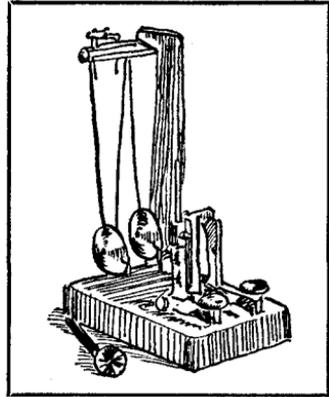


Opinions

from

the Chronoscope



From the most popular "information" program on television — Longines Chronoscope — THE MERCURY brings its readers each month a few carefully selected opinions. The program is televised each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 11 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time by CBS (Channel 2). William Bradford Huie, THE MERCURY's editor, conducts the discussions on these programs, which feature leading national and international figures, with a guest editor. The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editor or sponsor.

W. AVERELL HARRIMAN

(Mutual Security Administrator)

J. BRACKEN LEE

(Governor — Utah)

THE HON. DR. WELLINGTON KOO

Ambassador from China

Mr. Harriman on Democratic Policies

MR. HUIE: Since you are a distinguished American and a candidate for the Presidency, we'd like to place you in the political spectrum. Is it true that you are the most liberal, or the most ardent supporter of the New and Fair Deals?

MR. HARRIMAN: I believe I am both the most liberal and the most ardent supporter of all of those principles.

MR. HUIE: In using the terms right and left, you are perhaps further over on the left?

MR. HARRIMAN: I don't recognize

those terms. They are Continental terms and relate to a spectrum of political thought which doesn't exist in this country in my opinion. In terms of liberalism, conservatism and reactionaryism, I've put myself on the liberalism-progressive side.

MR. ELLIOT HAINES: What are the basic policies of the New Deal?

MR. HARRIMAN: The basic policy President Roosevelt brought to this country — that we should build our economy from the lower-income groups up. Not have it trickle down from the top as it used to. And it has worked that way. Our income from the lower-income group has increased twice as fast as that of the higher-income group.

MR. HAINES: Would you attribute that to government policy?

MR. HARRIMAN: I think a great deal had to do with government policy, establishing minimum wages, social security, helping the unions organize, and developing appropriate collective bargaining. Those are fundamental.

MR. HUIE: The President has said that he thinks one of the issues is Trumanism. Are you willing to accept that?

MR. HARRIMAN: I use the terms New Deal and Fair Deal because over a period of twenty years I've been involved with them. I've worked with President Truman and have great respect for him. I think

he is one of our great Presidents.

MR. HUIE: Your evaluation is that President Truman is a truly great man and a great President?

MR. HARRIMAN: I think he has faced some of the most difficult problems on the international front that any President ever has, beginning in 1946 when the Russians were moving into Iran, Greece, and Turkey, when they were threatening and attacking the Marshall Plan and the North Atlantic Treaty, and now Korea. I think history will show a great appreciation of his judgment and character.

MR. HAINES: It is said that the people who have firm opinions on civil rights want all or nothing at all, and keep us from getting anything. What do you think about this?

MR. HARRIMAN: I don't look at it that way. The Democratic Party has always moved forward. I think we've got to move forward with this issue and Congress has the responsibility to pass effective legislation. President Truman has done much but much more can be done if one shows the example of elimination of discrimination.

MR. HAINES: By moving forward, do you mean a compulsory Fair Employment Practices Act?

MR. HARRIMAN: There is a great deal of emphasis on the word "compulsory" and there are compulsions in the proposals for FEPC.

But the main weight of it is for education, mediation, and to bring things along voluntarily. I think those who use the word compulsion wave a red flag rather than emphasize the parts of FEPC which are really cooperative.

MR. HUIE: In your long and distinguished career with the government, it's often been said that you are a Republican.

MR. HARRIMAN: Yes, I was.

MR. HUIE: Were you a Republican in 1932?

MR. HARRIMAN: I was born and raised a Republican, a New York State Republican. I was a Republican in 1928. I knew Al Smith, worked with him, and admired him. I was very much afraid that the policies of the Republican Party would get us into trouble. Abroad, I saw us turn our backs. I thought Wilson's ideas were right. In 1928, I thought we were going to bring the world down on top of us because we were lending money abroad and building up tariffs. I voted Democratic in 1928. I feel that I am part of the generation I am living in and not among those who are trying to disrupt progress.

MR. HUIE: Then the press has not been correct in identifying you as a Republican since 1932.

MR. HARRIMAN: No, I was an Al Smith Democrat in 1928.

MR. HAINES: You just said that tar-

iffs were one of the reasons that you became a Democrat. The Republicans were enforcing tariffs.

MR. HARRIMAN: I said at that time we were encouraging loans abroad and building up tariffs at the same time.

MR. HAINES: We are doing more or less the same thing now. Recently, you called people who wanted tariffs five per cent, I believe. Would you explain that?

MR. HARRIMAN: It was rather a complicated thing. Many of the representative groups are objecting to as small as five per cent of their total market in this country being taken by a foreigner. My own judgment is that our country will prosper at least five per cent and they'll get at least five per cent more business in the United States than what they lose.

MR. HAINES: That's just an example of bad newspaper reporting then?

MR. HARRIMAN: It was rather a complicated statement to make, but I did call them the five per centers.

MR. HUIE: A great many people believe that the most unpleasant fact in our world today is that the Russian power complex is very strong.

MR. HARRIMAN: That is the great danger.

MR. HUIE: Do you think it is fair to say that the Roosevelt or Truman administrations at any time aided

and abetted the growth of Soviet power?

MR. HARRIMAN: During the war, I was the representative of President Roosevelt in all of our negotiations with the Russians. We tried to help the Russians stay in the war. People forget today that when we landed on Normandy, there were some two hundred German divisions on the Russian front, plus fifty satellite divisions. We never could have gotten ashore if those divisions hadn't been fighting desperately on the other side. Our objective was to keep them in the war. As such, we did help them. The idea that Yalta was a sellout is just not true. Why would the Russians go to such tremendous lengths to break these agreements if they'd been so favorable to them?

MR. HUIE: Did you attend all of the great conferences?

MR. HARRIMAN: I attended all the conferences during the war except one or two of the Quebec conferences.

MR. HUIE: And was anything done at any of those conferences that you did not approve of?

MR. HARRIMAN: I would not say that everything that was done was entirely right. I've always stated that naturally we made mistakes, but the basic idea, that we should try to make arrangements with the Russians to live in peace, was absolutely essential.

If that failed, it showed the world that we were trying for peace and the Russians were at fault. If it hadn't been for our attempt, many people in the world would think that we and not the Russians were the troublemakers.

MR. HAINES: Mr. Harriman, many people think that Russia doesn't want a total war.

MR. HARRIMAN: I agree.

MR. HAINES: Do you agree that in preparing for it as we seem to be doing, we will scare them into it?

MR. HARRIMAN: No, I don't think so. I think we've got to get ourselves in a defensive position. We can't live exposed. Our policies are entirely defensive.

Governor Lee on Government Administration

MR. HENRY HAZLITT: Governor Lee, do you think the federal budget could be balanced under present conditions?

GOVERNOR LEE: Certainly. I not only think it can, but I think it should be and it must be if we are going to save this country.

MR. HAZLITT: President Truman says that in an emergency you have to spend heavily. Do you think you have to have these enormous expenditures in the present emergency?

GOVERNOR LEE: Certainly not. There are times in the history of any country when it is compelled to spend more than it takes in. But

we cannot go on operating on the theory that we are in a continual emergency, an emergency that has lasted twenty years.

MR. HAZLITT: How did you begin economizing in your own state?

GOVERNOR LEE: I began by reducing the requests of the various departments of state government. While I did make quite a reduction by vetoes, I think the best reductions that I was able to make were in my own departments where we reduced the number of employees, and got the men who remained to do a better job.

MR. HUIE: What about corruption? Have you managed to eliminate mink coats from the government machinery in Utah?

GOVERNOR LEE: Almost definitely. In our state during the time that I have been in office we have not had one single scandal of any kind.

MR. HUIE: What policy do you have to prevent the scandal of your men accepting gifts?

GOVERNOR LEE: Perhaps the best way to illustrate that would be to take our liquor commission. Until the time I took office and since it has been in existence, they had a continual scandal. Pay-offs, bribery, two grand jury investigations, and an investigation by the legislature every time they were in session. Since I took office, we have not had one single scandal. We have been able to reduce

the number of employees in the liquor commission and while we are selling less liquor today, we are making a greater profit. In fact, we have saved over a million and a half dollars in the three years by having fewer employees.

MR. HUIE: Do you allow your employees to accept gifts from people who sell whiskey to the state?

GOVERNOR LEE: No.

MR. HUIE: Would you expound just a bit about your theory of government since it's so unusual now?

GOVERNOR LEE: My theory of government is very much like a ball game. You have men handle your athletic programs who draw up the rules. I would illustrate that as being the legislature. Then, you have the referee who calls the plays. I would compare that with the executive branch of government. Then you have an appeal board. I would compare that with our courts. So long as our government is operated according to the rules laid down by the referee, you are going to have a good ball game. The minute the referee gets into that game on one side or the other, you are going to have a bad ball game.

MR. HAZLITT: I think you made a speech in which you suggested that the taxing power be put primarily in the hands of the states. Would you mind telling us something about that proposal of yours?

GOVERNOR LEE: The closer you keep your government to home, the better off the people are going to be. Because then they are going to be able to know how your government operates, and keep their eye on it. When you move your government away from the people, they lose that personal contact that they need. My theory on taxation has been this. In all of our organizations here in America, our churches, our lodges, you will find that the local units collect the dues, which of course is equivalent to taxes in government. They, in turn, are assessed by the home lodge, or our national government. I would suggest that we keep the federal government out of the direct taxing field. We'll say that the federal government could no longer collect income taxes. That would abolish all of this collection department of the federal government, and save the people a lot of overhead because the state already has tax commissions and those same tax commissions could collect the taxes. The states would be the collecting agency.

MR. HUIE: We would like to know some of the practical political aspects of this. What groups in your state fought your economy program most effectively?

GOVERNOR LEE: I think the group that has objected to my program to the greatest degree has been the

school teachers. A majority of them are fine loyal American citizens, but like most organized groups, we have a minority who, in my opinion, are more interested in their own welfare than they are in the general welfare of the state.

MR. HAZLITT: Did you actually cut the educational budget in your state, or did you simply prevent it from expanding?

GOVERNOR LEE: I didn't cut it but I prevented it from expanding to the degree they wanted it expanded. The way it operated, I think our schools are better off in Utah, because all of the surplus moneys that were saved by reason of economy went into a building fund that then went into school buildings and our other institutions. We have constructed more public buildings in three years than we did for the twenty years prior to my administration.

MR. HUIE: What is the outlook for the Republican Party ticket in your state?

GOVERNOR LEE: I think it's very good, providing that the Republicans get out and really fight. When they feel that they have a cinch, they're apt to lose the election. I think it can be won with a good hard fight.

MR. HAZLITT: Do you mean locally or nationally or both?

GOVERNOR LEE: Both locally and nationally.

MR. HUIE: You offer your voters a clear choice in Utah. Your theory of government is certainly not the opposition's theory of government.

GOVERNOR LEE: It's probably the direct opposite.

MR. HUIE: What observations do you have to make on the national scene? Whom are you supporting as a candidate for the Republican nomination?

GOVERNOR LEE: I have favored Senator Taft.

MR. HUIE: Are most of the delegates from the mountain states for Senator Taft?

GOVERNOR LEE: A great majority of them are. The entire fourteen delegates from Utah are for Taft.

MR. HUIE: And do you expect a Republican victory this year nationally?

GOVERNOR LEE: I do.

Ambassador Koo on Nationalist China

MR. HENRY HAZLITT: There have been rumors that the position of the Chiang Kai-shek government on Formosa is deteriorating. Is that true?

DR. KOO: It is not true. It has not deteriorated. It has, on the other hand, improved politically, morally, economically, and militarily. We have completed a program for the free elections of the local and provincial officials. We have almost balanced our budget

with the aid of the United States. We have raised the morale of the combat troops, and we have, generally speaking, raised the spirit of the people of Formosa.

MR. HAZLITT: Would you be able to protect the country against any invasion that might be launched from the mainland?

DR. KOO: I think we can, particularly since we have the support of the United States 7th Fleet and have been able greatly to improve the quality of the combat troops.

MR. HAZLITT: Would you have the strength to launch an invasion under present conditions?

DR. KOO: That would depend upon how long the campaign would be. If we are certain of success within a limited period, we think we can. If the campaign should extend over a long period, then it would depend upon many other factors, such as the general international situation.

MR. HAZLITT: What role has our navy played in patrolling the waters between the mainland and Formosa? It's been neutralizing those waters, so to speak, hasn't it? Hasn't that had the effect of making it unnecessary for the Chinese Communists to hold large bodies of troops down in this area?

DR. KOO: I think I would call it certainly a very interesting coincidence that ever since the 7th

Fleet has been stationed there, the Communists have been withdrawing troops from the coastal provinces facing Formosa and are sending them north to Korea.

MR. HUIE: Is it true that there is a revolt against the West in Asia?

DR. KOO: Basically, there is a very widespread latent feeling that the Asiatic people should be able to run their own affairs and should not be exploited. But that does not apply to the whole West.

MR. HUIE: Wasn't American friendship a real handicap to you in your battle with the Communists in Asia?

DR. KOO: That was a great theme in Communist propaganda; that the Nationalist government and its officials and all the Chinese anti-Communists were the running dogs of the United States.

MR. HUIE: We are of course well aware of the long missionary effort made by the West in China. When did the American missionary effort begin there?

DR. KOO: At the beginning of the last century, and it went on for nearly 150 years.

MR. HUIE: How would you evaluate that effort?

DR. KOO: I would say that the value of the services rendered is really priceless. The missionaries did many things besides carrying the gospel to our people. They were the pioneers in the fields of medicine, education, and science.

They brought China into contact with the West.

MR. HUIE: That long and difficult effort has come to an end now, hasn't it?

DR. KOO: Practically, because the Communist authorities are doing everything to destroy that contact.

MR. HUIE: They've driven out all the missionaries, and I believe they have recently driven out the Salvation Army. Is that so?

DR. KOO: Yes.

MR. HAZLITT: We would like you to comment on the odd charges made recently against the so-called China Lobby. Curiously enough, it isn't the Chinese Communists that this charge is brought against, but the Chinese Nationalist government, or friends of that government.

DR. KOO: I must be very frank. I personally do not know what the China Lobby is. I never knew that any China Lobby existed, except there is a Chinese Communist lobby, or an international Communist lobby.

MR. HAZLITT: You are accused of defending your government? Is that what the lobby amounts to?

DR. KOO: I must plead guilty to that, sir.

MR. HUIE: The United States government is still friendly to you. How much dollar aid are you getting from the United States this year?

DR. KOO: For the current fiscal year it approximates 300 million dollars, including military-economic aid, and what is called the impact aid.

MR. HUIE: Are you getting aid from any other nation in the world other than the United States?

DR. KOO: No, this is the only country that has been giving us aid.

MR. HAZLITT: Are there any serious guerrilla forces on the mainland fighting for your side, or fighting the Chinese Communists?

DR. KOO: There are at least five or six regions where substantial guerrilla forces concentrate in the hills, in the mountains, in the

woods, fighting the Communist authorities.

MR. HAZLITT: Do they work together, or do they work as independent bands?

DR. KOO: Some of them are linked together, and Formosa keeps a close contact with them fairly regularly.

MR. HUIE: The Communists are destroying what was known as Chinese culture, are they not? They are changing the attitudes of the people.

DR. KOO: Decidedly. They are destroying the very basic foundation of our entire society, the family.

FILM

Wallace Markfield

Sunnyside Down

Hollywood's Social-Realist Hangover

FOR SOME TIME NOW, we have been watching the anachronistic specter of social conscience shamble across the screen, dragging a burden of guilt as ponderous as Willy Loman's sample cases. It seems to be groping for an innocence that can never be recaptured, mourning a golden age lost somewhere between the Moscow trials and the passing of F.D.R. In film after film, it makes a forced entry behind the smoke-screen of a furtive symbolism that portrays the present as something tainted and without hope, projecting into American life only the most joyless, fearful implications.

This superannuated social realism is not only responsible for such di-

Wallace Markfield has written on films and literary subjects for Hudson Review, Partisan Review, and other magazines.

verse chunks of gloom as *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Death of a Salesman*, *The Glass Menagerie*, and *A Place in the Sun*, but also edges to the front in a more sprightly piece of goods like *The Marrying Kind*. What is so unsettling about *The Marrying Kind* is the impression it gives you that without the slightest disturbance, the entire film might be wrenched from its contemporary framework and transformed into one of those solemnly carping depression dramas ground out by Hollywood during the fat years of the Popular Front. A jaggedly nervous comedy built out of sharp urban dialogue, clever type-casting, and a claustrophobic concentration of the camera lens on objects, *The Marrying Kind* seems to suffer from a basic overscrupulousness which it does not quite know how to handle. In intent it is