democracy."

"It is an example in which free labor, in America as elsewhere, takes great fraternal pride."

Railroad Discloses Derailment Attempts

MONROVIA, Calif., Sept. 9.—(AP)—The Santa Fe disclosed two more in a series of attempted derailments on its main line near here.

They said a steel running board three feet wide was found on the tracks last Saturday, and reported another discovery last night, of which they would give no details.

For months, officers have been investigating similar incidents in this vicinity. There have been no accidents.

Port Of Florence Has First Lumber Freighter

FLORENCE, Sept. 9.—(AP)—A cargo of lumber today was being stacked aboard the first ship to be loaded at this port in 13 years.

It was the C-Coaster, which put in here after the rather shallow harbor was deepened. The mayor, the port officials, and the Boy Scout drum and bugle corps turned out to welcome the ship.

Another ship will take on lumber here Sept. 13.

Korea On Verge Of Barbarous War, Says U. N.

LAKE SUCCESS, Sept. 9.—(AP)—The United Nations Korean commission said today a "barbarous civil war" might explode in Korea any day as a result of the "hardening" relations between north and south.

The commission frankly told the general assembly that two years of U. N. efforts had failed to ease the conflict between the communist-dominated northern zone and the republican government in the south.

In its 34-page annual report it said: "The embittered propaganda and hostile activities which now mark relations between the two parts of Korea render the prospect of unification more and more remote."

On the contrary, the commission said, the two zones are engaged in a bitter arms race and "there is much military posturing on both sides" of the 38th parallel, which separates the two zones.

"This holds a serious danger of provoking open military conflict," the report said. "Military conflict in Korea would mean the most barbarous civil war."

Stars Blame Hollywood Over Domestic Trouble

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 9.—(AP)—Audie Murphy, World War II's most decorated G.I., and his actress bride, Wanda Hendrix, both blame Hollywood for their domestic troubles.

But the film capital has been doing its best to keep their hearts beating as one. The past week they have been working together

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Resourceful Policeman Pays Off In Arrest

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 9.—(AP)—Resourcefulness paid off for City Detective Deward Scanlong.

He was asked by Youngstown, O., police to pick up a man named Ronald Curry, believed to be aboard a Pittsburgh bound train. He was charged with passing bad checks.

At the train depot, Scanlong was stumped. He had no description of Curry. So he called out: "Hey, Curry."

The wanted man stepped up and was promptly trundled off to jail.

on a film ("Sierra"), doing nothing but love scenes. They will appear as man and wife on the screen.

Following reports that the be-ribboned veteran and his bride of eight months might separate, Audie, 25, and Wanda, 20, clinched yesterday and made it known that their marriage is not a bust.

"As a matter of fact, a declared Wanda, "things are looking better for us than they ever have before."

Admiral Badger Favors China Aid

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—(AP)—Vice Admiral Oscar C. Badger said today he favors "keeping the door open" for possible arms aid to non-communist China.

Badger gave his views to the Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services committees. The two committees are drafting legislation for an arms program to strengthen friendly nations against Communism.

The Truman administration asks a \$1,450,000,000 measure, but has proposed nothing for China. Badger, former commander of U.S. naval forces in the Far East, talked with the senators behind closed doors. But he told a reporter he is on record as favoring possible arms aid to Chinese non-Communists.

Badger was called before the Senate committees at the request of Senator Knowland (R-Calif.) who is seeking to provide some arms aid for Chinese opposing the Communists.

Knowland conceded that administration forces might be able to persuade the combined committees to turn down his demand that arms aid for non-Communist

New Monthly Magazine Appears In Astoria

ASTORIA, Sept. 9.—(AP)—A new monthly magazine, the Columbia Press, appeared on the newsstands here Wednesday.

The magazine, a review of news in this region, is published by Oke Zatterlow, publisher of the Finnish newspaper Lannen Uutiset, and Walter Mattila, former Astoria newspaperman who is now marine editor of the Oregon Journal.

China be added to the pending bill.

Paul Robeson Is Burned In Effigy By Klansmen

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Sept. 9.—(AP)—Paul Robeson, the Negro singer, was burned in effigy Wednesday night by a small group of robed but unmasked klansmen.

It was the first public demonstration by the Klan in the Birmingham district since 18 men were indicted on flogging and related charges here several weeks ago.

A dummy bearing a placard, "Welcome Paul Robeson," was strung from one arm of a 20-foot

cross. Another dummy with a large question mark pinned on it was hung from the other arm. E. E. Campbell, exalted cyclops of the Robert E. Lee Klavern, told reporters the burning of the cross and dummies symbolized the welcome Robeson would receive if he came to Birmingham.

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