

# Battalion EDITORIALS

Page 2

MONDAY, MARCH 7, 1949

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

## An Open Letter . . .

Gentlemen, A&M President Selection Committee:

Within the year, you will select the sixteenth president of A&M College.

After two weeks of discussion we have picked some of the requirements and qualifications which we would prefer in our next president.

For relations with our all-male Student Body, our next president must have definite abilities:

He should command—always by actions, rarely by words—their respect.

He should be friendly and tactful at all times and be readily approachable in his office, over a drinking fountain, or in the street.

He should be able to make a passable, impromptu 5-minute speech at an introduction's notice.

He should be equally at ease heading a reception line or taking off his tie at a yell practice.

This next president should have sufficient knowledge of the students' problems to discuss them with the students, in their language. He should never forget that a quick "yes" can be given as college president in addition to a tactful "No."

The new president should be a man trusted and respected by the faculty and administration because he will be their boss. His character and finesse will provide the lubricating oil for this vast organization:

He should know the workings of the system.

He should be able to make decisions and stick by them.

He should be progressive and far-seeing.

He should be honorable and fair.

The new president's personality should be more than pleasant. It should be ingratiating so that his associates will feel themselves inspired to work for him and with him.

The teachers, we feel, would like him to have been one of them. By this they will know that he is aware of their problems. And his decisions will make more sense to them because they will realize he knows whereof he speaks. They will be quicker to execute his orders, knowing that they are based on fact, not fancy.

## The Passing Parade . . .

From the AP Washington Bureau: "Axis Sally" took the witness stand today in her treason trial and launched into the play-by-play story of her life.

It stressed her unsuccessful struggle for success as an actress and finally her leaving this country for Africa in 1933. That was a decade before the wartime broadcasts over the German radio on which the government bases the treason charges.

Others besides the pedestrian in an accident reported by the *Portland (Ore.) Journal* seem confused by it. Said a

Paramount to the teachers and staff will be the man's ability. If he is a capable administrator, if his background is broad and varied, and if his justice is impartial, the teachers and staff should have no complaint.

Also the people of Texas hold you accountable. They expect the president of your selection to educate their sons well, spend their money wisely, and bring credit to this educational institution.

These people possess a personal interest in A&M College and charge the president with the personal responsibility of efficient management and capable formulation of educational policy. When A&M falls short of their expectations to any large measure, these people usually heap their displeasure directly on the president, and indirectly on you who chose him.

They want a man worthy of the trust they invest in him. They want an educator, not a showman; they want performance, not promise; they want results, not reasons or excuses.

Certainly these people—the people of Texas whose sons and money feed this college—are to be considered along with students and faculty in the determination of who is to preside over Texas A&M with its many facilities, its great reputation, and its service to the state of Texas.

Such a man as we have described may be on the campus now. He may be a professor in one of the departments; he may be one of the four school deans. On the other hand he may have just introduced an important educational bill in the Legislature, or he may be serving in the armed forces.

Though the former students, the Faculty, and we representing the Student Body may make recommendations to you, the big job of actually picking that sixteenth president of A&M is in your hands. Your choice of a man will profoundly affect all connected with the college, especially the Student Body.

We join with all the rest of the interested people in saying that we hope you make a good choice.

Sincerely yours,  
The Battalion Staff

Journal item: "... he was struck by a taxi at SW 5th Avenue and Stark Street. His condition was reported 'air' today."

## The Battalion

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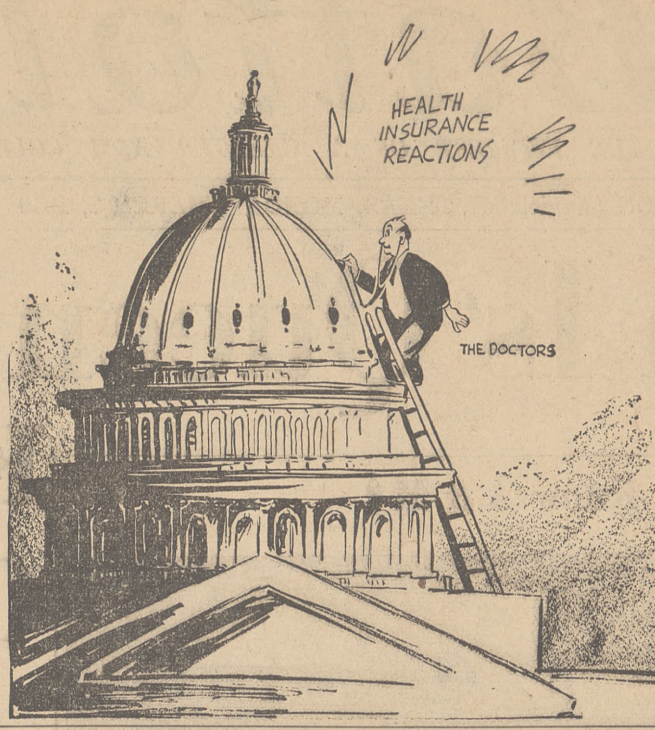
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## PULSE FEELER



## Thin But Dynamite-Packed . . .

# Stylebook Is Issued To Batt Staffers

By MACK T. NOLEN

Today's Battalion is remarkably improved, or had you noticed? The improvement stems from the timely issue of "The Battalion Stylebook."

The Battalion's staff had as many theories of punctuation, grammar and good usage as Carter had pills until effective thought control was instituted by the editors through their stylebook.

Editors Kenneth Bond and Tom Carter have been speaking pompously of donating twenty autographed copies of the stylebook to the library.

The stylebook is a thin but dynamite packed little publication done up with an egg-shell blue cover, containing gems of wisdom and information not to be found just everywhere.

For example, on page 8, in the "Uses of Commas" department, is the bold statement: "In recording elections use this form: George Washington, president; John Adams, vice-president; Thomas Jefferson, secretary; James Madison, treasurer."

The form is unquestionably excellent. Never have we seen such excellent form. But the content should have been checked more carefully. Alexander Hamilton was named Secretary of the Treasury.

Under the abbreviation section we learn that only sports writers (who are allowed wide latitude because they would take it anyway) may use abbreviations for the christian names Robert, Thomas, and Alexander. Henceforth the sports page will blossom out with "Robt. Lane, footballer;" "Thos.

Gibson Meets With Kream - Kow Klub

G. G. Gibson of the Extension Service Dairy Department spoke on "A Balanced Dairy Farm Program in Texas" at the Kream and Kow Klub meeting Tuesday evening.

Texas ranks fourth in the nation in number of dairy cattle but tenth in milk production, Gibson said. He said that a balanced farm program consists of only as many dairy cows as a farmer can properly care for.

Texas offers many opportunities for the farsighted dairyman. One of these is the rapid growth of the market due to industrial movement into the state and the increasing population, Gibson concluded.

Mrs. C. E. Sewell was chosen to represent the Klub in the Cotton Pageant. Further plans were made for the Cattleman's Ball which is to be held in conjunction with the Saddle and Siroin Club.

The Klub voted to enter a softball team in intramural softball.

Corcoran, playboy sportsman;" and "Alex. the Great, Soldier, Statesman, and Knightly Gentleman."

The editors admonish their charges to write outlines (the identifying sentences beneath pictures in the paper) with "life and punch in them."

We have been trying for an hour to think up a outline with either of those words in it. If "life" and "punch" must be in every outline, we predict that The Batt will languish for lack of reader interest.

This is an age of standardization and uniformity. The call is out for things of a mold. The Batt, ever progressive and sensitive to the drift of the times, is in there progressing and sensing. But some people say these times are "lousy." Nevertheless, The Batt keeps up with the times.

## Student Center To Sponsor Art Class

Organization of a club of people interested in art work was begun at a meeting Friday night in the office of the Director of the Student Center.

J. W. Stark, director of the Center, told the group that such a club could be a part of the new center. "Even though the center has not been completed, there is no reason why this part of the Center's program should not be organized now," he said.

Boyce M. Bennett, senior chemistry student, was elected temporary chairman of the committee. The group decided that a meeting would be held next Monday at 7 p. m. in Room 157 of Bizzell Hall in order to meet with all those interested in organizing a class in art work.

The group is already taking instructions from Mrs. Ralph Terry in Room 351, Bizzell Hall, Bennett said.

## Think Of This

"The entrance of thy word giveth light." Psalm 119:130  
As the strong rays of a beacon lead a plane to safety, so will the rays of God's light, found through reading his Holy Word, lead a person to find peace and rest through Christ. Lew Wallace tried to write a book having as its purpose an attempt to prove the untrustworthiness of the Bible. He began to closely read and study the Bible in order to form his attack. When he had completely read the Words of Life, he changed his plans and wrote, not a book to criticize, but Ben Hur, which gave evidence that the writer had gained a full trust and faith in God.

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## Boyle's Column . . .

# Hollywood Improves On Art Of Saying "Yes"

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK —(AP)—Sam Spiegel is a man of ten tongues—nine living and one dead.

This enables him to say "yes" in nine more languages than the average Hollywood figure. It should be a positive guarantee of success in films.

But Spiegel likes to say "no." This, perhaps, explains why he is an "independent producer."

Spiegel, known professionally as S. P. Eagle, is an International cinema adventurer. At 46 he has written, directed or produced films in Germany, Austria, England, France, Mexico and the United States.

Viennese-born and educated, he is a man of many talents and tastes, including a well-trained palate for wine. He sometimes entertains friends by tasting and identifying a wide variety of wine while blindfolded.

In the matter of languages, Spiegel knows his way around in English, German, French, Spanish, Polish, Russian, Czech, Italian and Palestinian Hebrew.

But Latin, the dead language, is his first love. And the tributes he pays it would bring tears of joy to many an American high school Latin teacher.

"For my study of old Latin I have been grateful all my life," said Spiegel. "It has an enormous discipline—a discipline that once you learn you can use afterward in anything."

"Today many film writers go off on a tangent. They lack the rigid discipline of thought that Latin teaches. I advise any young script writer to read the Gallic Wars of Caesar. Then he will know how to write with discipline."

But Spiegel thinks that, in other ways, Hollywood would do well to shuck off some of the discipline of the past.

He is in town now hawking his latest production, "We Were Strangers," directed by young John Huston and partly filmed in Cuba.

## Hines Quits B&CU To Open Own Shop

Harold Hines has resigned after serving 20 years as head mechanic of the B&CU machine shop.

He served with the college volunteer fire department during this period.

Hines will open his own machine shop on new Highway 6, hp said.

## As He Sees It . . .

# Batt Reporter Sent to Cover Developments on Capitol Hill

By DREW TRAIL  
Washington Bureau of  
The Battalion

(Editor's note: In an effort to give its readers the best national news coverage, the Battalion has dispatched its ace correspondent, Drew Trail, to Washington to report on the situation there as he sees it.)

Things on Capitol Hill were really humming today as the House and Senate went back to work after week-end adjournment. In the Senate, Secretary of Labor Maurice Tobin told the joint Economic Committee that the unemployment situation needs close watching so that steps can be taken to "head off a recession should one begin to threaten."

I agree with the Secretary that the unemployment situation should be watched, but I do not believe that he understands its full significance. If unemployment increases, I believe that it will also cause employment to decrease, which is really what will leave many of our citizens jobless. Of course, this observation is pure speculation on my part.

The Senate Labor Committee renewed hearings on the Taft-Hartley law, and there are signs that the struggle over President Truman's demand for repeal may run into May or June. As I see it, either the Committee must approve the measure and pass it on for ratification by Congress, or else the committee will not pass the measure and the labor law will remain in force.

Secretary of State Dean Acheson

## Vanity Fair Pics To Be Returned

The Vanity Fair entries which did not win may be picked up at the Student Activities Office on the second floor of Goodwin Hall, Truman Martin, co-editor of the Aggieband 1949, announced today.

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Directed by EDGAR G. ULMER  
Screenplay by S. L. LASKER and EDWIN RAHN  
Based on the novel "Prelude to Night" by DANTON STODOLAT  
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LOVE from a STRANGER

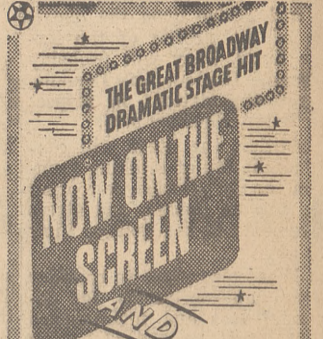
with PAT O'BRIEN  
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A COLUMBIA RE-RELEASE  
Produced by B. P. SCHULBERG  
Screen play by Michael Blankfort • Directed by SIDNEY SALKOW  
A Re-release  
PLUS CARTOON — NEWS

## Campus

TODAY thru WED.  
FIRST RUN  
—Features Start—  
1:25 - 3:35 - 5:45 - 7:55 - 10:00

The management of the Campus Theatre urges you to see "COMMAND DECISION." This is the second time in the history of the Campus Theatre that the management personally recommends a motion picture. The first picture we recommended was "Johnny Belinda" which is at this time nominated for 12 Academy Awards.



CLARK GABLE  
is in it!  
WALTER PIDGEON  
is in it!  
VAN JOHNSON  
is in it!  
BRIAN DONLEVY  
is in it!  
CHARLES BICKFORD  
is in it!  
JOHN HODIAK  
is in it!  
EDWARD ARNOLD  
is in it!

## COMMAND DECISION



with MARSHALL THOMPSON • RICHARD QUINE  
CAMERON MITCHELL • CLINTON SUNDBERG  
RAY COLLINS  
Screen Play by William R. Laidlaw and George Froeschel • Based on Play by William Wister Haines  
Directed by SAM WOOD  
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture  
—Plus—  
BUGS BUNNY CARTOON

## THURS. — FRI. ROARING DRAMA OF AIRMEN . . . AND THEIR WOMEN!



with PAT O'BRIEN  
GLENN FORD  
EVELYN KEYES  
A COLUMBIA RE-RELEASE  
Produced by B. P. SCHULBERG  
Screen play by Michael Blankfort • Directed by SIDNEY SALKOW  
A Re-release  
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