

# Battalion EDITORIALS

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"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

## Now, Upon Graduation . . .

Add to the good news of general price cuts reported this week the results of a survey conducted by the Northwestern National Life Insurance Corporation issued recently.

That organization polled thirty-four major colleges and universities the past month, asking each what the chances were for senior students to slip into good jobs upon graduation. The answers received, while not startling, contradict previous surveys seeking the same type of information.

Dividing the college graduating class into two divisions, technical and non-technical, the insurance company's Family Economics Bureau found that engineers, chemists, physicists, and similar highly specialized fields could expect a monthly pay check ranging from \$240 to \$275, compared to a pre-war average of from \$135 to \$150 a month.

Business administration and other non-technical students can hop right into jobs that pay salaries ranging from \$200 to \$235 as soon as they shed their caps and gowns," the bureau reports. The lower figures for this group evidently reflect the age-old "start from the bottom" philosophy prevalent among American business firms.

Referring back to the depression of the early thirties, Northwestern noted that only the upper third of graduating classes of that

day could be reasonably certain of obtaining jobs after leaving their alma mater. Now, though, almost all seniors can expect to find some type of job.

Aside from engineering graduates, an increase in demand for sales personnel and accountants continues as the nation's economy rides on the crest of the post-war boom period. The heaviest demand for those graduates is from corporations, the insurance company says, adding that "corporations will be all but waiting outside the graduation ceremony halls, offers in hand, this June when students file out with their degrees."

Such news is of course welcome to college students. But how long will the bubble remain inflated? When will industry reach a saturation point? Will the United States face another period of prolonged technological unemployment? Is it true that the next depression will make the last one look like a mild recession?

Not until we have the answers to the above perennial economic teasers will we learn back in our monetary easy chairs and start vacatiing at Miami Beach each winter. Who'll volunteer to relieve our minds of the memories of past inflation-deflation fiascoes?

## Heading Off A Big 'Bust' . . .

The "little crash" of '48 has come and gone, with grain and security markets apparently back to something resembling normal. But the shivers that ran up the back of the American people last week are not quite forgotten. The fear of another depression like that which followed 1929 is still hanging over us. Many of the veterans now in school grew up in depression days, and know that there once was a time when \$300 a month jobs weren't automatically handed out to college graduates.

Chester Bowles, former OPA administrator and before that a leading advertising executive, has sounded a warning and suggested a program for heading off the next depression before it ever hits. Addressing the United States Conference of Mayors in New York, Bowles said that in his opinion an extensive Federal program "can modify, to a major extent, the recession which our past mistakes have made inevitable. We have all witnessed, during the last few weeks, what may be the beginning of the second cycle of the old dismal cycle of economic boom and bust."

The prices of grains have dropped sharply, and so have the prices of many securities. It is possible, of course, that the commodity markets will recover and that confidence will be temporarily restored.

But, Bowles added:

- 1. "Tax cuts all along the line . . . the time to cut taxes is when purchasing power is beginning to dry up."
- 2. "An all-out program of slum clearance and housing," building 1,400,000 homes a year.
- 3. Continue rent controls "for at least another year or two."
- 4. Broaden social security payments to include self-employed domestic help and farm workers.
- 5. Enact a national health insurance plan.
- 6. "Once a recession begins, we should move ahead promptly with our plans for the development of the Missouri Valley authority, St. Lawrence Valley authority, and for similar developments on the other major rivers."
- 7. "An all-out program for the building of schools . . . we should extend the principle of our GI Bill of Rights to enable all of our young people who are intellectually qualified to go to college."
- 8. Increase minimum wages from 40 to "at least" 75 cents an hour.
- 9. "Pass the European recovery program without crippling amendments as rapidly as possible."

He emphasized that "a recession of some kind will sooner or later be inevitable, and, when it comes, congress and the administration must make strong leadership if we are to keep it from deteriorating into a serious economic collapse."

"Sometime in the not too distant future, if it has not already started, we will find ourselves moving into a depression of some sort."

Stating that there now are many controls which make an exact duplication of the 1929 depression unlikely, Bowles said

not reported in most cases, and, consequently, the campus police could not check them. It didn't have to be that way.

The next time someone goes South with your favorite wallet, don't shrug off the KKK as nit-wits. They are paid to investigate and remedy just such a harrowing situation as yours. And they can do some good for you.

If our local crime wave had been reported in its early stages, it might never have got out of the early stages.

Wearing a yellow sleeveless sweater and a worried expression, Benjamin Weinstein appeared before Judge Garrett. . . .

Excerpt from AP story out of Harrisburg, Pa.: "Governor Duff told news conference state employees are entitled to a 'step-in' salary the same as everybody else."

How's the sewage disposal?"

—New Yorker

## The Battalion

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## THE GIANT AND THE BEANSTALK



## BETWEEN THE BOOK ENDS . . .

## Wilder Steps Back Into Pages Of History in 'Ides of March'

By MRS. WILNORA ARNOLD  
Readers' Advisor

**THE IDES OF MARCH.** By Thornton Wilder. 1948. By stepping back into the Rome of Julius Caesar, Thornton Wilder brings to surging life a dramatic period and one of the magnificent personalities of all time. In this novel the Caesar of history becomes Caesar the human being as he appeared to himself, his family, his legions, his Rome, his Empire in the months immediately preceding his death.

Through imaginary letters and documents, which are cunningly revealing and follow a narrative pattern, all Rome comes crowding through these pages. Romans of the slums, Romans of the palaces, Romans in the Alban villas, brawling youth in their athletic clubs, noble ladies serving the gods in their temples, dissolute women plotting assassinations, spies and assassins stalking the Dictator into his very chamber—all hating Caesar or hating him.

High above them Caesar reflects on his mastery of the world and man's relation to liberty, to responsibility, to the passions, to history; he, Caesar, who wrote an edict abolishing the state religion and promptly destroyed it; he, Caesar, who succumbed to the charms of Cleopatra when she came in state to Rome; he, Caesar, who revered Catullus the poet though he wrote venomously of Caesar.

In the meantime the fatal Ides are drawing near and Caesar sees death approaching while around him the patterns of life are constantly shifting. There is the night when Cleopatra lights up the skies over Rome with Egyptian pomp, the night when she and Marc Anthony realize that their day has ended.

Thornton Wilder has written with great wisdom and penetration. He has presented in this vivid, imaginative recreation of a great man, also a great world. Here is all life reflected—every aspect of the human spirit revealed with subtlety and wit. You will remember the author for his outstanding work of a few years ago, "The Bridge of San Luis Rey."

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## Tramping Out the Vintage . . .

## Australian Hypnotist Beats A&M's Best; Puts Over 300 Radio Listeners to Sleep

By LARRY GOODWIN