

Big Boom

Frontier Closed Historian Asserts

By FRANK DAVIS Battalion Staff Writer

The world has been leading an abnormal existence since 1492, when Columbus and associates discovered the western hemisphere.

Walter Prescott Webb, writer and historian, brought out this point in explaining his thesis concerning the development of the great frontier in America Monday, at a joint meeting of the People's Legislative Committee and the Women's Committee for Educational Freedom.

Conditions in Western Europe before 1500 were stable in the sense that land, population, and wealth measured in gold and silver were constant. Webb described the discovery of the western hemisphere as causing a boom which threw the set proportions of wealth and land out of normal.

With the boom, new social and economic ideas took shape and eventually became the modern institutions of democracy and capitalism. The question Webb asked was whether the standards for a society in the boom period are adaptable to normal times, the return of which is marked by the diminishing frontier.

Webb received nation-wide attention because of a series of articles which appeared in Harper's Magazine explaining his thesis.

The significance of the facts uncovered by Webb are interpreted differently by various men at A&M. W. H. Rothrock, associate professor in the department of modern languages, found hope in Webb's thesis.

"Although the frontier has been absorbed, man can now turn to the problem of lifting himself as an individual, rather than as an agent in the race for acquiring material possessions," Rothrock stressed.

Dr. T. F. Mayo, head of the department of English, felt that out of the conflict caused by the diminishing frontier, a new social order might arise. Until now freedoms have been largely classified as the freedom to get and freedom to be, said Dr. Mayo.

Before advancing his thesis that the world frontier was disappearing, Webb collected data on the relationship between land, population, and capital dating back to 1500.

Using 1500 as the base year with the three elements equal to each other, Webb pointed out that the first unit to digress from the normal was land which increased six times by 1600 with the discovery of hitherto unknown lands.

While land area increased six times over 1500, the capital available increased eight times over the same year with population remaining about the same.

By 1700 the population was twice the size of the population in 1500, capital had increased 20 times, and land had remained constant. This trend continued until 1930 when the population per square mile reached the 1500 figure.

Population per square mile in Western Europe in 1500 was 26.7, according to Webb's figures. In 1930, there were 26.6 persons per square mile throughout the world.

Around these figures, Webb based his thesis, reasoning that the standard of living is dependent upon commodities produced which are in turn dependent upon land available per person.

Webb further reasoned that science destroys more than it creates. This means that science has speeded up the destruction of the world's resources, now banked due to the loss of the frontier.

"When fuel is exhausted, civilization will return to water and human power, unless the energy of the sun can be tapped. The world is expected to use up its supply of oil in 400 years, and its coal in around 1000 years," Webb said.

The problem which presents itself, according to Webb, is whether man will lose his individualism in a less dynamic, more stable society.

'Considerable Evidence' Say Military About Red Atrocity

Tokyo, Nov. 20—(AP)—Allied headquarters said today there is "considerable evidence" that about 6,000 American soldiers died in Red atrocity killings although bodies of only 365 have been recovered.

The statement from Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway's headquarters made no mention of Communist countercharges of Allied atrocities.

Each side accused the other of atrocities in Korea while the Panmunjom circus tent truce talks were in a one-day recess asked by the Communists. The Reds wanted time to study a United Nations proposal for a tentative cease-fire.

General headquarters of the U. N. Command made it clear the report of wholesale Red atrocities issued last week by Col. James M. Hanley did not involve an increase in the known American dead in the Korean war.

"Of the 10,836 persons (Americans) still carried as missing in action," the report said, "there is no conclusive proof as to the number of dead, though there is considerable evidence to justify presumption of death by atrocity of a large number which may approximate 6,000."

Broadcasts from Red radios in Pyongyang and Peiping conceded some American prisoners of war had died in prison camps but denied the report issued by Colonel Hanley of the Eighth Army's legal section as an "absurd lie" and a "slander."

Red radios in turn accused the Allies of (1) killing 17,000 Chinese and Korean Red prisoners of war or allowing them to starve to death, (2) killing or injuring 14,500 North Korean civilians in bomb raids, and (3) shipping out 1,900 Korean and Indo-Chinese Reds for use in atomic tests.

A U. N. Command spokesman called the atom story "pure fabrication."

Simultaneously top level Reds made an abrupt switch in their truce aims.

Red radios gave no indication whether Communist armistice negotiators would advance this new pattern when truce talks resume at Panmunjom at 11 a.m. Wednesday (9 p.m. Tuesday EST).

The new high level Red statements could set truce talks back to where they were when they started four months ago. The North Korean foreign minister proposed injecting punishment for war crimes—against Koreans, Red China's foreign minister endorsed the truce plan of Soviet foreign minister Andrei Vishinsky including an immediate cease-fire, a buffer zone along the 38th Parallel and immediate withdrawal of foreign troops from Korea.



Mediators Agreement May Halt Blood Plasma Strike

Washington, Nov. 20—(AP)—Mediators early today reached an agreement which they hope will halt a strike threatening to pinch off the flow of life-giving plasma to the armed forces.

Terms of the agreement still must be approved by members of the CIO-United Chemical Workers Union, who had threatened to quit work at the Sharp and Dohme Blood Processing Plant in West Point, Pa.

A vote will be taken at a meeting called for tonight in Philadelphia.

Terms were not announced by exhausted mediators, who met for 16 straight hours trying to work out a solution.

E. M. Sconyers, of the Federal Mediation Service, announced that the panel consisting of five company, 15 union and three government members, arrived at what they considered a satisfactory agreement shortly before dawn.

The threat to the already inadequate supply of plasma alarmed officials. Some said here that if the strike developed, it would shut off about one quarter of the flow of blood plasma to the armed forces.

A mediation official in Philadelphia said, however, it would threaten the army's entire plasma program.

Conditions were considered so serious that federal conciliators trying to stave off the strike by laboratory workers said if a settlement had not been reached by noon today, they had planned to ask the White House to step in—presumably with a fact finding board or other temporizing device.

They still may take this step if the mediation agreement is not approved tonight.

First indication that the strike might not develop came late yesterday from the American Red Cross.

Collection Continues

Richard P. Swigart, assistant to the director of the Red Cross blood collection program, told a reporter orders had gone out to local Red Cross units to continue collections for shipment going to the Sharp and Dohme plant, near Philadelphia.

Previously, collection centers had been told to stop taking blood for shipment to the plant, because of the strike threat. Units would, however, have continued collection for whole blood shipment to Korea of local use.

Swigart said the defense department had asked the Red Cross to send out the go-ahead for collection and shipment of the urgently needed blood.

Strike at 12

The chemical workers authorized a strike by midnight tonight, if no settlement is reached before then.

THE 52 CLUB

High Brow or Low Brow

Students Have Chance to Pick Music for Houston Symphony

By BERT WELLER Battalion Staff Writer

Texas A&M, never before well-known for its activities in the fine arts, will be given a chance to prove that interest in classical music is not entirely missing from campus life.

The Houston Symphony Orchestra, which will present two concerts on Dec. 11, has sent the school a tentative program for each of the two recitals. They have asked that the two programs be studied and suggestions sent in for any changes that the students might like.

The afternoon concert is designed specifically for children. Andor Totw will conduct a program of light classics and music of particular interest to young people.

Programs of this type feature commentary by Alfred Urbach and are a regular feature of the Symphony's Houston concert season.

Scheduled for this matinee are the Prelude to Act III of Lohengrin by Wagner, the Overture to the "Bartered Bride" by Smetana, and the Waltz from the "Nutcracker Suite" by Tchaikovsky.

Also programmed are The Enchanted Toy Shop by Rossini, Sleighride by Anderson, Serenade of the Carols by Gould, and the Suite from "The King and I" by Rogers.

The evening concert will be conducted by the distinguished musical director of the orchestra, Efram Kurtz. Kurtz has been acclaimed as being among the greatest living orchestral conductors.

Under his direction the Houston aggregation has assumed a position of natural prominence among symphonic organizations. The night appearance is a part of the regular Town Hall series, although Town Hall tickets will be honored at the matinee performance.

Kurtz has scheduled the La Gazza Larde Overture by Rossini, The Scotch Symphony by Mendelssohn, the Suite for Flute and Strings by Telemann, Facades by Walton, and Die Fledermaus by Strauss.

The program as planned by Kurtz would be of great interest to the serious music enthusiast, but includes too many unfamiliar works for the type of audience encountered at A&M.

The Scotch Symphony, the Walton work and the Suite for Flute and Strings are each worthy of performance on any concert stage but we believe that works that are familiar to the local audience would provide as rewarding an evening.

While many of the Town Hall group might enjoy the original program as set up by Kurtz, everyone would be more nearly satisfied with a program of the more popular classics.

As a possible alternate, the following program has been suggested: Rossini's La Gazza Larde Overture, either the Fourth or Fifth Symphony of Tchaikovsky, the Don Juan Tone Poem of Richard Strauss, and Khachaturian's Masquerade Suite.

This program includes works that are both familiar and worthy of performance on a college campus. The music for an orchestral appearance must be chosen for its variety and its worth as a portion of our musical heritage.

The latter program fulfills these obligations as well as the original Kurtz program, while having more popular appeal to an A&M audience.

Other works that might be included are the Military and the Surprise Symphonies of Haydn, the Third and Fifth Symphonies of Beethoven, the Le Cid Ballet Suite by Massenet, and the two tone poems of Debussy.

The repertoire of a major orchestra is large enough to include any of these selections; any of which would prove interesting to a student-faculty audience.

Anyone who would like to suggest an alternate program for the Houston Symphony's Town Hall appearance is urged by G. C. "Spike" White, assistant dean of men for student activities to submit his choices to the Student Activities Office.

The local Town Hall subscribers have an unusual opportunity in being able to choose the music that they would like to hear, White said. "Most artists are not so liberal in their ideas on program composition; there should be no cause for complaint if the selections played do not satisfy the Guion Hall audience," he said.

Student Life Meeting

(Continued from Page 1)

athletic equipment. This money will be spent for athletic equipment issued to the dormitories.

A request by the department of music activities was turned down by the group with the recommendation that the request for money for heaters be forwarded to the president of the college, Bill Turner, music director, made a request for the money saying the heating in the Music Hall was not enough.

Spike White, assistant dean of men for student activities made a request for \$500 for benches for the Grove and the drill field. He asked the committee to buy 50 benches for the Grove, which during reviews could be used on the drill field.

At the request of the YMCA the committee decided to approve the purchase of 55 folding chairs to be used in the building. YMCA Director, Cashion said there were not enough seats in the building to seat all of the crowds using the facilities.

The committee turned down a request by the YMCA for the repair of furniture. Basis for this refusal was on the grounds it was out of the scope of the Student Life Committee.

The final petition for money was by the band. They asked that the committee allow them the same grant they received last year, which was \$3,500. After a discussion over the expenses of the band, the committee allowed them a balance of \$3,500 after the expense of the freshman band trip to Austin for the Fish-Shorthorn game.

At present, before the action of the committee, the band had a balance of approximately \$2,500.

The Exchange Store Advisory Committee at their last meeting voted the Student Life Committee \$10,000 for use during the year. This past fiscal year the Exchange Store showed a profit of \$47,457.68, which is smaller than it has been during the past several years.

Out of the profits the store retained \$12,457.68 for remodeling and addition to stocks. The advisory committee also gave the MSC a grant of \$25,000 to cover the Deficit of the year. The remaining \$10,000 went to Student Life.

During the later portion of the meeting J. W. Doggie Dalton made a report on the Ross Volunteer's firing a salute during Silver Taps. The consensus was that it added to the already impressive tribute to the dead.

Before adjourning J. H. Sorrels made the motion that the committee thank Lt. Col. M. P. Bowden for his work done with the group. This motion was passed unanimously.

Truman Thinks Of Kennan For Russian Post

Key West, Fla., Nov. 20—(AP)—President Truman said today George F. Kennan is being considered for the post of ambassador to Russia.

The President said he had discussed the appointment with Secretary Acheson, and that Kennan would "make a good ambassador."

Mr. Truman made this observation shortly before he took off in his personal plane, the "Independence," for Washington where he will make a political speech tonight.

Ambassador Alan G. Kirk has been anxious to give up the Moscow post and has expressed a desire not to spend another severe winter in the Russian capital.

Kennan is a former head of the State Department's policy planning staff. He is now on leave and serving with the Institute of Advanced Studies at Princeton University.

Mr. Truman's plane left the airport at 7:58 a.m. (EST) for the four-hour flight to Washington.

Awards Total \$650 For Dairy Students

The annual Heep Awards, totaling \$650, will be presented to seven Dairy Husbandry students tonight at 7:30 at a meeting of the Kream and Kow Klub.

A freshman will receive a \$200 scholarship based upon his record as a FFA or 4-H Club member in high school. One first place winner from each of the three upperclasses will receive awards of \$100 each based upon their scholastic records at A&M. Second place winners from each upperclass will get \$50.

The awards are given by Herman F. Heep of Buda, Texas. Heep is a Jersey breeder and has made many contributions to the field of dairying.

Dr. C. N. Shepardson, dean of the school of Agriculture, will present the awards at the meeting in room 2B of the MSC.

LEGAL HOLIDAY Thursday, November 22, 1951 being a Legal Holiday, in observance of Thanksgiving Day, the undersigned will observe that date as a Legal Holiday and not be open for business. First National Bank, City National Bank, First State Bank & Trust Co., College Station State Bank, Bryan Building and Loan Ass'n.

ALL-AMERICAN Ed Salem U. of Alabama picks SOLO. Novelty sportshirt of fine rayon gabardine. Fully washable. 4 exciting colors with contrasting knit waistband. See this and other Puritan Shirts Today! The Exchange Store "Serving Texas Aggies"

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 by students 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. Days of publication are Monday through Friday for the regular school year, Tuesday through Friday during the summer terms, and Tuesday and Thursday during vacation and examination periods. Subscription rates \$6.00 per year or \$5.00 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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POGO By Walt Kelly. LPL ABNER A Voice Crying in the Wilderness By Al Capp. Comics featuring Pogo, Abner, and other characters with humorous dialogue.