

'Signs' of Things to Come . . .

There are fewer causes for excuses around Aggie land these days. And that, during a football season, is a novelty.

No one need be told that the Aggie team is going to do its best along those lines. But there is another item connected with the grid season at Aggie land that has often caused a few red faces in these parts.

And it's these items, our football signs, that we hope will cause us less embarrassment in the coming few months. Indications are that such will be the case.

Yesterday's paper announced the resumption of the "Football Sign of the Week" Contest started by the editors of last year's Battalion. While trying to select the winners for this initial week's competition, one of our co-editors noticed the marked improvement of the signs over those of last week and more especially over those of last year.

There were some, of course, that showed lack of taste, lack of originality and the

familiar display of "loose-looking" females. Using the remotest of alibis to link such "works of art" with a football game, the creators showed the paucity of ideas they were trying to cover with their display of perverted pulchritude.

But, thanks to the pleas of this year's senior yell leaders, even these should be non-existent by the time visitors become more abundant on the campus.

It was a few days before the opening of school this year that Senior Yell Leader Jimmie Pianta told a group of company and regimental commanders the simple reason why the Corps Chaplain was being requested to "censor" the signs. It was the oft-told tale of those cadets showing mothers and girl friends around the campus only to find themselves at a loss for words when the visitor's eyes fell upon one of our "better" signs.

It was Barlow "Bones" Irvin who said there should be "no cause for regrets" this year. Let's have the Twelfth Man work as diligently as the other eleven in completely attaining that goal.

Let's Get Those Boats Unloaded . . .

Americans are an unpredictable lot. First they promise to stand behind the democratic form of government prevalent in these United States. Whether they are sincere or merely making available to themselves the opportunities of the nation can be answered only individually.

The point from hence the question in our minds arises occurs when these same so-called "Americans" take it upon themselves to personally or by groups make certain decisions which invariably do not correlate with policies of the government. Usually, the reasons given for action of this sort are, when carefully considered, highly unethical and most asinine.

The most recent example of action of this sort first began when the Swedish freighter Selma Thornden arrived in Boston almost three weeks ago with Czechoslovakian chemicals and Russian licorice roof on board. Longshoremen refused to unload the cargo because of its origin.

The Czechoslovakian materials were unloaded by protesting longshoremen at All-

bany since then, and several ports later, the Russian licorice has remained aboard. Now at Port Arthur, the skipper of the ship which operates in regular Swedish flag service between Scandinavia and Eastern United States Ports is undecided where to make another port call.

A secretary of one of the longshoremen's unions said "being Americans, we can't do a thing like that," referring to the unloading of the licorice roots. Spokesmen of other unions echoed his statement.

Our government has not discontinued trade with those countries. From outward appearances, no such action is planned, as world trade is ultimately necessary for a successful economy. But a few workers, supposedly behind the decisions of their government and surely demanding all of its benefits, are forming the basis of foreign trade corruption.

Definite action should be taken by government officials to have the licorice roots, regardless of their source since we have not yet struck any nations off the foreign exchange list, unloaded.

A Hand-off From the 'Man Under' . . .

Oh, ye of little faith! Many followers of the little man from Missouri, Harry S. Truman, were brokenhearted last week when he, to secure the appointment of George C. Marshall as secretary of defense, admitted that he and James F. Brynes, then secretary of state, were responsible for our "knuckling under" to the Communists in China.

But cheer up, Fair Dealers. President Truman has hit upon a wonderful way to worm himself out of taking blame for the Chinese blunder.

In a biography of Truman titled The Man of Independence, published last Tuesday, Jonathan Daniels, one-time presidential aide and a member of the Democratic National Committee, quotes President Truman as saying that James F. Brynes "lost his nerve in Moscow" and "failed miserably as secretary of state." Of course, it is merely a coincidence that the denunciation of Brynes is made public at such an opportune time for Truman—or that is what the Fair Dealers would have us believe.

The president believed, Daniels writes, that Brynes had weakened the policy toward Russia laid down by Mr. Truman at Pots-

dam. Again quoting Truman, "I told him (Brynes) that our policy was not appeasement and not a one-way street." And speaking of Brynes' resignation, "He failed miserably as secretary of state and ran out on me when the going was rough and when I needed him worst."

To avoid the contention that the publishing of the book is a "face saving" gesture for Truman, Daniels refrains from directly accusing Brynes of the Chinese fiasco. But for the loyal Trumanites and the non-thinkers, the denunciation of Brynes as a failure as secretary of state includes all his acts committed while serving in that capacity.

Doubters of Truman's innocence in the appeasement of the Communists will probably have the same reaction of James Brynes. In replying to the charges made by the book, Brynes said that Mr. Truman kept him on as secretary of state for eight months after (according to Daniels' book) the president had decided he was a failure as in that office and "if he felt that way, why should he have wanted a miserable failure around at any time?"

The Battalion

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

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, is published five times a week during the regular school year. During the summer terms, The Battalion is published four times a week, and during examination and vacation periods, twice a week. Days of publication are Monday through Friday for the regular school year, Tuesday through Friday during the summer terms, and Tuesday and Thursday during vacation and examination periods. Subscription rates \$6.00 per year or \$1.50 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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Interpeting the News . . .

Some Questions On New Communist Law

By JAMES MARLOW

Washington, Sept. 27—(AP)—There is probably as much confusion in the public mind over the new anti-Communist law as over any law of recent years.

Here are the answers to a few questions: Q. The law says the government can round up Communists and throw them into detention camps. Does that mean the FBI will start such a roundup right away, or when?

A. The law doesn't give the government power to make such a roundup now. It says such a roundup can be made only if (1) the U. S. is invaded, (2) Congress declares war, or (3) there's an uprising here to help some foreign power.

Q. It has been estimated that there are 60,000 to 70,000 full-fledged Communist party members in this country. Would they all be rounded up if one of those three things happened?

A. Probably not, although the government could suit itself about that. But the law says the government shall round up "each person as to whom there is reasonable ground to believe that such person probably will engage in, or probably will conspire with others to engage in, acts of espionage or of sabotage."

Leaves FBI Leeway

That language seems to leave it wide open to the government to decide who among the Communists is a potential spy or saboteur. Recently FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover said there are about 12,000 dangerous Communists in this country. That might seem to indicate the FBI would roundup perhaps only 12,000 Communists.

Another part of the law says Communists are agents of Moscow, seeking the overthrow of this government, and all engaged in an international conspiracy to take over the world.

When you remember that—plus the fact that the law lets the government decide what Communists can be arrested in an emergency—you can see that the government has wide latitude in deciding whom it should pick up.

Q. Can Communists grabbed by the FBI in such an emergency (explained in Nos. 1, 2 and 3 above) be held indefinitely?

A. Yes, but—The "but" means they will be given a chance to show they're not dangerous and will be released if they can prove that satisfactorily to the government. This is how:

• When arrested Communists can't be thrown into a jail with criminals. In short, they can't be put in jails or penitentiaries. So the government will have to set up some kind of camps for them or clear out a penitentiary for them.

• Some time after his arrest—the law is vague on how soon after—the Communist is brought before a government official who'll have the title of "preliminary hearing officer."

"Hearings" Allowed

If there is an emergency requiring wholesale arrest of Communists, these "hearing officers" will have to be appointed, perhaps several hundred of them.

And it may be necessary to check them to be sure they're neither Communists nor sympathizers. That would take time.

The Communist can have his own lawyer represent him and can cross-examine witnesses brought against him. But—

The government doesn't have to produce any witnesses if it thinks doing so might not be good for the country.

This means the FBI can make charges against the man without saying where it got its information against him. This is a pretty tough section of the law.

• After this examination, the hearing officer can order the Communist released, or he can decide the Communist should be kept in custody.

• The President will set up a board of nine men, called the detention review board. Any Communist ordered kept in custody by the reviewing officer can appeal to this board for a hearing. But, again, at this hearing the FBI won't have to give away any of its secrets in explaining why it wants the Communist held.

Red's May Appeal

But at the board hearing the Communist can have a lawyer and has the right to cross-examine any witnesses against him. Actually, the board can make its hearings secret, since the law says the board can consider evidence offered by the government, even though the evidence can't be made public.

• After such a hearing, the board can order the Communist released or kept in custody. (In all these steps—arrest, examination by a hearing officer, and examination by the board—the Communist can be held if there is "reasonable" grounds for thinking he might help in spying or sabotage.)

• If turned down by the board, the Communist can appeal to the U. S. Court of Appeals and, if turned down there, to the Supreme Court. All these steps would take a lot of time.

Jr. Colleges Meet Here October 9-10

A Junior College Conference, sponsored by the Department of Education and Psychology will be held here from 9 a. m., Oct. 9, to 4 p. m., Oct. 10, according to Dr. T. D. Brooks, chairman of the Junior College Conference.

Registration will be held in the Serpentine Lounge of the Memorial Student Center, Oct. 9, from 8:30 a. m. until 12 noon. Registration fee is \$1.25 per person.

Official Notice

All students who did not turn in Identification cards for the photograph for one will report to the Photographic and Visual Aids Laboratory from 8 a. m. until noon and from 1 p. m. until 5 p. m. daily from Oct. 2 through Oct. 6 and from 8 a. m. until noon Oct. 7.

As soon as the cards are ready for distribution, notice will be given in The Battalion as to the procedure to follow.

Bennie A. Zinn, Assistant Dean of Men, For Student Affairs.

Each Graduate student is required to suggest the names of members of the Graduate Faculty whom he wishes to serve on his committee early in his first semester. The committee is to meet and consult with the student and outline a complete course of study for his graduate degree before the end of the eighth week of his first semester. This is designed to insure that the student, the committee and the Graduate School know what is to be required of him. The student may then follow a logical and well balanced program each time he registers thereafter.

The necessary forms and any suggestions and help needed may be obtained by calling at the office of the Graduate School. A student wishing to register for any term after his first term of graduate work must bring his copy of his official graduate course of study to registration with notations on it to show the courses already taken and the grades received.

Ide P. Trotter, Dean Graduate School

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From Where I Sit . . .

'New' Bogart Found In Palace Thriller



By Herman C. Gollob

You could have knocked us over with a feather the other night after the Palace's late nocturnal screening of "In A Lonely Place," the melodramatic thriller holding forth at the Schulman movie emporium today through Saturday.

In fact, a squad of our more vindictive followers were having the time of their lives buffeting us around the lobby with chicken feathers peddled at the exits by members of the "We Liked 'Sampson and Delilah'" club, all of whom were arrayed in lincolns and sandals.

Luckily, Fred Walker, Jr., our partner in critical crime, happened to be hiding in the popcorn machine, and dispersed the antagonists with a well-placed volley of kernels.

Over a hot cup of mead at the Walker home, we explained that our inability to withstand the desperate pummeling was merely a form of mental shock induced by the rare spectacle of a creditable Humphrey Bogart film, which Columbia's "In A Lonely Place" most certainly is.

A murder mystery with psychological overtones, the Bogart vehicle exercises a restraint and simplicity that lends its familiar and contrived ingredients a semblance of reality altogether lacking in most of Hollywood's pretentious efforts to use a hack "killing" yarn as an excuse for probing the workings of a diseased mind.

Bogart appears as Dixon Steele, a hyper-emotional, moody screenwriter addicted to frequent fits of violence. When a hat-check girl who had been in his apartment the night before is found murdered, Steele emerges as the chief suspect. The rest of the story is concerned not only with building up suspense as to whether or not Dix is guilty, but with the effective presentation of a credible gallery of characters, among whom Steele is foremost.

The script gives itself subtle pats on the back by allowing its characters to toss barbs at the

foibles of the average threadbare, affected melodrama.

For instance, when Bogart scoffs such flamboyant "psychochiller" devices as the beautiful corpse found gracefully crumpled at the foot of a winding staircase, the sacharine love affair between male and female protagonist, and the vague plot complexities which people the screen with a horde of hastily sketched suspects, the observant audience participant will notice that the film he is seeing has avoided these mistakes.

And when a detective admonishes his college-grad wife for trying to psycho-analyze Bogart in terms of her gleanings from an Abnormal Psychology course, the same discerning audience member will realize that Columbia has shied away from longwinded, complex reasons for Bogart's erratic behavior. He is explained simply as a "tremendous ego," a man who must (See GOLLOB, Page 3)

Letters

(All letters to the editor which are signed by a student or employee of the college and which do not contain obscene 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.)

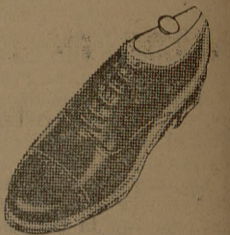
Favorable Comment

Editor, The Battalion: The favorable comments made by The Battalion reviewer in regards to the September Agriculturist were greatly appreciated. However, I would like for those who did all the work on it to get the credit.

The summer school staff, headed by Bee Landrum, completely edited, wrote, and did all the necessary work on September issue. Mr. Landrum had as his assistants Walter Tanamachi, Tom Stack, James E. Holland, Sid Abernathy, A. A. Chapman, Bill Hites, John Hollingshead, Bob Hancock, and James Lancaster.

Thanks again for the comments and the Agriculturist staff hopes to continue to be of service to the students in the School of Agriculture.

Jim Tom House Editor



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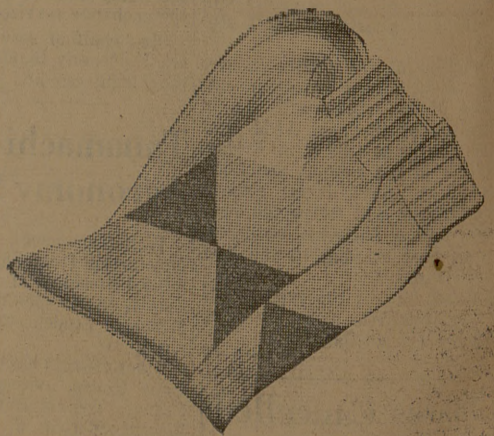


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