

It's Not Hard to Say 'Howdy' . . .

Scarcely ten years ago Texas A&M College was famous throughout the world for two things—it had the biggest, roughest, winningest football team in the nation and its students were the friendliest people afoot.

Somewhere between then and now we lost most of both commodities.

On the football front now, however, there is nothing but glad tidings. The current crop of huskies are picking up every day and there is an awe-inspiring group of Freshmen tearing up the turf down by Kyle Field.

But on the friendliness front, all is blackness. You can walk across the campus, bump into thirty people, and not hear anything but exclamations of "Watch my shine!"

And if you are overt enough to speak at the passing personages, they raise their eyes from the pavement and glare at you

balefully as if to say, "Quiet, you fool, you made me forget five physics formulas."

To put it briefly and bluntly, it's a dismal situation. In five years, at this rate, the Spirit of Aggieland will be a carbonated beverage bottled somewhere near Dime Box.

Seriously, though, we are losing our greatest and most valuable characteristic. For decades past, A&M's fortunes in athletics, scholastics, and graduate rating may have varied, but their reputation for friendliness was constant, and at the top.

There is no need to repeat what this spirit has gained the college. Aggies in high positions all over the nation today attest to how far you can go when you can get along with other people.

We can afford to lose almost anything except that attitude. There is no smaller investment that pays such tremendous dividends.

Let's begin today to speak more often both on the campus and off. Let's get our friendliness team, as well as our football team, back to its number one spot in the nation.

The Most Acid of Acid Tests . . .

Few persons in western nations dispute the fact that Russia is out to conquer the world for Communism.

But that leads to the question of which one of their two weapons, fear of the bomb or undercover infiltration of Communist public leaders, will be used in the Russian quest for supremacy.

To many, the most logical answer is Russia's presumably recent-discovered secret of all secrets—the Atom bomb. Wild speculation has been circulating and will continue to circulate whether Russia will use the most powerful weapon on earth.

We are fearful, and Stalin knows it. He may be sitting back, smirking, and enjoying it all.

But for all we know, the secret may have been discovered months or maybe years ago, and the Russians are only letting the news out now. This recent dropping may be the sixth, seventh, or eighth such atomic explosion. Why should we all go into a commotion now?

We should worry, yes. But we should worry constructively.

Some foolish people cast the announcement of the explosion off with a shrug of the shoulders and say, "but the Russians don't have as many bombs as we do." What of it? It makes no difference if they have only a third as many bombs as we do.

After the announcement of the Russian explosion, several high place men, including influential Senators, took an opposite view of the administration's indifference. Their conclusion was that the free world, led by the United States should go to Russia in the United Nations with an ultimatum.

It would be brash, but also it would be the acid test of the strength of the United Nations and of a fear-free world.

THE PROOFREADER overlooked a missing "D" and the South Bend (Ind.) Tribune headline read: "Drinker Placed on Probation as Others Are Fine."

Keepsake. In Weatherford, Texas, Bank President Fred Smith explained how two Arkansas bank robbers happened to have a crowbar inscribed "Citizens National Bank, Weatherford, Tex.": The crowbars were distributed as souvenirs three years ago "but we never thought they would be put to use . . ."

SOCIETY story in the Modesto (California) Bee: "Mrs. Grace Newman, past matron of Wisteria Chapter, will give a biological sketch of Robert Morris."

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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.

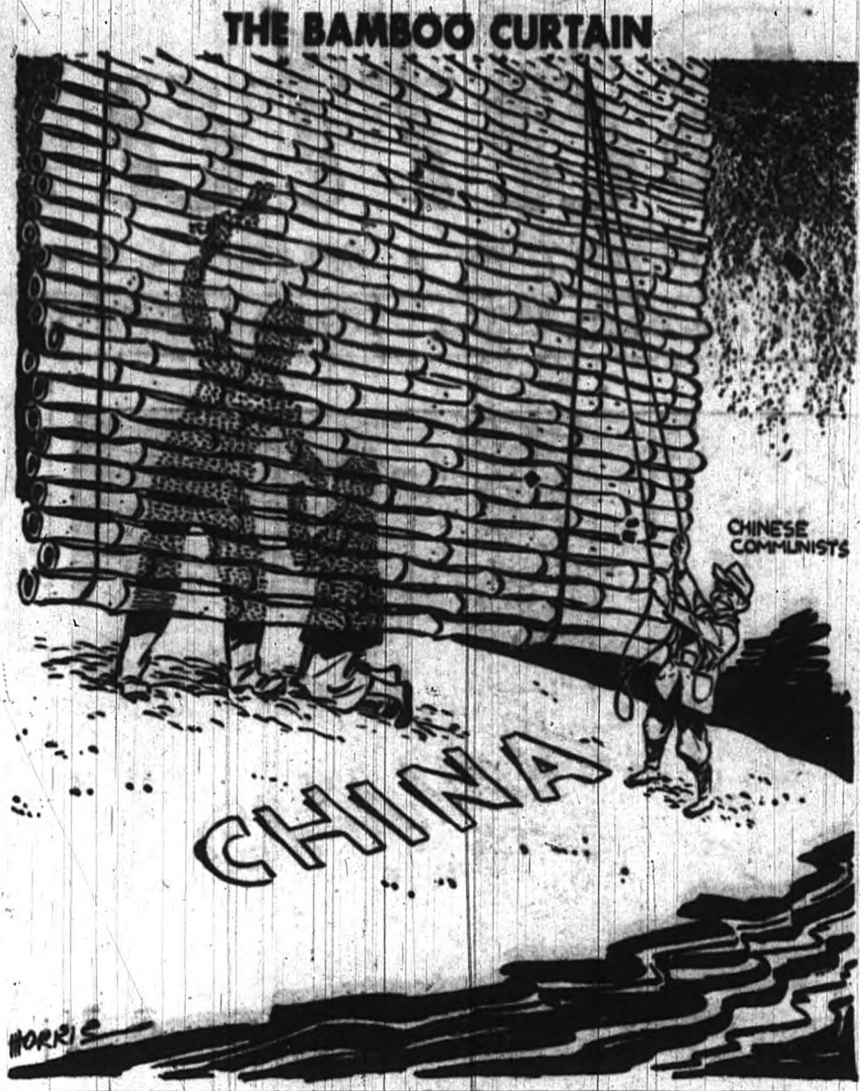
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Letters To The Editor

(All letters to the editor which are signed by a student or employee of the college and which do not contain obscene or libelous material will be published. Persons wishing to have their names withheld from publication may request such action and these names will not, without the consent of the writer, be divulged to any persons other than the editors.)

LET ME CALL YOU SWEETHEART

Editor, The Battalion:

With reference to the article in last Thursday's Battalion concerning the representatives to select the Aggie Sweetheart, we the undersigned non-Corps student wish to express our desire that this occasion remain a Corps function as has been done in the years past.

It is our opinion that the Corps will lend the color necessary for such an affair and will follow the pattern of well-known Aggie traditions.

- Richard W. Denny '49, Charles O. Hunst '45, Jack Luther '49, Bullet Lonquist '48, Donald E. Jarvis '49, Tom R. Carter '49, Cliff Hodges '50, Don Hodges '49, E. L. "Pinky" Greene '49, Jack Mason '51, J. A. "Bitty" Davis '49, Leland B. Tate '48, Bob McClure '49, E. A. LeBlanc '51, Dudley G. Letbetter '49, Ralph P. Pastock '47, James H. Eston, 45, John Foyt '50, S. R. Nelson '48, J. H. Porter '48, D. T. Hiachovy '50, W. F. McNeil '49, Rogue O. Garza '52, J. H. Ballew '49, H. D. Miller '50, Roy E. Frienson '46, Ross J. Burns '50, C. D. Martin '47, D. C. Messick Jr. '50, H. Cleve Walkup '44, L. O. Petty '48, James E. Biles '49, Albert T. Field '49, S. M. Marshall '48, W. B. Scrimgeour '50, R. P. Creson Jr. '51, H. G. McMillan '49, H. M. Barnett '49, W. A. Marble '50, D. J. Matula '49, Alex Cadena '52, Charles O. Hurst '45, Jim Kelleher '50, Ben Adair '48, Bill Du Puy '47, Martin B. Keough '48, Fred C. Reppen '48, H. C. Osborne '49, Faburn Murray '49, H. H. Johnson '49, William E. Wilson '48, C. R. Hagens '48, E. A. Sands '48, E. Charles Hineckley '49, Charles Lehne '50, Billy Maye '50, W. E. Nelson '50, Harry Hurt '48, Doug Pitcock '49, W. W. Colville '49, W. A. Balthreath Jr. '50, William Womack Jr. '49, Kenneth Bruce Bobhoff '48, Robert L. Smith '51, H. E. Dungan Jr. '49, Tom Sutherland '46, J. M. Henderson '40, L. L. Crain '50, William S. Bouldin '47.

(Editor's Note—Only about one-half the names signed to this letter could be printed because of space limitations.)

BOUNTIFUL DREAMER

Editor, The Battalion:

This morning I turned to the sports page of a newspaper from one of our fair cities south of here. First thing I notice is a column by a sports writer who had inter-

viewed all the Southwest Conference coaches the past week. And following is a summary of all the mentors' comments.

Rice's coach Jess Neely confided to the writer, "The only worry I have this year is that my boys will give the other conference teams such a lashing that they'll all withdraw from football in disgust."

His next interview was with A&M's own Harry Stiteler, who said quite modestly, "My greatest concern at the moment is that we will not be able to accept all the bowl bids we're sure to get when the season is over."

Over at Austin, Blair Cherry was quite glum. He was moaning about not being able to furnish convertibles for the freshman team.

Up at SMU, Matty Bell was crying in his root beer about the Cotton Bowl scoreboard not being constructed for scores of the three-figure magnitude. Sez he feels two figures will hardly be adequate for his boys this season.

Traditionally downhearted Dutch Meyer sounded a new note. "I really can't see the need of playing any of my six varsity teams this fall, but they won't let me use my freshmen. So I figure we'll just play eight or nine men most of the time, so the scores won't be too lopsided."

Arkansas' Barnhill remarked, "I've got so much first string material this year that my only regret is that we can't play a doubleheader every Saturday."

Anybody want a drag off this weed fore I throw it away? Sincerely James G. McClure, '49

Official Notice

All students majoring in Animal Husbandry who have not worked out their Degree Plan are urged to attend a meeting in the Lecture Room of the Animal Industries Building at 7 p. m. Wednesday.

All students majoring in horticulture are required to register with the secretary of the Horticulture Department in Room 307, Agriculture Building not later than 5 p. m. October 14.

From Where I Sit . . .

Western Gains Maturity In Hughes' 'Red River'

BY HERMAN C. GOLLOB

Red River (Howard Hawks) starring John Wayne and Montgomery Clift (Guion Hall)

This department has from time to time made several impolite and snide comments concerning the superficiality and standardization characteristic of the average "Western."

The filmplay concerning the exploits of our pioneer forefathers has become an inexhaustible quantity on the screen, and a favorite subject among moviegoers. At the same time, it has remained monotonously unchanging.

Why the "western" has achieved such glorious heights of popularity is a fairly simple matter. With the story of the untamed West and the dauntless pioneer spirit that conquered it goes the great American dream of independence and courage. And the adventure and action which form the "western" backbone are plentiful enough to arrest the attention of "junior" and incite him to frenzied emulation of what is transpiring on the screen.

Joe Moviegoer cherishes the sight of Randy Scott snuffing out the odious lives of warring Apaches from atop a fleeing stagecoach. Randy is winning the West

(from the Indians) and ultimate independence. When Gary Cooper buries his fist into Nasty Gutter-snipe's beer-laden belly after having a poker table reduced to splinters over his head, a victory is scored for clean living, honesty, and virility.

Neither is the reason for the stereotyped quality of the run-of-the-mill "western" cause for much head-scratching. In its own inimitable way, Hollywood has cashed in on the "western's" box-office appeal and turned them out mass-production style. Consequently, originality has fallen along the wayside with the bullet-riddled red man.

Bedeck an actor in western attire, sit him on a horse, turn him loose on a prairie with only the ghost of a plot (usually one borrowed from a previous film that died in its tracks), and you have the typical cowboy classic a creation which tempts any thirteen year old to rude laughter.

Yet maturity in the "western" is not an impossibility. Several times in the past film companies have made realistic inspections of our pioneer past with fond but not foolish eyes, proving that juvenility is not an inherent trait of the "western." "Stagecoach" is

among these. "Duel In The Sun" likewise.

And Howard Hawks' "Red River," now playing at Guion Hall, is an even stronger example of the high-beta horse-ops that can be brewed from a prudent combination of realism and adventure.

In its every respect, "Red River" is grown-up entertainment. Traditional "western" cliches have been carefully avoided in its story, which has something other to offer than the usual "Posse chases outlaw who is really a sport at heart" plot.

Headed by reliable John Wayne, who does his best job of acting yet, and Montgomery Clift, the cast is all that could be desired. We were particularly impressed with the talent displayed by John Ireland. He's a lad to watch.

The fluidity of the production is further enhanced by skillful direction, vigorous photography which accomplishes fine things with black and white, and a musical score carefully attuned to the mood of each scene.

In "Red River," the spirit of the West has been properly admired and at the same time wisely handled to give the public a film of adult proportions.

News of Aggieland Begins Broadcasts

"News of Aggieland," the program of local news and sports, is now being broadcast over radio station WTAW at 7:30 a.m., announced Roland Bing manager of student publications. Sponsored by the College Exchange Store, the program is broadcast six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

Dean Reed, sophomore journalism student of A. Co., A. S. A., writes the script for the program and directs the broadcasts. The announcing is done by members of the Battalion staff.

Harold Gann of B. Co. Athletics writes his own script and announces all sports news, said Bing.

Guion Hall Tuesday & Wednesday

HOWARD HAWKS' GREAT PRODUCTION ADVENTURE EXCITEMENT SPECTACLE RED RIVER

HOWARD HAWKS' "RED RIVER" JOHN WAYNE - MONTGOMERY CLIFT WALTER BRENNAN - JOANNE DOLU

SKYWAY DRIVE-IN THEATRE

SHOWS 7 AND 9 P.M. TONITE & WED.

NEED CASH Come and get it \$ \$ LUCKY \$ \$ \$ \$ LICENSE \$ \$ \$325.

LESS TAX BE HERE Two numbers will be selected 1ST FOR . . . \$175.00 2ND FOR . . . \$150.00 SCREEN HIT

THE LADY GAMBLERS

THURS. & FRIDAY "The Younger Brothers"

COMING SOON — She knows a thousand Aggies by their first name

EVELYN WEST —in— NIGHT AT THE FOLLIES

PALACE Bryan 2-8879

LAST DAY HELD OVER AT THE QUEEN WEDNESDAY

JOHN WAYNE "The Fighting Kentuckian" Roughter-Tougher than ever!

QUEEN

Last Day -- "SECRET GARDEN"

HELD OVER WED. "The Fighting Kentuckian"

STARTS WED. AT PALACE "COME TO THE STABLES"

The Battalion QUARTERBACK CLUB

— This Week — Wednesday — at the ASSEMBLY HALL

ALL A & M STUDENTS ADMITTED FREE

See Movie of TEXAS A&M — OKLA. UNIV. GAME

Enter The Quarterback Club Contest 11 WINNERS EVERY WEEK Prizes Presented at Quarterback Club Meeting Wednesday

Campus

LAST DAY FIRST RUN —Features Start— 1:20 - 3:10 - 4:50 - 6:40 8:20 - 10:00

Gal who Took the West

PLUS: NEWS — CARTOON WED. & THURS. — DOUBLE FEATURE —

THE DOOLINS ARE COMING! SCOTT The DOOLINS of Oklahoma

— AND —

LAW OF THE BARBARY COAST

PLUS: NEWS — CARTOON SPECIAL NEWS — So. Cal. sinks Navy 42-20 Ga. Tech upsets Vanderbilt 12-7

Prevue of . . . 1950 SWIM SUITS