

Battalion Editorials

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1950

New Steps Forward for The Battalion . . .

Beginning with today's issue, The Battalion inaugurates a revised departmental organization, a more complete, up-to-the-minute Associated Press service, and faster and better photographic coverage.

Many changes were necessary to complete this reorganization. The posts of News Editor, Copy Editor, and Sports News Editor were created. Their jobs are to collect news and sports copy, edit it, assign and write headlines, and plan each day's makeup. Hereafter, the men primarily responsible for the preparation of each day's issue will be given credit for their work in the masthead at the foot of this column.

New reporters have joined the staff. They will enable us to give more complete campus coverage. At the same time, these new men will learn the workings of The Battalion and qualify themselves for higher posts.

Natural Resources Tax, a Legislative 'Must'

Meeting in special session legislators at Austin are attempting to settle upon new or improved means of bringing additional revenues to the state treasury. These revenues will be applied to improve this state's mental hospitals and other eleemosynary institutions.

There has been a bill introduced to levy a \$25 tax on each divorce filed in Texas.

There has been a bill introduced to raise state taxes on cigarettes by a penny a pack.

Even a bill was introduced to increase the levy on oil, gas and sulphur, but the chairman of the House Revenue and Taxation Committee doesn't think his committee will get to that proposal.

Whatever the means of raising revenue that will be decided upon by the legislature, money from the new taxes will be used for services that the state needs. Therefore, most any tax will be a good tax.

But the legislature, in not "getting around" to consideration of a tax raise upon the natural resources of this state, is turning its back upon the state's greatest opportunity for increased revenues. Perhaps this failure of action on natural resource taxes is the legislators' reluctance to buck powerful lobbies in those industries which process resources. Perhaps

The addition of a full-time photographer to the staff and constantly available photo-engravers will increase our photographic coverage of all campus events.

A new teletype schedule now brings all state, national and international sports and news reports into our office throughout the afternoon, during the entire night, and up to our print shop deadline. As a result, any "big" development will be reported in The Battalion with the same speed with which it is printed in other papers.

A complete staff at the Annex will enable us to keep up with the happenings at that section of the college.

With these changes and additions we constantly try to improve the quality of what we publish while at the same time keeping a constant training program in progress so that there always will be a competent staff that can continue to publish The Battalion on a daily schedule.

this shying away from resources and concentrating on sources where no powerful opposition groups are present is smart politics, and a safe way for re-election.

But it is not good government.

The natural resources of this state favor Texas with a unique position for tax revenue. The great bulk of Texas' natural resources are not consumed in this state.

Taxation on these resources would be passed onto final consumers, but the consumers would be largely from states other than Texas.

In other words, higher natural resources taxes (taxes upon Texas' natural resources as they come from the well head, or pit head) would be paid in part by Texans consuming their share of the resources, but for the most part, by consumers of Texas' oil products, Texas' natural gas, and Texas' sulphur in other states.

We feel that the legislature of Texas should concentrate on higher natural resources taxes to provide this state with better mental hospitals, better schools, and better highways.

Why should Texas' natural resources be consumed out of state, and those resources escape fair taxes levied upon them?

A University of Alabama "wolf" has acquired an unusually fine prospective date list, consisting of all the prettiest coeds on campus—hand-picked! Helping out at registration, this enterprising young man stopped each pretty girl and asked to look at her registration blank, containing name, local address and telephone number. Then he simply copied that information, letting the lasses think it was the usual registration rignarole.

Arthur Godfrey: It's not too hard to live on a small income if you don't spend too much trying to keep it a secret.

Victor Borge, describing his adventurous boyhood in Denmark: Once my father came home and found me in front of a roaring fire. That made my father very mad, as we didn't have a fireplace.

A young college student remarked to his date, "That's 'Pink Lightning' lipstick you're wearing, isn't it?"

Flattered that he should notice the color of her lipstick, the girl replied, "Why yes, but how did you know?"

"Oh," he quipped, "I've been struck by it before!"

The Battalion

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"
Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

News contributions may be made by telephone (4-5444) or at the editorial office, Room 201, Goodwin Hall. Classified ads may be placed by telephone (4-5324) or at the Student Activities Office, Room 209, Goodwin Hall.

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 \$4.50 per school year. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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NOT IN THE ACT



Reserve Corps Program to Be Reorganized

Secretary of the Army, Gordon Gray, announced that during the next three months the Army will institute a modification of the present Organized Reserve Corps program. He declared that changes which will be put into operation will result in "material improvement in the efficiency and readiness of the Reserve." It will take about three months to accomplish necessary steps incident to establishment of the program.

Secretary Gray stressed that full details of the plan will be available to Army Commanders about April 1, by which time it is planned that all administrative details and implementing directives will be completed.

Summarized briefly, the new organization will set up an Active Reserve, an Inactive Reserve, and an Honorary Reserve. The Active Reserve in turn will include an Organized Reserve and a Volunteer Reserve. The Organized Reserve will be made up of personnel in units needed for mobilization; plus individuals needed for mobilization to augment the Regular Army units and staff agencies.

The Volunteer Reserve will consist of individual officers and enlisted men needed for expansion of the Army of the United States in event of emergency. This group initially will include currently Organized Training Units.

The Honorary Reserve will be made up of personnel of long service who require such assignment. The Inactive Reserve will consist of personnel who cannot or do not desire to participate in the Active Reserve, but who will be subject to call in case of emergency despite their inactive status.

Specialists Attend Ag. Workers Meet

A. W. Crain, associate extension pasture specialist, Louise Mass and Jimmie Nell Harris, both extension foods and nutrition specialists, will leave today for Biloxi, Mississippi, to attend the annual meeting of the Southern Agricultural Workers Association.

In making the announcement Director G. G. Gibson, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, said that Crain would go by way of State College, Mississippi, and would join other pasture authorities there for a pasture tour on February 7 and 8.

Director Gibson stated that Miss Mason and Miss Harris attend a regional nutrition conference in Biloxi just prior to the opening of the Southern Agricultural Workers meeting. Both will appear on the program during the nutrition conference.

They are expected to return to College Station on February 13.

Non-Vet, Cadets Meet Today at Five

Non-veteran ROTC students (not living in the Corps area) will meet in the Assembly Hall at 5 p. m. this afternoon.

The formation will be compulsory. Cadet Lt. Colonel Raymond Smythe said.

Official Notice

NOTICE
PREMEDICAL - PRELIMINARY
The Bulletin of Information and application forms for the Medical College Admission Test to be given May 13, 1950, are now available at the office of Dr. George E. Potter, Premedical-Preliminary Advisor, Room 13, Science Hall. All premedical-preliminary students who expect to apply for admission to the professional schools in 1951 are required to take this test or the follow-up test to be given November 13, 1950. Applications for the May 13 test must be in Princeton, New Jersey before April 20.

G. E. POTTER
NOTICE TO CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATE DEGREES IN JUNE
All candidates for graduate degrees in June, 1950, must be registered in the Graduate School this semester. It is the student's responsibility to both register and check with the Graduate School to see that his record is clear for graduation, both scholastically and in every other way. This includes filling out a request for admission to candidacy for the degree in June.
The faculty is requested to assist their students in meeting all these requirements promptly.

IDE P. TROTTER

College News, Missin' Shoes

Found—One pair of brown shoes, size 9 1/2 C, in Room 104 Academic Building. Discovered after the Jan. 21 final exam in Business 422.

"I never thought that quiz would scare anyone out of his shoes," Professor R. L. "Satch" Elkins reported, "but what else can I think? They were right there on the floor when I got ready to close up the room. I know they weren't there when I came in."

Elkins says he has the footgear in his office. Any student who shed his shoes during the final may go up to the second floor of the Academic Building and put in a claim.

They'd better hurry though. The shoes fit Elkins.

Red Cross to Start Drive on March 1

Designation of the week-end of February 25-26 as Red Cross Sabbath and Sunday was announced today by General George C. Marshall, president of the American Red Cross.

Observance of the two special days in churches and synagogues throughout the nation precedes the opening of the annual Red Cross fund campaign to be conducted from March 1 to 31.

It is traditional among clergymen of all faiths, General Marshall said, to call attention on these days to the Red Cross appeal. In many communities uniformed Red Cross volunteers will attend religious ceremonies in groups for the special observances.

Smith Named Dorm Student Senator

William B. Smith was elected Student Senator from Dormitory 15 last night in a special election, announced Bill Moss and R. D. Nance, co-chairmen of the Senate Election committee.

Smith won easily over his opponent, Wallace C. Mahone, by a 47 to 27 vote margin. The ballot produced two write-in candidates—Artis M. Duty and Henry Duty.

Both Moss and Nance were concerned over the light vote—79 votes out of 230 distributed ballots. They attributed the light vote to lack of interest among some of the men in Dormitory 15, and to lack of information about the candidates by others. One hundred and four (104) ballots were not returned.

Smith is a junior Agricultural Engineering student from Shreveport, Louisiana. His first meeting of the Senate will be Wednesday evening when the Senate convenes for its regular February session.

CORSAGES.

Beautiful flowers for that lovely lady



OUR PRICES ARE SET TO FIT YOUR POCKETBOOK

"Our flowers say it for you"

AGGIELAND Flower Shop
PHONE 4-1212
(Next to the Campus Theatre)

From Where I Sit . . .

'Battleground' Shows War As It Is—Grim and Sordid

By HERMAN C. GOLLOB

Battleground (MGM) starring Van Johnson, John Hodiak, George Murphy, Ricardo Montalban, James Whitmore, Marshall Thompson (Campus)

In spite of the strident and uninhibited publicity—almost certain signs of a calamitous let-down—which preceded MGM's "Battleground," it is safe to say without fear of being termed presumptuous that this stern, stark, thoroughly human offering is the most ambitious and deserving war chronicle yet framed by a Hollywood studio.

Amid the spate of artificially tricked-up odes to the American soldier of World War II that have been previously offered to the public as examples of "raw realism" in the war picture, "Battleground" stands as a candid and convincing reminder of the war—a war shorn of pumped-up patriotism and stagey heroics; a war of poignant loneliness and futility, and despair, of empty stomachs and K-rations, of whistling shrapnel and dead buddies and undiluted, untampered panic and fright. Much of "Battleground's" artis-

tic naturalism stems from a script of depth and vigor dealing with a dramatically tense moment in American history—the Battle of the Bulge—and peopled with characters of substance and conviction, soldiers who aren't super-human heroes or unctuous patriots, but ordinary civilians caught up in the grim, inexorable vacuum of war and looking for every opportunity to "get the hell out."

Scripter Arnold Nolen shows an uncanny ear for dialogue; the crisp, staccato, cynical banter of the weary and disillusioned troops, their robust, lusty humor, is as intimate as a wire recorder in a Turkish bazaar. And reminding about home is kept from maudlin excesses.

Yet in the very toughness and virility of the script there lies a restrained tenderness and subtle romantic savor that keeps "Battleground's" searing realism from plunging to the utterly revolting.

What cast and director have added to the film's authenticity must also be noted here, as well as the pungent photography and climatic musical score. Director William A. Wellman is a master at projecting the utter futility and sordidness of war; he proved this earlier with "Story of G. I. Joe." It is with the utmost dexterity and sensitivity that he handles his wonderfully able cast.

There seemed to us no single outstanding performance—each actor brought his role to life with keen fidelity. Van Johnson is his cocky, happy-go-lucky self; John Hodiak is an intense, refined doughnut sick of the unpleasantness of war; Ricardo Montalban is a good-natured, ebullient Mexican G. I.; and James Whitmore is the leathery, all-business platoon sergeant. See "Battleground." It's a cinematic experience you won't forget.

'Great Issues' Open To Fifty Juniors

Fifty fully classified juniors, with the approval of their respective deans, will be admitted to the "Great Issues" course (Administration 405) this semester, S. R. Gammon, Chairman of the Committee on Great Issues, said today.

The two-hour elective course may not be offered in 1951, so the Committee on Great Issues decided to allow juniors to register for the course, Gammon added.

Celebrations Plan Told by Scouters

Details of Boy Scout Week activities announced by pack and troop leaders indicate that the celebration will spread beyond the official observance of February 6 to 12.

Two radio programs are planned. On Wednesday at 6:15 p. m. Walter Parsons, an Eagle Scout from Troop 102, will appear with Field Executive Jack Linn on Station KORA. On Thursday at 5:15 Dr. H. W. Barlow, Brazos District chairman, and Linn will be heard over Station WTAW.

Every cub pack and scout troop in the Bryan-College Station area has scheduled some sort of special event for the week, or during the week following.

An incomplete list shows that Pack 64, sponsored by Travis P. T. A., will hold a Blue and Gold Banquet, with Cubmaster Joe Faulk in charge. Cubmaster Carl Niederauer has announced plans for a similar event for Pack 75, sponsored by the Crockett P. T. A. Pack 105-N will have its charter presentation and a program at the Carver school "cafeteria."

Scout troop activities include: a window display in downtown Bryan by Troop 12 on Friday and Saturday; a civic program for Scouts of Troop 80 by their sponsor, the Lions Club, at the regular club meeting; a formal inspection and parent's night Wednesday by Troop 81, sponsored by the American Legion.

Troop 102, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, will have its traditional camp site and open house

Saturday at North Gate, College Station.

This troop also will have a character presentation at the Tuesday Kiwanis luncheon meeting. Jack Burchard will present a brief resume of the year's activities.

Troop 383, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, has scheduled an inspection and inventory Friday at their Scout house. A special communion is scheduled for Catholic members of the troop on Sunday.

Troop 364, sponsored by the Knights of Pythias, has scheduled a special week-end hike and overnight for Friday and Saturday.

Troop 411, sponsored by the Rotary Club, will have a window display in Madeley's Drug Store, College Station South Side.

A parent's night program is scheduled Tuesday. The troop will attend religious services as a unit at St. Thomas Episcopal chapel, College Station, on Sunday morning.

All Cubs and Scouts will attend church services on Sunday in uniform. In some cases they will go as a unit, in others they will attend the church of their preference.

Explosion Jars Houston Area

Houston, Feb. 5, (AP)—A mysterious explosion shook Houston suburbs and several North Harris County communities tonight.

Windows were broken and groceries knocked off shelves at Sheldon, Little York and Aldine.

Neither sheriff's department nor Houston police had located the source of the blast three hours later.

G. E. Shepler, police department dispatcher, figured on the basis of numerous telephone calls the explosion happened somewhere within 10 miles north or northwest of Crosby, about 15 miles northeast of Houston.

Police and sheriff's departments were swamped with telephone inquiries.

A weary complaint clerk at the sheriff's office summed up the missing explosion this way: "Wherever it is, there sure has been one."

PALACE
Bryan 2-8879
NOW SHOWING

BARBARA STANWYCK
JAMES MASON
VAN HEFLIN
AVA GARDNER
in M-G-M's
'EAST SIDE, WEST SIDE'
CYD CHARISSE
NANCY DAVIS
CALE SONDERSGAARD

QUEEN
TODAY AND WEDNESDAY

20...AND THIS IS NOW
GARY GRANT
TOOK ANN
SHERIDAN
STILL SO FORTHY!
I WAS A MALE
WAR BRIDE
Plus Cartoon
'SATURDAY EVENING PUSS'
News

Guion Hall
TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY

JOHN FORD'S
NEW AND FINEST PICTURE
OF THE FIGHTING
CAVALRY!



'She Wore a Yellow Ribbon'
starring
JOHN WAYNE
JOANNE DUN
JOHN AGAR
BEN JOHNSON
HARRY CAREY, JR.
With PATTI PAGE and other stars
Directed by JOHN FORD

COMING SAT. — 6:30 P.M.
— Triple Feature —
1. CONCERT
Carlos Molina Orchestra
2. STAGE SHOW
3. MOVIE
"Act of Violence"
— All three for 70c —