

Battalion Editorials

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MONDAY, APRIL 24, 1950

At TISA, Victory for the 'I Don't Know's' . . .

At Waco this past weekend, student government delegations assembled at the TISA convention tabled a resolution which stated that the "right to membership to TISA not be denied to any college because of race or creed."

Several delegations instructed how to vote on such a proposal found the tabling motion an easy way out—an easy way to postpone something explosive in character, something packed with fear and prejudice.

Proponents of the resolution to admit colleges into the organization of student governments found little satisfaction in TISA's refusal to meet this controversial issue head on.

Opponents to the resolution should, before they hail victory of the tabling motion, realize that the cause which they support grows weaker with the passage of time.

Ten years ago, or maybe even less, such a proposal as the resolution would

have been beaten down with overwhelming disapproval. Ten years ago proponents would have been the ones fighting to keep it alive. They would have sought to table it.

Now the pendulum has swung where doubt rests with the opposition. Had opponents to this resolution been willing to participate in an open discussion, they would not have resorted to the defensive maneuver to table it.

Social changes come about, at best, slowly. During this period when the issue presented in Bill Hamilton's resolution is torn by three groups—those who favor it, those who oppose, and the broad group who just don't know—the tabling motion and its passage is a manifestation of that desire of the "I don't know's" to wait a while before decision is reached.

The tabling motion and its passage reflects an indecision and doubt now, that was a thunderous "no" less than a generation ago.

Another Successful Muster . . .

The success of Friday night's ceremony in Guion Hall was a tribute to the efforts of the Muster Committee. The work and planning of its members resulted in an impressive and stirring program.

The annual Muster is one of the most valuable traditions of A&M. Originated at the request of the students and authorized by President Houston in 1903, it has become honorably associated with the college in the minds of the people of Texas. It is fitting that such an observance

should be so respected.

Each year the different Muster Committees strive to achieve for the campus Muster the atmosphere befitting such a ceremony. The 1950 Muster Committee did its job well. Because of the efforts of its members, the campus Muster again attained the high standards of presentation which has characterized it throughout the years. Their accomplishment, together with the respectful observance of the Muster by Aggies around the earth, assures the perpetuation of A&M's most significant ceremony.

Ploribus Unum, the Unknown . . .

In the beginning he was 16 million. He was the U. S. Army and its Air Forces; he was the Navy, the Marines and the Coast Guard, outward bound for battle in World War II. Then he was the 400,000 U. S. dead, and later—as overseas grave-registration teams sifted out fragments of identifications—he was the 8,000 unidentifiable.

By next spring, the Department of Defense announced last week, he would be six. Chosen by lot and code number from among the unidentified dead of each war theater, he would be brought to the

U. S. by air and sea in sealed steel, and then secretly moved about so that none could know whether he had come from west or east. In Philadelphia's Independence Hall he would be chosen one. Four days later on Memorial Day, 1951, the U.S.'s symbolic warrior of World War II would be enshrined. Unlike the Unknown Soldier of World War I, near whom he would lie in Arlington, he would be neither soldier, sailor, nor airman. He would be simply "The Unknown."

(Reprinted from Time magazine, April 24, 1950.)

In looking for and in holding a job the intelligent young man should have a "wish bone," "back bone," and a "funny bone."

A "wish bone" is necessary for anyone to have a competitive attitude. With a "wish bone" he will build goals towards points of success.

A "back bone" is necessary so that he can bear up under disappointments and

let downs. It takes courage to stand up and fight back against continuous defeat without despairing.

And a "funny bone" so that he can laugh off things when they go wrong and always maintain a pleasing way about him.

These pearls of wisdom dropped last week before the Saddle and Sirloin Club fits anyone, anywhere.

The Battalion

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

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STILL IN HIBERNATION



Prof, Student In Atomic Work

A physics professor and a graduate student of A&M are utilizing the research facilities of the Atomic Energy Commission to do graduate work.

They are Dr. J. G. Potter, professor and head of the Department of Physics, and Richard A. Erickson, candidate for the Ph. D. degree in physics.

Erickson is carrying out his research for the doctoral degree at Oak Ridge National Laboratory as a Fellow of the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies. Dr. Potter serves with two Oak Ridge scientists as Erickson's graduate committee. Erickson is one of eight fellows who are now carrying out their research at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, which is operated for the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission by the Carbide and Carbon Chemicals organization.

Erickson's research, for example, requires the uranium chain-reacting pile—or nuclear furnace—as the major research tool.

A three-man graduate committee directs Erickson's research. Dr. Potter is the A&M representative on the committee.

Dr. Leipper to Talk To Physics Society

The newly organized A&M Physics Society will present its first program Tuesday, April 25, at 7:30 p. m. in Room 36 of the Physics building, with Dr. Leipper, head of the Oceanography department, as the main speaker.

Dr. Leipper's talk will be concerning the use of physics in oceanography work, Darwin Hodges, vice-president of the society said.

Harold Smith, president of the society, announced that new members can still join the society and that the program will be open to the general public.

Official Notice

A special examination for students in C. E. 5005 will be given Saturday, May 6, 1950, for all students who have authorization to take the examination.

Civil Engineering Dept.

The oral preliminary examination of Mr. E. L. Harrington for his Ph.D. degree in civil engineering will be held on Friday, April 28th at 3 p. m. in the Academic Council Room, 208 Academic Building.

All interested members of the Faculty are invited to attend.
H. J. Miles,
Chairman.

SKYWAY — Shows — 7:15 — 9:30
DRIVE-IN Theatre
Tonight — Randolph Scott
"CANADIAN PACIFIC"
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PLUS: CARTOON — NEWS

Reds Hiding Defense Secret

Berlin, April 23—(AP)—The Russians are waging a purge in the Baltic republics to protect coastal defense secrets in the general area where they claim an American plane attempted to make photographs, the official American newspaper here reported today.

Neue Zeitung, published by the information services division of the U. S. High Commissioner's office, said its information came from Baltic refugees in Sweden. The newspaper quoted them as saying the Russians feared a fifth column of Baltic Nationalists along the strategic coastline where Russia is reported to have submarine pens and rocket-launching sites.

The United States has charged Russia with shooting down an unarmed U. S. Navy Privateer and its crew of 10 over the open Baltic sea, the Privateer disappeared April 8 while on a flight to Copenhagen from Wiesbaden.

Protest
The Russians protested that they knew nothing about the Privateer, but said their fighters answered fire from an American "B-29 Flying Fortress" which they encountered on April 8 over Lappayn (Libau), Latvia, one of the Baltic republics.

The United States said the Privateer was the only American plane in the Baltic area that day and none of its B-29 Superfortresses is missing.

A Swedish customs official said a rubber life raft, which possibly belonged to the missing Privateer, appeared to have been torn by bul-

let holes when it was picked up in the Baltic. The raft arrived in Wiesbaden, U. S. air force base in Germany today, but it was wrapped up so it could not be inspected. Authorities said it would not be examined until it reaches Port Lyautay, Morocco, North Africa, U. S. Navy base. Two U. S. Air Force officers who saw the raft agreed it was damaged, but said they could not be sure how the damage was done.

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