

Battalion EDITORIALS

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The Disease of Mediocrity...

Lack of ideas and imagination is a disease—a disease of mediocrity which often beset a student and a faculty in institutions of higher learning.

Mental apathy frequently develops among the brilliant of minds. A dearth of thinking usually accompanies the hum-drum grind of meeting classes day in and day out without change.

We believe the process of education should be challenging and inspirational with a free exchange of ideas between faculty and students.

Frankly, we think that most faculty members and students are doing excellent work. We would like to see them given outside help—help from men who are fresh from the new battlefronts of engineering, atomic energy control, education, politics, industry, labor, and other similar fields.

Progress in the world today is proceeding at such a rapid clip that an honest man is forced to admit that he can ill afford to wait the publication of a book to find out what is going on.

We believe that this student body should be introduced to some of the outstanding industrialists, engineers, labor leaders, authors, statesmen and what have you, in the

nation today. We believe that an effort should be made to present outstanding speakers at meetings held during the day at which attendance is compulsory.

Realizing that space and seating capacity is at a premium, we find that perhaps we must compromise for maybe the Junior and Senior classes rather than the entire student body. At any rate, the bringing of outstanding men on to the campus for conferences and speeches is definitely needed.

In addition, we believe that frequent meetings to acquaint the entire student body with the activities, program, and objectives of the institution would work to the advantage of everyone.

It has been our observation that people react more readily and cooperate more closely if they understand the importance of the common objective.

In advocating the bringing of outside speakers, to the campus, we do not necessarily mean the securing of men who hold the same beliefs that we do.

It is often more educational to listen to a man with whom you cannot agree, than it is to nod your head in unison with that speaker who sees things as you do.

Again, we are interested in the introduction of ideas.

To Feed the Hungry World...

"The students in the Cadet Corps of Texas A.M. College pledge themselves wholeheartedly to conform to the request of the President of the United States and his Food Conservation Committee in observing meatless Tuesday, and eggless Thursday."

With these words the Aggie Cadet Corps has indicated its willingness to support President Truman's program for feeding war-ravaged areas this winter. There is no question but that all other groups on the campus will give similar support to the President's plan.

Complacent Americans — if there were any left—must have been jolted yesterday morning when the food program was announced in the same newspapers that carried word of the reactivation of the Communist Internationale. We are not in a care-free era of peace, and we cannot deceive ourselves about the seriousness of world affairs. The world is no better off than it was in 1939.

Here are the sacrifices President Truman and Charles Luckman, chairman of the Citizens Food Committee, urged on specific segments in their White House appeals:

The Public:

(A) Meatless Tuesday, (B) poultryless and eggless Thursdays and (C) the saving of one slice of bread a day by every American.

Public Eating Places:

(A) Cooperation in the meatless, poultryless and eggless days campaign and (B) the serving of bread and butter only when patrons ask for them.

The Grain Exchanges:

An increase to at least one-third of their down payment, or margin, requirements on grain purchases. If they do not comply, Mr. Truman said, "the government may find it necessary to limit the amount of trading."

The Distillers:

A complete 60-day shutdown at the earliest possible moment. (More than one-half the industry already has pledged a 50 percent curtailment on corn and elimination of the use of wheat.)

Caution is Dangerous

Wellborn Hope, Oklahoma philosopher, remarks:

"Cautious, prudent people never amount to anything in this world, or the next. Men are created only a little lower than angels. Their power and possibilities they seldom develop, and they are a disappointment to God."

This combination of philosophy and religion is passed on for whatever it is worth.

The Brewers:

A greater cut in grain consumption than they promised Saturday night, when two industry groups agreed to recommend that breweries stop using wheat and turn loose stocks they have on hand.

The Bakers:

Unspecified grain-saving measures, both in manufacture and distribution of bread, which Luckman said will save up to one-tenth of the wheat they use.

The Farmers:

A reduction in the amount of grain fed to livestock and poultry.

But those most Americans intend to "go along" with the President's program, many are critical of the planning behind it.

Mrs. George Ripley, president of the Dallas Federated Women's Clubs, was scheduled to present a resolution to the clubs today, calling for cooperation. But she said that the resolution will include a demand that further efforts be made to curb the black market in food in continental Europe, and to prevent hoarding of food.

"We know that frequently the relief supplies, including food, do not reach the people who need them most," Mrs. Ripley said.

A group of state agricultural commissioners, including McDonald of Texas, criticize the program as overlooking the necessity for increasing agricultural production. Their statement says in part:

On Sunday night the President and members of his food committee requested the people to eat less in order to have some food to send to Europe.

"On the program Sunday night neither President Truman, the Secretary of Agriculture (George Marshall) nor any member of the President's food committee made any reference to the need for increased production, which is the only remedy."

In the face of such a tremendous need, we shall all cooperate. Yet we cannot mistake the palliative for the cure. Feeding the hungry is the job of the moment; getting the world back to self-sufficiency is the real job to be done.

It needs no elaboration. Either you agree with it or you don't.

Ah, those marvelous Mormons, said the editor of the Salt Lake City (Utah) Telegram, as he read an AP story regarding the July trek of Sons of Utah Pioneers, re-enacting the Mormon journey across the plains. The story read: "In the event of rain, the performances will be given indoors," said Chairman D. James Cannon.



As MacKenzie Sees It... Comintern Revived as Russia Again Seeks World Revolution

By DEWITT MACKENZIE AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

Well, now do the doubters finally understand that the Bolshevik world revolution for the establishment of Communism is really under way?

If not, let them study Moscow's announcement of the Red conference in Poland and the establishment of a headquarters in Yugoslavia for coordination of the Bolshevik drive against American "imperialism."

Call that organization by any name you will, and you still have the old Comintern—the third international, which Moscow in 1943 trumpeted had been abolished, thereby quieting the fears of a lot of ill-informed wishful thinkers abroad.

The meeting in Poland was attended by representatives of the Communist parties of the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Italy and France. There you have the nations which either are communized and consequently are dominated by Russia or have strong Bolshevik parties. The new headquarters is being established in Belgrade, capital of Marshal Tito who breathes, eats and sleeps as Moscow directs.

Andrei A. Zhdanov of Russia's powerful politburo presented the international situation as seen through Moscow's eyes. At the conclusion of the conference the delegates—inspired by Zhdanov's pronouncement—issued a joint statement which pointed out that two camps have been formed in the world, and then went on to define them thus:

"On the one side the imperialist and anti-democratic camp, which has for its essential aim the establishment of the world domination of American imperialism and the crushing of democracy, and on the other, the anti-imperialist and democratic camp, whose essential aim consists in undermining imperialism, reinforcing democracy, and liquidating the remains of fascism."

"The struggle between these two camps — between the imperialist camp and the anti-imperialist camp — is developing under conditions of the continued accentuation of the general capitalistic crisis, the weakening of the forces of capitalism, and the strengthening of the forces of socialism and democracy."

"That's talking turkey. There's no subtlety. It's a declaration of ideological war to a finish—and that means a continuation of the strong-arm methods which Bolshevism has been exhibiting in Eastern Europe."

The Youth Choir of the College Avenue Baptist church will present a sacred music program at 8 p. m. Thursday night, October 9, at the church in Bryan. Program is open to the public.

This choir, made up of outstanding young singers of this church, will sing such well-known numbers as: "Lo, How a Rose 'Ere Blooming," "Grant Us Thy Peace," and "Christum-Song No. 7." Nancy Buchanan, soloist, will sing "Seek Ye the Lord" and "The King of Love My Shepherd Is." The Girls' Chorus will sing "Lift Thine Eyes," and "He Shall Feed His Flock." The Girls' Quartette will present "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" and "The Beautiful Garden of Prayer." Mrs. Mac Thompson is organist.

After the program, the adult choir members will be hosts to the young people and also to all who attend the concert in the lower auditorium of the church.

Hollywood Round-up... Fontaine Going To Be Own Boss

By BOB THOMAS

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 6 (AP)—Joan Fontaine, free for the first time from film contracts, announces that hereafter she'll work only for herself.

"I'm going to be my own David O. Selznick," she told me. She is now making "Letters from an Unknown Woman" for her rampart production and will either make pictures for that company or be loaned out by it. She is happy with the new set-up after years of working for Selznick. For instance, on her last loan-out, "Ivy," the producer received six times as much money as she did.

Olivia de Havilland, who just finished "The Snake Pit," wants to do another film right away. "But it's got to be good," she says. "That's the trouble with Academy Award winners—they want to keep topping their previous efforts. So they don't work as often."

Bette Davis tells me the Hollywood Canteen Foundation has found a worthy use for its large fund. As soon as a location can be found, the foundation will build a veterans' housing center with apartments to rent at \$65. The foundation has discovered that veterans don't want charity, but a helping hand in housing would fill the bill.

Charles Boyer wanted to be in "Joan" but was turned down, and for an interesting reason. His French accent would have conflicted. All of the performers except Ingrid Bergman will be English or American and Charles' glib tones would have stuck out like garlic in a French party.

TEXAS TODAY No Cut Rates Stomping Lubbock Citizenry Learn

By JACK RUTLEDGE Associated Press Staff J. Solon Lee, presiding officer of the Lubbock Corporation Court, was forced to explain patiently to an irate woman that he was in no position to offer cut rates on stopping.

The woman telephoned and explained that a neighbor woman is "breaking homes, broke a windshield, and lies and cheats." What she wanted to know, would be the fine if she gave the neighbor "a good stomping?" Lee explained the legal complications. The woman thought that over, then asked: "Would it cost me less if I took her out in the country and did it?"

Too much high life across the county line was blamed by Deputy Sheriff A. T. Buchanan of Runnels county for a shooting spree at Rowena.

Trigger-happy individuals shot up the town, Wild West fashion. They shot out street lights, and some plate glass windows.

In Dallas, County Court at Law Judge Glenn Polk heard a prower, took the law in his own hands (in the form of a pistol) but was forced to retreat.

He saw a shadowy figure, challenged it, opened fire, then took to his heels. The prower was a skunk.

A traffic accident in Fort Worth scared a young mother bad.

PALACE TODAY—LAST DAY

IDA LUPINO in "Deep Valley" TOMORROW THURS.—FRI.—SAT.

GUNFIGHTERS featuring SCOTT BRITTON

YOUTH CHOIR TO SING THURSDAY

QUEEN —Today Last Day— GENE AUTRY

TEXAS featuring William HOLDEN, Claire TREVOR, Glenn FORD

BOOM TOWN featuring GENE AUTRY

"CAT CONCERTO" A "Tom 'n' Jerry" Academy Winner

Background on Communist, Labor Boards, and Unions

By James Marlow

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—(AP)—Here's an explanation of the present excitement about unions, communists, the new labor law, and the labor board.

It all revolves around an I'm-not-a-communist oath. But, before going into that, here's a little background.

The AFL and CIO are not themselves unions. They're organizations of unions. The AFL is made up of more than 100 unions. There are 41 in the CIO.

Each of those individual unions, of course, has its own officers. But the AFL and CIO have officers, too.

The AFL has a president, William Green, a secretary-treasurer, and 13 vice-presidents, who are presidents of AFL unions.

The CIO has a president, Philip Murray, a secretary-treasurer, and nine vice-presidents who are presidents of CIO unions. So much for background.

Last June Congress passed the new labor law, the Taft-Hartley Act. It did a number of things, including this:

It reorganized the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). The job of the board is to settle labor disputes between employers and unions.

In short, it must protest employers from unfair dealings by unions and unions from unfairness by employers.

But, to get this protection of the board, the unions must comply with the new law in several ways. One of them is this:

Before the board will give any union protection against an employer, its officers must swear they're not communists.

Unions with one or more communist officers don't get board protection. There are several such unions.

(Unions don't violate the law if their officers, even though not communists, refuse to swear they are not. They just don't get board protection.)

But along came Robert L. Denham, chief counsel of the labor board. He has an important job. He investigates complaints that come to the board.

He issued a ruling which said: 1. It's not enough for the officers of an individual union to swear they are not communists.

2. Before any AFL or CIO union can get board protection, the top officers of the AFL and CIO must also swear they're not communists.

That's where the present excitement started. The top officers of the CIO so far have not taken the I'm-not-a-communist oath. So, to date, no CIO union can get board protection.

Some top AFL officers were

Sorry, Please

Entomology Officers Now Listed Correctly

Officers for the Entomology Club were incorrectly stated in the Friday issue of The Battalion. C. B. Brezale, listed as secretary-treasurer, should have been named vice-president, and G. E. Caprenter, omitted entirely from the story, was elected secretary-treasurer.

James A. Deer is president of the club, and A. M. Hillis, reporter. Regular meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month, with the next meeting slated for October 14 in Room 5, Science Hall.

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GUION HALL

TUESDAY THRU THURSDAY

LOVE'S NO GAMBLE the way she plays! Want to learn how she does it... and wins? Watch for... ROBERT YOUNG BARBARA HALE FRANK MORGAN Lady Luck

THEY'RE DYNAMITE TOGETHER! Clark Spencer GADIE * TRACY Claudette Hedy COLBERT * LAMARR M-G-M proudly re-introduces BOOM TOWN IT'S FOUR GREAT PICTURES IN ONE! SUN. & MON. FULL OF WARMTH AND LAUGHTER! WALT DISNEY'S SONG OF THE SOUTH M-G-M proudly re-introduces UNCLE REMUS

The Battalion

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