

Battalion EDITORIALS

Page 2

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 1948

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

Muster Thoughts---1970...

Aggies will be gathering today in all corners of Texas, the United States, and a considerable portion of the world to observe Aggie Muster Day ceremonies.

"Old exes", graduates of the "ninety's" and the early nineteen-hundreds will reminisce of college days when Gathright Hall was a prominent landmark in this sector of the Brazos Bottom. So will later graduates of World War I Days, the roaring twenty's, and the depression ridden thirty's look back on their experiences at Aggieland.

With the passage of years the views they held on their student problems have probably altered considerably.

Looking to future Aggie Musters when today's students will be meeting together as "old exes", one might wonder if perhaps we would not think differently then, in regard to the student problems we confront today.

We might regret the lack of resourcefulness and initiative Corps members have displayed this year toward solving their problems. The wish might come that we had opened our minds and dared to view ourselves critically, determined to discard those traits which "held us down" and to emphasize those which "built us up". Perhaps we will regret that we saw fit only to utter complaint after chronic complaint as we frowned indignantly on a bitter world. We might wonder if it were a lack of interest or an absence of courage that kept us on our backs, refusing to face reality.

Will we wonder if we did not realize even

then, that what is worth having is worth working for? It will probably seem that we twisted this statement to read, "What is worth wanting is worth griping about".

We might even question that we knew exactly what we wanted, or why we wanted it. We might also wonder why we advocated practices in the Cadet Corps which we would not support in our personal lives.

The biggest puzzle of them all however, would involve the "Freshman Situation". Doubtless we would uncover the following inconsistency in our reasoning concerning this "hot issue".

We argued that the Freshmen must be allowed to remain in the Cadet Corps so that we could "make Aggies of them," and yet we refused to accept any overall responsibility whatsoever for their individual welfare. A freshman leaving for home was viewed merely as "another guy who couldn't make the grade", and often the only counseling he was given from his superiors, the supposedly wiser upperclassmen, was to be... sure he checked with the First Sergeant before he left the campus so that the outfit records could be kept straight. Little if any thought was given to the fact that a boy was making a big failure in life, that a great amount of money and work had been wasted, utterly and completely.

The memory of this situation might possibly cause some of us a few pangs of remorse.

Indeed, the passage of years may illuminate many perplexing problems.



Junior College Officials Of Texas Will Meet Here Friday

Officials of Texas junior colleges will hold their annual meeting here April 23-24.

This conference will deal with somewhat more detailed curricular problems than the range of junior college personnel.

The meeting, held here for the fourth consecutive year, is being sponsored by the department of education and psychology in cooperation with the other departments of the college.

Friday afternoon there will be panel discussions on agriculture and engineering followed by a dinner in Sblsa Hall Friday night.

Saturday morning the officials will inspect the agricultural and engineering laboratories. Following the inspection tour they will meet in the YMCA Assembly Room for the final meeting.

Rooms for men in attendance will be provided for the night of April 23 in Walton Hall at a charge of \$1. The college will furnish linens. A room key deposit will be available at the Aggieland Inn. Rooms must be vacated by 9 a. m. Saturday, but free check rooms for baggage will be provided.

Reservations for ladies will be made on request at the Aggieland Inn. Rates are \$2 or \$2.50 for single rooms and \$3 or \$3.50 for double rooms.

RUSSIANS JAMMING "VOICE OF AMERICA"
MANILA, April 21.—(AP)—Radio jamming of "Voice of America" broadcasts to the Far East comes from the high power Russian station at Khabarovsk, 400 miles north of Vladivostok, U. S. ships here, reported.

Letters

NOT ASHAMED OF "A'S"

Editor, The Battalion:

In regards to Fred B. Wilson's letter to the editor, "No Culture Here," we wish to say that we found it very irritating. So he remembers the good old days when men were men and A's were frowned on. How can he recall and prove that such days ever existed? Mr. Wilson is not only in a minority group in his beliefs, but he is more than likely one of the students who does not possess an "A" on his record.

We also wish to say that his statements about what should be placed in the editorial section of The Batt are strictly asinine, and we suggest that Mr. Wilson should stop wasting his parent's and government's money and take up governing at the local drugstore of his hometown where he can gather all the news possible on his desired subjects. Just who in the hell has ever heard of an Aggie graduate being ashamed of himself for making good grades? Has it ever occurred to Mr. Wilson that some students possess sufficient mentality to make good grades?

We rather think that it is men of Mr. Wilson's calibre that are degrading the wearing of the Aggie ring instead of the men who strive to get an education and to attain culture.

For ourselves and the many other men who came to A&M to get an education, we say "Good Work" for the men striving to give us a higher education and culture.

Yours for more culture,

WARREN A. GILBERT JR., '46
GEORGE "PRIMO" KADERA, '50
(Ed. Note: We thought Mr. Wilson wrote his letter with tongue in cheek.)

Save Our Pedestrians...

Last Thursday, Boomtown was closed to all cars, and students and instructors are now parking their cars in the areas provided for that purpose.

Students may walk down the street of Boomtown and cross the street from one building to another without fear of being run down. The bumper-to-bumper parking is now eliminated by the added parking lots.

However, since the Landscape Art Department is doing this work, they should go ahead and complete their job.

Some of the students and faculty members use the driveway between the Academic Parking Area and the Academic Extension Area as a thoroughfare. This saves them little time and distance, but they create a hazard to the walking students.

The cars going through this drive create a safety hazard especially during the period between classes when this driveway is filled with students changing classes.

Walking students may not object to this as much as they dislike the dust that rises. Since this driveway is composed of loose gravel, a car going only fifteen miles an hour causes dust to remain for several minutes after its passing.

We think that posts should be placed across this drive from the Water Tower to the Cotton Processing Building in the same manner that the street entering Boomtown has been blocked off. This would make it possible to remove the block if the need should arise, or the guilty people could be broken of their habit.

Half a dozen posts set in concrete and a cable stretched across could eliminate some of the confusion and dust that rises from this point during change of classes and at 8 a. m., noon, and 5 p. m.

No 'Red' Help Wanted...

A motion by Bob Polson, Aggie delegate to the "Bonus Congress" assembled in Austin has made news... and rightfully so. For his statement asking that the veterans representing twenty-five colleges and universities from all over Texas repudiate any aid proffered by the secretary of the Communist Party of Texas thwarted a attempt by that group to spearhead the drive.

Evidently Bob has read of previous attempts by Communists to lend active support to political candidates, bills introduced before legislative bodies, and certain fundraising groups. History has shown that very often a declaration by the Communist Party in favor of any cause, no matter how worthy, has sufficed to defeat the move. The adjective "communist" is a stigma to be avoided.

On a matter of such importance as this, the group of college veterans are taking a wise step in refusing Communist aid. The movement for a bonus is a relatively young project; a turn to the left might strangle the child before it has had a chance to take its first real step forward. Too, it appears that the daily press in this state is cool toward any movement designed to tax our natural resources. If Wendell Addington's offer to secure the support of the Communist Party were accepted, one may be sure that Uncle Joe was merely handing the delegates a shovel... and the possibility of getting a bonus through the legislature would have been buried forever.

The Emergency Committee of Atomic Scientists sent several letters to Russian scientists but received only one reply—from a Soviet savant who said "Comrade Gromyko has expressed our views." In Russia somebody else expresses your views for you.

Prince Rene of Bourbon-Parma, father of the princess Romania's Mihai is sparking, fell down some steps and broke a leg. Whereas various princes and kings have sustained no physical injury when they have been thrown from their thrones.

Unless business policies itself Congress may be asked to limit profits, Republican Senator Baldwin of Connecticut told the American Brush Manufacturers Association, and he didn't get the brush off.

Leroy A. Wilson, who has been made president of AT&T, says he doesn't expect his new job to change his life very much. As the French might say: Nothing is changed; only a bigger income tax to pay.

Listed as receiving \$5,880 for overpayment of income taxes is Henry Morgenthau, Jr., former secretary of the Treasury. Few people would object to being notified of a mistake like that.

A poll shows that House Republicans "give Dewey the edge," but the Republican Convention may give him the ragged one.

We assume that no other tenors are so old as the English one Mr. Ripley reports is 101, but some of them sound that way.

The Battalion

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On Leave From A&M, Edwards Teaches King to Like Melons

NEW YORK.—(AP)—King Ibn Saud of Arabia has become an American watermelon fan.

"He really goes for them," said Texas-born Kenneth J. Edwards, director of the Saudi Arabian agricultural program and presently on leave from Texas A&M.

"All he ever had before were native watermelons, which look more like gourds than water-

melons.

"Now he's anxious to get some big American chickens and big eggs, too."

Chances are he'll get them soon. Edwards has just recruited 22 Texas farm experts to organize a long-term program to develop Arabia's agricultural resources.

The program, financed by royalties from the Arabian American Oil Company, was decided upon by the king after Edwards and five other Texas farm men successfully developed a 3,000-acre project at El Kharj, where Ibn Saud has a summer palace.

"We introduced American varieties of watermelon, tomatoes, eggplant, carrots, onions, pumpkins, and squash," Edwards said. "They'd never seen anything like them over there."

Edwards hopes that eventually Arabia, which now has to import 75 percent of its food, will become almost entirely self-sustaining.

"It's a big country. Four times bigger than Texas itself," he said with a note of awe that anything could be that large. "But only about five percent of its 1,200,000 square miles is tillable."

"These people have had a long contact with nature even to exist," said Edwards. "That explains some of their characteristics."

"It's like biblical times. Why it makes your hair stand on end to see the opportunities that are there to help people. And those old Arab farmers are really grateful."

Edwards believes the "good will" approach through agriculture will make more friends for America in the Middle East than "gink hat functions."

"You got to really help them rather than just give them talk," he said.

The 68-year-old king, said on American watermelons and looking forward to Texas-size chickens, told him:

"My people take to modern functions."

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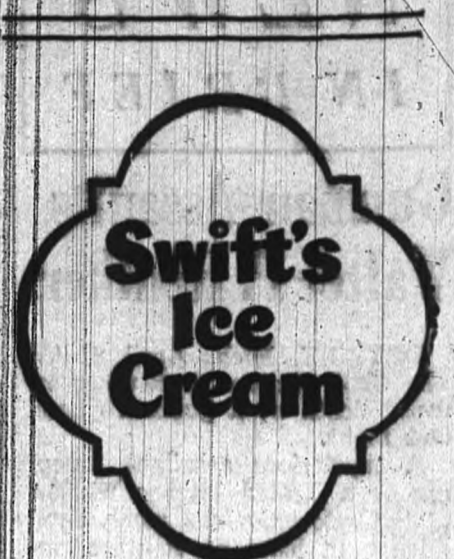
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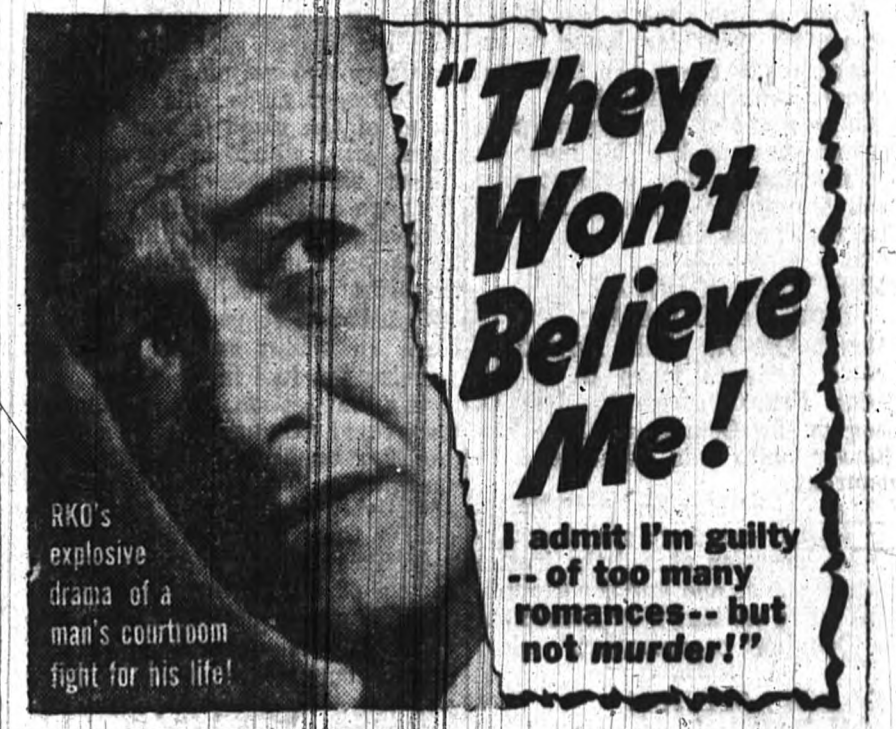
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WAYS Five years ago they wouldn't ride on anything but a camel. Now they all want to ride airplanes.



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