

Battalion Editorials

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FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 1950

A Roundup Well Worth While . . .

The recent roundup of 4-H leaders and young people, county agents, and home demonstration agents on the campus has been a source of pride for those of us in summer school. Not only have we been given an opportunity to meet and know present and future agricultural leaders in Texas, but we have seen several departments of the A&M System work hard to bring credit to themselves and to A&M. Undertaking roundups such as the one we have seen this week involve a tremendous amount of work and planning. That was evident to anyone who walked around the campus. But all that effort pays off ten thousand fold by making possible distribution and exchange of information of the latest advances in agriculture to all those who can benefit from it.

It gives us an opportunity to express our thanks to the men who graduate from A&M and go out into the state to aid Tex-

as farmers and ranchers in improving their production and property. And we can show our appreciation too, to the many women who also aid in this task by working through the homes of Texas' rural people. And, perhaps the best aspect of the roundup is the occasion we are afforded to welcome the young agriculturists of Texas.

Texas agriculture has always looked to A&M to aid in a program of self-improvement. But this past week that attention on our campus was even more pronounced. Judging from what we have seen, the component parts of the A&M System which made the roundup possible made Texas' farmers and ranchers glad they had turned their eyes this way.

We look forward to continued and ever-growing roundups such as we have had this summer.

The Senator 'Zeros In' on the RFC . . .

Jesse Jones' recent statement that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation should be given a "decent burial" is apparently having some effect in Washington. Democratic Senator J. W. Fulbright, chairman of a sub-committee investigating the government lending agency, spoke up Wednesday against a proposal to transfer the RFC to the Department of Commerce. Since the proposal is another of President Truman's schemes it is encouraging to see responsible members of his own party oppose his suggestions.

Following President Truman's proposal for shifting the RFC to the Commerce Department, Sen. Fulbright said the plan would not cure any of the defects his committee has discovered in the agency. The big question is not whether to transfer the RFC, the Arkansas senator said, but whether there should even be an RFC.

As we have said before in this column, we are inclined to agree with Jesse Jones' "decent burial" proposition. Or, if the RFC is not buried, it should at least

be placed on a standby basis, inactive unless our economy should take a downswing. Then, it could be opened up again to make money available to good-risk businesses. With our national income at a record high, with corporation profits increasingly good, there is no need for a government lending agency. Especially is this true when so many of the loans made by the RFC are the subject of so much justifiable criticism from men who recognize the differences between sound business loans and political pay-offs.

There was a time when the RFC performed a needed task by providing otherwise unobtainable capital to finance worthwhile projects. However, that time is past. Private capital is now readily available for investment in sound undertakings. The recent \$85 million loan to a Texas electric utility by commercial banks and an insurance company is an example.

We hope Senator Fulbright will pursue his study of the RFC. If he does, we expect to hear him recommend Jesse Jones' "decent burial."

Lessening Our Security Risks Abroad . . .

Washington should take quick action on a Senate sub-committee's recommendation, calling for removal of aliens from United States embassies, consulates and legations in foreign countries. The recommendation was made following a tour of Europe by the committee. It stated that the aliens should be replaced by American citizens as soon as possible.

This nation's foreign outposts should be, particularly in these times, as free from enemy infiltration as possible. Inclusion of aliens in the office forces of

these outposts makes us extremely vulnerable to espionage when, with Americans in these forces, such might not be the case.

The committee further reported that "the effort to penetrate our security abroad is constantly growing." The dangers of this can be reduced by replacing foreign nationals with American citizens.

This is the kind of report which should be given immediate consideration and approval by the State Department. We owe that to ourselves.

The Kansas City, president of a city and state organization of independent grocers says that if people would quit eating meat for a week the country would be flooded with meat. We believe that would work. All the rest of you people stop eating meat for a week.

Wolves are accused by Communists of being responsible for rabies in Russia. If wolves could talk they would probably accuse the Communists of biting their first.

Mazzini, Giuseppe . . . During infancy and childhood his health was extremely delicate; but he soon began to devour books of all kinds. . . . From the Encyclopaedia Britannica.

That put the roses in his cheeks. — New Yorker

A reader asks our Answers Department: "Is the color green easy on the eyes?" The long kind is, definitely.

The Battalion

"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions

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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 abusive 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.)

VOICE FROM THE WILDERNESS

Editor, The Battalion:

I hesitate to write you about a particular article in Thursday's paper but I've tried to figure it out and am still confused. Maybe you can set me straight. Since the article was short, I'll quote it here in its entirety in case you don't have a copy of the paper handy. It was headlined "Murder on a Pig Hunt."

"Itagom, Sudan . . . A Sudanese native went pig hunting with a bow and arrow. Another native met him in the brush. The newcomer scornfully said he didn't think the hunter's arrows were big enough to kill a pig."

That was it. That was the whole story.

Now, here is what I would like to know—1. Is this a continued story? 2. If not, what happened to the climax? 3. Was somebody murdered? 4. If so, was it a pig or a man? 5. If it was a pig, which man? 6. Were the arrows big enough to kill a pig? 7. When are pigs in season, or are they? 8. If so, why?

Thank you for your help in clearing up my mind on these points.

Anxiously yours,
 C. C. Munroe

(Editors note: Congratulations, you are the third person to come forth with a letter this summer. Our readership is assured, and our efforts have not been in vain.)

We are forced to agree that "Murder on a Pig Hunt" was rather unconvincing. The make-up man, and page-proof readers may have wanted to test the incentive of our readers. Actually, the climactic paragraph was left out because of space limitations. Little did the make-up men realize that

the punch line might possibly be in the last paragraph.

Since you seem to be sincerely interested in the pig hunt, we will answer your questions in their order: (1) No, this is not a continued story. (above paragraph) (2) The climax has, by now, realized its misfortune, been melted down, and is awaiting its turn to get back to the Linotype machine and into another story. (3) Yes, somebody was murdered. (4) One of the men was murdered. (5) The newcomer, to be exact. (6) We too would like to know the answer to this question. The pig, which never appeared on the scene may still be alive. (7) We refer you to the Agriculture Department on this one. (8) Irrelevant question (English 210, remember?)

We hope this has solved the "Murder on a Pig Hunt."

Editor, The Battalion:

E. F. Ray is trying to determine whether a black screw tail bull dog about 11 years of age was the victim of an automobile or whether the dog has been stolen.

H&U employees report picking up a dog meeting such a description but they also report that the dog which was the victim of an automobile accident was not wearing a harness.

The dog belonging to Ray was wearing a harness and vaccination tag number 704. He requests anyone having information about the dog to call him.

Ray emphasized that it was possible for the dog to have been run over by an automobile and for the force of the impact to have broken the harness.

Ray would especially like to contact the driver of the automobile who hit a black dog in College View on Thursday morning May 8. He merely wants to establish whether the dog is dead or whether he is just missing.

Ray lives at House 19 in College View and may be contacted during the daytime at 4-5554.

R. H. Roland

Editor, The Battalion:

McAllen, Tex., June 16—(AP)—The United States visa restrictions, which border business men claim have cut down Mexican trade, have been temporarily suspended.

Allan Skinner, immigration chief at Hidalgo, Texas, so informed the McAllen Chamber of Commerce meeting here yesterday. Rep. Lloyd Bentsen telegraphed the McAllen Valley Evening Monitor to the same effect.

Since June 1, Mexicans wanting to enter the United States on business other than small personal purchases have had to pay \$3 for a business visa at the U.S. consulate at Reynosa, Mexico. These visas were good for only one trip, with a limit of 72 hours. The old crossing cards were good for 29 days.

Rep. Bentsen telegraphed the Monitor:

"Immigration has wired local officials that border crossing cards be returned to original status with liberal interpretation for usage in crossing for business and pleasure. Order was result of confusion and curtailment on business, which I protested strongly because of effect on border areas."

McAllen businessmen reported an alarming drop in trade recently. The announcement does not mean U. S. tourists will get a reduction in visa fees. Under a reciprocal agreement, tourists since June 1 have paid \$3 for a single entry card good for six months. Mexico still enforces this.

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LOUPOT'S "Trade with Lou — He's right with you" CLASS '32

Second in a Series . . .

Changing South Changing For Better, Author Believes

By BEN PRICE

Chapel Hill, N. C.—Southerners, relatively speaking, are "east-high on the hog."

Farms are fewer, larger. Where thousands of acres of cotton once stood now roll the green pastures dotted with Angus, Hereford, Jerseys, sheep and goats.

More and more of the land is being lost to the sea. Even the South's once scorned pines have been developed into a \$900,000,000 paper industry.

Tractors are kicking up dust in the land once considered the private domain of the mule.

Into the Tennessee Valley have poured more than 5,000 new enterprises in the brief span of 15 years.

Since 1944 alone, reports the U. S. Department of Commerce, the number of businesses started by 150,000, bringing the total to 512,000—a gain of 48 per cent.

Manufacturing Gain

From near zero 50 years ago, the region has progressed until it now accounts for 14 per cent of all U. S. manufacturing concerns.

In terms of what the rest of the nation has, though, the South is still the poor relation, but the point is, it isn't exactly destitute any more.

A measure of the urgent activity is to be found in the Birmingham, Ala., steel district, which has been operating at capacity for 10 years—and this despite the loss of markets to new mills in Texas and on the west coast.

Into South Carolina and North Carolina have come textile factories,

using cotton and synthetic yarns, by the score. Along the Gulf coast has risen a forest of rigs and chemical plants.

Dr. Howard W. Odum, of the University of North Carolina, possibly the nation's foremost authority on the region, observed:

"The nature of the present day trends in the South may be illustrated by certain specific cases from which it is possible to observe a trend."

"The estimated population of the southern regions in 1945 was 32.5 per cent of the total for the United States. The total income payments were 23.4 per cent, but the percentage increase from 1940 to 1945 was 146 for the South compared with 116 for the nation. Salaries and wages in the south were 22.3 per cent of the nation's total, but the increase for the South was 155 per cent as compared with 125 for the nation."

A Sign of Thrift

"The South had 14.9 per cent of the total bank deposits, representing an increase of 234 per cent as compared with 142.8 per cent for the nation."

"In registration of private and commercial automobiles, the South was 24.1 per cent, an increase of 2.2 per cent as against an increase for the nation as a whole of 1.7 per cent."

World War II, of course, was a tremendous stimulant for the development of the South industrially, but the trend has been noticeable over the past decade and a half.

Dr. M. S. Heath, professor of economics at North Carolina, attributes much of it to the development of the South as a market.

It is axiomatic, of course, that in a free economy industry is forever seeking to place itself in profitable relationship to labor supply, resources and purchasing power.

Aid From Uncle Sam

The South had everything but purchasing power. How did it get it?

With the beginning of the Roosevelt administration, said Dr. Heath, the South began receiving huge sums as party payments on cotton and tobacco.

For the first time he observed, the South was receiving enough money to meet its living requirements and have some left over.

The surplus, of course, he continued, was used for improvement and thus the South found itself being rated as a market, a lure to industry.

World War II, Dr. Heath said, left a tremendous reservoir of purchasing power within the region and thus has added to its attraction as a market.

Statistics are dull, but they tell a story sometimes as nothing else can. Look at these state by state figures of expenditures on new plants, expansion and purchase of new equipment in the years 1939 and 1947:

Virginia, \$20,190,000 and \$112,383,000; North Carolina, \$20,148,000 and \$137,883,000; South Carolina, \$10,968,000 and \$61,743,000; Georgia, \$18,105,000 and \$84,329,000; Florida, \$8,081,000 and \$50,352,000; Tennessee, \$22,774,000 and \$83,792,000; Alabama, \$11,977,000 and \$72,362,000; Mississippi, \$5,721,000 and \$22,713,000; Louisiana, \$15,807,000 and \$67,219,000; Texas, \$48,503,000 and \$204,744,000; Arkansas, \$4,357,000 and \$30,262,000.

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FOR MUSIC THAT CANT BE BEAT . . . It's really a treat! Buy that "AGGIE WAR HYMN" We all know that it's the best in the land . . . So buy 'em now while Lou has them on hand

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