

Battalion EDITORIALS

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MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 1948

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

Must 1929 Repeat Itself? . . .

Now in 1948 the curtain rises on what appears to be the same old show. The 1929 crash still haunts our feast like Banquo's ghost. Every economic problem which bothered us through the long years of the depression is still on our doorstep. Industry in America is a vast system of absentee-ownership concentrated in fewer hands than ever before in the world's history.

This sprawling corporate bureaucracy is afraid of production which it does not control. It is incapable of utilizing the vast wealth of the twentieth century industrial revolution. The country is desperately short of electric power, but new power developments might destroy the dominating position of private industry.

We are short of transportation. Yet if the department of air transport should follow the pattern of the development of the automobile, present investments might be jeopardized by competitive struggle.

The New Orthodox

We are desperately short of medical service. Yet the present vested interests in that chaotic field stand in the way of any plan for the widespread distribution of medical care which interferes with the narrow interests of established groups. And so on wherever we turn.

Historical analogies are unreliable. Yet there is a striking similarity between the present chaos, intellectual and economic, and the confusion that followed the Reformation. Before the Reformation the medieval church had become a hierarchy of economic institutions that had caused Europe to freeze into a consistent pattern of absentee ownership and restricted production. Its power was derived from established faith in a static order.

Today men pin their faiths and owe their loyalties to a hierarchy of business institutions with cathedrals not at Rome but in New York. These institutions appear to have power. Yet that power is shackled by the beliefs and habits of the nineteenth century. The impelling faith of today is that investments must be secure. That faith makes modern industry incapable of supplying the goods to create order out of the economic development of industry in the outlying areas of our country.

Government Must Help

In the Middle Ages political government was supposed to be the temporal arm of the Church. Interference with the Church by political government was heresy. Today we are desperately trying to convince ourselves that political government is only the temporal arm of vast business empires which follow the great principles of revealed economic truth.

And so we find Congress trying to restore political government to its proper place by reducing government expenditures and removing government controls. Yet at the very outset of that program comes the realization that only America is capable of restoring economic order in the world, and that American business cannot do it without the expenditure of vast sums by the Govern-

ment. Just as we are preparing to return to normalcy, the Marshall plan destroys our hope that government can be put back to its accustomed role.

The world desperately needs goods. Our traditional economic organization has no way of bringing the supply to those who need it. All this was true in 1929, but nobody knew it. Today we realize that an industrial revolution offering to the world new wealth beyond any former dream has destroyed our isolation.

We Move Reluctantly

Reluctantly, with fear and misgiving, we are being forced into a vast project to furnish goods to starving people. The commitment seems too overwhelming to be possible of accomplishment.

Yet the fear of Russian expansion has pushed us into the position of again being the arsenal of the democracies—except that it is an arsenal of food and production instead of weapons. We enter that period with a split personality—trying to return to the nineteenth century while we move forward in the twentieth.

Of course there is a threat to our industrial and political organizations, frozen as they are to the institutions, ideas and methods of a nineteenth century world. In the face of coming change no investments appear to be safe. Centralization of economic power is greater than it was in 1929. Barriers to trade and to new industry are greater. Vast investments depend on the continuance of this concentration and these barriers to trade.

That is the reason why the 1929 crash is still a recurring nightmare—why our thinking constantly jumps back to it after almost 20 years. Half of our economic thought is devoted to speculating when the next depression is coming.

Fears Intolerance

In the face of this fear we are attempting to prop up the familiar institutions as men always do in times of change. We want normalcy more than ever.

Socialists are taunting us with our failure to make our so-called capitalistic system a dynamic and expanding force and cheerfully predicting that the whole world will soon conform to the socialist ideal. We are trying to purge the Government of such seditious thinking. This is the intolerance of fear. Yet even tolerant men, who do not think ideas are destroyed by suppression, realize that if Socialism is coming, America as we know it is gone.

Out of this confusion the new institutions of the twentieth century will finally emerge, as did those of the nineteenth century, not because we are able to plan them but because the dynamic energy and vigor of our people will burst the shackles of obsolete forms. Today we realize that our responsibilities are not limited to national boundaries, that we must become the industrial leader of the world or perish.

Thurman Arnold, Former U. S. Assistant Attorney General, in the Harvard Business Review.

MATHEMATICAL UNCERTAINTY



Lutherans Are Host to Over 80 Students for Week-End Parley

By W. H. BEARDSLEY, JR.

Over eighty students and student leaders were guests of Reverend A. F. DroegemueLLer, Lutheran student pastor, and A. & M. Lutheran students at conference of the Missouri Lutheran Synod here this past week-end. The group represented 11 colleges from all over the state who came to learn the duties and responsibilities of a "good Christian layman."

Colleges represented at the conference were: Texas University, West Texas State Teachers College, TSCW, Rice, University of Houston, A&M, Blinn Junior College, Baylor, Hardin College, Texas Lutheran, and Texas A&I.

Reverend DroegemueLLer, who also serves as pastor of Bethel Lutheran church in Bryan, was toastmaster at the Saturday evening banquet which opened the conference.

DroegemueLLer shared honors at the banquet with A. F. Jesse, coordinator of student work in the Texas district, and E. A. Kramer, San Antonio businessman who was principal speaker.

After the banquet students from three colleges presented short discussions concerning the student in his relationship to the church, citizenship, and personal Evangelism. Charles Gromatzky, a University of Texas student, spoke on personal Evangelism, discussing the knowledge needed for the work and the methods of approaching individuals.

Following Gromatzky's talk, Ruth Stetzer of the University of Houston, discussed Christian citizenship. Miss Stetzer emphasized that "we ought to obey, pay, and pray for our government."

H. L. Kunkel, a graduate student studying chemistry at A&M, discussed the layman's relation to church organization.

"Organizations help the church spread out as well as become more united," Kunkel was also responsible for the recorded music played during the banquet.

Kramer, secretary of the church extension board, spoke on the relation of the layman to his pastor, saying, "The pastor is the compass of the church, Christ's ambassador, and your spiritual minister."

Concerning the layman's relations to his pastor, he said, "The children are ordinary children, and the pastor's wife must not be criticized severely for what she says or does for each of us has our likes and dislikes."

Sunday morning the group met in the Bethel Lutheran Church for a Bible Class led by A. O. East, associate field secretary of the Texas district, followed by Reverend Jesse who conducted the worship service.

The afternoon program was held in the "Y" Chapel with Reverend H. Plackemeier, stewardship secretary of the Texas district, speaking on stewardship and percentage giving. Reverend Max Studtmann, a member of the district board of education, followed Plackemeier with an address on Christian education.

DroegemueLLer summarized the conference and brought it to a close late yesterday afternoon.

21-Day UMT

BERN.—(AP)—Barring conflict, 1948 compulsory military service in Switzerland will reach a maximum of 21 days per man, the federal council has announced. The council is stressing air defenses. Men assigned to air-defense units are to take 20-day refresher courses.

GINGHAM PLAIDS

... for the Gibson Girl Blouse

In small plaids — Pastel colors

Pique in Pastel colors
PATTERNS TOO

All at—

The Fabric Shoppe

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Trampling Out the Vintage . . .

'Airsickness,' Not Danger, Brings Youthful Flyer Who 'Borrowed' Dad's Plane to Earth

He'd never had a flying lesson in his life but 13-year-old Jimmy Hartzell "borrowed" his father's private plane for a ride.

Jimmy and three other eighth-grade students rolled the plane from a hangar on the Hartzell estate in Troy, Ohio, and took off on a two-hour flight, Sheriff Truman Pitts reported.

Young Hartzell finally landed the plane safely in a cornfield at nearby Sidney because he and two of his passengers became "airsick," the Sheriff explained.

THE DIG FOR TODAY

A quiz show emcee asked a feminine contestant: "What is the definition of hyperopic?" (meaning distant vision, the opposite of myopic). The lady didn't know.

"I'll give you a hint," he said. "Abe Lincoln was hyperopic but Harry Truman isn't." The little lady beamed brightly, "a great thinker!"

It brought down the house, largely composed of Republicans.

ROLL A NATURAL AND BEAT THE RAP

Police chopped their way into a building where a dice game was under way but before they could make any arrests, the players had left the State of Missouri.

The building is bisected by the Missouri-Kansas state line. Lieutenant Gene Pond said that when he finally led his men into the building, he found an abandoned dice table on the Missouri side and all the players in Kansas.

The upshot of the situation: Will Johns, Kansas City, Kansas, chief of police, said he sent two men

to the building recently and they found dice games going on—in Missouri only.

HE'S A BELIEVER NOW

James Finnegan dared a woman conductor to put him off her Philadelphia streetcar for not paying a 10 cent fare.

Emma Madison, 31 years old, accepted the challenge and slugged Finnegan with a metal handle used to open the trolley doors.

Finnegan retreated to the hospital and then was taken to a magistrate's court where he was held in \$500 bail for the grand jury.

SAGGING CRISIS

Now it's the crisis of bursting braces. In a year, historian Arthur Bryant bought four pairs of Braces (suspenders) made under a government edict in London, Eng., limiting the elastic to three inches at the back. "After each occasion," Bryant wrote the London Times, "the braces have broken irretrievably within three months."

The Times editorialized: "The four freedoms are a hollow mockery if our braces are going to be bursting all the time. No nation can be expected to hold up its head if it is also required to hold up its trousers."

CUPID—WITH CALORIES

A 28-year-old woman (single) ran an add in the newspaper Nacht-Express in Berlin recently. The ad read: "Have two-room apartment and receive two food packages monthly from the United States."

She got 2,437 offers of marriage in reply at the latest count.

Austin Pastor To Be Episcopalian Religious Speaker

Reverend John Joseph Meakin Harte, pastor of All Saints' Chapel for Episcopal students in Austin, will be the speaker in Saint Thomas Episcopal Chapel during Religious Emphasis Week, February 10-16.

Reverend Harte graduated from Washington and Jefferson College in Pennsylvania where he lettered three years in football and bowling, following his graduation from the General Theological Seminary in New York City. Harte attended Saint Stephens College, Oxford University, England where he obtained still another degree. Upon his return to the United States he did graduate work at Columbus University, University of Rochester, University of Tulsa, and the University of Texas.

Reverend Harte was vicar of All Saints Church in Miami, Oklahoma from 1939 to 1949. In 1949 he became curate at Trinity Church in Tulsa staying there three years before being called to Rochester, New York, where he became the rector of Saint George's Church. Harte came to Austin as rector and student chaplain of All Saints' Chapel in 1947.

Rev. Harte also serves as an examining chaplain for the Diocese of Texas.

On The Screen . . .

Danny Is Day-Dreamer Delux, 'Secret Life of Walter Mitty'

By DAVE SELIGMAN

SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY (Palace, TWThRS). Fans who buy this Sam Goldwyn picture because of the considerable appeal of Danny Kaye and the popularity of Walter Mitty yarns will get their money's worth in laughs and lavishness, but many of them will conclude that this is the least enjoyable of the Kaye pictures. These parts in which Danny is acting out his day-dreams are up to established standards; however, the story binding these portions together drags miserably and the gag situations are over-covered.

There is much more aptly supplied by the scantily clad Goldwyn Girls and the Technicolor does its part to enhance the show. Other parts in the cast are filled by Virginia Mayo, Boris Karloff, Fay Bainter, and Ann Rutherford.

TRAIL STREET (Guion, W.). This is a souped-up western that turns to "hoot" in the projection room. Attempting to place a picture in the super-western class, RKO puts top notch actors in the leads but humans can be just so good and no more.

Randolph Scott portrays the famous law enforcer (who later turned journalist), Bat Masterson. The two other lead roles are filled by Robert Ryan and Anne Jeffreys. Set in Liberal, Kansas, the story concerns the worn-out theme of cattlemen against farmers.

Also showing are SONG OF LOVE at the Campus through Wednesday and at the Queen ESCAPE ME NEVER.

GUION HALL

TODAY AND TUESDAY



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EDMUND GWINN · ZASU PITTIS · MICHAEL CURTIZ · HOWARD LINDSAY & RUSSELL CROUSE
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WEDNESDAY

QUEEN

TODAY—THRU
WEDNESDAY

"Escape Me
Never"

Errol Flynn



Opens 1:00 p.m. 4-11:81

ONLY 3 MORE DAYS



Features Begin
2:00 - 4:25 - 7:00 - 9:45

Merrie Melodies Cartoon

A 1st Run Feature

NEXT THURSDAY — FRIDAY AND
SATURDAY

"The Unfinished Dance"
(in technicolor)

MARGARET O'BRIEN
CYD CHARISSE
KARIN BOOTH

COMING:—27th thru 29th

CORNEL WILDE · MAUREEN O'HARA



Great Issues ???

To determine the number of students wanting to take the "Great Issue" course a questionnaire is printed below. Students interested should fill it out and send it to Dr. S. R. Gammon, history department, campus.

Definitely plan to take course

Might take course

Would take course if it could be scheduled

Name

Address

The Battalion

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