

SLOUCH by Jim Earle

CONGRATULATIONS AGGIES!

1980 SWC BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS



EARLE MARCH, 80

OPINION

U.S. oil addiction continues

In 1979, the world price of oil doubled between January and December, and the United States spent a record \$56.7 billion for petroleum imports. The government calculates the OPEC cartel added nearly 4 percent to the living costs of Americans.

For the first nine months of 1979 U.S. oil use dropped by 1.7 percent from the previous year. Consumption in Japan, West Germany, Canada, France, Britain and Italy rose. For all that, American oil demand far exceeded the combined demand of these other countries, by more than 3.5 million barrels a day.

Even with declining U.S. demand, the burden of imported-oil costs is destined to grow heavier. More disposable income will have to be committed to running cars and heating homes.

The Carter Administration is relying for now on OPEC-determined higher prices to force consumption cuts. The trouble is that it is at best a slow process of uncertain results and the massive dollar drain continues. The unarguable need is to cut oil imports sharply. The fastest and surest way to do that is by rationing gasoline, or by slapping on gasoline a federal tax.

Los Angeles Times

the small society

by Brickman



Washington Star Syndicate, Inc. 3-4 Brickman

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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VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

TUESDAY
MARCH 4, 1980

Government crackdown hints labor showdown in Australia

By JOHN SHAW

Not long ago, mechanics employed by Sydney's public bus company staged a mild but significant protest demonstration. Their complaint was that the new Mercedes buses bought by the company were so good that they would require minimal maintenance and thus threaten jobs.

That gripe reflects a widespread attitude among Australia's organized workers, who are generally indifferent to productivity, suspicious of modernization, unconcerned with the national welfare and mainly focused on their own security.

It also explains why both the federal and state governments are overwhelmingly supported by Australians in their efforts to legislate curbs on the power of the country's labor unions.

To be fair, it should be pointed out that many Australian employers have provoked labor hostility by their conduct. They are often reluctant to share rising profits with employees, disregard their views in making decisions and neglect industrial safety.

Indeed, a good deal of the current tension might be resolved if labor and management ceased to mistrust each other. But

much of the unrest is also caused by disputes among unions, or between unions and workers.

In some instances, workers have objected to compulsory union membership. Fights have erupted between craft unions over jobs rights. And federal and state branches of the same union frequently squabble over acceptable wage scales.

With increasing inflation, growing unemployment and a stagnant labor market, the unions have become more and more aggressive. Strikes have been frequent, and the government's introduction of laws to tame labor has added a political dimension to the problem that is certain to be a major issue in this year's election.

Tough laws have been passed by the states of Queensland and Western Australia, which are run by conservative parties. Heavily dependent on coal, bauxite and other mineral exports, Queensland has banned strikes in "essential" industries and threatened stiff fines for individuals or unions that violate the prohibition.

The federal government headed by Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser, a millionaire rancher and outspoken critic of

labor militants, has meanwhile introduced a more complex package to limit strikes. He calls it "anti-inflation" legislation, while organized labor refers to it as "union-bashing."

Fraser has challenged Australia's autonomous Arbitration Commission, the world's oldest labor court, founded 75 years ago. He contends that the Commission, which has granted wage hikes higher than his government believes to be compatible with its attempts to halt inflation, has been undermining the economy.

In amending the Commission's authority, Fraser has made it easier for the government to deal with the unions more firmly. Among other measures, unions could lose their right to engage in actions that have an "adverse effect on the safety, health or wealth of the community." Worker could be deprived of unemployment compensation if fired for striking.

The unions have reacted to these stiff steps with relative moderation, largely because they anticipate that they cannot be enforced. Some judges also subscribe to that view.

But the confrontation between the unions and the government could have an actual case, which would have considerable relative strength. Each side in the would have considerable clout.

Australia's unions have deep roots in the country. They have mobilized the nation's workers, whose union the Labor Party, the largest political movement here.

As they face their conflict with the unions plan to assert that they to keep his pledges to reduce unemployment and cut tax-omic difficulties that he is blaming on the public's impatience with the to argue that the power of the unions be broken.

Fraser, on the other hand, relies on the public's impatience with the to argue that the power of the unions be broken.

The fight promises to be a clear-cut winner is likely. Though, may be Australia's caught in the crossfire of a battle in some ways, been going on for decades.

(Shaw, an Australian newspaper columnist, writes on current affairs in Australia.)



LETTERS Abortion may lead to more 'legal killing'

Editor: I would like to personally address Starr Moore, in the letter presented to The Battalion Feb. 28.

First, a quote from Dr. Leo T. Heywood, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Chairman of the Department of Creighton University School of Medicine in Omaha:

"I am against abortion. It is not necessary in the practice of medicine, and it destroys the very thing the physician is dedicated to preserve — human life."

To preserve human life. You say that an unborn baby is not a child — let me inform you that upon the moment of conception, every characteristic that human being will ever have — whether physical or emotional — is contained within the genes. It has only now to develop in life, to follow the pattern laid out in the genes, until the point of death. Human life is one continuous change — it begins with conception and ends with death.

You then state that children who will be unwanted or unloved should be killed. If

this statement is true, then why not kill all children already born who are unwanted or unloved should be killed?

Dr. John L. Grady, who has held such titles as Chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Chief of Staff at Glades General Hospital, Medical Examiner for the States Attorney, State President of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, and is now National Chairman if Americans for the Right to Life, speaks of the growing occurrence of infanticide, or the killing of babies after birth:

"In instances of abortion when the baby is delivered alive, it is killed by one of several means: placing it in a plastic bag (suffocation), leaving it in a container on the surgical table or in the refrigerator (exposure), or putting it into a container of water or formaldehyde (drowning). It is subsequently burned in an incinerator. However, in some medical centers, fetuses aborted alive are now being used for live research specimens."

While you're at it, you might as well kill the handicapped and aged, for you say that

the unborn child is totally dependent on the mother, therefore the mother has the right to decide whether or not her child will live. You cannot argue that many handicapped and aged persons also are dependent on others for survival — should those who take care of them also be given the right to decide if they live or die?

Killing unwanted children does not clean society — it only adds to its evils. If you really are concerned with cleaning up society, then start opposing immorality, promiscuity, porno-movies and magazines; work toward stricter criminal laws; and take efforts to re-establish the family as the basic unit of society, for anyone who has studied history quickly learns that the first step in destroying a society is to destroy the family unit. Take positive steps to make this world a better place for children to be born into.

The fact is, once conception has taken place, it is no longer a question of whether or not you wish to be parents — for you are already parents, and must accept that responsibility.

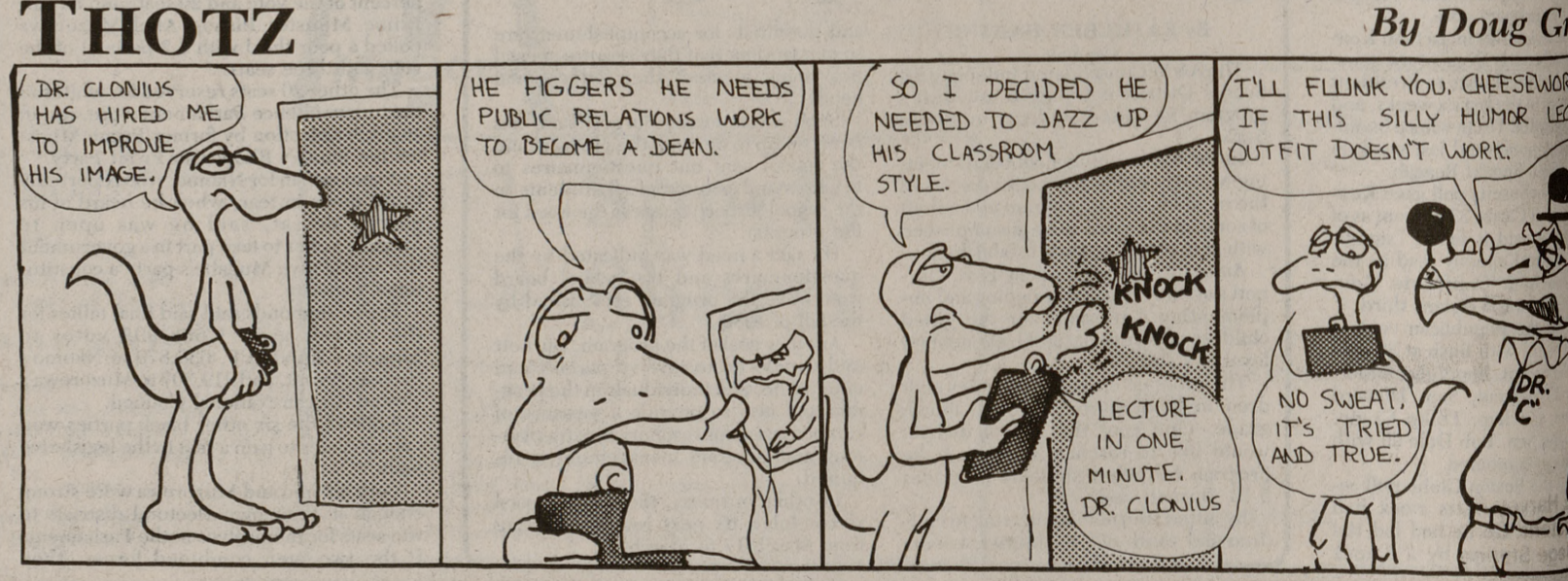
If some parents do not wish to take that responsibility themselves, then many, many married couples who physically cannot have children should have a place in their hearts to consider "unwanted" child. Is that not the woman thing to do?

The United Nations Charter on the Rights, written in 1948, guarantees every person the right to life, children should be given special consideration in the and that the right to life should be un-nated before as well as after birth.

If you feel that you have a right then do not deny that same right to other person — whether it be a child within a womb, a handicapped person or an elderly man or woman.

For if today society supports the paying doctors to kill our unborn then who is to say that one day it also allow the killing of all age groups any human — even you?

By Doug Grady



Page 6 THE BATTALION MONDAY, MARCH 4, 1980

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