

SCONA XX... the third hundred years

SCONA looks at past, future

Chairman bids delegates 'hello'

In 1975, the Student Conference on National Affairs celebrates the 20th year of its inception as the nation prepares for its bicentennial anniversary. This, then, is a time when reflection on past events is very much in order, and SCONA XX recognizes this fact with a display of materials from past conferences. However, retrospection

serves little purpose unless we learn from the past and do not repeat errors previously made. In an historical period marked by crises whose effects could have been averted or at least mitigated by foresight, it has become increasingly apparent that one of our nation's greatest mistakes has been its failure to consider future consequences in its attempts to

solve present problems.

The SCONA XX committee thus feels that the theme "America: The Third Hundred Years" is particularly timely. The aim of the conference is to examine some forecasting and long-range planning mechanisms by use of which the nation can foresee and circumvent major problems, as well as selected

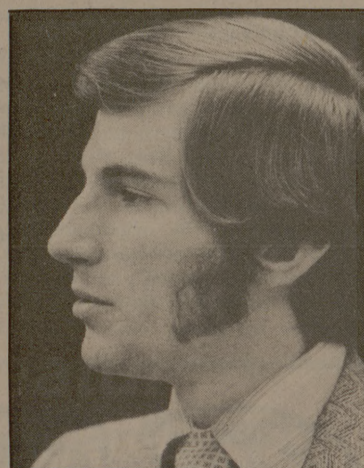
topics in areas which appear to be of major importance in determining the future of our society. The conference title is intentionally broad and covers a wide range of sub-topics. It represents an attempt to approach problem-solving in a wholistic manner, rather than attempting to isolate problem areas, thus denying their essentially interdependent natures.

It has been the goal of the committee throughout this last year to make the program both as educational and as enjoyable as possible. A tremendous quantity of work and a considerable amount of money have been invested in planning SCONA XX. But the success of the conference will be determined by the benefit which you receive by having attended, and this will be largely determined by the magnitude of your efforts during the conference.

The SCONA committee members are always available to facilitate the functioning of the conference, so please do not hesitate to ask for

any assistance you might need. Welcome to Texas A&M University and best wishes for a successful conference.

John D. Nash, Jr.
Chairman, SCONA XX



JOHN NASH

Genetics' future topic of speech

Genetic engineering and the future will be the subject of a presentation by Dr. Roy Curtiss, Friday at 4:45 p.m., in the Rudder Center.

The SCONA speech is entitled "Genetic Engineering: Salvation or Curse."

Curtiss will discuss the present controversy between scientists who favor further genetic experimentation and those who fear a biological and genetic catastrophe.

A number of geneticists have suggested that the present experimentation — with mutant genes — will cause uncontrollable diseases unless more stringent methods of experimenting are devised.

Curtiss, a graduate of Cornell

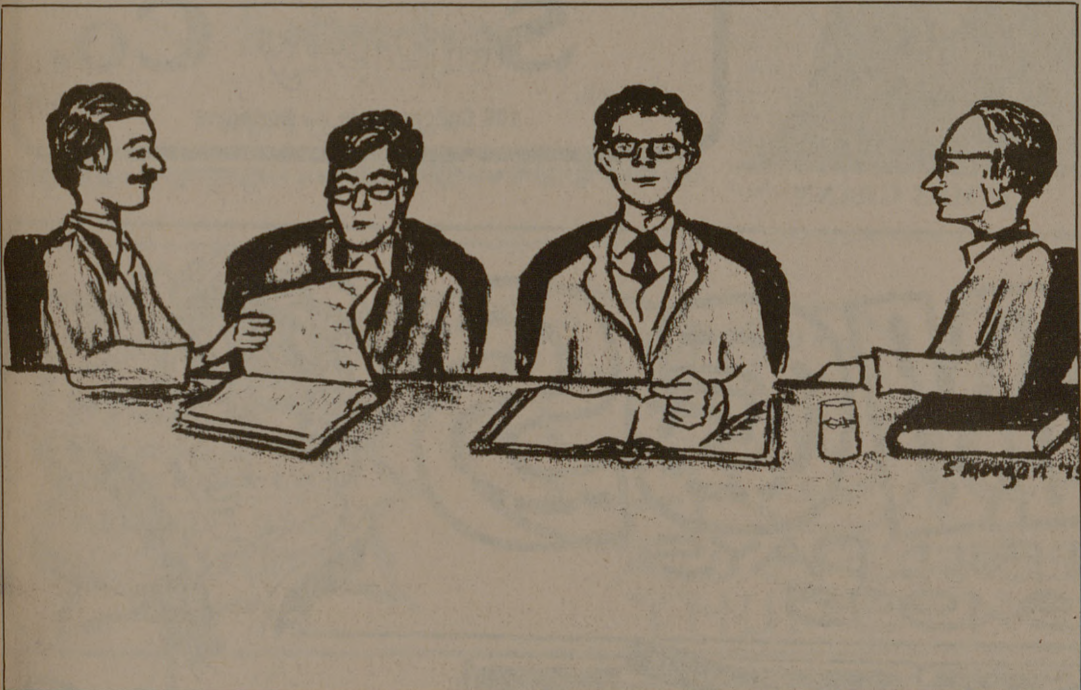
University, is an internationally known microbiologist presently teaching at the University of Alabama in Birmingham.

He is also involved in dental and cancer research, as well as being the chairman of the Graduate Committee at U. of A.

In the past, Curtiss has been a group leader in microbial genetics and radiation microbiology at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee.

At present, he is the editor of the "Journal of Bacteriology" and parliamentarian of the American Society for Microbiology.

Curtiss has concentrated most of his recent experimentation on *Escherichia coli*, a common intestinal bacteria.



Roundtable discussions will let SCONA delegates air their views. Art by Scott Morgan

Coates to discuss role of science

SCONA speaker technology assessment expert

The role science is to play will be projected Saturday by Joseph F. Coates. He is with the Office of Technology Assessment of the U.S. Congress.

The talk, entitled, "Role of Technology Assessment in Future Planning," will be given in the Rudder Center at 11 a.m. This topic is one of

his principal concerns.

Prior to his present position, Coates was program manager for technology assessment at the National Science Foundation. Earlier he was a senior staff member of the Institute of Defense Analyses.

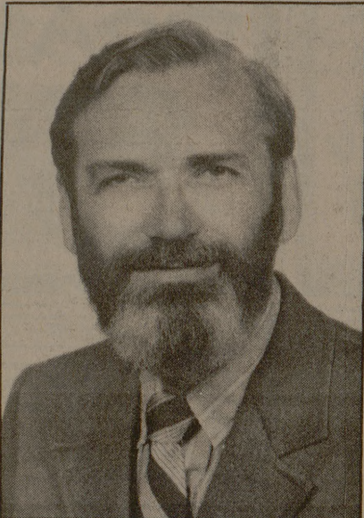
He began his career as a chemist, but has developed major profes-

sional and avocational interests in planning for the future.

Coates holds degrees in chemistry from the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute and Pennsylvania State University. He has had graduate training in philosophy and the history of science at Pennsylvania State University and the University of Pennsylvania.

Coates has served as Secretary of the General Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Other affiliations or associates are the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Sierra Club, the Ad Hoc Interagency Futures Group and the Expert Committee on Technology Assessment of OECD.

Coates has had numerous papers published in the areas of public affairs, technology assessment, futures, military affairs and criminal justice.



Joseph Coates

Politicians' panel covers land-use

Congressman Alan W. Steelman of Texas and U.S. Representative Sam Steiger of Arizona will present a panel discussion on "Long-Range Land-Use and Planning" in conjunction with SCONA at the University Center Feb. 13.

Stelman, Republican Fifth District, resides in Mesquite.

In 1964, Steelman received his B.A. in political science from Baylor University followed by an M.L.A. from Southern Methodist University in 1971.

Stelman has been instrumental in the enactment of the law to create the Big Thicket National Park. He

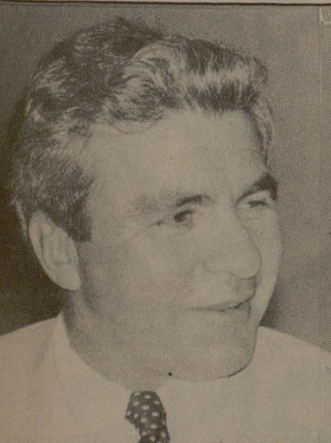
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served on several committees that reviewed the legislation for the 84,550 acre park.

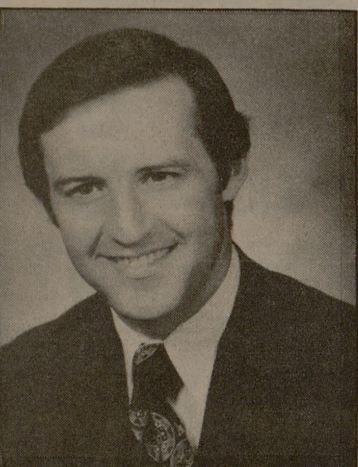
He is also closely identified in the fight to halt the proposed canalization of the Trinity River. In March of 1973, he worked successfully to defeat a bond issue which would have provided for local funding in 17 counties which would have paid for the canal.

Stelman is a strong advocate of fiscal responsibility by the Federal Government, the Israeli position in the Mid-East conflict, the restoration of Congressional responsibility as a co-equal branch in the federal system, an extensive network of AMTRAK rail passenger service, and support for minority business.

In the July, 1974 issue of "Time", Steelman was named as one of the "200 Faces of the Future". He was named the "Watchdog of the Treasury" for votes to control federal



Sam Steiger



Alan Steelman

spending in 1974. He was also named the "Guardian of Small Business" in 1974.

Stelman is also on the board of the Dallas Civic Opera and on the Board of Development of Bishop College.

Steiger, Republican Arizona, resides in Prescott, Arizona. He attended Cornell University and Colorado A&M, and holds a B.S. in animal husbandry.

From 1960 to 1964, Steiger served in the Arizona State Senate representing Yavapai County. In 1966, he was elected to the 90th Congress and has been reelected to each subsequent Congress.

Steiger represents Arizona's Third Congressional District and is a member of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee and the Government Operations Committee. He is the ranking Republican member of the Public Lands Subcommittee. He also serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the Republican Congressional Campaign Committee and the Task Force on Man and Environment.

In private life, Rep. Steiger is a rancher who farms in Warrenton, Virginia and runs cows on leased land in Arizona.

In addition to his Congressional duties, he holds memberships in the Thoroughbred Breeders Association, American Society of Range Management, Quarter Horse Breeders Association, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Kiwanis, Masons, Elks and Arizona Wildlife Federation.

Regrets work

IRS economist to speak

A champion of limited government, Milton Friedman, noted economist, will speak at the 20th Student Conference on National Affairs.

Friedman designed the present withholding system for the Internal Revenue Service, but some say he would never do it again. If he were asked to institute the system again, he would not because he feels the system is too painful and too easy. Under the withholding system, people don't realize just how much the government is taking.

At the Feb. 12-14 conference, Friedman will speak from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Thursday. The talk will center on the future of capitalism during America's next hundred years.

SCONA XX Chairman John Nash said the Memorial Student Center was fortunate to obtain Friedman as a speaker, through the efforts of Dr. Thomas Saving, Economics Department.

Friedman stirred a recent controversy by suggesting what *The Wall Street Journal* calls a banana republic sliding scale system. Such a system would tie most wages and government benefits to a cost of living index. As a result, when prices would rise, so would benefits and wages.

A former Fulbright lecturer at Cambridge University, Friedman also suggested that the federal reserve system not try to save the economy in times of problems, but

that it should increase the money supply at a constant rate and let interest rates and unemployment be determined by market action.

"Dr. Friedman is geared to look at how government and economy interact," said Nash. "He has seen trends toward more government controls. Will it continue, and if so, in what ways, are questions SCONA XX delegates will ask."

The economist is a University of Chicago professor. He serves on the research staff of the National Bureau of Economic Research.

"Capitalism and Freedom" is one of his written works. He has received public exposure as a Newsweek columnist.

Since 1933, he has worked for the

U.S. Treasury Department, in war research, on the National Resources Committee and an earlier stint with the National Bureau of Economics Research. More recently, Friedman served on President's Committees for an all-Volunteer Army and White House Fellows.

He also taught at the University of Wisconsin, Columbia and Minnesota.

Friedman was named Chicago's Educator of the Year and Chicagoan of the Year in 1962. He was recipient of the American Economics Association's John Bates Clark Medal in 1951.

The SCONA speaker has been a Newsweek writer since 1966 and a contributing editor since 1971.

Teague to attend SCONA sessions

U.S. Rep. Olin "Tiger" Teague will be on the campus Thursday evening (Feb. 13) to attend SCONA XX.

Teague, who has a press conference scheduled for 2:30 p.m. Thursday in the Ramada Inn, will arrive about noon.

He plans to attend the 8 p.m. Thursday panel discussion with U.S. Reps. Allan Steelman of Mesquite and Sam Steiger of Arizona in the Rudder Center Theater.

Teague returns to Washington Sunday after holding appointments Friday and Saturday.

10 models

SCONA exhibit features floating cities of future

By ROXIE HEARN
Staff Writer

Cities that float, both in the air and on water, are part of an exhibit which officially opened today as part of the 20th annual Student Council

on National Affairs.

The exhibit coordinates 10 models of cities for the future, including nuclear cities, mass transit cities and underwater cities.

"This is the first collection to put

10 different proposals into one exhibit," said Peter Zweig, director of the project.

He and eight graduate students were given a research grant sponsored by SCONA and completed

the display in three weeks.

"This is the only exhibit of SCONA XX," said Zweig. "It's the focus of the conference, a blend of the old with the new and a vision of future."

One hundred and fifty feet of photography, contrasting Texas in the past with its possibilities for the future, surrounds the display.

The method by which the photography was created was developed by Zweig.

"We actually printed the slides on 150 feet of architectural blueprint," he explained.

Large cardboard frames were also part of the process, making the display resemble a movie reel.

Each of the model cities is built to scale, one inch equaling 500 feet.

"None of the city plans were designed by the group," said Zweig. "Each of them has been proposed by other men and some are already in the process of being built."

A mass transit city shows clumps of communities attached to huge transit bridges, a plan designed for mountainous regions.

A city floating on water is displayed. It is a smaller version of a community already in operation at the University of Hawaii.

A completely enclosed airborne city would give communities a floating, spherical existence, one mile in diameter.

Tidal control, another aspect of the exhibit, is currently under development in France. "Effective use of tidal power could comprise 5 percent of the world's consumption of energy," said Zweig.

Henry Wong, William Peel, James Petrick, David Keeling, Steve Novikoff, Bruce Basslar, Jud Quiksal and J. S. (Jocko) Taylor also worked with the project.



Model city of the future on display in Rudder Tower. (Photo by Tom Kayser)