

Battalion Editorials

Page 2

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 1950

The Population Craze . . .

Since the first totals were announced, Houstonians have been parading the streets with expanded chests and with eyes well off the ground, willing to tell anyone of their prominence, so far as population is concerned.

It is not every city that can claim an increase in population of over 200,000 in a period of ten years. Too, the constant feud between the seaport city and other Texas and southern cities has been given added impetus following the recent census. Houstonians, in comparing themselves with other cities, refuse to do it on any other basis than equality. The basis for obvious pride and civic joy is ill found.

With her seaport position and oil rich surrounding lands, Houston formed the logical place for the first oil refineries and related industries. These industries served to bring in laborers, followed by other industries because of the cheap labor

available. Still the great city was population-crazed.

Civic-minded leaders decided it would be a good idea to annex surrounding suburbs. Of course there was a vote on the issue, but how a suburb of several thousand could vote down the desires of the much larger municipalities in a democratic manner is still to be questioned. But the belligerent suburban residents were voted into Houston, and the city limits expanded. Previously, the war and its labor manifestations had provided another considerable increase in the city's population.

All the natural advantages, as well as those brought about incidentally, form the basis of Houston's great population, not just because "Houston is Houston." Therefore, we question the obvious gloating with which some of Houston's citizens are concerning themselves.

Unused Third Attack . . .

One of the main causes of American reverses in Korea is the apparent inability of both ground and air forces to stop North Korean armor. Three types of opposition are possible, but at present we are restricted to ground opposition and tactical air opposition. Long range strategic bombing, however is important from the standpoint of logistics.

Ground opposition has been based on terrain, mines, bazookas, artillery, and perhaps a small force of American armor. North Korean troops have Russian-built tanks which can withstand fire from almost everything but our 90 mm. armor-piercing shells.

Tactical air opposition has centered around F-80 attacks with rockets and napalm (jellied gasoline) bombs. B-29's have carried out raids on supply lines and depots in North Korea. But all this has been of little avail.

Long range strategic bombing, if permitted, could reach thousands of miles behind the front lines to destroy the refineries and factories which supply the North Korean army. Unlike other installations, oil refineries cannot be placed underground or disguised. The effects of strategic bombing are not immediate, but the lack of fuel would be decisive in stopping the North Korean armor.

Such action might involve war instead of a United Nations police action, but complete evacuation of Korea appears to be inevitable unless these three types of opposition can be used.

The question is: Is the United States, or the United Nations, willing to utilize the third step in warfare? Should this be done, overt war with Russia—supply line for the North Koreans—would also be inevitable.

He Could Be Wrong, But . . .

A Wisconsin senator who failed in his recent attempt to show that members of the State Department were connected, some of them very closely, with the Communist party was called a "fraud and a hoax" before his fellow senators Monday.

Republican Senator Joseph McCarthy formed the basis of the report in February when he was reported to have said that he had a list of 205 names of persons "made known to the secretary of state as being members of the Communist party and who are still working and shaping policy in the State Department." When no immediate action was taken by Dean Acheson, the senator proceeded to make the charges publicly.

But no similar list or evidence of the accused persons ever having been connected with the Communist party was to be found in the State Department files.

Whether there actually was a basis for McCarthy's accusations or whether it was an attempt to cause increased party backing remains to be proven. Of the five men on the investigating committee which formulated the report, only the three Democrats signed it. This makes us wonder whether the other two senators refused to sign it because of party loyalty, or whether they too were convinced that there was truth in some McCarthy's ac-

cusations. One of the Republican senators said that he was convinced that McCarthy had presented sufficient evidence to prove that his chief suspect, Owen Lattimore, was connected with the Communist party.

If McCarthy had in mind possible personal advancement when he began the seemingly false accusations on data and information that he knew could be found in State Department files, he should certainly have used a different method of attack. As it was, his accusations served only to shatter public opinion at a critical time in our history. This no doubt, would not have been his purpose, had his statements been true. However, if the Democratic senators have let their party influence their investigation in possibly overlooking some of the unfound evidence that would lend aid to McCarthy, they are even more guilty than the Wisconsin senator.

As citizens who cannot personally review records of our State Department, we can but hope that Senator McCarthy's accusations were false. For if they weren't not only is our government at stake with so many believers of Communist ideals in power, but the success of an entire nation faces utter defeat if we cannot depend on our own congressmen to reveal derogatory governmental groups.

The Battalion

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

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The Nation Today . . .

Hoarders 'Foolish' Claims President

By JAMES MARLOW

Washington—(AP)—If you saw a man throwing his money away on a street corner, you'd think he ought to get his head examined. But something like that is happening now.

Reports of heavy buying and price-raising around the country are multiplying. Some shoppers are trying to lay in supplies of tires, coffee, clothing and other things. They're afraid rationing is coming and they want to be sure they get theirs, no matter what happens to the country or anybody else.

By making things scarcer, they give certain unscrupulous and shortsighted businessmen an excuse for jacking up prices.

The hoarders, President Truman said, are foolish. And he said some of the businessmen are kicking up prices to profiteer. Both words—foolish and profiteer—were mild ones. And it's easy to see why.

Government Control

Russian Communism means government control and ownership of almost everything. British Socialism means some government control and ownership. British Socialism's controls are much milder than Communism's.

But this country, meaning the people, has denounced Communism and feels so strongly against it that now we are actively fighting it. And there is a strong feeling here against even Britain's Socialism.

In short, the tradition in this country has been against government control, interference of ownership. And we shout to the world the wonders of free enterprise.

Would Force Rationing

Yet, widespread hoarding and soaring prices in this present situation will in time certainly do two things.

1. Force the government to step in and slap on rationing and price controls.

2. And, by bringing higher prices, make the dollar worth just that much less, thus damaging the foundations of the free enterprise economy.

(The rationing, of course, would be imposed to give everyone a fair share of what can be bought; the price controls would be slapped on to keep the economy from being ruined altogether.)

If we get into a war with Russia or the present situation gets very bad, the government will have to step in with controls anyway because then there will be

Bible Verse

"I thank my GOD always on your behalf, for the grace of GOD which is given you by JESUS CHRIST, that in every thing ye are enriched by HIM, in all utterance, and in all knowledge."
—I Cor. 1:4, 5

WTAW

Radio Program
1150 Kilocycles

Wednesday afternoons

- 12-15—Big League Baseball
- 1:30—Broadboard
- 2:00—Musical Scoreboard
- 2:30—Bingo
- 3:00—United Nations
- 3:15—Broadcasting Young
- 3:45—Tommy Dorsey
- 4:00—Fidelity Worship Hour
- 4:15—Supper Club
- 4:30—High Oct
- 4:45—Texas Farm & Home
- 4:55—W-TAW
- 5:00—Coffee Club
- 5:15—Rotary Club
- 5:30—News of Aggeland
- 5:45—Hobby Christian Hour
- 6:00—Morning Special
- 6:15—Ray Book
- 6:30—Homemaker Harmonies
- 6:45—Carmen Cavallaro
- 7:00—Church Women
- 7:15—Music for Thursday
- 7:30—Morning Matinee
- 7:45—Bingo
- 8:00—Musical Scoreboard
- 8:15—Bingo
- 8:30—Broadcasting Young
- 8:45—Navy Band
- 9:00—Great Star
- 9:15—Supper Club
- 9:30—Bingo

Without Difficulty . . .

A&M Cadets At Kelly Field More Than 'Hold Their Own'

By C. L. SELPH
Camp Correspondent
AF Administration

The most talked about outfit at the Kelly AFOTC Camp (some complimentary but mostly derogatory) paid closer attention than usual to such commands as "watch your arm swing" and "dress is right" Saturday, July 15 when President M. T. Harrington and Dean W. L. Peenberthy visited here to observe the Texas Aggies in competition with students from 19 other institutions.

Up to now the A&M boys have been able to hold their own without difficulty, winning the only two Wing parades thus far by a comfortable margin.

Commanding the Wing of better than 900 cadets during the "show off" parade was Jack L. Raley, winner of the Air Force Association award at A&M last year. Another high ranker this week is Hilmer Schepke, who is executive officer of the second group with the rank of major.

Commander of the A&M Squadron last week was Robert "Doc" Blanchard, who lead the Aggies by the reviewing stand. Flight leaders for the review were Norman Francis, J. T. Lenamon and Charles Neely.

Though the complete list of award winners for the camp is not yet out, there is one man here named "Dead Eye", Ray Smith who should definitely have stepped up for an award. He knocked out 193 of a possible 200 with the carbine. The accomplishment brought him the rating of expert with that weapon.

Though in a somewhat unorthodox fashion, another man has definitely been outstanding. He is Stanley Joe Scheppe, a Falstaffian sort of individual who has turned out to be the unofficial court jester of the Aggie Squadron.

Though he sometimes gets on the nerves of the less tolerant, his value as a morale builder is considerably underestimated by those around him.

Sometimes running Scheppe a close second is Martin Schrank who claims fame as a mimic of animals and sports play-by-plays of Joe Louis fights and Aggie football games.

Another duo that have entered the realm of troop entertainment are Don Joseph and Kinsey Hallmark. Their version of "Mountain Dew" as a pre-training film appetizer brought loud applause from a mixed crowd of Aggies and Yankees.

Bill Richardson, while the rest of the boys take out for town, a show, or a beer after evening retreat, grabs his books and paper and heads for a quiet spot. He's taking a summer correspondence course and if diligence pays off in good grades, Bill should have them.

Chosen by vote within the unit, Henry "Botus" Phillips, Douglas Hearne, and Don Joseph were named the most outstanding cadets in the Aggie Squadron. Gold and silver leafed brass in secret counsel chose Don Joseph as the most outstanding of the three.

Phillips claims one distinction that the other two haven't equaled. Last week, on opening his laundry bundle, Phillips discovered, surprisingly enough for a GI laundry, that the correct number of pairs of underwear had been returned. There was just one catch—one pair was the wrong sex.

William Ray, one of the few Class of '50 boys at camp, has distinguished himself in two rather unrelated fields.

The most honorable of the two was his skill in pitching the Aggies to the camp softball championship. The second accomplishment, looked on rather coolly by our well-

pressed, second lieutenant class instructor, is his ability to sleep through almost any given situation during classes.

Three boys have become so proficient in certain phases of our class work that they are thinking of joining the regulars in order to make their knowledge pay off.

The first of these is Glenn Williams, who has probably written more military letters in class than most Colonels do in a lifetime. Another Williams, this time James, has filled out so many morning reports that he has begun to sprout first sergeant stripes on his shirt sleeves.

The last of this proficient trio is Bill "Strength Report" Price. After filling out enough of these reports to maintain a squadron for several months, Bill discovered that he had done about twice as much work on each one as was necessary. He hasn't recovered from the shock since—he had chosen this particular report because it was easy to do.

Thoughts of joining the regulars were on the upswing this week after the squadron spent the greater part of one afternoon watching two jet fighters doing air antics for a movie camera.

One of their tricks was to swoop over the Kelly flight line at about 450 miles per hour, but only 25 or 30 feet off the ground. They are so fast that they pass an observer before he can hear the sound of their engines. Then to top it all off they suddenly "stand on end" and climb straight into the sky.

PALACE
Bryan 2-8879

LAST DAY
"Bright Leaf"
THURS. - FRI. - SAT.

The Capture
LEW AYRES
TERESA WRIGHT

QUEEN

LAST DAY
"Ticket to Tomahawk"
THURS. - FRI. - SAT.

GREGORY PECK
12 O'CLOCK HIGH

Truman Orders Credit Measure Clamp-Down

Washington, July 19—(AP)—President Truman's order to tighten up on the government's housing credit terms is sure to apply a brake to the nation's record-smashing home-building boom, officials said last night.

The president, in issuing his order, said it was necessary to curb inflation and save materials needed for national defense.

One important effect will be to increase the amount of cash down payment on houses sold with mortgages insured by the Federal Housing Administration.

For example, the minimum down payment will be boosted 25 per cent, from the present \$2,000 to \$2,500 on a \$10,000 house.

Another presidential direction was to require a cash down payment of at least five per cent on houses sold with a mortgage guaranteed by the Veterans Administration—if present law permits.

VA officials were uncertain immediately whether the law would permit it.

First Action

The president's credit-curbing notice to federal agencies was the first cutting down on the civilian economy since the Korean crisis arose June 25.

Officials said it was sure to curb the record-setting construction activity which has been producing homes at a rate topping a million a year.

In pursuance of the president's directions, FHA Chief Franklin D. Richards wired FHA field offices over the country these instructions:

1. Use construction costs prevailing July 1 and exclude all later advances—as the basis for appraisals of the value of property to determine the amount of mortgage it can carry.

2. Cut five per cent off the maximum for FHA insured mortgages. That means, for the most part, dropping the top home mortgage from 80 per cent of the value to 75 per cent—thus raising the minimum cash down payment by 25 per cent.

3. Reduce the top dollar mortgages for single family houses from \$16,000 to \$14,000.

Down Payment Increased

4. Require a cash down payment of 10 per cent effective August 1, on the cost of all property improvements (modernization and re-

MacArthur Orders Japan To Keep Ban

Tokyo, July 19—(AP)—General MacArthur yesterday ordered the Japanese government to "maintain indefinitely" the ban on the Communist party newspaper Akahata (Red Flag).

MacArthur ordered the paper shut down for 30 days on June 26. He advised Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida in a letter today that international Communism had assumed "an even more sinister threat to the preservation of peace" since his temporary order.

"Passing events," the letter said, "warn of distinct danger in the use by Communism of the media of public information to propagate its tenets of subversion and violence."

MacArthur declared Communist propaganda would have no effect on most Japanese but the Reds would use the paper to incite "the irresponsible and lawless minority elements."

"In these circumstances," he wrote, "it becomes obvious that the free and unrestricted use of the media of public information for the dissemination of propaganda to such an end by a minority so dedicated in Japan would be a travesty upon the concept of press freedom . . ."

LFL ABNER The Idiot Era!

Cartoon strip by Al Capp. Panels include: "HOW CAN YOU SAY US EARTH IS IN THE IDIOT ERA? YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WE GOT IN THE FINEST SCHOOLS IN ALL NATION!" "IF THERE'S ONE THING A SCHOOL IS - IT'S EDUCATIONAL!" "I MUST BE WONDERFUL TO BE A TEACHER IN ONE OF THESE SCHOOLS!" "WRONG! - IT'S MIZZIBLE! - WE DON'T HAVE A TEACHER IN ONE OF THESE SCHOOLS!" "WHY? BECAUSE WE GOT OTHER TREMBLUS EXPENSES? - BOMBS, GUNS, BATTLESHIPS, BULLETS? -"

By Al Capp