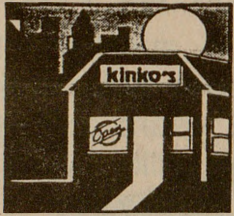


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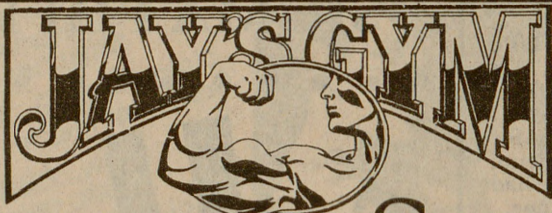
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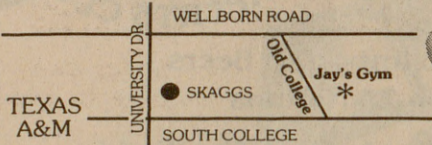
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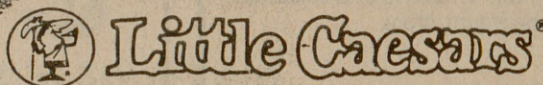
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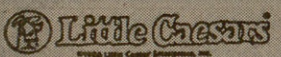


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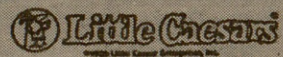


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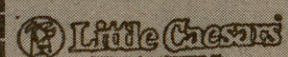


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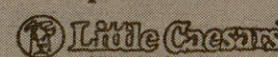


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## World and Nation

# Congressmen disagree on border crisis solution

WASHINGTON (AP) — The sponsor of legislation to establish a U.S.-Mexico border commission testified before a House committee Wednesday that existing programs have failed to solve the crisis of poverty and deplorable living conditions in a region characterized as the Appalachia of the Southwest.

"I'm certainly not claiming all the answers are here, but it is still a legitimate response for the federal government to get involved," Rep. Ron Coleman said after Rep. Kika de la Garza questioned the success of the proposed Southwest Border Regional Commission.

Coleman's proposed commission would include state and federal officials representing Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California, who would review and approve applications to fund housing, health, water resources, vocational and technical education, and sewage treatment.

Coleman argues a such a concerted approach is necessary to address a legacy of long-term neglect in the most economically depressed region of the country.

But de la Garza said the border's complex problems will persist as long as the United States is a magnet to Mexico's poor in search of a better life, and until the states fail to get tough on the developers of unincorporated communities called colonias, which have no roads, running water or sewerage connections.

"Until the states provide the infrastructure for controlling the situation... we could dump all the money in the world and the situation would not be corrected," said de la Garza, who like Coleman represents a border district dotted with colonias.

De la Garza said Mexico's cooperation would be to the plan's success, such as stopping the dumping of raw sewage into the Rio Grande and the creation of a country's interior that would stem emigration to the United States.

Existing federal programs can and do put money into the region, while previous commissions have failed to solve the border's problems, de la Garza said. House Banking Committee's subcommittee on Housing and Community Development.

"We've had about five commissions and that's why we're here," the Southwest Border Commission, among them, this, ambassador that... and the first thing they should send an anthropologist to measure our heads," de la Garza, a Mission Democrat and chairman of the House Agriculture Committee. "Sometimes it gets frustrating."

"We've got a peculiar situation on the border because of an accident of geography and history as it relates to economics," he said.

But Coleman argued Mexico's problems were not his son not to try to improve conditions in colonias and help the region's economic development.

"I tried to craft... something that was done in the United States," Coleman said.

"I wanted to do the things we could affect. I want to use current programs in existence, but I don't know why they haven't helped, why they haven't worked. What's holding them back? We've got a deal to address here," he said.

# U.S. public health system erodes to unnecessary risk

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. public health system, largely a victim of its own success, has eroded to a point where Americans are at unnecessary risk, a National Academy of Sciences panel said Wednesday.

Members of a committee formed by the academy's Institute of Medicine declined at a news conference to put the blame on any particular administration or segment of the health community.

"I think this is something that has evolved over time," said Bailus Walker Jr., professor of environmental health and toxicology at State University of New York in Albany and president of the American Public Health Association.

Nonetheless, they said the system probably is less equipped to cope

with health emergencies than it was 20 or 30 years ago and that the first task is to get the public to accept that there is a problem.

"Our guard is now down," said Richard D. Remington, chairman of the committee and professor of preventive medicine and environmental health at the University of Iowa. "The American people must understand that everyone's health will suffer in the long run if we do not take care now to rebuild the capability and confidence in our public health agencies."

The report itself said, "We have slackened our public health vigilance nationally and the health of the public is unnecessarily threatened as a result. Public health is a vital function that is in trouble."

Joseph Boyle, executive vice presi-

dent of the American Society of Internal Medicine and a former president of the American Medical Association, said part of the problem is dwindling communication between private doctors and public health officials.

He noted that individual Americans rely heavily on their family physicians for advice on health matters in general, including what should demand from government the way of public programs.

Although the 218-page report focuses on examining the public health system rather than specific problems, Remington cited AIDS as an example of a threat the system was not well equipped to handle.

"I think we're going to be faced with more of the same and worse," he said.

## World briefs

### Security forces in Burma shoot looters

RANGOON, Burma (AP) — Mobs plundered government offices and warehouses Wednesday, and state radio said security forces shot five looters. Diplomats said chaos was near and prepared to evacuate their families.

Opposition leaders called for a nationwide general strike against 26 years of repressive one-party rule on Thursday. Leaders hoped for the largest of the many mass protests that have driven two governments from office in less than two months.

Looters ranged through the capital, and one Western diplomat said: "The streets are deserted. People are pretty much in

fear of their property. There have pretty much closed down. There is a widespread perception that things have deteriorated."

The diplomat said the looting is an act of desperation by poor people who need food and other supplies in a city paralyzed by strikes and protests.

State-run Rangoon Radio reported looting in 38 areas of the capital Tuesday and Wednesday. It said security forces shot and killed five people, wounded 20 and arrested 88 looters.

Turmoil began in Burma with student riots in September 1987 that led to street protests in March and June.

### \$55-million lottery winner announced

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — A real estate broker who said six numbers had been driving her crazy presented a winning Lotto ticket today to claim her record \$55 million prize.

Sheelah Ryan of Winter Springs said she didn't know what she'd do with her winnings and was unsure whether she would quit her job. She can pick up her first check for \$2,767,361 next week.

"I've always been middle class and the middle class always needs money," she said at a news conference with her two attorneys and Lottery officials.

Ryan, 63, a native New Yorker said she is single and has no children.

She said today marked her first trip on a plane, her first news conference and the first time she had ever won \$55 million.

She said she picked the first six numbers that she read on the front page of The Orlando Sentinel. She bought the winning ticket in the central Florida area of Longwood.

The jackpot's final value was put at \$55.16 million, which breaks down into 20 annual payments of \$2.76 million before taxes.

### New tropical storm forms in Gulf

MIAMI (AP) — Tropical Storm Florence formed in the southern Gulf of Mexico on Wednesday, but was no immediate threat to land, forecasters said.

Florence's 40 mph winds were expected to strengthen as the storm swirled in a stationary position, and forecasters at the National Hurricane Center said they could not predict what direction it might eventually take.

"It's out in the open waters of the Gulf right now," forecaster Noel Rishchok said. "The only current threat would be to marine interests."

The storm was expected to remain in place through Thursday, he said.

Rishchok cautioned that September and early October are the height of the hurricane season.

"At this time of the year, a hurricane is always a possibility," Rishchok said. Air Force reconnaissance planes will check the storm regularly, he said.

At 3 p.m. EDT, Florence's center was at latitude 22.7 north and longitude 90.0 west, or 125 miles northwest of Merida on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula.