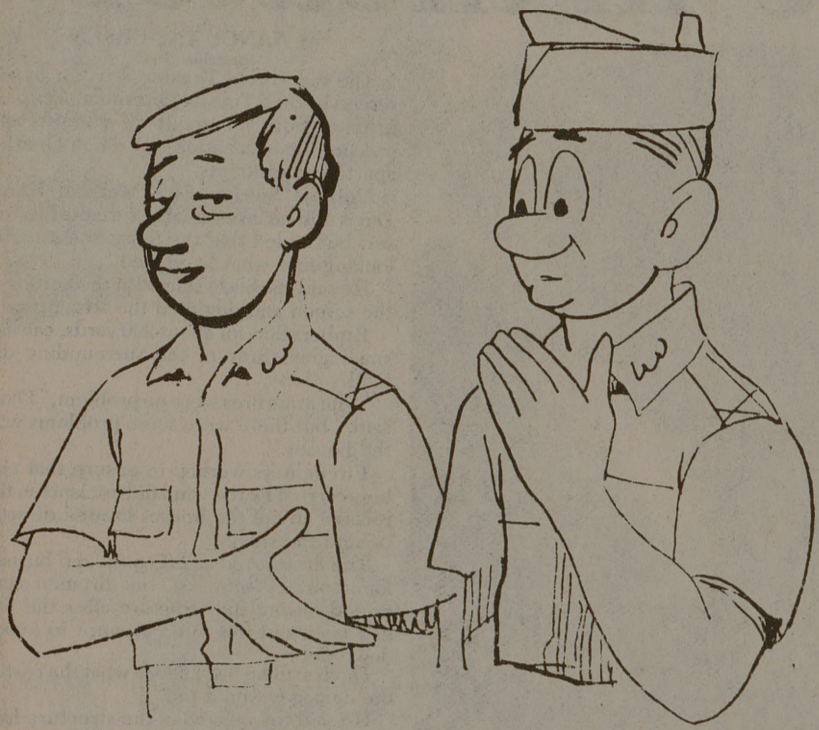


# SLOUCH By Jim Earle



"Keep this under your hat, but I can give you a valuable tip. I haven't taken a final exam for the past two years because I have always applied as a degree candidate and I always get listed as a graduating senior."

## OPINION

### Definition of news includes good and bad

News is defined in many ways by many people. Especially when it comes to campus organizations and what is news and what is not news.

Generally, someone affiliated with a campus organization will define news as anything that is neutral or positive toward that organization.

Queries into anything else result in the question, "Why is that The Battalion's business?"

That question is answered easily enough: Anything that goes on around this place that might affect a significant number of people, or that might interest a significant number of people, is news to us. Period. Whether it's good, bad or indifferent.

However, leaders of campus organizations, more than most leaders in the outside world, are reluctant to talk to reporters about problems within those organizations. That's why a lot of good, interesting hard news stories remain untouched around here.

A lot of information that is common knowledge to people in certain organizations — information which often comes out in a friendly conversation — vanishes when reporters begin asking about it.

You can ask most of the leadership within the Corps about a cadet who was denied a leadership position simply because he was not on contract — and you'll get the information you want.

You can ask the right people in student government about appointments made using friendship or college affiliation as major criteria — and you'll get plenty of information.

You can ask the right Student Government people about political "blocs" that might try to block at least two of the student body president's new appointments at tonight's senate meeting — and you can get at least some information.

We can't. Getting campus leaders to talk about these stories is a different matter. All these sources and their information mysteriously disappear, dry up or simply refuse to discuss these issues when The Battalion asks about them.

Folks, all that is news.

It's our job to cover that news. It's our job to make sure the news gets printed in order to reach the most people possible.

We want to have a good working relationship with campus organizations — everybody will benefit in the long run. But that wish carries with it a request for help in covering what we perceive as the news as well as what members of those organizations perceive as the news.

Campus leaders can't ask us to scratch their backs without expecting to have to scratch ours every now and then.

We can't afford to live in a society where bad news is no news.

— Dillard Stone

# VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

WEDNESDAY  
APRIL 30, 1980

## Window

### Priest indicates nuclear energy part of God's plan

by DAVID E. ANDERSON  
UPI Religion Writer

No issue promises to raise as much controversy within religious groups in the next decade as the ethical and moral attitude religious bodies should take on the development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

The question is already being sharply debated in a number of Christian denominations and interfaith organizations and so far the preponderance of thinking has been largely antinuclear.

Now, however, a prominent priest-scientist has entered a dissent to the discussion.

Dr. G. William Pollard, in a booklet "Let's Talk About Theology and Nuclear Energy," written for the avowedly pro-nuclear Breeder Reactor Corporation which is seeking to build the controversial Clinch River Breeder Reactor in Oak Ridge, Tenn., says that nuclear energy is not only a part of God's plan for creation but one of the Creator's blessing for humankind as well.

Pollard, an Episcopal priest as well as a fellow of the American Nuclear Society, has long been in the forefront of efforts to bring a religious and theological perspective to scientific issues.

Pollard maintains that nuclear energy is essential to life.

"Our sun is a natural nuclear power plant and there are over a hundred billion other main sequence stars like it scattered throughout our galaxy," he said. A universe "from which nuclear power has been 'outlawed' would be a dead universe, with no warmth, light or life in it and devoid of any creative potential."

"Nuclear energy is the universal, common and natural kind of energy in creation as a whole," he said. "Indeed, all the wood, coal, oil and gas man has ever burned came from our natural nuclear power plant, the sun."

Pollard argues that people cannot reject nuclear energy as "unnatural or inherently evil" and still retain the Biblical doctrine of creation in which God is "maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible."

At the same time, Pollard recognizes that nuclear energy, like other parts of the creation, is both a curse and a blessing.

It is a blessing because of its uses as an energy resource at a time other resources are running out but it is a curse because of its potential for use in nuclear weapons throughout the world.

"It is essential that we devote our best talents and efforts to finding ways to prevent the misuse of nuclear energy, to prevent the potential curse from being realized, but a refusal of the blessing is not one of them," said.

He held up the Biblical theme of the conquest of a theological touchstone for developing a contemporary attitude toward nuclear energy and used primitive fear of fire as an analogy.

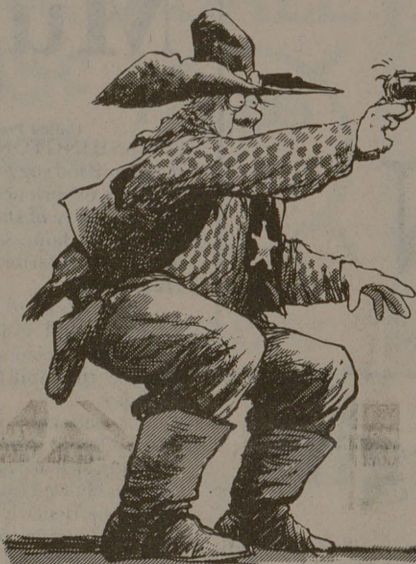
Citing the Biblical account (Exodus 19: 16-20) of the ascent of Sinai — an active volcano at the time — Pollard argued that fire then was exclusively a curse with blessing in it.

Moses' encounter with God on Sinai, at least symbolically, became a crucial turning point in history in which "man came through to the other side of fear and, instead of fleeing from fire, brought it right into his living quarters and thereafter tended and nurtured it."

Nuclear energy, he said, is God's energy choice for the whole of creation.

Pollard's pro-nuclear stance is not the final word in religious community's debate but it indicates there is much more yet to be said on the issue.

MICHAEL MEDICHOVICH'S LEADER © 1980 BY CHASOTRONE



## Letters

### Reader uses Bible in defending evangelist's speech

Editor:

This letter is in response to Mr. Boone and Mr. Parsons' letter in Monday's Battalion. They expressed their feelings about evangelist Ron Tewson speaking in public at Rudder Fountain. I do not want to reword anything they said, so I'll just say that they would rather not have had to hear Mr. Tewson.

Mr. Boone and Mr. Parsons and all others in agreement, please read this openheartedly. Jesus Christ became Lord of my life Feb. 3, 1979. Because of this I am writing this letter out of love and hurt that you do not have a personal relationship with Christ. You see, Mr. Tewson felt "a compulsion to expound upon" his "personal religious beliefs in public" because God commanded this. It is written in Matthew 28:19, 20, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." My heart is breaking for you right now because God is showing me how much He wishes for you to accept His free gift of eternal life, but your hearts have been so hardened that you reject this gift. I wish so very much that you could know my heart. You would realize that through Jesus Christ only will you know true peace and joy in this life.

Christianity is not a religion, it is a personal relationship with Christ. God's Word best states it in John 3:16-18, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him. He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." Because of Christ in my life I can honestly say I love you, and pray that you will ask Jesus to be your personal Lord and Savior.

I wish you Jesus.

Mark Mullin

### Mad about Iran

Editor:

I am writing this letter in response to the most recent events that took place in Iran. Since the first day of this crisis we have been frustrated and embarrassed by this nation of lunatics and I, for one, am mad as hell. United States of America, the once proud and mightiest of any nation on this earth has been forced to listen to a bunch of

militants who have trespassed on our soil, taken our people hostage, and repeatedly laughed in our face when given warnings of the consequences of their actions. The time has long passed for military action. Although the U.S. rescue mission was a failure I was, and am still, 100 percent behind any efforts to free the American hostages. A naval blockade has some drawbacks, but the mining of Iranian ports would seem like a feasible method of choking their already floundering economy. If this has no effect, then a written declaration of war would seem to be the only alternative now that the hostages are being spread out over the entire country.

As far as the likelihood of Soviet intervention, it is almost inevitable since they seem to be itching to get involved. There comes a time when every citizen of this nation has to remember that the United States was not built on peaceful negotiations, but rather on sacrifice and very often brute force. Unfortunately, we have seen very little of the latter during the last four months. If recent news footage of an Iranian mockery of the eight Americans who courageously, and I might add voluntarily lost their lives in the Iranian desert doesn't incite the anger of the American people, then I would conclude that something is very wrong in the land of the free and the home of the brave. All Americans, including Ms. Barbara

Timm, need to support the actions of the American government in this very time. The time has come for the U.S. to reassert its position as supreme military power in the world. America — let's get it back!

David Peipert

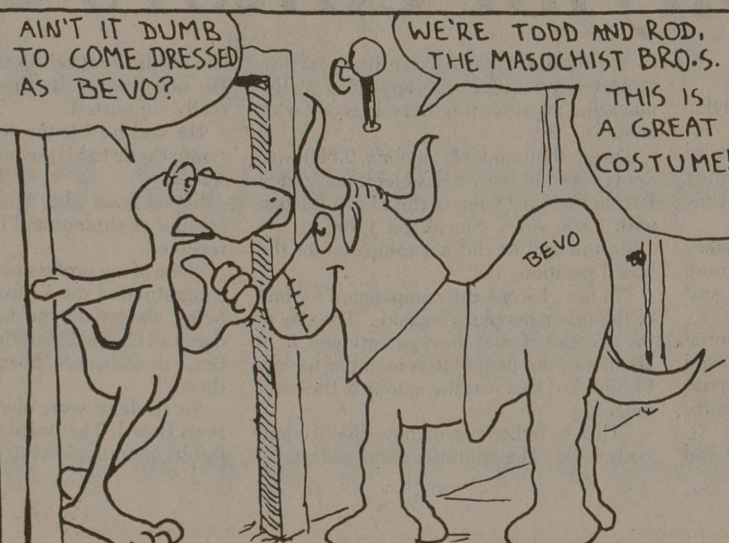
### Oops!

Two mistakes were made on page 1 of Tuesday's Battalion.

Bryan police sources informed a Battalion reporter that the woman who barricaded herself in the staff welfare office Monday afternoon was Connie Baugh. Brazos County Sheriff's Office documents reveal the woman's name to be Connie Vaughn.

The student senate will meet tonight, instead of Tuesday, as was announced in Tuesday's Battalion. The Battalion regrets the errors.

## THOTZ



By Doug Graham

## 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.

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