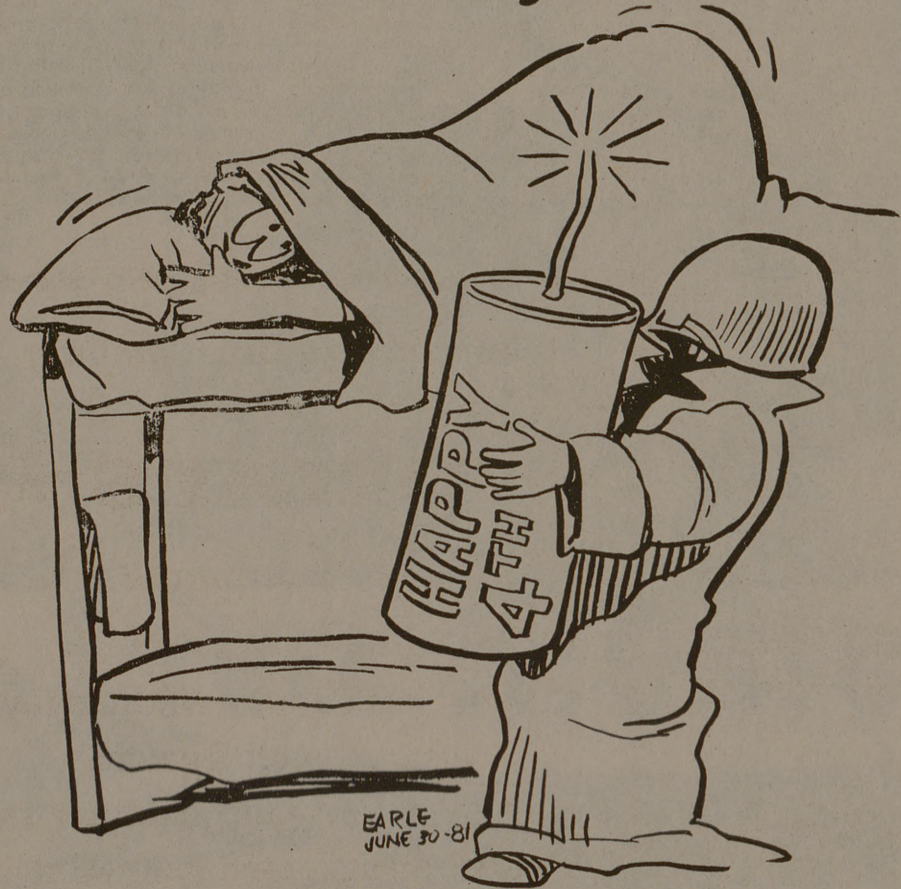


VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

TUESDAY
JULY 7, 1981

Slouch By Jim Earle



"Look what I found ..."

Workers are curse of drinking places

By DICK WEST
United Press International

WASHINGTON — Working Woman magazine this month has an article on "Alcoholism in the Workplace."

Drinking during working hours is a big problem, I don't doubt, but so is its counterpart — working during drinking hours. Yet how many magazines devote articles to the latter?

While my experience may not be typical, I estimate that for every one person I've known who drank on the job I've met five who talked shop while drinking.

There are few things, I can tell you, more disconcerting than to sidle up to a bar and find yourself seated between two grinds.

Usually, briefcases rest against the railing at their feet. In front of them, just to the left of their highball glasses, are stacks of paperwork.

Attempts to engage such people in conventional barroom conversations are doomed.

You mention the baseball strike. They raise a hand in mute protest against the interruption and make it clear they are only interested in shop talk. It's a real drag.

I can condone eager beavers taking work home with them occasionally. But when they start bringing it into taverns, cocktail lounges or whatever, they are going too far.

To my knowledge, no magazine has addressed this problem directly. But Working Woman at least approaches it obliquely.

In its July issue, along with the article on "Alcoholism in the Workplace," there is a thoughtful treatise on "Workaholics at Play."

Perhaps without meaning to, the latter dissertation provides what may be rare insights into why so many workers insist on talking shop during the "happy hour."

"Most workaholics are unable, not just unwilling, to get away from it all," the magazine says. "Any thought of rest or relaxation frightens workaholics."

This may explain much of the shop talk you hear in drinking places. But it is errant terminology.

The people described by the magazine are not "workaholics" in the classic meaning of the word. They are leisurephobes.

I'm not saying workaholics don't exist. I'm not implying they don't need psychiatric help. I'm just pointing out that "workaholic" probably is the most over-worked word to enter the language since "hippie."

It was intended, I gather, to identify people who are addicted to work — people who can't leave toil alone. But in practice, it has been widely misapplied.

Time and again, for example, it has been applied to workers who are inordinately slow. Such people aren't true "workaholics" in the sense of loving their work. It just takes them longer to do it.

And being afraid to relax definitely is not the same thing as being addicted to work. It just sounds that way.

Reagan steamrolls the House

By JERELYN EDDINGS
United Press International

WASHINGTON — President Reagan's big budget victory in the House goes far beyond any economic benefits or disasters that may loom ahead for the nation.

It showed how the right kind of pressure and the right circumstances — a popular president pushing a popular idea and knowing how to lobby effectively — can make almost anything happen in Congress.

In this case the thing that happened was that 217 congressmen voted for an amendment they had just seen a few hours earlier, which is not in itself so very uncommon.

But this particular amendment, although not numbered, appeared to be about 800 pages long. It was so hastily written that it had notes scribbled in the margins that actually would bring changes in law. (Speaker Thomas O'Neill seemed disgusted by a woman's name and telephone number on one margin and asked if she was being written into law.)

This amendment became the bulk of the one of the most far-reaching single pieces of

legislation ever passed by Congress, touching nearly every domestic program of the federal government in some way.

It contained about \$38 billion in spending reductions for next year.

That is what the House voted for on Friday, June 26, within six hours after most members received a copy.

Many Republicans and some conservative Democrats believed this measure, passed 217-211, was needed for President Reagan to accomplish his goal of bringing the economy under control.

But, Republican and Democratic observers say that is not the reason this precise measure was passed. The 217 didn't all believe the president needed this exact tool. Many had serious problems with its contents, thinking it would be disastrous for their constituents.

But they were swept up in the Reagan tide, a wave of popularity and pressure that many did not want to stand in front of.

Reagan, in California, had been calling and promising with a zeal.

Democratic leaders backed another ver-

sion of the budget-cutting bill, which was drafted by 15 House committees.

The measure that passed had not studied during the congressional process. Most bills are, and the process usually depends on committee leaders to sum up their work and make recommendations.

This product was initiated by House budget director David Stockman and sections of it were drawn up by House members on relevant committees — all in haste.

It was a process that made even Republicans shudder.

Rep. Barber Conable, a respected Republican from New York, said he was like making laws in the chaotic atmosphere of the House last week. But, for various reasons, he said Republicans felt they had no choice.

The result was what Democratic leaders feared and warned against — a stampede that trampled the leadership of the House and the process of calm deliberation and committee hearings.



"OF COURSE, AFTER I LEFT THE OL' SHOP, I LOCKED IT UP REAL TIGHT SO NOBODY COULD GET IN..."

How to succeed — by one who has

By LeROY POPE
United Press International

NEW YORK — Good management judgment is more important than the prevailing economic climate in running your own business successfully, says Albert J. Lowry, author of four books on the subject.

This advice, which he insists is sound, comes from a man who made his first million by taking advantage of California's tremendous real estate and housing boom.

"Businesses don't really succeed or fail because of the prevailing economic climate," Lowry told UPI. "They don't fail because of being underfinanced either. Good managers will find the money."

"Businesses succeed if management is good, they fail if management is bad," Lowry said.

His latest book, "How to Become Financially Successful by Owning Your Own Business," already has sold 100,000 copies. His first, "How You Can Become Financially Independent by Investing in Real Estate" has sold more than half a million copies.

The latest book takes you step by step through every conceivable aspect of running a business, including how to find the right one at the right price, the "people"

part, how to deal with political pressures and even the Mafia.

As important as good management is, Lowry says, it won't get you far without knowledge of the type of business you are interested in.

"Until you're rich enough to hire good people to do research for you, you must read everything you can get your hands on about the business you want to go into and you must ask lots of people hundreds of questions," he said.

Lowry says if you buy a business, make only a small down payment and insist that the seller provide a substantial part of your capital by taking back installment notes.

"If the owner won't carry paper, watch out! There may be big problems in the business," he said.

Lowry's own businesses range from building homes in the \$350,000 to \$1.5 million range in Nevada to conducting seminars in business education. He also oper-

ates a restaurant which he is in the process of selling.

Lowry, who grew up in orphanage in Canada, wanted to be a writer when he was a kid but couldn't get enough education to land a job as a cub reporter. He worked in a sheet metal factory and later became a butcher. He and his wife moved to California in 1963 and immediately became prosperous.

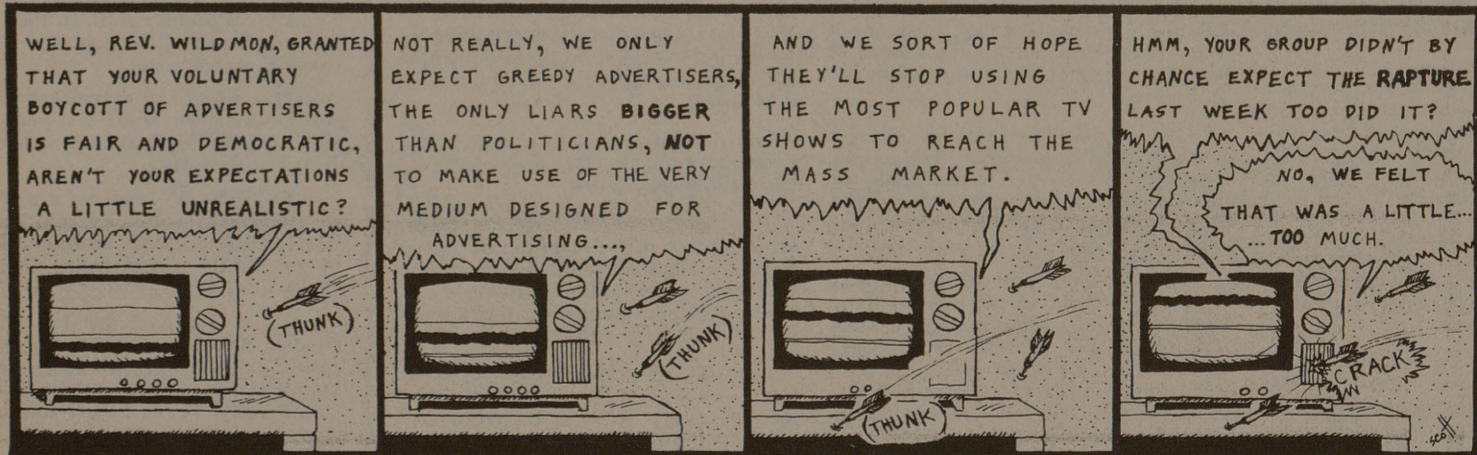
"Writing probably is more of a thing with me than anything else," Lowry said. "I was a millionaire before I began writing and the royalties from my books are trust funds for various purposes."

His first writing was instructional pamphlets on real estate selling and investing. Then he wrote the first book, "Simon & Schuster liked it and he sold it out successfully but it had almost as many birth pains," he said. "They made me rewrite again and again and eventually chopped out 40 percent of my original

the small society by Brickman



Warped



By Scott McCullar

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