

OPINION

Misery, here's company

We're not exactly sure why 673 people signed a letter to Ma Bell that was posted around campus. We suspect each one had his own reason(s), but maybe your Monday will be a little happier knowing that somebody else shares your occasional disgust with this particular phone company.

DEAR MA BELL;

HELP !!

PLEASE R.S.V.P.

- DISGUSTED (with GTE),
- TODD PROSE (81)
- ROBERT M. ...
- MIKE JEET 20
- CURTIS O. ... '77
- DANIEL ... '82
- JOHN M. ...
- CURTIS STANGE
- CREAN KEAGAN III
- SAUL MAYS
- NEAL KENNEDY '83
- STEVE TROJINGER
- WILHELM ...
- JOHN S. ...
- WILHELM ...
- DOUG GRAHAM
- MARK ...
- BOB ...
- DOUG ...
- CHARLES ...
- MELISSA ...
- NANCY ...
- CINDY ...
- JANAN ...
- FRANK ...
- BOB ...
- STEVE ...
- STEVE ...
- TOBY ...
- DAVE ...
- HARRY ...
- DEAN ...
- RICK ...
- LEWIS ...
- JOHN ...
- WILLIAM ...
- LEE ...
- RANDY ...
- N.W. ...
- JOY ...
- RICHARD ...

VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MONDAY
OCTOBER 1, 1979

Carter's wit abounds at town meeting

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Backstairs at the White House:

— President Carter says he will formally announce his intentions to run for reelection "later in the fall."
But the only surprise will be if he doesn't announce.
Carter has set up the Carter-Mondale Campaign Committee.
He told a "town meeting" in New York that he plans to run in every presidential primary.
And Mrs. Carter's aides are handing out cards on the campaign trail asking supporters if they would like to have neighborhood fund raising parties the day the president announces for re-election.
Carter has discussed the date with Vice President Walter Mondale and his senior staffers. So far the word on the date has not leaked.
The president probably will be announcing a little sooner than he had planned because he is under pressure of his supporters. But more and more he is acting like a candidate and talking like a

candidate and seems to be happy campaigning — even if he isn't calling it that.

— Cabinet officials who got booted out of the administration are crying all the way to the bank.
Several are on the lecture circuit, commanding as much as \$10,000 a speech.
Former White House chief of staff Alexander Haig, who apparently has presidential ambitions, is asking for \$12,000 an appearance — the same amount as his former boss, Henry Kissinger.
— The president does not hold economists in too high esteem, especially since he has been in the White House. To him they do not have the ready answers to the most troubling domestic issue of the day — inflation.
A young man told Carter at the New York "town meeting" that he was studying economics and accounting.
"I want to be a politician," he said.
"I don't know which is worse right now, to be an economist, or a politician," Carter quipped.
Carter's wit often comes through during

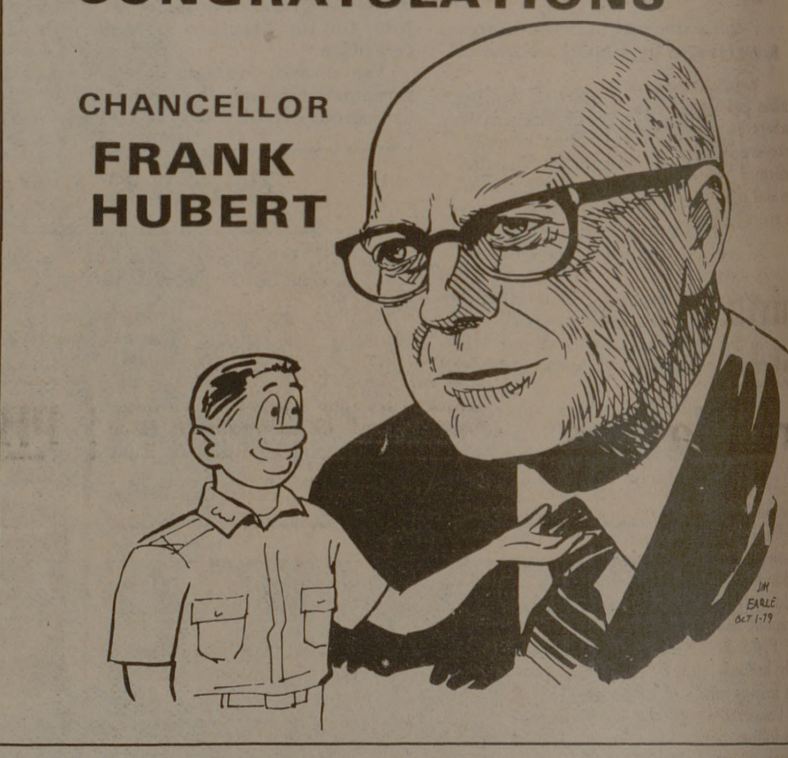
the "town meetings."
The New York session was opened by a man who said: "Mr. President, this is a great honor. My name is Nicholas Gray. I live in Manhattan and I own a store there called Gray's Papaya. We are famous for our better filet mignon frankfurters."
"My name is Jimmy Carter," the president replied. "I am president of the United States. I grow peanuts, so eat peanut butter."
Carter told the audience not to be "timid" with their questions, but one questioner was nearly hoisted out of the auditorium when he asked about Carter's jogging.
"Welcome to New York, Mr. President. You look great," he said.
"I wonder if you would take a couple of minutes to tell us about your jogging habits and how you are feeling in general since your (foot) race in Maryland last week."
Carter, who suffered heat exhaustion and had to drop out of a 6-mile race, said he ran as much as 5 miles a day and had no plans to stop.
There are indications that some of Carter's aides prefer he not participate in any

more running contests. The photo of Carter being held up by his doctor, Secret Service agent was not by the agency. Sports Illustrated paid a hefty price for the photo in a field where the many press bidders.
— A White House policeman guards an area where the president pass to get to the Oval Office get the other day.
For two years, Carter has passed without a nod of recognition in the morning.
But on this day, Carter gave his hand wave.
The policeman turned around and was meant for someone else.
— The Secret Service agent guarding Sen. Edward Kennedy's way around. There are no details.
Soon many of the president's dates will have agents guarding them. The agency will be taxed for many it is every four years.

DICK WEST Anthony silver dollar goes over like a lead balloon (and a \$2 bill)

By DICK WEST
United Press International
WASHINGTON — The new Susan B. Anthony silver dollar, which is made of copper and nickel, has, from all reports, bombed.
The coin, minted with such fanfare a few months ago, is proving about as popular as the \$2 bill, the latest paper money flop.
I gather that if someone conducted a popularity poll, the Anthony dollar would run about even with President Carter. And perhaps for similar reasons.
Political analysts say Carter doesn't act "presidential" enough. And in Las Vegas and other financial centers, monetary analysts are saying the Anthony coin isn't sufficiently "dollarish."
They say the coin's size, slightly larger than a quarter but smaller than a half-dollar, militates against its acceptance. In the logical order of progression, a dollar would be bigger than a 50-cent piece, they point out.
But if logical progression were vital to a coin's popularity, what of the dime? Our 10-cent piece is smaller than both the penny and the nickel, yet is universally loved and admired.
The problem with a bureaucratic miscalculation of this sort is that it is rather difficult to cover up. When currency lays an egg, there is no place to hide. So the Treasury Department has decided to tough it out.
A Treasury task force recommended last week that the \$1 bill be retired, thus giving the Anthony dollar and the \$2 bill a clear field.
However, that proposal has drawn strong congressional opposition, including an unkind comment by Rep. Frank Annunzio, D-Ill., who described the Susan B. as a legal tender "turkey."
In the circumstances, the Treasury might do well to consider an alternate plan that I believe will satisfy all concerned.
Rather than quit making the ever-popular \$1 bill, which has fan clubs all over the world, what they should do is scuttle the \$2 bill and convert the Anthony dollar into a \$2 coin. I don't see how that could miss.
Or they can simply wait for a few more rounds of inflation, after which the Anthony dollar and the quarter, already nearly equal in size, will be of almost equal value — both practically worthless.

SLOUCH by Jim E. Price



WINDOW Pope's stand on abortion is more likely to benefit Carter campaign than Kennedy

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Whatever the legal merits of Madalyn Murray O'Hair's objection to the use of public facilities to accommodate Pope John Paul II, her political judgment about the pope's visit seems completely out of whack.
In announcing her constitutional challenge to use of the Mall in Washington for a Roman Catholic mass next Sunday, Mrs. O'Hair said the pontiff's visit was timed to "enhance the intended presidential candidacy" of Kennedy and to promote passage of a constitutional amendment outlawing abortion.
Mrs. O'Hair might be correct in assuming that the pope will speak out against abortion during his weeklong visit to the United States. But it is hard to see how that could help Kennedy, who does not

favor the proposed constitutional amendment and is viewed as a pro-abortionist in some quarters.
It might be argued that it would help Kennedy politically in a Protestant majority country to be out of step with the pope (just as John Kennedy opposed federal aid to parochial schools), but that requires a level of deviousness that not even presidential politics usually achieves. It is far more likely that the senator would be just as happy if the issue never came up.
It is easier to see, in fact, how the pope's visit will be more of a boost to President Carter than to Kennedy.
According to Pat Cadell's measurements, Southern Baptist activist Carter is not particularly liked by American Catholics, who have been a traditional heavy voting Democratic bloc.

Carter's decision to become the first president to invite a pope to the White House can't hurt him among the Catholic electorate. The fact that Carter decided to transform what could have been a quiet, proforma event into a major reception can only serve to increase whatever political benefits the president might reap from the visit.
Unless the pope changes the style he displayed in his trips to Mexico and Poland, he can be expected to bluntly address issues, political or otherwise, that the church feels it has a stake in.
The church certainly feels it has a stake in the abortion issue and if the pope addresses himself to it, Kennedy is not likely to be the hero of the piece.
Kennedy is no advocate of abortion on

demand, but like Carter, he is in the constitutional amendment ranks favoring making "alternatives" to abortion available to women who have unmet pregnancies. This is totally unopposed to anti-abortion militants and Kennedy, one of the senators they have been under heavy fire.
An anti-abortion newsletter recently said, "If Kennedy is IT next year, he merely means one pro-abortionist replacing another atop the Democratic ticket. Certainly nobody would quibble about calling Teddy pro-abortion: He's the sonification of the 'I'm personally opposed but baloney,' the Lifelifter of the Committee in Defense of Life said. In 37 votes on abortion, Kennedy got "solid pro-abortion votes."

LETTERS Hunters support the wildlife department, so don't criticize them, buy a duck stamp

Editor:
Now that hunting season is here again the usual protests are starting to be heard, fallacies such as: sport hunting is cruel, sport hunting is destructive, sport hunting leads to extinction of species, etc.
Those who sponsor such attacks are usually urbanized "indoor" types who know little of wildlife except through Walt Disney films, and who recoil at the idea that some "cruel" people prefer to collect their own meat instead of having a tucker do it for them (which is less cruel, of course).
These same people ignore the fact that the nations first conservationists were hunters, men such as the great naturalists Ernest Thompson Seton and John J. Audubon and President Theodore Roosevelt, to name of few.
Anyone who wishes to make a lasting contribution to the nation's wildlife can do so: buy a hunting license or a federal Migratory Bird (duck) stamp. The money hunters spend for their Texas hunting licenses goes to the financially beleaguered Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, whose major source of revenue is hunting sales. Hunting license revenues

pay for wildlife biologists, enforcement of laws, habitat acquisition, scientific studies and myriad other important projects. On the national level, Duck Stamp revenues pay for many of the same things as state hunting licenses. Since 1937, duck and

goose hunters have provided over 300 million dollars for such things as migratory waterfowl habitat acquisition, wetlands protection and migration studies through their purchase of the stamps.
Wildlife conservation requires large

amounts of money; buy a license and a Stamp and help out. If anyone is going to do this, at least don't attack us. We've been footing the bill for wildlife conservation for years.
— Gregory K. Taggart

THE BATTALION

USPS 045 360

LETTERS POLICY
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.
Address correspondence to Letters to the Editor, The Battalion, Room 216, Reed McDonald Building, College Station, Texas 77843.
Represented nationally by National Educational Advertising Services, Inc., New York City, Chicago and Los Angeles.

MEMBER
Texas Press Association
Southwest Journalism Congress

Editor Liz Newlin
Managing Editor Andy Williams
Asst. Managing Editor Dillard Stone
News Editors .. Karen Cornelison and Michelle Burrowes
Sports Editor Sean Petty
City Editor Roy Bragg
Campus Editor Keith Taylor
Focus Editors Beth Calhoun and Doug Graham
Staff Writers Meril Edwards, Diane Blake, Louie Arthur, Richard Oliver, Mark Patterson, Carolyn Blosser, Kurt Allen
Photo Editor Lee Roy Leschper Jr.
Photographers Lynn Blanco, Clay Cockrill, Sam Stroder, Ken Herrera
Cartoonist Doug Graham

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the editor or the writer of the article and are not necessarily those of the University administration or the Board of Regents. The Battalion is a non-profit, self-supporting enterprise operated by students as a university and community newspaper. Editorial policy is determined by the editor.

THOTZ

UNIVERSITY
AN ORPHAN EGG HATCHED ON CAMPUS?
PRE?
YESSIR, WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?

WELL, IF IT ISN'T AGRICULTURE, I DON'T WANT TO MESS WITH IT.
BUT, SIR...
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO WITH HER?
WELL DO THE USUAL... PALM THE PROBLEM OFF ON THE CORPS

WHAT IS IT?
TH?

by Doug Graham