

Battalion EDITORIALS

Page 2 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1947

By the Students, For the Students . . .

(A Guest Editorial)

I would like to bring to the attention of the student body a grievance which I consider to be most irritating.

I imagine that by now most of the students on the campus know that there are no more tickets to the Rice game. Not only is this game a Corps trip, but there were no announcements made that there was just a limited number of tickets to be had.

I have been led to understand that this game is an activity for the students. Also, most of the students have bought coupon books which as I understand are to defray part of the expense of out-of-town games.

I believe that the school should guarantee every student a chance to see the game. If a school cannot do this, then there is something wrong. If this is to be the policy of

the Athletic Office, I would like to give them some advice as follows:

First, put football on a fulltime business proposition. By doing this, they can say "to hell with the students", and start making a handsome profit on the tickets which could now be sold to the outsiders. With this extra money, we could pay our football players a nice salary or we could pay the Green Bay Packers to play for us.

To me this matter is important. I don't know how any other Aggies feel about it, but it makes me see red.

I hope that by Saturday the Athletic Office will have obtained by fair or foul means enough tickets so that any Aggie who wishes to see the game may do so.

SCHOEL SCHULEMAN, '48
(Ed. Note: See Rice Ticket story, Page 1)



Human Emotion, Hemingway Style, in 'Macomber Affair'

By DAVID M. SELIGMAN

THE MACOMBER AFFAIR (Campus, FS) is a sordid story written by a master of human emotion, Ernest Hemingway, and produced by United Artists. The consensus is that something is lacking to make the film top-notch. In the Hollywood camp they say that the material is inferior to the performers, and the literary world is inclined to put the blame on a "typical Hollywood bungler."

The public, nevertheless, will see a film that has magnificent shots of wild animals ranging in their natural habitats, plus an absorbing drama involving human emotions. The Macomber, Robert Preston and Joan Bennett, present two characters unlike the majority of movie roles, in that they require careful study of their personalities.

The inevitable triangle is composed of Macomber, a courageous American marksman on an African game hunt, his critical wife who accompanies him, and their affable English guide, Gregory Peck.

After miserably failing to show sportsmanship in the beginning, Macomber finds courage under the humiliating pressure of his wife's sneers and life for him really begins—but not for long. Mrs. Macomber promptly shoots him through the head.

Here is where Hemingway is left behind. His story says it was a deliberate act; Hollywood presents the audience with the protests of innocence of Mrs. Macomber, and lets the mystery go unsolved.

Zoltan Korda benefits the film with his previous African movie experience—the backgrounds are terrific. This savage, complex story of the war between the sexes is carried through expertly. The Hollywood "improvement" on the ending pulls the fuse on Hemingway and lets the audience down, but it's a 95 percent good picture.

Why Eggless Thursday Ended; Read This and Still Wonder

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12 (AP)—Do you want to know why the government ever started "poultryless Thursdays" and then abandoned the idea?

Here's an explanation.

Some weeks ago President Truman appointed Charles Luckman, a Boston business man, head of a special food committee to work out in a hurry some means of saving about 100,000,000 bushels of grain for Europe.

This is the story told at Luckman's office—he was out of town—after that office announced an end to poultryless Thursdays.

Luckman, who's in the soap business, came to Washington with the idea that the best way to save grain was to have a meatless Tuesday and wheatless Thursday every week.

A couple of days after he arrived here he went to a meeting of the President's Cabinet Food Committee.

This committee was made up of representatives of the Secretaries of State, Commerce and Agriculture departments.

There—remember this story came from Luckman's office—Luckman was told that having a poultryless Thursday was a better way of saving grain than having a wheatless Thursday.

At this point the writer asked the spokesman in Luckman's office: who at the meeting with the President's cabinet food committee suggested the idea of a poultryless Thursday to Luckman?

The answer: Well, the Agriculture Department was the only one that would know about saving grain. The State and Commerce Departments wouldn't know.

So Luckman then decided that a meatless Tuesday and a poultryless Thursday would be necessary to save grain.

He announced that as a national program and asked the American

people and restaurants to cooperate.

The idea behind all this was as follows:

1. Cattle ordinarily eat only grass. But choice cattle is fed grain just before going to market. If the demand for meat is cut down, such as through a meatless Tuesday, fewer cattle will be grain-fed for market. Thus some grain will be saved.

2. Chickens eat a lot of grain. By a poultryless Thursday, there will be less demand for chickens. Therefore, farmers will raise fewer chickens and grain will be saved.

Did anybody know—when Luckman announced the program or even now—how much grain would be saved by a meatless Tuesday and poultryless Thursday?

No, nobody knows, was the answer at Luckman's office.

But the poultry-raiser began to scream. And it became clear that one side of the poultry picture had been overlooked.

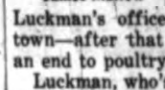
If the demand for chickens was cut down through poultryless Thursday, then the farmers, unable to sell them, would keep them and they'd eat up grain.

So, was grain being saved by poultryless Thursday or was more grain being used by the chickens which couldn't be sold?

Finally, after a lot of talks with the poultry-raiser, Luckman's office said he was satisfied that:

1. Poultryless Thursday was no longer necessary because—

2. The farmers had promised to reduce their chicken flocks themselves and thereby save about 66,000,000 bushels of grain.



James Marlow

Do Russians Have A-Bomb? . . .

Have Russian scientists really invented their own version of the atomic bomb, and did they set one off at Irkutsk last June? Much ink was spilled over the question yesterday, after a Paris right-wing newspaper gave out such a report. At the end of all the fuss, no one knew more than before. For we have long known that Russia might make a bomb.

But perhaps such a scare is good for the U. S. It reminds us that we dare not forget the rest of the world; that the days of isolation are just something we read about in history books.

At the Atomic Energy Commission in Washington, there was "no comment" yesterday on questions about the Prague dispatch in the newspaper "L'Intransigeant" which said the Soviets had set off on June 15 a 12½ pound bomb produced at a Siberian project named "Atomgrad." The test was reported to have been made near the city of Irkutsk.

It was noted, however, that the same newspaper had produced at least one other startling report about atom bombs. On July 7, it quoted French military circles as saying a new American Bomb was so powerful it had blown a crater 2,700 feet deep and 11 miles wide during a test in New Mexico. The Atomic Commission termed that report "nonsense and preposterous."

The Paris report says the metal in the bomb weighs twelve and a half pounds. That comes within the lower limit set by the Smyth report, which said the minimum amount needed to explode is between two pounds and two hundred.

The general impression has been the allied atomic bombs used much more than twelve pounds. This impression has two sources. One is the large size and great weight of the atom bombs, which General Leslie Groves, head of the American Bomb Project, said could be carried only by a B-29. British reports said this bomb weighed around three or four tons.

The other source is a report in a United Nations publication by Frederick Joliot, foremost French physicist, that the amount of explosive metal in the American bomb is about 130 pounds. The rest of the weight is supposedly in firing machinery and in spacing of the atomic charges.

The Paris report did not state whether the Russian bomb is uranium or plutonium. The weight of metal in either bomb is however virtually the same.

Several leading American atomic scientists expressed "very marked skepticism" of reports that Russian scientists had exploded a small sample atom bomb last June in Siberia.

"All this does not make sense," said Dr. Edward Teller, professor of physics at the University of Chicago's institute of nuclear studies, when advised of the report.

Community Supper Thursday Evening

The Mother's and Dad's Club of College Station is giving its 12th annual community supper Thursday evening at 6:30, according to J. Gordon Gay, associate secretary of the YMCA. The supper will be held in the gymnasium of the A&M Consolidated High School.

Proceeds will be used to purchase much needed playground equipment for A&M Consolidated Schools, Gay stated. Admission will be 85 cents for adults and 60 cents for students and children. Tickets will be on sale at the gymnasium.

This annual supper has become one of the highlights of the community and affords an opportunity for neighbors and friends to visit and make new acquaintances. The supper is not limited only to citizens of College Station but is open to everyone.

Exams Announced For Civil Service

Examinations for the positions of soil conservationist, soil scientist, and agricultural and civil engineer have been announced by the Civil Service Commission.

The entrance salaries range from \$397.20 to \$414.00 per year, with an average yearly increase of \$125.

Employment will be with the Field Headquarters of the Soil Conservation Service in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, and Missouri.

Application forms may be obtained from the Post Office and submitted to the Civil Service Examiners in Dallas not later than December 1.

Howard W. Blakeslee, science editor for the Associated Press, stated that the Russian bomb story falls within the limits of possibilities.

One of these possibilities is that the Russian bomb as described is not a true atom bomb but what the official British report said could be made—namely a squib.

It is possible, said this British report, to get an explosion so imperfect that the atomic material's detonation would be no worse than that of some ordinary explosives. The British did not explain further.

But whether the Russian report was true, or merely bluff as seems likely, there is no way we can get out from under the shadow of the atom bomb. What little security was left in the world was blown away over Hiroshima in 1945. In more than two years, we have not learned to laugh at the a-bomb as we have laughed at other threats in the past. It just isn't a laughing matter.

: : Letters to the Editor : :

PALESTINE?

Editor: The Battalion

In your November 10 issue, a letter "No Problem in Palestine" was printed describing the Palestine situation. I appreciate Mr. Helba's remarks, although his course of reasoning was void of any consideration of facts. In reply to his "information" may I be permitted to ask a few questions?

Mr. Helba first pointed out that the "real" Arabs are the Jews, Christians and Moslems who now occupy Palestine. May I ask if this is a universal theory or one imposed by the fragment of Arab imagination. Is it true that these people live in peace and security? If so, explain the many Arab revolts and attacks on Jewish settlements from 1930 until the present day.

I am glad to know the Arabs now have a well trained army to "protect" their rights. It is indeed a shame that their mighty strength was not used during this World conflict when American and English troops were so sorely pressed. Or was the Mufli too busy doing business with Hitler. Or did their secret strength only number 52,000 all trained, ill equipped troops.

The Crux of the situation is merely this:

- 1. The Arabs, whose disease scourged people (92% with eye disease) and whose illiteracy is

appalling, are afraid of the Western Culture moving into their Iron Curtain.

2. Federalism must give way to modern culture and perish if the Jews continue their Democratic advance.

3. The Jews will be a strong fortress of Democratic security, for they shall never allow a totalitarianistic nation to ever control Palestine, or the precious oil supply.

The Jews have learned the price of freedom by attending many classes on Hatred, Gas Chambers, Annihilation, and have witnessed in "lab" one third of their people destroyed. They are now working for life—and peace. They do not raise armies to patrol borders and wage war, but they have raised armies in time of war to aid in the defense of Democratic rights—and now maintain a strong force only in case of attack on their civil liberties.

Truly, there is a problem in Palestine, but it is not a Jewish one. It is one manufactured and fostered by Arab forces for their personal, political stab at World Power. (Ref. Egypt's Bid For Power in the Special Supplement of the "Nation", page 392, Oct. 4, 1947) Yes, the problem is Arab in nature, Arab in meaning, and Arab to the end. The only solution is

peace. However, the Arabs egged on by the Nazified Mufli, wish not for peace, but complete domination of Christian and Jews alike. Peace at this price is intolerable.

I trust in God and the United Nations to deal justly, fairly, and equally. Their decision can be only that of granting this small piece of land to the racked, tired, half dead people who's only desire is to go Home—Palestine!

BOB ROSENTHAL, '47.

DISAPPOINTED

Editor, The Battalion:

A pox on The Battalion! Your paper caused me to spend a dollar that I needed very much. Next to squeaking shoes, I hate a program by an Irish tenor most. Two songs by such an artist are delightful, but more than that is like eating too much very sweet candy.

The Battalion plainly stated TWICE that Mr. Lynch would sing Liszt's "Hungarian Rhapsody." The first time that it appeared I thought that it must have been a misprint—and we are warned daily in your paper that there are mistakes in newspaper headlines—but when it came out the second time I was convinced. I think that what really sold me on the idea of putting out my dollar was the fact that he was also going to give a rendition of Weber's "Perpetual Motion." Such a feat would be well worth the admission price. So I decided that for ten days I should do without my desert (sic) —I live by a very strict budget—and buy a ticket instead.

Imagine my very great disappointment when Mr. Lynch failed to produce the program as announced in The Batt. For ten days now as I feel the pangs of hunger, my only consolation will be the fact that I am saving food for Europe.

Sincerely,
DIVIN PANTIS
(rimes with Ivan Yantis)

(Ed. Note: Your construction of the term "Divin Pantis" makes us think that you are connected with the modern language department. Furthermore our crystal ball department tells us that your last name begins with the letter "P".

Don't blame our reporter for attempting to give you the unusual—at least he tried. When our proofreader saw that Lynch was going to sing Liszt's "Hungarian Rhapsody" and Weber's "Perpetual Motion", he immediately rushed over to Guion Hall to get a front seat—forgetting to correct the copy. Now he has turned to street cleaning.)

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The Battalion

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