

The Government, the Public, and Control Measures . . .

Whether or not the American populace is going to take the critical step nearer the economic strait jacket, which would undoubtedly result if all-out control measures were formulated, is up to each individual citizen to decide.

The panic buying spree declared by some of the nation's citizens has already done its share toward instilling in the minds of our congressmen the necessity of price controls. Panic buying is in itself bad, but the inevitable price rises which accommodate such buying makes the action doubly destructive.

Many members of Congress who would otherwise hesitate to use the totalitarians approach, such as the full mobilization plan represents, are being influenced by the rise of price levels and possible further inflation. The upward movement in costs is due almost entirely to "scarce buying." There are no present shortages that affect the average consumer in any direct way.

The panic buying of foodstuffs such as sugar and canned goods, automobile tires and cotton white goods is completely uncalculated for. Actions such as these aid in causing inflation, which in turn aids no one but the enemy.

The conditions of this time as compared to those existing during World War II are not similar. Then we were trying to meet not only our own greatly increased needs, but also the deficiencies of countries that had lost their sources of supply and production. No such crisis now exists.

In the event that control measures are forthcoming, it will be up to the people to realize that the administration is not to blame. The public, not the administration, is to blame for any shortages resulting from hoarding and panic buying. Control measures are only the government's means of stabilizing that which has been put off balance by a reckless public.

If I Live to Be a Hundred . . .

The pollster of all pollsters, Dr. George Gallup, director of the American Institute of Public Opinion, has not let mistakes made in the outcome of national elections detain him from his ever constant work of finding what Mr. and Mrs. John Public like or dislike, believe in, or opine.

Most recent of the Gallup Polls takes up the matter of age, which everyone dreads and women lie about. However, with the work of leading scientists, government officials and experts in geriatrics or the care of the aged, the life span of the American peoples is greatly increased.

But with the new advice on how to reach old age comes the question of whether or not people want to get older. Asked whether or not they would like to be 100 years old, 57% of the persons questioned said they would like to, 32% had no desire to reach the century mark, and 11% didn't know whether they wanted to get that old or not.

Gallup also found that considerably

more men than women want to reach that ripe old age, even though women have more chance of reaching it. It is a well known medical fact that women out live men. The older you get, the older you'll want to get, the public opinion poll showed. About five out of every 10 people under 30 say they want to live to be 100, as compared to six out of 10 over 50 years of age.

The fact that men are more undecided as to their age desires than women is also exposed in the report. Twelve percent of the males voiced contentions that they were undecided, while only nine percent of the females were undecided. Even with woman's assured longer life span, she doesn't want to live longer. This undoubtedly is caused by the fear of fading beauty, another the fear of having no means of support without a man around.

However, we do not feel that Dr. Gallup's findings are absolutely foolproof, even if one considers the percentage of error. In view of recent activity in the Far East, where will you find a man who doesn't want to live to be a hundred?

Can Cancer Research Mean World Unity? . . .

Paris is host to the fifth Intramural Cancer Congress, and more than 800 scientists are comparing notes at the daily meetings at the Sorbonne. These scientists represent more than 40 countries, each one doing valuable work in some highly specialized field. Objectives of this meeting are to reduce the information presented in each field to the facts about cancer that will eventually lead to greater control or possibly a specific cure for this old and prolific killer.

At present there is no specific cause and no specific cure. Surgery and radiation are effective on early cancers, but there is much work to be done before the disease can be said to be under control.

The scientists are using facilities ranging from modern slide projection equipment to opportunities to visit Versailles, and the Louvre. The British are

working on the problem of linear acceleration of an electron beam, and Indo-Chinese are concerned about mouth cancers which are prevalent in their country.

The Latin American scientists have made remarkable progress in many related fields. Even the iron curtain countries are represented—a Russian delegation is present as observers. Money provided for cancer research by the American people accounts for the good work done by American scientists. Of the 800 in attendance, 250 are Americans.

The unity of purpose shown by these scientists against a dreaded enemy of mankind is important for two reasons. Cancer and war have much in common, and progress against cancer may set a precedent for unity of purpose in the elimination of war.

The Battalion

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

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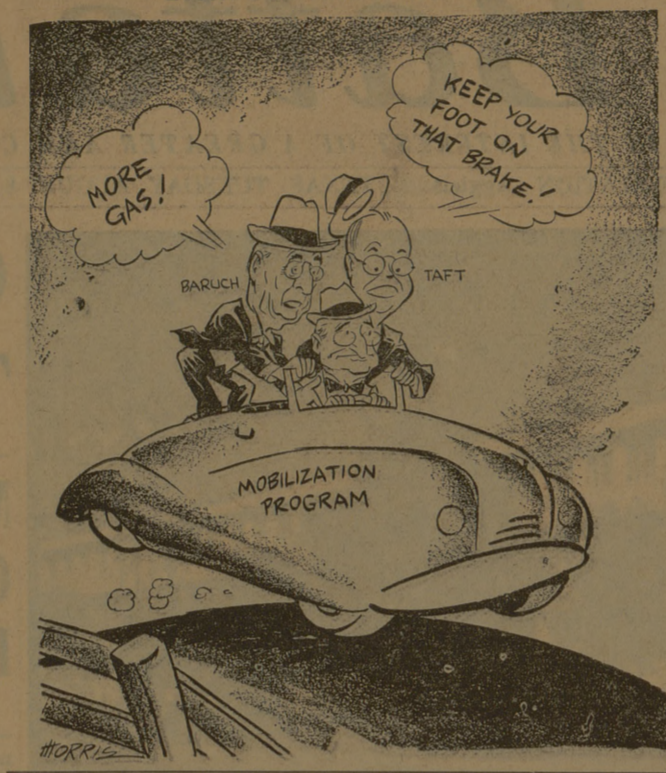
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Letters To The Editor

(All letters to the editor which are signed by a student or employee of the college and which do not contain obscene or libelous material will be published. Persons wishing to have their names withheld from publication may request such action and these names will not, without the consent of the writer, be divulged to any persons other than the editors.)

SUGGESTION FOR FIRE-FIGHTING

Editor, The Battalion:

I should like to add my suggestion to the many already made concerning the fire department of the college and the City of College Station.

I feel that this community has sufficient size to need and sufficient resources to support a full-time minimum fire crew of, say, three trained firemen on duty at all times.

This would provide a minimum crew sufficient to move one truck almost immediately and to get one hose into play at the site of the fire; this minimum crew should be supplemented by volunteers, who could report to the station and go from there to the fire on the other trucks.

This would involve added expense, of course; to keep three men on duty at all time would

mean placing eight or nine more men on a full-time payroll, to work on an on-24, off-24 hour basis and provide for days off, illnesses, and vacations.

At an average salary of, say \$3,000 per year, this would mean about \$24,000 to \$30,000 per year more expense than the present setup, including provision and maintenance of quarters for the men while on duty. Money for maintenance of equipment must be provided already; this need not be increased.

As under the present arrangement, the college and the city could cooperate in this service, on a basis for the authorities to determine; there seems to be no need for establishing separate units.

For justification for this added expenditure of public funds, one needs only to consider two recent College Hills fires. The Ferguson fire (\$45,000 loss) and the Bogard fire (\$20,000 loss) together account for enough fire loss to have provided fire protection for the entire community for over two years, and this includes only MONETARY loss (fortunately, no lives were lost in either instance.)

I'm no authority on economics or fire fighting, and I should like for these ideas to be accepted as mere suggestions for the consideration of the Citizens' Committee, as suggested in a recent Battalion editorial.

Wade M. Smith, Jr.
V. M. '51

Bible Verse

"Peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."—John 14:27.

Campus

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NEWS & CARTOON

Behind the Scenes . . .

Hollywood Goes Moralistic For 'Flame and Arrow' Film

By FRED WALKER

(The Flame and the Arrow; starring Burt Lancaster and Virginia Mayo—Showing at the Campus, Sun. through Wed.—Warner Bros.)

Burt Lancaster aspires to the anthropoid, as Hollywood points the moralistic finger at selfish individualism in a sticky movie, "The Flame and the Arrow."

The Lombard peasant Dardo (Burt Lancaster) has nothing but the freedom of the mountains and

a small son; he wishes no more. Even the presence of the Hessians, under the leadership of an evil Duke called the Hawk, cannot sway his mind. As long as the invader lets him alone, everything is fine.

The peasants cry out to him to lead them in revolt, but it is to no avail. Even when Dardo's son is taken from him by the Duke (The Duke's wife was at one time Dardo's wife, but she had tired of such a life and had deserted him and the child.) he will not consent to fight with the others, but vows to get his son back and let it go at that.

Foiled—Gets Only Mayo

General Walker Raised in Rank

John T. Walker, 17, USMC, has been nominated by President Truman for permanent appointment to the grade of major general.

General Walker received a degree in civil engineering from A&M in 1917 and immediately upon graduation entered the Marine Corps and served with the Marines in France.

During World War II General Walker commanded the 22nd Regiment during the assault and capture of Eniwetok Atoll and received the Navy Cross for "extraordinary heroism and meritorious devotion to duty during the assault against Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands."

After the Eniwetok campaign he was chief of staff of the First Provisional Marine Brigade during the invasion and recapture of Guam.

At the close of the war General Walker was assistant division commander and then commander of the Second Marine Division which was helping in the occupation of Japan.

F. C. Bolton, president emeritus, conferred an Honorary LLD Degree upon the general in 1948.

General Walker is now director of Marine Corps personnel and is stationed in Washington, D. C.

Dardo at last becomes reconciled to a joint plan of action with the villagers, when several old men are to be hung as examples.

The climax of the picture shows brother Dardo leaping about like an inhibited jet, knocking down scores of armed men with tree branches and flexing his muscles between bouts.

Fairbanks Original Acrobatic Hero Douglas Fairbanks started making these pictures popular many moons ago, and it wasn't long until his son and Errol Flynn took over. The pictures were then and are now, farces, but "The Flame and the Arrow" doesn't have that magical quality to stimulate the emotions that this type once did.

When Flynn started putting on weight, Lancaster took over, but has not proved himself in this picture; although as the stupid, arrogant, ignorant hulk of a peasant he is strangely realistic. It was a personal side-show for Lancaster, but was a far cry from his performance in "All My Sons."

This picture is very good for the child though, and no doubt they will enjoy it immensely, but the adult audience might be a bit bored.

Comment: All that and Mayo too.

Baldauf Leaves For Amphibians Study

Richard Baldauf, his wife and two children left early this week for Reading, Pa., for a visit with their families. Baldauf is a graduate assistant and is working on his Master's degree at A&M.

Baldauf will go to New York City where he plans to study amphibians in the National Museum there. He will also go to the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D. C. where he will continue his study. This work is a part of his thesis problem.

The Baldaufs will return to College Station in September, where Baldauf will continue work for his Master's degree.

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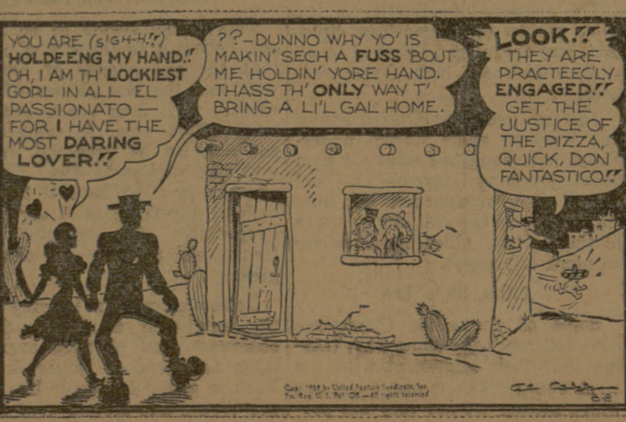
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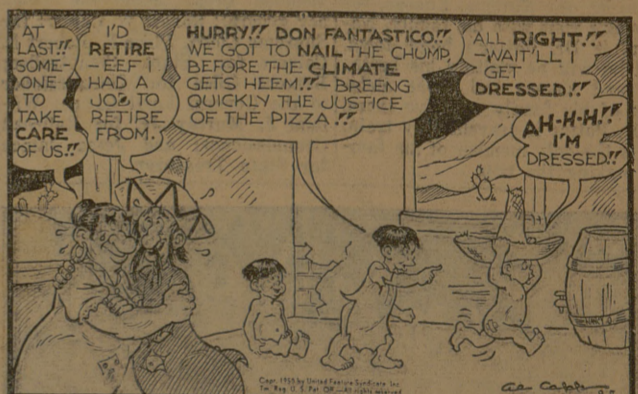
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