

Think About It . . .

THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT issue has received more than its share of attention in this newspaper these past few days.

The Student Senate has decided to distribute a three-point questionnaire, asking students to indicate which of the following they favor:

- Student Body President elected by the student body.

(Will assume duties of Student Senate President.)

- Student Senate President elected by the student body.
- No change.

You have had access to many opinions on the question.

You know The Battalion has favored electing a Student Body President, as a further move toward a democratic student government in which every individual has a voice.

You have heard the opposition assert that no other system is more democratic than A&M's "class system."

This issue which has stimulated such a campus fever now falls to you for solution.

We urge you to spend a little time between now and next Wednesday thinking carefully over the meaning of the whole thing.

Take our argument apart and examine it carefully.

Review the opposition argument. Tear it down. Examine it. Think about it.

Put them side by side. Think some more. This question is more important than it may appear at first glance.

Think about A&M now. And think about the A&M that will be next year and years after.

Decide for yourself which course of action will be best for A&M.

The question is in your hands.

Your mind must tell one of those hands how to mark your questionnaire.

Don't make a snap decision. Think.

"Alley Cat Takes Over"—Los Angeles (Calif.) Herald-Express over short story of Air Force Reserve's enlistment campaign.

Mac Has Say On Far East At Noon Today

Washington, April 19—(AP)—Gen. Douglas MacArthur mixed an old-fashioned disclaimer of political ambitions today with his call for all-out efforts to defeat the Communists who threaten world peace.

MacArthur, who winged his way into Washington in the small hours of the morning to a vociferous welcome, outlines to Congress at 12:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, his theory of how to win the war in Korea and prevent the Reds from grabbing all of Asia.

Mac Gen. Courtney Whitney, the general's adviser, told newsmen early today the speech will be "a general review of the Far Eastern situation" which might go back "half a century."

Asked whether the State or Defense Departments had asked to clear the speech, Whitney replied: "Quote no comment unquote."

Despite the death last night of Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg (R-Mich.), chief congressional architect of the bipartisan foreign policy, Senate and House leaders planned to hear MacArthur on schedule.

There was little doubt in anybody's mind the five-star general, deposed from his Pacific commands by President Truman, would pause in his formal address to pay tribute to the veteran Republican who had insisted that there never was any real two-party cooperation on Far Eastern policies.

With the solemnity of a requiem, MacArthur was privileged to say that just as Vandenberg differed with the policies of Mr. Truman and Secretary of State Acheson in the Orient, so has he.

Nevertheless, Vandenberg's death in his home city of Grand Rapids, Mich., put something of a damper on what was billed as the greatest homecoming that Washington ever gave a war hero.

Aggie-Ex Wins Bronze Star In Korean War

The Bronze Star has been awarded to a former student who refused to give up his duties as platoon leader in Korea in spite of serious shoulder and back wounds.

John H. Miller, '46, who was graduated in 1949 with a degree in Electrical Engineering, is now in a hospital in Japan for treatment of a third battle wound.

The Aggie-ex, who is now a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps, was wounded previously in the right cheek and arm.

The medal was awarded for his heroic achievement Nov. 30, 1950, while serving with a Marine infantry company during the withdrawal from the Chosin Reservoir area.

The citation reads, "When his company was attacked by an enemy force estimated to be of regimental strength, he was fearless and heedless of his own personal safety, had exposed himself to enemy fire to supervise and co-ordinate the evacuation of casualties."

"Throughout the night he gained and relayed valuable information concerning the enemy situation to his battalion command post. His actions and coolness under fire were an inspiration to all who observed," the citation said.

Four Brahmans Loaned To Ag Experimenters

Four Brahman bulls have been loaned to the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and will be placed on the Bluebonnet Farm at McGregor.

LETTERS

All letters to the editor must be signed by the writer and free from obscene and libelous references. Letter writers wanting their name withheld must make a personal request to the co-editors. No unsigned letters will be published.

What's Happened To Free Shows?

Editor, The Battalion: Since I have been here at this institution ('51), it has always been a standing tradition that the show at Guion Hall was free after 9 o'clock. But now they make you wait around 'till 9:30 before you can get in.

What's wrong is the school going broke?

Charlie Hodge

(The Battalion obtained the following statement yesterday afternoon from Tom Puddy, manager of Guion Hall:

"The Guion Hall box office traditionally closes 10 to 20 minutes after the start of the last feature. Depending on the varying length of different features this box office closing time changes from one picture to the next.

(Guion Hall, like Student Publications, Athletic Department, and many other agencies of the college, is a self-supporting auxiliary enterprise and must make both ends meet financially.)

Bible Verse

THIS is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you.—John 15:12.

Some Things Considered

What is Battalion Opinion? Who Forms It, How, And Why?

By CLAYTON SELPH Battalion Co-Editor

OUT OF ALL the letters written to The Battalion these past few days there has emerged strong evidence that much of our readership does not know how, why, and by whom Battalion policies are formed.

Such a situation is serious because as long as it exists there is little chance for you, our readers, to understand The Battalion and to criticize it constructively.

First we shall make clear what Battalion opinion is and where it may be found. That done, a discussion of how Battalion opinion is formed, who forms it, and on what basis, will be in order.

Battalion opinion is that opinion expressed in articles which are labeled "editorial." For the most part these are found on page two under the heading "Battalion Editorials." Occasionally an editorial is printed on page one. When this is done, it is so labeled.

These editorials, and they alone, are Battalion opinion. They carry no by-line and are not signed. They represent the opinion of the newspaper, not that of any particular individual. Several students do research for these editorials and write them. Each of them goes to The Battalion co-editors for approval, correction, or rejection.

The co-editors are responsible for this editorial opinion, so it is they who must decide what it shall be.

Editors Express Batt Opinion

The editorial column, then, is that part of The Battalion in which the editors express the opinion of the paper on various questions and problems. Editorials present that side of a question which the editors, after careful investigation and consideration, decide is the right side. It is the opinion of The Battalion as decided by the editors and is not advertised or branded as being any other.

Columns, on the other hand, are signed articles appearing on the editorial page or on the sports page which represent not Battalion opinion, but the opinion of the individual writer. Columnists gain the authority to express their opinion in this way by demonstrating an ability to think clearly, showing a sincere interest in the problem to be discussed, and by serving a long and strenuous apprenticeship in one of the Battalion's news departments. Such a piece of writing is an expression of individual opinion, not a Battalion editorial.

Letters to The Editor

So that opposing opinion may be expressed, The Battalion, like other newspapers, opens to its readers a space for letters.

One writer has charged that The Battalion does not present both sides of every issue. To the contrary, it is you, our readers, who have not presented your side. The Battalion considers an issue and then expresses an opinion of what it thinks is right. If those whom the Battalion serves disagree, it is their responsibility to communicate their views to The Battalion in a letter.

The readership has, in this case, a decided advantage, because the letters column is read by more people than is the editorial column. It would be impossible for the Battalion to present these opposition views, because it does not know what they are. If Batt writers do not agree with the opposing view, it is certain that they cannot present it accurately and effectively.

The Battalion has always invited and welcomed such letters. And many of them are printed to the exclusion of important news stories that should be published. Battalion editors feel that letters from readers are as important as

news, editorials, or any other sections of the paper, provided such letters are honest and intelligent views. But in order to stick to our policy we are forced to publish many communications which are a waste of both our space and your time.

'Batt Should Express No Opinion'

A letter writer has asserted that The Battalion should express no opinions. We should like to point out here that there are few students who would sacrifice the sleep, grade points, leisure, and standing in the cadet corps and other organizations, to work on The Batt if there was no editorial opinion.

The Battalion editorial columns are its heart and mind. Without them it would be dead and uninteresting to its staff and its readers.

Many letters have implied that the readers must accept Battalion editorial opinion. An opinion is expressed on a particular issue not primarily to swing your views from side to side, but to encourage your interest and investigation. It is for this reason, and so that it can serve you, that The Batt investigates and strives to locate the side of right on every issue.

If you think through a problem carefully and find that you still disagree, fine. We have done our job and you have done yours.

How Is Batt Opinion Decided?

Now, just what do we take into consideration when deciding what stand the Batt shall take on a particular issue? For the key to this we will go to the slogan found just under our nameplate at the top of page one. It reads, "Published in the Interest of A Greater A&M College." We do not take that slogan lightly. When we take a stand on any issue, our decision is weighed in the light of those words.

Just what does A&M College mean, as used in our slogan. To us, first and foremost, it stands for an educational institution owned and administered by the people of the State of Texas.

That means you and I, your parents and mine, and many other citizens who have no sons in college. It also includes the elected, appointed and employed officials of this State and those include the employees, faculty, and administration of this college.

The opinions and will of many people besides the students now attending A&M must be considered. Today's student body is only a small part of a much larger, much greater group that means "A&M College."

What Is Best for A&M College?

So it is that we ask ourselves, "What is best for A&M College?" And, as you know, what we decide is best is not always what the college administration or the student body thinks is best.

(See BATTALION POLICY, Page 6)

Bradley Supports Keeping Asia War Limited to Korea

By DeWITT MacKENZIE AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

GENERAL Omar N. Bradley, chairman of the U. S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, Tuesday came out in support of the thesis that enlargement of the Korean war would jeopardize world peace and so threaten American security. The five star general took this stand in an address before the National Association of Radio and Television Broadcasters in Chicago. Admitting that this "could possibly result for a time in a military stalemate," he added:

"As long as we are able to confine the battles to Korea and continue to destroy the Communist aggressors, we are making progress toward our international objective of preventing world war. If at all possible, Korea should be settled on the present battle ground. "If we here at home can only measure up to the achievements of patience and courage (of the men in Korea) there is every reason to believe that the war in Korea can ultimately be concluded on honorable terms." This appraisal by General Bradley fits the declaration by Lt. Gen. James A. Van Fleet, the new commander of U. N. ground forces in Korea, that his "confident and experienced army" can stop any offensive mounted by Chinese and North Korean Communists.

"The men in the front line fox-holes, says General Van Fleet, "welcome a Communist offensive because that would give us our best opportunity to kill a maximum number of them."

I return to the hotly debated subject of whether we should expand our military operations in Asia, because this is the vital military issue of the moment. Britain, France and our other western allies are dead against deliberately such expansion in the Far East—say by launching an attack against Red China.

Why? Well, one cogent reason is, as General Bradley points out, that this might precipitate World War III.

However, there is another highly important point to which this column has referred more than once. This is that a conflict with Communist China would give Bolshevism a chance to whittle the western powers down militarily and economically in preparation for a world war which might find Russia and some of her satellites virtually untouched by the Asiatic conflict.

On that basis we might be smart not to play into the hands of Bolshevism by launching a "preventive" war against China or anybody else. As a matter of fact China is getting plenty of punishment through her aggression in Korea.

Appropos of this general situation it is interesting to note that the Red Peiping radio reports the opening of another campaign for world peace on bolshevist terms. This appeal calls for peace talks by five powers—America, Russia, Britain, France and Communist China.

The Red program calls for withdrawal of foreign troops from Korea, withdrawal of the U. S. Seventh Fleet from Formosan waters, and admission of Communist China to the United Nations. These proposals have been advanced before, and western observers generally regard the fresh move as a propaganda maneuver.

The Battalion

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions "Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

News contributions may be made by telephone (4-5444) or at the editorial office, Room 201, Goodwin Hall. Classified ads may be placed by telephone (4-5324) or at the Student Activities Office, Room 209, Goodwin Hall.

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The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, is published by students five times a week during the regular school year. During the summer terms, The Battalion is published four times a week, and during examination and vacation periods, twice a week. Days of publication are Monday through Friday for the regular school year, Tuesday through Friday during the summer terms, and Tuesday and Thursday during vacation and examination periods. Subscription rates \$6.00 per year or \$3.50 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

Entered as second-class matter at Post Office at College Station, Texas, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Member of

The Associated Press

Represented nationally by National Advertising Service Inc., at New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

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ENTRY BLANK The Battalion Fishing Contest On April _____, 1951, I caught a _____ (kind of fish) that measured _____ inches in length. I caught the fish in _____ (name and location of lake, river, stream or pond), which is in (or near) _____ (name of town). I caught the fish on _____ (type and make of rod), using _____ (type and brand of bait), (test of line, in pounds), and a _____ (make of reel). Mail entry to: The Battalion FISHING CONTEST College Station, Tex. (Name) (Address) (Phone) RULES: Contest is open to A&M students and all other persons residing in Bryan or College Station. Fish must be caught between April 10 and April 24. Entries must be postmarked by midnight, April 24. Fish caught on trot lines, throw lines and by any method other than fly fishing, spinning, bait casting, trolling or still fishing, are not eligible for entry in the contest. Salt water entries are not eligible. This contest will be conducted on an honor basis. Your word is gold. Pictures of you and your catch are not necessary, but we would like to have one for possible use in The Battalion. Prizes will be awarded.

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LIL ABNER A Capp Has Nine Lives By Al Capp SO YOU'RE AL CAPP?—WELL, WHEN I WAS AT COLLEGE, I CAUGHT A BOY IN ONE OF THOSE "SADIE HAWKINS DAY" RACES. WE GOT MARRIED, AND HE TURNED OUT TO BE A BUM!—WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT? SAY THE WORD, AND I'LL LET DAYLIGHT THROUGH HIM, SISTER. I DON'T CARE HOW MUCH IT COSTS TO GET TO DOGGPATCH BY TAXI! ? P—SAY IT—WHY ARE YOU STOPPING HERE?? I'VE BEEN READING "LIL ABNER" SINCE I WAS A KID—AN MY FATHER, BEFORE ME!! I KNEW THAT, SOME DAY, OUR PATHS WOULD CROSS!! STEP OUT, CAPP!!