

Battalion EDITORIALS

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1943

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

Religious Emphasis Week Ahead...

The annual college Religious Emphasis Week will begin February 16 and continue through February 22.

Originated six years ago by an inter-church council, the week's observance has grown in magnitude and popularity principally because of the excellent speakers that have appeared.

Next week's principal speaker will be Paul Weaver of Stephens College, Missouri. Nightly services will be held in all the col-

lege churches, and there are to be morning services in Guion, Monday through Friday. Students attending these will be dismissed from any morning class which coincide with the meetings.

This year's services have unlimited possibilities. The programs have been well arranged with speakers who are competent and well informed. We should all attempt to obtain the most possible benefit from these services by giving our best in thought and attendance.

Neither White Tie Nor Jeans...

Although Aggie social life is frequently criticized for its limitations it is the latest contributor to campus confusion.

According to Luther Terry, of the Student Senate Social activities subcommittee, the term "semi-formal" is badly in need of interpretation. When used to describe the official dress for Aggie dances, it is taken rather broadly by the student body.

On one extreme, the cosmopolitans arrive at the dance with only tuxes, taking "semi-formal" to mean something just short of white tie and tails. The opposite, of course, is the gay collegiate type who shows up at the door complete with sport shirt, blue

jeans, boots, and a winning smile.

As is usual in extremities, the proper path is somewhere between these two. Using a little discretion in the choice, any costume containing a coat and tie should fill the bill. Aggie dances have never given any competition to the Idlewild Ball. On the other hand we don't want them to degenerate down into rat races with a low name-band rating. Let's keep them as they have been in the past, sensibly pleasant college dances—with white ties and blue jeans reserved for the waiters and bus boys.

For future college-sponsored dances remember the A&M rule of thumb—"with a coat and tie, you'll get by."

'Average' Not Good Enough...

Have we over-done the doctrine of "the average man" as the standard by which we judge ourselves? Ralph McGill, editor of the Atlanta Constitution, is afraid that we do, and that our reliance on Gallup polls or Roper surveys indicates that we hold back from doing our best, for fear that the "average man" is not willing to accept the best.

McGill, quoting a mythical Washington newspaperman, has this to say about "average" versus "superior."

"We have carried into our schools and even into our labor unions, which are supposed to be progressive as are our schools—this passion for the average of man, not his best.

"There are in every class students who show great capacity for learning and leadership. We press them back into the mold and make them conform to the average. In the great plants where skill and craftsmanship can still play a part the story is the same... let us base everything on what the average person can do.

"If we are to save ourselves and the world, we cannot save it with the great and unled and, even worse, uninspired majorities, who have been told that the end of man is amusement, money, publicity, self-glorification.

"We are about to confuse democracy with mediocrity, and when we finally do we have worked our ruin.

"For mark you, you may, and must have equality of opportunity in a democracy so that those of better minds and skills may develop and use them to lead and improve the democracy.

"But you cannot have equality of opportunity in a democracy so that those of better minds and skills may develop and use them to lead and improve the democracy.

"But you cannot have equality of opportunity and also equality of economic status. To have the first is to remove the latter for in equality of opportunity the best mind and skill will move ahead. If you have equality of status then you cannot allow equality of opportunity because if so the more skillful will not remain in equal status. The Russians tried to have both and they gave it the first real try, backed by guns and terror. And it still failed. There is no equality of economic status in the Soviet Union today.

"We need to develop our leaders and it means revising schools, concepts and directions.

"Jefferson, and I still hear him well spoken of, did not seek to find what the average mind wanted, or conceived to be proper. He knew the average mind wants to follow, and so he set up the great ideals of a popular government, and of religious freedom and of separation of church from state. An average mind would never have suggested such bold and revolutionary measures. Jefferson did not peer into the entrails of a fowl or send out messengers to see what the man on the street thought about it. He and the others, with capacity for great leadership, set up great heights to be stormed and they jolly well came close to failing because of the great weight of mediocrity and fear which they had to carry. But, the average mind followed and they won."

No Contest...

We have this story second hand from a painstaking young reporter who got involved some weeks ago with some sort of double-jointed contest being put on by Olympic Mills for its Tish-U-Knit sweaters. It seems the contest is to run in two heats: gals may either send in pictures of themselves clad in sweaters or else a several hundred word essay on some subject or other. The winner in each category will get a \$500 bond and a trip to New York when the contest ends next February, and the gal who wins the sweater contest will get a screen test and a crack at a Conover contract as well.

But our reporter sniffed a hitch. What are the qualifications to win this snapshot sweater girl contest?

"Well," he was told, "the girl has to be pretty and be able to completely fill a Tish-U-Knit sweater."

The reporter: "But how can you tell from a photograph whether the girl is filling the sweater or, er, well, you know."

The silence hung dead for a while. Then

the answer came: "You know, frankly, that's exactly what's worrying us."

Tide

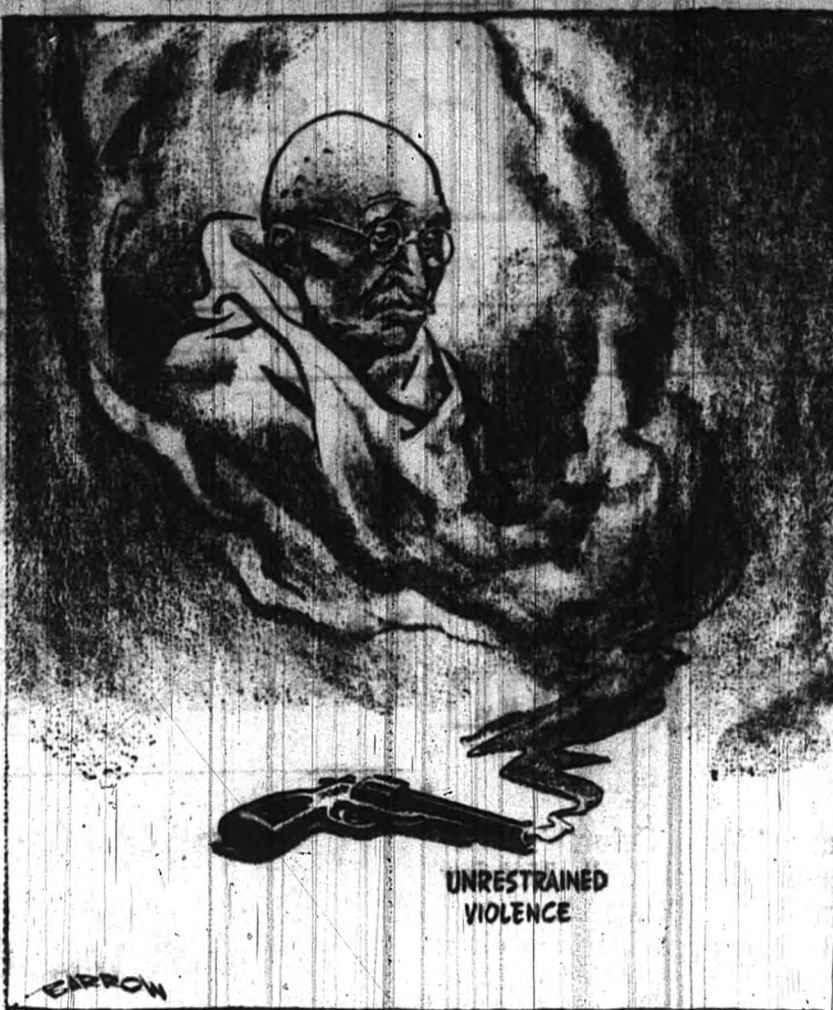
A garbage man was arrested for posing as a diplomat. Nevertheless, there's a lot worse equipment a diplomat could have nowadays than a good sound knowledge of what is garbage and what isn't.

Tokyo Rose, wartime Jap radio propagandist, has applied for entry into the United States. A rose by any other name would smell a great deal sweeter.

—(Arkansas Gazette)

With the Lewiston Police, you can't win. Recently they arrested two women, twins, and charged one of them with lewd and lascivious conduct. The other one was charged with idleness.—Lisbon (Maine) Enterprise.

A promotion box in the New York News, reminding Golden Gloves entrants of a physical exam, concluded: "Do not forget to bring your pink slip."



Budding Writers May Cash In On Story, Movie, Radio Ideas

Writers Talent Scout, Incorporated of Hollywood, California, is offering \$8,000 in prizes to aspiring writers. The prizes will be given for stories, ideas, and movie plots.

The contest is divided into four divisions. The first division is the Roy Del Ruth Motion Picture Award, based on suggestions for motion picture plots. The second division is the Jack London Short Story Award, based on actual writing skill. The Rudy Vallee Radio Award, radio show series, constitutes the third division. Fourth division award will be given in the Pine-Thomas Motion Picture Title Award, based on best titles suggested.

Trostle Elected Waterworks Head At Last Meeting

N. E. Trostle, superintendent of the waterworks plant at Temple, was elected president of the Texas Water and Sewage Works Association at the closing session Thursday of the annual waterworks short course held here.

This course, described by Joe Sorrells of the Civil Engineering Department as "one of the finest short schools we have ever held" began on Monday and closed Thursday. Four hundred and twenty-seven persons were registered for the course.

Several cups and plaques were presented at the meeting by Dr. George W. Cox, state health officer. The city of Edinburg received an award for greatest improvement to waterworks system. Uvalde, for most attractive water plant, and Big Spring, for most attractive sewage plant.

The association awarded honorary life membership to Clyde C. Hays of Waco and Ashley G. Clasen of El Paso for outstanding specialized work.

Positions Open In Civil Services

The United States Civil Service Commission announced examinations for positions of highway engineer trainee in the Public Roads Administration and for positions of photofluorographic operator, operator trainee, unit supervisor, and inspector in the United States Public Health Service.

Pay for the highway engineer trainee ranges from \$2,168 to \$2,614 a year, while pay for the photofluorographic positions range from \$2,954 to \$3,397 a year.

The age limits, 18 to 25 years of age, are waived for persons entitled to veteran preference. Applications for the highway engineer trainee examination must be received in the US Civil Service Commission, Washington 25, D. C. not later than February 24 and for the photofluorographic not later than March 16.

PALACE

PREVIEW SAT. NIGHT Sun. - Mon. - Tues. - Wed. Thurs. - Fri. & Sat.



Campus

Opens 1:00 p.m. 4-1181

TODAY - SATURDAY



WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES GANDHI ASSASSINATION

Disney Cartoon

Sat. Prevue - 11:00 p.m. Sunday thru Tuesday

Another Big 1st Run Show



Want to Join in the New Movement for Price Cutting? Communists Other Consumers Needed

By LARRY GOODWIN

A prelude to what might be happening in grocery stores across the nation if the stock market continues its downward trend, was indicated last week by some strange dealings in St. Helena, Ore. A price war between rival butcher shops occurred. Picnic hams went down to 45 cents, then to 40 then to 35 cents. Hamburger, starting at 49 cents a pound, soon became a chief target for the competing price reducers. It fell to 15 cents, then to five—and finally, one butcher put up a sign: "Hamburger free—one pound to a customer."

Maybe it's not out of the realm of possibility that, in due course of time and not tempers, they'll be paying the customers 10 cents apiece to carry away meat. We've already heard about one market (also in the Oregon area) which has begun shipping free hamburger, prepaid and packed in dry ice, to mail order customers throughout the nation. As the fellow says, they're not making any money... but, boy, are they doing business!

Maybe this will eventually lead to pork chops by parcel post! Wonder what other strange adventures the 20th Century will have to offer. P.S.—Henceforth, the editorial policy of Trampling Out the Vintage will be to incite a three-way price war between Duncan, Sbiaa and various North Gate Eating Emporium. Do any of you good readers want to join in the movement? There is a distinct shortage of rabble-rousers, conspirators and other instigators of subversive activity. Communists in good standing will be accepted, and prizes of free hamburger meat will be awarded to all if we achieve our objectives.

AUSTIN ICE SHOW A taxi driver went all the way in observing a boulevard stop sign in Austin Thursday. His cab

skidded on the ice, neatly hooked the bumper around the stop sign's steel post. Three other cars skidded into the car or each other, all coupling bumpers.

Passerby said the outlook was good for further entanglement.

SHE SAYS SHE'S SORRY

Two squad cars went the wrong way on a one-way street and ran a red light Thursday to reach a Houston clothing store where a burglar alarm had sounded.

At the store, the officers found only a red-faced credit manager.

Mrs. Lynn Kubby blushingly admitted that for the second time within two weeks one of the spikes of her high heel shoes got caught in the alarm system apparatus located beneath her desk.

WHO'S PINCHING WHO

Have you ever had the pleasure of being pinched by a lady?

Well, brethren, your chances are getting better all the time, only we're afraid we're not referring to the type of contact the innocent reader has in mind.

More and more cities are hiring policewomen. When they do the "pinching", it's not expected to be in the vein of idle horseplay that the present generation has come to regard as "interesting."

The International City Managers' Association, which made the statement regarding the increase in policewomen, said an estimated 1,000 are now employed in 14 or more United States cities with populations of more than 25,000.

Warning to Rocket Ship Pilots

Martians Hear 'Old Rattler' Mark Earth Off As Total Loss

By LOUIS MORGAN

The two brainiest men on Mars crouched before their newly invented crystal set eager to pick up the first radio waves from Earth. Weakly at first, and then gathering volume with adjustment of the cats whisker, "Old Rattler," by request of 900 A&M students, broke through the ether and fell upon the unaccustomed ears of the Martians.

"Nothing but a bunch of con hunters down there," the brainier of the two remarked, revolving the super-duper directional antenna until the sultry strands of "Amour" drifted in from the direction of Venus.

And that's how Grandpa Jones and "Old Rattler" have affected the history of the universe.

Strictly a local fad, the Rattler Complex was instigated, it is rumored, by a disk jockey suffering from lack of sleep. However this may be, Radio Stations KORA and WTAW share equally in the honor, or perhaps the blame, of making the record a hit in this area.

Grandpa Jones, who recorded "Old Rattler," is not, in the biological sense, a grandpa at all. This disclosure was made by Charlie Murray, co-editor of the Battalion, who served with Grandpa Jones in the ETO during the war. He describes Jones as a man about 37 years old, and towering 5'5" above sea level at sea level. Other distinguishing characteristics, reported by Murray: a nasal Kentucky drawl, small black moustache, and guitar. He has a wife and two children.

Grandpappy Jones took up the soldier's life in February 1941. The army, in the true spirit of SNAFU made him an MP. After being shuffled about in the States several months, he was shipped to England, France, Belgium and Germany with the 508th MP Battalion, returning to the States in Febru-

PALACE

TODAY THRU SATURDAY

HUMPHREY BOGART

"Treasure of Sierra Madre"

QUEEN

TODAY - FRIDAY and SATURDAY

The Dead End Kids in "The Bowery Buckaroos"

GUION HALL

SUNDAY - MONDAY



FRIDAY and SATURDAY



TUESDAY - WED. - THURS. Feb. 17 - 18 & 19



The Battalion

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