

# Battalion Editorials

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1950

## HIS TRIAL BALLOON



### Student Senators -- Elected To Govern...

The second and largest of student elections for this school year is in the past. As of last Wednesday, a new group of leaders were installed in important student governmental positions by popular vote of the student body itself. As in all elections, each candidate could not be elected.

thinking abilities necessary for efficiency running a student government. And 'Block Voting' was not prevalent, if it existed at all, in this election.

Thought unfortunate as it may be, that fate is what makes a democracy and a closely coordinated body function in a smooth manner. Those students who do receive the majority of the popular vote take their posts with the feeling and knowledge that others have faith in their abilities. This gives a feeling of assurance to the elected individual who should strive to fulfill the duties of the position give to him.

Except for one incident, balloting was carried out as well managed elections should. In an attempt to make it easier for voters living in 'out of dormitory areas' who had complained about not receiving the proper voting facilities, overworked members of the election committee set up by last year's senate sent out ballots via other students. Realizing their mistake, the co-chairmen of the election cancelled the ballots. Another vote was held, and no harm was done.

In some instances, such conditions do not exist. Sometime certain candidates get the larger number of votes but lack the knowledge, integrity, foresight, and clear

Since several important items are on the agenda of the Student Senate, the students on A&M's governing body must realize the duties of their new found position and strive to promote projects for betterment of the school and its student body.

### Caretaker of the Democratic World...

New material for November elections comes in form of the recently expanded (since Congress left Capitol Hill) Truman-Acheson foreign and military aid program which virtually insures that the United States will be involved in any future world or local war from the moment the first gun is fired.

Essentially, the program set up by Truman and Acheson calls for a 'substantial' Western European army, provision of the bulk of an international army, an increase in atomic bomb stockpiles and development of the H-bomb, and the advancement of arms to any nation threatened by Russia.

Though that is only the generally unrecognized meaning of recent proclamations and promises made by President Truman and Secretary of State Acheson, it will provide a basis for Republican campaigning. As it is, the GOP has a good chance of making some voters believe that all that has happened has been the fault of Truman and his co-horts.

The US has become the economic and military caretaker of the democratic world, after spending its treasure and its men twice in a generation to "make the world safe for democracy." By comparison with this, Truman-Acheson program, the Monroe Doctrine and preservation of the "open door" in China, only two of our historic and expansive policies, was like buying ice for a new refrigerator.

If so, the incident will be a reversal of the Democrat's tactics in blaming the depression on the Republicans who held majority seats in Congress prior to the 1932 elections. Truman, however, hopes to forestall any such possibilities with the presence of Gen. George C. Marshall as Defense Secretary and the naming of other GOP potentials such as Eisenhower, Stassen, and other influential party members to positions he controls.

Whether Truman has been successful in his attempt to fill high positions with Republicans, only the elections will reveal. Regardless, the Democrats will face a barrage of questions and repercussions on the military aid program before the last ballot is cast. Even if it is Congress, and not necessarily the Democrats themselves who are partially the cause of it.

### Was Equalization Move Wise?...

The United States, in attempting to put smaller countries back on a respectable status, surrendered many, if not all, of its extra territorial rights to those countries. Since that time, several incidents have made questionable the wisdom of granting these concessions.

land, Iran, Turkey and six other countries. Any American who ventures into these countries must take his chances in their courts.

For at the present time, Dr. Gordon Seagrave, an American surgeon who wrote two best-selling books, has been in jail in Ragoon six weeks on a charge of having aided rebel Karen tribesmen. As his trial opens, we are reminded that our citizens in sovereign Asiatic nations no longer have the privilege of being tried in American courts.

Dr. Seagrave, who has spent most of his life in Burma, was not a missionary to the Karens, though his parents and an uncle had been. His hospital in an isolated mountain village on the China border served mainly Kachin and Shan hills people, though it had some Karen nurses.

We have abolished treaties to that effect which we formerly had with China, Thai-

Whether or not Dr. Seagrave committed any act against the Burmese government, he, being an American, should receive the privilege of all Americans a fair trial by an unbiased jury. We question the judgment of a jury composed of citizens of a country considered "backward," particularly when passing judgment on a foreigner.

## 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 \$5.00 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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## It Seems to Me . . .

### Moon Trip Easy—But Train's Surer

By JOHN WHITMORE  
Battalion Lunar Expert

Truth is stranger than fiction, but fiction is mighty interesting movie material.

This sage bit of wisdom courtesy of John Whitmore, is true in "Destination Moon," now showing at Mrs. Schulman's emporium Number Two.

Producer George Pal, looking through some of his back files of film taken during the rocket experimentation at White Sands, New Mexico, and a few back issues of Science Fiction comes up with a slightly true and highly interesting movie.

The beginning scenes of the show are devoted to making the audience believe such a trip is possible. After convincing the pseudo-business magnets and the audience a flight to the moon is possible—it gets interesting.

Good, let us repeat, good, technical shots are assembled of the White Sands Experiments, and there is a convincing amount of Rube Goldberg instruments which make the flight seem even more plausible. Enough of this dribble, lets get under way.

As the rocket takes off the sheriff races up to say, "Stop that man he's under arrest," the crew gets under way, and more lunar facts are pushed down the audience's throat.

Many of the shots of the take-off and flight are both effectively accurate in technical detail. The most awesome are the scenes taken as the rocket takes off and gains in speed. Each of the four crew members are pushed down on their air-fort couches and their faces distorted by the crushing pull of gravity as the rocket gets under way.

The flight to the moon is rather relaxing—trick photography of the loss of gravity experienced in outer space picks up a little humor. This is with the exception of one scene where one of the crew members falls off the side of the rocket, and floats away from the ship. Like Hopalong Cassidy another of the crew jumps aboard an oxygen cylinder and jet-propels himself out to the rescue—I say, very exciting.

On the moon, there is more trick photography—although very effective. After a few good shots taken supposedly on the moon, the Hopalong Cassidy twist comes out again. One of the men has to stay on the moon . . . what happens—does he stay, does he evade his income tax? Oh well.

Really it is a good movie. Mothers can send their children to it alone, or children can send their mothers. According to the Whitmore audience rating it gets three feathers.

## 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.)

### Newspaper Week

Editor, The Battalion:  
We welcome "Newspaper Week" because it is a happy reminder of what we owe to our excellent press, all over America, for factual and forceful portrayal of the truth, for dissemination of the news, and for encouragement of the American way of life.

We welcome the especial week, personally, because it gives us an opportunity to tell you that we are proud of "The Battalion." We think it is a very creditable paper. We feel that it has a unique and helpful place in our community.

To each of you who have a part in making it so, we say "Thank You!"  
The John Cecil Culpepers Ed's. Note: Thank You.

## Behind the Scenes . . .

### 711 Ocean Drive Lets Audience In On Wire

By FRED WALKER

If you are an average moviegoer who doesn't know much about "books" and wire services and desire to be informed of same, see "711 Ocean Drive" but you won't emerge from the Palace any brighter.

Edmund O'Brien, who looks as if he might have recently joined "Marihuana Incorporated," is displeased with his present financial and social status.

After a brief lamentation and a philosophic discussion with "Chippy" the bookie, O'Brien meets the boss of the six-bit

wire service and convinces the gentleman that he, O'Brien, can build the business into a growing concern by the premiums of his electrical genius.

An irate bookie disposes of "The Big Boss" and O'Brien takes control. Pressure is now being exerted by a national syndicate which has plans concerning the West Coast. "Electro" joins the syndicate, but only because one of its members has a very lovely wife, Joanne Dr. Miss Dru turns out to be another Shelly "La Belle . . ." for when hubby's brutality becomes known. Our "Across-the-board-Paramour" arranges his disposal.

By this time Dru may be likened to a well-trod potato sack, but she gamely clamps the two-dollar bet in her pretty teeth and accompanies O'Brien on a run-out.

There is a stop at Las Vegas for a try at taking a syndicate book for about \$200,000, but the nose is tied and O'Brien succumbs to justice, while the biggest villain joins his family for a weekend in the country.

Like any documentary film, "711 Ocean Drive" flaunts a moral, but like few of its predecessors, it lacks sufficient explanations of uncommon situations, i. e., why knowledge of last second track odds would aid the bookie and wire services.

O'Brien uses an hour and thirty minutes trying to copy a caricature of Peter Lorre, while Miss Dru moves into moods of passion, depression, and complete helplessness with wonderful "Dexparty."

### Sooners Nip Ags, 34-28

(Continued from Page 1)

Arnold's keep play, advancing to A&M's 25. Heath steamed around left end for 25 yards to score for OU. Tackle Jim Weatherall made the PAT attempt to even the score 7-7.

A&M fell behind a few minutes later as its series of downs failed, and Heath took a pass for 50 yards and another score. Weatherall didn't miss, and the balance sheet was unbalanced, 14-7, with OU in the left-hand column.

Undaunted, the Aggies roared back on the next few plays. Tidwell received the kickoff on the five, carried back to the 25. The halfback then neatly tucked the football in his arms and raced around left end 75 yards, accompanied by terrific blocking. Thus the scales leveled once more, 14-14.

After a colorful exhibition by both the A&M and OU bands, the teams came back on the field to begin what proved to be a most exciting second half.

Lippman took Oklahoma's kickoff and raced back to the 30. But Hillhouse was penalized for illegal use of his hands, throwing the ball back to A&M's 17—a crucial penalty.

Lary was again forced to kick, with the ball going only to the 30.

Oklahoma took advantage of its proximity to the Cadet goal line to score in three quick plays. Vessels made the TD, Weatherall the extra point, and the score was OU 21, A&M 14.

Lippman and Smith alternated with the ball-carrying to advance A&M to its own 38 and a first down after the kick-off. Tidwell

picked up three, then two, followed by a fumble by Smith. The big Houstonian recovered it himself, however.

Oklahoma refused an illegal-use-of-hands penalty and Lary kicked 51 yards against the wind.

OU's Arnold found himself bottled up, and Arnold had to return the punt.

Another quick exchange of punts gave the Cadets the ball at mid-field. Smith took off around right end and kept going for 50 yards and another touchdown. Hooper converted; the Aggies once again led, 28-21.

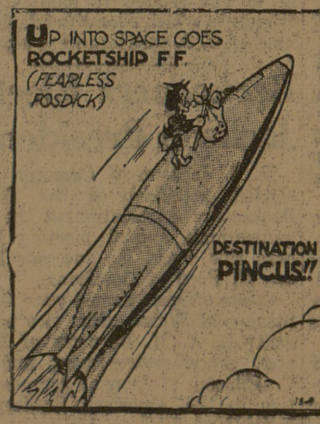
OU, after several unsuccessful tries by both teams to advance the ball, began on their own 43. Two quick first downs put the ball on the A&M 32. Vessels took a long pass from Arnold to score and bring OU into the middle of the fray.

Weatherall missed the extra-point try for his first error of the day, and the Aggies still led, 28-27, with only three minutes, 36 seconds to go.

Then came the fatal drive. OU's ace quarterback, Arnold, began tossing the ball and hit six out of seven receivers. With only 44 seconds to go in the game, the Sooners' Heath rammed over from the one, giving Oklahoma another victory in their winning streak.

This time Weatherall didn't miss, and the score became OU 34, A&M 28. Long, desperate passes by quarterback Gardemal failed to find their mark and the final gun's shot reverberated through a partisan stadium filled with 40,000 spectators and nearly as many flying pillows.

### L'L ABNER And So Firm And Fully Packed



### Rodes to Consult At Meeting Here

Dr. Harold P. Rodes of the Office of Relations with Schools, University of California, will serve as consultant at the seventh annual conference of Junior college executives to be held here Monday and Tuesday.

By Al Capp