

Battalion EDITORIALS

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TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1948

"Southern, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

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,

rather than the states, has come into being and the Electoral College is completely outdated.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.

Calvert Talks Sense...

Not all Southern politicians are going hog wild over the "revolt" against Truman, Texas State Democratic Chairman Robert W. Calvert spoke some words last Saturday night that had considerable sense in them, much more sense than has been seen in most recent statements by Dixie leaders.

Said Calvert, "I can see no ray of hope for Southern Democrats in a revolt against the party."

"In such a revolt," he added, "we would have everything to lose and nothing to gain."

"May I second the motion that we hold our fire and keep our powder dry. There is going to be a national democratic convention in July. In order to be in a position to fight for our rights, it may be necessary that we send to Philadelphia an uncommitted delegation, thereby placing our representatives at the convention in position to deal with any emergency that may arise and giving them the strength with which to fight our battles."

"If such a course is necessary to our ultimate success, then I, for one, say—let it come!"

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-

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."

Just what 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 handstand. 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 bands 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? Reboundings 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 in "High Cotton" they will have to cease with this money 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 julep, reasoned that if he had a hundred monkeys picking cotton 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 cycle 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 and PREP—all the monkeys—and we would be back where we started from!

In November shall we "CARRY HARRY" or HARI KARI? The February 25 edition of the Battalion carried the following headline:

Wallace HACKLER Elected King of Cotton
It may be modified in November.
Wallace HECKLER? Elected King of Cotton?

ROBERT E. MOORE, JR.
Class of 50-60 (?)

YOU NAME IT!

Editor, The Battalion:

What is the real name of the district that we call variously "Bonerville," "Hog Hollow," "Spartanville," and so forth? Or doesn't it have a name?

ED FISHER

(Ed. Note: The official name is a jawbreaker—FWA Temporary Classroom Area, longer than a champion dog's show name. However, it is also referred to semi-officially 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-Short-horn 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

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, booklets, blotters, radio programs, sponsored ads, pamphlets, and other material in an educational effort to reduce forest fire losses.

The familiar "Smoky Bear" will appear again on this year's posters to warn that "Only you can prevent woods 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 the opening of the campaign is timed to hit the

early spring fire season. Last year the state had 3,530 woods fires, which burned 248,897 acres, and caused an estimated \$1,392,346 damage. He credited last year's campaign with preventing even greater losses. He said this year's 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.

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, he said.)

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

200 Bryan-College Scouts See Court Of Honor Rites

Approximately 200 Boy Scouts and scouters 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 accomplished 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, who has taken active part in the Indian dances since he first became connected with the Tonkawa lodge while residing in Austin.

Four scouting units were represented at the ceremony: Troop 411, Troop 81, Troop 102, and Troop 383. Twenty-one merit badges were awarded to 14 boys. One scout received the first-class award, while

promptly remarked, "Well, that's typical!"

Certainly if we expect to have respect from other schools, for our athletic teams, we must respect the boys who represent our opponents.

The above act was far more juvenile than one which might occur in high school. I whole-heartedly believe that an apology in the form of a letter is due the Short-horns.

This letter is compiled by a couple of boys who spend every afternoon working out as members of the A&M baseball team.

NAMES WITHHELD BY REQUEST

(Ed. Note: The episode mentioned above was covered in yesterday's editorial apology. A personal apology was extended 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 hell formations, and they sure 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.")

Trampling Out the Vintage...

Manhattan Sailor May Have Quieted A&M Craze for 'Here Rattler' by Shooting Girl

By TOM CARTER

Continual playing of the tune "Civilization" on the juke box in a Manhattan bar early Sunday led to the shooting of three persons.

The victims, police said, were red-haired Josephine Ostoloco, 20, who had fed nickles for the same song for an hour, a seaman who objected and the bartender, Nemesio Calasen, 47.

Police said Felipe Torres, 30, the sailor, shot the woman and then the bartender when the latter tried to pick her up from the floor. Torres was wounded and seized later in a gun duel with police on a subway platform.

Bullets flew when the woman changed a \$1 bill at the bar and walked toward the juke box after she had played "Civilization" over and over again.

The victims were reported in serious condition at Roosevelt Hospital.

Did we hear anyone say, "play 'Here Rattler'?"

FETILE MYRTLE

A 38-year-old mother says she is mighty "tickled" to be expecting her 22nd "young-un," in Atlanta.

A bride at 11, Mrs. Myrtle Ethel Pope, has recorded the names of 17 boys and four girls in the worn family Bible. Only nine of the children are living.

"Four of my boys died of paralysis," she said Sunday, "and one or two died of whooping cough. I don't know what was wrong with the others."

She said she met her husband, then 17, at the well used by her family and his one day and he proposed.

"I asked him," she related, "if he drank likker. He said 'No' so I said 'all right' because I thought he was the prettiest thing I ever saw."

Mrs. Pope said her first child was born when she was 12.

SHARPSHOOTER

A Los Angeles College student, William C. Kiele, Jr. was held today on charges of assaulting a burlesque theater's show line with a rubber band.

The Burbank theater's manager said Kiele, 23, in a front row vantage spot, was shooting half-inch staples with a slingshot.

POLITICAL PROMISE

A burglar who took \$30 from the home of Henrietta Lippis in Seattle left a refund offer—but with political strings attached.

The burglar's note said: "I hate to do this, but I am broke and I cannot get work and have got a wife and three kids at home. I'll pay you back next

Christmas, that is, if Henry Wallace is elected President."

SHOCKING RENTS

A fire department inhalator crew worked for two hours to revive a woman who collapsed of a heart attack in an office building in Spokane recently. The official report of the cause of the attack: "Noticed rent prices."

BROTHERHOOD APARTMENT

BROOKLINE, Mass. — Everybody in the 40-family apartment house where Patrick J. Kelly lives—and is superintendent—is happy because Patrick Joseph Jr. will be ordained to the priesthood in May.

Invitations went to all the other 39 families to the prospective priest's first mass and for the reception to follow. Somebody started a fund which grew to \$300 as a gift to the young seminary student—to buy vestments and other religious articles which a young priest needs.

A reporter asked Kelly if it was correct that all the other tenants were Jewish. Kelly thought a moment and replied:

"Golly, I guess they are."

SHOW WAS A "KNOCK-OUT"

BRIGHTON, England. — "No Orchids for Miss Blandish" played at the Dolphin Theatre last night.

In Act I Actor John Pagan, registering anguish by banging his head on the floor, knocked himself

out.

In Act II Jane Rose, the leading lady was kayoed by a flying chair.

SNOW FOR A NICKEL

PITTSFIELD, Mass.—Development of man-made precipitation now has reached a point where two pounds of dry ice costing five cents can produce 12 inches of snow over all the Adirondack Mountains.

So says Vincent J. Schaefer, General Electric Co. scientist and weather researcher.

Before there can be further developments, he says, man must learn more about the condensation of certain types of cloud formations.

In the future, he believes, the process will be beneficial to human welfare in its modifying effects, "the prevention of hailstorms, eliminating of severe icing storms and other undesirable things."

"We know," says Schaefer, who has conducted rain making experiments in New Hampshire, New York, and Massachusetts, "that one small pea of dry ice when seeded in the proper cloud formation can produce up to 300,000 tons of snow."

AF Swing Band To Organize In New 'Y' Tonight

A meeting to organize an Air Force Swing Band will be held tonight in the new YMCA at 7, according to A. M. Walkow, senior cadet of "A" Flight, Air Force.

All corps members interested are requested to contact Walkow, Room 117, Dorm 6, or to attend the meeting.

The band, which now has 10 members, especially needs members who play the trumpet, trombone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, guitar, or bass fiddle.

Band members will be expected to furnish their own instruments, Walkow added.

Eco Club to See Movie Tonight

"Making Money," a movie filmed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, will be shown to members of the Economics Club tonight in the YMCA Assembly Room, J. T. Miller, president of the organization, announced today.

All visitors are invited to attend to see the short movie, Miller added.

Campus

Opens 1:00 p.m. 4-1181
LAST DAY

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—Features Begin—

1:40 - 3:45 - 5:50 - 7:55 - 10:00

WEDNESDAY — AND THURSDAY

Back By Demand

A Story of Love and Glory!

Newcomers, Bridge Party To Be Held Wednesday

A newcomers meeting and bridge party will be held in the YMCA Wednesday evening at 7. Reservations can be made by calling Mrs. C. S. Richardson at 4-5691. Mrs. A. W. Melloh at 4-7924, or Mrs. W. H. Alexander at 4-4214 by Tuesday night.

PALACE

TODAY THRU SATURDAY

GILLOW

TODAY — WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

The Battalion

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