## Battalion Editorials

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tuesday, January 17, 1950
In Texas, Death and Taxes ... Poll Taxes
Whatever your sentiments about poll feom the County Tax Collector's office betaxes, its still on the statutes of Texas fore Janury 31 approaching. The last day for payment poll tax booths set up for the convenienc of this year's poll taxes is two weeks from of poll tax payers.
Everybody between 21 and 59 years of Arguments pro and con on the poll ta age must pay their poll taxes in order to issue are not valid at voting booths dur vote ingeneral elections this year, Those this falls national elections. In Texas it get an exemption certificate from the County Tax Collector's office.
-or people who attain 21 years of life democracy through voting for candidates during this 1950 the state gives them a for public office, you just can't get around ree, "on the house" vote. Here again, a the $\$ 1.75$. And you'd better get around Spare a Dime for a Cup of Benevolence?

Throughout these next two weeks, uation, final exams, and another semester, younger students are thinking of other These younger studarly.
These younger students can be found h hospitals, homes, and clinics the nation over. They are victims of one of the most
dreaded diseases of all time, infantile parlysis, more commonly known as pile pa The greatest source of finaneing comMarch of Dimes, one of the most benevolent and humanitarian projects in exisence. From New York City to Snook, Texas, this country is being asked for nly a dime or two from each person.
Texas, which suffered its worst polio American Strategy and the Soft Upper Belly For years Alaskans and millions have insisted that Alaska is the United States "soft upper belly" and contended that the frigid land is the most likely spot for some future Russian- invasion.
Moreover, if Russia could take Alask lobbying groups have resounded in the entagon, the entire. West Coast would be
open to Red bombing attacks. The Red orce is known, for a fact, to have bombers that can take off from Anchorage,
blast Seattle 1,326 miles away, and return. These same bombers could make Oakland, and Los Angeles. In spite of all this, the Joint Chiefs of Staff have virtually left Alaska defense
As the militarists of the nation saw it and possibly suicidal to plan in terms of defending particular places. Assuming that it would require 12 divisions to make Alaska impregnable, how many divisions would be needed for Japan, Okinawa, Hawaii and the Philippines, the Middle East,
the Middle West and Greenland? If the the Middle West, and Greenland? If the forces to defend every place the Russians orces to defend every place the Russians
might attack, it would soon find itself forced to expand the Army to 100 divisorces to support them.
hare of $\$ 2$ million in this year's fund only aid treatment of 1950 poy will no patients, but must help carry the huge financial burden for carry-over cases from ast year and the years before.
All too often, polio cannot be completely cured within a short time, though mod-
ern methods of controlling' and checking the disease have held these cases to minimum.

Without a successful March of Dimes ampaign in 1950, advancement by th minimum.
We have until January 31 to insure th

Consequently, the only alternative fo troops available into a mobile strikin force, based principally in the United cun . Then no matter where the firs move into position as rapidly as troop carplanes could reach the front. But this does not mean that the mili ${ }^{2}$ It does mean that air defenses, rather han ground forces, are the primary need Alaska. The pentagon began concen trating on air defenses.

But the nation's military leaders have t been rushing their plans for toughen It has been admitted that Alaska is al most defenseless at present, and that the Russians could probably move in tomorrow
if they wanted to. Nothing would sto them.

But the militarists' risk was based on ne factor especially-that if Russia were attack Alaska now and succeed in eswhat could it do then? on the continent what could it do then? That would be as
far as the Reds could go, because the bulk the Russian Army is now in Europe Ine Russian Army is now in Europe.
In thinking about Alaskan defense the nation's military strategists have ob viously been keeping the goal of global ctory firmly in mind.

## The Battalion




## Fellowship Winner Here, Studies Religious Groups



The Fantastic Fotties:
Uncertainty, War, Peace Mark History of Decade


