

Battalion EDITORIALS

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1948

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

To Change or Not to Change . . .

Once again the campus talk is of a proposed change in one of the old institutions that some groups think outdated—the name of our student annual, the Longhorn.

In the past, some of these changes have proved for the good and some haven't been such hot ideas. Almost invariably, however, the student body has opposed each switch mainly because it was a change.

The present item before the students is the name of the school's yearbook. Without taking either side, the Batt wants to present the arguments of both parties in the hope that students—who will be the final judges, thanks to the system of student government now in force—will form their opinions logically and not from the conservative viewpoint of "We're agin all changes."

On the side of the ledger which advocates keeping the name Longhorn, there are these points: The present name has been the name of the annual since 1903 which makes it a fairly deep-rooted tradition. Then too, the exes might oppose change in the name of the yearbook which they established.

From the other point of view, there

are these ideas. For one, the advocates of change argue that Longhorn has not always been the name of the yearbook as the Olio preceded the 1903 issue. Also, the frontpiece of the 1903 issue, in discussing the name Long Horn, indicates that the editors of that year were not too pleased with the title, but gave it that name for lack of a better one.

These same hesitant editors wrote that they expected the book to have a new name by the next year.

In 1903, the TU team was known as Varsity. Not until about 1915 did the sports scribes begin to refer to them as the Longhorns. From that date forward, Aggies have had to explain that the Longhorn is A&M's annual and not TU's.

The question seems to be this: Do you feel that the Longhorn name is so deeply rooted in A&M that it should remain? If so, inform your student senator. Or, do you feel that Longhorn is no longer symbolic of Aggieland and that some other name would be more fitting? Let your elected representative know about it.

Lastly, if you do desire a new name, let your senator know if you want it called Final Review, Reville, or some pet name of your own.

More On Rent Decontrol . . .

The crowded housing conditions and the high rents in the Bryan-College Station area came in for some heated discussion last Friday evening at a public hearing in the District Court room of the Brazos County Courthouse.

Local realtors and property owners requested the hearing to present their facts and arguments to the Brazos County Rent Control Board in favor of rent decontrol for Brazos County.

Some of the reasons for rent decontrol given by local rent property owners were: Vacancies now available indicate that the demand for apartments is equal to the supply and therefore further rent control is unnecessary. Rent charges now are not exorbitant and decontrol would not be a signal for rents to go "sky high." Builders are being discouraged from building rent property because of so little return on their investments. In many cases needed repairs and maintenance cannot be made because present rent rates are too low.

Reasons for continuation of rent control given at the meeting were: Elimination of rent control would place the renter in the unfortunate position of paying more rent or moving out. New apartment units, reconditioned units, and units which have not been rented for two years are free of rent control. The unusual situation exist-

ing in the Bryan-College Station area of the large number of college-enrolled married veterans whose presence is temporary causes increased competition for available apartments. Given another year of control, they argue, these veterans will not be here in such numbers, and then it might be possible to abandon rent control altogether.

On Monday, December 13, the Brazos County Rent Control Board will meet to decide whether rent control is to continue.

On behalf of nearly an eighth of the A&M Student Body who live off the campus in places other than those provided by the college we urge the Board to seriously consider the last reason given by those in favor of continued control.

In a year the demand for apartment space by married A&M students outside those operated by the college will be insignificant. Then it might be possible to decontrol.

The already strained purses of married A&M students can hardly stand a rent increase. The war may be over but its effects are still present in this community where veterans are completing their war-postponed education. Rent decontrol now would probably force several men from college and cut short their realization of an educational ambition—a diploma from Texas A&M College.

The Passing Parade . . .

This is one of those run-of-the-mill notices from the national capitol.

In the last five months, the government has spent \$1,430,000,000 more than it has taken in.

The Treasury said today expenditures,

totaling \$15,548,000,000, exceeded income by that much through November of this fiscal year which began July 1.

And the heck of it is if we overdraw a buck sixty from the home town bank, we have to hire a lawyer to beat the rap.

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 tri-weekly on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Subscription rate \$4.30 per school year. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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

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.

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Letters To The Editor

USE OF COKE MONEY

Editor, The Battalion:

In the following paragraphs we'll attempt to put into words an idea that came to us like a bolt out of the blue after reading a couple of your "Letters to the Editors", and after hearing a few of the prominent minds in the dorm discuss the subject: "What'll we do with the coke money?"

It seems to us, and so far everybody we've spoken to about it agrees, that the solution of the coke money question stares us in the face every time the Aggie Band plays a note. We've read editorials commending the Band for its wonderful performances, and we've read letters berating "somebody" for not coughing up the dough for the Band's travelling expenses.

WE'VE got the dough, all of us, and if there's a better cause on the campus than financing the Aggie Band, where is it?

Can this suggestion, that the coke machine profits be given to the Band for travelling expenses, be put before the student body? Most Aggies are in favor (a survey system of our own, Gallup's kaput), or will agree that a major part of the future income should go to the Band. Maybe it could be divided in this manner:

Band	25%
Dorms	75%

This 25% reserved for the dormitories could be applied towards magazine subscriptions for the lounges, furniture for the lounges, miscellaneous contribution, etc.

These dorm coke funds, as they stand, are nothing but a source of disagreement. The sensible ideas presented so far are few, such as lounges, water coolers, etc., and the College seems to be doing most of that, without help.

This campaign-to-be is certainly worthy of the Battalion's support.

Incidentally, we're not in the band and never have been in the band. We live in Mitchell Manor. You might point out that Mitchell Hall's net profits for last month were \$39.72, and that current balance is \$315.65. JUST ONE DORM.

In a year's time the campus coke machines should accumulate enough to finance the Band to Villanova and maybe LSU, certainly to LSU!

Mike Williams, '46
Buck Wyatt, '49
George Butler, '47
Marvin Kuers, '44
Art Howard, '49

★
NOW YOU SEE IT
NOW YOU DON'T

Editor, The Battalion,
Where are the "rides offered at present to Kentucky, Tennessee and Ohio . . ." which George Charlton says, in Wednesday's Batt, are to be found on the Academic Bulletin Board? I've tried via the board for two months to get a Christmas ride to any of these three states. Is he kidding?

Martin B. Marx '45
Editors Note: Charlton says that when he looked at the bulletin board the day before, the notices were there.

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Visitation Week Initiated By A&M Methodist Church

This week, December 5 through December 12, has been set aside as a Week of Visitation at the A&M Methodist Church, Asbury Lenox, associate pastor, has announced.

The visitation campaign is different, Lenox said, in that students are invited to visit the minister rather than the minister visiting the student. Lenox will be in the Methodist Church lounge every day this week from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m., and asks that every Methodist student come by and visit with him. Lenox said he wanted students to visit him even if they could stay no longer than five minutes.

This type of visitation program, Lenox said, will get students to visit the church, will help students and pastor to know each other better, and through this acquaintance, student attendance upon the services of the Church will be accelerated.

The Methodist Church is located two blocks north and east of the North Gate.

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Waco Club to Talk Christmas Dance

The Waco-McLennan County Club will discuss plans for their Christmas Dance tonight at 7:30 in Room 301, Goodwin Hall, Room B. Fryer, Jr., president of the club, has announced.

Think of This

"The Lord is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy." Psalm 145:8

If I were asked to give the most outstanding characteristic of God, I would not say that it was his power, I would not say that it was his ability to span time and space. I would say that it was the infinite capacity for gracious compassion, his slowness to anger, and the greatness of his mercy. In other words, it is his manifestation of love for us, his erring and unloving children.

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