

# Battalion EDITORIALS

Page 2 TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 1949

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

## Pop Quizzes for Our Professors . . .

Several people have questioned us recently about the status of the prof grading program. Here is the word as received from the office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences.

The prof grading system is still with us, but in a disguised form. While the grading sheets will be handed out again, they will be issued at irregular intervals and times. The reason for this is to bring in an element of surprise for a more effective grading.

In the past, several ills have arisen from issuing the rating sheets at the end of the semester. While the sheets gave the desired student opinion of the course and instructor, the opinion was sometimes a bit distorted.

Some students spent the two weeks before the sheets were to be handed out, thinking up descriptive adjectives to place in the blank labeled, "Opinion of Prof." Several lads lobbied so effectively both

pro and con, that they swayed the true opinions of others and had their own obscured in the process.

And from the other end of the line, none of the profs actually went out of their way to cater to students prior to the ratings, but it would be tempting for an instructor to yield on points of contention if the class held a rating club over him.

Dean Harrington emphasized that the grading system had lived up to all expectations and had been effective in improving instruction. In making their decision to hold the ratings on an irregular schedule the academic council was not, by any means, condemning the process, he said, but attempting to improve it.

So, henceforth, prof rating will be with us, but not as obviously as in the past. With the overall effect of surprise when the grading sheets are sprung, the administration should get a truer concept of our instructors.

## Separating Public from Private Life . . .

In an informal "off-the-record" speech last Saturday night President Truman told White House reporters the real reason why he had certain pictures taken from cameramen who accompanied him on his vacation on Key West.

The pictures were taken of the President in bathing shorts, and his "boss", Mrs. Truman, had previously warned him not to permit any more bathing pictures. "They are a disgrace to the family," she told him.

At the time the pictures were demanded, the newsmen subtly suggested, "censorship!" The President's secretary answered, "Security reasons."

Even though the President of the United States is an elected public servant, it does not mean he is to be stripped of all privacy. Certainly if the President, or his family, do not want pictures plastered on newspaper front pages in unbecoming or "disgraceful" attire, it is their personal privilege. Many newsmen seem to feel that any picture or off-hand statement involving the President should be released for print.

## Old Flags and Latin Friends . . .

Here is a thought worth pondering, proffered by the Mexican American Legion.

The Legion wants back the Mexican battle flags captured by U. S. forces.

Col. Rostoe Gaitner, of the Mexico Department of the Legion, said that he proposed return of the flags in a message to Perry Brown, Legion national commander. The Legion wants congress to order the return of the captured flags with "proper escort and ceremony."

The proposal said that in view of the present friendship between the two countries "the flags have no significance or value to the (North) American people."

The flags are those captured in wars and expeditions conducted by the United

States. The war for Texas Independence is not involved.

The idea has quite a bit of merit. Flags have always carried a great deal of sentiment and significance. Our return of Mexico's flags would not only give our own school children fewer militaristic symbols to study but would do much to soothe the ill feeling our Mexican neighbors hold for us. We have very little to be proud of in our imperialistic wars with Mexico.

Since Texas is the buffer between the U. S. and Mexico and our neighbors to the South base much of their opinion of our entire nation on our state, we should be the leaders in the matter.

It's a darn good idea. We only wish we, as a state, had thought of it first.

## The Battalion

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—SEE LEAD EDITORIAL—

## Letters To The Editor

### THE SHAFT

Editor, The Battalion:

When you began this contest you entitled it "So You Know A&M." But "So You Know Able To Guess A&M." To those of us who have honestly tried each week to locate the pictures, I think you have broken faith. Don't you agree that when we find an object we should at least be able to recognize it?

To date in this contest I have spent about nine hours looking for the objects in the pictures. I should never have started if I'd thought The Battalion would resort to a picture like Tuesday's picture.

I have checked: (1) Every portion—horizontal and vertical—of every football goal on the campus (2) The flagpoles in front of the Administration, Academic, and US DA buildings, the Post Office and the dormitory areas, (3) The hand rails on Kyle Field Stadium, the YMCA, and Salsa Mess Hall. (4) The various pipes and rods on the water tower.

From the blurred picture in The Battalion, any of these could be the subject of Tuesday's picture. After examining all of these, I stopped searching because I realized I would not recognize it if I found it.

If you drop anyone from the contest because of missing Tuesday's subject, you're stooping pretty low. There are enough unobtrusive objects on this campus without your having to print a blurred picture of a portion of an unidentifiable object.

(Name Withheld) Editors Note—Congratulations, you guessed right, the "blurred picture" was the cross-bar on the Kyle Field goal post. We took the liberty of printing part of your letter as we felt that it might soothe the other contestants who were "disturbed" at the Tuesday picture.)

### CRIME GOES TO COURT

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(AP)—Judge William J. Bacon thought he had disposed of all his criminal cases for the day. But when he returned to his office from the courtroom he found he was wrong. Somebody had stolen his overcoat.

### Official Notice

All Animal Husbandry Majors who have not filed out their Degree Plan are requested to do so at their earliest convenience. Copies of the Degree Plan are in the Animal Husbandry Office. Please take care of your Plan as soon as possible. If any doubt exists as to whether you need to complete a Degree Plan please consult the list of names on the Animal Husbandry bulletin board on the second floor of the Animal Industries Building. B. R. DANA

### AGREES

Editor, The Battalion:

I read the article, "Climax of the Longoria Affair," which appeared in The Battalion issue of March 15th. I want to take this opportunity of congratulating the author of this article. In my opinion, this article has been one of the best that has appeared on the editorial page of The Battalion.

I am a student here at A&M, and of Latin-American descent. I have had the humiliating experience of walking in some public establishments here in the state of Texas and service being denied because of the color of my skin. As the author of the article states, the only place to help us Latin-Americans is in the legislative hall of Austin and Washington. I will believe the democratic way of life to be the best only when we are treated like human beings and not as an "inferior race" as some people consider us.

(Name Withheld by Request)

## Think Of This

"We are laborers together with God." I Cor. 3:9

When we began to think in the terms of building a business of some kind, we usually start looking for a partner to help us in the work that we are planning to do. Is business more important than life? The Lord Jesus put a great deal of emphasis on life. One of his stated purposes was "that you might have life, and have it more abundantly." (John 10:10) Considering this fact, is it not only sensible that we should have a partner in the job of living? Can you think of a better one than the Lord who said "I will be with you always, even unto the end of the world."

## Technique Explained . . .

# Feet and Grades Suffer Gripes Quiz Contestant

By FRANK CUSHING

As the sixth week in the seemingly perpetual "So You Know A&M?" contest unfolds, certain cries of dissatisfaction are materializing from within the ranks of the contestants. Various adjectives, many unprintable, are being used to describe the entrants' feelings towards the pictures and tactics being used.

To ascertain the typical contestant's attitude and to keep its readers informed, The Battalion interviewed one Tolangie Zinzindorf, a hard working lad with an abundance of perseverance who has faithfully followed the pictorial quiz's progress.

Zinzindorf was busily studying various maps and aerial photographs of the campus and Brazos Bottoms which littered his desk when the reporter knocked on his door. Without rising, Zinzindorf laid down his powerful magnifying glass and acknowledged the reporter's introductions.

"I don't mean to be rude," said Zinzindorf, "but I can't get up while my feet are in this mustard bath. I ain't got a cold—just sore feet. Because of blisters I haven't been able to get my shoes on since last Tuesday."

"Why the blisters?" shot the Batt man at the interviewee, posing his pencil over the pad to record the statement.

"Why else but walking," answered Zinzindorf in a disgusted tone. "I've covered every square foot of this darned area looking for a crack in the snow. Then, after I realized that there wasn't any snow to be cracked, I began looking for a pole."

Grasping the point behind Zinzindorf's conversation, the Batt man said, "I see, you mean you got sore feet while searching for the item in Tuesday's paper? As a matter of fact," he continued, "I'm here to get an interview with you on the contest. Our readers would like to know how you contestants are doing, and what your technique is."

"Well," Zinzindorf said, "I'm not one to brag, but I do feel I've done very well in this affair. Of course the prize isn't mine yet but I figure I can last as long as those chicken editors and their blurred pictures."

"How did you manage to identify the goal post?" queried the reporter, ignoring the slander committed to the editors. "We figured we'd clean the field out with that one."

"Ah, it was easy. I just said to myself, 'Zinny, I always call myself Zinny 'cause Zinzindorf sounds so formal; Zinny, I says, if you were a grasping, no good editor trying to keep some prizes for yourself in a contest you'd started, what would you take pictures of. From there on out it was easy. Of course like I told you, I first thought they had taken a photo of a crack in the snow."

"Then," the reporter asked, "that might be classified as your technique for winning contests of this sort, just put yourself in the quizzer's position. To continue, Zinzindorf, is this also the first contest you've ever entered?"

"Naw," answered the contestant. "I've been in the game for years. I got my start sending in box tops for prizes, as a kid. Ma made me quit, though, and I guess the frustration of it all makes me enter every contest I can now."

"How come your mother made you stop?"

"Well, she nearly suffocated one time. The pantry cupboard door buckled under the strain of 400 boxes of Wheaties emptied out on top of her. It took Pa and me nearly three hours to dig her out."

"Can't say that I blame your mother for laying down the law. I must go now and I certainly thank you for the trouble," concluded the reporter.

"Just one thing," Zinzindorf said. "How about telling those editors to hurry up and finish the contest? I've been following the contest so closely, and using up so much time looking for those portions of torn down buildings and the rest of the photographed items that I haven't been able to look at the books much."

"You mean?" asked the reporter. "Exactly," answered Zinzindorf. "When the editors are getting their sheep skins, I'll be getting my Evans Boot Lighter."

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