

BATTALION EDITORIALS

Guest Editorial

As the civil-rights bill moves swiftly toward passage, popular expectations will sharply rise. They should not. In the long run this is a very important bill. But in the short run it is cautious. Much of the earlier urgency has been compromised out.

It should not be supposed by either side that the federal Department of Justice will move to the rescue of beleaguered or frustrated citizens forthwith and on a large scale.

There are two strands to the civil-rights effort. One is political and the other is legal. The first involves the work of voluntary organizations and their pressure on various organs of government, state and national. This can move at whatever speed the citizens wish. It is now moving fast, as demonstrations and civil disobedience spread and the aim is to put pressure on the full range of discrimination.

The second is a maze of legal actions, large and small, working through the courts. They are started by individuals, groups or organizations and sometimes by public authority, local or national, and face an array of counteractions by local authorities and police.

Up to now the legal form of redress has moved very slowly. Most cases are confined to the local courts which are often the instruments of the prevailing segregated society. Actions are costly; legal talent for Negroes' cases is in short supply; appeals are hard to arrange and often impossible for technical reasons. Court dockets are swamped.

The original plan for the civil-rights bill was to make it easy for the Justice Department in Washington to intervene, and to provide for quicker and more widely available appeals from the southern police actions, courts and laws. But in most cases this form of intervention has been narrowed in range and slowed down. Local laws and agencies are given three months. Federal compliance agencies are then given half a year. In most cases it is not until these are exhausted that the Attorney General can step in and then, only if his office can establish a "pattern" of deliberate illegal discrimination on the part of a significant grouping of voting officials, public accommodations, employers, etc.

Legal victory for one person in one locality will not establish a right for another elsewhere. In the face of local opposition the latter will also have to sue. There will be important test cases at first and ultimately the pattern concept will prevail. But no one should expect a sharp change of the wind overnight from this legislation. It is both the delay and the majesty of the law that it moves slowly but with ultimate massive effect.

—Christian Science Monitor

Fruits Of Labor

The library is the academic heart of the university, and a university is no better than the quality of that library.

To meet the ever increasing demands of higher education and research, the present inadequate facilities of Cushing Memorial Library are soon to be supplemented with an estimated \$3,671,650 construction project that will adjoin the existing Cushing Building. The design will provide the maximum number of features to encourage student use and to provide efficient library service.

While the construction plans are being finalized such bodies as the Library Committee are attempting to ascertain the nature of collections to be housed in the new structure. To determine this it is first necessary to correctly evaluate the present shortcomings. To this end many people are being consulted in their respective fields to ensure that those shortcomings are brought to the attention of the planning bodies. Then too, these same individuals are being consulted as to the future requirements of their departments. The result of these investigations will be, we hope, library facilities second to none.

It takes many hours of study and hard work for the responsible bodies concerned. An attempt must be made to please everybody, while at the same time keeping within the available budget. There are of course a thousand and one problems.

Steadily however, the plans of the new library are becoming available. As soon as possible this publication will attempt to bring to light decisions as they are announced.

There are many people working very hard at this project. It is the hope of this publication that forthcoming articles concerning the library facilities at A&M will adequately reflect the fruits of their labors, and awaken students and faculty, as well as the general public, to the tremendous job being undertaken.

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JOHN WRIGHT EDITOR Clovis McCallister News Editor

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



—Not that it matters now—but didn't you say that you had closed th' window last night?

Subject Of Birth Control Can Be Political Dynamite

By TEX EASLEY Associated Press Special Service WASHINGTON (AP) — Birth Control is a subject many congressmen shy away from as political dynamite, but not Rep. Clark Fisher of West Texas.

Fisher contends that dissemination of birth control information would be the most lethal weapon possible in the war against poverty. He elaborated and expanded on his views during House debate on the foreign aid bill.

"Mr. Speaker," he told his colleagues, "the pending foreign aid bill and the antipoverty legislation serve to remind us that these proposed expenditures will be but an exercise in futility unless more is done to curb the booming rate of population increase."

"This would be a good time to review this problem, both at home and world wide."

"Let us think in terms of the cause of our problems, rather than just floundering about in attempting to treat the symptoms."

The quiet-speaking Texan, who is 60 but doesn't look it, and has four grandchildren, then set forth some sobering statistics:

At the present rate of population growth there will be 200 million people in this country in just three years, some 260 mil-

lion by 1980 and more than 700 million by 2050—just 85 years hence, if the present rate continues.

The world population is gaining at the rate of 50 million a year, and the rate is increasing because of science. In Ceylon, for example, the mortality rate was slashed 40 per cent in one year by spraying DDT in an antimalarial drive.

If the present rate of growth is continued for 600 years, this would leave every inhabitant of the world with only one square yard to live on.

"It took untold thousands of years to reach the first billion in world population, which was achieved in 1850," Fisher said.

"But look what has happened since then. The second billion was recorded by 1930; and the third billion required only 30 years. And the fourth billion will require only 15 years . . ."

"Mr. Speaker, it is sheer folly for our government to send foreign aid to underdeveloped countries, ostensibly for the purpose of helping raise the living standards of the poor, unless such aid is accompanied by a program of dissemination of birth control information."

"Otherwise the effort is futile and indeed borders on stupidity."

Schweitzer Hospital Crude, Still Best Hospital In Gabon

The African hospital of Dr. Albert Schweitzer has no running water, no indoor toilets, and, except for an operating lamp in surgery, no electric conveniences. Yet despite its crudeness, it offers the best medical care in the entire country of Gabon, an area of more than 100,000 square miles.

A report on the Schweitzer hospital as well as another African medical facility, the Sudan Interior Mission Eye Hospital in Kano, North Nigeria, appears in the June issue of "Texas State Journal of Medicine," published for physicians by the Texas Medical Association.

The story entitled "Within the Dark Continent, Progress in Sight and Insight" is the account of the work of a Christian Medical Society short-term missionary. Dr. Robert Rock, the former missionary, is now in the private practice of ophthalmology in Austin. In 1962 he spent three months in Africa, working six weeks with Dr. Schweitzer in Lambarene and six weeks with Dr. Ben Kietzman in Kano.

The two African medical centers to which Dr. Rock donated his time provide a contrast in the old and new ideals in missionary activity. Dr. Schweitzer's hospital is primitive. Dr. Rock reports, and this is the way Dr. Schweitzer wishes it. "Le Grand Docteur" — novelist, physician, musician, teacher, evangelist, and humanitarian — insists that patients should be kept in their own environment.

The other hospital where Dr. Rock worked is up-to-date, and its staff encourages all possible progress.

Schweitzer, now 89, no longer practices medicine. He devotes

his time during the day to supervising every detail of the work of his clinic. His evenings are spent playing the piano and reading and writing political, philosophical, and theological books.

Access to Lambarene is by way of the Ogowe River. Slender dugouts carry the sick through crocodile and hippopotamus infested waters to the hospital deep in the jungle. The patient's family accompanies him and sets up housekeeping outside his room. They hang their wash on clotheslines between the brown tin-roofed buildings, and their livestock wander through the grounds. Cost of feeding the patients' relatives is one of the largest items in the hospital budget.

Dr. Schweitzer looks on the natives as children and trains none above the level of nurse's aide because he believes this is the limit of their mentality, reports Dr. Rock.

The staff of the Mission Eye Hospital in Kano, however, attempts to train Africans in everything. Natives are employed as laboratory technicians, nurses, and opticians. The staff hopes to find an African physician to train as an ophthalmologist.

Dr. Ben Kietzman who is the

only full-time physician at the Kano hospital alternates spending three years in Africa with one in the States. He is a combination mechanic, plumber, electrician, and physician, and his only medical help comes from short-term missionaries.

Dr. Rock says although Africans are suspicious of white people, they turn to them in time of illness. All white people are considered doctors, he reports, and every missionary home in Africa is a first aid station. He tells of one woman missionary—probably the equivalent of a practical nurse—who treats from 200 to 300 patients daily.

Africa is a land chained to the past by ignorance and superstition, yet in certain areas, the article says, Christian missionaries with their ministry of healing have superimposed a new way of life upon an old culture.



Wanda Pugh, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Pugh, Rt. 1, Centerville, after graduating from the Centerville High School, enrolled for the Secretarial Course at McKenzie-Balkwin Business College of Bryan, Texas. She was an apt and earnest student and earned a Secretarial diploma from this school.

Shortly after completing her course, she started to work for the First National Bank of Madisonville, Texas, and is enjoying her work.

2 A&M Seniors

Selected Chaplains

Two A&M University seniors from Southeast Texas have been selected civilian student chaplain and assistant chaplain for the next academic year.

J. Gordon Gay, coordinator of campus religious life, announced James R. Hattan, as civilian student chaplain. He is an agricultural engineering student, a member of the Singing Cadets and leads the singing at Reliance Baptist Church in this area. Hattan also is active in the YMCA.

School Group

Selects President

Eldridge Eason of the Spring Branch Public Schools in metropolitan Houston is the new president of the Texas Association of Public School Adult Education.

He succeeds George Telge, Houston schools counselor, after elections this week on the A&M University campus. Eason is director of adult education for the Spring Branch schools.

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