

# Battalion EDITORIALS

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1948

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

## Make Your Own Decision . . .

The question of changing the name of The Longhorn is still unsettled.

In the last meeting of the Student Senate, final settlement of the issue was delayed until after the Christmas holidays.

Since the issue has arisen, there has been some criticism of The Battalion's handling of the matter. For that reason we would like to reiterate our stand on the question.

We are not so much concerned with how you vote on the change as we are that

you do vote. We have presented all the reasonable arguments we heard from both sides. We ignored such theories as "Lets not change it to spite TU" and "Lets change it just for the heck of it."

Give the matter some constructive thought over the holidays, make your own decision, and then be sure and vote.

If you have an opinion but don't care to support it by voting, you may regret it later.

By letting Joe do it, you too can wind up with an outcome you don't approve of.

## What Uncle Joe Doesn't Know . . .

Uncle Joe, head potentate of the Union of Socialistic Soviet Republics, shouldn't meddle in things he doesn't know anything about.

In skullduggery and political machinations he has the master's skillful hand. But when he puts his big paw over in the zone of science he sure bangs things around. Russian science will be set back 20 years by his bumbling interference with Moscow's Academy of Science.

Recently the British Broadcasting Company invited four prominent scientists to discuss the genetic theories of Lysenko, who is now President of the Moscow Academy of Sciences. Their discussion revealed some amazing and tragic things. The scientists charged that Lysenko was an ignorant swindler who inspired the torture and murder of those who opposed him or his ideas.

They charged that Lysenko supports with force a theory which he can not support with fact. Lysenko believes that the influence of environment is far more important than heredity in plant breeding. He received the support of the Communist party because his ideas matched communist ideology. Uncle Joe lent his prestige to Lysenko and therein lies the tragedy.

With Stalin's backing, Lysenko discredited Professor Nicolai Vavilov and forced him from the Presidency of the Moscow Academy of Science. He had served in that position with distinction for 20 years. That was the last of Vavilov.

He died a ruined, broken man. The circumstances of his death are shrouded with secrecy. British scientists, of other sources than the above have, claimed that he died in a concentration camp.

Sydney Cross Harland, international authority of cotton genetics said that this ended "the boldest and most virile attempt the world has yet seen to use genetic science for the service of mankind." Future generations of men may prove that Lysenko was correct in his genetic theories but they will never condone his treatment of his colleagues who disagreed with him.

What Uncle Joe doesn't know is that he cannot help Russia by superimposing his political actions on Russian science. Science can never serve Russia when it is held in a static condition, oppressed by fear and distrust.

Uncle Joe can do alright in the cold war outside Russia, but he sure is stirring up a hot scuffle inside.

## No Uranium in Them Thar Hills . . .

An interesting theory was put forth last week by a Gulf Research chemist in a Chicago petroleum meeting.

"A research scientist believes America's rate of atomic bomb production threatens to exhaust this country's entire uranium reserves in 30 years.

The rate of bomb production, he states in an address prepared for delivery to a group session of the American Petroleum Institute, is a "reason for pessimism" in considering the future of atomic power for industrial use.

Eugene Ayers, chief chemist of the Gulf Research and Development Company Pittsburgh, said the world supply of recoverable uranium "is believed to be about 10 times as great as that in the United States." Thorium, another fissionable element that might produce industrial power

is present in about similar quantity," he added.

"Our annual production of uranium now is said to be more than one-thirtieth our entire reserve," he said. "If the rate of production is constant over the next 30 years, we shall have no uranium left; for, unlike petroleum, there is little likelihood of extending our uranium reserve by large discoveries."

Because the world's supply of fissionable materials is "definitely limited," he said, the kind of atomic energy now understood "cannot be regarded as the predominant energy source of the future."

A friend of ours read this and breathed a sigh of relief. "Just think," he said, they can only make a few atom bombs."

We hate to douse his glimmer of hope but he reminds us of the traffic victim who was only run over by three trucks.

Now we are told on the authority of a Mayo pediatrician that the old woodshed spanking isn't what it was whacked up to be. Maybe it's deficient in the whacking.

A Hollywood writer predicts that 10-cent motion pictures will soon be back with us again. And again, and again, and again.

## The Battalion

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HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT IT?



—SEE LEAD EDITORIAL—

## Think of This

"I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil." Psalm 119:162.

It must have been a thrilling experience for Columbus to discover this great land of ours. Admiral Byrd must have enjoyed finding undiscovered territory off the southern tip of South America. However, the thrill of these discoveries could in no way compare with the thrilling experiences that can be had with the finding of

many of the great messages hidden within the Words of God. If you want the thrill of finding new things, try reading through the Bible; perhaps you may be the one to find new meanings that have remained hidden to others.

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## Letters To The Editor

BEAT VILLANOVA

SHOULD WE TELL

Editor, The Battalion:

First of all I want to extend my thanks to the person or persons responsible for making it possible for me and other Ex-Aggies to receive the Batt during this past football season. It has really been a help especially during this past football season. It has really been a help especially here in California in keeping up with the Fightin' Aggie Team, and I have really enjoyed it.

I am pretty sure my feelings are also the feelings of Aggies everywhere that this has been a successful season topped off by the best thing that has happened since 1939, speaking of the Turkey Day game, of course. I also feel that the fame and fortune of A&M is only beginning, not only in football and sports but in all other aspects of a great school.

I am especially glad to read about the very fine gesture of the present A&M students to foster good will and a feeling of promoting sportsmanship. It is gratifying to hear very favorable comments from people in no way connected with the school in regards to the lead Aggies have taken in this matter.

If it is possible, I would like to continue receiving The Battalion for the rest of this school year at least. I feel that this request may be irregular, but I would certainly appreciate any consideration of the matter, as I would like to follow the basketball, baseball, and track teams this winter and spring.

Again I want to thank those persons who made The Battalion available. Also I would like to say that I was proud of the team through the whole season. Both the team and the coaching staff deserve a world of praise.

Beat hell out of Villanova!  
Aggie H. Redmon, Jr. M.D.

Editor, The Battalion:

Last Spring we published an article about Texas A&M men who sugar cured their hats. The method and formula were not given. We now have a letter from one of our readers asking about this process. If A&M men are ready to divulge this secret to the world, we would appreciate the opportunity of passing the information along to this reader.

A. B. Kennedy  
Editor  
Farm and Ranch  
Dallas, Texas

(Editor's Note: If anyone has the information and wishes to divulge same, would they please forward it to this magazine?)

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ANNUAL SENIOR  
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HIGH SCHOOL  
will be held  
**DECEMBER 17, 1948**  
at the  
**SCHOOL GYMNASIUM**  
Beginning at 8 p.m. — Formal

## Big Spring Club To Be Organized

The Big Spring Hometown Club will hold its organizational meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, December 16, in Room 127, Academic Building.

All men from Big Spring and surrounding territory are invited to attend the meeting, Robert Laswell of the organizing committee, said. Plans will be made for a Christmas party.

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