

Talking Out of Turn . . .

Readers of the Dallas News and the Houston Post were mildly shocked Monday morning when they read an AP dispatch, reported by Ray Osborne of the News, which quoted a "usually authoritative source" as saying that Head Coach Homer Norton was on the way out. The story stated that Norton, while having three years to go on his contract, can be shifted to some other post besides that of head coach. "Siki" Sikes, present end coach at the University of Georgia, was said to be favored for Norton's post, and Dean of Men Rollins is supposed to be on the inside track for the job of graduate manager of athletics.

All this came out exactly eleven short days before the most important game of the season, and its effect is already obvious, and obviously telling.

During the war, the United States had the most skillful propagandists in the world laboring continually both on the home front and abroad in an attempt to present a united front to the enemy. Knowledge and criticism of the high commands mistakes was hushed up with surprising dispatch.

Now, when the greatest gridiron battle of the season is starting us in the face, some homefront hero (the "authoritative source" quoted was from College Station) has jumped in a mite too soon, obviously "big-shotting" it by losing confidential and not entirely correct, information, either for the purpose of furthering the interests of the candidates named, or to increase the possibility of Norton's demotion.

We don't know who did it or why it was done. A retraction has already been printed by the Post, which does not change matters one bit. Whoever let the dope out is an unthinking saboteur of the Aggie football effort. If we find conclusive proof as to who the scoundrel is, we'll put his name where everyone can see.

That's a promise.

Woodman, Spare That Tree!

The wheel of fortune has turned full around again, and it's time again for labors to begin on raising another Thanksgiving Bonfire from the ashes of those of many years past.

The tall timber required to point the bonfire heavenward will be mighty hard to obtain this year. A cord of wood is selling for the highest price ever recorded, and not many people will clear land and leave trees to be hauled off by Aggies for their bonfire. And the railroad magnates could scarcely have a change of heart this year, allowing us to rip up their railroad ties to add fuel to the blaze.

Every year since we can remember, irate woodlot owners have presented the College with a bill for trees whacked down by overzealous Aggie woodsmen. The sum demanded is usually several hundred dollars, which the Cadet Corps pays reluctantly, especially after the Teasippers have licked us again. Perhaps if we won the Turkey Day classic, no bills would be forthcoming—woodlot owners might believe their valuable timber had gone for a good purpose.

Not being certain of the outcome of the game (odds are even where they were five to one four weeks ago), bonfire builders should make sure they don't get into any private woodlots when they go tree-chopping this week and next. The College grounds alone should provide enough wood to make a blaze surpassing anything a school over to the southeast of us can make from orange crates.

Way of the World . . .

The "fox-hole university" has been trimmed down to a high school. The Armed Forces Institute at Madison, Wisconsin, through which many soldiers, sailors and marines got dabs of education while sweating out the war, was overhauled last week by the Army, which supervised operations for all three services. The college-level courses were cut for two reasons, one valid and the other dubious. The needs of those now in service for college level courses is not great, as most of the boys are just out of high school, and will get their college training as veterans when they finish. That is the valid reason. The other was that a course book in economics had been called "subversive." Are there any economic books which don't seem subversive to somebody? Maybe the whole topic of economics is subversive.

Gen. Smuts' defense of the British Empire, pointing out that most of the sins which we complain about were committed before or in the Boer War, was most eloquent. He pointed out to the United Nations that British aggression is a thing of the past; that the British Commonwealth of Nations is a looser confederation than the United States of America; that only India's own leaders prevent that country from reaching real independence immediately. But the speech lost some of its effect when it became apparent, a few days later, that it was leading up to a request "Give us the old German area of South Africa, or we'll take it."

A Girl's School? Yes! . . .

The editor of the Bryan News had a pipe-dream the other day which is of the greatest possible interest to all cadets and unmarried veterans. We quote:

"Bryan is a beautiful town and a remarkably prosperous one. Life doesn't pound the furious pace it follows in bigger industrial centers, but even then, one could hardly call our city backward. The business of the town is built on a foundation of education. A&M College is an immense plant which attracts students and staff members to support the business houses of Bryan. Allen Academy, rated as one of the best military schools in the country, also serves to draw additional people to the city. Both of the schools arouse a feeling of pride in the hearts of most Bryan citizens, but there is something lacking.

"That is where the pipe dream started this department. Why, it is the most obvious thing in the world. Bryan needs a College for girls!

"There is every reason a girls' school should prove successful in Bryan. The nearness of Allen Academy and Texas A&M would assure the students a well rounded social activities program, and that is a major concern in a young lady's college career."

Say we, yes, yes, yes!

Pick Grid Score For Prizes

	1	2	3	4	TOTAL
A. & M.					
T. Univ.					

Student's Name

Address

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GOING TO DOGS

Dear BATT:

This is my first semester back at A & M since 1939. The official school publication (you), the school administration, and the student body have shown an attitude which, if not actually destructive, is far from constructive as far as relations between the corps and veterans and the preservation of Aggie traditions are concerned. Howls of "trouble" and "friction" have been heard so often that people are looking for trouble behind every bush.

The BATT is apparently not even dependable any more; that Freckles mixup was a dilly.

So far as I have been able to find out one of the finest and most moving traditions of Aggieland was ignored last week. WHAT HAPPENED TO SILVER TAPS FOR THE AGGIES WHO DIED IN WORLD WAR I?

Now comes the real reason for the writing of this letter. Last Saturday, for the first time, I felt I had reason for being ashamed of some of my fellow Aggies. It didn't start last Saturday though, it started out because a pre-season forecast didn't turn out to be too reliable, went through a "Beat Hell out of Homer Norton" and other kinds of popping off stage, and finally reached a climax last Saturday afternoon.

What privilege, I would like to know, gives an Aggie the right to be little the activities of another in behalf of the school. The wild "booing" that was heard when Mr. Norton sent a player into the game Saturday was disgusting and must have given the thirty or so thousand people there a wonderful impression of Aggie sportsmanship.

Let's stop and think a little, Army. What is causing all of this dissension among the corps and the veterans? Why can't the participants on our athletic teams get to practice at three (the regular time for most schools) instead of five thirty? Why are our old traditions slipping by unnoticed? I think our answer is in the "Twelfth Man". If each one of us, from the Prexy to the lowliest student would reaffirm his obligation to the "Twelfth Man" instead of remaining in groups of twelve men, I think that we would be much better off. How about it, Army?

DAVE L. REANEY,

Is This Venice?

Editor Battalion:

The letter to your readers thru the Batt from the Dean of the College was slightly interesting, and causes one to do a little thinking about other things around the college.

How can the students be especially proud of the appearance of the campus when there is an acute shortage of sidewalks that drain water, and students should walk on? I, and other people of only slightly subnormal intelligence, will walk on the grass rather than up to my ankles in the mud. There is no way from Dorm 15 to the main place of call, the post office,

other than via Sbsia, or the intricate steam tunnel system. This tunnel system is the safest in especially wet weather, but is not recommended by the B&C.U. office.

Another thing. Last summer after one student died from polio here at school, there was no attempt to clean up the rat hutchies and cockroach nests referred to by students by names sounding like eating places. There is still no attempt. The college authorities merrily go along and give them the OK, but don't eat there. How can we be proud to have our friends visit the campus, and starve them during the stay? There is a good place in Bryan that these places could take a lesson from. I eat in Bryan places unless they are closed, but Bryan has stretched the city limits sign out to the Houston city limits (don't ask me how they missed us at CS), and raised the minimum fine to \$8.20, and the usual to \$28.20.

On the eating place inspection business, I suggest that the state board of health be called in to assist in cleaning up.

R. L. Manly

Ed Note:

Can't see why you complain about the mud. It never rains in College Station. However, we heartily endorse concrete sidewalks. And we, too, have had our stomachs turned in the Roach Paradises. As a citizen of the State of Texas you have the right to appeal to the State Board of Health.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Dear Editor:

There was displayed at our recent home game a very poor demonstration of sportsmanship. At least it seems pretty poor to us. Since when did so-called Aggies ever boo another Aggie for anything?

In our way of thinking, a man goes into a game because he is sent in and not until that time. If his playing is poor or looks poor to us in the stands, remember, we aren't in the thick of it, and a lot of unseen factors may enter into the question. It's a cinch the player himself would like to make a good showing. In any event that man is on the team and he is trying, which is more than any of us in the stands are doing. If we could do better, surely there is a place for us on the team.

Think how the rest of the team feels when some grandstand quarterbacks boo one of their team mates—not to mention how the man himself feels.

Then stop and think how it sounded to the Rice students, players and visitors. This Aggie spirit is pretty famous, but it won't take many more demonstrations like that to tear hell out of it.

C. J. McMordie '45
And 6 others

Ed. Note:

Examine your consciences, Aggies. "This above all, to thine own self be true. Then . . . thou canst not then be false to any man."
—W. Shakespeare.

What's Cooking

TUESDAY, November 19

7:30 p. m. Spanish Club, Room 123, Acad. Bldg.

7:30 p. m. Cream & Kow Klub, Creamery Lecture Room.

7:30 p. m. Business Society and Accounting Society, Chapel, YM-CA. Speaker, H. L. Kidd, on "Parliamentary Procedures".

7:30 p. m. Foods Group, Aggie Wives Club, Sbsia Hall.

7:30 p. m. Economics Club, Geology Lecture Room. Col. T. J. Moroney speaks on "Banking in the Southwest".

7:30 p. m. ASME business meeting, ME Bldg. Refreshments.

7:30 p. m. AI ChE, and American Chemical Society, Chemistry Lecture Room. Dr. F. W. Jensen, speaker, on his "Susie Q" invention.

7:30 p. m. Panhandle Club, Room 215, Academic Bldg.

WEDNESDAY, November 20

2:00 p. m. Newcomer's Club, Sbsia Hall.

7:00 p. m. Latin-American Club, Room 123, Acad. Bldg.

7:00 p. m. Senior Scouting Unit, EE Lecture Room.

7:15 p. m. Rosary and Benediction, St. Mary's Chapel.

THURSDAY, November 21

7:30 p. m. El Paso A & M Club, Room 128, Acad. Bldg. Special Meeting.

7:30 p. m. Brush County A & M Club, Room 804, Acad. Bldg.

7:30 p. m. Hill County A & M Club, Acad. Bldg.

7:30 p. m. Grayson County A & M Club, Room 306, Acad. Bldg.

7:30 p. m. Denton County, Room 305, Acad. Bldg. Special meeting.

7:30 p. m. Shreveport A & M Club, Room 106, Acad. Bldg.

7:30 p. m. AIEE, EE Lecture Room.

7:30 p. m. Brown County A & M Club, Room 123, Acad. Bldg. Important.

7:30 p. m. Mississippi Valley A & M Club, Room 208, Acad. Bldg.

7:30 p. m. Corpus Christi A & M Club, Room 217, Acad. Bldg.

7:30 p. m. Rio Grande Valley A & M Club, YMCA.

7:30 p. m. Young County A & M Club, Room 126, Acad. Bldg.

7:30 p. m. Panhandle A & M Club, Room 228, Acad. Bldg.

7:30 p. m. Abilene A & M Club, YMCA.

7:30 p. m. ASHVE, Petroleum Lecture Room. "Radiant Heating and Radiant Cooling", by Dr. F. E. Biesecke.

7:30 p. m. Bell County A & M Club, Room 103, Acad. Bldg.

MONDAY, November 25

7:30 p. m. Style and Fashion Group, Aggie Wives Club, Sbsia Lounge. Election of officers and discussion of Xmas party.

THURSDAY, November 21

Oklahoma Club Meeting after Yell Practice in Room 206, Academic Building.

7:30 East Texas Club, YMCA. Plans will be made for Thanksgiving party.

Senior Scout Unit Will Reorganize

Reorganization of the Senior Scouting Unit on the campus will take place in a meeting Wednesday night. It will be held in the E. E. Lecture Room at 7 o'clock at which the District Scout Executive will be present. This Aggie group is sponsored by the local Methodist Church with W. R. Horsley and Fred Hickman in charge. There are three group leaders who are A. E. Silas, C. A. Ingram, and R. O. Murray.

PHYSICS DEPT. CALLS FOR LAB ASSISTANTS

Laboratory assistants are still needed by the Physics Department, according to Dr. J. G. Potter. Undergraduate assistants receive \$25 a month for 10 hours work a week, and must have passed Physics 203-4 or the equivalent. Application should be made to Dr. Potter in the Physics Building.

BETWEEN THE BOOKENDS . . .

Adventure, Mystery, Information

Headlines This Week's Bookshelf

COMMANDER EDWARD ELLSBERG has contributed a masterful piece of work in "Under the Red Sea Sun", a story of ship salvaging in "the Worst Hellhole on Earth". During eight arduous months in far-off Eritrea Commander Ellsberg performed seeming miracles in raising and repairing ships, drydocks, and cranes which the Italian garrison of Massawa had scuttled before surrendering to the British. The tale is

one of war behind the fighting lines, of incredible endurance, and courage under living conditions just short of unbearable. Reviewed in The New York Herald Tribune as the "finest book not of battlefield deeds to come out of the war", this absorbingly interesting saga should not be left off your reading list. (Dodd, Mead & Co., \$3.50)

Penberthy Speaks To Future Farmers

The true meaning of the A. & M. Senior ring was the topic discussed by W. L. Penberthy, of the physical education department, in a meeting with approximately 75 members of the A. & M. Chapter of the Future Farmers of America last Tuesday night.

Mr. Penberthy, a member of the senior ring committee, told about the perfectness of material and the expert workmanship that go to make the A. & M. ring the best military ring in the nation. He then pointed out the responsibility of every Aggie who wears or expects to wear the ring to ask himself, "Am I good enough to wear the Aggie ring?" Mr. Penny also pointed out that an Aggie should not depend on the ring to identify him as an Aggie, but that his performance should identify him as a true member of "this great body of fine men."

After the discussion by Penberthy, the meeting was called to order by chapter president James R. McIlroy and certain routine business was transacted. The next meeting date of the chapter will be announced later.

Approximately 350,000 women who served in World War II may receive benefits available to all veterans, Veterans Administration said.

ONE OF THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY and fascinating books published in years is "A Book About A Thousand Things", by George Stimpson. It is a grab-bag of information on all topics under the sun (and then some). Here, for example, are some of the topics discussed. Is it improper to wash a U. S. flag? Why is a horse called "dobbin"? What country was moved on the way from North to South America? What was the big wind of Ireland? Why do gunners open their mouths when firing cannon? The book seems to have no scheme or organization, but perhaps that is one of its additional virtues. Difficult to put down when started, Mr. Stimpson's book is educational as well as interesting, and is very worthwhile reading. (Harper's, \$3.50)

"SLUG IT SLAY", by Edwin Lanham, is positive proof that it is possible to write a newspaper mystery that is neither a juvenile nor silly. Mr. Lanham's tale of a publisher's sudden violent end is crammed with authentic operations in a New York city room before and after Forrest C. Willshire got his just desserts for quarreling with some employees and staring at the rest. Hero Arthur Leslie is also a pathological starrer, who gets the low-down by fundamental deductions, outsmarting even Lieutenant Madigan. You may have some hunches if you concentrate on the missing suicide note and such, but you will have to wait for the editor's final brain waves for the correct answer to this puzzling mystery. (Harcourt, Brace & Co., \$2.00)

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"ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER"

— with —
Anne Baxter
Claude Rains
Paul Muni

(This is a First Run Picture)

The Battalion

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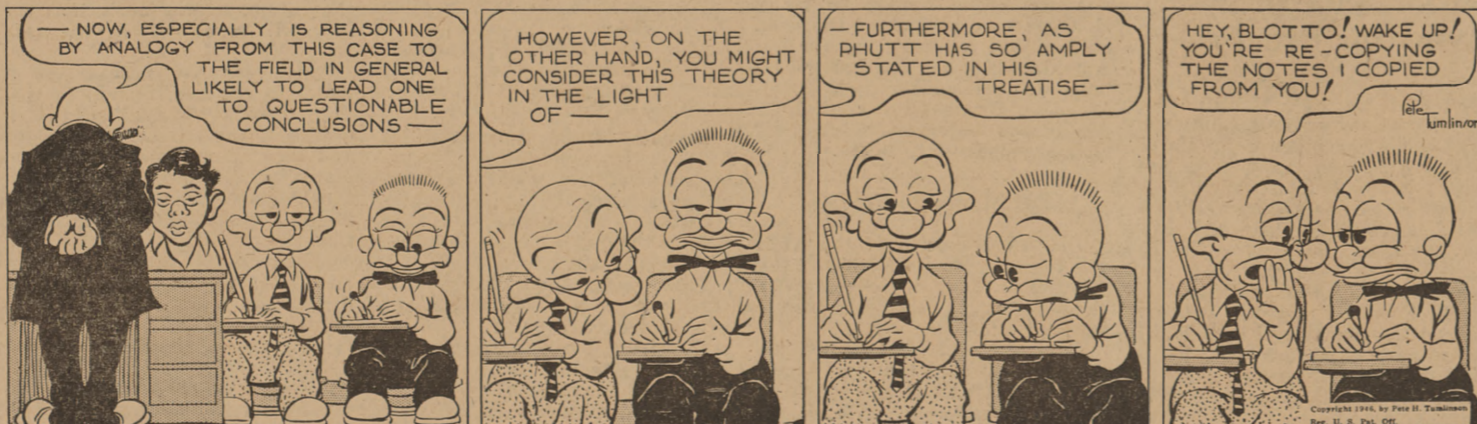
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