

Women Throw Children in River Koreans Running Like Animals in Fire

If We Do Our Part . . .

THE MARCH OF DIMES is now under way. Public response to the annual fund-raising drive of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis in previous years has enabled this humanitarian organization to do a magnificent job in meeting the increasingly widespread polio challenge.

The need for an enormously successful March of Dimes this year must be fully understood. Not only was 1950 the second

Whenever we hear an old man lambasting the youth of today we wonder what kind of child he was.

Rule by Lion

Better than by Rat

THE KOREAN record we have been playing may be as tiresome as the "Tennessee Waltz" by now. However the song is number one on the hit parade, and the "police action" deal in Korea is number one on the Congressional agenda. We like to think that our "plugs" have done some good. Both Democrats and Republicans are stacking up ammunition for the resumption of the verbal battle next week.

Some of the caustic comments are tabulated as follows: Rep. Sikes (D-Fla.)—"Gen. Douglas MacArthur's divisions ought to be re-enforced, or we should get our men out of Korea."

Rep. Poulson (R-Calif.)—"American troops have been turned over to a debating society in putting them under the U. N. banner." "If an atom bomb is dropped on us, I assume the U. N. will have to debate two months whether we should retaliate."

North Dakota Senate—On January 12, 1951, this body passed a resolution by a 36-5 vote calling for withdrawal of American troops from Korea.

These are just a cross section of opinions designed to alleviate the unfavorable circumstances under which our men are forced to fight. Efforts are also being made to tap additional sources of manpower. It is obvious that we cannot hope to win a "rifleman vs. rifleman" battle in view of the Chinese superiority in this respect.

We will observe this controversy with interest, and we believe that some good will come of it. Each form of government has its strong and weak points. Voltaire said that he would rather be ruled by one lion than a hundred rats. No inferences are intended, but we believe that his penetrating mind may have grasped a fundamental weakness in a democratic form of government. We would do well, in the present circumstances, to emulate the lion in our foreign policies.

The Battalion

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

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worst polio year on record, but its timing, immediately following the worst year, in 1949, has created urgent financial problems. A recapitulation of some facts concerning the cost of infantile paralysis brings this home vividly.

By last fall, epidemic aid funds of the National Foundation were gone, despite a most successful March of Dimes the previous January. Every available dollar had been pressed into service to provide for aid of the stricken. Not only for 1950's cases, but also for patients from 1949 and other years who still required care and treatment.

The patient-care bill alone for the three-year period 1948-50 took more than \$58,000,000 in March of Dimes funds—exclusive of the millions that went to underwrite research, and education for professional personnel.

Right now, in hospitals, homes and clinics throughout the country, there are thousands of boys and girls—and adults too—who look to the 1951 March of Dimes for continued assistance.

Edgar Allan Poe once said: "Childhood knows the human heart." Let that heart now know the need for happy childhoods for our young people—all of them within reach of our generosity. Let your heart move your hand—Join the March of Dimes!

If you think you have a very intimate friend, don't get into a business deal with him.

Fleas on a Skillet

THAT most reservists are like "fleas on a hot skillet," because they are subject to call on short notice, as Omar B. Ketchum, director of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, sally contends, is probably not far from the truth. Testifying before a House armed services sub-committee, Mr. Ketchum made several telling points in support of a plea that reservists should have at least 90 days notice before being put in uniform.

This has all the earmarks of a legitimate gripe. Reservists are called up regardless of family and business responsibilities, age or past experience, according to the veterans' official, while draftees can take cover under a long list of exemptions. Many cases of hardship were cited.

Except in a sudden and immediate emergency, it would seem more logical and fair to determine well in advance when reservists are to be called, thus giving them an opportunity to put their personal affairs in order with the least possible dislocation.

—The Houston Post.

Between now and election day the candidates will be courting the favor of special groups and there's no telling what will be promised.

By JOHN RANDOLPH AP Korean Correspondent

A NEW and appalling tragedy is building up in Korea—the terrible fate of at least 2,000,000 refugees who now are beginning to die along the road in their blind flight southward.

Unless some kind of help on the widest scale is speeded to these people, the United States and the United Nations may be confronted with one of the greatest human disasters of modern times.

Already this flight of the refugees is a made-to-order atrocity story for the Communist propaganda mill and its cynical theme of "heartless western imperialism."

It will make no difference to the Communists that the Chinese Reds are driving these pitiful people before them to harass and embarrass the American and allied forces.

Problem Growing

The worst of it is that the refugee problem is growing swiftly and steadily in relation to any plan big enough to meet it. Three weeks ago the large but not extraordinary number of fugitives was a matter for sympathy but not for undue worry. Today their plight verges on catastrophe.

Ever since the allied defeats in North Korea late in November, both North and South Korean civilians have been shifting southward to escape the wrath and oppression of the returning Communists.

At Hungnam, where the allies evacuated northeastern Korea forces two weeks ago, more than 100,000 North Korean civilians crowded desperately aboard ships which carried them with comparative ease to South Korea. But the real flight of the populace in South Korea began last week.

Their numbers were swelled by a million or more of the population of Seoul, which was almost a ghost town when the last allied troops left it.

For some of these people the reason for flight unquestionably was hatred of the communism they had seen, but it would be easy to exaggerate this. A majority of these refugees are rice-growing peasants who

have no knowledge of, or interest in, communism.

Fear Chinese

Many are fleeing because of an age-old fear that the Chinese invader will kill them. Others flee because U. N. troops have burned their villages in military operations.

Many are probably running just because everybody else is running.

Nobody really knows how many refugees there are, but best estimates place the total between two and three millions. There may be more.

"They never should have left, they shouldn't," said Lance Cpl. John Riches, of No. 4 London Road, Chapel St. Mary, near Ipswich, Suffolk. He is one of the British guards at a refugee check point.

"I saw the refugees in the battle of France and at Dunkerque, and it was candy to this. This is the most horrible sight I've ever seen. All these women and kiddies, too. The men who made this war ought to come right here and see it with their own eyes. It's a bloody shame, it is."

It was Corporal Riches' unpleasant duty to stand at a road and rail crossing and force the constant stream of refugees to stay on the tracks and not bolt for the road and village.

A few yards from him, lying behind a Korean shack, was the body of an old man who had just died of starvation and exposure. Down the road the guards had let a family leave the track to carry an old grandmother into a hut. She could no longer walk. It was obvious her end was near.

Must Keep Roads Clear

The Army's insistence upon making refugees keep to the tracks is stern but not wanton. The Army is fighting for its life, and it must keep the roads clear for military movements.

Furthermore, the Chinese and North Koreans have been flooding the refugee columns with spies and saboteurs, and the Army must take some steps to control them.

Additionally, the Army is not heartless; it wants the refugees in

a well defined area so that they will not be killed accidentally when the shooting starts.

Some, in fact, already have been hit. A few days ago an American battery, firing registration shots, killed about four and wounded perhaps seven.

I saw one old woman who had been hit by a shell fragment. Her left foot was nearly torn off. American medics went beyond the front lines to bring her back on a litter, then sent her to an aid station by jeep ambulance.

Her family, a daughter, son-in-law and two younger children, ran after the jeep and begged for rides. But the victim was to be evacuated to Pusan, and her family was told to meet her there—if they get there.

Frontline fire is nothing compared with the toll the journey and the elements are taking.

"I saw one woman give birth to a baby by the side of the road," said Capt. Robert D. Glaser, of 17482 Clifton Blvd., Lakewood, Ohio, a company commander in a famous infantry regiment. "She just threw the baby in the ditch. What could we do? This is the front. Her own people didn't care. Several hundred were passing by while it happened."

Throw Children in River

British soldiers said they had stopped some women from throwing small children—mostly infants—into a river from a frontline bridge. They had not realized this was happening until they saw several small bodies washed up on the river banks.

At one point the British counted 200 refugees passing their check-point each minute.

The refugees all carry astonishing burdens, but most pitiful of all are the children.

They trudge along in their baggy pants, from earliest walking age on up. Four-year-olds carry two-year-olds on their backs. In their peaked caps they look like little elves plodding along, until you see their cracked faces, their hands purple from the cold.

Sometimes tears course down their blue, runny-nosed faces. Some sob and whimper while they stumble and try to keep up with their elders. Their feet, in flimsy tennis shoes or

queer little rubber sandals, must be very nearly frostbitten.

Some of the children are lost, and they wait with a desolation that lingers in the ears. Hysterical mothers rush to them, see that they are not theirs, wring their hands and sob aloud.

Broken Humanity

This is not a single incident at a railroad crossing. It is not in a single district or a single province. It is thousands upon hundreds of thousands of human beings; it is an endless stream of broken humanity stretching from the Chinese lines to Pusan—nearly 200 miles.

When you awake in the morning they are on the march. They march all day. When you go to bed they are still marching. And while you sleep, they do not sleep.

The weather has heaped on extra cruelties. When most of them started it was clear and cold, with the temperature below zero. A few days ago it started to thaw, and thaw brought several inches of mud. Then a wet, melting snow fell, soaking the refugees' cotton clothing. Then it froze again—the worst thing possible.

Army people think that soon the refugees will start dying like flies from cold and exhaustion. The old people and the children will go first. Even Oriental endurance has its limits.

No Help for Them

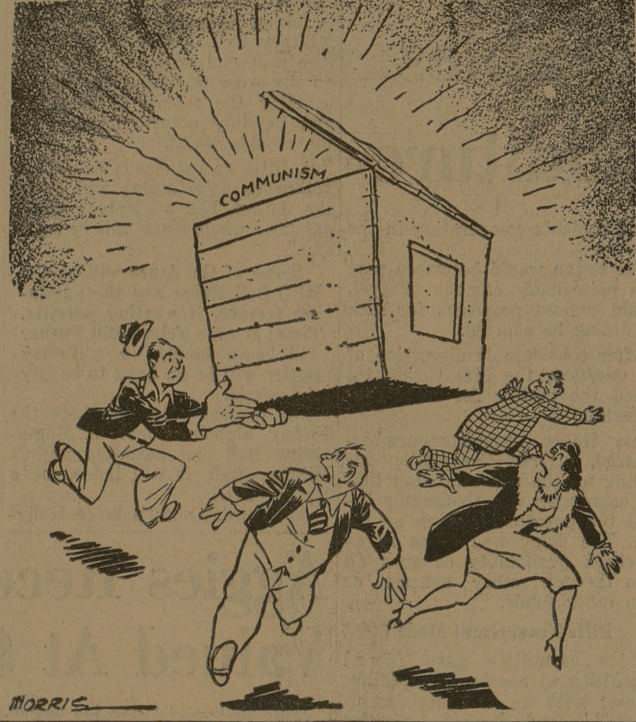
So far there seems to be no place to care for them in the capacity that will be necessary. The barest provisions have been made for rice—so bare that many beg from soldiers. Medical care, at least near the front, is non-existent. Soldiers, busy fighting, are stricken with the acutest kind of sympathy, but there is little they can do. The numbers of refugees surpass the Army's resources.

Army Civil Affairs units have almost no resources. The South Korean government is chaotic and can do little for its people.

Anyone who has seen those terrible columns knows something must be done, but what can be done?

The powers which undertook the defense of Korea face an appalling problem.

OUR NOMINATION FOR "THE THING"



Letters To The Editor

All letters to the editor must be signed by the writer and free from obscene and libelous references. Letter writers wanting their name withheld must make a personal request to the co-editors. No unsigned letters will be published.

Story Lost

Editor, The Battalion:

On January 9, G. N. Raut, president of the A&M United Nations Club turned into your office some information regarding the meeting of the club on January 12. It was imperative that this information be in the Battalion for the benefit of our members and others who are interested in our club. The person who was in charge assured Mr. Raut that this information would be in the Batt, Wednesday, January 10.

But when the paper was checked on the following day, it was found that none of this information was published. Feeling that the information might appear in Thursday's edition, Mr. Raut waited until the following day before checking by your office. Came Thursday, still nothing.

Upon your failure to publish this information, our president checked by your office in an attempt to find out the reason for your failure. He was given the rather weak excuse that you did not know who

Story Lost

Whether this is the case or not, we feel that something should be done to remedy this situation. Whenever information reaches your hands, we feel that you should have some competent person on hand to receive this information and that that person make every possible effort to get it into the Batt.

Carl D. Stephens Secretary, A&M United Nations Club

Sen. Douglas Asks 6,000,000 Men in Service by December

Washington, Jan. 16—(AP)—Senator Douglas (D-Ill) told the Senate yesterday President Truman should have the "specific consent" of Congress before he sends more American troops to Europe.

Douglas said he will offer a resolution approving the Brussels agreement—presumably involving large U. S. troop commitments for the defense of Western Europe—and will demand a vote if administration leaders don't.

The Illinois senator, also proposed that the United States should: Put 6,000,000 men under arms by next Dec. 1. President Truman's current goal is 3,462,205 by June 30 or earlier.

Blockade the coast of Red China.

Urge the United Nations to brand Communist China an aggressor.

Hold out as long as possible in Korea.

Douglas took the senate floor in the Great Debate on foreign policy amid these other developments: Senator Bridges (R-NH), asserting that the United States is already fighting "World War III" against Russia, called for an open break in diplomatic relations with Moscow.

"Let us have an end to this diplomatic farce," Bridges said.

"Withdraw from UN" Senator Eastland (D-Miss) introduced resolutions providing for

(A) withdrawal of the United States from the United Nations if Red China is admitted, and (B) American defense of Formosa in the event of Communist attack.

Eastland said he offered the resolution because "the new policy of the state department means surrender to Communist China," and he told the Senate:

"I have reluctantly reached the conclusion that the state department as now constituted cannot protect the welfare of the United States. The under-the-table deal at Lake Success was the last straw."

Senator Knowland (R-Calif) disclosed that he has written assistant secretary of state Dean Rusk protesting that the U. N. proposal would set up a "packed jury" to decide the future of Formosa. He said Britain, having recognized the Chinese Reds, is biased in their favor.

Senator H. Alexander Smith (R-NJ) said the U. N. should brand Red China as an aggressor and

warn the Chinese Communists to get out of Korea or have American warplanes bomb Manchuria.

"We are facing the issue of the very survival of the U. N.," Smith said in a statement.

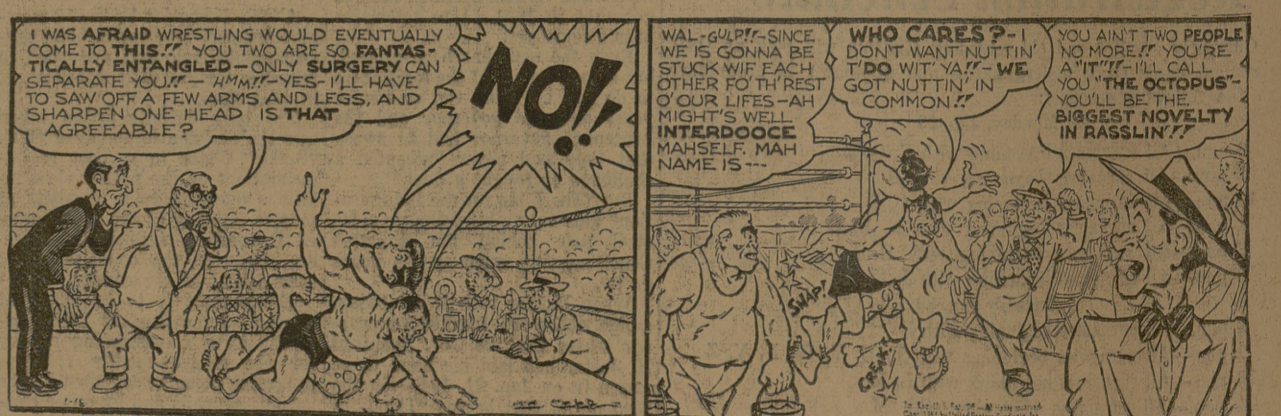
Senator Flanders (R-Vt) declared the United States should throw away the rule book in its fight against Red aggression and "use every shot in the locker" against the Russians.

Flanders also called for using Gen. Chiang Kai-Shek's Chinese Nationalists against the Chinese Reds, and said this country should encourage Western Germans to "stir up trouble in East Germany with all the support we can give them."

Flanders also urged that President Truman go before Congress with any proposal to send U. S. troops to Europe.

"He should do this for the sake of having Congress back of him," the Vermont Senator declared. "The President is bound to discuss these matters with Congress."

L/L ABNER A Star Is Born By Al Capp



Aggs Wh... Three and A&M the SWC... The b... Walker... through the wins and... For a... let's be pl... way arou... There... most Agg... For 28 ye... into the fi... Rock Jun... each and... ly diff... Floyd a... were the co... to each oth... circle of fri... would lik... This ch... We watch... men before... if any man... ketball bac... John Floyd... tough man... these days... that sentin... don't mix... "When you... hate that... "I don't ca... ball with hi... you don't... him." The gen... without gr... it correctly... "To the... all things... the word t... meaning b... As a... roach's phi... how and le... of itself. V... calling the... 'big-game... sweet;... "It's jus... Being a... coach (Am... ly), the to... little bigg... about if a... Floyd look... the press... quickly en... that is.)... It will... man like... a man an... About this... sun-shine... ple who ki... to think i... not imme... tually thin... shoo-in."... on the co... SWC team... getting by... Dean P... that he h... for a bash... expressed... wouldn't b... before the... That's a... So far... pretty goo... on the co... port of... PA... Bro... TODAY... M... SOL... Q... THE... MART...