

Decline of Britain, American Leadership Forecast by Speaker

A steady deterioration in the standard of living in Great Britain for several years was forecast Friday night by John Williams Hughes, lecturer and a newscaster and analyst for the British Broadcasting corporation. He spoke at the Rogue Valley Country club for the Knife and Fork club here.

The living standard will go down because Britain is now trying to live on her own production, in contrast to pre-war years when she could rely largely on her colonial empire, Hughes said.

Europe is "old and tired," the speaker asserted, whereas America is young at heart and colorful. Tired countries tend to beg welfare state economies, which cannot exist without bureaucracy, he added, and quoted a conversation with a Portlander who said America is lucky in that it is not getting all the government taxpayers pay for, whereas in England they do.

He described the difference between American and British types of government, and said in his opinion the Conservatives won last year's election because they feared the Labor government would retreat from Egypt as it did from Iran, because they considered five years of any government enough, and because they found that despite socialist promises of security, actually there was no security for employers and no opportunity for workers.

Defends India

Hughes said Clement Attlee, former Labor prime minister, is admired for his treatment of India, fulfilling pledges formerly made to her. Hughes also defended India's Prime Minister Pandit Nehru, and said he does not get justice from commentators or the press. He pointed out India's dangerous position in case of war between Russia and the west, adding that the world should remember that in listening to Nehru's speeches, he mentioned many friendly acts by Nehru toward the British government and toward America, and said the Indians are trying subtly but definitely to show us where they stand in the struggle for freedom.

The British have had their "day as imperialists and world powers. Europe is willing to accept the fact that this is the American century." But he warned that any country which achieves world superiority becomes proud and arrogant. He said that Great Britain has gone through that stage, and has been unpopular because of it. He recommended that schools in this country should teach a definite policy against imperialism.

Asians Distrust America

Europeans now acknowledge America as a world leader, but wonder what kind of leadership she will give them, he said. On the other hand, the people of Asia, many of whom have never seen an American but have long memories, remember that in other days any kind of aid from any country was a forerunner of domination, he said. They are therefore distrustful of Americans, and world leadership means a different kind of thinking on the part of Americans, he added.

The speaker defended Britain, saying that she has redeemed herself by replacing the empire with the British Commonwealth of nations, and he pointed out that while at the beginning of the reign of King George VI, there were 87,000,000 free people in the British empire, by the close of his reign there were 514,000,000 free people in the commonwealth.

Socialism "Mistake"

He feels that socialism in Britain is a great mistake, but also feels that the money spent on the experiment, both British and American, has not completely been wasted if we have learned the lessons that you cannot bring prosperity by discouraging thrift; that one cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong; that one cannot establish courage and initiative by taking away independence; and that one cannot help people

permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.

In a lighter vein, Hughes begged the people of the United States not to "add to the confusion" already existing in Europe by sending letters and packages with such abbreviated return addresses as "Ore., Cal., Fla., Mich.," and so on, which, he said, mean absolutely nothing to most Europeans.

"More Strings" Advocated

During the question and answer period after his talk, he said he believes Americans could have brought more pressure to bear in Europe than has been done; that our aid to Europe has been fine, but it should have "more strings" attached, and that economic unity should be the basis for future aid.

He also said that Britains do not think of their health insurance as "socialized medicine," but simply as the health plan, which has been in effect in a greater or lesser degree for many years. It was originally Winston Churchill's plan, he said, and the Labor government merely broadened its scope.

The speaker was introduced by the Rev. George R. V. Bolster, president of the club.

Court Rules DPA Amendment Effects Retail Business

Washington — The emergency court of appeals recently ruled that the Capehart amendment of the defense production act must apply to retailers and others as well as manufacturers.

Since the law was passed in August, 1951, the office of price stabilization has denied merchants price adjustments to which they were entitled under the law, according to the court ruling. The unanimous opinion of the court reversing the OPS stand was handed down by Chief Judge Charles Marin.

Gives Price Adjustments

The Capehart amendment provided for price adjustments to cover increases up to July 26, 1951 in costs of materials, labor and other business expenses. OPS officials denied 28 applications for price adjustments sought eight months ago by Safeway stores. OPS ruled in October, 1951 that the law did not apply to retailers.

The emergency court ruled that "a judgment will be entered setting aside the (OPS) letter orders October . . . denying the (Safeway) . . . applications for adjustments and remanding the cause for consideration of the applications on their merits."

NOMA Representative Attending Conference

Five members of the Medford chapter of the National Office Management association are attending the 33rd international conference of NOMA in San Francisco this week-end. The meeting is being held at the Fairmont hotel today through Wednesday.

Mrs. Frances E. Grant, of the Associated Fruit company, secretary of the Medford chapter, is official delegate to the conference. She and Mrs. Frances Laughlin, Medford clinic, left yesterday by plane for San Francisco.

Mrs. Grant will attend the school for chapter officers, to be conducted at the conference by members of the NOMA staff.

Other Medford people attending include Mrs. Ethel S. Schultz, Medford Meat company; Mrs. Ellen N. Cox, Modoc Orchard company, an alternate delegate, and Winston W. Carl, Burroughs Adding Machine company, who will participate in an exhibit put on by his firm.



STANDING INSIDE COMPOUND at Kojima Island, Korea, where Brig. Gen. Francis T. Dodd was held hostage 78 hours, Chinese Communist prisoner (wearing glasses), who joined other inmates in grabbing General, tells story of incident to fellow inmate who acts as interpreter during interview. (International Soundphoto)

21 Talent Seniors To Get Diplomas

Talent — Graduation exercises for the 21 Talent high school seniors will begin at 8 p.m., Wednesday, May 28, the Rev. Leroy Neifert giving the invocation. Graduation exercises this year are to be held in the gymnasium.

Marilyn Eagle will give the salutatory address, entitled, "Musings and Welcome." Valedictorian Joanne Joanis will be next with a speech on "The Challenges of Life." Senior Class President Kenny Reynolds will follow with, "Patterns," a talk to the underclassmen.

After the "Cherubim Song" by the high school chorus, Dr. McNeal of Southern Oregon College will speak.

Jesse Williams will present the seniors with their diplomas, and the benediction will be by Rev. Neifert.

The class has announced that friends wishing to give them flowers, cards, or gifts should not bring them to the school the night of graduation.

Snowball Rouses Man Asleep in Burning Chair

Syracuse, N. Y. — (U.P.) — An accurate throwing arm and a snowball saved a man from possible burns.

Patrolman Richard Currier saw smoke coming from a third floor window but was unable to get into the building. Currier tossed a snowball through the window and aroused David Henry.

Henry had fallen asleep in a chair with a lighted cigarette. He escaped without burns.

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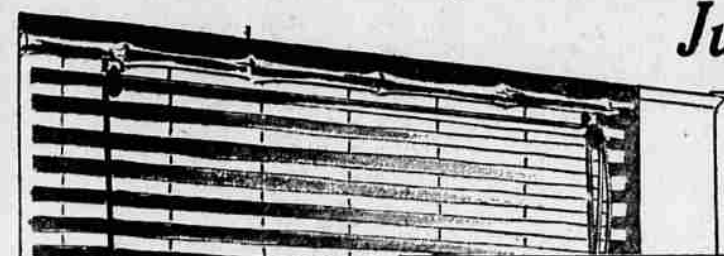
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