

Battalion EDITORIALS

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"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1948

Abolish Electoral College...

Formation of another "third" party composed of Southern Democrats brings to light once again one of the few lasting mistakes of the original Constitution of the United States. That is the ambiguous organization known as the Electoral College.

The announced intention of the Southern Democrats is to throw the election into the House of Representatives by polling enough votes that neither major party will have a majority of votes in the Electoral College.

The Electoral College originally was a medium through which framers of the Constitution planned to have the president elected. "States rights" then was of prime importance, and by casting ballots on the basis of states rather than on the basis of votes, the men who wrote the Constitution sought to appease those states objecting to giving up their cherished "sovereignty" to the federal government.

Since that time, the factor of the people has come into being and the Electoral College is completely outdated. Yet, it still remains unchanged as a threat to the voting power of the American people.

As it now stands, it is quite possible for the American people to elect a president WHO HAS A MINORITY OF THE VOTES CAST. This is possible by getting votes in the "right places," such as in key states with big electoral votes like New York, Pennsylvania, California, and Ohio. For a man receiving a majority of votes in a given state get ALL of that state's electoral votes.

This obvious fallacy has already cheated one man, Samuel J. Tilden, out of the White House after he polled a majority of votes in the 1876 election with Rutherford B. Hayes.

The Electoral College should be changed, and changed NOW, before the people of America become disfranchised in another presidential election.

proval of the South."

He said he does not favor restoration of the two-thirds rule which would force the national convention to a two-thirds majority in making its nominations.

The state executive committee chairman said he opposes the president's civil rights program but "I do not undertake to arrogate unto myself the right to judge the motives of the president in his request for the enactment of the program."

He said he was tired of the South being "ignored, taken for granted and kicked in the teeth."

But of revolt, he warned:

"The Republican Party long has been the advocate of racial legislation such as President Truman has endorsed. By supporting that party we would simply be playing into the hands of our enemies."

"Can we achieve our objectives by such stratagems as seeking to withhold the electoral vote of the Democratic Party from its nominees and thereby throwing the election of a president into Congress? Such a move would most certainly so completely demoralize the Democratic Party and its adherents as to make a Republican victory in November certain."

Calvert stated that "I am thoroughly convinced that the only hope of salvation for the South lies in remaining in the Democratic Party and fighting aggressively for party policy which meets the requirements and ap-

peal of the Batt has been saying!

Letters to the Editor :

CAVALLARO OR RECORDS?

Editor, The Battalion:

Did we have Carmen Cavallaro or a juke box full of his recordings at our Valentine Day dance? I do not know because all I saw was a thick wall of people crowded around the bandstand. The beautiful, but muffled, music that floated over the walls sounded like his, but it might have been recordings, for all the good it did me.

I did make a couple of valiant attempts to see if he was really there, but the elbows and heels protruding from the mass caused me to decide that dancing was far more fun, even if I didn't know where the music was coming from. I enjoyed the dance, but the source of the music still has me puzzled.

Will the Sammy Kaye dance be the same way or will the bandstand be high enough for us poor unfortunate who like to dance to see where the music is coming from at the same time? I can guess, but it would be fun, don't you agree?

I might add that the same problem is present every time we have a name band. If we aren't supposed to see them, why does it cost so much to dance? Reconings would be much cheaper.

C. C. CRITCHFIELD '50

Dear Editor:

President Truman's recently proposed program has affected the thinking of at least one Texas banker. If this is to continue as the "Solid South," and the Democrats want to pick a "High Cotton" they will have to cease with this kind of business.

An ex-Aggie returned to Texas after having been stranded on a

Pacific Island for five years. With him he brought a monkey named Hari Kari who had been his sole companion on that obscure island. The Aggie purchased Texas land and planted cotton upon it. Without sufficient funds to employ cotton pickers the Aggie proceeded to pick the cotton himself. He laid a large burlap sack on the ground opposite a row of cotton and began to throw cotton into it. Presently he noticed that the monkey, who always mimicked him, had also obtained a sack and was depositing cotton in it. While the monkey continued to pick cotton the Aggie retired to a cooler spot, and while consuming a mint julip, was soon joined by the monkey. He could sit on the porch, drink mint juleps and make a fortune.

The following morning a local banker was brought to the premises to observe the process. The burlap bag was brought out again and the monkey was completed with the monkey once again picking in "HIGH COTTON."

The banker said he couldn't lend the Aggie any money with which to buy more monkeys to pick cotton. The banker went on to explain that if he had monkeys picking cotton the neighbors would also have monkeys picking cotton and soon the entire state of Texas would have thousands of monkeys—all picking cotton. The next observation would be of the entire South following TEXAS' example by having thousands, millions, of monkeys—all picking cotton. Soon the YANKEES would come down FREE—all the monkeys—and we would be back where we started

ED FISHER

Editor, The Battalion:

(Ed. Note: The official name is jawbreaker—FWA Temporary Classroom Area, longer than a champion dog's show name. However, it is also referred to semantically as "the eleven," because it consists of eleven buildings.)

TWO-PERCENTER!

Editor, The Battalion:

With much regret I write this letter to you. It involves "Aggie Spirit" only it is the type of spirit that A&M, as well as other colleges, can do without.

What I refer to is this:

Following the Freshman-Shorty home game last Friday night, I was in the dressing room talking to two of my old high school teammates, when some Aggie (?) proudly raised the window and emptied a bucket of water on the TU freshmen. The TU coach

NAMES WITHHELD
BY REQUEST

(Ed. Note: The episode mentioned above was covered in yesterday's editorial apology. A personal apology was extended to the TU coach and players.)

ATHLETIC PRIVILEGES

Editor, The Battalion:

I would like to ask a very simple question. Why are the freshmen and sophomore members of the Cadet Corps who live in the athletic dorm (Hart) allowed to go non-regulation any time they see fit?

They don't have to make any meal formations, and they see as hell don't have to go reg any time, except maybe to MS classes. Do they have some super-power which allows them to do anything they see fit? If so, please tell me what it is.

What is Colonel Meloy's opinion on this, or does he have one?

Respectively yours,
NAME WITHHELD
BY REQUEST

(Ed. Note: As Colonel Meloy said, Corps athletes are NOT supposed to go non-regulation "any time they see fit.")

The Battalion

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AND THEN THERE WAS ONE



Please Make People Careful!

Campaign to Prevent Forest Fires in Texas Begins Today

The sixth annual Cooperative Forest Fire Prevention Campaign was launched today in Texas, by Director W. E. White, of the A&M Texas Forest Service, as part of the nation-wide campaign being announced simultaneously in eleven southern states.

Prepared by the Advertising Council, Inc., in cooperation with the State Foresters and the US Forest Service, the campaign will use posters, window cards, bookmarks, blotters, radio programs, sponsored ads, pamphlets, and other material in an educational effort to reduce forest fire losses.

The familiar "Smokey Bear" will appear again on this year's posters to warn that "Only you can prevent wild fires."

The keynote of this year's campaign is "... please make people careful."

Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, and Jack Benny, have also joined up in this year's campaign, and will appear in cartoon sketches to drive home a few simple facts of the forestry situation—that the job is urgent, that nine out of ten woods fires are caused by people, and that the prevention of such fires is a job for each of us, now.

White said that effectiveness of the campaign would depend upon the cooperation of individuals, business firms, and other agencies in giving wide distribution to the fire prevention messages. Last year valuable assistance was given by the Extension Service, American Red Cross, city and county governments, public schools, Boy and Girl Scouts, radio stations, newspapers, merchants, and many others.

His drive would be a vigorous effort to build a sentiment among the people that would ultimately eliminate most man-caused fires from our woodlands, and to prevent a possible fire disaster such as Maine had last year.

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This year, White is calling upon every citizen and agency in the State of Texas to assist their respective services and to offer their services where possible. Many will be called upon directly for assistance. Others will be asked to help should write to the State Forester.

The campaign is timed to hit the

200 Bryan-College Scouts See Court Of Honor Rites

Approximately 200 Boy Scouts and scouts of Bryan and College Station attended the first Court of Honor held this year. Members of a patrol of advanced Scouts from Professor Dan Russell's Scouting class.

Court ceremonies centered around a series of Indian dances presented by members of Tonkawa Lodge of the Order of the Arrow at Austin. Indian ceremonial dances were featured on the program, these dances were accompanied by authentic Indian tom-toms.

Five dances were presented using costumes made by the Scouts. The dance group was under the direction of C. A. Love of Beaumont, a girl for Cotton Ball Dutch should turn pictures in to one of the selection committee, by March 10. Neal Galloway, president of the organization, announced today.

The other two members of that committee, aside from Galloway, are Jerry MacManus and Merle Baker.

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