

Battalion EDITORIALS

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1949

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

Getting the Old Man Out of the Mud . . .

It looks as if Old Man Texas will be lifted out of the political and educational quagmire by the steady hands of enlightened change.

The old man has been kicked around a lot in his lifetime and he's been shoved pretty far down in this muddy bog, by tin-horn politicians greedy for personal gain, special interests greedy for money, and apathetic Texans.

Few things have heretofore been accomplished by the Jester Administration. Our Governor has been primarily concerned over tidelands. However, the Governor must be commended for his realization of the inadequacies in state government and his appointment of investigating committees to study and recommend changes in some of our state institutions.

His appointment of the Gilmer-Aiken committee, and their subsequent recommendations provide Texans a possible

course toward a better school system.

He has appointed committees to investigate and submit recommendation for improvements in our state constitution, our prison system, and our election laws.

These committee reports and their proposed bills give the legislature an impressive agenda.

To finance these educational changes a bill has been introduced to tax our natural resources. Such a law has long been fought by special interest groups and it will be interesting to see how much power they will demonstrate this time.

On paper the whole program of change looks good. Most probably the legislature will water everything down considerably.

Too long the people of Texas have been disinterested in our state government and allowed it to sink in the quagmire of political corruption. This time we hope the people of Texas will get a square deal from their state government.

The First Regiment and the Fifth Fleet . . .

The authorization for the establishment of a Naval ROTC unit at Texas A&M by the Board of Directors comes to all as a surprise.

We are startled at first, and our initial reaction is one of hostility toward this seeming intruder on the campus.

Later comes doubt, then the realization that the matter will require much serious thought.

From those quarters hoping for A&M to return "to the way it used to be" there will certainly be loud and long cries.

Now that hope, as wild a dream as it was, is blasted forever. And in its place there must be a firm resolution to devote our energies toward the betterment of A&M—whatever kind of A&M that arises out of this period of change.

It is a changed A&M we see today, a

military college more than half non-military, a military college courting students from junior colleges who will mostly live in non-military dormitories, a military college whose organization will be split among three service components—the Army, Navy and Air Force.

The Cadet Corps as it is presently known will evolve into a different form than now exists. This is necessary if it is to continue to function as a cadet corps.

At this early hour, so soon after the surprise announcement, we can neither praise nor condemn the actions our Board has taken. Our perspective is too limited, we are too close to the forest to see more than trees.

We don't know whether to say, "Welcome aboard, Navy," or "Go walk the plank."

The Newmans Start A Good Ball Rolling . . .

Tuesday the Newman Club started a fund which we hope will soon swell from a rivulet into a veritable torrent.

The Aggie Band Fund is the name under which the account was opened in the Student Activities Office. Envisioned purpose of the fund is to provide expenses for additional band trips.

Initial contribution for the fund was \$10 from the Newman Club members. They expressed the hope that other organizations would follow their example

and add more to the total.

This latest movement to reward the Aggie band for their unselfish and meritorious service to the college is perhaps the quickest method of accomplishing that end. If other organizations think the idea is a good one and contribute more of the needed cash to the fund, the band may begin to receive their last desserts.

If the money flows, the band will go . . . to places where they can give A&M more of the fine advertising they specialize in.

The Passing Parade . . .

An enterprising Parisian mathematician took out his pencil and the minutes of the UN recently and came up with this interesting information.

The newspaper France Soir figured out today that each word spoken at the just-ended session of the United Nations Assembly cost 53 cents.

France Soir's figures: Total oratory

—10,000,000 words; total expenses—1,700,000,000 francs; per word, 170 francs or 53 cents.

Just on a supposition basis, we would imagine our own countries expenses would equal or surpass those of France. Of course Will Rogers used to get a thousand dollars a minute for his efforts, but his jokes were better.

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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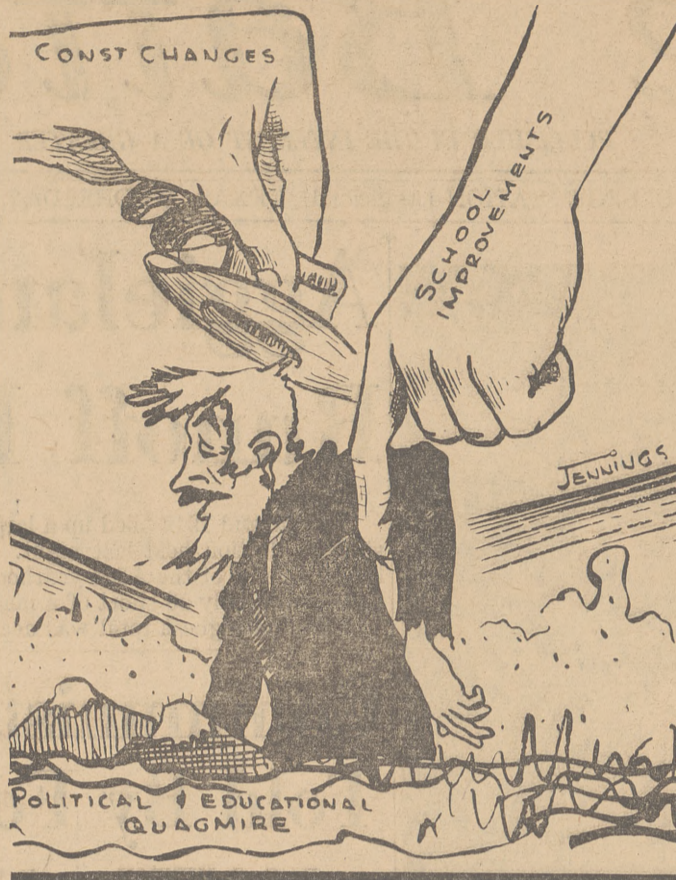
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—SEE LEAD EDITORIAL—



Between the Bookends . . .

Unwatered Realism Found In 'The Naked and Dead'

The Naked and the Dead, Norman Mailer, Harcourt and Brace, 1948.

Norman Mailer has written a first novel of unusual power and imagination. Many critics already hail it as the best fiction to come out of the last war. This remains to be seen, but one thing is sure: It will be included in any of the "best" lists of this period.

A veteran himself, Mailer has drawn on his own personal experiences in the Pacific to set down the fictional account of the capture of a small island, Anopopei, from the Japanese. Mailer doesn't spend much time on the general strategy of the officers in command, but rather concentrates on

the men themselves and their mental processes throughout the campaign.

He selects one squad of men, which is a cross section of every infantry squad, and presents each to the reader by means of a device called The Time Machine. This literary innovation is to writing what the flashback is to the motion picture and provides a very novel and satisfactory method of bringing each character's personality to the fore.

At the same time, Mailer delves deep into the intellectual workings of the General in command and tells of the conflict between him and his aid.

During the first few chapters, the reader will be a little astonished at the realistic freedom with which the author presents the conversations of the soldiers. In many ways he has enhanced the book by letting the men talk exactly as men talk in the sweat and toil of war, no four letter words barred.

As the story progresses however the reader forgets this literary conventionality and actually imagines himself in the midst of the struggle.

The supreme enjoyment of the book doesn't really begin until most of the "time machines" have been presented and the reader begins to know and understand each character more intimately. Every statement, every action is interesting to the reader because he knows the why and wherefore.

As a serious, comprehensive, sometimes cynical study of American soldiers in World War II, "The Naked and the Dead" can't be beat. For those who like to read mental and physical adventure of unwatered realism, it is highly recommended.

Letters

LOVE THY NEIGHBOR

Editor, The Battalion: One day last week things looked very black around my apartment in College View for my wife had become extremely ill and could no longer care for our little girl. Under the circumstances I found it necessary to get them both to San Antonio where they were cared for properly. Not having a car, I hardly knew what to do.

To make a long story short, my neighbor, disregarding a quiz he had to take the next day, drove us to San Antonio after he got out of a five p. m. lab. I had intended to come back with him (and his wife and two little girls who had gone along) but my wife was much sicker than we thought, and it was a whole week before I got back.

A sink full of dirty dishes awaited me, I thought, but my good neighbor's wife had washed them all.

If there are any Good Samaritan Awards to be passed out, I'd like to nominate the John Herman Pharrs, who were ready to help when they were most needed. They are the kind of people who make life worth-while for their friends and neighbors.

My wife is getting along much better now and will be out of the hospital very shortly.

Thanks, John and Marjorie.

George A. Lowes, '45

Power Spray Given To AH Department

A power spray machine for spraying livestock, barns, equipment and premises, valued at \$500, has been given to the Department of Animal Husbandry.

The Southwest Company Ltd., of Dallas, is the donor. "It is an excellent machine, ideally suited for power spraying of livestock barns and all kinds of premises," Dr. J. C. Miller, Head, Animal Husbandry Department, said.

Official Notices

Engineering School
All engineering students who expect to register as classified juniors or above in the next or succeeding registrations will be required to present a copy of their graduation plan before their assignment card will be approved by the Dean of Engineering at the time of registration. Complete information concerning graduation plans is available at departmental offices.

H. W. BARLOW
Dean of Engineering

Agricultural School

AGRICULTURAL SENIORS
There will be an important meeting of all agricultural seniors who expect to graduate this semester in the Agricultural Engineering Lecture Room at 4 p. m. Monday, January 17, 1949.
Professor V. M. Faires, in charge of the post graduation studies, will discuss the opportunities of this program with graduating seniors. Other matters of interest to this group will also be discussed.
CHAS. N. SHEPARDSON
Dean of Agriculture

Sticking My Neck Out . . .

Students Done Injustice By Keeping Panel Cases Hushed

By TOM CARTER

Almost every week we hear someone say, "Did you hear about old Joe getting kicked out of school?" "Yeah, I heard, and I also understand that he got a pretty rotten deal. They say that no one has ever beat the Faculty Panel yet."

It is a shame that such talk is heard on a college campus. It is a shame because it is unnecessary. Nearly all these stories of "rotten deals" stem from the fact that the

students are not informed. Their only source of truth is what they hear passed on by word of mouth and we all know how things get twisted when they are retold several times.

The point being driven at is that the findings of the Faculty Panel should be published so that we all may know the truth and not be subjected to rumors.

Protection
However, when this subject is brought up, there always comes the argument that the student must be

protected—protected from what? It is not offering a student protection when the truth is withheld. It only leaves the field open for untruths.

In publishing such matter, it would be necessary in all cases to state the person's name. It could be withheld where harm would really be done, as in sex offenses.

At the present time the Panel is open insofar as the accused is allowed to bring in any number of people he wishes. Normally a student brought before the Panel does not wish a large audience and chooses only a few to speak in his behalf. As a result, many of us go through school, having never seen a Panel in operation and never knowing the truth about them.

Fair Panel

I, personally, have been privileged once to sit in on a Panel case as a spectator and can say that the man got a fair trial and was given a lenient sentence, but a person will not be expected to believe this, merely because of the tales that have been told. If these cases were printed, then we could all know the truth and be in a better frame of mind about the whole affair.

There are many College Regulations that we sometimes forget and there are rules with which we do not always agree, but nevertheless, they are enforced. If it could be brought to the student's attention that these rules are being adhered to, then maybe we would be a bit more cautious in some of our actions.

As seen from this angle an injustice is being done the student body when Faculty Panel cases are withheld from publication.

Collins Accepts Invitation To Speak at Church of Christ

By ALFRED JOHNSTON

Willard Collins of Nashville, Tennessee, has accepted an invitation to serve as guest speaker for the A&M Church of Christ during Religious Emphasis Week on the campus, Mr. James F. Fowler, Church of Christ minister, announced recently.

Collins, a graduate of Vanderbilt University, is a minister of outstanding ability, Fowler said, and has been selected for this event

because of his unique qualifications and unusual influence upon various groups of young people.

Collins now holds the position of vice-president of David Lipscomb College, and serves as minister of the Charlotte Avenue Church of Christ, Nashville, Tennessee.

Formerly, for a period of five years, he served as local minister for the Church of Christ in Old Hickory, Tennessee. During his ministry this grew to be one of the largest congregations of the Church of Christ in that section of the country.

Collins has conducted meetings in a number of states throughout the nation, and is in great demand before various college groups, Fowler said.

Course in Motion, Time Study Begins

A score of special students bent over their slide rule Tuesday morning as the first motion and time study short course began at A&M. The course, which will last four weeks, is sponsored by the Management Engineering Department, and is taught by consulting engineers from the staff of the Methods Engineering Council, Kansas City, Mo.

After learning slide-rule techniques, the group will receive both theoretical and practical training in industrial motion and time study. This is the first such course to be conducted in the Southwest, although similar work has been given in the East and Middle West.

Dutton Reburial Services Slated

Reburial services will be held for Lt. Ioland E. Dutton, '40, January 19, in Boyd, Texas.

The services will be held in the Baptist Church at 2:30 p. m. Funeral arrangements are being handled by the Christian Funeral Home at Decatur.

ROSARY AND BENEDICTION
St. Mary's Chapel
TONIGHT—WED., JAN. 12TH
7:30 P.M.

QUEEN
LAST DAY

His Scar marked them both!
People like film present
JOAN HENREID • BENNETT
HOLLOW TRIUMPH

Campus

LAST DAY
FIRST RUN BRYAN-COLLEGE
Feature Starts—
1:50 - 3:30 - 5:50 - 7:55 - 9:55

Gregory PECK
Anne BAXTER
NO WOMAN WAS SAFE UNDER THE BLAZE OF...
YELLOW SKY

Plus Special Showing of the
TCU vs. A&M
FOOTBALL GAME
OF 1948
See Kimbrough, Pugh, Robnetto & Thompson in action.
TOM & JERRY CARTOON
LATEST NEWS

THURS. - FRI. - SAT.
FIRST RUN BRYAN - COLLEGE
Features Start—
1:20 - 3:30 - 5:40 - 7:50 - 10:00

Moonrise
What is the Mysterious Spell of...
with Dane CLARK
Gail RUSSELL
PLUS A&M - TCU FOOTBALL GAME OF 1948
CARTOON - NEWS

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DRIVE-IN THEATRE

TONITE
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\$\$ CASH \$\$
\$325
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YEAR'S BEST

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with EDDIE ALBERT • ROLAND YOUNG • WILLARD PARKER • PERCY KILBRIDE
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