

# Battalion EDITORIALS

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1949

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

## Longhorn: Change or Not to Change? . . .

Thursday night the Student Body will vote to decide whether the majority favors The Longhorn as the name for the A&M Annual or favors selecting a new name.

In order to give both sides of the issue, one student senator has given the arguments for changing the name of the annual. Another senator has given the reasons why he felt the name should not be changed.

Arguments given represent their opinions and do not necessarily represent the opinions of The Battalion editors.

### Pro . . .

During the Christmas holidays, an Aggie freshman showed a borrowed copy of the 1940 Longhorn to his father. "Dad, this is the Longhorn; look it over." The father turned to the dedication page and read. Looking up, he said, "Now isn't that nice." Isn't what nice, the cadet wanted to know. "Why, it says 'Dedicated to the Spirit of Aggieland'. I think it's awfully fine of TU to dedicate their annual to your school."

And then the son found himself giving his puzzled sire that same explanation that Aggies have had to give for years, namely: the Longhorn is A&M's yearbook and not that of our greatest rival the University of Texas.

That oft-repeated scene is new to none of us. It brings up the one supreme reason for changing the annual's name and that is that Longhorn is not only insignificant to A&M in any way, but is much more fitting to our sister branch over in Austin.

Despite arguments that the yearbook had its name before the TU team had its, the fact remains that today our annual's name is and continues to be associated with the school which A&M prides itself on being as different from as possible.

The major point brought out by the students who oppose change in the name is that the name Longhorn has been around for 45 years—a very long time. We have a structure on this campus known as Pfeuffer Hall. If you have ever had courage to enter that rickety building, you have no doubt realized that, although Pfeuffer has been around much longer than 45 years, it has outlived its usefulness and should become material for bonfires.

There has also been much discussion as to the possible feelings of the Aggie-exes in this matter. Of the several exes interviewed by this writer, opinions ranged from "just don't care" to much enthusiasm in favor of keeping the present name.

E. E. McQuillen, chairman of the Development Fund and probably the man on the campus most likely to speak representatively for the exes, has been reported to be wholeheartedly in favor of a name switch. C. G. "Spike" White, another well known Aggie-ex, had this to say: "If a man has been married to the same woman for 45 years and he still doesn't get along with her, it's time he did something about it."

Here seems to be the final test of whether or not we have the best possible name for an annual of Aggieland. If the yearbook had never had a name until this year and an election was being held to name it, would you vote for the Longhorn? Think about it.

JOHN NANCE GARNER, says the *Houston (Tex.) Press*, "fed his chickens, then took a tramp around the garden."

WHERE'S the humor in this one? A morgue clerk, checking through files of the *Columbus Ohio State Journal* found a cut envelope marked:

"Kiplinger, Willard—  
newspaperman— 7/7/38"

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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KENNETH BOND, TOM CARTER

Co-Editors

### Con . . .

Seniors of 1895 edited the first annual ever published here at A&M. Its name was the *Olio* (meaning a collection of outstanding literature and music). It was the first and only annual by that name and, therefore, no great tradition supported it. In 1903, the second annual edited was the *Long Horn* (two words).

The next 10 editions carried the name and beautiful engravings of longhorn steers throughout the books. That proves that we not only had the name, but we also had the steer engravings as well, 12 years before some sportswriter referred to TU as Longhorns in 1915. By 1913 military emblems replaced the steers in the annuals. From 1921 to date, all annuals have been called Longhorn (one word). All in all, 45 or 46 issues have had the same name.

Contrary to arguments recently given in *The Battalion*, the comments of the editors of that first issue of the Long Horn were directed at the annual's makeup and gave no reference whatever regarding the choice of suitability of the name. There are those who say, understandably, that the name causes confusion. Possibly it does with freshmen and rank outsiders. But freshmen are quickly oriented.

As for the outsiders just how far do we have to go in altering our traditions to suit those few outsiders who are confused? Rather, doesn't it make our annual seem even more note-worthy to be able to point out to outsiders that ours is a tradition of longer standing. This would be particularly irksome to staunch "sippers." Actually, an annual is like a family album, with only those members of the Aggie Family interested for the most part so why the bother?

What is to be gained by this change which will be cutting in an already thin field of truly old traditions? On one side, we will be slashing away at one more tie that binds the former students to A&M. There are few enough left now. What will become of the approximately 100,000 old Long Horns that the Exes have, if TU grabs the name for their annual, as there is reason to believe they will. (The Daily Texan, the TU students' daily paper predicted this proposal a few days before it was even mentioned here at A&M. Does this indicate lack of interest in the name? Their annual is impressively named the *Cactus*?)

Some say "It's progressive to change." Very well, if we don't mind seeing our traditions being no more deep rooted than a season's length, let's see what progressiveness will do for us. With 2,500 universities and colleges in the US (not to mention high schools), the majority with annuals, we are either going to have to steal a name like Recall, Reveille, Roll Call, Aggie, Review, Taps, The Spirit, (all of which are used by schools and colleges) or we will have slim pickings in selecting an original name that will suit everyone.

Would you steal a name, take a second or third choice, possibly even an inferior name? Do you want to take the chance and gamble against a name that is a 45-year old tradition, a name that is undisputedly ours over TU by 12 years? Let's keep it. It's as state-wide as bluebonnets or unpredictable weather.



## Between the Bookends . . .

### 'Wondrous Creatures' Parade Through Man's Imagination

The Lungfish, the Dodo, and the Unicorn, by Willy Ley, The Viking Press, New York, New York, Revised Edition, 1948. Are you interested in the Dinosaur or the Dragons of Babylon? Willy Ley is too. He also is an authority on the Dirruch from the Ishtar Gate and the Eohippus and Eucalyptus. Maybe your favorite hobby is counting Aardvarks while you paint Congo Peacocks. Willy Ley is sympathetic to such occupations.

The Lungfish, the Dodo, and the Unicorn is a strange parade of wondrous creatures from the hidden corners of the earth, the remote crags of time and the inscrutable recesses of man's imagination. It is a remarkable book. With it Willy Ley restores my faith in science and its worshippers. Ley hasn't let the pompous cau-

tiousness of the scientific method destroy his imagination. He revels in investigating the facts behind the mythical creatures of the past—and if there are no facts he happily investigates the fancies. His training has qualified him for his search and his reports. He specialized in the history of zoology and paleontology at the Universities of Berlin and Koenigsberg.

His technique of reporting is characterized by German thoroughness. He swamps his reader with facts, eye-witness accounts and quotations from writers both obscure and renowned. The impact is terrific.

When you finish reading his book you'll not only believe in sea serpents but you'll think twice about Scotch Gremkins. I recommend this book to all who hate Zoology, abhor science and mourn for the Dodo.

## Sneak Preview . . .

### Big Splash Offered in Water Logged Double Feature at Guion

By ANDY DAVIS

Sea Hawk (Warners) starring Errol Flynn, Brenda Marshall, and Claude Rains. (Guion) Errol Flynn swings into action again, only this time he has the Spanish Armada to cope with, and a beautiful Senorita, Brenda Marshall. (She's of age).

As the dashing Captain Thorpe of England's Sea Hawks, Flynn clears the seas of Spanish galleons single handed. Then fate steps in, the Spanish get wind of his plans, and ambush him and his men in Panama. The next scene finds Flynn no longer the proud captain of the Albatross, but instead, pushing an oar as a galley slave. He does manage to escape in time to inform his country of Spain's intentions of attacking with the Spanish Armada.

### Tax Collector To Help Public File January Returns

James A. Scanlin, deputy collector of internal revenue, will be on the campus January 7 to assist college personnel and students with tax returns which must be in by January 15.

He will have all forms necessary, but those needing aid should bring all necessary documents with them Scanlin announced today.

The following persons who must file an estimated income tax return, or a final income tax return by January 15, 1949, for the year 1948 are the following:

- 1) Those having wages subject to withholding taxes in excess of \$4,500 plus \$600 for each exemption. For example, \$5,100 in the case of a single person with no dependents.
- 2) Those having an income from any source other than wages subject to withholding taxes in excess of \$100, provided total income for the year is \$600 or more.

### Davis to Discuss Veterans Training

B. C. Davis, state supervisor of Veterans Education, Austin, will discuss the Veterans Vocational School and the jobs of the instructors who conduct classes for them, according to E. V. Walton of the Agricultural Education Department.

Davis will address graduating seniors at 5 p. m. on January 13 in the Agricultural Engineering Lecture Room.

## Trampling Out The Vintage . . .

### Aggie's Spirit Gets Another Plug From Magazine Editor

By CHUCK MAISEL

Yup, we're still famous. Ever since '76, students at other schools have been pointing at the Texas Aggies and trying in vain to the schools "they think so grand" begging them to follow our great example.

The latest comes from the Pup Tent, monthly magazine of the New Mexico Military Institute. First off, on page four, there is a story about their biggest game of the year. The story says: "It ap-

proached in spirit and importance the Texas-Texas A&M Turkey Day battle and the Army-Navy classic." Approached maybe, but not quite reached. And who's this Army-Navy bunch, anyhow?

In the letters to the ed column, there is gripe from an NMMI cadet about the lack of spirit at that school. The editor replied with this note:

"With this I wholeheartedly agree. In a recent trip to College Station, home of the Texas Aggies, I saw what spirit really means. In a Freshman contest, attendance reached 15,000, and every Aggie there stood during the whole game. Their yelling was something for the books, and when they sang their school songs, the entire stadium really felt something besides the actual

singing. If they can muster as much spirit for a Freshman game as they did, we should certainly be able to feel just a little more strongly in support of our Varsity teams."

Pardon our expanding chest.

An east coast fruit packer is doing his packages over brown. Each crate is plastered all over with the initials LSMFT. The expansion running under these letters is "Leaf Schniebolk means fine tomatoes." This corner can almost hear the tomatoe auctioneer chanting, "Eat a Schniebolk."

Here's an item for those of you who collect commercial jingles from the radio. An advertising agency in Alabama, called Benton and Bowles, comes on the air with this ditty sung to the tune of "Buttons and Bows":

"Oh—simply sign on the dotted line; Get rid of those other schmoos. We'll write an ad that will make you glad. With art and type at reasonable tolls. And we'll be yours at Benton and Bowles."

All this talk about the Great Issues Course and other courses in culture are way behind the times. North Texas—that's the school across the street in Denton—has just come out with their new catalogue which lists undoubtedly the most up to the minute modern course offered in any Texas school. Board of Directors, please note.

The course in question is a course in the Physical Education Department. It is a must for every schedule. It's known as "Supervised Rest."

And then there's always the one about the A&M man who transferred to TU and improved the average IQ at both schools.

## Personnel Was Major Problem Of IES in '48

Eight instructors were employed by the A&M Industrial Extension Service in 1948, Director E. L. Williams, says.

Williams, in a talk before the instructors at a staff conference this week, said that the industrial demand for service during the current year will increase and that the recruitment of qualified training personnel has become a major problem.

Covering the fields of police and fire department training, industrial supervisory training and motor vehicle fleet operation, the IES will expand its services to cover additional fields during 1949, Williams said.

Summing up the basic objectives of the IES, Williams said that the service was designed to "teach at any place, to supervisors employed in industrial or public service occupations anything that will help them improve on their respective jobs or to get better jobs."

During 1948 IES instructors conducted 338 short courses throughout the state, he reported.

Enrollments in the courses totaled 5801, he added. Predicting that more IES short courses will be held on the A&M campus during 1949 than during any previous year, Williams told the group that courses have been booked solidly through June.

## Olsen and Johnson To Be Featured At Fat Stock Show

Olsen and Johnson, comedians who entertained Texans with their zany musical show at the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show in Fort Worth last year, will be back again this year, according to General Manager Edgar Deen.

These mad men of mirth will present their new "Laffacade of 1949" each night and at five matinees January 28 through Feb. 6.

Olsen and Johnson will be remembered as the stars of the original stage show, "Hellzapoppin'" which ran for 1,125 performances on Broadway.

Matinee performances are scheduled for January 29, 30, and Feb. 2, 5, and 6.

Tickets may be obtained through the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show, Post Office Box 150, Fort Worth.

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FLORA ROBSON • ALAN HALE  
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MUSIC BY ERICH WOLFGANG KORNGOLD  
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"THE SEA WOLF"

WITH  
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DIRECTED BY  
MICHAEL CURTIZ

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PECK  
ANNE  
BAXTER

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WAS  
SAFE  
UNDER  
THE  
BLAZE OF...  
YELLOW SKY

with  
RICHARD  
WIDMARK  
A JOE CONTELLI PRODUCTION

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