

Kodiak Mirror

Reflecting the News of Alaska's Most Historic Island

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We Have Been Labelled

We have been called soft-minded Americans by an editorial writer in a newspaper of recent vintage, who claims we Americans are afflicted with the disease of "Deadly Apathy." The truth of what the writer says is so apparent, we reprint it herewith:

"Deadly Apathy" A disease — in fact, an epidemic now afflicts the American people. It is a psychological, intellectual and spiritual malady which can be summed up with the word: apathy. There was a time when the big problem among our people was to find out which side they were on. If more people were on the wrong side of a great issue than on the right side, then we had some thing for which to be concerned. It was up to the patriots and the Christian leaders to speak out, write, campaign and organize so that the people on the wrong side would be converted and come over and join the right side in their defense of Constitutional government and Christian traditions.

"The problem in America today is not the people on the wrong side, or too few people on the right side. The real problem is that we have millions upon millions of people who are on no side. They never think. They never read. They never take a stand. They never indulge in anything involving a life and death issue because they are frightened to death of this thing we call controversy. We have a great gray mass of citizens who are becoming human vegetables. They never think of attending a public meeting. They don't know how to sit down and listen to an intelligent address. They read nothing but the horse racing reports and the numbers report and the sexy scandals in the newspapers. They watch television murder 300 people a week, and then drop into bed exhausted. God save America from the dry rot and leprosy of apathy."

Mirrored Reflections

By Sig Digree

That jolt you felt Monday afternoon wasn't some politician making an earth-shaking statement. It was definitely an earthquake.

The quake was felt generally throughout the City and the Naval Station, although a cross check revealed that in some places it was not even felt. We here at the Mirror office feel these "tremors" all the time, in fact when ever a truck or heavy equipment goes by. But this was a decided jolt. No damage has been reported.

It's well for candidates for office in the coming National and State elections not to forget womanpower as well as manpower when it comes to getting the vote.

Despite the fact that the good looks of a candidate may figure heavily in whose elected, it is a statistical fact that more than 53 million women will be able to exercise their privileges in November. It's also a fact that women cast 50 per cent or more of the total vote in recent elections. It is estimated that their vote this year should exceed men's by two million. This year, by the way, is the 40th anniversary of women's suffrage.

Some time ago we received a letter from William P. Cogley, who was stationed here for three years. "Those three years will always have a close and warm spot with my family and self . . . we will always have nothing but the best word for the people of Kodiak."

Cogley continues: "There is so much difference between the Naval Station, Kodiak and Naval Station, Annapolis, Md. that there is no comparison. The people of the two cities or towns whichever you prefer are as different as night and day in friendliness."

An unsigned letter by a member was sent to us recently when we published a picture of a dancer which she considered unfit for publication because it would be seen by a child. We are wholeheartedly in accord with keeping pictures of this nature to a minimum. But we would not apply pictures of young ladies disporting themselves on beaches in bikinis, which certainly reveal more than this picture did. This is an accepted attire on beaches—society has accepted it—why should we bury our head in the sands?

It must be remembered a newspaper—be it big or small—must be all things to all people—neither condoning or condemning in such matters as this—allowing each and all use of its pages. Our record in the past emphasizes that little if anything of a questionable nature enters its pages.

We also were raked over the coals for an error in last weeks issue, when we gave a government official the wrong nomenclature. We called him a union official, which we should never have done. The official was Mr. Johnson, Commissioner of Labor.

We haven't quite figured out what all the smoke was about because of this error, which was not meant as a reflection on Mr. Johnson, or the party who took us to task. These errors creep in, and we don't mind criticism for them, but the attack didn't have to be so vitriolic. We're only trying to do a job. Anyway, it was nice to have someone about the same time commend us for an accurate, complete account of another item of news, which appeared in the same issue. That's life!

LIFE ISN'T ALWAYS SERIOUS. We gleaned these little incidents from somewhere: Wife to husband as tailor measures his

Ambition Still Wins

Gordon Patterson, recently-elected seventh president of the Yale & Towne Manufacturing Company, is the China-born son of American missionaries who fought his way from a steel mill open-hearth to industrial leadership.

Like most self-made men, however, Mr. Patterson refused to allow circumstances to deprive him of the advantage of higher education as an aid to a successful career. He had worked his way through prep school and begun his freshman year at Wooster College when he learned his father had been taken ill. Next day he quit the campus and turned up as a slagger at the Youngstown plant of Republic Steel, where he got five days work a week instead of two—because he could read and write!

In 1929, after six years of day-wait; "It's quite amazing when you realize that a Douglas fir with that girth would be 90 feet tall." —Denver Post.

A parting thought on the elections which about sums up our views: Donald I. Rogers, business editor of the New York Herald-Tribune, writes: "To any and all candidates who this year are seeking election to public office. I hereby serve the following notice: I will cast my vote, positively pledge it, for whichever candidates do not promise me a single, solitary 'benefit'; conversly, I will vote against and militate against any who promise to improve my lot. I've been improved all I want to be, and by golly, my lot can't afford any further improvement."

We have been asked to state that Mrs. Kanger's daughter does not have epileptic fits.

time work in a Pittsburgh bank and nighttime study at the University of Pittsburgh, Gordon Patterson received a BS degree, magna cum laude—and continued his nocturnal study until he had won a law degree from Duquesne!

Thus, the Patterson saga adds fresh luster to a company that was founded in 1868 by the self-made inventor, Linus Yale, Jr. and Henry R. Towne, young engineer from the University of Pennsylvania, to manufacture Yale locks—which have been about the only security the world has known since.

More recently, there was the late Board Chairman, Joseph A. Horne, who began his career as a foreman in the Stamford plant. And today, there's Leo J. Pantas, for instance, vice president in charge of all hardware operations, who was brought into the lock factory by his foreman father to be an apprentice tool-maker. Once he achieved this goal—which has satisfied many a good man—Leo quit, went to college and played semi-pro baseball to pay for it. Armed with a degree, he came back to Yale & Towne to become a junior executive—this time with his feet firmly on the ladder.

And there's Elmer F. Franz, vice president and treasurer, who worked his way through the University of Cincinnati and became a certified CPA and a member of the bar. John A. Baldinger, vice president in charge of materials handling (an operation begun by Mr. Towne in 1875) worked his way through Williams College and on up the sales and management ladder.

The obvious moral of this story is that, after all, the Alger boy is not dated. He still lives. It is equally apparent that success still involves some extra effort. Also it

should be pointed out as a heartening fact that today's publicly-owned corporations are not inherited by sons from fathers and grandfathers. And lastly, we should say, President Gordon Patterson is in good company.

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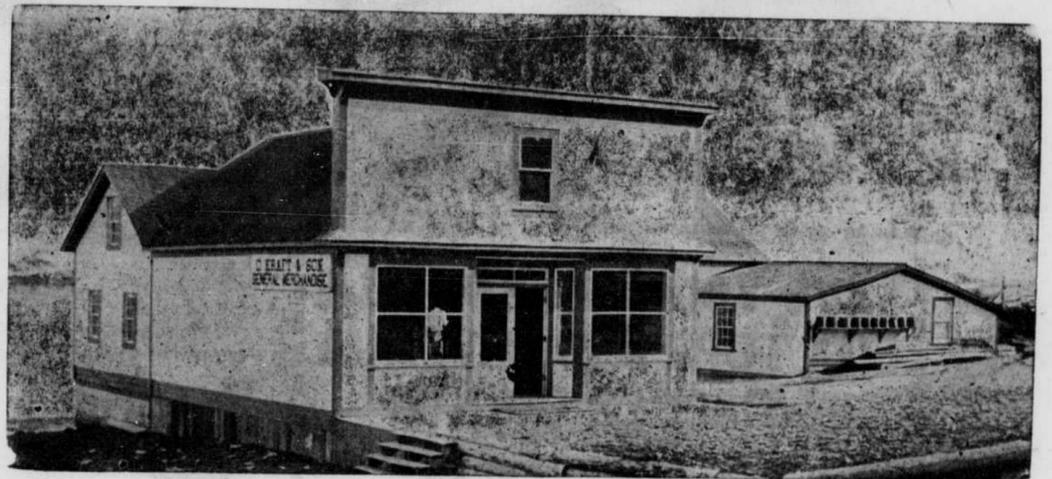


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