

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Stays Us No Fear Shall Ave"
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Trucks and Highway Costs

Some weeks ago The Statesman printed the report of road tests made in Maryland to determine the relative damage done to highways by trucks of increasing axle loads. The tests showed that the highway breakup increased in accelerated ratio as the axle load increased. In other words, heavy trucks require far heavier road construction than light trucks.

The Oregon Teamster, which naturally is sensitive to any publicity dealing with the trucking industry, says respecting editorial comment on these tests, that "editorial writers deliberately omitted or perhaps were not informed" on some additional facts regarding the tests. It supplies them as follows:

1. Although the actual tests lasted 79 days, the trucks were driven on the test highways at a volume of one truck per lane, per minute, 24 hours per day, seven days per week, without repairs or maintenance to the road.

2. This represented the equivalent of 21 to 24 years of normal use for the 44,800 lb. trucks. It represented 22 to 27 years of average highway traffic in the 32,000 lb. tandem axle class. And about 32 to 39 years of service in the 22,400 lb. single axle load class and 41 to 48 years of use in the 18,000 lb. single axle load tests.

The Statesman did not have this data when it expressed its opinion. But the data merely confirm its conclusion. The Teamster figures themselves show that lighter axle loads give a much longer life for paving. It adds that the stretch of Maryland road was restored at a cost of less than \$6000 a mile, but this figure has little meaning unless one knows the other factors involved such as length of the tests.

Freeze for Hell's Canyon Project

The closing of House committee hearings on the proposed Hell's Canyon Dam seals its fate for the present session of Congress. It may seal its fate permanently. Certainly in the present climate in Washington and Idaho and in part of Oregon there is little chance that the big government project on the Snake River will get authorization. The governor of Idaho and the state's congressional delegation are all against it. The powerful private utility, Idaho Power Company, is fighting it vigorously and is joined by other utilities and foes of spreading socialism. President Truman has endorsed it, the Interior Department and Corps of Engineers urged its construction; but Congress is in no mood to give it favorable consideration.

The hearings consisted largely of ex parte statements by the promoters and the enemies

of the project. There was no agreement on probable costs, on quantities of power which might be produced or on the quantity of water in the Snake needed for irrigation and available if the project was authorized. In this situation, committee members could sort out testimony to bolster their own convictions; but all agreed to lay the question aside for the present.

What is needed is some independent and unbiased survey which would provide Congress and the public with the engineering and economic data needed for arriving at a reasonable conclusion as to the merits of the proposal. This isn't wanted by those who are dead against all government hydroelectric development or by those who oppose private development of electric energy. But it is needed by those who, like ourselves, are primarily concerned with regional development.

For the present, however, Hell's Canyon goes into the political deep freeze locker.

Farming, the Good Life

There is nothing unexpected in the results of the Farm Journal's survey that showed 94 per cent of the nation's farm women expressing the belief that farming is the best life of all. It would be surprising if the survey had shown otherwise. But the concluding paragraph quoting an unnamed rural wife strikes an exceptionally nice chord: "Even in troubled times, working with the land gives you a feeling of peace and security."

A few replies complained of endless work, and some said they did not want their daughters to marry farmers because of "the low standard of speech and manners in some farming areas." Well, we've seen industrialists who murdered their English and weren't too socially polished—and we haven't noticed our valley farmers any less careful in such things than a lot of the rest of us, either.

An Idaho woman commented that: "We have a modern home, a telephone and bus service to take the children to school. College is only seven miles, and all our 11 children have attended." Few of us ever did that well, city or no city "advantage."

As we said, the survey results weren't surprising. And it isn't surprising, either, that a good many millions of other folk have their heart set on the rural life—most of them hopelessly. We'd say those who are on farms are fortunate indeed. The toll is heavy but the rewards are great in many, many ways—"working with the land gives you a feeling of peace and security."

They should rechristen the Pentagon the Sexagon. The high brass there opened up another side—and walked out through it on the touchy MacArthur-in-politics business. The Army declared its regulations against participating in political conventions do not apply to five-star generals on active duty but not on specific assignment. For MacArthur, in other words, it's King's Ex.

Headline: RUSS SAY SWEDES SHOT FIRST. That's one "first" the Russki do not claim for themselves.

Intensity of 'Hate America' Propaganda Worries Man Who Has Predicted Russ Post-War Moves

By JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSOOP

WASHINGTON—According to highly credible sources, George F. Kennan is a least seriously disturbed if not downright alarmed, as a result of his re-exposure to the post-war atmosphere of Moscow.

For several reasons, this first reaction of our new ambassador to the Soviet Union is immeasurably more significant than the first, or indeed the last impression of any ordinary diplomat. Kennan, after all, is a partner in the remarkable team of American experts on Russia—the other member is Charles E. Bohlen—whose opinions have gone so far to shape the policies of the Western World.

In his celebrated "Mr. X" article in the Foreign Affairs magazine, Kennan himself provided the public rationale of America's post-war dealings with Russia. Knowing more than almost any other diplomat about their subject, Kennan's and Bohlen's judgments have carried the greatest weight in London and Paris as well as Washington. On many occasions they have proven the acuteness of their perceptions. For instance, they both warned, forcefully but fruitlessly, that the Chinese would intervene in Korea if General MacArthur sent his armies to the Yalu.

Then too, this first reaction of Kennan's is important because of a peculiar phenomenon that is familiar to all diplomats, and, indeed, to all newspapermen who travel much abroad.

You can visit a foreign country with the greatest regularity. You can know all its leading men

and be closely acquainted with its history. You can see as you follow its trends and tendencies through labyrinthine documents. But when you return to this country you rarely fall to be taken by surprise by some unexpected change of focus, emphasis or atmosphere.

In judging a foreign country, there are no complete substitutes for breathing its air, smelling its smells and hearing its sounds—for the rude personal contact with the foreign reality. George F. Kennan, who was last assigned to the Moscow embassy in a subordinate post in the war years, has now undergone this renewed contact with the real thing. The result has been a change of emphasis.

The change of emphasis hardly amounts to more, according to reports, than an increase of worry, of concern, and indeed of uncertainty about what the next Soviet move may be. Yet this change in Kennan is as meaningful, in its way, as a sudden change in racing odds by the most expert bookmaker in the business.

Since he expressed them frankly and publicly, the views he held in 1947 have been left for Moscow are easy to summarize. While no dreamer of empty dreams about grandiose deals with the Politburo, Kennan then was sanguine about the possibility of negotiating specific Soviet-American differences. While perfectly clear, too, that the Soviets would never cease their customary sapping, mining and infiltrating, Kennan was also very confident that the Kremlin wished to avoid any risk of general war.

Here one must note an absolutely vital fact. Kennan's belief, that the Kremlin has been taught a lesson by Korea, and will hereafter avoid moves involving risk of general war, has been the central assumption of American world policy for a great many months. It heads the planning papers. It has determined the tempo of the defense effort. It is America's great calculated risk. Thus Kennan's doubts go to the very heart and source of our world-action.

The particular phenomenon that has most disturbed Kennan is understood to be the Soviet campaign of "Hate-America" propaganda, which apparently has to be seen at first hand to be believed. Only a few weeks ago all the propaganda stops were pulled out, so that the intensity of venom against America now equals the Soviet venom against the Nazis in war time. The American people and the American (instead of the conventional "Imperialist Wall-Streeters") have suddenly become the main propaganda targets. And these streams of venom are now, for the first time, being beamed squarely at the Russian people.

According to the high sources already mentioned, Kennan has made no final judgment on the future meaning of the fantastic "Hate-America" campaign and other unpleasant signs that the Kremlin is preparing its people for a time of peril. What has happened, apparently, is that Kennan's former confidence that the Kremlin would shirk major risks has been considerably diluted. Nor is this surprising, for one suspects Kennan argued himself into a certain over-positiveness in his constant and courageous struggle against the too simplified and extreme view of the Soviets which is common here.

None the less, Kennan's Moscow reaction is already producing a Washington reaction, judging by plain signs. For example, instead of happily promising peace in our time, President Truman has suddenly begun to sound almost as solemn as Winston Churchill, when he told the British people not long ago that they might find they were "dancing on a trap-door" under which yawned "the abyss." Moreover, even if such a man as Kennan is merely doubtful and uncertain, great questions obviously are posed. How heavily can we gamble, in short, on the at-least-arguable theory that the Kremlin will never risk a major war? How dangerous is it, in fact, to continue the present program of butter first and guns second? New York Herald Tribune, Inc. (Copyright, 1952.)

MONTH OF ROSES



Congressional Quiz

Q—Do doctors in uniform still get extra pay to sweeten the pill of military service?
A—Yes, if they entered service voluntarily—those drafted are not eligible. A House Committee June 9 approved a Senate-passed bill to extend the time in which doctors and dentists can begin service and still get the \$100-a-month extra. The Senate rejected a Paul H. Douglas (D-Ill.) move to top the bonus to \$5. Doctors and dentists don't experience dangers faced by infantrymen, he said.

Q—Is it true that a state convention can require its delegates to national political conventions to vote en bloc, regardless of the preference of the minority?
A—True only in the Democratic Party, which permits a state convention to instruct its delegation to use the "unit rule," under which all votes go according to the wishes of the delegation majority. However, in the 18 states where some or all of the delegates are chosen by popular vote, the delegates so chosen can not be bound by the unit rule, except that in some

states delegates are required by law to support the winner of the Presidential preferential primary.

Q—What did Senate probers decide about the surplus tanker sales deals?
A—The Senate's Investigating Subcommittee May 29 recommended "prompt and vigorous" Justice Department action on the surplus tanker deals it has been investigating. The report charged that a group headed by former Rep. Joseph E. Casey (D-Mass.) failed to pay from \$50,000 to \$1,400,000 in taxes through "intercompany manipulations," and that another group, in which Newbold Morris figured, paid only \$24.97 in federal taxes on a \$14 million business.

Q—I notice the only vote against House passage of a GI bill for Korean veterans was cast by a veteran. What was his reason?
A—Rep. James P. S. Devereux (R-Md.) who served in the Marines during World War II and is a member of the Veterans Affairs Committee which drafted the bill, objected to the method by which it was brought before the House. It was not subject to amendment. He favored the bill but opposed features which he said discriminated financially against a great number of veterans. The House passed the bill 361-1 on June 5.

Q—Does the new foreign aid bill include the Kenn amendment to put stricter curbs on trade with the Reds?
A—No. The Senate-approved amendment by James P. Kern (R-Mo.) was knocked out of the bill during a House-Senate conference. Existing legislation also bans such trade, but allows exceptions. The ban is enforced by cutting off aid to U. S. allies who send war-useful goods to Russia and its satellites. (Copyright 1952, Cong. Quarterly)

French Reds Watch Power Slipping Away

By J. M. ROBERTS JR., Associated Press News Analyst
French Communist leaders now confirm recent estimates that their power has fallen into a serious decline.

Two years ago the Communists decided to de-emphasize their campaign for participation in popular front governments in Europe in favor of militant action against Western re-mobilization.



They had been successful in Eastern Europe with the popular front method, by which Communists infiltrated coalition governments by control of fractional population groups, and then took over completely.

But the militants among them saw this as an extremely long-range job in such countries as France, Italy and Germany, and demanded action. They wanted strikes to interfere with European production and to halt the unloading of American military supplies. They wanted the political strike use to emphasize Communist strength and enforce Communist demands.

This put the spotlight on their loyalty to Moscow as against their own country, and alienated the average French worker who is a Frenchman before he is anything else. The Communist-controlled central labor organization lost its grip on the members. The militant Communists defeated themselves because they could arouse no popular support for their purely political strikes.

Some months ago the policy pendulum began to swing back toward political organizations rather than militant action. But the French militants continued to have at least part of their way until they were completely smacked down by the flop of two recent strike demonstrations.

Now the order apparently has come down from Moscow. With Jacques DuClos under arrest and Maurice Thorez ill in Moscow, Etienne Fajon, Moscow doctrine of the French party, has stepped forward with the word: Subordinate immediate objectives and get back to political organizing and the "peace offensive."

He says other orders, brought back to Paris by another party big-wig after a visit with DuClos, are a misinterpretation.

There is no indication that the fight between the "slow but sure" faction and the fanatics will end there. Internal dissension is now added to unpopularity as a Communist problem in France.

At the root of it lies the thing which, it seems to me, must eventually mark the end of the Russian hope for world conquest through revolution. Socialism might have its way among the masses if it were not a captive movement, controlled by the government of one country, and a ruthless totalitarian government at that.

Frenchmen may love a doctrinal fight. They might be willing to try some sort of Communism or Socialism at some time when the present system seems to have failed. But not if it involves becoming Russians. When the pro-Russian militants are forced into revealing that it involves just that, they have lost their fight, not only in France, but everywhere.

Better English

By D. C. WILLIAMS

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "Those sort of people always bore me."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "glower"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Sypli, sylvan, syllable, symmetrical.
4. What does the word "interminable" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with ref that means "unmanageable"?

GRIN AND BEAR IT by Lichty



"Very well... I'll take it back, Fignewton!... but it could have been paid for, long before you'll hear the last of it..."

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

off the Breitenbush road at Humbug Creek and climbing the mountain to Elk Lake. I haven't been over it for a number of years now, but recall no gate on it. However, there is a road up the Little Northfork as far as Pearl Creek guard station. At this point there is a gate. The road beyond goes through the Amalgamated claims and through national forest land. The mining company has gates at both sides of its property. The loop road beyond is a forest service road; and a gate is maintained at the crossing of the divide just above Elk Lake.

The forest service has its gates to control access to the forests, chiefly to protect them against fire. The loop road is not open to the public. It is a very poor road at best and the forest service does not have funds to use in maintaining it for public travel.

The mining company is a legitimate enterprise which has been carried on for years by J. P. Hewitt, a mining engineer. Extensive tunneling has been done. The company keeps up its assessment work but the mine has not been brought into commercial production. The only timber it can cut is for use in its own project, as for mine props.

Back to Elk Lake. I think the only reason it isn't used more is that it is hard to get to. If there is a gate on the Humbug Creek side it should be kept open except in the season of high fire hazard. Years ago the Salem YMCA used the lakeside for its boys' camp. Others go to gather huckleberries in season on Battle-axe mountain.

Its high location gives one a panoramic view of the high Cascades, with Battle-axe itself looming near at hand. Mt. Jefferson is dominant to the southeast and Olallie Butte rises to the east. I can't testify as to the fishing, but the swimming is surely invigorating.

The Enterprise is to be commended for publicizing Elk Lake. The road up the mountain to reach it is rough and steep, but to those who love the mountains the scenery amply rewards the traveler who reaches the lakeside. There are many other places of interest and beauty in our Santiam country—Breitenbush Lake, for instance, and the chain of lakes along the summit road leading to Clackamas Meadows and the Mt. Hood Loop highway. This summer is a good time to explore our own wonderland.

Russell Sees Small Chance For Tax Cuts

PORTLAND (AP)—Sen. Richard B. Russell of Georgia, a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, said Friday he didn't think a tax cut was possible at least until 1954.

Russell, here to confer with Democratic leaders, told a press conference: "I don't think it's possible during this rearmament program to have any tax cut in 1953 and possibly 1954. If I were president I could not conscientiously hold out for a tax reduction until this arms program is complete. This talk of cutting 40 million dollars or 15 per cent out of the budget is foolishness."

Russell said he believes Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, has made many mistakes in his campaign. "It won't go too good for him if he keeps up this 40 million dollar tax cut talk or this business of saying, as I'm told he did in Denver, that 'there is no more danger from Russia than from a pollywog swimming down a muddy creek.'"

Russell, who has not scheduled any public appearances here, told reporters that if a fair employment practices plank were included in the Democratic Party's platform, he would repudiate it.

He said he was sure though that Democrats would be able to write a platform that would be acceptable to all and behind which all Democrats could unite.

He will leave Saturday morning for Boise, Idaho.

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