

Battalion Editorials

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 1950

An Eisenhower Boom Awaits His Signal . . .

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, who will speak here Nov. 9 for the inauguration of Dr. M. T. Harrington as president of the college, has been the subject for more-than-usual newspaper and magazine reports lately.

The question is, as it has been since the Truman "miracle" win of 1948, whether or not "Ike" will make the race in 1952 for the nation's top office.

So far, the Columbia president has made no statements which can be interpreted as definite intents, nor has he let his party affiliations be known, should he decide to run. But already many of the country's top political figures and leading newspapers have thrown support his way.

A Houston columnist reported this week that the General has met with high Texas Republicans concerning a possible large backing in this state. A weekly news digest said he intends to meet soon with his brothers and several national GOP bigwigs to decide his political future.

Squelching an "Ike-for-President" boom just before the Republican convention of 1948, Eisenhower gave no hints to either major party of his ambitions, although many of the leading newsmen ac-

knowledge him to be strictly Republican material.

Why hasn't "Ike" come into the open if he does aspire to the presidential nomination? Maybe it's good strategy. One top Republican, Harold Stassen, might blame his 1948 loss on a too-early announcement, although he has already, for all practical purposes, again tossed his chapeau into the breeze, to land where it may—in the White House, he hopes.

We cannot find in our minds the logic of a general, grass-roots, "draft Ike" campaign until the great warrior throws a few basic planks into a prospective platform. The man is an excellent military leader—a fact attested to by men who know warfare best, but we suggest to his premature supporters that they wait for definite policy statements. Silence is good but sometimes unethical.

Perhaps by November, when the General speaks here, he will have looked and leaped. A&M is indeed fortunate in procuring such a prominent figure for a 75th Anniversary Year speaker, and should he be as successful in his political maneuvers as in those of the war, we may be listening to a future President of the United States.

Keep an Eye on Churchill and Strasbourg . . .

That drive at Strasbourg to set up a European super government may get somewhere. At least delegates to the lower house, or assembly, leave no doubt about what they are shooting at. It is nothing less than a real parliament for the free parts of the continent.

This is seen in the assembly's decision, by a vote of 87 to 8, to tie itself directly in with the parliament of its fifteen member nations. The vote is all the more striking in view of the bitter fight of the British delegates against it. All eight "nays" came from the eight British Labor party delegates headed by Hugh Dalton, who said, "We can not accept a mandate from outside our own parliament as to how we shall vote in Westminster."

Dalton is right in that the Strasbourg Assembly now pledges its members not only to bring up Strasbourg decisions back home in their own lawmaking bodies; it also binds them to vote there in support

of these same decisions. Whether Dalton and his fellow Laborites are right in thinking that the British people will never stomach such an infringement on the freedom of action by any members of their parliament is another matter.

The French, the Belgians, the Italians and all the rest, including the West Germans, are obviously more in earnest about creating a united Europe than are their neighbors across the Channel. The time is fast approaching, though, when the gentlemen at Westminster must either fish or cut bait. The pressure of danger from the East keeps the clock ticking. There is more than an even chance now that the peoples of Western Europe are going to bind themselves together in one strong defensive union. Britain can not be half in and half out of it. It is tough choice, admittedly. But watch Winston Churchill make the most of it.—The Dallas Morning News.

The Passing Parade . . .

Note to prospective student senators: A&M's parking situation is becoming more critical than ever, with several new areas now verboten to automobiles. Although last year's committee tried hard to find a solution, it accomplished little. Another try with more definite aims could help alleviate the problem.

How to be tactful, by Harry S. Truman: (1) When you have a subordinate who speaks what he thinks, but it doesn't agree with your less-competent associate's policies, muzzle him. (2) Be sure to let everyone know you're tossing a gag in his

mouth. (3) Ignore what he was saying after you've reprimanded him, for he shouldn't be talking of Far Eastern policies. After all, he's only been operating that theater almost-perfectly for just a few years.

Metropolitan Memos: Recently a Houston city councilman got in dutch for kissing one of the City Hall elevator operators. During a meeting in the building a few days later a loud screech reverberated through the halls, caused by faulty air-conditioning equipment. Commented a citizen at the meeting, "Must be another elevator operator."

Chicago—The Albany Park police station baseball team suffered a double loss. They were defeated by a team of cops

from the Damen Avenue Station. And somebody stole their uniforms from an automobile parked at Soldier Field.

The Battalion

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

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SUCH SWEET SADNESS



Interpreting the News . . .

MacArthur Hitting Too Many Homers

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

Comment on General MacArthur's statement about Formosa, which the administration tried unsuccessfully to suppress, would lead one to think that the general advocated taking over the island for a U. S. military base such as Guam and Okinawa.

That may be what he would like to see. Lots of people, after seeing the lengths to which Russia is

willing to go in pushing her expansionist policy, wish the United States could establish a military base at every strategic point around the Communist periphery.

But that isn't what MacArthur said. His text contains not one word about occupying Formosa, making it a military base, or holding it under any sort of thralldom whatever.

His entire exposition concerned how Formosa had been used for aggression in the past, what its possession meant to Japan in the last war, and what it might mean to an aggressor again. Defend Formosa, MacArthur said. He didn't say take it, any more than Truman said take Korea when he ordered American forces into action there.

What upset allied authorities in Washington, London and Lake Success was not what MacArthur had said about Formosa. It was his timing, the manner of his distribution without advising or consulting Washington, and what he had to say down toward the tail end about people who feared the political results in Korea's defense.

Responsible Paragraph

The paragraph that probably is responsible for 90 per cent of the trouble said:

"Nothing could be more fallacious than the threadbare argument, by those who advocate appeasement and defeatism in the Pacific, that if we defend Formosa we alienate continental Asia. That it is in the pattern of oriental psychology to respect and follow aggressive, resolute and dynamic leadership—to quickly turn on a leadership characterized by timidity or vacillation—and they underestimate the oriental mentality."

That was striking pretty close to some people in both Washington and London right at a time when the U. S. asking for a United Nations investigation of its Formosa policy, was attempting to rally international support and to straighten out its split with Britain on the subject.

Woman Legion Head?

Austin, Tex., Aug. 31.—(AP)—Texas Legionnaires, some 5,000 strong, will choose their next state commander from among four candidates, including one woman, at the state convention in Galveston. The Texas department's 32nd annual American Legion convention will be held Sept. 8-10.

Behind the Scenes . . .

'No Sad Songs' Shows Vivid Account of Cancer Patient

By FRED WALKER

(No Sad Songs For Me: Columbia; now at Palace Wed. through Sat.; starring Margaret Sullivan, Wendell Corey, Veneia Lindfors, John McIntire.)

Though rich in pathos and paradoxical realism, the sad notes of the poignant "No Sad Songs For Me" may prove too nakedly absolute via its bromidic epitaph, "The Brave Picture of the Year."

Like any motion picture, this one had to have a few "flyers" harnessed to it, so "No Sad Songs For Me" has been tagged "The Brave Picture of the Year." Since the theme deals with cancer, it appears as if Hollywood is asking for resounding applause and aesthetic quaverings for merely recognizing the existence of the disease.

It is shamefully ridiculous that

a cheap device as the flyer is allowed to partially ruin a good motion picture that combines superb acting and a gripping story to arrive as one of the better shows of the year.

Brad and Mary Scott (Wendell Corey and Marget Sullivan) have been blest with ten full years of marriage and one child, Polly, but tragedy strikes them suddenly and cruelly. Mary goes to the family doctor and friend (John McIntire) to confirm symptoms of pregnancy.

She is not only greatly disappointed to find the symptoms false, but horrified to learn that she has a much-advanced case of cancer. Ten months of life remain. Mary hides the truth from husband and daughter and attempts to lead a normal life, but everyday conversations and incidents are constant torturing reminders of the grim future.

Brad hires a new draftsman to

aid him in his work on the community reservoir, and the Scotts' life takes an unforeseen turn when the aide recommended is Chris Hadam, (Vivica Lindfors) talented and wildly alluring. After a brief affair Brad realizes that Chris can never take Mary's place; hence, reconciliation. But Mary knows of the affair, and instead of allowing Chris to leave when the chance presents itself, she brings Chris into her home and social circle.

The plan is plainly evident, Mary knows that Brad could easily retain that past attraction for Chris, and if Polly and Mary's friends accepted her, it would be reasonable for Mary to feel that there would be someone to eventually take her place.

Mary's scheme works quite well, but as she and Brad leave on a long planned-for vacation, Brad (See "NO SAD", Page 4)

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- 1/4 Pound Pkg. Admiration Tea & Tea Glass . . . 25c
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- 2—303 Tins Libby's Fruit Cocktail . . . 43c
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