

Battalion Editorials

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TUESDAY, JULY 11, 1950

They Learn to Do by Doing . . .

If you see billows of smoke rising from an isolated spot on the campus this week, don't become alarmed. Everything is under control, for the 21st Annual Firemen's Training School is underway.

Held annually at the college and sponsored by the Industrial Extension Service, the school trains firemen in the art of fire-fighting, keeping up with all modern techniques and new developments.

This year more than 620 firemen and instructors are on the campus to participate in the school. Courses are being offered for general basic training—in which most of the 620 are enrolled—, advanced training, and a fire marshal's course.

The Firemen's Training School is far different from many schools, short courses, and conferences which flood A & M over the year. Theirs is not a school to

be taught altogether from a book, since practice firefighting gives them practical experience in addition to valuable theory work.

Coming from all parts of the state, as can be easily noticed by the fire trucks and cars bearing the insignia of towns and counties from the Panhandle to the Valley, these men will return home shortly, better equipped to handle emergency situations that threaten their civic safety.

A&M has never been able to put on its best show in the summer, but we hope you will find all the conveniences necessary to make your stay here an enjoyable one, in addition to a valuable one. Just as your school—our school—is growing, so is the college. Come back next year and you will see a college whose outside facilities will match those of any college in the South.

Telegraphing Our Hands . . .

Last Thursday, a member of the House of Representatives requested strict censorship to be clamped on American participation in the Korean War. Sunday afternoon, a well known radio commentator did the same. Both men pointed out the danger of publication of military and supply movements.

The congressman, a former bomber squadron commander in World War II, wrote Secretary of Defence Louis Johnson, "Needless to say, no such information is forthcoming from North Korea. Our men don't know what they are going to have thrown against them until they meet it face to face." The radio commentator called upon fellow newsmen to voluntarily censor their own releases.

These two men echoed publicly the private thoughts of many citizens. While all of us devour every scrap of news of the fighting on the Korean front, we would all just as eagerly forego such news if that act would help safeguard American lives.

Anyone who has followed the dispatches from correspondents knows that often they have "telegraphed" to communist forces the kinds of equipment, the routes of travel, and the identity of Allied troops being moved to the front. Perhaps this information was already in the

hands of the invaders, but perhaps it was not.

Then, too, there is the constant news of shipments of men and materials from this country. Whenever the actual port of embarkation is not named, newsmen speculate all too accurately what that port might be. Not content with that, they make "guesses" at the types and even names of the ships involved, the probably sailing dates, routes and expected date and port of arrival.

While it is true the North Koreans do not have an undersea fleet, it is just as true the Russians have. At the time of this writing that Red fleet has not been hostile. But between the sailing date of American troopships and their arrival in the Orient, the picture may have changed.

Additional examples could fill this column. You have only to use your imagination to see the dangers in uncensored reporting of our military movements.

During the last war, correspondents proved that their own, self-imposed censorship was more effective than that of the military. The time has come—indeed, it is past—when newsmen should once again impose upon themselves similar self-discipline.

'The Rains Came' and Will Continue . . .

The weatherman is getting better and better. At least that's what the wire services tell us. Those 24 to 36 hour predictions we see daily are now 87 per cent accurate. But it is in the realm of long range forecasts that the men with the charts are really beginning to shine.

According to the Associated Press, the weather bureau is reasonably correct eight out of ten times in its 30 day pronostications. These monthly estimates of the weather are not actually forecasts, the weathermen say. Instead, they call them "outlook summaries." But whatever they name them, if they're 80 per cent accurate then they're good enough for us.

The weathermen claim these long-range forecasts are accurate enough to be of

value even though they are limited to nation-wide or large-area regions. Mostly they're based on an atmospheric pattern over a large portion of the earth at from two to six miles high. They predict what effect this slow-moving pattern will have up to 30 days later.

We don't consider ourselves in any class approaching the modern weatherman. To tell the truth, we're more of the stiff-joint school of forecasting. But we're willing to stack our predictions for this area up against any the Weather Bureau has to offer. We don't hold ourselves to 30 day periods, either. Right here and now we put ourselves on record as predicting rain nine weekends out of ten this fall. See if we aren't at least 87 per cent accurate.

The Battalion

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

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 during the regular school year. During the summer, The Battalion is published four times a week and circulated every Tuesday through Friday afternoon. Subscription rates \$2.00 per summer. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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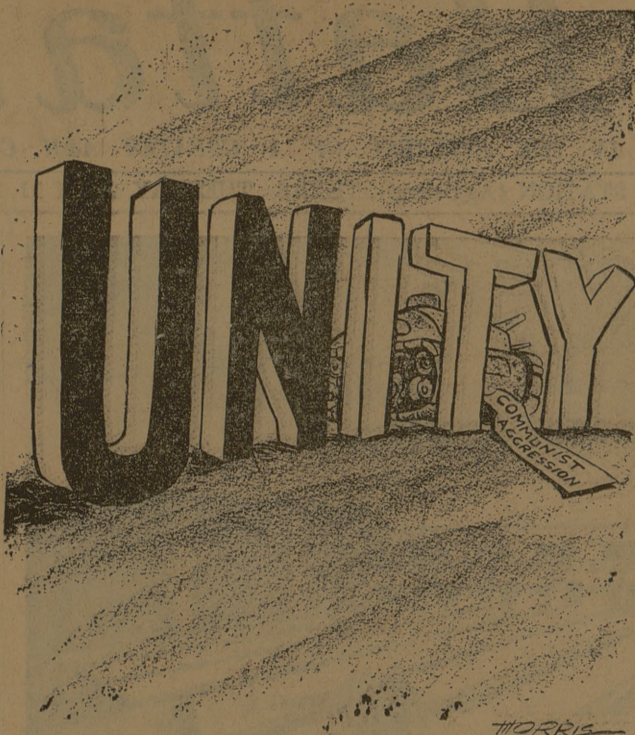
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Interpreting the News . . .

Korean Battle May Last Many Months

By J. M. ROBERTS, JR.
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

Alternating reports of success and failure of the allied forces in Korea serve merely to record the ups and downs of a campaign which is just beginning. It is notable that Pentagon observers have gone out of their way to warn against over-optimism as a result of the week-end's first big show of allied air strength, when a concentrated group of Red tank forces fell under devastating attack.

Coupled with the escape from northern-held territory of a "lost battalion" of American troops and the apparent stalling of the Red offensive for a time, the developments gave Americans the brightest day they have had since June 25.

But it must be remembered that in a war of any size and, indeed in this war where a few thousand Americans are only beginning to take part against 200,000 or more available enemy troops, there are only skirmishes. They have one impact only on the strategic picture. They gain some time for development of the forces and the defenses which will first contain and then provide the jumping off strength for counter-offensive.

Transportation Corps Cadets At Fort Story

By RAY KUNZE
Camp Correspondent
Transportation Corps

Company "D" of the Fourth Transportation Corps Summer Camp has been in training at Fort Story, Va., for the past five days. Fort Story, located on the tip of Cape Henry, was formerly a coast artillery base and guarded the entrance to Chesapeake Bay.

The lighthouse on the Cape was built in 1791, and marks the spot where the first permanent English settlers landed in 1607. At Fort Story, now a sub-post of Fort Eustis, we studied the U. S. Army DUKW (pronounced duck), an amphibious vehicle used for transporting supplies from ship to shore. Cadets drove the "duck" on both land and sea, as well as carrying cargo to and from a freight ship lying a quarter mile off-shore.

Near Virginia Beach Fort Story is situated only a few hundred yards from the ocean and provided excellent facilities for swimming. Virginia Beach, a renowned swimming resort, is only a few miles from the camp. One can always find Aggies from a number of branches there. Quite often you can hear, "Gig 'em" rising above the crowd.

We made the trip to Fort Story by truck and returned five days later via two FS Vessels. Fortunately no one got sick during the four hour trip.

Nearing Fort Eustis, cadets observed the huge James River, "Dead Fleet," where all types of supply and passenger vessels are in "mothballs." The fleet normally consists of between 400 and 600 ships of various sizes and types used during World War II for transporting personnel and supplies.

We will continue our summer camp training at the main post of Fort Eustis.

Official Notice

The deadline for filing application for degrees for students who expect to graduate at the end of the summer session (August) is JUNE 15. Any student who expects to complete the requirements for either a Bachelor's or Master's Degree during the summer should call by the Office of the Registrar immediately and file formal application for the degree.

Behind the Scenes . . .

'Night and the City', A Story Of Lower Depths of London

By FRED WALKER

"Night and the City," starring Richard Widmark and Gene Tierney—now showing at the Campus theater.

It's the story of a man who failed to be one. Hollywood's "Night and the City" studies the London underworld, but not with the same basic nakedness as Gerald Kersh, whose book was adapted for the screen.

It can easily be called "fast-

moving," for the story opens with Harry Fabian running from somebody and ends with him running from everybody.

A Strong Enemy

Environment is the enemy that Harry Fabian Richard Widmark must combat. Environment that says that the weak must die, and the strong will walk around each other. An environment that sets a quid before a life, and a life before a love. An environment that One Harry Fabian could never have possibly beaten.

This is the story of Harry Fabian: Get Rich! Get rich and be powerful! Get rich, for there's nothing that money can't buy. Harry Fabian believed in this. Harry Fabian was just another man on a box ranting, "Tell ya' what I'm gonna' do."

Entrez la Femme

There is a girl, Gene Tierney, in the life of Harry Fabian. She would be nice to love, and he will, after he is rich. Until then she is good for a touch. There is a woman, Google Withers, in the life of Harry Fabian. She is shrewd, cruel, greedy and calculating, but that's all right with Harry, for with her husband's money backing him, there's no telling how far he will go. And then there is Phil Nossoross, owner of the Silver Fox, a club of

percentage girls and disreputable living. Phil is a slob of a man, Helen, his wife, doesn't like these physical proportions. Helen likes the ambitiously greedy Harry. He's weak; she can rule him. Phil will eliminate Harry.

Even Wrestling

Cristos, a sinister wrestling boss, and Strangler, a moronic grappler, complete the pickets in Harry's fence. You can lose a lot of friends in the underworld when your life is worth a thousand quid.

It is difficult to blame Harry for his weakness, for most of us possess that same quality. The main thing wrong with Harry is that he is blind. Just in the act of reaching for that torch of life, he remains a dead man.

To give a complete review on "Night and the City" would not only be unfair, but somewhat ridiculous. The short dissipated glimpse of Harry Fabian's life is lurid to say the least, but then of course past attempts by Hollywood to glorify gangland now makes the contrast, complete.

The Root of Evil

It would be best to see for yourself how a fanatical worship of money and the terrible quest, as Harry said, "to be somebody," can turn a man's life into a maze of treachery and bewilderment.

As to be expected, the picture belonged to Widmark most of the time. Ever since "The Kiss of Death" producers can't wait to capitalize on his becoming leer. About three more of these pictures and the public will be giving the leer right back.

"Night and the City" has the usual pitfalls: one or two unnecessary characters; a hideous prolongment of the climax; and of course a typical "Hollywood" ending.

The one remarkable scene in the film is a wrestling bout between a 60-year-old Greco-Roman wrestler opposing a younger adherent to the modern "faking" style. The audience reaction was instantaneous, and Stanislaus Zhysky and Mike Mazurki deserve applause. Comment: Music by Franz Waxman and photography by Max Green are excellent.

Hint: Read the book.

Wildlife Man Head Returns From Meet

Dr. W. B. Davis, head of the Wildlife Management Department, has returned from Mammoth Springs, Yellowstone National Park, where he attended the 31st meeting of the American Mammal Society.

While at the meeting, he was elected to the Board of Directors of the society for a two year period.

Dr. Davis was chosen to present a paper, "Bats in the State of Morelos, Mexico." This material was obtained by Davis in 1949 on a survey which he made in the state of Morelos, in cooperation with the Mexican Department of Wildlife.

At the present there are 17 species of bats in Morelos, and of the 17 species, five of them were discovered in the 1949 survey, according to Dr. Davis.

Kream-Kow Klub To Revise in Fall

The Kream and Kow Klub will revise its constitution this fall according to W. B. Anthony, instructor of dairy husbandry and sponsor of the club.

Club members attending summer school will meet with Dr. I. W. Rupel to revise the constitution. It will be presented for approval next fall, Anthony said.

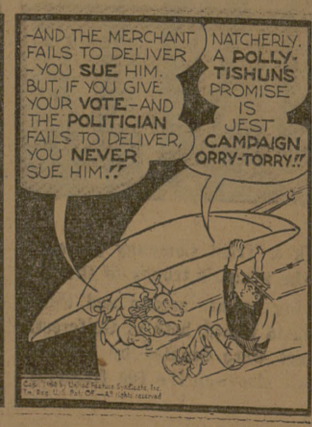
Anthony asks all dairy husbandry majors who plan to attend the second session of summer school to leave their address with the secretary of the Dairy Husbandry Department. In this way they can be notified of the meeting at which changes will be made, he said.

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By Al Capp

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