

LETTERS TO PREXY REFLECT ILL WILL

President Walton has turned over to The Battalion two anonymous letters concerning a subject of vital importance to all A. & M. students.

As President Walton stated, anonymous letters are always a source of irritation, but these two, we believe, should be carefully considered.

Both letters state that hazing has too much importance at A. & M. One letter is from a parent of a student living in a campus co-op house, and the other is from a parent of a student living in a dormitory. The second letter accompanied a letter which the student had written to his parents. Neither of the fathers who wrote would sign his name or allow his son's name to be known because of the embarrassment which would be caused the students.

Excerpts from each of the two letters follow:

"It is surprisingly shocking to me to learn what cruel, inhuman hazing goes on in some of your project houses at A. & M. The freshmen are submitted to such unjust treatment that it really would seem a miracle to me if they were to pass in their studies..." (signed) A College Parent.

(The excerpts from the second letter come from the letter written to his parents by a dorm fish.) "... the 'P' heads are getting to be just as low down as they can be. They won't even let us study in the daytime, the very time when we need to... they said that next term, if they caught us studying in the daytime they would beat us half to death. I hate to write letters like this but I have to get it off my chest... I don't mind a beating every once in a while, but when it becomes an everyday occurrence, I'll tell you it just doesn't go... I believe I got to stay in my room without being disturbed (last night) about 20 minutes."

Do not misunderstand the intention of this editorial—The Battalion proposes no revolt from tradition. We expect both letters are exaggerated.

Every freshman who comes to A. & M. expects and wants some hazing; every freshman who goes to any college wants and expects some hazing. But, in all fairness, can't we admit that some few organizations and some few co-ops carry things too far?

Let's see who gets the short end of the deal when hazing is carried to too far an extent.

First, we are cheating the taxpayers of this state and the parents of students, both of which groups want this school to exist for the primary purpose of teaching something and not to hinder studying.

Second, we are cheating the administrative officers and members of the faculty, for they are devoting their lives to making this college better intellectually and scholastically.

Third, we are cheating the graduates of this college, for if students are hazed too much to allow personality development and mental development, a degree from this institution will gradually mean less and less.

And last but not least, we are cheating ourselves, for we are developing within ourselves a uniform personality, a personality which may lay

HARD TO REMEDY

As Dean T. D. Brooks, of the School of Arts and Sciences at Texas A. & M. College told the Dallas Electric Club, one of the chief weaknesses of the American educational system is the lack of individual attention to the student.

But, even though this fact is recognized by teachers and the general public, the situation is a difficult one to remedy because of the large school attendance.

The cost of the public schools is already so great that the taxpayers are overburdened. The number of teachers is so large that educators complain that the average salary of instructors is too low.

Yet to assure the student more individual attention would necessitate the employment of more teachers. And to keep more complete personal records of each student would require the employment of clerks and statisticians.

Thus far a large part of the educational expense in this country has gone for the erection of school buildings. Perhaps, now that the birth rate is declining, the need for new buildings will decrease. This may enable school boards to solve the problem to which Dean Brooks calls attention.

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too much emphasis on fitting into a well-defined groove. In addition, we may be holding down the scholastic advancement of the student body by placing too many stumbling blocks in the paths of freshmen and possibly sophomores.

We are very happy indeed that the incidents referred to in the anonymous letters are not widespread; there has been almost a total disappearance of the brutality of hazing within the last four or five years. Only a few groups can be criticized for hazing.

But, as we see it, it is our duty as A. & M. students, not to eliminate hazing completely, but to modify it so that it will be impossible to handicap any student in the college permanently. And we feel sure that almost all students feel the same way.

ALERTNESS

Joseph P. Kennedy, Ambassador to Great Britain, indirectly had his way paid through Harvard by Paul Revere. As an undergraduate he thought up the idea of a sight-seeing tour over the route taken by the Revolutionary hero's famous ride.

A. C. Gilbert, the millionaire magic king, earned his way through Yale by performing magic tricks at parties. He never left New Haven. He established his trick and game factory, now the largest in the world, about a mile from the college campus.

Frank Cook, a shoe clerk in Billings, Mon., now teaches G-men to track criminals through footprints because in his leisure hours he fooled around with shoe soles and worked out the wax footprint mouge now used in criminology.

Henry Falt, nineteen year old student at Technical High School in Springfield, Mass., devised a shock absorber which he sold to General Motors and made a fortune before he was old enough to vote.

The amateur thinker-upper can still win.

"It is possible to select courses which combine educational value with degree credit; and in almost any course, no matter how dull the subject or dead the lecturer, there is always something of interest to the inquiring mind. The educated man, as contrasted with the merely graduated man, has some powers of discrimination and criticism." University of Virginia's Prof. T. C. Johnson re-states the oft-forgotten axiom that learning, not grades, makes the educated man.

On National Affairs

BY DR. R. P. LUDLUM

Can It Happen Here?

This column is engaged upon a series of descriptions of the European dictators and dictatorships. Germany, Spain, and Italy—or Hitler, Franco, and Mussolini—have been described. Before going on to another country and another personality, I want to interrupt the series long enough to mention an American fascist.

He is Major General George Van Horn Moseley (retired). Fortunately, he is not well known, and he seems to have slight influence. Even the Sentinels of the Republic, a proto-fascist group before which he spoke recently, has disavowed what he said. But although Moseley himself may not be significant, he is one of a great number of fascists who are at work in the United States. There are 800 fascist groups in America, and their propaganda reaches one in three of American adults; how much effect it has on those it reaches, of course one cannot say. Moseley, therefore, if not personally important, is highly important as a representative of a type.

Speaking recently to the Sentinels, Moseley warned that Communists in the United States had perfected plans to take over the principal cities, and he called upon all citizens to form vigilante groups which would be ready at a moment's notice to quell such an uprising. The governors of some States, he said, could not be depended upon to call out troops to thwart such a Communist stroke. He went on to say, "Above all, these patriotic 'reserve groups' should hold honest-to-God rehearsals at stated intervals of every six months or so. Such demonstrations would serve the double purpose of giving a show of strength that might discourage the Communists, and developing a speed of mobilization that would be vitally important in a crisis."

"We do not realize the strength of the Communist party in America today is greater than that of the party which took over Russia. In America the number of members of the party is approximately 80,000, but in what they term their united front, they have over 6,000,000 sympathizers." Moseley said Communism had grown greatly in this country since 1932, with the assistance of the present Administration. He instanced the appointment of Justice Felix Frankfurter to the Supreme Court as positive evidence of the Administration's leaning toward Communism. He said that democracy did not work, and called for a new leadership. "Our Army is the only good thing left in the government," he declared.

The ageing general (he is sixty-four), bravely preparing against his imagined perils, may be considered laughable. But notice the similarity of his ideas to those of Mussolini—as alike as a good replica of the original. With 800 fascist organizations propagandizing one-third of American adults, perhaps the Moseley phenomenon is more arresting than amusing.

"No worthwhile university can be created overnight, and just money and buildings never has, or never will be able to qualify as a real university. Men, time, money and a great love are the prerequisites of any outstanding educational institution, and the last named, love, is as essential as men and money." Dr. S. C. Dobbs, speaking at Emory University, outlined the real, non-material foundation on which all great institutions of higher learning are constructed.



"This is your fourth request for a larger uniform since you started to work for us!"

You have probably heard of the student who went to school several years and lost so many hours cutting classes that he came out in the hole, but here is an authentic case in which the collegian actually broke even for one semester.

It seems that a Texas Technological College student enrolled for a total of 11 hours. Finding that his load was too heavy he dropped one of these. When the semester was over he had flunked nine more and received so many cuts that he lost the one he had passed. And so he was back where he started, even with the colleg!

In the last 25 years, Colgate's debaters have won a greater percentage of victories than have the institution's athletic teams.

New Records

Benny Goodman, Gordon Griffin, and Jerry Jerome come in for instrumental solos in the recording by Benny Goodman and his Orchestra of SHUT-EYE. The records stand out again in GOOD FOR NOTHING BUT LOVE, which shares the record. Martha Tilton sings all the lyrics in both songs.

When recording brain waves for study, University of Southern California's Dr. L. E. Travis amplifies them 300,000 times.

During the first half of the current fiscal year, Princeton University has received gifts totalling \$1,109,761.

Operators of the Oregon State College telephone exchange say "number please" on an average of 2,450 times a day from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m.



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Beginning a new mystery novel
FALSE TO ANY MAN by Leslie Ford

WHAT'S BEHIND THE PERSECUTION OF THE JEWS?

Is it sheer brutality? Germany claims she is "purifying" her race. Yet Italy, with few Jews, and Japan, with none, follow her lead. Why? Demaree Bess, noted foreign correspondent, reveals how anti-Semitism cloaks a calculated, systematic foreign policy, tells why England and France are worried for themselves, and suggests an attitude for the United States to bring to an acute international problem.

Jewish Pawns in Power Politics by DEMAREE BESS

FANNIE HURST writes in the Post this week a moving and sympathetic story of a bygone era. Step back into the years with *Mamma and Her First National Bank*.
OWE ANY MONEY? Know anybody who has more bills than he can handle? Lowell Brentano reveals *A New Way to Pay Old Debts*. See page 23.



Horrors! Earthworm's de luxe power shovel is
STYMIED BY BEAVERS!

Marvelous little engineers, the beavers. Their dam flooded Alexander Botts, the Earthworm Tractor man, right out of a \$7500 sale! Nobody can do that to a Botts without having a fight on his hands.

The Beaver Dam by WILLIAM HAZLETT UPSON

K.O. THE CHAMP? Willie Parks watching movies of the champ's latest fight, spotted one possible way. Read *One More Round*, a short story by Don Tracy.

AND... Gareth Garrett reports on a West Coast war zone, in *Labor at the Golden Gate*... Short stories by Octavus Roy Cohen and Ruth Burr Sanborn... Editorials, poetry, fun and cartoons. All in the Post out this week.