

Slouch By Jim Earle



"I will sure be glad when all this Halloween stuff is over and you settle down and become a person again."

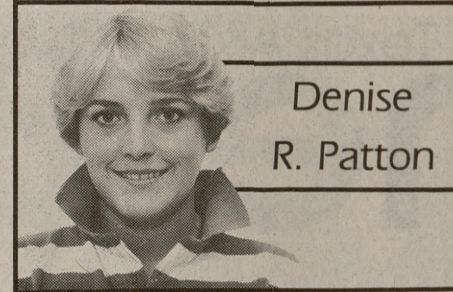
Flu fad may be goldmine

There is a new fad being started around campus, and it is being started by people who have the flu or catch a cold and discover the goldmine of sympathy and candy that a sick person is likely to receive. These and various other things act as strong incentives for those who have the flu to let it drag on.

Perhaps the most obvious case of self-induced sicknesses can be seen in the campus flu-study currently being conducted. Select students act as guinea-pigs, allowing themselves to be shot in the arm with doses of the flu — although some students find, much to their dismay, that they have been injected with a placebo.

However, students who participate in this study are not as foolish as you might suppose. First, consider the fact that they receive monetary compensation just for accepting the shot. Then, should they happen to get sick, they are paid again, providing that they are willing to go to the Quack Shack and donate a sample of their flu-infested blood.

Aside from the monetary compensation received by these guinea-pig-Aggies, they also receive gobs of sympathy and concern from friends. When you are lying sick and helpless in bed, good friends have no choice but to serve you breakfast, lunch and dinner. If they are very good friends, they might even ask



Denise R. Patton

you if you would prefer McDonald's over Taco Bell's carry-out dinners!

At this point, you might be saying, "Now wait just a darn minute! Those silly gooses shouldn't take their perfectly healthy body and let some research team give them a shot to make them sick." It is more than likely that the guinea pig will retort that they are helping mankind, that they are advancing science, that they could very well bring about the breakthrough that leads to the cure of the common cold or flu.

Okay, fine, but what about those other people who are sick, have been sick for quite some time, and do not see a complete recovery in the near future. These cases should be handled somewhat differently.

First, it is important to discover if the sickness is authentic, and there are several ways to determine authenticity. Some-

times, merely watching a "sick" person helps you determine your diagnosis. The person in question coughs and sneezes and hard that their eyes start to water and they turn red in the face, you can pretty well assume that the sickness is authentic.

If they turn only a delicate shade of pink, their sickness is questionable. In this case, you might try taking a pulse as the pulse rate is likely to increase in direct proportion to the amount of effort being directed into the coughing effort.

A person who lies around in bed all day, alternately sleeping and becoming restless, their ill-fate and cursing their weak constitution, yet feels chipper enough to go to the Hall of Fame or to The Room of the Evening is NOT worth the price of cookies for.

These people are not only hurting themselves by straining what they believe to be solid friendships, but they are putting a serious dent in the goodwill of healthy people. Also, remember that true-blue authentic flu/cold cases are missing out on some much-desired attention. Let's just hope that the campus flu-study does produce some positive results, thus eliminating the need for Aggies to become self-appointed physicians. So don't let that cough get the best of you and your friendships, just say WELL!

The Polish defector in banking business

by Art Buchwald

One of the biggest deadbeats, as far as international loans are concerned, is Poland. The myth that Poland is not bankrupt is being kept alive by every Western bank, because no one wants to foreclose on it at this time.

How did Poland and the U.S. banks get into such a mess? It now turns out that the highest ranking Polish banker in the United States was also a Polish spy.

The banker's name is Andrzej Treumann and he has just defected to our side, and is now somewhere in the U.S. as a guest of the CIA. Mr. Treumann was ostensibly in charge of renegotiating the Polish debt with the banks in the West.

My source at CIA's headquarters in Langley filled me in on a few intelligence details concerning Treumann's defection.

"The Polish government's biggest mistake," he said, "was sending a top banker to the U.S. to spy for them. Our people knew that there was no chance of Poland paying back its debt to the Western banks, so the man had to be sent to the United States for another reason. You don't need a top banker to renegotiate a Polish loan with the Chase Manhattan Bank or Citibank. If you sent a teller from Gdansk Savings and Loan, Chase and Citibank would have to talk to him. We figured Treumann would have a lot of free time on his hands and he was probably up to no good."

"That was good reasoning, but you must have had more to go on than a hunch."

"We did. Every time Treumann went to see an executive of a bank to renegotiate a Polish loan he kept producing Po-

land's liabilities on microfilm. He once tried to open up a new account at the Bank of America and instead of a pressure cooker he asked if he could have an MX missile. Once he offered to pay back interest on the Polish debt to the Continental Bank of Chicago if the vice president would give his son a model kit of the Stealth bomber. But what really piqued our interest was when three checks he wrote against the Los Alamos Employees Credit Union bounced."

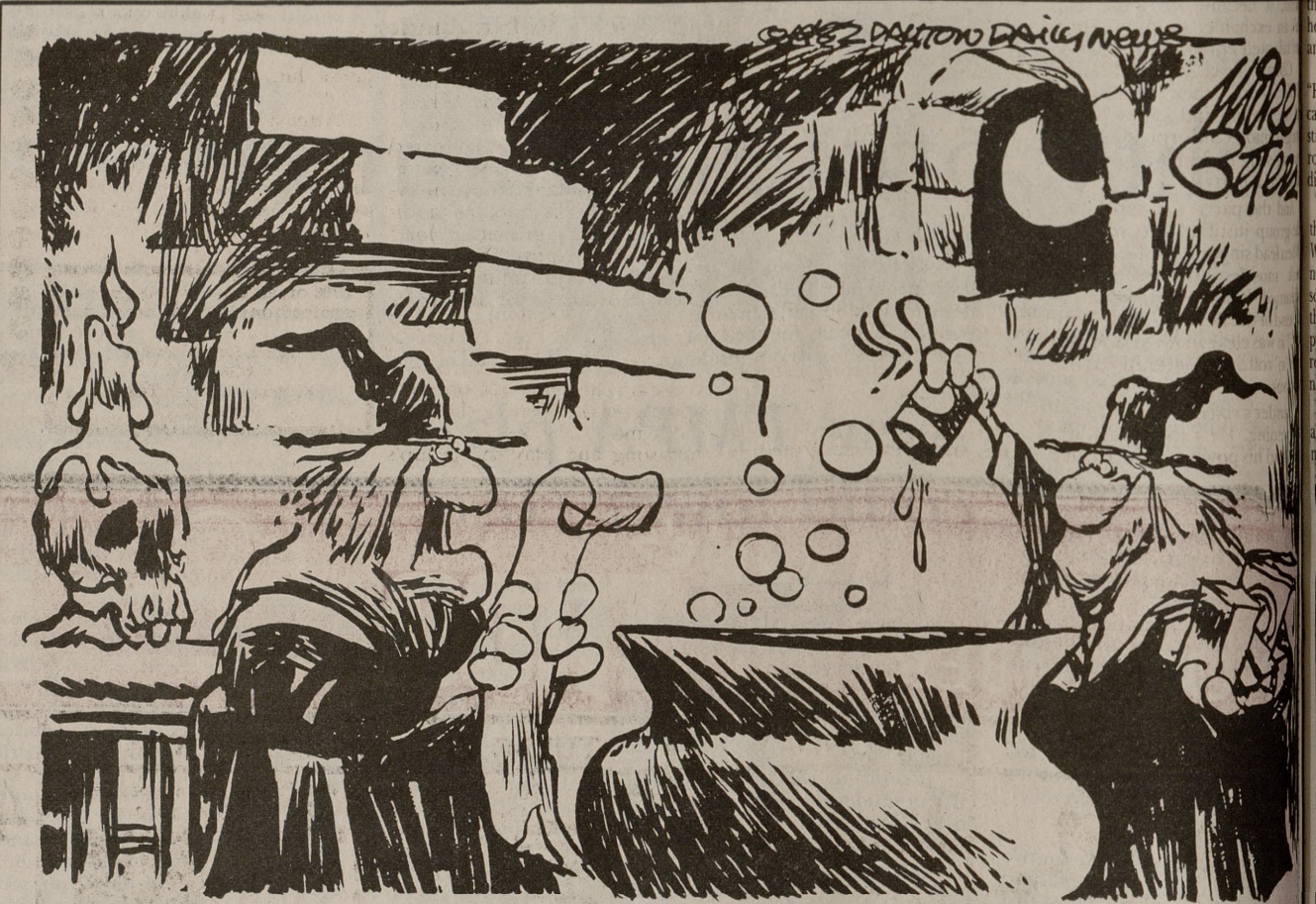
"The man really sounds inept at keeping his cover," I said.

"When Treumann finally came over to our side he said it wasn't his fault. The Polish Minister of Finance kept bugging him to get Irving Trust off his back, and the Warsaw Pact commander kept badgering him on how many nuclear submarines were stationed in New London. The poor man never could keep his cables straight."

"Is that why he defected?"

"No, strangely enough it was a little thing that got him angry. The Bowery Savings Bank held an outstanding loan to Poland of \$2 billion. When Treumann informed them he couldn't make the monthly payment, Bowery repossessed his car. Treumann sent a message to the Minister of Finance asking him to settle up Poland's debt with Bowery Savings so he could get his car back. But the Minister cabled back, 'Impossible to do. From now on take the subway.'"

The CIA man continued, "Now, Treumann is no dummy and he lived in Queens long enough to know that riding the New York subway is far more dangerous than being a spy for a Communist country. So rather than risk his life on the IRT, he decided to come in from the cold."



LET'S SEE... EYE OF NEWT, BAT WINGS, TYLENOL, TREE FROGS, EXCEDRIN, VISINE...

Letters: Vandalism is childish

Editor:

For many years we have taken great pride in showing visitors from other universities the fine facilities of Texas A&M. Most are amazed that our students have taken such good care of these facilities. We always point out that Aggies are simply the "salt of the earth".

Has "the salt lost its savor"? This fall we have had repeated acts of petty vandalism in Heldenfels Hall that were never seen before. The gate to our parking lot is frequently broken off; we have found filthy graffiti on walls and in the elevator; bulletin boards have been torn from the walls; and numerous floods have been caused in restrooms by students stuffing paper towels into the plumbing. This childish behavior is unworthy of Aggies.

I sincerely hope that "good Ags" will protest when they see others engaging in vandalism and that, if necessary, they will report such persons immediately to the proper authorities. The irresponsible acts of a few reflect badly on us all.

Rod O'Connor
Professor and director
First year chemistry programs

Thanks

Editor:

Thanks to all Aggies who donated the gift of life. The Fall 1982 Aggie blood drive set a new record of 2,283 pints of blood. This represents the largest contri-

buton on any college campus in the United States.

Those of us from Alpha Phi Omega, Omega Phi Alpha and Student Government wish to thank the crew from Wadley Blood Bank for their patience and professionalism.

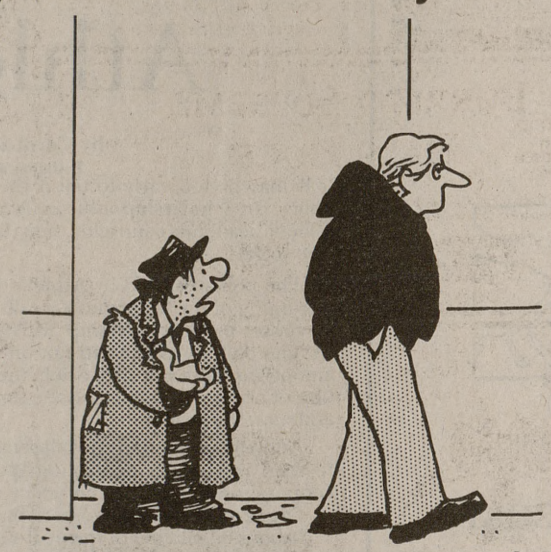
We look forward to working with them each semester and appreciate their

courtesy and kindness.

Special thanks to the Aggie pledges and freshmen aides for helping make this semester's blood drive a record-breaking success.

Stephen Cromer
Aggie Blood Drive Committee

Berry's World by Jim Berry



"C'mon, mister, gimme a break! I just ran for political office. Got any idea how much it COSTS to run for political office?"

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