

The Battalion

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CORRECTION

The Battalion incorrectly reported on January 31 that Beverly Elaine Bell, a freshman wildlife science major at A&M, was indicted by the Brazos County Grand Jury for delivery of phenylcyclidine. A different Beverly Bell was indicted by the Grand Jury.

Ford predicting better economy

ATLANTA, Ga. (AP) — President Ford, on a two-day tour to promote his economic-energy program, predicted Tuesday that the nation's flagging economy is going to do better than some of the experts are predicting.

He said that by the second or third quarter of 1975 there will be a switch "on the plus side" and he believes an "improving economic picture" would justify his seeking re-election in 1976.

Ford held a 35-minute news conference — his second this year — before returning home to Washington from his public appearance swing into the South — the first of a series of trips to bring his program to the grassroots.

Ford himself was emphasizing the economy, and the questions from traveling White House and local reporters were overwhelmingly on that subject.

Ford said his \$349 billion record peacetime budget, submitted to Congress Monday with a \$52 billion deficit, was not "an austerity budget. It's a very expensive budget." But he said it was carefully drawn to avoid "the rekindling of double digit inflation."

Ford said he would "vigorously oppose any attempt" by Congress "to slash without rhyme or reason" his \$92.8 billion defense budget because it could jeopardize national security.

Ford said his predictions about improved conditions later this year probably would mean a 5 per cent increase in the gross national product, the total output of the nation's goods and production.

"It will undoubtedly mean an increase of about two million in those employed," he said.

And, said the President, those economic areas "will get better the further we go into '76."

Ford also said he sees some evidence that public confidence is improving and "we will get a faster

recovery than what some of the experts are forecasting."

One way to help restore confidence, Ford said, is "good, hard marketing practice" like that being shown now by the auto and appliance industries. Auto dealers, for example, have been offering cash rebates to improve car sales.

Ford vigorously defended his economic-energy program which calls for a \$16 billion tax reduction or rebate, and a \$17 billion curtailment of certain federal expenditures.

He said Congress must come up with a package of its own if it does not agree with his and cannot "pick and choose with press release answers. They have to have something solid."

This is the theme that Ford has been promoting since he presented his program to Congress last month and throughout his two days here in which he made five public appearances.

On foreign policy, Ford said he was confident that Congress would use good judgment and provide the \$522 million he has requested for additional aid to South Vietnam and Cambodia.

He said that with this money he has recommended for the next fiscal year "the South Vietnamese can and will be able to defend themselves against the aggressors from the North."

Ford said there are only relatively minor differences in the current Geneva negotiations on nuclear weapons agreements with the Soviet Union and he sees no reason why they cannot be reconciled.

The President said he is looking forward to a visit from Soviet leader Leonid Breznev in Washington in April. Asked how he views the recent interest shown by Arab oil businessmen in investing in

America — "even here in Georgia" — Ford said the Department of State and the National Security Council are looking into this question.

He said he was withholding any answer until the matter is reviewed.

On another topic, Ford confirmed that he received information when he was a congressman from Asst. Atty. Gen. Will Wilson, then in charge of the Justice Department Criminal Division, and called for the impeachment of Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas.

Ford gave his response in answer to a question on whether he had access to or whether he was slipped secret FBI data at the time.

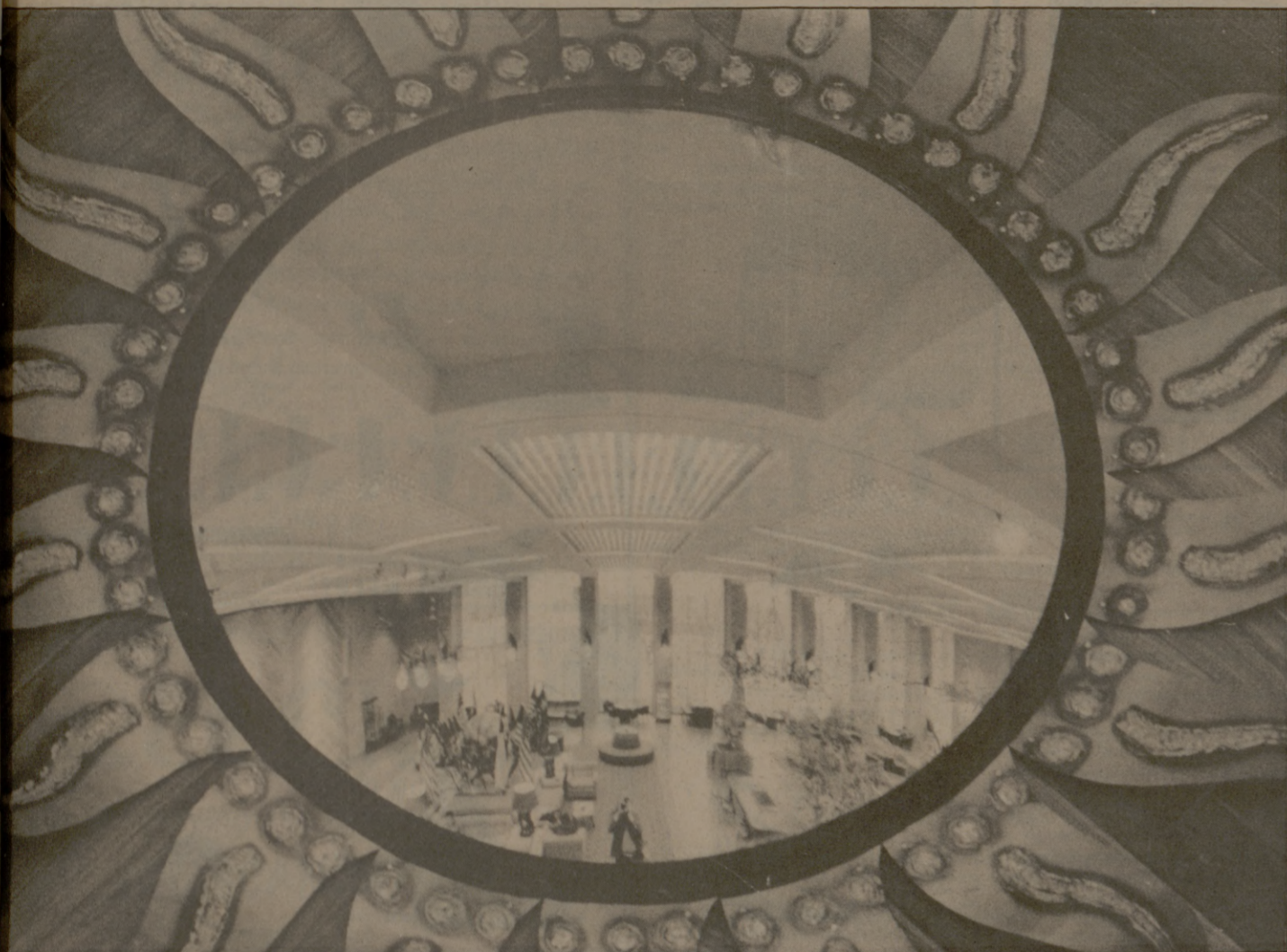
The President said, "I do not know what the source was of the information that was given to me."

Later, Deputy Press Secretary John W. Hushen said that while the matter was aired during Ford's vice presidential confirmation hearings and there was "nothing new to it."

Ford said that Congress, acting "the quicker the better," would be the best way to turn the economy from a recession. He said he believes that any additional stimulant to the economy now could lead to the kind of inflation "we fought so hard to overcome for the last 12 months."

He warned that any budget deficit beyond his \$52 billion would dry up financial markets, probably force interest rates higher and would start the country down the road toward higher inflation.

Ford said his proposals include "good programs to help the unemployed, to train those people who are unemployed, to help people on Social Security and other retirement programs," and he concluded, "I do not believe we need the extra \$15 billion recommended by the various mayors."



Wide world of the MSC

From the sun-shaped mirrors in the Student Lounge, there's a fish-eye view of the world below. You'll never see this from the floor, but

photographer Jack Holm caught this shot with a handy telephoto.

Recession not predicted by most

Greenspan says economic decline a surprise

WASHINGTON (AP) — Chairman Alan Greenspan of the President's Council of Economic Advisers acknowledged on Tuesday that the nation's steep economic slide caught economic advisers by surprise.

"With all of our sophisticated techniques, and they are very sophisticated, the extent of our current decline was not projected as recently as a few months ago," Greenspan said at a news briefing on the President's annual economic report to Congress.

In that report, the Council of Economic Advisers argued that the economic decline was not foreseen by "a fairly broad consensus among economists," at the President's Summit Conference on Inflation last September.

These economists, the advisers said, predicted little change in

economic output in the ensuing quarters but some increase in unemployment. Inflation, Ford concluded after the summit, remained the nation's number one problem.

Not everybody at the Summit Conference supported that view. President George Meany of the AFL-CIO predicted that the economic policies being followed would lead to economic collapse.

Meany told Ford at one point that "a depression is not a solution to our problem and, in fact, is precisely the direction in which the economy is headed because the policies of your advisers, Mr. President, are designed to combat excessive demand inflation."

While inflation is a worry for workers, Meany said, they are equally scared by recession. "Recession and rising unemployment spell economic disaster for the

workers." Events since the summit have confirmed Meany's predictions. The nation's economy declined 2.2 per cent in 1974 as measured by the Gross National Product, and another 3.3 per cent decline is forecast this year.

Unemployment is expected to rise near 8 per cent — or 7.2 million workers — early this year, and remain there until early 1976, after which it will decline at a painfully slow rate, the council of Economic advisers said.

"The economy is in a serious recession," Ford said in his economic report.

The advisers said their predictions went awry in part because automobile sales slumped badly in the fourth quarter of 1974 and the auto industry was "in a state of collapse," the advisers say in their report.

"Why this happened is still not entirely clear," they added, although they mention a \$400 average increase in auto prices for 1975 autos as one probable cause.

Councilmen hear city plan details

By ROD SPEER
City Editor

"Call it a guide."
"No, better yet, call it a plan."
Well, the City Council decided to call it a plan, but only after conducting its longest debate of the evening.

"The plan" is the city's Comprehensive Development Plan and the purpose of Tuesday's called meeting was to hear a report of its status and findings from Dr. Charles Pinnell, president of Pinnell-Anderson-Wilshire and Associates, an urban consulting firm.

The name debate stemmed from fears of councilmen that the public would interpret the word "plan" to imply the council was obligated to carry out its specifications. Adopt a "plan" and you're committed, commented Mayor O.M. Holt.

To avoid that commitment, Councilman Homer Adams pushed for the council to call it a "guide."

Pinnell said that with the constant fluctuation of the social and economic status of the world, "there is no way" the city could exactly follow the firm's recommendations, parts of which anticipate the city's needs as far in the future as 1990.

In a partial compromise, the council voted to call the document "Comprehensive Plan: A Guide for Future Development."

Pinnell's presentation outlined conclusions reached in the third interim report of Phase III of the plan. Describing future park and recreational needs, he said by 1990 the city should have 17 neighborhood

parks (about 10 acres apiece) and a district parks (50 acres apiece) and a community park, about 100 acres and proposed to be adjacent to the East By-pass south of Highway 30. The report states the city should currently have 12 of the 10-acre parks, although the city has only five. Pinnell said the recommendations are based on standards set by the National Recreation and Parks Association and an anticipated population of 52,000 in 1990. (According to the 1970 census, the population was 17,600; city officials estimate the current population at 30,000.)

Needed capital improvements in the next five years suggested in the report included finding a new sanitary landfill site, doubling the size of City Hall, adding to police and fire department facilities and contracting with the university to tie into the water tower for fire protection.

Following another name-change debate, the council decided to rename the Charter Revision Committee as the Charter Revision Commission and appointed its members.

The commission members include Councilman Jim Dozier, former College Station Mayor Dick Hervey, City Attorney Neeley Lewis and Jerry Cooper, the editor of the former students' publication, the Texas Aggie.

Others on the commission are Earl Bennett, M.L. Cashion, Mae Holleman, Gene Benton and Bill Scott.



Don't bogart that paper

The mouth of this carved wood face in the stairwell of the MSC made a perfect

holder for a passerby's paper. Litter can also be deposited in the trash cans.

Photo by Douglas Winship

Student senators to debate rules, yell leader regs

A request for a referendum on female yell leaders will be voted on Thursday night in a special Senate meeting.

The meeting will be held in room 204 of the Harrington Center Annex.

The resolution, sponsored by John Tyler, is probably the most controversial issue faced by the Senate, said Steve Eberhard, student body president.

However, the most important in over-all effect, said Eberhard, is the vote on the first part of a Blue Book revision, sponsored by Jeff Dunn.

"It will have considerable impact and influence on student's lives in the near future," said Eberhard.

The bill will answer pass-fail and Q-drop questions, he said.

A second controversial resolution before the Senate Thursday is that of head yell leader, sponsored by John Tyler.

It calls for the position of head yell leader being filled by the candidate receiving the most votes.

The Gathright Awards resolution, sponsored by Jeff Dunn, is also to be voted on.

The Awards are presented each year to the outstanding scholastic students in each college. Four from each undergraduate college and five from graduate school are selected.

Two resolutions will receive first reading before the Senate: the second part of the Blue Book resolution, this half sponsored by John Tyler, and a student service fee reserve request, sponsored by Curt Marsh.

Today



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Weather

Partly cloudy Wednesday becoming cloudy and cooler tonight and Thursday. Northwestern winds 8-14 mph. High today 58°; low tonight 39°; high Thursday 44°.