

Induction Test Failures . . .

A RECENT survey in the urban metropolis of Houston shows that one-third of all high school graduates of that city are failing the Selective Service's induction examinations.

Here is the official statement: "The fact given at the various recruiting stations of Houston show that one-third of the high school graduates applying or reporting for induction score in the 1 to 10 classification and are therefore ineligible."

Failure of high school graduates to pass the induction exam is not restricted to that or any other region. Reports from over the country tell of an amazing number who have failed.

The mass failure of high school graduates to pass a comparatively simple test is clearly indicative that those graduates are lacking in one of two things—common sense or honesty.

All branches of the armed service are well represented by servicemen who went no farther in school than the third or fourth grade. They took and passed the examinations. It is hard to believe that a high school graduate should fail to get 10 answers out of a possible 100.

Bear in mind that the questions all are multiple choice. Some of them show a pile of boxes and ask the men to count them. Anyone failing to score 10 points on such an examination is definitely illiterate or dishonest.

If it is stupidity that caused the application failures, the superintendent who handed out the diploma should feel exceptionally proud that he, as an educator, had approved the graduation of a student who could not make 10 points on an exam that "fourth graders" could pass.

There is one consolation, however. There is absolutely no indication of cribbing on an induction examination.

Strikes Show No Favoritism

STRIKES show no favoritism when it comes to locals.

Over in Buffalo, N. Y., the Lackawanna plant of Bethlehem Steel which employs nearly 17,000 workers, started shutting down Sunday after a "sick" walkout by about 300 conductors and brakemen of the South Buffalo Railway.

Meanwhile, over in Salem, Ore., 1,400 state prison convicts went on strike 5 days in protest against the warden. The warden George Alexander, retaliated by issuing an order, "no work, no food."

The convicts have lived so far on candy bars and other edibles which they had stored in their cells.

Oregon State Rep. Douglas R. Yeater called for the dismissal of Warden Alexander. The legislator said, "All the recent troubles at the prison stem from the fact the prisoners will never like and will never co-operate with Alexander as warden."

Which goes to show that no matter who's striking or why, there are some who will support the strikers.

French Cabinet Nears Crisis

FRANCE'S new cabinet, barely in office, is on the eve of a crisis over a very old problem, the payment of state money to support church schools.

Rene Pleven's cabinet sits with the Assembly today in a resumed session. One of the bitterest problems before it is that school is about to begin and there are not enough school rooms for the kids even when all are used and some now are not used because of the squabble.

In some sections of France, 90 percent of the students are sent by their parents to schools conducted by the Catholic Church. In these districts there are many empty public school rooms and the parents rage at them. They are supported by the state for teaching almost no students and the parents have to pay the bills. Yet in addition, they have to support the Catholic schools with direct tuition.

All this is in the laps of the Assembly and it's a big problem because the Socialists and the Radical Socialists are opposed to state support of Church schools. The Popular Republicans are a Catholic party and they want to see the money appropriated for church schools.

It is, indeed a huge problem. In some sections the public schools are practically empty while the church schools are overflowing; whereas, in other sections the reverse is true.

The ones most hurt are the youngsters who are trying to get an education.



House Passes Supplement Bill; Denies Truman Sought Funds

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21—The House passed a \$1,586,387 supplemental money bill for a score of government agencies last night but held firm in denying most of the funds sought for civil defense by President Truman.

Despite bitter protests from the National Civil Defense Advisory Council, the House cut civil defense funds from \$555,000,000 to \$65,255,000.

Goes to Senate

The measure now goes to the Senate.

By a standing vote of 134 to 37, a series of amendments by Rep. Price (D-Ill.) to boost the \$65,255,000 figure by \$81,675,000 was defeated.

The House also turned down by voice vote a move by Rep. Doyle (D-Calif.) to add \$40,755,000 for civil defense administration for the purpose of matching state funds.

The final over-all total for the bill was almost one-third less than the president asked to boost the funds of agencies for fiscal 1952.

The House lopped \$91,129,000 (M) off the amount recommended by the appropriations committee. It had made a \$625,304,300 cut of its own.

Other Cuts

Other cuts made in the measure included: \$4,000,000 from the immigration and naturalization service; \$1,000,000 from the Federal Communications Commission; \$2,500,000 for general services administration operating expenses; \$21,389,000 from general services

administration emergency operating expenses.

For the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, \$16,500,000;

Grants to states for administration of unemployment compensation and employment service program, \$19,000,000; for the Interior Department, \$2,000,000 and the Indian Bureau \$300,000; and for the Alaska housing program, \$3,500,000.

Under Republican sponsorship two limiting provisions were rammed through to adoption.

One, offered by Rep. Smith (R-Wis.), would limit to 50 per cent the amount of money any agency covered by the bill was tabbed for "publicity and propaganda."

The other, sponsored by Rep. Jensen (R-Iowa), prescribes that no salaries in new agencies can be paid in excess of the average salaries provided in regular appropriation bills.

Left Untouched

Left untouched were these recommendations:

For stock-piling strategic and critical materials, \$790,216,000;

For the Atomic Energy Commission to speed up construction of weapons and develop reactors, \$260,000,000;

For the veterans administration to reimburse national service life insurance fund for payments to beneficiaries of Korean casualties, \$116,775,000;

For the selective service system, \$30,154,000;

For the Coast Guard to increase personnel and add vessels and res-

Sen. McCarran Blasts Infiltration of Aliens

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21—(AP)—Senator McCarran (D-Nev.) said yesterday a massive, illegal infiltration of aliens into this country is "potentially more dangerous" than an armed invasion.

The influx would provide an enemy nation "a ready-made fifth column," McCarran said.

Secret Testimony

The secret testimony of immigration officials, he said in a statement, showed:

• Aliens illegally in this country are countable in the millions, and may total 5,000,000.

• Among them are "militant Communists, Sicilian bandits and other criminals" in vast numbers.

• The immigration service has made only small effort to locate and deport these unwanted foreigners because of a variety of factors, including lack of staff and money.

For instance, McCarran said, his judiciary subcommittee found that last Spring to round up cases for initiative because the staff could not keep up with routine work.

McCarran's statement accompanied a report to the Senate by a subcommittee which he heads in an investigation of subversive activities.

Canada Assembly Points

Another member of the subcommittee, Senator O'Connor (D-Md) said in a separate statement that Windsor, Ontario, and Cuba are assembly points for aliens seeking illegal entry into the U. S. He said arrests for attempted entry from Mexico total 500,000 a year. Many of these are "wetbacks," Mexicans who cross the shallow Rio Grande River to look for jobs as farm hands.

O'Connor said there are some 250,000 aliens from Europe now in Cuba and that "many are Communists, with the result that Cuba is a hot-bed of Communism."

The subcommittee report quoted C. H. Pennington, chief of the Immigration Service's New York investigating staff, as testifying about rich and powerful alien smuggling rings, well organized and aided by high-powered lawyers skilled at finding loopholes in the law.

Lawyers Have Contacts

Some of these lawyers, Pennington said, "appeared to have contacts whereby they can have bills introduced in Congress as special legislation for the benefit of the particular alien involved."

Many bills are introduced in Congress every year to save immi-

gration restrictions for aliens threatened with deportation. Alfred J. Urbano, one of Pennington's investigators, also complained of congressional intervention for aliens about to be deported. He said he does not know "whether pressure was brought to bear" on a case he handled in which two congressmen, whom he did not name, sponsored bills which he said saved 56 Hungarians from deportation. Such bills, he said "certainly hinder the service."

Wilfred W. Wiggins, who heads the immigration service's investigations section, told of "a tremendous" increase in smuggling of aliens into the country in the last three years and similar increases in the numbers of stowaways who enter the country and foreign seamen who desert their ships in U. S. ports and disappear.

Service Swamped

Wiggins and Pennington told how the service in 1948 found itself swamped with a backlog of 53,000 uninvestigated cases of illegal entry. Only superficial investigations were made, and the backlog was cleared after what one of their subordinates, Lee Shannon, termed "a whitewash" cleanup.

McCarran said the committee "condemned" the practice and has assurances of tighter enforcement practices.

"Unless we can round up this rabble and dam this contaminated stream, McCarran said, any nation with war-like intention toward the United States would find a ready-made fifth column in its vanguard."

Teague Considers Possibility Of Aid to Stricken Farmers

By OLIN E. TEAGUE Sixth District Representative

WASHINGTON, D. C. Aug. 21—We have been busy this week gathering information of crop conditions in the sixth district.

The Department of Agriculture can authorize emergency loans in disaster areas if the situation is so serious as to warrant emergency action.

When an area has been declared a disaster area by the Secretary of Agriculture, the Interstate Commerce Commission is authorized to issue permission to the railroads to lower their freight rates on livestock, feed, and similar vital agricultural commodities. This provision is of particular importance to cattle producing areas.

The situation is bad throughout the Sixth District, however, it seems to be worse in the southern counties. I have been furnished the following report by the United States Department of Agriculture:

"Reference cotton Sixth Congressional District, sharp deterioration from drought started early in southern half District spread to northern counties by last week July and continued to date accelerated by 100 degrees plus temperatures each day last two to three weeks.

Low Conditions

"All counties reported relatively low condition and probably July Aug. 1 but further deterioration since in premature opening and sharp checking of development. Crop mostly open Brazos bottoms; half to two-thirds open and development stopped Robertson, Lime stone and Freestone; and earlier crops popping fast Navarro, Ellis, and Hill counties. All small premature bolls necessitating pulling instead of picking. Late cotton northern counties of District fruiting and would benefit from rains near future.

"All crops southern counties of District and earlier two-thirds in northern counties finished except for harvest. Poor yields and some near failure all counties with best prospects Ellis and Hill counties."

I have received the following report from the State Director of the Farmers Home Administration:

Very Dry

"The general weather conditions in Texas, also applicable to District VI, are very dry right at this time. The overall range and livestock report, as of Aug. 1, states that range and pasture are deteriorating rapidly over most of the State at present, particularly over the southern two-thirds area.

Aggies to Attend Agronomy Meeting

Alton Enloe and Dale Fishgrab will represent A&M at the National Student Society of Agronomy meeting to be held at Pennsylvania State College Aug. 27-31.

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Interpreting The News

Partisan Political Activities Early Tempo Is Misleading

By J. M. ROBERTS, JR. Associated Press News Analyst

FROM the quantity and heat of current partisan political activities, one might think that an election was to be held in three months instead of fifteen.

Making Political Broth

Right at the moment you have some Republicans trying to make political broth out of such meat as may be left on the bones of the MacArthur controversy. Other Republicans obviously consider that to be riding the tail of a dead comet and want no part of it.

The matter of appropriating some billions of dollars for America's allies abroad is deeply affected by congressional opposition to Secretary Acheson.

Shivers went through the State Department a few days ago when the House committee voted to have the fund administered by a separate agency. Quick surveys only allayed part of the fears that the law would leave poor coordination between military aid, economic aid designed to strengthen allied rearmament capabilities, and international policy.

When that blow fell the department was fretting anew under Senator McCarthy's latest attacks. With a big and continuous security campaign going against Communist infiltration, people at the department thought the senator was riding a political horse roughshod over national interests. He said he was merely trying to make them clean up instead of defending themselves.

At any rate, assistant Secretary Hunsline admits that department work is being disrupted to some extent.

There are several considerations which make this year's situation

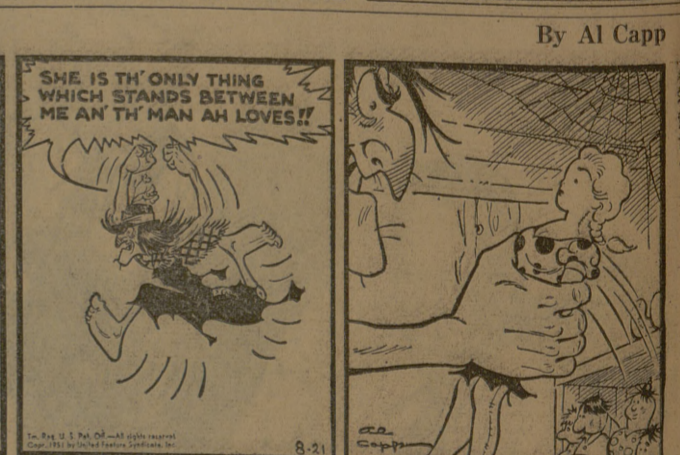
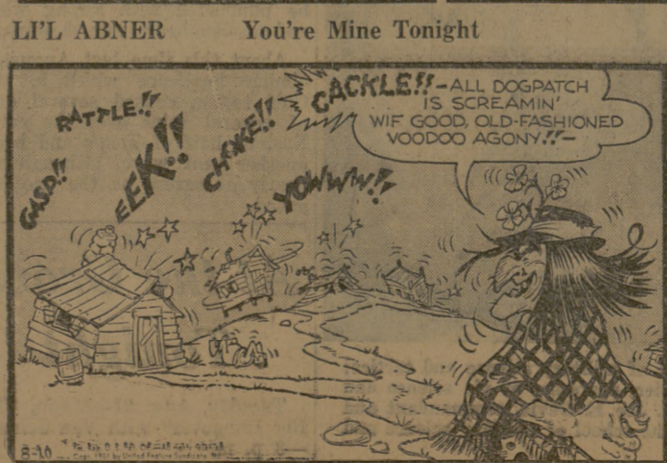
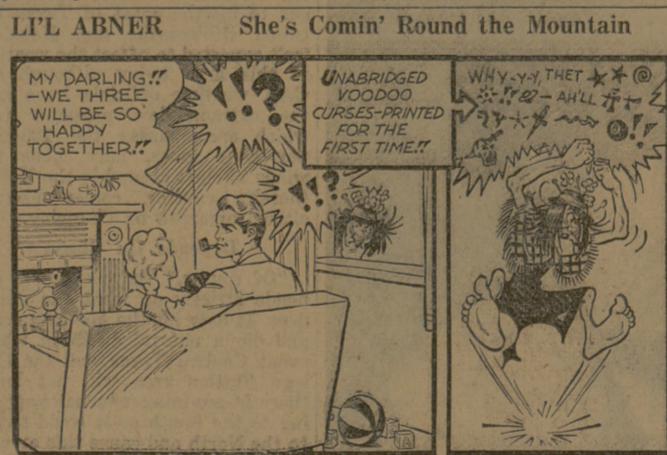
more confusing than usual. Extremists in some of the arguments are working largely outside their party organizations to promote their political interests among purely regional factions.

Issues between parties are being drawn on many subjects which defy definitive solution, so that political hay can be made without the responsibility of final decision. Nothing can be done, for a time, at least, about China. So you can say, if you wish, that American policy failed there. Or you can say that preservation of China as

a friend of America was beyond the capabilities of any policy at the time, and the loudest shouters wins.

It will have nothing to do, of course, with ability of the next administration to meet the nation's problems in the Far East.

Few people have the opportunity to study issues for themselves. They listen to the shouting, and then decide who sounds most plausible. About the best they can do is remember that vote getting, not objective clarification of issues, will be a major activity in America for the next 15 months.



The Battalion

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions "Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

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