



"Falconry does have its inconveniences."

OPINION

Education agency — what will it learn?

Establishment of the new Department of Education by Congress has been hailed as a victory for President Carter. It won't be a victory for the American people, however, unless the new agency avoids the pitfalls of bureaucratic bloat, special-interest pleading, and federal intrusion.

One method of preventing the downfall of the new cabinet position is to appoint a secretary committed to civil rights, efficiency, and separation of church and state in the schools. Another is to ensure congressional watchdogging of the new department.

And the new department is quickly becoming quite a worry to some teachers and teachers' groups. The fear of undue influence for one professional organization, the National Education Association, has surfaced. The NEA is, of course, to whom Carter promised and delivered the new cabinet position.

The Department of Education does have possibilities, but let's hope it doesn't turn out to be a \$14 million mistake.

Action or consequences

The Northgate parking problem has been thrust in the College Station city council's face for quite a while now, and we have yet to see a solution or anything close to one.

Friday night crowds and stopped cars in front of the Dixie Chicken and other Northgate establishments have become a real danger to everyone.

Granted, council members have had a rough fall — fighting annexation and utility rights, Bryan and sometimes, themselves. But the fact remains. A dangerous problem exists for everyone at Northgate, and it's time the city recognized a serious situation before it becomes a deadly situation.

The choice is clear — act now on the issue or face the possible consequences. In fact, is there any choice?

the small society by Brickman



THE BATTALION

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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.

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VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY
OCTOBER 19, 1979

WINDOW

Carter, Kennedy struggle under way but neither has announced candidacy

United Press International
WASHINGTON — President Carter does not think it is good for the presidential election campaign to get such an early start. Nevertheless, the struggle is well under way with the Florida caucuses a clear demonstration that Carter and Sen. Edward Kennedy are going to have to slug it out. The question of whether a knock-down, drag-out fight is divisive to the Democratic Party is long past debate. Both sides have chosen the battleground, and may or may not unite afterwards.

When asked if he would support whoever gets the Democratic nomination, Carter appeared to hesitate for a moment during his news conference Oct. 9. Then he said, "I have always voted Democratic."

Taking the view that the 1980 campaign is getting a premature start, Carter will not formally announce his intention to seek re-election until Dec. 4. Kennedy is ex-

pected to announce his bid for the nomination a few days after Thanksgiving.

For several weeks now, perhaps months, the White House has been working on its strategy.

The administration has been doling out federal funds in a big way to cities and regions where the Carter candidacy is crucial. Political appointees on all levels have been warned that any show of support for Kennedy will cost them their jobs.

The White House has signed on some 40 new "advance" persons to prepare the way for all-out campaigning.

White House staffers are under an edict to do their regular 40 hours a week to collect their federal paycheck. Then, they are free to plunge into politicking. And many have. The president's top aides swarmed all over Florida.

The president's strongest supporter is his wife, who has been on the road almost

constantly since Labor Day. Rosalynn Carter is fierce in her determination for a second term for her husband, displaying a fighting spirit like no other first lady before her.

As the results of the Florida caucuses were coming in, press secretary Jody Powell said, "If you thought the Democratic nomination was Teddy's for the asking, you'd better think again."

One observer, noting the new enthusiasm that has cropped up in what had been a fairly subdued White House, said, "The thing they like best ... is campaigning."

But governing is what the president will be judged on ultimately. He believes that if he can get an energy program approved and Senate ratification of the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty, his record will be impressive for the 1980 contest.

The economy is a sore point. Rampant

inflation and the volatile stock market causes for worry.

Carter's strong support of the Reserve Board's moves to tighten money possibly leading to a deeper recession not calculated to win votes. But taking a rosy view that the recession not lead to a big boost in the government rolls.

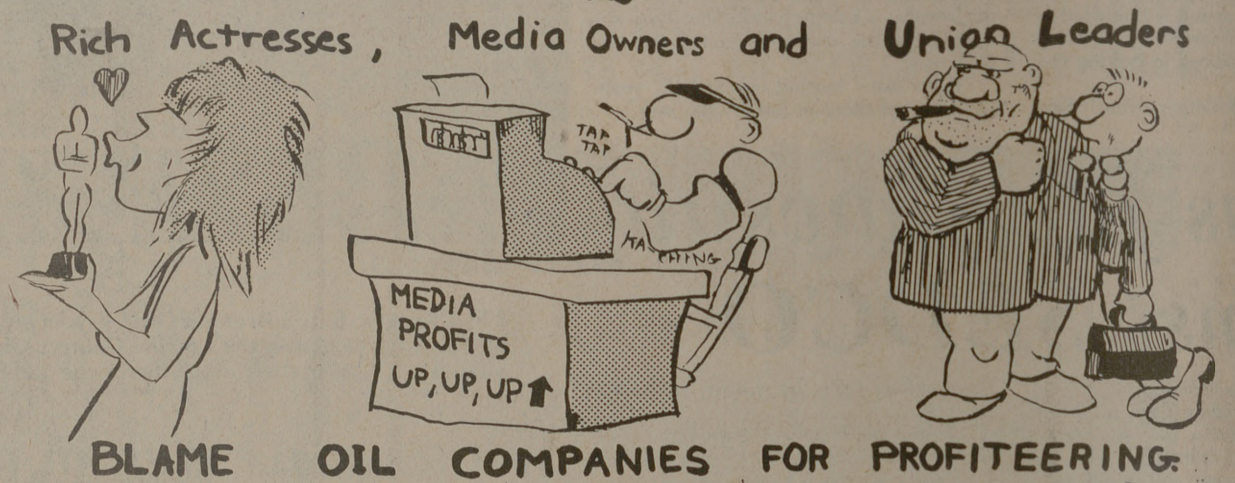
As the campaign gets underway, already is displaying a thin skin in Washington press. He told an interviewer last week the Washington press was "frivolous little superficial questions come up in cocktail parties here in Washington."

"The press has been completely seduced with Kennedy," he said.

That may or may not be so, but Carter camp also is obsessed with Kennedy the first man to beat for a four-year term of his White House lease.

NOW FOR SOMETHING

COMPLETELY DIFFERENT (IN HYPOCRISY) AS



DICK WEST

Powdered Congressional Record a fantastic substitute for Sominex

United Press International
WASHINGTON — They laughed last spring when Sen. S.I. Hayakawa, R-Calif., fell asleep at a White House briefing on the oil shortage.

But that was before the Food and Drug Administration moved to ban a chemical widely used in sleeping pills and liquid sedatives.

After it was found that the ingredient caused cancer in test animals, the sleep aid industry began diligently seeking a safe substitute.

I recently did some checking around to see how the work was progressing. It is going along swimmingly, I learned.

Some of the researchers, recalling how the energy briefing had made Hayakawa drowsy, seized upon that incident as a start-

ing point. They had the text of the briefing analyzed to see whether it contained any identifiable sleep-inducing qualities.

"Our tests indicated it was a combination of subject matter and phraseology that made Hayakawa nod off," one researcher told me.

"Although we were never able to isolate and identify the exact verbiage, the results seemed promising enough to cause us to look for a more abundant supply of the stuff."

"Through trial and error, we finally hit on the Congressional Record as the most likely source."

If all goes well, such popular sedatives as Sominex and Compoz may be joined soon by a new "natural" product marketed under the brand name Congdoz.

Currently, the experiments involve exposing laboratory mice to various excerpts from the Record.

"There definitely is a wide variation in sedation potential," the researcher said. "Some speeches cause mice to drop right off; others just make their eyes glaze over and their jaws sag."

"We can't be 100 percent sure the effect on human beings will be the same. But from what we know of sleeping habits of mice and men, we can assume they have much the same triggering mechanism."

He went on to report that the laboratory has now developed a quick screening process. It enables researchers to tell from just the first few words whether a Congressional Record entry has a high soporific factor.

Asked for some recent excerpts cited several excerpts from October editions. (Three dots mark the spots where mice went to sleep.)

Rep. Glenn Anderson, D-Calif. Speaker, for many years I have been abusing the utility of the bicycle in...

Rep. Don Bailey, D-Pa.: "My son on October 13, 1979, the Fireman's Lowber, Pa., will hold a..."

Rep. Robert Michel, R-Ill. Speaker, let me propose a million costs \$11 billion, has 20,000 employees enforces unneeded regulations, market allocation of gasoline, and...

The next step will be to liquidate derivate soporific passages so they bottled or encapsulated. After the sweet dreams, everybody.

LETTERS

38-plus hours without phone service: GTE, it's time to let Ma Bell take over

Editor:
At about 7 last night (Tuesday) the telephones in our house went dead. When I contacted GTE I was told that the 693- and 696- exchanges were having problems but

should be back in full operation later in the night.

It is now 10 p.m. Wednesday night, about 27 hours since the phones went dead. Again I have talked with GTE personnel and was given the same excuse and again told the phones would be working later tonight. Maybe they'll have a better excuse tomorrow.

over. Certainly this would insure that finally, conversations across town will no longer sound as if they are originating from deep Siberia.

P.S. 9 a.m. Thursday, 38 hours with no phone.

about not knowing what the call think or not having the opportunity them. Well, Monday, Oct. 22, change.

At 7:00 in Rm. 201 of the MSCB the Commission of the Student Government will sponsor a "Meet the Candidates" night. This will be a chance for the '83 to meet the students running for officers and senators. Freshmen will have the chance to question the candidates find out how each feels about the concern.

So freshmen, this is your chance. "Meet the Candidates" and choose class representatives. Take advantage!

Correction

An article in Wednesday's Battalion incorrectly said department heads are responsible for collecting contributions and pledges in the United Way fund drive.

They are not; instead, area representatives and area coordinators have been appointed to collect the funds.

The Battalion regrets the error and urges students, faculty and staff to give their fair share.

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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

THOTZ

