

Battalion EDITORIALS

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"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

Time to Face the Issue . . .

At the beginning of this year's fall semester, student and faculty alike had reason to believe that the Cadet Corps system of student life was in a most precarious position. The "unfortunate" incidents that took place during the spring semester last year aroused interest from the Rio Grande to Washington, and brought tremendous pressure to bear on the board of directors and school officials.

Under this pressure, and in consideration of the previous unsuccessful efforts that had been made to correct or modify the practice of hazing by the Cadet Corps, the Board of Directors last summer came very near abolishing the Cadet Corps in its entirety.

Cadet officers were duly impressed with the seriousness of the situation when Board Member Tyree Bell revealed these facts to them at the first of last semester.

In an effort to strengthen the position of the Corps, the Senior class sent representatives to meet with the Board early in the year and pledge the cooperation of the Cadet Corps for the success of the coming school year.

Student-Administration relations assumed a decidedly rosier hue; a new and more effective student government was established; and a higher standard of sportsmanship was fostered between Aggies and fellow members of the Southwest Conference.

By the end of November, the old scars of bitter conflict over the "hazing" question were well glossed over and it seemed that A.&M. had at last entered an era of permanent prosperity.

Already the majority of the student body and faculty had sunk back into a complacent lethargy, very satisfied with the conditions which, they thought, had resulted solely from their enterprise and effort. This is where we are now—very content, back-slapping each other in blind self-satisfaction over a job well done.

But—viewed objectively, what seems a tremendous advance toward a better Texas A.&M. has more logically been a series of party steps that brightened the present but assumed little value of lasting permanence. Actually, they appear to be evasions of the immediate and pressing problem, the question that has dogged the Aggie way of life since early in this century, if not before;—Can boys of 20 or 21 years of age assume responsibility of disciplining their underclassmen in a fair, just, and moderate way? After the flare up of last year, which was

basically a controversy over this same question, the board of directors wisely proclaimed a "year of grace" in which upperclassmen could sit back and view the problem in a true light, unhampered by the traditional task of "making Aggies out of the freshmen". After a semester's reflection, the greater majority of the senior class has found the true problem, given it considerable thought, and are probably capable of supervising a year's activity of the Cadet Corps, freshmen and all, without the breakdown of organized discipline into pernicious hazing. However, by the time Freshmen are brought back into the main campus these present seniors will have placed the reins of the Cadet Corps in the hands of this year's Junior class, thus leaving the situation relatively unchanged. The incoming seniors next year will have had no responsibility in dealing with corps problems or experienced the serious thought prompted by such responsibility. Not ever having known "the inside" on the actions of other senior classes, nor being familiar with the actual duties and responsibilities that face leaders of the Cadet Corps, they will be in a poor position indeed to "run" the corps. They, like many of their unsuccessful predecessors, will probably be hampered by a tremendous lack of foresight, and thus will base most of their policies and actions on what classes before them may have tried and given up as unsuccessful, rather than by the use of open minded and defensible logic.

If this is true, and all indications point that way, it is time that we awoke from our stupor and started planning for next year.

The Battalion favors the initiation of an "Orientation Plan" whereby responsible juniors could meet with senior leaders and possibly older Aggies who had held positions of responsibility during their cadet days, to discuss the various problems that have arisen this year and in past years, and the methods, both successful and unsuccessful, that have been used in dealing with them. In addition, the delegation of more authority and responsibility, to members of the junior class would add valuable experience in the handling of Corps affairs.

The senior class could aid powerfully in converting this plan from a mere idea into actual practice—certainly it is their duty, as Aggies, to act in some way for the permanent welfare of the Cadet Corps system of student life. Shirk this duty, fail to face this issue squarely, and they will have failed in the most important task that has faced them in A.&M.!

Switch to Calvert (Hic!) . . .

Christian HERALD says that one of the latest Calvert ads quoted a Mr. Henry Kopf as "having switched to Calvert because it tasted better." A PM reporter found Kopf "in a fifth-rate saloon in Union City, New Jersey." The distinguished man said: "I didn't get nothin' out of it. Me and Louis Setti, we were sitting here drinking. So while we were drinking, the agent of the Calvert Company, he comes in and says, 'Did you ever try Lord Calvert?' So we says, 'No.' So he says, 'Have a drink on me.' John (the bartender) didn't have Lord Calvert, but he did have Calvert Reserve—that's a little cheaper—and we found out it was a very good drink. Then he asks me and Louis our names and addresses and we gave it to him. I'm a whisky drinker. I'd drink any whisky just as long as it was whisky."

Federal mediators are attempting to prevent a walkout at Western Union. The watchword, we take it is: "Don't strike—telegraph!"

One thing we would really like to see is what would happen if an irresistible force met Mr. Molotov.

Reporting a Chamber of Commerce meeting, the Springfield (Mass.) Union said:

"In his opening remarks, MacDonald paid high tribute to the wives of politicians who bare with them and often seem to admire them while they are engaged in the consuming business of government."

Two members of the advertising department of the Mobile (Ala.) Press Register found out the expensive way that it pays to advertise.

P. D. Beville, head of the local display advertising department, and Bobby Spottswood, solicitor, placed classified ads in the newspapers and received quick answers from each other.

Beville wanted to buy a tricycle for his youngster and Spottswood wanted to sell a tricycle which one of his boys had outgrown. Each paid 75 cents for the ads.

Mrs. Spottswood read Beville's ad and telephoned Mrs. Beville, who bought the tricycle.

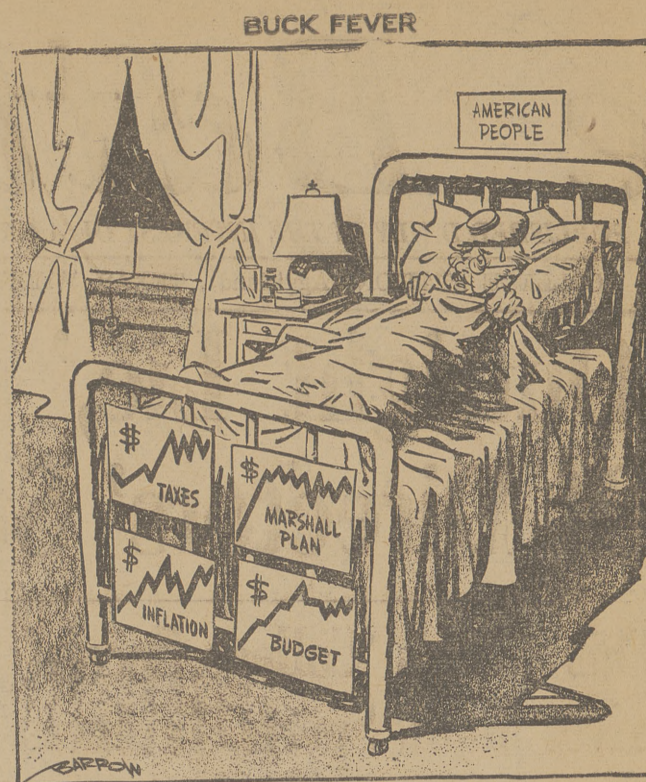
Spottswood and Beville work in the same department and their desks are only three feet apart.

Under "Baby Carriages" in the For Sale classification of the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Eagle appeared:

Brockway 1940 5-ton; perfect condition with milk body.

Under a Tamaqua, Pa. dateline, the AP reported: "More than 100 anthracite miners wearing lighted electric lambs on their caps. . ."

The United Press, reporting on a congressional resolution to adjourn, added: "If approved, Congress would not return until the next regular session is scheduled to convene on Jan. 6."



ON THE SCREEN . . .

Stool Pigeon on the Spot Realistic 'Kiss of Death'

By DAVE SELIGMAN

KISS OF DEATH (Campus, FS) Lacking the warmth and moral spirit of "Boomerang", "Kiss of Death" deals with the narrow field of criminal and cops, but retains the realistic and convincing atmosphere obtained in the former. In its own way the film is a clean knockout.

KOD is the story of a burglar named Nick Bianco (Victor Mature) and of the difficulties he encounters first as a criminal, then in trying to extricate himself from the underworld. Having turned state's evidence and belonging body and soul to the D. A. (Brian Donlevy), his liberty depends on his cooperativeness as a stool pigeon. His life, and the safety of his children and his second wife (Coleen Gray), the first was a suicide case, depend precariously on secrecy and on police protection.

The fright and suspense of the closing scenes depend on the conception of Tommy Udo, an acquitted, pathological killer, who gives a remarkable performance. The earlier sequences are as hard, cold, and clear as so many panes of glass and even in their quietness are fascinating.

CARNEGIE HALL (Queen, Th FS). A galaxy of stars parade their talent in that famous auditorium where the best of all finally end up. This is one of those extravaganzas which Hollywood puts out over so often to let you know all the favorites are still running. The money they save on screen play writers they spend for the short periods each entertainer appears in the movie. It's a musical by every standard and if you like 'em go to it.

SUN VALLEY SERENADE (Guion, FS). A revival of the departed: Glenn Miller heads his orchestra once more in a musical comedy starring Sonya Heine, John Payne, and Lynn Barry. The

Jenkins to Lead Church Singing

Walter Jenkins and his wife, Vivian, will sing and lead singing at the A&M Methodist Church, Sunday Night, according to Rev. J. F. Jackson, church pastor.

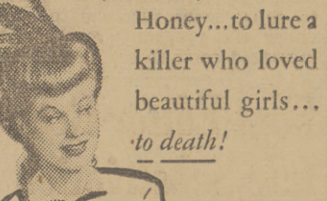
Jenkins will bring duets, soloists, and other singers from Houston to assist in the program.

He has been International Rotary song leader for the past year and is going to South America in the near future to attend the next International Rotary Convention there.

Welcome back Aggies
"POP" SHAW
is still making those
GOOD HAMBURGERS
for you.

QUEEN LAST DAY She's K-B

(KILLER-BAIT)
Honey...to lure a
killer who loved
beautiful girls...
to death!



HUNT STROMBERG presents
GEORGE SANDERS
LUCILLE BALL
CHARLES COBURN
BORIS KARLOFF
"LURED"
executive producer HUNT STROMBERG
released on United Artists

Trampling Out the Vintage . . .

Moral of This Story: Don't Give Junior A Chemistry Set--Even If He's Passed 101

By LARRY GOODWYN

Six police squad cars and eight fire trucks rushed to an address in Los Angeles recently in answer to an explosion report. One man said it "blew me right out of my living room chair."

Police and firemen searched the neighborhood and found a shredded metal container, a burned spot on the sidewalk, and information that several youngsters in the neighborhood who received chemistry sets for Christmas had apparently progressed beyond the instruction stage.

EASY MONEY

The latest yarn from Hollywood is entitled "Star Doubles for Stunt Woman"—or "How to Rake In the Dough While Doing Nothing."

The "star" in this case was one Miss Jacqueline White who made the story possible by the simple expedient of falling off her horse. The accident occurred in the filming of R. K. O.'s "Return of the Bad Men" when Miss White's horse shied at a rabbit and threw her in a chase scene. Luckily, the fall was in the script—Miss White was supposed to have been wounded and fallen.

The director voted the scene okay and the woman stunt rider hired for the fall drew her full check and went home, commenting "This is the first time I ever had a star double for me."

FATE THEY CALL IT

Arthur Crenshaw is willing to admit today that he apparently just wasn't meant to have a saw.

He collared a thief who had stolen his saw and thrown it into a yard. After turning the thief over to police, Crenshaw turned to the yard and saw the saw was gone.

SO YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT TROUBLES

The automobile of John Sanborn of Midland, Mich., broke through the ice of Saginaw Bay while he was fishing nearby.

So a Pinconning, Mich., firm sent a wrecker to retrieve it. That broke through and sank too.

A pilot, attracted by the crowd on the ice, landed to see what was going on. His plane broke through also.

The problem now is to retrieve all three vehicles.

OVERSIGHT

This intruder didn't give himself a ghost of a chance.

Not only did he pick a house where 11 state policemen were quartered, but in entering a window, he upset a stack of dishes and fled leaving behind his jacket conveniently bearing his name and address. His name was not disclosed.

Law of Possibility Related To Planning Engineering Projects

"Your chances of filling an inside straight or being dealt a 13-spade perfect bridge hand are kind of problems encountered in planning engineering projects—related by the laws of chance or probability." So says Henson K. Stephenson, A. & M. professor of structural engineering.

The theory of probability was elevated from cards to engineering at the 95th annual meeting of the American Society of Civil Engineers in New York January 22 by Stephenson.

Stephenson presented a paper before the group in which he used the theory as an approach to the solution of problems associated with the behavior of highway traffic.

His paper covered a "variety of typical problems relating to vehicle grouping, which illustrate how the method may be used for estimating how often sequences or groups of vehicles might be expected to occur within given lengths of time or distance."

This would be useful, Stephenson said, not only in the construction of highway bridges, but also in determining the need for warning or stop-lights at highway and street intersections.

He emphasized that the main objective of his paper is to develop a method, rather than decide on numerical conclusions, and said:

"A highway bridge must not only be designed for maximum stresses which may occur only once during its useful life, but also for varying numbers of repetitions of other stresses.

"At present, no satisfactory method has been developed for estimating how often two or more heavy trucks, or combinations of these and lighter trucks, may occur on various parts of lengths of a bridge at the same time.

"Since both the maximum stresses, and varying numbers of repetitions of lower stresses that might result in fatigue failure, are practically all produced by heavy vehicle groups rather than by individual trucks, it is highly important that a satisfactory method be developed for estimating how often these events would be expected to occur."

set is in the famous resort from which the movie got its name.

SCANDAL IN PARIS (Guion Double Feature). In the leads of this little drama are Carole Landis, Akin Tamiroff, and Gene Lockhart. More or less something to fill the second spot on the double billing, the feature will do that but nothing more. The scandal? You find out.

Beanblossom to Be Officer of Texas Poultry Council

F. Z. Beanblossom, poultry marketing specialist of the Extension Service, was elected secretary of the Texas Poultry Council which met in Gonzales during the latter part of January.

W. R. Archer of Houston was elected president; R. E. James of Austin, first vice-president; George P. McCarthy of Fort Worth, second vice-president; and V. F. Taylor of San Antonio, treasurer.

The council's program of 1948 was announced. Items to receive support of the council are quality egg marketing, year-round merchandising of turkey, a farm and home egg-laying contest, and the Chicken of Tomorrow Contest.

Counties throughout the state are to be selected in which the projects approved by the council will be put into effect. Beanblossom reported. A poultry council will be organized in each county with the responsibility to work with all educational agencies to develop the projects.

Members of the A. & M. staff who attended the meeting in Gonzales were D. H. Reid, poultry department, W. J. Moore, extension poultry husbandman, Dr. J. H. Quisenberry, head of the poultry department, George Draper, state poultry supervisor, Ross M. Sherwood, head of the department of poultry research, and Beanblossom.

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PALACE

TODAY — THRU SATURDAY

THE STORY OF A GUY WOMEN GO FOR!

JOHN GARFIELD
LILLI PALMER
and introducing
Hazel BROOKS

BODY and SOUL
with ANNE REVERE

Campus
opens 1:00 p.m. — 4-1181

TODAY — THURSDAY

THE PERILS OF PAULINE
in TECHNICOLOR
Starring BETTY HUTTON JOHN LUND
A Paramount Picture

—Features Start—
1:35 - 3:40 - 5:50 - 7:55 - 10:00
—Also—
Cartoon - Short - News

GUION HALL

TODAY and TO MORROW

GENE TIERNEY
... Tauntingly
REX HARRISON
... Hauntingly
GEORGE SANDERS
... Jauntily

The GHOST and MRS. MUIR
Directed by JOSEPH L. MANKIEWICZ
Produced by FRED KOHLMAR 20th CENTURY-FOX TRIUMPH

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
—Big Double Feature—

SONJA HENIE
JOHN PAYNE
with GLENN MILLER AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Sun Valley Serenade
Produced by MILTON SPERLING
Directed by H. BRUCE HUMBERSTONE

Carole LANDIS
in
"A Scandal in Paris"
with AKIN TAMIROFF
GENE LOCKHART
Directed by DOUGLAS SIKK
Starring ELLIS ST. MURPHY
Produced by ARNOLD PRESSBURGER
Released through United Artists

20th CENTURY-FOX
Encore Triump!

SUNDAY and MONDAY

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, JR.
MAUREEN O'HARA - WALTER SLEZAK
in SINBAD THE SAILOR
with ANTHONY QUINN - GEORGE TOBIAS
JANE GREER - MIKE MADARY IN TECHNICOLOR

The Battalion

PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF A GREATER A & M COLLEGE

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