

The Oregon Statesman

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"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Decline in Anthracite Use

Anthracite coal used to be considered the prime fuel particularly for household use. Virtually smokeless, with little ash, with high heat content, "hard" coal was the favorite fuel for the East and Midwest. We recall a doctor in Washington state, who had come from Pennsylvania, stuck to anthracite for heating his home, despite the high cost due to the long haul.

Owners of anthracite mines in Pennsylvania and the railroads which served them were among the country's financial barons around the turn of the century. There was George F. Baer, for instance, President of the Reading railroad, who stubbornly fought the miners' demands in the great strike of 1902 (which President Teddy Roosevelt broke through executive pressure). Baer's letter expressing his views on the strike epitomized the employer philosophy of the time. He wrote:

"The rights and interests of the laboring man will be protected and cared for — not by the labor agitators, but by Christian men to whom God in his infinite wisdom has given the control of the property interests of the country, and upon the successful management of which so much depends."

That gave him the sobriquet of "divine right" Baer, and brought a terrific reaction against the proprietorial interests.

Baer has long been dead. The anthracite monopoly was long since broken. And now hard coal mining has fallen on evil days. Production of 31 million net tons in 1953 was the lowest since 1881. One of the biggest mining concerns, Lehigh Coal and Navigation, has closed its mines. The reasons for the blight are first the competition of even more convenient fuels like oil and natural gas, and second the high cost of mining, for hard coal mining has been done at relatively great depths whereas a great deal of soft coal mining now is done in open cuts after stripping the top soil.

The whole coal industry is pretty sick, suffering from competition and its own high costs; but bituminous coal is still indispensable. Its present uses are chiefly in steel-making and electric generation. Some signs indicate its production has passed its low point. There seems little hope for the anthracite industry, however, until cost factors are more favorable, a time not now in sight.

"We let the Communists take over Indochina . . ." The Cops Bay Times includes this in a jeremiad on the decline of U. S. prestige abroad. If we feed ourselves that bunk the rest of the world may come to believe it as well as ourselves. The United States bears no responsibility for the Red takeover of Indochina. That was due to the indifference of the Vietnamese and the unwillingness of France to pay the price.

Ex-Ambassador Kennan Doubts Soviet Leaders Want War; Aim at Splitting West

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

WASHINGTON (AP) — George Kennan, former American ambassador in Moscow and an eminent authority on Russia, believes that Soviet hostility toward the United States is "bitter and deep" but that this "does not mean that the Soviet leaders want war."

In a book being published Monday, Kennan contends that the greatest danger presented to the United States and its allies by Russia today is the constant Soviet effort to split up the alliances of free nations and create division and conflict within each of the nations.

He also argues strongly for American foreign policies aimed at avoiding war, and in effect he makes an appeal to avoid any policy which would automatically mean use of atomic weapons if war did break out.

Kennan seemed at several points in his book to take issue either with administration policies or thinking which has been identified with the Eisenhower administration.

He broke with Secretary of State Dulles 18 months ago over Dulles' proposed policy of "liberation" for Communist satellite countries in Europe. Kennan then argued that such a policy pointed toward war.

Dulles and other Republican spokesmen meanwhile denounced a policy of "containment" of Soviet expansion which Kennan had originally conceived and which was the dominant policy toward Russia during the Truman administration.

The book being published by Princeton University Press is a compilation of four lectures which Kennan gave at Princeton earlier this year. It is called "Realities of American Foreign Policy."

Since his retirement from the Foreign Service in 1953 Kennan has been a member of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton. The institute is not connected with the university.

The theme of Kennan's philosophy of foreign policy as set forth in these lectures is that the United States must deal with the world in terms of hard reality not in terms of what it wishes the world to be like.

He deprecates what he considers an excessive reliance on the United Nations as an instrument of American policy and warns

against what he calls an American "yearning for relations from people to people, unmarred by the pernicious interference of governments" when in fact, he says, there is no way for people to speak to people except through their government.

Kennan also argues that the business of government "is a practical exercise and not a moral one."

In today's world, Kennan argues, the United States has to conduct foreign policy in what he calls "two planes of international reality." One of these embraces its relations with non-Communist nations bloc.

What this nation does in its own internal existence, he asserts, and what it does in its relations with friendly non-Communist nations have a decisive bearing, however, on its relations with the Communist bloc.

"Whatever we do that serves to bring hope and encouragement and self-confidence to peoples outside the Soviet orbit has a similar effect on peoples inside," Kennan says, "and constitutes the most potent sort of argument for prudence and reasonableness on the part of the Soviet leaders."

In this respect, he contends, containment—which is the policy of building strength in the Free World to dam up Soviet power—and liberation, which is the general policy of seeking to roll back Soviet power by freeing satellite nations, are "only two sides of the same coin."

The trouble with liberation as it was talked about during the 1952 political campaign by Dulles, Kennan contends without mentioning Dulles by name, is that it indicated that the United States would use war to liberate the captive countries.

"The reaction of Soviet power from its present bloated and unhealthy limits is essential to the stability of world relationships," Kennan says, "To bring it about must be a cardinal aim of Western policy."

"But the term 'liberation' can mean many things. It is one of those vague clichés the very currency of which depends on their imprecision. And as the term is most frequently used in this country, and particularly by those who regard themselves as its strongest protagonists, it seems to me to have two main implications.

"Independent" Papers

We were interested a few weeks back on an editorial interchange between Frank Streeter of the Grants Pass Courier, a "black Republican," and Bud Forrester of the Pendleton East Oregonian, an independent. Streeter scorns an independent paper as "neither fish nor fowl." Forrester stands up to his independency and proves it by saying his paper is supporting Paul Patterson, Republican, for governor and Richard Neuberger, Democrat, for senator. Evidently, Bill Tugman, who edits the Eugene Register-Guard, also self-styled independent, didn't note the exchange. At least his paper heads a clipping from the East Oregonian thus: "Democratic Paper Protests 'Low Blow.'" However, the designation is understandable because the late Ed Aldrich, long editor of the East Oregonian, was a staunch Democrat.

From our observation most of the editors of "independent" papers have as hard a time retaining their independency as editors of party-affiliated papers have holding to the party line. Even Streeter "reserves the right" to scratch his ticket.

Grants Pass soon will have its bankrupt railroad back on its hands. Projected as a line from that city to Crescent City, the road has been under lease to a cement company for several years past, but the company has notified C. H. Demaray, receiver that it will surrender its lease at the end of October. The city, meanwhile, is continuing to pay on the bonds issued to finance the line. The only other municipally owned railroad in the state is the City of Prineville railroad connecting the Crook County seat with the Oregon-Trunk railroad near Terrebonne. With the development of lumbering in the region this railroad has been profitable.

Senator Knowland is extending the U. S. defense line right under guns of the Chinese Reds. He wants the U. S. fleet used to defend Quemoy, two small islands just off the coast of China, 2000 yards from Communist held Amoy, within range of Red artillery. He says its fall "would be a tremendous blow to the morale of Formosa's defenders and could eventually break the American defense line." We doubt very much if Admiral Stump, who commands the Seventh Fleet, will want to include Quemoy under its protective custody. If Quemoy falls Knowland can rush over and hold Chiang's hand.

The Oregon election will be almost complete this year. There will be the usual fish and milk bills, but missing will be the hoary sales tax question. Sports fishermen seek to close all coastal streams except the Columbia to commercial fishing; and a "gallon-jug" dairyman is trying to knock out state milk price fixing. Both sides of both questions may dust off the old arguments and use them again.

Bud Fisher, creator of the Mutt and Jeff comic strip, died the other day at the age of 69. His strip was the durable kind, and one of the pioneers in the cartoon sequence, like Buster Brown, the Katzenjammer Kids and Foxy Grandpa. A lot of folk, now with grey in their hair, grew up on Mutt and Jeff, et al. So the passing of the strip's originator merits an editorial brief.

They call this exchange of blows between the Chinese Reds and Nationalists a vest-pocket war. For those who get killed though it's just as serious as a full-scale war.

FASHION DECREE



Comes the Dawn

Fables for Adults . . . No. 362 — Once upon a time there was a father who gathered the kiddies about him on the day before the Fall opening of school.

"Now children," he cried gaily, "tomorrow most of you will be in school. Won't that be peachy?"

"What we ought to do," responded one of his middle-sized daughters thoughtfully, "is to wash out his dirty mouth with soap."

"Yeah," said the man's middle-sized son, "it's like asking Superman if he'd like to get back to his reporting job."

"That's no way to talk," said Daddy. "You kids don't appreciate school. Why when I was a lad I used to ride a bike through rain and sleet as far as four and five blocks just to get to school."

"Hear! Hear!" lisped a small-sized daughter.

"Of course," went on Daddy, "that was quite a while back."

"It must have been," said the son, "because since then you've forgotten all about spelling. I found that out last year."

"School," Daddy insisted, "is fun. What don't you like about it?"

"Oh, school's alright," said the middle-sized daughter. "It's just that this year we'll have fractions. And you made such a mess of my long-division last year. I just can't bear to think of dragging you through a year of fractions. I'll probably have a hard enough time with them alone."

"Well," yodeled Father, stung to the quick, "if that's the way you feel. After all the time and effort . . . late at night . . . midnight oil . . ."

"If you think he loused up your long-division," remarked the son grimly, "you should have seen the boobooes he pulled helping me with that birdhouse project last spring. I understand this year we're supposed to collect leaves and things. Of course, you can't go TOO far wrong on leaves . . ."

"That's nothing," piped the small-sized daughter, "you should have seen the lunch Daddy packed for me, once. I was the laughing stock of the second grade."

"Nevertheless," said Daddy, "school is important. A great man once said something like 'it's better to build a school for the boy than a cell or gallows for the man.' Do you know what he meant by that?"

"Sure," said the boy, "he meant it's better for us kids to go to school than to stay home and drive our parents to prison or suicide."

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Time Flies: From The Statesman Files

10 Years Ago

Sept. 12, 1944

Dr. Karl Friedrich Goerdeler, former mayor of Leipzig, described as a ringleader in the plot to assassinate Adolf Hitler, was sentenced to death by the Berlin radio disclosed.

40 Years Ago

Sept. 12, 1914

The Salem Chamber of Commerce went on record "endoring the promotion of a long-range planning program" for this city, including public buildings, playgrounds, etc.

25 Years Ago

Sept. 12, 1929

Although forest fires in Oregon were generally improved, 250 men were waging a losing battle against flames which had spread over 3000 acres of second growth timber in the Mt. Hood national forest.

The Eugene Register which has been issued as a morning paper for 25 years announced they soon would be publishing an afternoon paper. The morning edition to be continued for those who prefer it.

In a note remarkable for its brevity and negative character, the Nanking government virtual-

headed by India, be increasingly resentful of the intervention of non-Asian powers in Asian affairs?

As far as warning off the Reds from further aggression, that too is doubtful. The Dulles' bluff failed in Indochina. The new treaty is vague in its terms and commitments. The Reds know that the only one among the signatories able to interpose effective resistance is the United States; and they realized already the risk from that quarter.

Some emphasis is put on provisions of the treaty calling for economic aid to backward countries. The argument there is that Communism makes the easiest inroads where the people are impoverished. There is little historical basis for this dictum. Communism has made no conquests save in the wake of wars. The bolshevik revolution in Russia was the work of a select few who seized power at the top.

China's conversion to Communism was coincident with the administrative collapse of the Nationalist government. Provision of technical assistance and economic aid in emergencies are desirable in and of themselves; but resistance to Communism must be indigenous, prompted by the thoughts and feelings of the natives themselves and their attraction to some alternative way of life.

The "agonizing reappraisal" of foreign policy promised with respect to Europe, has been needed for a long time as to Asia. The SEATO solution is "agonizing" without being a "reappraisal."

NAVY GIVES HELP

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (AP) — The South of Broadway Assn. at its luncheon meeting reached the time to pledge allegiance to the flag. But no flag. A member looked out the window, spotted a destroyer tender in the harbor with the Stars and Stripes flying. Members turned right-face, eyed the distant flag and pledged allegiance.

SKUNK COLLARED

IPSWICH, Mass. (AP) — There's a skunk wandering around the Ipswich woods wearing a glass collar. The animal stuck its head into a bottle and couldn't get it out. A woman—standing well off from her target—broke the bottle with a well-aimed rock. When no one offered to come close enough to remove the bottle-neck, the skunk wandered off.

Girl Critically Hurt in Water Skiing Mishap

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. (UP) — A pretty 17-year-old high school honor student was fighting for her life Saturday with the principal danger from severe injuries to her left lung.

Donna Sorenson has not yet been told that her arm was severed at the shoulder in a water skiing accident in Newport Bay last Wednesday. She and her high school companion from Glendale, Calif., had fallen from their skis and were swimming to shore when a careening speedboat bounced off the outboard that had been pulling the water skiing couple and struck Donna before it plowed into the beach.

The quick-thinking of a doctor was credited with saving Donna's life. Dr. James Britton rushed to her aid and applied a tourniquet to the girl's shoulder.

Newport Beach police termed the mishap an accident and didn't press charges against Mrs. Claudia Holton who was driving the speedboat. Her husband, Hugh, said his craft glanced against the side of the outboard and then veered out of control.

Scientists say most fish need company and a single gold fish in a bowl can become a mental case from loneliness.

Pope Consoles Polio Victims

CASTELGANDOLFO, Italy (UP) — Pope Pius XII Saturday urged polio victims to have courage because through their sufferings they may attain a "human value which perhaps they never would have reached in normal circumstances."

The 78-year-old Pope spoke to about 900 delegates of the Third International Polio Conference who attended a special audience at his summer residence. The polio conference ended yesterday.

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