

# Battalion EDITORIALS

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1948

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

## Before the Ink Begins to Fade . . .

Hangin's too good for the professor who returns quiz papers two or three weeks after the quiz.

If we could call lightning down to strike him we'd do it.

If we had earbucles; or ringworms, or boils to issue him he would get the lot.

Two or three weeks is entirely too long for quiz papers to be returned. Curiosity has long since burned out over the coals of anxiety, and only a residue of indignation due to the feeling of lack of consideration remains.

Solutions to questions missed are buried back several chapters when the papers finally do get back in our hands. Mistakes made on the quiz that could have been corrected had we known what we missed have become almost second nature to us and the proper method of solution is strangely unfamiliar.

In the final determination of our grade some professors merely average the letter quiz grades, so they are important to him too.

Why all this delay?

In returning quiz papers a week's delay is too long, the next class period is most desirable, but two or three weeks is unreasonable.

## Voters Aren't the Only Ones Watching . . .

The present presidential campaign has its head in the mushroom cloud of an atom bomb and its feet in the Civil War.

While the nation wrestles with the difficult new concept of an atomistic age, it also sees bubbling to the surface questions stirred by the Civil War and still unsettled.

One minor candidate has made racial segregation and states rights chief planks in his platform; another minor candidate appeals to these discriminated peoples promising alleviation of their unfortunate status through federal legislation. The two major candidates are caught in between fearing to define their ambiguous campaign promises lest they meet with the displeasure of their prejudice ridden electorate.

Our forward, progressive, democratic America is airing its dirty laundry before the interested press and eyes of the world. We are making American Democracy a very difficult product to sell overseas.

It's about time we take stock of things and make evaluations.

## Good News for Engineers . . .

Radio programs weren't interrupted and newspaper extras didn't hit the streets when the announcement came last week that Britain and the United States were going to standardize screw threads.

The commonplace screw thread lacks the color and imaginative appeal for people to get worked up over. Every bolt in the world has screw threads.

But do they all fit? Does a German screw fit a Canadian nut?

Naturally not. Germany uses the metric system of measurement and Canada the English.

What about American bolts and British nuts. They both use the English system of measurement. They should fit.

But they don't.

We use a Seller's thread that is flat on top and turns in toward the core of the bolt at a sharp angle. The British cut a Whitworth thread that is rounded, top and bottom, and has a 55° angle. The two just don't fit.

Due to the difference in threads many identical parts used by the British and Americans during the war were not interchangeable.

With the threat of an inevitable war becoming more strongly felt industrial representatives have decided to standardize British and American threads to a 60° modified Whitworth thread.

The next war won't catch us shipping hundreds of parts to England—parts that British factories already manufacture except for a screw thread.

Certainly it was this consideration that was the prime mover to bring about British and American agreement on a standard thread.

With British and American industry cutting and tapping the same threads it becomes all the more obvious that the international fates of the two countries are inextricably intertwined.

And the two countries are telling the World, "United we stand, or together we fall."

## The Passing Parade . . .

Occasionally the Associated Press teletype, which tirelessly bangs out our external news, fouls up with internal mechanical difficulties and exudes some gems of misprint, misspell and mistake.

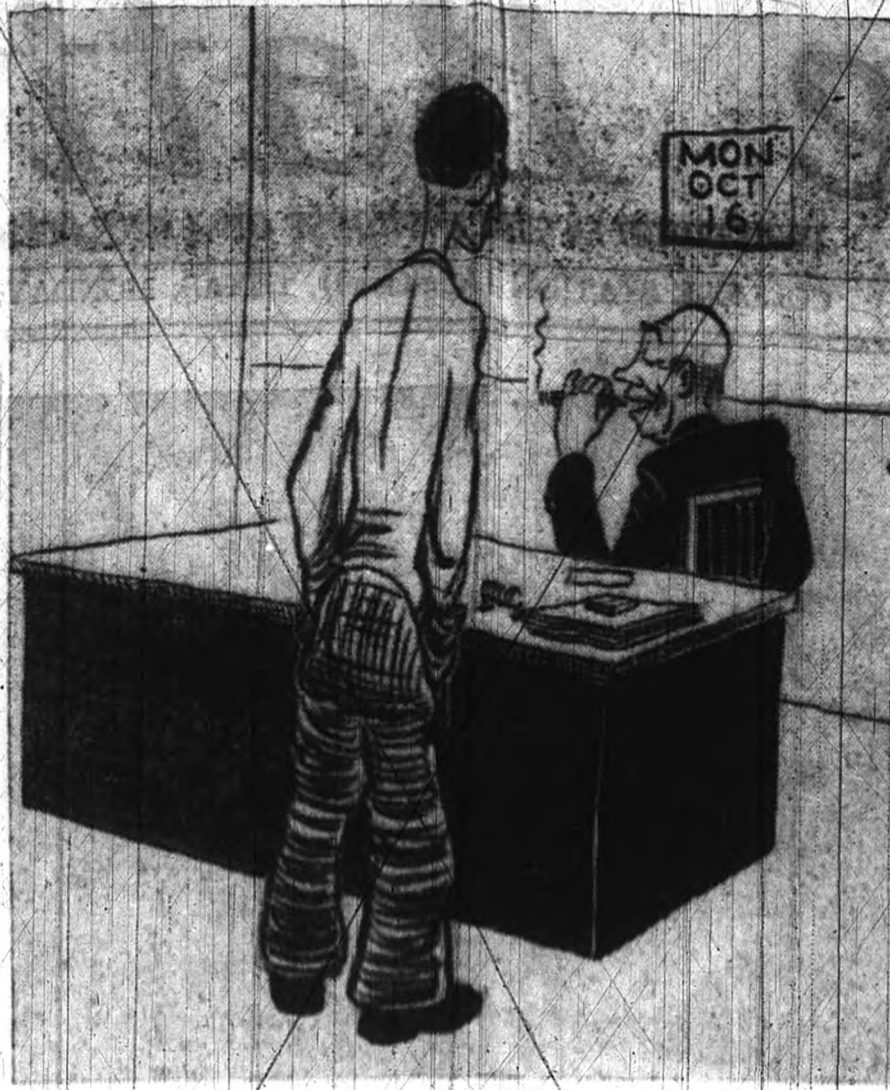
Here is one which came over today right in the midst of a quote from swimming star Esther Williams on how to keep a husband.

"A girl should treat her husband like a date," she advised. "She shouldn't treat him like an old shoe or—worse yet—a brother."

Just because the chase is over, she continued, don't neglect your allure.

"I don't mean you have to get a lot of black lace underthings. I think crisp, white clothes are as attractive as ketrznd."

Esther, we think they're that attractive too, but propriety, convention and editors forbid our expressing such thoughts.



"I'm sorry I can't give you credit for that question Snaugely, but since you handed in the paper a new war has been fought and the boundary line changed!"

## Sneak Preview . . .

### "Johnny Belinda" Achieves All in Human Interest Story

By ANDY DAVIS

Johnny Belinda (Waner Bros.) starring Jane Wyman, Lew Ayres, Agnes Moorehead, and Charles Bickford. (Campus)

Seldom do movie-goers have an opportunity to witness such a heart warming human interest story as "Johnny Belinda."

This is the tender story of a young girl (Jane Wyman), a deaf mute, who for the first time becomes a part of the outside world, by learning to understand and be understood. All this is made possible because of a kind and understanding Doctor (Lew Ayres). It is the doctor who takes it upon himself to teach Belinda how to express her emotions, her feelings, and love.

Tragedy strikes Belinda, when it becomes known to the communi-

## Between the Bookends . . .

### Steinbeck and Capa's Russian Journal Reveals Simple Life

By T. NANNEY

A RUSSIAN JOURNAL, by John Steinbeck with pictures by Robert Capa. The Viking Press New York, 1948.

This is easily the happiest, most amusing, most hilarious book ever written about Russia in modern times. It's a record of an exploitation of historic importance into an area least understood by the world. The explorers were one of the world's greatest writers and one of the world's best photographers. The combination is unbeatable. Steinbeck and Capa directed their search at finding out about the Russian people . . . and nothing else. Their book has no politics, no bones to chew, no dramatic exposures. It is a simple, unpretentious and exceedingly interesting book.

Before their journey Steinbeck and Capa asked themselves these questions: "What do the people wear there? What do they serve at dinner? Do they have parties? What food is there? How do they make love, and how do they die? What do they talk about? Do they dance, and sing, and play?" After their journey these two men took their notes and pictures and answered those questions. A Russian Journal is the result.

It is a gay book to have been written about such a controversial subject as Russia. I suspect that Steinbeck's dispassionate survey of the Russian People is partially due to his years of practice in observing all people with analytical detachment. That's what novelists claim to do anyway. I'm sorry that Capa didn't have more of his pictures in the book. The blurb on the jacket of the book said that he took thousands but only a few were included . . . and that is regrettable. If I had \$3.75 I'd buy the book anyway.

I'd like to draw some important and impressive conclusions about the brotherhood of man after reading this book but Steinbeck didn't think he was qualified so I guess that I ain't either.

## Medical College Tests Scheduled

Medical College Admission tests will be given at 8:45 a. m., Saturday in Room 10, Science Building, according to Dr. George E. Potter, premedical-preidental advisor.

Persons who submitted applications for the test should report at that time.

## Association Reports 18,000 Aggie-Exes Roaming the Globe

By REYNARD CANIS

Eighteen Thousand Aggie-Ex's are roaming this globe according to J. B. "Dick" Hervey, executive secretary of the Association of Former Students. Of this number 15,335 actively participate in the development fund campaigns and hundreds of A&M Club meetings scattered throughout the United States and overseas.

Keynote of the association in fundamental policies is the statement, "Once an Aggie, Always an Aggie." Anyone who has ever enrolled for classes at A&M, regardless of whether he completed work for a degree or not, is considered a member of the non-profit organization. "It is the usual thing to become an Ex-student, but there has never been an ex-Aggie," Mr. Hervey said.

Besides sponsoring the A&M Clubs in many communities, the Association carries on a loan program for students, and sponsors the publication of the former students' newspaper, "The Texas Aggie." This bi-monthly publication informs the Exes of current happenings at their alma mater.

The Association came into existence prior to 1900, but was not set up on a full time basis until 1922 when an office and an executive secretary became the heart of ex-student operations. Headquarters is on the college campus where members of the staff maintain first hand information of news, changes and other facts about their school.

## Letters

**THEY WANT MAIL**  
Editor, The Battalion:

There are two sophomore Tessies who haven't gotten any mail in ages, and they are getting rather disgusted with this situation.

If there are any Aggies in the same predicament who would like to write these Tessies, have them write Box 3485, TSCW. They'll be assured an answer.

Two Tessies TSCW

(Editor's Note: Our wire editor took one whiff of this perfumed letter and "was wafted off to another planet.")

## SEE HERE, MAISEL

Editor, The Battalion:

To refresh the memory of Chuck Maisei, a lot of us over here in the non-regs came up through the Corps also, and while I, with others like me, have had my year as Senior in the Cadet Corps, I have only once been able to sit anywhere near the 50-yard line, and that was at the TCU-A&M game this past weekend.

To further refresh Mr. Maisei's memory, freshmen and wetheads do take senior privileges, and if he would like to drop around, I'll give him particular instances.

Also, it seems to me that if Mr. Maisei has been across the "pond" he asked for a life in the Corps, so why can't he be satisfied with what he asked for and got? If he had asked for the seats they tried to give us, we wouldn't gripe, but we didn't ask for them.

R. "SCOTTY" SWINNEY '48

## Think of This

"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." Prov. 4:23.

If we could ever realize just how much the inner thoughts and desires of a man affect his outward actions, we would be much more careful of the things we think and desire. Sin comes only after the heart of man has desired it. Greatness is achieved only after man has determined within himself to commit his life and his all to God. (Read Psalm 51:6-13.)

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"WHY IS IT?"

## The Battalion

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