

Battalion EDITORIALS

Page 2

TUESDAY, MAY 4, 1948

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

Sun-tans Have Real Virtues...

About a year ago there was serious discussion among Aggies as to the advisability of having a special A&M uniform, rather than accepting US Army practice. The suggestion met with little approval. How wise that rejection was is shown by this editorial from the Clemson Tiger:

One year ago the cadet corps was in an uproar. "The emergency is over," its members complained, "so why should we go on wearing army uniforms? They look bad and they don't fit. In short, they ain't for us." Pre-war grays were proposed in most circles as the ideal solution to a bad situation.

A few minor prophets put forward a theory that, after all, the grays would usher in problems of their own. First, there was expense: the army uniform was being furnished for a flat rental of five dollars, plus the cost of any lost articles. Replacements or worn items were being furnished free of charge. And the quartermaster provided several articles whose prices would prohibit

their being bought by the students themselves. Included among these were summer uniforms.

True, the suntans were not pretty; but they were comfortable, and they did not cause so much perspiration during the warmer months of the year as to melt their creases.

These prophets were not heeded, at least in their own country. Today the corps is garbed in gray. Complaints are just about as much rampant as they were last year. The appearance of the corps has changed, yes. Nowadays only an expert could tell some cadets from a penitentiary road worker, and his decision would not be based upon appearance of clothing.

Hot weather and wool trousers do not make a good combination, and cotton uniforms are too expensive for addition to most cadets' wardrobes.

The appearance of the grays can be improved by regular pressing and cleaning. The cadet corps has made its bed; now it must not only lie in it, but try to get a little sleep as well.



Repeat for Mothers?

We hear that the English department would like to present the Aggie Players in a repeat performance of "Our Town" as its Mothers' Day display.

Considering that the Players shot for the stars and actually hit them on this performance, we think it would be an excellent idea.

The recently staged Thornton Wilder drama is still fresh enough in the minds of the actors that only a brief rehearsal would be required to whip it back into top form.

"Our Town" would handsomely provide an English department display in the same category as the physics department's, the AH department's and the aeneid departments. We think the visiting mothers would appreciate seeing an example of how their offspring can make like John Barrymore if they're of a mind to.

Mom will see only the backside of Aggieiland Saturday, afternoon if "Our Town" has its lights off.

More First-Run Pictures!

First-run pictures at the Campus and Guion Hall have been coming around more often of late. The latest Supreme Court decision against "monopolistic" distributing companies may make permanent the blessing.

An earlier decision had allowed independent exhibitors to get in the bidding ring along with the big chain boys. This later decision may put all bidders on an even footing.

The court squabble started with a Philadelphia exhibitor who thought his profits were being unduly held down by the film companies' policies of selling preferentially to chains. He sued 'em, he did. So far he has been awarded \$375,000 for lost profits and still has an 8 million dollar suit on the fire.

Here at home, our precarious first-runs are almost certain to continue. And the quality of those we get might possibly improve by dint of a new distributor policy.

Maybe we disagreed on the Dred Scott decision or the NRA or portal-to-portal, but the Supreme Court has redeemed itself with us on moving pictures. Hot Dog, Anna Karina!

And Now There Is Light

The nakedly self-conscious light globes that once lurked about the ceilings of the Academic and Agricultural Buildings are no more.

In their place there has bloomed forth an array of fluorescent lights that illuminate without glare, that make blackboard writing visible without eye strain. Darkness in many of the classrooms, due to poor lighting, has been remedied.

Gone for good are the glaring eye-sores formerly used for illumination. And to this we say good riddance.

Election Year and UMT

Scratch Universal Military Training off your future books.

Both houses of Congress have now passed military service acts, neither of which carry the original UMT idea into practice. The Senate Bill does provide reserve training for 18-year olds only, together with a draft for regular duty of older men. The House Bill provides a draft for services only.

Secretary Forrestal still believes that Universal Military Training is needed. He may be right. It was a dirty trick of the Russians, kicking up crisis after crisis in an election year.

Defaulting Democracy

Precinct conventions have come and gone and we are talking about locking the gate after the horse has been stolen. But there is a question of the democratic-ness of our precinct conventions.

All over the state last Saturday tragically small groups of men and women gathered to choose delegates to the county conventions. They were a pitifully small segment of the qualified voters eligible to attend. But the others simply were not interested. This was true in College Station, as well as in the rest of Texas.

The precinct convention selects delegates to the county convention; the county convention names delegates to the state convention; and state picks national.

Those who didn't attend the precinct convention will have had nothing to say about choosing Democratic nominees for national office. They merely endorse the ticket that has been set up for them by the interested parties.

And so it goes. If some people disagree with the selection they read on their ballots in the fall, the blame is their own. Democracy is more than just voting for candidates. It is also choosing candidates.

Army officials fear that the recent slump in recruiting may use America to "lose face in world affairs." Of all things we stand to lose in world affairs, "face" is the one we wish our officials would worry about least.

Former Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia has a new book, "What the People Want." We don't know what the book is going to say but whatever it is the people want there will be plenty candidates to promise it.

The groom was decorated in pink, blue, and white streamers with a large umbrella suspended from the ceiling.—Kingston (N. Y.) Daily Freeman.

This headline appeared in the Washington Post Thursday, April 1: CATHOLIC VETERANS PLAN COMMUNISM BREAKFAST.

Southern Delegates State Views on NSA Constitution

By J. T. MILLER (Second in a Series)

Although drafting the constitution of the National Student Association was the important object of the Madison convention, the statement of the southern delegates concerning educational discrimination in the South was means by which that mission was accomplished.

Delegates of Communist groups had insisted on complete and immediate elimination of segregation and discrimination. Southerners attending the convention realized that such a step would be impossible at this time. They knew that practices regarding Negro education could not be abolished overnight. Legislation, particularly that adopted by college students, simply could not erase customs and traditions inherent in the South for many decades.

To sidetrack Communist objections, black and white southerners decided to state their case on this touchy subject.

We, the delegates from the southern regions of the USNSA, including Tennessee, Arkansas, Georgia, Texas, Mississippi, Florida, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, and Louisiana, present the following statement:

Please let it be understood: 1. That we favor equal education for all American citizens, regardless of race, color, political belief, or economic circumstance.

2. That we have been working in this direction within our own regions since the Chicago Student Conference, although we were bound in no way as schools to take any action."

The report continues, pointing out the numerous interracial meetings, held against stiff opposition in certain areas, which had discussed the discrimination problem; the region which had elected Negro officers to student organizations; the gradual acceptance by Southerners of Negro athletes competing against whites; and the efforts made to book colored shows for campuses as cultural media.

In conclusion, the delegates clarified the whole point of their statement, when they said:

"... We would like to make it clear that we intend to continue work in this direction within our own regions in the manner best suited and most opportune in each region. We fervently hope that you will realize that conditions vary in different parts of the South as they do in different parts of the North, and that the program cannot be the same in all southern regions."

Communists had presented Negro delegates with a dilemma: either demand non-discrimination and non-segregation immediately as a prerequisite to adopting the constitution, or else continue as you are—second-rate citizens, receiving second-rate education.

The colored delegates grabbed the dilemma by the horns—because they knew that to strike

out on either path suggested by the Communists would be fatal to their cause. Acceptance of present day standards would lead them nowhere; to follow the path of greater resistance would surely prove disastrous in the long run.

In dealing with Negroes, Communists delegates had suffered a temporary setback. But NSA's tie-up with the International Union of Students proved a boon for Marx-minded students. It would be wise to investigate charges and counter-charges thrown about by Communists and non-Communists on the subject of the NSA and the IUS.

(Tomorrow the infiltration of Communists into the National Student Association will be discussed.)

AAUW Chapter To Organize

Plans for organizing a College Station-Bryan branch of the American Association of University Women were made at a general business meeting of local women Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. M. W. Wilcoxon of Galveston, State AAUW membership chairman, was the featured speaker at the meeting held in the College YMCA. She gave the group information on the background and aims of the organization and in a general discussion period, cleared up questions concerning membership in and organization of a new branch of the association.

Following the business meeting punch and cookies were served to approximately 100 women who attended.

The organizational meeting for the new local branch will be held May 22 at 3 p. m. in the YMCA Assembly Room. At that time a constitution will be presented for adoption and officers will be elected.

Galveston Club To Make Pictures

The Galveston A&M Club will have its picture for the Longhorn made Wednesday afternoon May 5, at 5:30 in front of the Ag Building, according to J. W. Moore, president of the club.

Methodists To Honor Seniors

A dinner will be given at 7 p. m. Wednesday at the College Station Methodist Church honoring all senior students of the church. The dinner will be sponsored by the Men's Fellowship Group, the Wesley Foundation and the Women's Society of Christian Service. Dr. Gay Wilson of the Methodist Church of Bryan will be the principal speaker.

MOTHER'S DAY — SPECIAL OFFER
• \$5.00 for \$2.45 • \$5.00 for \$2.45

AGGIELAND STUDIO
College Station, Texas

OFFERS
ONE 8x10 BEAUTIFUL SILVERTONE PORTRAIT for only \$2.45
"ALL PORTRAITS COME MOUNTED IN A NICE FOLDER"
Proofs to Select From Satisfaction Guaranteed
Not good for copywork.
"Serving Aggies for 28 Years"

CUNION

NOW Showing!

M-G-M's THRILLER WITH A NEW KIND OF KILLER!

A NEW MICKEY ROONEY BRIAN DONLEY ANN BYTH KILLER MCCOY

JAMES DUNN TOM TULLY SAM LEVINE
Screen Play by Frederick Mottel, Screened & Based on a Story and Screen Play by Donald Crisp, George Bruce and George Oppenheimer.
Directed by ROY ROWLAND • Produced by SAM ZIMBALIST
A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

DICK TRACY vs. CUEBALL

MORGAN CONWAY ANNE JEFFREYS
LYLE LATELL - RITA CORDAY IAN KEITH

COMING SOON!

He's the guy with no place to go... She's the gal with the extra room!

THE HIT WITH 1000 KISSES — AND A LAUGH FOR EVERY ONE!

THE VOICE OF THE TURTLE

RONALD REAGAN BLANCH PARKER ARDEN MORRIS
BY VERA SMITH, JOHN CHEN
IRVING RAPPER

CAMPUS

Opens 1:00 P.M. Ph. 4-1181

NOW SHOWING thru WEDNESDAY
—Features Begin—
1:40 - 4:25 - 7:10 - 10:00
FIRST RUN FEATURE

Danger... Hard Living, Warm Loving!

JOHN WAYNE HENRY FONDA SHIRLEY TEMPLE JOHN AGAR PEDRO ARMENDARIZ WARD BOND GEORGE O'BRIEN

FORT APACHE

Wallace Beery
Alias a Gentleman

"The Miracle of the Bells"
"To the Ends of the Earth"
"Scudda Hoo! Scudda Hay"
"Setting Pretty"

PALACE
Bryan 2-8879

NOW SHOWING
"T-Men"

QUEEN

NOW SHOWING
"Drums Along the Mohawk"

MOTHER'S DAY

GIFTS OF JEWELRY

ON GIFTS THAT LAST
See our nice selection of MOTHER'S DAY GIFTS

CALDWELL'S JEWELRY STORE
Bryan, Texas

TODAY ONLY
1st Show 7:20—2nd 9:00

SKYWAY DRIVE-IN THEATRE

CARTOON CARNIVAL
• No Feature •
8 YEARS BEST COLOR CARTOONS
3 FUN MUSICAL FEATURETTES
—2 Hrs. of Fun—

WED. — TEMPTATION **GEORGE BRENT**

The Battalion

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the City of College Station, Texas, is published five times a week and circulated every Monday through Friday afternoon, except during holidays and examination periods. During the summer The Battalion is published semi-weekly. Subscription rate \$4.50 per school year. Advertising rates furnished on request.

News contributions may be made by telephone (4-5444) or at the editorial office, Room 201, Goodwin Hall. Classified ads may be placed by telephone (4-5324) or at the Student Activities Office, Room 209, Goodwin Hall.

The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the use for republication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in the paper and local news of spontaneous origin published herein. Rights of republication of all other matter herein are also reserved.

Entered as second-class matter at Post Office at College Station, Texas, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Member of The Associated Press Represented nationally by National Advertising Service Inc., at New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

CHARLIE MURRAY, JIMMIE NELSON Co-Editors

Vick Lindley, Wire Editor
J. F. Miller, Kenneth Bond, Louis Morgan, Managing Editors
Mark T. Nelson, Feature Editor
R. L. Billingsley, Harvey, Chief
Tom R. Carter, C. C. Murore, C. C. Fraill, James E. Nelson, Otto E. Kuntze, J. C. Falls, John Shigley, Editor
Bob Westlund, Larry Goodwin, Reporters
Mauroe Howell, Advertising Manager

Bob Kennelley, Circulation Manager
Joe Trevino, Hardy E. Ross, Photo Engravers
Art Howard, Sports Editor

James DeAnda, Andy Matulis, Zero Hammond, Editor
Don Engelking, Bob Speddo, Bill Evans, Sports Writer
Grady Griffin, Photographer
Sam Lanford, K. J. Mark, Cartoonists

RAY'S SNACK BAR
North Gate

SWIFT'S ICE CREAM

RAY'S SNACK BAR
North Gate