

Battalion Editorials

Page 2

THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1949

Non-Corps Editor Signs His '30' . . .

Friday afternoon as the first copies of The Battalion start rolling off the press, Volume 48 will be closed permanently.

Along with this last issue of the 1948-49 school year, two men lay down their pencils and editorial whips and assume the lamentable title of "has-been" editors.

I will be one of those men.

During the past year The Battalion has gone from a four-page daily to a six-page paper two days each week. The largest Batt. 18 pages, was published last fall. Circulation has been opened to our former students, and nearly 1,000 now take advantage of our publication. The "News of AggieLand" program has been continued and The Battalion staff has participated in the "College Speaks" series.

Along the news side, every effort has been made to give all schools and all groups full coverage. Our policy has been to cover and report the news, regardless of who made it.

Pictorially, we have tried to pick our subjects on news or feature value. It goes without saying that the subjects did not make print just because they knew one of the editors.

Reviewing the accomplishments along editorial lines is more difficult because all our results are not tangible. The Battalion and the Student Body were caught in a movement of good sportsmanship which started last year. We are not by any means taking credit for winning the Sportsmanship Trophy, but we have tried to foster good sportsmanship by keeping our readers aware of the shortcomings and accomplishments of ourselves and our conference competitors.

More and better athletes, rating of profs, broader education to the extent of more liberal arts courses and fewer tech-

nical courses, better roads, and college improvements have been some of our choice subjects during the past year. We could mention many others, but that would be wasting space. Our readers will remember the better ones anyway.

We have voiced our opinion, verbally and in writing, on the requirements of our next president. To us this decision is one of the most important ones that our Board of Directors will make this year.

But these things are in the past. We have had a good year from a number of angles. We have made many friends; we have also made some enemies—possibly some that we don't know about.

But we have had good cooperation from all angles—faculty, administration, Corps, Non-Corps, and Former Students. With few exceptions we have been given access to information and files whenever we have so requested.

No effort has been made to censor our copy or repress editorials or news stories. The Battalion editors have made all decisions and policies. We appreciate this trust.

During the past year our editorial "Iwe" has represented the opinions of the following people: Bill Billingsley, Chuck Cabaniss, Charles Kirkham, Mack Nolan, C. C. Munroe, Tom Carter, and myself. It will not be intimidating nor compromising Billingsley, Kirkham, Munroe, and Cabaniss, who will all comprise the staff next year, to say that the same general policies will continue.

Journalists have a worn-out figure "30" which they use to end a news story. I will put a personal "30" on my editorship by saying, "Thanks for allowing me to serve you."

Kenneth Bond,
Non-Corps Editor, 1948-49

Thanks to the Profs Who Gave Us a Break . . .

A word of recognition should be given the considerate professors who arranged their courses this semester such that their last major quizzes were given before the final class periods. Students appreciate this planning for it helps them to spread their study-time in preparation for the end of the semester flurry of quizzes and the final exams closely pursuing the quizzes.

These profs who merit this recognition are the majority of those at A&M. Not because their ranks are numerous, it does not mean that our praise is diminished. Rather the praise we have increased

for these profs have planned on their own volition their courses so that students could discuss the last quizzes and review for final examinations at the last class meeting.

Such planning was not ordered by departmental directive. In fact only this past Tuesday the Academic Council of the college defeated a motion to institute a rule that no major quizzes would be given the final class period of a course. This is all the more reason our appreciation and praise should be expressed.

A word of recognition is deserved, and on behalf of the student body, "Thanks."

The Passing Parade . . .

After the recent campus elections, this didn't strike us as being noteworthy.

(AP quote) The citizens of Telgate, Italy, have no political ambitions.

The elections for the mayor and the

municipal council of the village had to be postponed for the third time, because there were no candidates. (end quote)

Maybe the voters remember the trouble their last yell leader had in staying on his balcony.

AN association of streamer lines and heads in the Houston (Tex.) Press resulted in this reading:

"Russia Turns Heat On Turkey"

"They Knew It was Horse Meat"

"Cafe Owners Didn't Care, Packer Says."

The Battalion

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

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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ANY EYES ON THE ROAD?



Letters To The Editor

WHO THREW THE BOTTLE?

Editor, The Battalion:

Last night after I came back from Silver Taps, someone threw a Coke bottle through my window. I am pretty sure I know why. My roommate was in bed and evidently didn't go to Silver Taps. Have Aggies got so low as to be victims of mass mobs because of unofficial rumors? No one bothered to find out why my roommate did not go. They did not know whether he had a reason or not.

Now I would like to ask, is it Aggie-like to go around throwing Coke bottles through people's windows for any reason at all. Now if I were doing this thing, I would at least find out a little something and then seek of the guilty, not go breaking a window that someone who was not guilty would have to help pay for.

At least I have one consolation; I think that those who threw the Coke bottle will agree, that that wasn't a true representative of Aggie Spirit.

B. G. Derryberry
 P. S. All apologies accepted.
 (Editor's Note: We agree with your complaint and feel that you are justified in letting off a little steam.

However, there is one point to consider. The tradition of Silver Taps to most Aggies has been one of reverence and respect throughout these many years. Within the past few years there

has been some difficulty with certain people who have not wanted to cooperate in the Silver Taps ceremony and much feeling has been expressed over these people's lack of consideration.

It is entirely possible and highly probable that the person or persons who threw the coke bottle were one of a number who have become aroused over the lack of respect for the Silver Taps ceremony and were probably under the false impression that your roommate was one of those who was not showing the proper respect.)

Brooks Field Gets Six Hundred Cadets

SAN ANTONIO, May 26 (AP)—Six hundred college ROTC students will attend the 12th Air Force ROTC camp which will open June 13 at Brooks Air Force Base here, it was announced today.

Cadets will come from Texas A&M, Texas Tech, and Oklahoma A&M Colleges and Texas, Baylor, St. Louis, Tulane, Denver, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska universities.

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Sneak Preview . . .

Movie Makers Use Old Plots In Ever Successful Westerns

By HERMAN C. GOLLOB

Streets of Laredo (Paramount) starring William Holden, Bill Bendix, and McDonald Carey (Palace); Canadian Pacific (20th Century) starring Randolph Scott (Campos).

Here with my last appraisal of the wares which local cinema sanctums have to offer the avid, entertainment-hungry movie fans of Bryan-College Station. Since this is my swan song for the summer months, perhaps I should be swept by waves of sentimentality and lavish only the kindest, heartiest words of praise on the current attractions. Unfortunately, I shan't find myself in a mood common among today's movie moguls—I waina moralize.

Originality has long been Hollywood's lost chord. Occasionally the fumbling fingers of movie scripters stumble onto the chord, but at present such dexterity seems to be the exception to the rule. Where are our once-prolific scripters who could turn out celluloid gems in rapid succession?

Film companies are now reverting back to past successes for plot schemes, changing them slightly and filling the title roles with contemporary screen idols. Especially is this true in westerns, which are as numerous today as are major exams on "dead week." But such is to be expected from the horse opera—tradition has it that westerns must follow the same pattern. After all, how many plot combinations can even the most fruitful scripter derive from

a virtuous cowhand and his gal, an odious villain, and some discontented Indians?

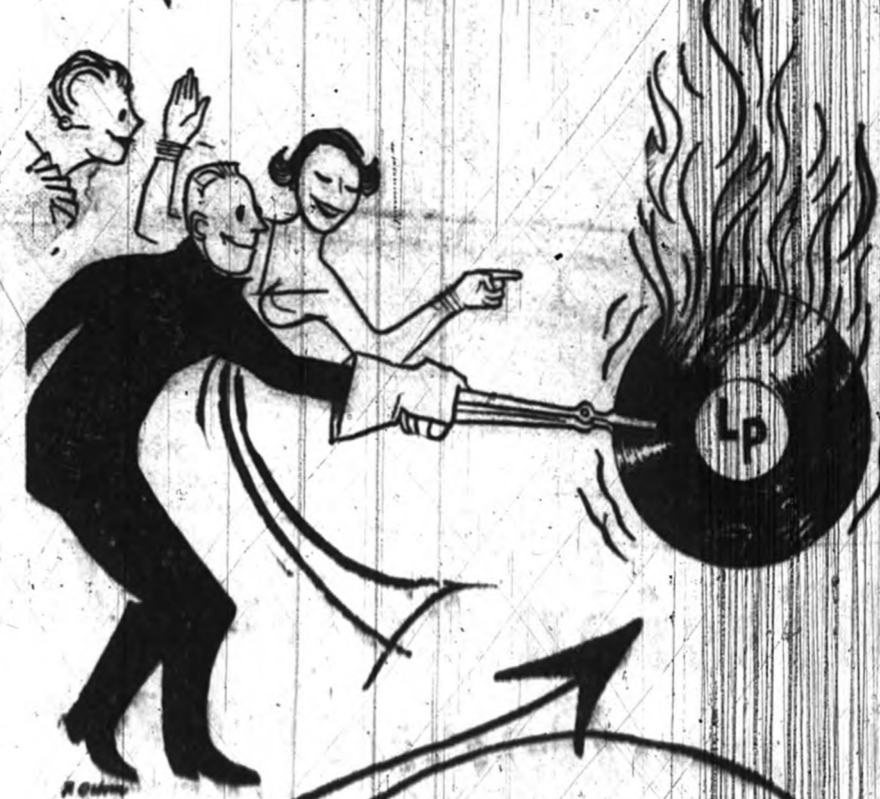
Two of filmdom's latest buckskin and banjo objects d'art—one in technicolor the other in rusty cinecolor—are now on view in two of the Bryan-College Station film tabernacles this week awaiting the doggedly loyal shoot-em-up patrons.

At the Palace is "Streets of Laredo," Paramount's technicolor replica of "The Texas Rangers," a smooth western made several years ago with Fred McMurray, Jack Oakie, and Lloyd Nolan in the title roles. This glossy imitation is noteworthy on only two accounts—the performances of McDonald Carey as the arrogant, selfish suave desperado, and Alphonso Bedoya as the oily Mexican villain with the toothy smile. Carey is at last given a break by Paramount—

a chance to display his acting wares. Bedoya's performance is a fine screen portrait of the villain; authentic enough to draw him from any audience. Also around are William Holden, Bill Bendix, and Mona Freeman. Holden handles his role with the pep of a midget just finishing his last lap, and Bendix's Brooklyn accent is rather annoying in the sandy streets of Laredo, Texas. But, blonde Mona Freeman is mighty nice to look at.

Spurring our horse down the road several miles we spot the "Canadian Pacific" playing across the screen of the Campos with its most fruitful scripter derive from share of blood-sucking and body-

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amazing. In CP, 20th Century has merely borrowed from the framework of Union Pacific, a success of several years back. CP, too, falls short of the original. Randolph Scott, the principal gun-toter, handles his role with usual ease and indulges in some flashy manipulation of both horse-pistols and fists. Veteran character actor J. Carroll Naish gives a fine account of himself as Dynamite, Scott's grizzly sidekick.

That's the ticket for this year, kind readers. I'll be on hand again in September to annoy you with my warped conception of the entertainment value of the pictures which you plunk down forty cents to see once or twice a week. Until then, here's for more pictures of the same caliber as Hamlet, Joan of Arc, and other examples of Hollywood at its best.

SKYWAY DRIVE-IN THEATRE

THURS. — FRIDAY

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