

Battalion EDITORIALS

Page 2 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1948

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

Two Years of Progress...

Within two years time the Corps of Cadets has taken on an appearance completely different from that offered right after the war. From a group of hopelessly confused students, young, inexperienced, and immature, it has risen to its present height. It is an older, wiser organization, and its actions reflect the soundness of the Cadet Corps' policies and actions.

Much of the credit for such a phenomenal growth, both physical and mental, is due Colonel Guy S. Meloy, the present commandant and Professor of Military Science and Tactics. His foresight, his professional ability, and above all, his patience, have contributed very greatly to the vastly improved ROTC units on the campus. Without doubt, few Army officers possess the qualifications necessary for dealing with 2500 college students. Colonel Meloy is one of those officers.

His transfer to the Army War College indicates his standing in the United States Army. Perhaps the future will find many of the present-day Aggies serving with Col. Meloy on some battlefield or in some foreign nation.

The Battalion sincerely hopes that his successor can adequately fill the vacancy created by his transfer.

The New Traveler's Aid...

Two executives of the Texas and Pacific railroad have recently completed a major contribution to the traveling public in the form of readable timetables.

Chief revisions of the new schedule sheet were aimed to simplify the content and make the entire folder more attractive. Texas beauties decorate the covers. An industrial map with pictures shows the route of the railroad.

Suggestions and instructions on how to buy tickets, what to do with baggage, and how to find lost articles are included. The simplified timetable columns now all read down instead of the old up-and-down, criss-cross which has confused travelers since trains replaced the stage coach.

All text in the new tables has been screened to eliminate confusing and legal-sounding

phrases. A column formerly headed "Proposed Itinerary" is now called "Your Train Trip." Minor whistle stops have been removed from the listings and the type spread out, thus considerably lowering the eye strain ration.

Big omission in the timetable reissue is that of the complicated tables for computing rates which few passengers could read, much less understand. All technical information intended strictly for ticket agents has been left out.

The T&P received bundles of written applause from passengers since the change, but the company has also received plenty of proof for the old adage that nothing ever pleases everybody.

Letters from the ticket agents are all equally loud and equally similar. They like the old timetable!

Honest Selling...

Windsor, Ont.: A Windsor shoe store, George H. Wilkinson, Ltd., has built one of the biggest retail shoe volumes in the British Empire on a policy of frank and occasionally brutal advertising. The 85-year-old store runs an average of 12,000 lines of newspaper copy monthly, featuring copy like: "We have a thousand pairs of the worst junk you ever saw, but anyway they are worth at least \$5 a pair. You can take 'em away for \$1.99. Your size is here. I bet—I wish it wasn't." Or: "No free goods. No elephants. No circus tickets. No exchanges. No refunds. No telephone calls. Just shoes—good shoes." Wilkinson's long-time slogan has been earthy: "Wilkinson's Shoes Wear Like a Pig's Nose." During the war it was switched to: "Because of conditions, Wilkinson's Shoes Do Not Wear Like a Pig's Nose Now." Said a recent ad: "No! We Are Not Reducing Prices One Dime. We Never Raised 'Em. Let Those Who Raised Prices Take Some Off."

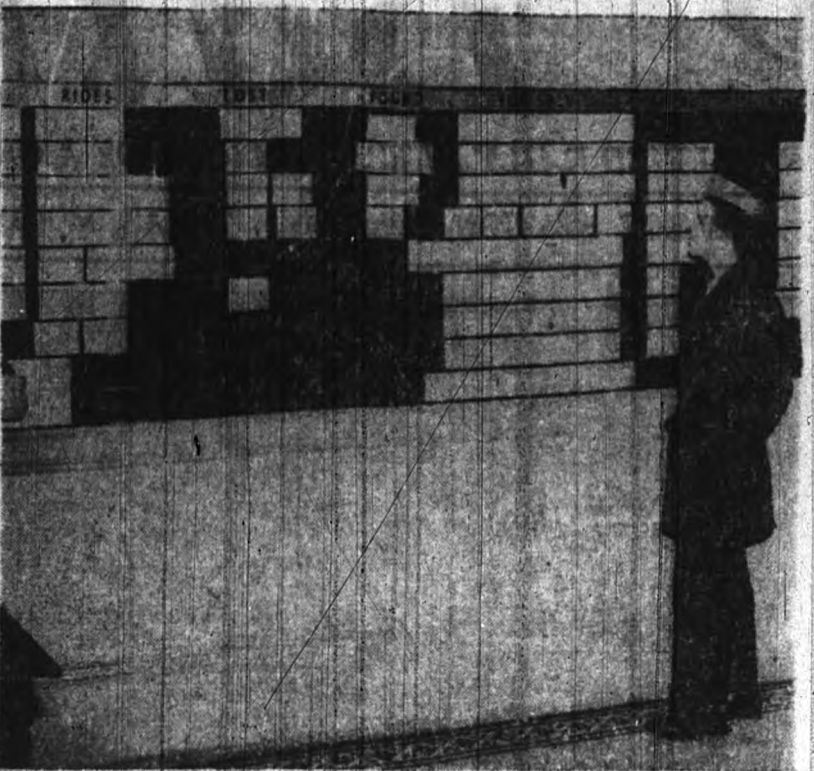
The motion-picture industry has made a New Year's resolution to stop glorifying crime and criminals. We assume that henceforth the movies will depict only gangsters of the highest character.

The Eastern College Athletic Conference is beginning to worry about television as a menace to big gate receipts. There is no profit in customers who watch football games comfortably curled up with a good glass of beer.

Representative Wadsworth, of New York suggests that congressmen give up their traditional mileage allowances in the interest of economy. His idea drew plenty of applause but few votes.

Speaking about the Duke of Windsor, the New York Sunday News said: "The duke wore a gray tweed suit, a gray tweed topcoat, and a red and blue suit, with a blouse of contrasting blue, a blue hat, blue diamond earrings, and a double rope of pearls."

No More Bulletin Blues



BULLETIN BOARD—HARVEY CHELF, chairman of the Student Senate Bulletin Board committee, admires the new board placed in the rotunda of the Academic Building. Members of the Senate designed the project and the Building and College Utilities Department was responsible for building the board which can accommodate over 200 classified advertisements.

Editorial Round-Up

Nation's Newspapers Differ On Truman's Rights Program

By J. T. MILLER

The current furor created by President Truman's proposed 10-point civil rights program has been reflected in editorial comment of newspapers throughout the nation. The leading journals of the country apparently take three different stands in regard to the proposed program. Most of the Southern journals recognize the need for elimination of segregation and discriminatory practices, as well as the necessity for fair employment practices and the eventual end to lynchings. But... they do not, on the whole, approve of legislation to correct such evils. The Atlanta Constitution, respected voice of the Deep South, suggests that the South accept its share of responsibility for the situation.

The gist of the Constitution's beliefs may be interpreted from the title of the editorial: "A Contemptible Use of Power."

Although that paper opposes Federal anti-lynching legislation and the creation of a Fair Employment Practices Commission, it is entirely in sympathy with the objectives of such proposals. It concludes, however, that "the proposals are so flagrantly political, as Mr. Truman seeks to cut it off from beneath the feet of the Republicans, that we find it most distasteful."

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram agrees with the Constitution; it too can see nothing but politics involved in the 10-point program. In addition, it perceives a violation of states' rights: "The president's message urged federal legislation in fields that properly fall within the purview of the states." Amos Carter's paper accuses the president of lifting part of the Republican platform of 1944 from its secure foundation and transferring it to his billiard. However, the Star-Telegram feels that "violent repercussions to the president's message are hardly in character," since the South will not vote Republican, will never vote for Henry Wallace, and Southern presidential candidates, nominated for a separate ticket, would not have the slightest chance of being elected to office.

The Dallas Morning News, one of the most conservative papers in the nation, shrewdly suggests an idea the adoption of which would mean utter destruction to the Democrats in the coming presidential election. "If the revolting South can really control its own votes, it might of course buy out the GOP with the promise to bolt Truman at the polls." The News declared in an editorial headed "Democratic Quandary."

Incidentally, both the Star-Telegram and the News are independent Democratic newspapers.

Nothing less than murder would be on the mind of a professional

Yours competitively,
BILL SWANGO, '49

Campus advertisement for Good News newspaper, featuring Allysion Lawford and a color cartoon news feature.

Trampling Out the Vintage...

Is This Solution to Problem of Getting Out of Sack for That 8 O'Clock Class?

By LARRY GOODWIN

NO SHOULDER HERE

So you can't get out of the sack in time for that quick cup of coffee before class in the morning? So you've busted three 8 o'clock classes in your career, due to the fact you weren't in class? Well, fellow lovers of the sheets, here may be the answer.

An English housewife, noting that the English railroads are now nationalized and should be willing to oblige with an extra bit of service, has asked the engineer of the 6:20 a. m. Hastings-Ashford train:

"Would you be so good as to hoot as you go over the iron bridge just out of Rye Station, as we rely on you to get my husband up for work?"

"When you don't hoot, we are in a fix as we cannot buy an alarm clock anywhere."

"P. S.—My husband says 'not too loud' but I say 'blow like blazes.'"

Railroad officials said the request was being "considered."

Do you think a delegation of student senators to the Southern Pacific Railroad would produce some added noise from the Sun Beam and the corresponding rise in grade points?

PLUTOCRAT

A motorist in Memphis, Tenn. (obviously a well-heeled individual) was harassed by recurrent ice on his windshield. To solve the problem, he resorted to a 100-proof de-icer. The man stopped his car, got out and poured a pint of whisky over the windshield. The ice—together with two "connoisseurs of fine liquors" in the Batt office who read the story—melted.

BOOT TROUBLE

A troubled wife in Cleveland, Ohio complained in her divorce petition recently that her husband, John Schwetz, a shoe store operator, made her pay cash for shoes she obtained at his shop.

One might say, she was giving him the "boot" because he wouldn't give it to her.

Fuel Oil in Underground Tank Kept Halls Warm During Freeze

By C. C. MUNROE

Gold, isn't it? Well, it was a lot colder on January 28, when, due to the fuel shortage, the gas which supplies the heat and light for the buildings on the campus was suddenly, and completely, shut off. Thanks to the foresight and quick work of the staff of the college power plant, however, the warmth and light which flows from that building to all the other buildings on the campus continued uninterrupted.

Except for the anticipation of such an emergency by M. G. Hines, engineer in charge of the power plant, Aggies might well have been shivering the lack of heat with which the people further north were faced.

As you know, all the heat and light on the campus is furnished by steam generated by heat from the burning of natural gas. When the gas was shut off, the men at the power plant were faced with the problem of finding a substitute.

That substitute was found in a reserve of fuel oil which was established in 1937 when the power plant switched from that type of fuel to commercial gas. An underground tank, just outside the main building of the plant, contained 140,000 gallons of the oil, or rough-

Guion Hall advertisement for a movie featuring Joell McCrea, Veronica Lake, Donald Crisp, and Don DeFore.

Palace Theater advertisement for the movie Sinbad the Sailor, featuring Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Maureen O'Hara, and Walter Slezak.

Queen Theater advertisement for the movie The Unsuspected, featuring Humphrey Bogart and Randolph Scott.

Rambo advertisement for a movie featuring Preston Foster, Marleen Wheeler, and Charlie Ruggles.

: Letters to the Editor :

EDUCATION—NOT "RIGHTS"

Editor, The Battalion:

Three cheers for your editorial, EDUCATION—NOT "RIGHTS," in Friday's Batt. My sentiments are exactly.

Very truly yours,

MRS. ROBERT L. DAVIS

COMPETITION???

Editor, The Battalion:

In your editorial, EDUCATION—NOT "RIGHTS," I believe the editor stepped out on a limb in viewing his opinion and not giving both sides of the question.

In another editorial in the same publication, the Houston philanthropist, H. R. Cullen, is taken apart for his narrow-mindedness. The stand that Cullen takes on the Houston zoning plan seems to be much the same stand as that taken by the writer of the editorial in question.

I realize that the editor is human, but I believe that editorials should read as policies and not as one-sided opinions. Since the editor took the affirmative of this educational debate, I think the negative should also be lighted.

EDUCATION—NOT "RIGHTS"

If government aid were to be furnished, everyone would have an equal education regardless of race, color, or creed—granted? If government aid were to be furnished, everyone would be entitled to the same of equal medical care—granted? And if government aid were to be furnished, everyone would work receiving pay according to a scale set up and there would be no poverty—granted? But if all these things were furnished, would this be America as we know it today? If a farmer, no matter how hard he worked, could only make a given amount of money—why should he work so hard?

The very foundation of America is based on competition. Why should a boy train and work to run fast if he has no one to race with? Why should a boy practice playing marbles if, by rules, he's only allowed to own ten marbles? Why should a doctor strive and specialize if he can make as good a place for himself?

No Competition Breeds Communism

The fact is certain, I believe, that if federal aid is given to our school system, it would only be a matter of time until the government would be suggesting, if not dictating, "what" would be "where." This

control, if it should come about, would tend to standardize education, which, in turn, would destroy competition as we know it today. The states, however, have never and will never, I don't believe, because of the "competition" afforded by the other states in their turning out better equipped graduates. The absence of competition breeds Communism.

The not saying, not even suggesting, that our governing bodies are of a Communist mind, but I do not believe that if this federal bill is approved, that our complete manner and mode of life will be upset, and we will be thrust into an undesirable plight. This turmoil could affect our nation within our own lifetime.

Something Should Be Done! There is no doubt that something should be done to change or correct our school system, and, though no one knows the answer, I believe that when the solution is found, that it will be far from the proposed federal aid plan.

This letter is onesided in scope, but it is written to counter-balance your partial editorial and to present the real difficulties which, if necessary, go along with the bill.

Yours competitively,
BILL SWANGO, '49

The Battalion

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