

Cloak of Secrecy Removed From 'Infamous 201' File

By DEAN REED

Disregard all opinions and tales of the mysterious "201" file, for we now have the straight poop, straight from the bull's mouth. After a session a few weeks ago with the colonel, and after cogitating slightly on the matter, we have decided to write this epistle informing the public of their dangers and benefits to be derived from these files.

When Col. Melcher requests Mrs. Jones, the secretary in the commandant's office, to bring him a "201" file, she doesn't have to strain to pick up her huge key to unlock the cabinet. Nor does she have to wander down a long and dark corridor leading to the "room of ruin" to search out the reports.

She simply rolls her chair around and hands them to the colonel. They are kept in a neat file cabinet in the outer office and require no great effort to obtain. They are not marked "top secret" or "hands off," as stories circulated around the Annex would lead one to believe. Not that they aren't secret, but, nevertheless, exaggerated tales tell of the great care taken to protect these files from revelation.

The files HAVE been seen. Prospective employers use them very often in investigating a prospective Aggie employee. In fact, nearly anyone can see them except the cadet, but he, too, may read his record of classy conduct or of pitiful progress at the end of his freshman year.

It is simply amazing that this file can be kept so authentic and complete. The reports contain small items which the average cadet would forget soon, but the "201" would not. For example, take the case of Fish—uh, we'll call him Fish "X".

Freshman Veteran Re-enters Army As First Lieutenant

Vernon Hall, freshman veteran student at the Annex, has rejoined the United States Army, being commissioned as a first lieutenant. He was majoring in civil engineering while attending A&M.

Hall graduated from Arlington Heights High School in Fort Worth after which he first joined the army in 1936.

After serving six years as an enlisted man, Hall was discharged as a Master Sergeant, in order to accept a commission in the reserves. During 1942 and 1943, he served as battalion civil engineer and as master-gunner for an anti-aircraft gun battalion. After serving five and one-half years as an officer, he was discharged at the age of 32, with the rank of first lieutenant, in June, 1948.

His army certificate of service states his military occupational specialty as being in the anti-aircraft automatic weapons unit in the C.A.C. His records show a list of citations and decorations, including the occupational medal, American defense service medal, American campaign medal, the World War II Victory Medal, and the European-African middle eastern campaign medal.

Hall was married and had lived in T-249, R-3.

Now our brother "X" is only human and the gym floor became quite irritating to the rear portion of the body, as he sat listening to some speeches last fall. Not one to accept this form of slow torture without a fight, Fish "X" proceeded to assume the prone position. In this undignified and equally improper state, old "X" again placed his attention on the speaker, but now employing a slightly more comfortable position.

Immediately a local tactical officer pounced upon this opportunity to set an example. Result: a head-start on his buddies with the "201" file. We have related the above tale, not that we do not adhere with the officer's policy, but more to warn you, our freshmen readers, of this everimpending disaster.

There are always two sides, however, and this particular file in question is not the exception. If you have shown above-normal initiative on some matter, if you have performed some duty especially well—these factors also enter into the general picture. The file reminds one of the scales of justice, being completely balanced (we hope).

Many other facts than those mentioned above are recorded also. Among these is a personality report, completed on each cadet twice annually, wherein

Gen. Berry To Review Annexites

Major General K. L. Berry, adjutant general of the state of Texas, will review the Freshman Regiment Thursday afternoon, January 20, at the Annex. After the review, the Freshman Drill Team will put on an exhibition.

General Berry, also adjutant general of the Texas National Guard, and his staff will present reserve commissions to the graduating seniors Thursday night.

Lt. Col. Robert L. Melcher, Annex commandant, announced General Berry's visit late last week, and said that the parade will get under way shortly after 5.

Senate Will Meet Here Next Month

The Freshman Annex will be the site of the first meeting of the Student Senate in the spring semester, the Annex student senators have announced. The date has been set for the night of February 2. It is planned that the meeting be held in a suitable place for those who wish to attend the meeting.

Freshman Student Senators will meet early in the next semester to make plans for the completion of the nominations and election of class officers. In a previous meeting, candidates were nominated for the offices of president, three vice-presidents, secretary, and then were halted by the lack of a quorum. Procedure for the election and for the other nominations will be decided at this meeting.

he is rated by the officers on everything from shewing gum in ranks at reveille to firing on the so-called "1000" yard Annex range. (Pardon us, but we just couldn't help it. The range isn't really that long.)

When these reports are completed, indorsed by your tactical officer and by one of your instructors, each of the latter two rates you among ten classmates. A small portion of the veil of secrecy was lifted from the "201" last week when these leadership and personality reports were distributed to permit the fish to see exactly on what they are graded.

Being practically sworn to secrecy concerning contents of the files, this department cannot adequately express the remarkable coverage of the cadet by these reports. In the last general order, the following excerpt appeared: "It (the file) is continually being added to . . . by information received from a variety of sources." And how, brother, and how!

Hughes Elected President Of Singing Cadets

The Freshman Singing Cadets elected officers for the remainder of the year at a meeting Thursday night, January 13. Harold Hughes of Abilene was elected president, and T. E. Gathier of Waco was chosen as vice-president.

Hughes, a business major, was president of the Abilene Chorus, while Gathier, majoring in engineering, was a former chorus and quartette member.

Elected librarian was Dale Waston, an electrical engineering major from Woodboro, who was a member of the Agua Dulce Mixed Chorus. Accompanist for the group is James Rollins of McKinney, a mathematics major. Rollins directed a choir at the First Methodist Church at McKinney.

The Freshman Singing Cadets meet every Thursday at 6:45 p.m. in the chapel with Bill Turner, director of the Singing Cadets on the campus, and Leonard Perkins, his student assistant. Anyone interested in singing will be welcomed into the membership.

Fees Can Be Paid Now for Semester

Fees for the spring semester at the Annex are now payable, B. F. Trealek, fiscal officer manager here, announced. Total payments for resident students will sum up as \$230.41, while those wishing to use the installments will first pay \$73.25. Fees will be due on entrance February 1.

First old student to pay his fees for the second semester was Max Schneider, Trealek said.

Fred Schmidt And Peggy Tudor Wed

Miss Peggy Tudor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Tudor of Slater, Texas, and Fred H. Schmidt, Annex student from Slater, were married Saturday night at the First Presbyterian Church of Bryan.

Mrs. Horace Wiley of Bryan was Matron of Honor and Cadet John Schmidt, of the Annex, was best man. The couple plan to live in Bryan while Fred attends A&M. Schmidt is majoring in animal husbandry.

Jockey Logan Batcheller, riding sensation of the Florida winter season, had never seen a race horse—much less a race track—until he went to work two and a half years ago at Hialeah for Trainer Paul Kelly.

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GETTING AN EARFUL FROM THE BOSS—Ziggy Talent is the uncomfortable recipient of an earful from his boss, Vaughn Monroe, during a rehearsal session. Under less trying conditions, Ziggy gives out with the comedy tunes for the band.

Around the Annex . . .

Lady Luck Shuns Worcester; Beware The Ides of March

By DEAN REED

Hard luck department: Not to try to steal any thunder from Frank Manitz's sports column (heaven knows, he needs it), but Ronald Worcester, one of the squadron's representatives in the shuttle preliminaries last week, receives our nomination for the "cuss-my-luck" award. In his heat, Worcester and his three opponents were called back once for a false start.

On the second try, Worcester apparently thought another false start was being called and hesitated for a moment. That moment was long enough to allow his opponents ample time to aim a twenty-yard lead. He caught them on the third postmark after exerting great speed, but this exertion claimed its man at the finish. He did come in third, however.

We have just received our withholding statement for 1948 from our old employer. Take heed, men, for by the Ides of March, you may become another Caesar and get cut by a sharp knife—one wielded by the Department of Internal Revenue. An effort will be made by the Freshman Batt to ascertain the problem of locating the income forms, but, on our initial guess, we would say that they could be obtained from one of the local post offices.

Joke of the week: On the front page of last Thursday's Batt, a picture was captioned "Annex freshmen on the 1000 yard range." Numerous comments have been heard about the remarkable marksmanship of the freshmen here on such a range. Well, fellows, it is

2 Quarter Horses Added to Animal Husbandry Stables

Two quarter horse fillies have been added to the stable of 12 other quarter horses at A&M, Dr. J. C. Miller, head, animal husbandry department, announced recently.

A yearling quarter horse filly has been given the college by Tom Elrod of Odessa and a sorrel quarter horse filly has been given the college by Roy Parks and Sons of Midland.

"The quarter horses are used in teaching and research work," Dr. Miller says. "They are popular with ranchmen, and they have been and are being entered in racing and roping contests. They are a very fine breed of animals," Miller points out. "We are happy to get these animals and are grateful to the donors. They were accepted at the recent meeting of the board of directors."

The college now has the largest number of quarter horses for teaching and research work it has ever had.

The phrase, "according to Hoyle" was first used to mean Edmond Hoyle, an Englishman of the 18th century who was the first to systematize the rules of whist.

SMU Student Prexy Sued By Scolded Cheer Leader

By CHUCK MAISEL

If you think The Battalion and its readers have had their differences, check up on the feud going on between the Rice Thresher and the Student Body of that Houston Institution. Brady Tyson, editor of The Thresher, has printed several editorials to the effect that he favors doing away with the Texas Jim Crow laws. He even advocates accepting Negro students at Rice.

The students responded at once with a drove of letters that would make our Letters to the Editor Department hide its head in shame. Over one-half of the January 12 issue was devoted to these letters, and other editions have carried nearly as many.

One student asked Tyson if he would room with a Negro and if he would allow his sister to date one. Tyson replied that he would not feel hurt if he were assigned a colored roommate. He also would approve of his sister's dating a Negro if both she and the man realized the consequences likely to arise from a non-understanding society.

Another student told of a visit to the office of a man who was president of a large Houston firm. The student was accompanied by Tyson on the trip. The business man was 1/32 negro and told the student that he felt all segregation laws should be abolished, and the whites and negroes allowed to intermarry. Tyson, reportedly, concurred. The student said that this

3 Freshmen Take Civil Service Test

Three Annex students appeared before the local civil service bureau Tuesday, taking the competitive examinations for entrance to the Naval and Military Academies.

The freshmen were Victor B. Russek, a pre-med major from East Bernard, Jerry G. Walker, a liberal arts student from Cleburne, and Harold B. Mellina, a Galveston student of English.

Mellina took the test for the Naval Academy at Annapolis, while Russek and Walker took the Military Academy's test.

was violating the sacredness of both races and was "disrespectful to our Maker."

All in all, it's quite a battle, and the Rice Owlets are way up in the air over it.

The Hilltop school of SMU is also having its troubles. Joe Patterson, president of the Student Body, wrote an official reprimand to Head Cheer-leader Sellars accusing him of discrimination in the wood-gathering contest for the annual bonfire. Patterson said Sellars limited the competition to Greek letter groups.

Sellars retaliated by suing Pat-

erson in the Student Court. If courtroom demonstrations are any indication, public opinion seems to favor Sellars. There was much booing when the court announced a decision in favor of Patterson and upheld the reprimand.

Sellars said that he would try to get a retrial. One of his lawyers is Shannon Jones, big gun of the A&M student revolt of 1947. Jones is now a law student at SMU.

The SMU paper, The Campus, seems to think the whole affair is a personal feud between the two men and is a cover-up for a mutual attempt to discredit each other.

Area Rent Director Suggests Policy for Tenants, Landlords

New Year resolutions for both tenants and landlords of rent-controlled property were suggested this week by Gordon L. Benningfield, Area Rent Director, if they care, during the first three months of 1949, to understand better the federal rent law and to live in compliance with it.

The current law, he explained, expires March 31, 1949.

The resolutions offered are as follows:

- For tenants**
1. Pay no more than legal rent.
 2. If there is question about the legal maximum rent check through the tenant's copy of the landlord's registration statement mailed to the tenant when the place was registered with the rent office; or check the landlord's copy if the other is unavailable; or check through the rent office.
 3. Consult the rent office concerning your right in case of question about your tenancy, rent or requirements of your landlord.
 4. Live up to your rental obligations as a tenant.
- For Landlords**
1. Charge no more than legal rent, avoiding side payments, furniture tie-ins, bonuses or security deposits.
 2. Continue to provide all services listed on the rent office reg-

istration statement.

3. Increase no rents without approval of the rent office, even though you increase services.

4. Evict only in accordance with eviction provisions of the rent law.

Amendments to the rent regulations have been issued by the Office of the Housing Expediter applicable to cases in which a landlord finds himself operating under hardship or at a loss, even though he was granted an adjustment less than a year ago on a structure which contained both leased and unleased units, according to Gordon L. Benningfield, Area Rent Director for Bryan and College Station.

Under the amendments, such a landlord may now file a new petition, either under section 5 (a) (12) or 5 (a) (16), without waiting for a new current year on which to base his present operating expenses and income. He may overlap on the current year used in his previous petition.

If any hardship or operating at a loss adjustment is properly chargeable to a unit now under lease, the amount will be determined and, in effect, held in abeyance until the lease expires. When the lease expires, the landlord may file a supplemental petition for the amount previously determined.

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