

IN CLEARER LIGHT CORRESPONDENCE

At last the true colors of The Daily Texan have been allowed to blaze forth in the sky. And the Texan's editor, Pat Daniels, raised them. Commenting in a puny sort of way about a recent Battalion editorial, "R. O. T. C. at U. T.," in which we opposed the establishment of R. O. T. C. at the institution at Austin, The Texan reprinted our editorial, with the aid of the sixth grades in all Austin elementary schools.

But it is in the reprinting of our editorial that The Texan showed its colors.

One of the paragraphs in our editorial read as follows:

"The R. O. T. C. has as one of its aims fairness. This quality is obviously lacking in the editorial policy of the representation of U. T. which came to our office daily, The Texan."

Now, do you suppose The Texan is willing to admit that someone considers its editorial policy unfair? My, no!

Mr. Daniels changed the word "fairness" to "firmness."

Consequently, he saved "face" on forty acres, he believes. And our already low opinion of Editor Daniels and his sheet tumbles even lower down the ladder.

EXAM SYSTEM

During the recent mid-term final exams over at the University, some student expressed opinion of the exam system by hanging a lifelike dummy in front of the Texas Union building. Bloodstained was its shirt, and a printed sign proclaimed to the world that "FINAL EXAMS DROVE ME TO THIS!" A longer letter addressed to the students was pinned to the dummy's back; it denounced the torturing final examination system. Thus one enterprising person expressed his sentiments of the season.

Though no expression of sentiment so open as this was made at A. & M., the number of complaints from the Aggies about the same system would seem to indicate that the majority of us are of the opinion that some revision of our examination system should be made. The Battalion is of the same opinion.

We have fought for Dead Week—a week of comprehensive review with no quizzes or term reports—and it seems likely that we may be granted some such week before future final-exam weeks. But this is not all we need. The Battalion believes that more thorough changes than this should be made.

It may be too much to ask that final exams be entirely done away with. But why, at least, cannot exemptions from exams be given to those who have done "A" work during the semester—or, as there are only one or two or no "A's" in some classes, why can't exemptions be given to the highest 25 per cent of the class, as some have suggested?

Finals could still be given to the lower-ranking students as a final opportunity to bring up their grades. Exemptions would create an added incentive to all to study harder and learn more throughout the entire semester in order to earn the exemptions. Why, after all, should those students who have worked hardest during the semester have to repeat unnecessarily on the final what they have already learned, and have shown they have learned? It is those who have done the best work during the semester who do the most and the best study for finals. Generally it is those who have done poor work, who either "crum" for their finals—a poor way to study—or else study scarcely at all for them.

It is difficult to offer a definite and altogether satisfactory solution for the exam problem. But we believe that a great deal of improvement in the situation can and should be made.

WAITERS AND BUS-BOYS IN TEMPLE University's grill and cafeteria celebrate once a year by holding a Gravy Ball.

The Battalion

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Winters, Texas, Feb. 4, 1939.

Mr. R. L. Doss Editor-in-Chief of the Battalion, A. & M. College, Bryan, Texas.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter, I will state my belief of the fire on my car at Austin just before Thanksgiving.

I think the purpose in burning my car was to attract the attention of the fire track and firemen who were guarding the trash pile to be used as a bonfire.

Seven A & M Boys were seen running around north of Prather Hall then east then south and up under the hill to where this trash pile was. These boys approached the trash pile while the fire boys were putting out the fire in my car. They attempted to set fire to the trash pile and were met by the guard who had a shotgun and, of course, were repulsed.

In talking with the firemen, they said that some one had poured gasoline on the seat of my car, as a fire will not burn downward unless it had liquid poured on the car. The seats of my car were not cut, and my wife did not see any Aggies in my car, but we had left the car just ten minutes, and neither one of us smoke nor anyone else had been in the car all afternoon that did smoke.

The word is being circulated at Texas University that the President of A & M College, believes that 'Harris Mullin' is a fictitious name, I wish you would correct the president for me, please.

As to the reason that I have not contacted the president's office or the commandants office, is that I went ahead and bought me a new car, and was preparing to forget the whole incident until letters keep pouring in from every direction.

I am not sore at any Aggies, but I firmly believe that any one of the seven A & M Boys who were at Austin that night, could tell you are any others who set fire to my car if they would.

I am not asking any favors of A. & M. or the University of Texas in this matter, and I hope that my position is clear to you.

HARRIS MULLIN Sincerely yours,

ED'S NOTE: This letter is reproduced exactly as it came into our office. If anyone believes this is enough evidence to come to the conclusion that Aggie's burned a car, he is welcome to his opinion.

THE STUDENT FORUM

In answer to Student Forum of Friday

The plan submitted for the establishment of highway stations for hitch-hiking Aggies is in my opinion the greatest idea of the year.

The task of awaiting your turn for a ride could be made very much more pleasant if a proprietor was put in charge to sell confections and love story magazines.

Establishment could be made of some nationwide Lonely Hearts Bureau and when the Aggies reached their destinations lovely "creamcakes" would be waiting for them.

Castorbean plants could be set out all around the station to retard the sun's glare, and this would justify the act of putting half moons and stars in the walls for proper ventilation.

Radios could be placed in each station and with the cooperation of the college authorities, WTAW would broadcast class lectures to the students who were "cutting" classes.

A belt similar to an escalator would support the Aggie's seats and each time one caught a ride this conveyance would move up one notch with its occupant.

All the stations on the return route would be equipped with ice packs and alkalinizing tablets for the comfort of those who had eaten too heartily while on journey.

With the use of photo-electric beams placed up the road about a mile the approach of a potential ride could be flashed to the Aggies in time for them to assume some sort of mechanical smile for the approval of the driver of the car.

Agents from Hector Hickman's cooperative enterprise would be located at each station to help any student who happened to be suffering from financial difficulties.

These few suggestions will surely help to make these new stations something that will gain our college national recognition. Next year is our year, Aggies!

So far it hasn't been pointed out how these projects are to be financed. I, personally, would like to suggest that at least a couple of departments be banished from any of the various schools on the campus. The savings from these economical measures could be used in the construction of these lounges for hitch-hikers.

Let's get together, fellows, and see if this can't be accomplished. With the aid of two or three frat men and a couple of Mothers' clubs this plan can be realized.

—JACK ROUTT

On the Dies Committee's activities, from the University of West Virginia "Athensum": "It would probably be found that we have just as many good old American spies slithering around Europe. But Mr. Dies wouldn't admit it."

On the proposed Jefferson memorial in Washington, from the University of Virginia (founded by Jefferson) "College Topics": "We will continue to maintain that Thomas Jefferson would far have preferred to have any memorial to him take the shape of some utilitarian structure at the university he founded and loved than to have a hulking grey mass of architectural achievement thrown together somewhere in the Tidal Basin at Washington. What of the soul of the man who was one of the greatest of all Americans—does uselessness denote an aggressive democratic spirit?"

On sportsmanship, from the Worcester Polytechnic Institute "Tech News": "If the team loses this year, don't blame it on the referee (unless there is good cause) or some player's figurate loose living. Think before you blame anyone. And remember, if a few dictators would follow the same course, the world would be a much safer place to live in."

ALL SET!



KNOW YOUR COLLEGE

BY BILL MURRAY

We all know that we have the world's biggest mess hall; but did you ever wonder just how much it feeds us in one school term of nine months? It is an almost incredible amount—one that may be expressed in millions of pounds.

For instance, did you know that we eat eight times our own weight at the mess hall in nine months? During this period here we consume around 3,200,000 pounds, or 1,600 tons, or 110 freight carloads, of food.

From a recent tabulation—the first of its kind ever made—it was discovered that during a typical month (last November) the 2,800 Aggies eating in Sbis Hall ate some 350,000 pounds or nearly twelve carloads of food.

Some of the items furnished that month are as follows: 45,500 pounds of potatoes and potato substitutes; 35,000 pounds of fresh fruits; 53,800 pounds of fresh vegetables; 61,000 pounds of meats, poultry, and fish; 10,800 pounds of flour and other baking materials; 10,000 pounds of cereals; 47,000 pounds of sugars; 6,200 pounds of butter; 12,500 pounds of shortening and oils; 4,000 pounds of beverage materials; 2,000 pounds of "little rabbit" (olives, pickles, etc.); and 10,200 pounds of nuts and spices and condiments.

That Aggies definitely are not "teasippers" is shown by the fact that only 115 pounds of tea were used, compared with 480 pounds of cocoa and 3,400 pounds of coffee.

During this typical month we ate some 8,350 dozen or about 100,000 eggs, not to mention 1300 pounds of frozen eggs used in our cakes and pies. We used 100,000 individ-

ual boxes of cereals, and drank more than 180,000 individual half-pint bottles of milk. We ate 40,000 Dixie cups of ice cream. The total value of the dairy products used was \$5,000.

THIS MAY SOUND LIKE something from a humor column—but observers on the Ohio State University campus claim that it actually happened.

During the last minute rush to pay fees during mid-term registration, a long line of students wound around both floors of the Administration building. One student toiled about half way up the line when he encountered a policeman placed there to keep the students in line.

"Is this the line to the Pursar's office?" the student asked the policeman.

"No," the cop answered. "No, it's the line to pay your fees."

And the student turned around and left the building!

Math problems and English themes are usually thought of as the freshmen's greatest curriculum problem, but at Vanderbilt University this year the first year students are tackling the nation's number one economic problem, "The South."

This innovation is the idea behind the new social science survey course. Purpose of the course is to introduce all freshmen in the arts college to the subject matter and methods of the social sciences and to interest them in contemporary problems.

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PREVIEWS and REVIEWS

Palace Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

"Paris Honeymoon" with Bing Crosby, Franciska Gael and Shirley Ross. This picture will put you in the aisle, it is without a doubt the funniest picture Bing Crosby has ever been in. While Bing is not considered a comedian, his ac- tions in the picture show him as ways.

What's Showing

Palace—Thursday, Friday and Saturday, "Paris Honeymoon" with Bing Crosby, Franciska Gael and Shirley Ross.

Assembly Hall—Tuesday and Wednesday, "Suez"—Tyronne Power and Loretta Young.

Assembly Hall Saturday 8:30, "Fast Company" with Melvyn Douglas, Nat Pendleton and Florence Rice.

THE BIOLOGY CLUB IS HAVING its first meeting of the new semester tonight at 7:00 in the Science lecture room. It will be a very important business meeting. All former or prospective members must be present if they desire to continue their membership. If it is impossible for any to attend, notice of the reason should be sent to Dr. LaMotte.

Just Received

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