

Viewpoint

The Battalion
Texas A&M University

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Wednesday

Top of the News Campus

New classrooms ready by next fall

Despite the addition of 67 classrooms, 170 laboratories and 462 offices, Texas A&M University will still have to play musical chairs with its expected fall enrollment of 30,000 students. "We need every one of these buildings and more to meet our growth needs in both instructional and research areas," said Dr. Jack K. Williams, chancellor of the Texas A&M University System. "Even with these new facilities, we'll still be starting classes early and running them well into the evening." The additional work space cost the University over \$30 million.

Test of Carter's 'coattails' coming

By DAVID S. BRODER

WASHINGTON — Down in Virginia last week, Henry Howell, a rabble-rousing politician of the populist or utility-pounding faith, won an upset victory for the Democratic nomination for governor. Howell had the active campaign help of Jack Carter, son of the President, and the First Lady. He also told every crowd that he and Mrs. Howell had the distinction of sleeping most nights in a bed which Jimmy Carter himself had occupied early in his pursuit of the presidency when he was a guest in their home.

Whether this double dose of filial and nocturnal blessings from the Carters turned the trick for Howell is for others to judge. The fact remains that he beat Attorney General Andrew P. Miller, who had a million-dollar campaign fund, a crack organization and establishment endorsements. Miller had felt such confidence in his own victory that, in true Virginia fashion, he had begun rehearsing for his duties as Governor by ceasing to say anything discernibly definitive on any subject.

Earlier in this golden spring, another dear friend of the President's, Gov. Brendan Byrne of New Jersey, had overcome adversity and a field of nine opponents to gain renomination in the Democratic primary. Byrne, like Howell, defied the conventional wisdom in his state last year to deliver an early endorsement of Carter's candidacy.

The fervor of Byrne's embrace was not entirely reciprocated by Carter. The President's pollster, Pat Caddell, brought him sad news that Byrne's sponsorship of a state income tax had made his endorsement not even a two-edged sword but rather a boomerang with a guillotine blade.

When Carter campaigned in New Jersey last fall, there were several Georgians assigned to keep Brendan Byrne away from the platform and out of camera range. Nonetheless, the fates have contrived that in the only two states with gubernatorial battles this fall, the Democratic nominees have turned out to be men with a strong claim on help from the President. Thus, Carter will have an early opportunity — or challenge — to test whether he can transfer his personal popularity to candidates eager to identify themselves with him.

To say that Democrats in Congress will

be watching the test with interest is quite an understatement. One of the major questions in many minds on Capitol Hill is whether the President's reservoir of goodwill is just a private ego-bath or a source of real political power.

One reason that most congressional Democrats have been so independent of the White House on legislative matters is their hunch that Carter can neither help them nor hurt them in their own races in 1978. Since he trailed Democratic representatives and senators in most districts and states last November, they are understandably skeptical of any claims of help from Carter coattails.

Thus, New Jersey and Virginia offer the President a chance to demonstrate a kind of political power he is not currently credited with possessing.

However, the experiment is not altogether on favorable grounds for him. Neither Virginia nor New Jersey supported Carter last fall.

Virginia was the only state in the Old Confederacy to resist the Georgian's charm, having gone to Gerald Ford by 23,000 votes. New Jersey was the biggest holdout against Carter in the Northeast, with Ford enjoying a 65,000-vote advantage.

As it happens, both the President's friends, Byrne and Howell, are at least slight underdogs as they begin the general election campaigns. Republicans have nominated strong candidates in both state's gubernatorial battles.

In Virginia, their nominee is Lt. Gov.

John N. Dalton, a moderate-conservative who is well-positioned to pick up conservative Democratic votes, just as the current Governor, Mills E. Godwin, Jr., a Democrat-turned-Republican, did when he defeated Howell four years ago.

In New Jersey, the Republican is State Sen. Ray Bateman, a progressive Republican with broad appeal to the same set of independent voters who have kept Sen. Clifford P. Case (R-N. J.) in office all these years.

So Carter has his work cut out for him in the two campaigns that will test his political prowess this fall. But if he helps pull Howell and Byrne to victory, he could win a considerable victory for himself as well.

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State

Texas A&I regents criticized

The board of regents of Texas A&I-Kingsville came under attack for its selection of Dr. Duane M. Leach as the university's new president. A Mexican-American group known as the "Tuesday Lunch Bunch" yesterday criticized the selection of Leach because he is not Mexican-American, he is not from South Texas and he does not know how to speak Spanish. The group said the board violated Equal Opportunity Employment guidelines in choosing Leach as the president of the predominantly Mexican-American school.

Dereese given life sentence

Paula Cantrell Dereese was sentenced to life imprisonment Monday for the murder of her parents for insurance and estate money. Dereese was originally charged with capital murder but was allowed to plead guilty to a lesser charge for her testimony against Vernon McManus, her boyfriend and accomplice. McManus was convicted of capital murder in last summer's deaths of Paul and Mary Cantrell of Baytown. He was the first murderer to be convicted under the new injection death penalty.

Farmers need world trade

An open door to trade with the rest of the world is a necessity for Texas farmers, House Speaker Bill Clayton told an audience in Thrall yesterday. He encouraged farmers to improve their access to the world food trade market by realizing the seriousness of international export laws. Clayton also told the farmers to expect financial hardships as the cost of fuel rises.

Nation

She couldn't take them with her

The two Ferraris that Sandra Ilene West did not take to the grave with her are up for sale to the highest bidder. The Los Angeles County Administrator started taking bids on the two cars, a 1969 and a 1974, yesterday. West died in Los Angeles March 10 and was buried, as specified by her will, sitting at the wheel of her favorite Ferrari, "with the seat comfortably slanted, wearing a lace nightgown, beside the grave of her husband" in San Antonio.

Judge dismisses Hampton case

A federal judge dismissed charges Monday against seven policemen in Chicago for the murder of Black Panther leaders Fred Hampton and Mark Clark. The families of the dead men sought \$47.7 million in damages, but the judge said they had not proved their case in the 18-month trial. Hampton and Clark were killed during a police raid on a Black Panther Party headquarters on Dec. 4 1969. The families had alleged that they were deliberately murdered. One of the families' lawyers claims the judge, Joseph Sam Perry, is part of a cover-up conspiracy in the case.

There's no ring around the collar

A laundromat in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., that has taken the drudgery out of doing the wash by selling beer and wine has added a new attraction — topless dancers. "As far as the girls go, it's just a beginning," said the owner of the Helpy-Selvy, Jim Fuller. "There is no way to estimate the possibilities." The Helpy-Selvy doesn't have a cover charge, but the cost of draft beer jumps from 40 to 75 cents while the girls perform.

Times sets new movie ad guidelines

The New York Times announced yesterday a new policy on advertisements for pornographic films will start next month. The new guidelines restrict the size of the ads and bans shots of scantily clad people from the ads. The ads will be limited to a single column with the name of the film, name of the theater with its address and performance times and the label "adults only." Film titles or theater names considered to be offensive will not be accepted.

Birds put joggers on the run

Jogging along the Park Hill Golf Course in Denver is strictly for the birds. A flock of common grackles, apparently trying to protect their nests, are using dive bomber tactics on joggers in the area. "They're mean little creatures," one jogger complained. "They attack every day, every time we jog." A spokesman from the Denver Zoo birdhouse said the grackles are probably defending nesting grounds, and the best solution to the problem would be for the joggers to find somewhere else to run.

World

Brezhnev meets Giscard

Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev and French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing squared off in blunt debate in Paris yesterday. Brezhnev said disarmament talks with the United States are getting nowhere and he accused the French of tiptoeing back into NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization). Giscard countered by saying true detente with Russia cannot exist without Soviet recognition of human rights.

The Battalion

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TO BELGRADE... TO REVIEW THE HELSINKI ACCORDS. WHERE ARE YOU HEADED, IDI?

Pocketbook psychology

The heartbreak of an empty wallet

By DICK WEST

United Press International

WASHINGTON — I've lost the exact count but already this year probably six or seven books have been published on do-it-yourself ego-building.

Before the year is out, we should have an entire five-foot shelf on the subject. The books I've read, or seen reviewed, are intended to help individuals recognize their own worth and rights so they are neither dependent on others for praise nor devastated by peer putdowns.

Undoubtedly there is a need for that sort of coaching. But I have yet to come across a book that deals with my biggest problem.

For almost as long as I can remember, I've been troubled by wallet inferiority.

Ever since well-meaning relatives first started giving me billfolds for Christmas, birthday and graduation presents, there has been a constant gap between what my wallet expects of me and what I am able to

The lighter side

put in it. I don't mean the lack of money, although there is that, too. I'm referring to a more subtle form of humiliation.

In the beginning, mainly, it was a card deficiency. Inevitably, my new billfold would have an inset containing an identification card and slots for a half dozen or so other cards.

At that age, I didn't have any other

cards. And it made me feel terribly inadequate.

I was, frankly, ashamed to open the billfold in public lest someone see the empty slots and poke fun at my secret handicap.

"Hey, everybody," they would hoot. "Here's a kid with only one identification card in his wallet."

Oh the shame of it. I could have filled the vacant slots with bubble gum cards like some kids I knew. Clearly, however, these slots were intended for important credentials. I knew that if I substituted some trivial piece of pasteboard for the sake of appearances I would only be fooling myself.

That's the main reason I studied journalism in school. I figured a press card was

my best hope of overcoming my billfold complex.

Since then I have acquired press cards, membership cards, credit cards, etc., ad nauseam. But I have never measured up to my wallet's specifications.

The most recent reminder of my inferiority came with a wallet I received as a Father's Day present. Among its seven compartments is one designated for "Letters of Credit."

I'm going to level with you, however much I may lose face. I have never had a letter of credit in my life. I'm not even sure I know what a letter of credit is. Yet here I am stuck with a wallet that pointedly implies I'm a nobody without them.

And there isn't a book now in print that can make it any less mortifying.

Communists learn capitalism firsthand

Italian cooperatives prove big success

By MARIO DEAGLIO

TURIN, ITALY — One of the healthiest economic developments in Italy's otherwise dim economic picture has been the emergence of business and farming cooperatives whose workers share in both management and profits.

These cooperatives may become increasingly important if the Communist Party joins the ruling Christian Democrats in running the government, as seems likely in the near future. Cooperatives could represent a compromise that smooths over the ideological differences between leftists

and conservatives. Cooperatives have grown within the past decade to comprise more than four million members and their gross revenues last year exceeded \$8 billion. Many are affiliated with political movements and they specialize in particular sectors of the economy.

The Christian Democrats support about 13,000 cooperatives that are strong in the field of agriculture. They also control a network of regional banks that serve as an important source of credit for local enterprises.

Communist cooperatives, roughly equal

in number to those of the Christian Democrats, are chiefly active in construction and the retail trade. Their earnings provide the Communist Party with a good deal of its money.

Cooperatives have been able to avoid many of the problems that nag Italian industries. Strikes and absenteeism are significantly lower in cooperatives, since workers feel a greater responsibility for their operations. Cooperatives also benefit from reduced taxes and social security charges, and that encourages their efficiency.

Small craftsmen and farmers are also learning through their cooperatives how to read balance sheets and make decisions that have dollars-and-cents results. Thus they are, in effect, becoming familiar with business techniques.

Interestingly enough, cooperatives are giving the Communists a more balanced and less doctrinaire view of the workings of capitalism, since they must deal with private firms within a market framework. Studies show, in fact, that Communist cooperatives are most competitive and innovative in producing and selling export goods.

Employees have lately been forming cooperatives in order to salvage bankrupt companies, often with low-interest loans furnished by the government. A group of workers recently took over a food processing plant that had fallen on bad days, and several unprofitable newspapers have been rescued by their employees, who now run them on a cooperative basis.

Although the idea of a cooperative generally evokes the image of an altruistic association dedicated to good deeds, some of those here are giant organizations that function as aggressively as big corporations.

A construction cooperative controlled by the communists, for example, is actually a multinational company that is engaged in huge building projects at home and abroad. Its overseas clients include many

Marxist-oriented African countries, contracts to local city councils dominated by Communists.

Another Communist cooperative, known as Coop-Italia, runs hundreds of retail stores. And yet another Communist outfit, Coop-League, not long ago acquired a stake in an ailing publishing company.

Just as the rival Christian Democrats and Communists are now on speaking terms and may eventually collaborate, so their cooperatives have been considering joint deals. Recently, for instance, the Communists' Coop-League and the Christian Democratic Coop-Confederazione tried to gain control of Generale Immobiliare, the Italian construction firm that built the Watergate complex in Washington, D.C. The attempt failed, but other such efforts are in the offing.

Members of cooperatives are divided into two categories — partners and employees. Partners receive a wage plus a percentage of the profits, while employees are only paid salaries. But employees can eventually become partners, and that is an incentive for them to display loyalty to the group.

Should the Christian Democrats and Communists create a coalition government, the cooperative formula will probably spread as a substitute for the nationalization of business under the state. The advantages of such an alternative are twofold.

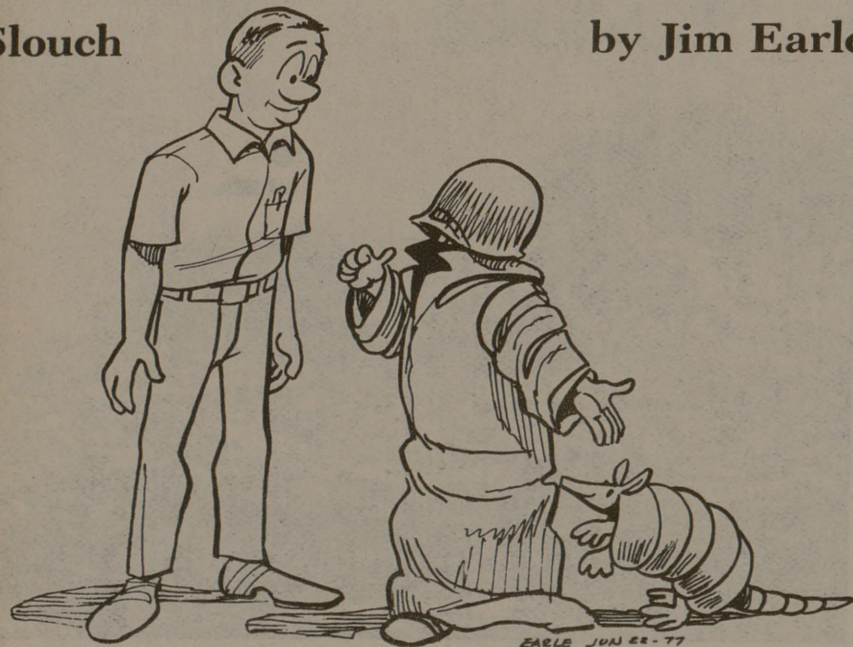
First, it would be a way to sidestep direct government intervention in industry, and therefore avoid predictable bureaucratic bungling. And second, by giving workers a piece of the action, it could spur them to higher productivity.

So despite the economic crisis, which has taken a heavy toll here, a uniquely Italian phenomenon appears to be relatively successful, and it may serve as a model for the future.

International Writers Service (Deaglio writes on economic issues for La Stampa, the Italian daily.)

Slouch

by Jim Earle



"CAN YOU SEE ANY REASON FOR HIM TO IDENTIFY WITH ME?"