

Battalion Editorials

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FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1950

'No Citizen Shall Be Denied' . . .

From all reports, Saturday's state Democratic primary is going to draw a light vote.

This year's campaigning has been overshadowed by war news. Even if there was not a world crisis, the campaigns were relatively weak in comparison to others.

It's just a dead political year. This type of year, however, is most conducive to the type of elections decided in the "smoke-filled back rooms." To win an election Saturday in many cities will only require the candidate's vote and those of his friends and relatives.

Our state, unfortunately, requires a citizen to pay for the right to vote. This

is but another factor which may cause Saturday night's election returns to show a minimum of ballots cast.

The Battalion is a student-operated, student-published newspaper. We are not supporting any candidate in the state or local elections. But we do ask this one thing:

Vote! The candidates have wound up their campaigns over the state in a flurry of ambiguity. It will be quite hard for the average voter to determine the issues, if there are any, and just whom he should support.

We ask, however, that you pick your favorite, and by all means, vote.

House Cleaning and Texas Laws . . .

A glance through the state laws of Texas will be sufficient to prove that the time has come for a clean-up campaign by the state's legislators or even a clean-up of the legislature itself. Presently, there are several state laws which, when brought out into the open for possible usage, contradict each other. How similar laws were passed while such laws are still among the states statutes can only be answered by Texas' sharp eyed, hard working legislators who unfortunately passed quite a few new laws without bothering to consider that there might be comparable laws in effect.

Unfortunately, these conditions exist. And no one seems to be planning to do anything about them. Latest exhibition of the depressing state of our ancient laws occurred in Austin recently when a group of independent grocers asked that laws prohibiting grocers from doing business on Sundays be enforced. The demand was aimed at chain stores, but it served to

bring forth the fact that such a law does exist. Not only one law, but four others dealing with the same subject and some of them contradicting each other, were found.

Several other so called "blue laws" state that gas stations may do business on the Sabbath day, but station owners are breaking a law every time they sell a candy bar or a cold drink. The law says they may sell nothing but fuel and lubricants. Other absurd laws involving similar situations and vague purposes exist among our statutes.

Many of these "blue laws" may seem humorous to most folks. However, they should be of deep concern to us. For it is we who are responsible for electing the legislators who have allowed Texas laws to reach this unforgivable low. We as voters, have failed our purpose and unfortunately elected men who tend to neglect their law making duties.

Rising Taxes and Survival . . .

The price of survival seems to be going up along with every other commodity. The initial success of the North Korean army has caused wide revisions in military estimates of men and equipment that would be required to resist a Russian drive in western Europe.

New plans may involve a program to develop better tanks and provide the infantryman with increased firepower. Since tactical airpower has not proven to be decisive in stopping enemy tanks, this job will fall to the indispensable foot soldiers.

A new tank development program was called for by American officers in Germany more than two years ago. Field tests showed that American tanks were no

match for the Russian tanks. American superiority over unlimited Russian manpower can be obtained only with more efficient weapons. Rearmament of western Germans has been considered in order to meet new infantry requirements.

New evaluations of airpower are now being made, but the defense of western Europe will not be based heavily on airpower until more effective anti-tank operations are developed.

These development and rearmament programs will cost billions of dollars, and taxes will go up in proportion. The main question, however, is survival rather than economy.

Here is what Houstonians will see on their ballots Saturday:

"FOR the ordinance. (A vote for the ordinance is a vote AGAINST public housing.)"

"AGAINST the ordinance. (A vote against the ordinance is a vote FOR public housing.)"

When will somebody—anybody—write an ordinance where a negative vote is entirely negative, while an affirmative vote definitely means "yes"?

A joke is never really old until it has been in two shows, a Broadway column, and the Commentator.

Signs of the times: The applications for admission to the Texas University School of Law, we notice, have an added line, typed in on the otherwise printed form.

The added line reads "Race . . ."

After being allowed to accumulate dirt, trash, and whatever else happened to be in the vicinity, Prexy's Fountain has finally been drained and cleaned. Inspection showed it had cracked and had been leaking for some time. No doubt a poor condition for the Calls of '38's gift to the college.

The Battalion

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

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the City of College Station, Texas, is published five times a week during the regular school year. During the summer, The Battalion is published four times a week and circulated every Tuesday through Friday afternoon. Subscription rates \$2.00 per semester. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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ANOTHER MILESTONE



Interpreting the News . . .

Foreign Intervention May Cause Showdown

By J. M. ROBERTS JR.
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

Just one more Communist outbreak such as that in Korea will raise the question of whether the west should seek an immediate showdown with Russia.

Korea has provided a surprising revelation of how much western effort can be sucked in by such relatively small actions.

Consideration of the additional trouble that might be caused by Communist moves in Indo-China, the Balkans or elsewhere already causes people to wonder what happens if Russia is able to sit back with her military strength intact while American and allied forces are scattered all over the lot against the satellites.

There have been all sorts of reports from the Balkans in the last few days. International commercial circles in New York have been full of rumors about troop movements and even invasions. The United Nations Balkan committee has issued a direct warning of possible trouble. Some of the reports have settled on Yugoslavia and mention Greece as the possible victims of Bulgarian, Russian and Hungarian aggression. Others have included Serbia on both as the communist seeks to establish a new state of Macedonia. Greece is just as much of a U. S. responsibility as Korea.

Similar reports have concerned Iran. These have been discounted by the fact that Russia has no satellite army to do the job there, although she might attempt an internal coup through Kurdish and other dissident elements. The Shah, however, has felt able this week to defy Russian claims to interventionist rights under an old treaty, thereby giving the appearance of confidence that Teheran is able to handle that situation.

Chinese Communist activities on the Indo-China border have led some inside observers to calculate that the greatest danger of the moment lies in that area. They include Burma, already torn by civil war, between several more or less communist factions, as another possible objective.

President Truman makes it clear that the United States intends to develop ample power to handle the little wars as well as to meet whatever timetable Russia has for herself. That she does have a war plan is now rather widely accepted, although it is believed flexible and still may or less dependent on some "break," such as an American or worldwide depression.

Better American Program

The American program, the President confidently expects, will be paralleled by a greatly allied preparedness and pooling of strength. Part of this is expected to be worked out at a meeting of the North Atlantic Council in London next week.

Russia is not to be permitted to consolidate her hold on more satellite flanks. She may think her effort to do so will scatter the allied defense. But America knows its football too well. The well-recognized job is to take care of these end runs while still developing the reserve strength to meet any power play which the Kremlin may plan to send through the middle.

Farm Federation To Hold Institute

The Texas Farm Bureau Federation Institute will be held on the A&M Campus beginning at 7:45 a. m., Monday, July 31 and lasting through Friday August 4. The institute will be sponsored by the Texas Farm Bureau Federation.

A registration fee of \$5.00 per person will be required when registration begins at 2 p. m. Sunday July 30.

Behind the Scenes . . .

'The Capture' - 'Duel In The Sun' Minus Color and Music

By FRED WALKER

"The Capture"—Palace Theatre—Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 20th Century Fox—Lew Ayres and Teresa Wright

It looks like Niven Busch ("Duel in the Sun") means to stay in Hollywood, riding a stereotyped horse with a broken-cinched saddle. His latest, "The Capture," is another "Duel" minus good music and technician.

A sordid tale of escapism and suppressed love, "The Capture" is, at best, boring.

Setting: Some South American or Mexican oil and cattle country.

Proposition: Accompanied by a sardonic smile, Lew Ayres pants after the widow of the man whom he has unjustifiably killed.

Comment: The "Tom and Jerry" cartoon is great.

There is one good show in Bryan, "12 O'clock High," and the people that missed it once will be able to see it through Saturday at the Queen.

Although an enlisted man may find it difficult to admit, there were plenty of officers in the war that were just as human, just as fed-up, and just as much over-worked (and just as much more over-worked) as any non-com.

Very good performances were given by Gregory Peck, Dean Jagger and Hugh Marlowe, but the ability of the supporting actors cannot be denied.

The music is some of the best yet heard and the photography is better than average. Let's have a quick look at the new pictures that haven't been released yet.

Paramount has been putting an all out effort to get box office receipts back to old level and consequently have a string of pictures ready for release within the next three or four months that should reach most of the public.

"My Friend Irma Goes West" with the original cast of the first "Irma" picture, will be released the last part of this month. August releases will include the much heralded comeback show of Gloria Swanson's, "Sunset Boulevard" (also starring William Holden and Erich von Stroheim), and a souped-up western, "The Furies" with Barbara Stanwyck, Wendell Corey, Walter Huston, and Judith Anderson. This was taken from the novel of the same name by Niven Busch, author of "Duel in the Sun."

20th Century Fox bookings for this same month will be "Stella" with Ann Sheridan, and Victor Mature, and "Broken Arrow" starring James Stewart and Debra Paget.

Columbia has two on tap for August also: "In a Lonely Place" (Humphrey Bogart and Gloria Grahame) and "Convicted" featuring Glenn Ford and Broderick Crawford.

Back to Paramount and we have "Fanny Pants" (Bob Hope and Lucille Ball) and "Union Station" (William Holden, Nancy Olson, Barry Fitzgerald) for the month of September.

The most advertised, the most publicized, and the most exploited picture ever to be filmed is "The Black Rose", starring Orson Welles, Tyrone Power and the new French annexation, Cecile Aubrey. I would not venture to say just how much was spent on its production, but considering that it was filmed in England and French Morocco, and that thousands of people were employed, I can imagine that it probably made a new high in production costs.

Starting August 12th, it will appear in hundreds of the national newspapers at a 21-day serial. Thirty-eight National manufacturers are creating, advertising and promoting Black Rose Fashion—ranging from Black Rose (Schubert) cocktails to a Black Rose (Tula) Nightie.

Two July pictures that have not come to this vicinity include "The Gunfighters" (Gregory Peck and Helen Westcott) and "Winchester 73" with James Stewart and Shelley Winters. The former is 20th Century and the latter Universal-International.

The current campaign of Hollywood's "Movies are better than ever," has cost filmfod, and as one of their public, all I can do is hope that we will get at least one decent movie out of every ten.

War Production Takes Time And Expenditures

By MAX BOYD

Washington, July 20.—(AP)—President Truman's call for \$10,000,000 in new defense funds will mean more guns, tanks and planes rolling faster off war production lines.

But modern weapons take time to build, particularly planes.

The Aircraft Industry's Association estimate it would take 34 months after an unlimited go-ahead order to achieve a production rate of 50,000 planes a year that is 10 months longer than in World War II.

The answer: Today's planes are much more complicated. Defense officials said that even with the proposed huge new expenditures, it will take several years to attain mass production of all weapons in a modern arsenal.

However, more money for overtime and extra shifts is expected to speedup deliveries of some existing orders.

Overtime For Navy

The Navy has already authorized its shipyards to work overtime as much as necessary to meet the needs of the fleet.

This should cut time required to take ships out of the laund "mothball" fleet. It also may reduce the year and a half to two years previously scheduled for the modernization of 27,000-ton Essex type carriers.

Overtime or extra shifts also may bring about an early increase in plane production. Most aircraft plants building planes for the Air Force are working only one full shift, with a smaller cleanup shift to prepare the factories for the next day.

One of the weapons marked for increased production as fast as possible is the Army's new 3.5-inch rocket launcher, credited with knocking out eight Communist tanks in its first battle test in Korea.

Bible Verse

"But as many as received HIM, to them gave HE power to become the sons of GOD, even to them that believe on HIS name."

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PLUS: CARTOON—NEWS



By Al Capp

By Al Capp