

The Cure for Communism...

ANALOGY DOESN'T really prove anything, but there is a biological situation that forbodes dire political possibilities.

It seems that there is a plague germ that cleans up on cancer cells like a fox in a chicken coop. The catch is that the patient

Ideas - in Time - Lead to Reality

THE WAYS OF the world are strange, particularly with regard to the amount of time that sometimes separates an idea and its crystallization into fact or law.

The U. N. has been little more than an idea, and it could remain an idea for a long time in a world that looks upon war as the conventional extension of diplomacy or politics.

Lest the U. N. lose sight of its main objectives, its secretary-general, Trygve Lie, has ordered a continuance of efforts designed to eventually prohibit atomic weapons, and regulate armaments.

He admitted "In the present state of tension in the world, with rearmament proceeding at a rapid pace on all sides, it may seem academic and even utopian to proceed with serious discussion and planning on the regulation and reduction of armaments. I do not agree with this view. I believe the work of this committee should be looked upon as one of the vital undertakings of the U. N."

We are inclined to agree with Secretary Lie on this point. Even if those now living do not see the day when a Communist can sit beside a Capitalist with the dove of peace hovering above their heads, the idea will have been given a start. Apparently, however, several years and several thousand or millions of casualties will separate the idea from realization.

Administration Strategists

'Troops-to-Europe' Battle Set

Washington, Feb. 16—(AP)—The administration yesterday opened its formal argument in "the Great Debate," now pinpointed on the issue of sending more troops to Europe, with two maneuvers:

● Presenting fresh figures about Russian and Western military strength as "certain basic facts" for the hearing by the Senate's Foreign Relations and Armed Services committees. A report by the committees said Russia and her European satellites have about 5 million men under arms, the North Atlantic treaty nations about 4,500,000.

● Sending to the witness stand its most persuasive voices, starting off with George C. Marshall, soldier-statesman and the secretary of defense.

Dean Acheson, who succeeded

Marshall as secretary of state, is to testify today. Then will follow the military hierarchy—Gen. Omar Bradley, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff; Gen. J. Lawton Collins, army chief of staff; Gen. Hoyt Vandenberg, air chief; Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, navy chief.

As the Senate committees convened for the first day's session, there were growing indications that the debate toward an eventual showdown to be settled by Senate balloting was the position of some Republicans, among them Senator Taft of Ohio, head of the GOP policy committee, and Senator Wherry of Nebraska, party floor leader. They hold that President Truman has no power to dispatch more forces to Europe without Congress' approval.

Change of Pace

Hitherto, administration strategists had thought that to make such an announcement might tie

Eisenhower's hands in negotiating with the European nations for their contributions and also could prove disadvantageous if later it again seemed necessary to augment American strength abroad.

Pressure on Capitol Hill and elsewhere for disclosure of the figures had been in evidence.

What precipitated the Senate committee hearings and headed the debate toward an eventual showdown to be settled by Senate balloting was the position of some Republicans, among them Senator Taft of Ohio, head of the GOP policy committee, and Senator Wherry of Nebraska, party floor leader. They hold that President Truman has no power to dispatch more forces to Europe without Congress' approval.

Wherry authored a resolution

The Battalion

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

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, is published five times a week during the regular school year. During the summer terms, The Battalion is published four times a week, and during examination and vacation periods, twice a week.

News contributions may be made by telephone (4-5444) or at the editorial office, Room 201, Goodwin Hall. Classified ads may be placed by telephone (4-5324) or at the Student Activities Office, Room 209, Goodwin Hall.

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Entered as second-class matter at Post Office at College Station, Texas, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Member of The Associated Press

Represented nationally by National Advertising Service Inc., at New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

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From the City Desk...

New Area Cold Blast Causes Heavy Damage

... By Joel Austin



THE SUN BROKE through the clouds yesterday morning to end the second hard cold blast College Stationites have seen in the last two weeks. Probably not appreciated nearly so much in the hot summer months, Ole Sol was extremely welcomed as he quickly sent the temperature above the freezing point.

But in his absence the damage was done and all over town workmen are still busy repairing downed telephone lines, clearing the many tree branches that fell to block streets, and as usual after a freeze, fixing broken pipes that have frozen.

The Ground Hog didn't make a mistake this year, and maybe after his accurate prediction of more cold weather people will appreciate his regular, unselfish service a little more.

At the City Hall, officials had no accident reports during the two-day cold spell. The signal light at the North Gate was out for a while Wednesday night and Thursday morning due to electric current being off a few hours Wednesday night. The time switch on the light was put out of order when the current was cut and the light wasn't fixed until city workmen noticed it wasn't operating yesterday morning.

Resident Protests New Numbering

A College Hills resident was at the College Station City Council meeting Monday evening to voice his opposition to the city's new street numbering system adopted in an ordinance a few months ago.

The visitor pointed out that at one place on Walton Drive the numbers jump from 400 to 1100 at one intersection. He told the councilmen only two people on the street had numbered their houses and no major inconvenience would be suffered if the council could see fit to revise their ordinance to omit the large jump.

Members of the council, however, explained the situation which many other residents along Walton will be inquiring about as soon as they are notified of their new numbers.

The street makes a large arc. Beginning at Highway 6 in a Northeasterly direction and then after several blocks it makes a near 90 degree gradual turn.

Street Presented Large Problem

In laying out the lots and street numbers, the men hired by the city to revise the numbering system labored on this particular street for several days. They finally decided to place numbers along Walton to correspond to Lincoln and Francis Streets which ran parallel until the turn.

After the turn the street becomes parallel with Puryear Drive and Harrington. It was necessary to jump the numbers here to correspond with these streets.

Certainly the jump will cause a little confusion to residents of that area, but no better solution to the problem can be found. The councilmen agreed to consider any system which would be more efficient than the one recently adopted; otherwise, they plan no changes for the Walton Drive numbering.

Location of house numbers will be further facilitated by the street signs to be placed at every corner designating the name of the street, section of the city, and block number.

Municipal Election Set

The municipal election has been definitely set for Tuesday, April 3 by City Ordinance passed by the council Monday night. March 5, thirty days before the election, will be the last day candidates can file for the three positions from Wards one, two and three respectively.

Terms expire this April for councilmen G. W. Black, W. H. Badgett, and W. D. Fitch.

Last year's city election turned out to be rather exciting with a councilman from Ward two (College Hills) taking office by a one-vote margin over his lone opponent.

Bible Verse

And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth in me shall never thirst.

—John 6:34.

Background Complicated

It is against this background that today's hearings were called. The report the two committees had prepared was a handbook covering the essential points of comparative military strength and of the military and economic aid programs.

Actually, their figures on Communist military strength were not new, having been generally used in published articles, but they now had the stamp of official estimates. The report said the total strength of Soviet armed forces is estimated at more than 4 million organized into about 175 divisions.

(A Soviet division, at full strength, is about 10,000 men. Thus the combat divisions of Russia seem to account for only 1,750,000 of the total 4 million. The report did not say whether the total figure included Russian air and naval strength. However, it seemed probable the remaining 2,250,000 would include air and naval strength as well as part of the large internal security force maintained by Russia.)

Red Satellites

The report made these estimates of the European satellites' armed forces: Albania 50,000; Bulgaria 190,000; Czechoslovakia 140,000; East Germany 50,000; Hungary 60,000; Poland 200,000; Romania 275,000.

It set Tito's Yugoslav armed force at 650,000 men. (The estimate of Yugoslav strength appeared to be predicated on her army alone, since she is known to have slightly more than 30 divisions of 10,000 men each.)

Planes, Ships, Guns

'Mothballed' U.S. Weapons Still Eligible for War Duty

(Remember all the planes, ships, and guns that the United States had when World War II finally ended? Now, with the Korean fight a huge problem, and with rearmament being pushed, those same weapons are being brought from storage. Associated Press writer Clark Beach tells here of the treatment which the weapons have had since their storage and of their condition at the moment — The Editor.)

By CLARK BEACH

Washington, Feb. 16—(AP)—Uncle Sam is opening his stockpile of preserved airplanes, tanks, guns and ships and is delighted to find how well most of them have kept in the five years since he put them away.

LETTERS

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

Riding Boots From Rumania

Editor, The Battalion: In 1941 in Cairo, I was fortunate enough to find the last remnant of fine Rumanian calf to come out of Rumania before the occupancy of the country by the Nazis.

A Rumanian bootmaker who was then plying his trade in Cairo, made me a pair of boots from this piece of leather, which I have never worn except when riding and for which I have no further use.

One of your alumni recently informed me that good riding boots were in demand amongst the Aggies and I would like to dispose of these at a reasonable price.

I will be glad to send the boots to any responsible person you would recommend for his inspection. They are approximately 8 1/2 D.

W. E. Lessing 813 North 32nd Street Waco, Texas

Complaints Voiced Against Laundry

Editor, The Battalion: After observing the antics of the local laundry for a few years, we've finally arrived at the point of verbal complaint.

Our gripe is the result of the prices charged for extra pieces—extra pieces being all those over 23. The laundry charges two cents each for excess small pieces (pieces excluding shirts, pants, and sheets, we suppose.)

However, we've yet to hear of the laundry's returning two cents for every piece UNDER 23.

Also, what about the times when, due to holidays and such, a person doesn't send his laundry for a certain week? We've yet to receive any monetary sums resulting from these incidents since surely the laundry hasn't any right to be paid for work they don't do.

We would like to know where the two cents comes in—since socks and underclothes are not ironed why should we be charged? From the looks of some of the articles it is by no means a delicate one requiring highly skilled labor.

In short, it seems to us that the college laundry is a one way organization—using surreptitious means to extract precious coins from the coffers of the inmates of this institution.

W. D. Oradat '48 W. G. Modrow W. L. Moore '51 F. O. Cockrell

When the great hoard of left-over from the war was placed in long-term storage, everybody had his fingers crossed. The Army and Air Force had never attempted such a thing, and the Navy hadn't been very successful.

Many old salts in the Navy shook their heads when they saw the reserve fleet—about \$19 billion worth of ships—being mothballed in 1945 and 1946. The salt damp of the sea air, they predicted, would eat into the metal no matter what you did.

But about 200 vessels have been taken out of storage since the Korean war began, and only some of the rubber and other non-metallic parts have deteriorated. These parts are easily replaced.

Some Obsolete

Chief loss in all the services has been out of date. Aircraft and tanks have to be extensively modified because of improvements in the past five years. In ships much of the electronic equipment has had to be replaced.

All the services used their individual methods of preserving. The primary aim of all, however, was to keep the equipment dry. Rusting can be almost eliminated in the atmosphere, dehumidified to desert dryness.

The Navy accomplished this by sealing up its ships and constantly drying the inside air by pumping it through silica gel, a chemical that absorbs moisture. The atmosphere inside the ships was brought down to 30 per cent humidity—compared to 70 per cent in the air of the average harbor.

Safely Covered

All iron and steel surfaces of machinery were covered with a rust

preventative, compound a kind of wax. Gun turrets were sealed and dehumidified like the ships. If the big guns were not enclosed in turrets, a metal housing was built around them.

Just after the war, when the Navy had to rush its mothballing operations before its personnel was demobilized, it resorted to the quick and easy method of fashioning plastic cocoons around the guns. A net was wrapped around them, and this was sprayed with plastic until a hard casing had been built.

The cocoons proved breakable under ice and snow and are considered satisfactory now only in the South—and they are not too highly regarded there.

Ships Inspected

The stored ships, moored at naval stations on the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific coasts, are inspected every week. The schedule calls for putting time in drydock every five years to scrape and paint the hulls. About 35 per cent have been dry-docked since the war.

The Navy estimates that the total cost of preserving, maintaining for five years and overhauling and reconditioning a ship for service is less than five per cent of the original cost. And Navy spokesmen say the cost of new ships has doubled since the World War II Navy was built.

Tried "Cocooning"

Army ordnance men had about \$1 billion worth of new or practically new equipment they wanted to store. They tried Navy-type plastic cocooning on a few tanks and guns but rejected it when they found that even hailstones pierced the cocoon.

From Where I Sit...

Stockwell Finds Foil In Aging Errol Flynn



... By Herman C. Gollob

OUR AMPLE heart today sighs, cries, and dies for swash-buckling Errol Flynn, whose screen career has suffered its severest setback since his amatory escapades aboard a yacht were brought to light some years ago by a brace of vengeful paramours.

In this case Errol has again fallen prey to nature, although not so romantic a fashion.

He has trusted with Father Time, caught a paunch and bloated pan, and been exposed by MGM, who somehow duped him into voluntarily flaunting his aging and not-so-agile form before the public eye in "Kim."

What is even more pitiful than Errol's senile attempts at dash and derring-do is the fact that his role of Red Beard is a foil to prodiguenave Dean Stockwell's Kim.

This means that Errol not only bares his natural physical defects to the world, but is required by script to act the stooge of a precocious street urchin blessed with what seems to be the shrewdest wit and charm in India.

Even his tongue-in-cheek breeziness appears frivolous and inane in the face of Kim's devastating cunning, which is so ably portrayed by master Stockwell.

As a rule child thespians incite us to regurgitation faster than lumps in our cream of wheat. For the most part they are cute faces without an ounce of talent, obnoxious brats with egos swollen with the unwarranted praise of doting parents and depraved directors. Consequently, their performances reek with hammy pretentiousness.

Such is not the case with our little pal Dean; the lad is a "born actor." He has natural ability, poise, self-confidence. Moreover he has a mature gravity and aristocratic pride that seems destined to save him from roles of carefree adolescent. Stockwell is a young Byron, not an Andy Hardy.

So much has been said in praise of "Arena Theatre" that a dissenting voice seems almost heretical. We refer to Henry Popkin's logical arguments against arena staging in his article "The Drama vs. The One-Ring Circus" which appears in this month's issue of Theatre Arts magazine.

Anyone who has seen Houston's Alley Theatre or Dallas' Theatre '51 will likely take Popkin's essay as a personal insult.

Cartoon strip by Al Capp featuring L'il Abner. Panels include: 'Smoke Gets In His Eyes!!', 'The Eyes Have It!!', and 'TELEGRAM TO A YOKUM DOGWATCH'. Characters include L'il Abner, Nancy O., and other townsfolk.