

# Battalion EDITORIALS

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1947

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

## '47 Bonfire Beckons...

Heaps of logs and scrap lumber have begun to accumulate on the Main Drill Field—preparations for the '47 Bonfire are underway.

Perhaps the most exciting and colorful event of the year at A. & M. is the annual Thanksgiving Bonfire. Aggies from near and far. They gather about its leaping flames, give the yells and sing the songs of Aggiedom on the eve of the A. & M.-T. U. football game.

Each year an attempt is made to build "this year's" bonfire a little larger than its forerunners. Aggies scour the surrounding countryside bringing in trees, old farm buildings, and the usual half dozen or so "Frat" houses.

Many bonfire builders in the past have been somewhat over-zealous in their search for combustible material, and have wrecked and carted off a considerable amount of private property, still valued by its owners.

## Failure in Education...

From the December issue of Reader's Digest comes an article by Stanley High, commenting on recent disputes over teachers' salaries, and bringing out a point aimed primarily at the lower houses of education but quite applicable to the later stages as well.

Mr. High's contention is that while it is well and good to boast of and to seek to improve our educational system, this same complacent smugness may cause us to lose sight of what actually makes up an education.

While our two one-half billion dollar a year school system may be the most materially impressive in history, it is morally inferior to the one room schoolhouses which fostered Adams, Jefferson and Lincoln.

Making a list of scholastic shortcomings, he quoted a report of the New York State school system which said in part: "We are turning out a vast number of men each year who are not ready for adult life. They have no idea what sort of opportunities there are, how to look for work, or how to work when they get a job. They are not prepared to be useful citizens, or to enter community or business life. They do not know how to take care of their own bodies or minds. Few have implanted in them any seeds of individual inner life and growth, or skill in working

through the efforts of Dean W. L. Penberthy, paid damages amounting to over \$200 to irate property owners whose possessions went up in smoke as part of the Turkey Day conflagration.

Much needless work can be saved, in addition to a considerable sum of money, if common-sense and discretion is used in selecting fuel for this year's flame.

Work on the bonfire up until now has been done by a handful of campus students with the aid of the Bryan Field Freshmen, who had already collected a large pile of material.

Saturday and Sunday will be the big days in the construction of the bonfire—little else can be accomplished in the three quiet crowded days remaining before Wednesday night.

Corpsmen, upperclassmen, campus and Bryan Field Freshmen alike, veteran students—join the throng at the Main Drill Field over the week-end and make "this year's bonfire" the biggest of them all!

with others, or any protections against mob hysteria, propaganda, shallow prejudice or economic gold bricks.

Although these statements are not wholly applicable in our own case, their parallels should be obvious. After a long series of problem courses and a nodding acquaintance with practical means of expressing himself, the average engineer finds that he knows far more than he can say. Technically he is proficient, but socially he is short, and in letters and art he is nil.

Consider William Rainey Harper's definition of an educated man—"a man who, by the time he is 25, has a clear theory, formed in the light of human experience down the ages, of what constitutes a satisfying, a significant life and who, by the age of 30, has a moral philosophy consonant with racial experience. If a man reaches these ages without having arrived at such a theory, such a philosophy, then no matter how many facts he has learned or how many processes he has mastered, that man is an ignorant and a fool, unhappy, probably dangerous."

Our schools can turn out no better graduates than the community can send them freshmen, and in the schools themselves, there is more to education than a collection of facts and methods.

## Great Issues: A Reality...

The "Great Issues" course will become a reality at Texas A. & M. next semester. This is good news.

Although Dartmouth, which originated the Great Issues plan, requires all graduating seniors to take the course, it will be optional at A. & M. Seniors who wish to have first-hand contact with some of the problems that are guiding our history may register for the course. For most seniors, it should be too good an opportunity to pass up.

Of course, much depends on what National and International leaders can be persuaded to spend two days here. Great men are busy men. But it has been found that even the greatest will make an attempt to talk to serious college seniors, who will soon be taking their places in the world, and who should themselves occupy positions of leadership within a few years.

Under this plan, important men who are

making or have made history will be asked to address seniors in the Administration 405 course one day, and to answer questions in a forum on the next day. When possible, the first meeting will be held at night, so that other interested people may attend. Forums will be limited to those registered in the class.

Will important men be willing to come to out-of-the-way College Station for such purposes? We believe they will. Although no names can be announced, the college has received encouragement from several national personalities, who will accept if a time can be found that fits in with their duties.

That is, we believe such men can be gotten here if we show sufficient interest. The fate of the Great Issues course will be largely determined by the number of seniors who sign up for Administration 405 next semester.

Two Million to Produce! Too Big to Miss."

A CORRECTION appearing recently in the *New Bern* (N. C.) *Sun-Journal*: "Miss Thelma Elmore Jones was married to Bobby Stanley and not Henry Hodges Stanley as was stated in the article on their wedding appearing in a recent edition of the *Sun-Journal*. The bridegroom's parents are Mr. and Mrs. John B. Stanley and not Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Stanley, as was stated in the same article, and the officiating minister was Rev. E. W. Downing of New Bern and not Rev. A. E. Brown of Bridgeton."

IN ITS story of a confessed wife slayer the *Ypsa* (Okla.) *World* referred to "The MacFabre family tangle," leading to the belief there's a Scotsman on the telegraph desk.

## The Battalion

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## MAN WITH A DEADLINE



## On The Screen...

### Bongo, Bongo, I Don't Want To Leave the Jungle, Stan

By DAVE SELIGMAN  
STANLEY AND LIVINGSTON (Campus, SprSM), a fine old picture dug up for re-release, this was made with the famous search as a basis.

Outstanding in his roles as historical figures, Spencer Tracy does not lower himself in this movie. Detailed by his boss, the noted editor William Gordon Bennett, to find the unheard-of Livingston in the African jungle, Stanley had a golden opportunity to scoop all competition, and that he did.

His trek through the "Dark Continent" proves to be a most interesting story and superb acting puts this film near the top of Hollywood productions.

In the supporting cast are Nancy Kelly as Tracy's sweetheart and Richard Greene.

RED STALLION (Guion, SM), a melodramatic episode in which the horse triumphs over all. Best looking actor: the horse; best acting: horse; hero of movie: horse; also: Van Robert Page; followed by Norbert Nash.

Here's the layout—on a southern plantation there lives a horse dearly loved by his owner. The villain is about to take possession of the place for debt, but there's a race in the offing and if it can be won all will be saved. The night before the big day a bear (a new Hollywood angle) tangles with the horse—result a badly clawed equine. After a fight with the camera, the race is won, jubilation. Girl gets boy—finis.

NEW ORLEANS (Palace, SprSM) a fare which is nine-tenths old rag-time played by the original Dixieland band. For those hesters who enjoy those tunes which gave birth to jazz and forgot the now popular boogie-woogie it's a treat.

The music is supplemented with the nostalgic lives and loves in one of America's romantic cities. Featured music makers are the famous Louis Armstrong and popular Woodie Herman.

Arturo deCortova and Dorothy Patrick have the leads with the help of Irene Rich, noted booster of grape-juice.

BRUTE FORCE (Queen, SMT)

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## Tramping Out the Vintage...

### Police in Flights of Poetry About Kissing

By FRANK KNEUFFER  
Gentle Gendarmier

Tokyo police last week banned public kissing, except in cases where "love is naturally expressed on a bench in a public park."

A kiss is divine in a motorcar, and swell in a garden swing; and at a Ladies' Bazaar or over a steaming samovar a kiss is the very best thing.

But better than all the lovely rest is that osculatory lark, the ultimate thule, the best of the best, the love that is naturally expressed on a bench in a public park.

### The Shrewd Sultan

A Negro pastor from Queens, New York, has discovered the ideal

## Letters

### HOUSING BY POINTS?

Editor, The Battalion:

Read this: "The State College of Washington has adopted a new point system in assigning housing to married veterans. Priority for housing is given on this basis: Residents of Washington and of Alaska, 5 points; points are allowed for each child or child expected within 6 months; to students who have a "C" average, 2 points for each year of college; 1 point for each half year of war service, and to wives of veterans who are themselves veterans, similar credit; to disabled veterans, 1 point for each 10 percent physical disability pension payment, and to wives of veterans who are themselves disabled veterans, similar credit; 1 point for each 6 months the applicant has been on the college housing list and preference to older students.

"A student-faculty committee reviews all applications. Special consideration is given to case of hardship."

The above item was copied from the Nov. 15, 1947 issue of "HIGHER EDUCATION," Vol. iv, No. 6, Washington, D. C. published by the United States Office of Education.

Doesn't this sound like an equitable solution for the many unfortunate and irritating conditions which exist in the present housing system? At least it is a more concrete basis upon which to base the system, and might help alleviate some of the "gripes" which continually arise at the end of each semester and turn-over of apartments.

Sincerely,  
MRS. D. A. DASHIELL  
"A Mrs. Aggie"

### Bryan Methodist Pastor to Speak

Dr. Guy Wilson, pastor of the Bryan First Methodist Church, will speak at 7 p. m. November 23, in the Methodist Church at College Station, according to Reverend J. F. Jackson, pastor of the A&M Church.

Dr. Wilson's message will be "How can an intelligent man believe in prayer?" Dr. Wilson stated this sermon was part of a series on religious problems and he added "it will be particularly helpful to young people who are trying to find a Way of Life."

Dr. Wilson has held many prominent clerical posts in the state according to Reverend Jackson. Some of these are pastor of the Methodist Temple in Port Arthur, pastor of the First Methodist Church of Lufkin, District Superintendent of the Marshall District, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Methodist Encampment at Palestine, Who's Who in Clergy, and Texas Who's Who.

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STANLEY and LIVINGSTONE  
RICHARD GREENE - NANCY KELLY

way to evade the Jim Crow laws. Wearing a rented purple turban and using a "slightly Swedish" accent, he was enabled to avoid discrimination of a recent visit to Mobile, Alabama. He reported that he was accepted in the portion of the train reserved for whites, that he ate in a restaurant restricted to white people, and was treated with dignity and respect the whole time.

### Better to Give Than Get

Utica police charged three men the other day with stealing food from the Friendship Train. The trio boarded the train while it was stopped in the western part of the city and took six cases of evaporated milk. The three are now probably wondering about the blessings of friendship.

### Medals For Maltese

A stray alley cat seeking refuge from a rainstorm wandered into a hotel and won two prizes recently at the Greater St. Louis Cat Club show. Adopted by the hotel

Guion Hall

TODAY & SATURDAY  
DOUBLE FEATURE

CRIMINAL COURT  
Starring TOM CONWAY  
with MATHA O'DRISCOLL

and  
PHILO VANCE  
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Presented by PRODUCERS RELEASING CORP.

hostess and named Mr. Silver the cat took top honors in the best color for kittens event and the non-champion class.

### They Also Serve

The sheriff of Ithaca, N. Y., recently received a thirty-day notice to vacate the house in which he lives, and which was sold not long ago. "I suppose I'll have to get out," he said, but if I can't, it raises a question. Evicting is done by the sheriff. Who evicts the evictee?"

## QUEEN

ONLY 2 MORE DAYS...

to see this remarkable picture!!

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