

Battalion Editorials

Let's Have No Death on a Technicality . . .

Two people have been hit by cars on the campus during the past week. In both cases they were denied the use of the college ambulance and the facilities of the college hospital because regulations restrict the use of these facilities to students. The hospital is allowed to give first aid to non-students but these persons must be transferred to another hospital after first aid has been administered.

Fortunately, in both accidents this week, the injured people were not badly hurt and a car was available to take them to a non-college doctor.

But each story could have been different. The little boy who was hit on Trail Street last weekend and the laborer who was struck in Boomtown on Wednesday could have been critically injured. Cars or a non-college ambulance might not have been available to take them to proper medical care.

What would have happened? The college ambulance, because of a regulation, still could not have been used. Precious minutes could have been wasted, and both the little boy and the laborer could have died before treatment was administered, all because a regulation is inflexible.

We know nobody wants to have an injured person die because a rule denies them prompt medical care. We know that such was not the intention of the committee which drew up the regulation. But, unless that regulation is changed it is very possible that someone in need of immediate aid will die. It could happen between the time this is written and the time you read it—we hope that it doesn't. And it could also happen every minute after you read this until the regulation restricting the use of these life saving facilities is modified to remedy this dangerous situation.

There is an old and perhaps trite saying, "Accidents aren't planned." Old and trite as it may be, it is still true. We can do everything possible to prevent accidents, but as long as there is the remotest possibility that one may occur, let's be ready for it.

We urge an immediate modification of any regulation which restricts to students the use of the college ambulance or the college hospital.

Let's not jeopardize some person's life because of an inflexible regulation.

The Volie Miller Story . . .

The enthusiastic response of more blood donors than possibly needed to Volie Miller's plea for help has completely restored any recently lacking feeling in ourselves of faith in our fellow man.

A little more than a week ago, Volie came into our offices with a problem and a story. As many of you probably already know from recent Battalion articles, Volie's wife, Louise, may need a rare type blood when she becomes a mother the first part of next month. We passed it on to our readers. The response was so gratifying that Volie is still a little bewildered.

Students and non students from Bryan, College Station, the Annex, the Campus, and as far as Marlin, Texas, have answered the call.

Volie has had to plead for people to stop offering help.

But nevertheless, it's a great feeling to know that people of this area are sympathetic, generous, and neighborly to the point of sacrifice.

Some cynics may argue that there should have been more of a response (24 donors counted Tuesday afternoon with more coming in later) considering the comparatively extensive circulation of The Battalion in this area. What these persons probably don't take into consideration is the fact that blood donors with only a special and rare type blood were called upon for aid.

If the plea had been extended for a more common type blood, we might be counting the donors in hundreds.

But this story isn't unique—especially around this territory where it's traditional for people to be friendly.

Persons, like those who offered their blood to help out two strangers in a crisis, are the cornerstones of a decent, good willed, neighborly world. In their lives there will probably be many other Volie Millers with problems, and they'll always be there to help them.

It Couldn't Happen to a Dog . . .

Dogs and humans have quite a bit in common, but up to this time, any recognition of that fact has only been stifled embarrassment.

According to recent experiments being conducted at the University of Illinois School of Medicine, "man's best friend" is just as frustrated as we are and gets stomach ulcers as a result.

During the University's test frustrated dogs are conditioned to expect food every time a bell rings. The bell rings every two hours. Now and then the ring brings food, but mostly only expectation, disappointments, and finally ulcers, or their beginnings.

Ulcer signs can be seen through pouches which are peep holes into the dog's stomach.

If this can happen to a dog, maybe it can happen to a man! This is one of the ideas behind some of the school's new ulcer experiments.

Should the experiments prove without any shadow of a doubt that stomach ulcers in humans are caused by frustration, another task would be created for an already too busy man—the psychiatrist.

He'd better get that word, "ulcer," down in his vocabulary. If tests keep rolling at Illinois, he may be using it only too often.

The Battalion

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

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FIRST OF A SERIES

Pros and Cons of Texas' New State Constitution Amendments

BY JOE FULLER
Student Senate Parliamentarian

Next Nov. 8, Aggieanders of voting age will journey to the polls to approve or disapprove of ten amendments to our state constitution. Since a number of people in the area seem to be hazy on the subject of constitutional amendments, The Battalion is presenting a series of articles explaining in everyday language some of the arguments for and against the various amendments. Topics will be presented in that order in which they will appear on your ballot.

All Aggies who are not residents of Brazos County and who will not be at home for the election will have to vote by absentee ballot. These ballots are generally obtained by requesting them from the county clerk of one's resident county.

Probably the person requesting an absentee ballot will have to send twenty-five cents with his request to cover mailing costs. Definitely a poll tax receipt must be sent with the request before the ballot will be mailed to the prospective voter.

Promptness is necessary in writing for absentee ballots since most counties require that the ballots be returned to the county clerk two weeks before the election date. This time requirement probably varies from one county to another, however.

Number one slot on the ballot is held by a proposal allowing counties to set up civil service systems for their employees.

There doesn't seem to be much opposition to this amendment, except possibly from a few of the county officials now in power. An examination patterned after our national civil service examination should permit the counties to set up a fair basis for the selection and advancement of their personnel.

A county civil service system would make county employees less subject to the fluctuations of local politics, and should serve to give the individual counties a more efficient organization.

It is significant that practically all politically-minded organizations, such as businessmen's clubs, which have expressed opinions of the proposed amendments have come out in favor of this proposal.

Scientists Club Elects Officers

The A&M chapter of the Texas Collegiate Academy of Science held its fall organizational meeting last Monday night, according to Tim McPherson, secretary-treasurer.

Officers elected for this year are Bryan Zimmerman, president; Jim Teer, vice-president; Tim McPherson, secretary-treasurer; and Rex Mace and Ray Roberts, publicity directors.

The main purpose of the Texas Collegiate Academy of Science is to promote interest among the future scientists by actual participation in science activities by presenting papers and taking part in programs with their fellow students.

Such papers may be on research in the library or on an actual project by the student. There is an exchange of programs between chapters of other schools and the annual meeting to be held at Rice Institute in December where plans are well under way and should prove to be the best to date, McPherson said.

An invitation by the A&M chapter is extended to students of all departments who are interested to join them at their next meeting October 31, said McPherson.

Official Notice

Those students who want their ring for Christmas must get their order in to the Registrar's Office before November first. Any student who lacks not more than eight hours of having completed the number of hours required through the Junior year of his curriculum and who has earned an equal number of grade points may purchase the A and M ring.

All rings must be paid for in full when placing the order. The ring window is open only from 8 a.m. to 12:00 noon, daily except on Sundays.

H. L. Heaton, Registrar.

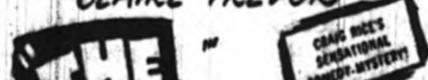
Several vacancies have developed in the staff of student laboratory assistants of the Physics Department. Men who have completed sophomore physics courses with superior records are wanted to assist with instruction, grading and the handling of apparatus in the laboratories. The scale of compensation is \$0.50 per hour for new assistants and \$0.70 per hour for experienced assistants. Assistant are needed at various periods distributed throughout the college week. Applications are invited to register at the office of the department at their earliest convenience.

G. POTTER, Head, Department of Physics



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Professor Finds Survivors Of African Culture in South

BY DEWITT MACKENZIE
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

One of the strange stories of our time has been unfolded by Dr. Lorenzo Dow Turner, Negro professor of English at Roosevelt College, Chicago, who has uncovered survivals of African culture among the quarter million Negroes inhabiting the Rice Islands off the coasts of South Carolina and Georgia.

These Negroes are descendants of slaves who were brought to

America at the time of the earliest settlements. Some of those living on the islands never have been on the mainland or seen a white man at close range. They speak a language which includes many words brought by their ancestors from the jungles of Africa.

Words Originated in Liberia

Dr. Turner found that some of the words in the Rice Islands language had their origin in Liberia. I was particularly interested in this because in 1942 when I spent

some time at Fisherman's Lake, Liberia, I was astonished to run into an American colloquialism dating back to slave days. It happened like this:

Just at the time of the American invasion of North Africa, November 7, I started to fly from London to the Middle East. Because the flight normally would take us near the scene of the fighting, the plane was diverted to Liberia. I got hung up in Fisherman's Lake.

State of Liberia
As you will recall, the state of Liberia grew out of the labors of the National Colonization Society of America, which was organized in 1816 to free American Negroes and colonize in Africa. Some 12,000 "American" Liberians now live in the Republic and they are descendants of American slaves.

Well, I was tramping about some native huts in the jungle when I came across a native woman sitting in front of her home and spoke to her. I really didn't expect to get an answer, thinking that she wouldn't understand me, and was surprised when she replied in good English.

I stopped to chat with her and during the conversation she employed a very old U. S. colloquialism, which led me to ask her where she learned it.

"Great-Grandparents Slaves
"My great grandparents were slaves in America," she replied, "and came here when the American settlers were made. I learned my English from them."

"This woman, who was perhaps forty, never had been away from the jungle, but the language and customs of pre-civil war days in the United States had been handed down to her.

Laredo Club Picks Dance Band Friday

An orchestra will be selected for the annual Christmas dance at a called meeting of the Laredo Club to be held at 7:15 p. m. Friday in Room 125, Academic Building, Augusto Pena, president, said.

Committees for the dance will be selected at the meeting, and plans for the ticket sales will be made.

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