

VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

TUESDAY
AUGUST 8, 1978

First presidential hare leaves blocks

By DAVID S. BRODER

Phil Crane is the same kind of politician that Pete Rose is a ballplayer. He loves his game; he knows only one way to play it — all-out; and he has an engaging candor about his errors as well as his hits.

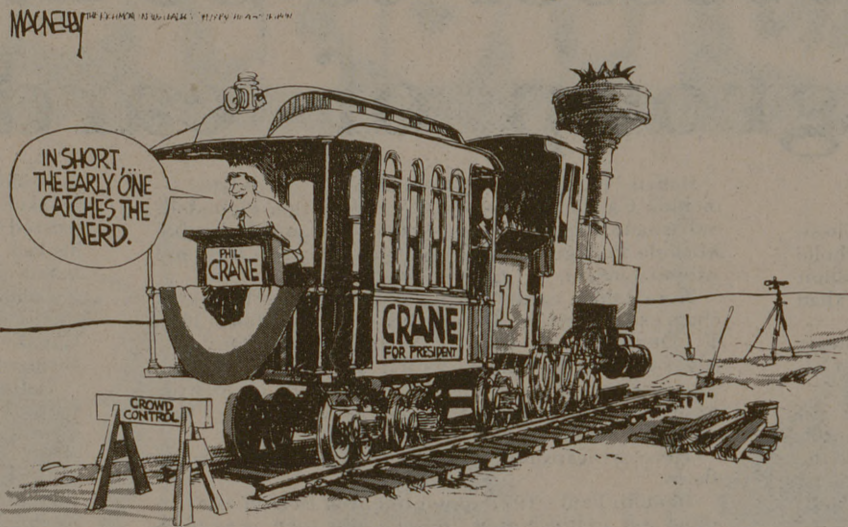
The day before he announced for the Republican presidential nomination last week (the same day on which Rose's hitting streak ended, whatever omens that may suggest), the Illinois congressman smilingly showed to a visitor the front-page editorial in the *Manchester, N.H., Union Leader*. It called his bid "a stab in the back" of his fellow-conservative, Ronald Reagan.

"This is no time for games and personal egotism," Crane read from the paper, as unembarrassed as Rose was by the strike-out that ended his wonderful 44-game streak.

Later that day, Crane would argue to the *Union Leader's* publisher, William Loeb, that it was "important to have a backup ready" in case Reagan did not run or were somehow taken out of the race. He would also say that in no case would he allow himself to be the cause of a division in the conservative vote that would allow some moderate to slip through.

But Crane conceded in advance he would not change Loeb's mind and he sailed into his formal announcement press conference with full knowledge that the most powerful voice of conservatism in the first primary state would be dead-set against him.

Nor was that the only ill omen. Back home in Illinois, State Rep. Don Totten, R., Crane's close friend and second-in-command in the 1976 Illinois Reagan-for-President campaign, had already given Reagan aides his pledge that he would stick with Reagan against Crane in 1980, if a showdown came.



Add to that the difficulty of raising funds and waging a campaign from a congressional office against the established holder of the conservative franchise, and Crane's enterprise seemed to many either quixotic or what Loeb labeled an exercise in "personal egotism."

In fact, it is neither. Ego is part of any politician's makeup, but Crane, 47, has shown since he came to Congress nine years ago a true missionary zeal to spread the undiluted conservative message. In books, pamphlets and endless public speeches, he has been out there testifying to his vision of what Barry Goldwater liked to call "a free society."

Nor is his quest quite as quixotic as it may seem. Reagan, at 67, is as healthy as Crane or Rose, and shows no signs of slow-

ing. He told Crane in a recent conversation that "on a scale of 1 to 10, I (Reagan) am at 10.3" on the question of running for President.

But Reagan is as subject as any mortal to accident or infirmity, and if he cannot run, there's no question of the advantage to Crane of being in the field early.

Moreover, because of the nature of the conservative movement in this country, Crane is liable to exert more leverage on the Reagan candidacy than is apparent to most people.

Already, some senior Reagan advisers are saying that Crane's early start may force Reagan to make his own announcement earlier in 1979 than had been planned. They are worried that Crane's example may encourage other candidates,

further splintering the early primary vote.

Crane, by his presence in the race, can help pin Reagan firmly to conservative positions, rather than wandering away to the middle-of-the-road. There is some tension already within the Reagan strategy board over the wisdom of trying to put some distance between Reagan and the more doctrinaire conservatives.

A "trial balloon" floated by John Sears, Reagan's 1976 campaign manager, that suggested Reagan might visit China, drew a sharply negative reaction from Lyn Nofziger, Reagan's California-based political adviser, who warned that Reagan must do nothing to jeopardize his conservative base.

Crane, who as national chairman of the American Conservative Union has close ties to conservative ideologues around the country, can keep heavy pressure on Reagan to hew to the hard-line on such questions as China.

And he will be helped in that effort by the uncompromising conservatives who are wary of another Sears surprise in the choice of a 1980 running mate for Reagan. Crane spoke for many of those true-believers when he said that Sears' secret 1976 strategy of picking Sen. Richard Schweiker, R-Pa., then regarded as a liberal Republican, as Reagan's running mate was "a dagger to the heart."

The identity of the 1980 vice-presidential nominee is crucial to these conservatives. They assume that Reagan, if elected, would retire after one term at the age of 73, giving the Vice President the inside track for 1984.

Nofziger has privately assured some nervous conservatives that there will not be "another Schweiker" in 1980. If nothing else, Crane's candidacy helps assure that will be the case.

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Americans investing in yen, francs

By MARY TOBIN
UPI Business Writer

NEW YORK — At the midtown Manhattan office of the Deak-Perera Group on a recent Saturday, the line of customers stretched down 42nd Street.

New Yorkers were queuing to buy Swiss francs, West German marks, Japanese yen and gold coins.

They had no plans to travel abroad. They were "hedging" in the only way they could afford — with small purchases of "strong currencies."

"New Yorkers read in the Saturday morning papers about the dollar's new weakness and gold's rise," said Nicholas

Deak, founder of the world's largest foreign exchange firm. "Our midtown office was the only currency exchange firm open on Saturday and the lines were long all day."

Although the firm does not publish figures on its transactions, Deak said "thousands of Americans all over the country" are buying foreign currencies and gold.

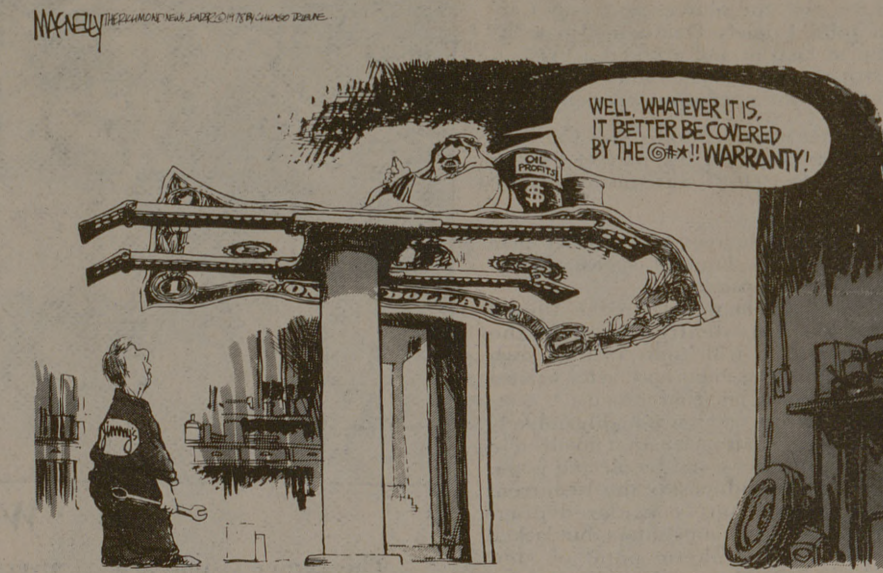
"Our volume has increased several-fold within the past two weeks and we estimate that travel is a very small factor," he said.

"Americans who plan to travel abroad are buying foreign-currency denominated travelers checks," Deak said. "They are speculating that when they travel two or three months from now the exchange rate may not be as favorable."

However, he said there is a regional factor.

"On the East Coast, the majority buy either Swiss francs or West German marks. On the West Coast, the Japanese yen is favored."

Sales of gold coins also are booming. The Kruggerand, which contains exactly one ounce of gold and sells for a few dollars premium over the price of an ounce of bullion, is the most popular.



Business

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"He can buy foreign currency denominated certificates of deposit, or bonds or gold deposit certificates. Or he probably has a Swiss or Belgian or Austrian bank account."

At the Zurich and Geneva offices of Deak's Foreign Commerce Bank, as with most Swiss banks, there is a \$5,000-equivalent minimum for a savings account. But the small investor also can hedge.

"Six months ago, if you had come into one of our offices to exchange \$1,000 for, say Swiss francs, you would have gotten approximately 2100 francs. Today if you had exchanged the 2100 francs back into dollars you would have received about \$1,200."

Deak said the Swiss franc is the "currency of choice," for the small buyer.

Pope's death may herald Catholic change

By ERNEST SAKLER

VATICAN CITY — The death of Pope Paul VI renewed fears of a conservative backlash against church reforms he instituted and a liberal revolt against his firm stand on birth control and priestly celibacy.

Paul's successor must map the church's response to that double challenge.

Pope Paul gave the church a new liturgy, replacing the ancient Latin of the Mass with the language of the people, and a simplified administration. He stripped the Vatican of much of its pomp and ceremony and internationalized its Italian-dominated bureaucracy.

His appeals for world peace and social justice and against racism won the church

wide support in Third World countries.

At the same time, his reforms antagonized church conservatives. Movements against the vernacular mass sprang up in the United States and other countries.

Defying papal warnings, appeals and orders, French traditionalist Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre set up his own seminary, ordained his own priests and toured Europe and the Americas campaigning for a church like that of his forefathers.

Lefebvre's supporters are believed to be in the tens of thousands and his financial backing is considerable. Only a mixture of firmness and caution on the part of the Vatican has prevented his movement so far from developing into Roman Catholicism's

first 20th century schism.

Reformer as he was in some fields, Pope Paul firmly retained church heritage in others. His pronouncements in favor of priestly celibacy, against the ordination of women priests and against artificial birth control alienated many progressive priests and laymen.

A number of observers said the celibacy rule and Paul's insistence on his own authority were among the reasons for the dramatic fall in the number of applications to the priesthood and of a number of defections.

The Jesuits, the church's largest religious order and think tank, reported recently they had lost nearly one-fourth of their membership in 13 years.

The number of priests the world over is going down while total Catholic population is going up. Several European countries that once sent missionaries to the far corners of the world are now importing priests from Africa and Asia. In some parts of Latin America, Roman Catholics see a priest only a few times a year.

Readers' Forum

Guest viewpoints, in addition to Letters to the Editor, are welcome. All pieces submitted to Readers' forum should be:

- Typed triple space
- Limited to 60 characters per line
- Limited to 100 lines

Paul's ecumenical efforts were dramatically highlighted in 1964 by his "kiss of peace" embrace with Greek Orthodox Patriarch Athenagoras I on Jerusalem's Mount of Olives, and again last year by a joint prayer service in the Sistine Chapel with the archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Donald Coggan.

But the efforts have been set back or delayed by disputes among Catholics, Orthodox and Protestants. The Catholic doctrine of papal infallibility, which other churches reject, is one of the main stumbling stones.

Letter to the editor

Radio needs more room

Editor: I feel Jarvis Miller's interference in the programming of KAMU-FM is improper. KAMU-FM as a part of the student press is legally independent of the administration (part of the State of Texas). Although Miller's objection was only a request, it was obviously effective and amounts to government interference in the press. It would be equivalent to President Carter attempting to suppress information, political or not, which offends him.

It is also similar to Miller's expressed dissatisfaction with the Battalion's endorsement of John Hill in the Democratic primary. In the future I hope that President Miller will refrain from interfering with the policies of the student press.

—Mark Denison
Environmental Design, '79

TOP OF THE NEWS

STATE

FBI hunts killer

Texas Rangers and FBI agents joined Harker Heights police Monday in a manhunt for the killer of Policeman Carl Levin. Levin, 31, was found shot to death beside his patrol car at 6 a.m. Monday in the Killen suburb. Police said the officer stopped to question a man walking near a roadway intersection at 5:45 a.m. Several witnesses reported hearing shots in the area.

NATION

Tropical storm turns south

Tropical Storm Bess suddenly turned south and began picking up strength Monday, sidestepping the central Gulf coast of Mexico with 50 mph winds and heavy rain. Bess was centered at 5 p.m. EDT Monday near latitude 21 north and longitude 96.5 west, about 50 miles east of the city of Tuxpan, Fla. It was moving south at 5 to 10 miles an hour. But hurricane forecaster Gil Clark said its movement was likely to be slow and erratic at least until dawn on Tuesday because Mexico's mountains were interfering with the storm's counterclockwise wind circulation.

Elderly parachutist breaks record

Arday Evitt of Paris, Ill., a great-grandmother at 74, parachuted into the record books Sunday. Her landing at Kelly Field was flawless. According to available records, Mrs. Evitt's jump bested the record of a 69-year-old woman who made her first jump last year. Mrs. Evitt got the "bug" from a grandson, Clyde Lee Taylor of Terre Haute.

Refugee group on way to U.S.

A group of Vietnamese women and children whose husbands and fathers are American servicemen left Vietnam Monday for the United States, a member of a U.S. special mission to Vietnam said Saturday. The refugee group comprises the entire list of 25 Vietnamese sought by the five-member mission, which represented the Senate refugee subcommittee headed by Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., Mayer said.

Kit can detect Parquat

A kit developed by scientists at the University of Mississippi in Oxford to test marijuana for the presence of the herbicide Parquat has been released for sale. Dr. Carlton E. Turner, along with Dr. Mahmoud Elshohy, developed the kit. Turner said the kit was developed because of the concern about the potential health dangers of using marijuana contaminated with Parquat. The herbicide is toxic when sprayed directly on the skin or swallowed.

Ford recalls '78 models

The owners of every domestic car and truck built by the Ford Motor Co. in the first six months of the 1978 model year will be getting a recall notice by the end of this month. The No. 2 automaker Thursday confirmed a report it will recall nearly 1.5 million vehicles to correct a possible defect in the emission system. The recall is the third for Ford this year related to problems with emissions equipment.

Nixon's grandchild due soon

Julie Nixon Eisenhower, daughter of former President Richard Nixon and wife of David Eisenhower, is expected to give birth to a child "any day now," Nixon's aide said Thursday in San Clemente, Calif. It will be the first grandchild for the Nixons. It is believed the baby will be the first child to have an ex-president as grandfather and another, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, as great grandfather, since the grandchildren of John Quincy Adams, the sixth president, who was the son of John Adams, the second president.

WORLD

Honeymoon ends early

Christina Onassis Kauzov is tending to business in Greece, 1,400 miles away from her new Russian husband, and the abrupt interruption of her honeymoon has the rumor mills working overtime. Christina arrived in Greece alone during the weekend, according to her father's oldest sister, Mrs. Artemis Garofalidi. Mrs. Garofalidi quickly added, however, that there is no turmoil in the Kauzov household.

Test-tube baby goes home

Louise Brown Sunday left the hospital in Oldham, England, where she came into the world 12 days ago as the world's first test-tube baby, healthy as any normal baby. She was only a few ounces heavier when she left than when she was born. The girl's father, railway delivery man John Brown, said earlier he was taking his wife and daughter for a vacation in England's lake district before returning to their three-bedroom home in Bristol.

Grand Canal now one-way

The Grand Canal in Venice became a one-way street Monday as a new city ordinance intended to ease boat traffic took effect. The famous Grand Canal is one of 14 canals designated as one-way in an attempt to eliminate traffic jams that city authorities call "chaotic, undisciplined and dangerous." Fines for going the wrong way on a one-way canal will run as high as \$240.

WEATHER

Cloudy skies today and Thursday with slight thundershowers for this evening. High today in the low 90s and low in the low 70s. Probability of rain 20% for today, tonight and tomorrow. East and southeast wind at 10 mph.

THE BATTALION

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Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and are subject to being cut to that length or less if longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit such letters and does not guarantee to publish any letter. Each letter must be signed, show the address of the writer and list a telephone number for verification.

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