

# Our Luck Is Bound to Run Out . . .

In view of recent comment on the traffic hazards in the veteran housing area, we feel something should also be said about the pedestrian-auto relationship.

It is agreed that traffic conditions on the campus this year are more crowded now than ever before. Officials are considering methods of remedying that problem, but when, and how successful the solution will be, cannot be determined until its adoption and trial.

Until now, no one has been seriously injured in a traffic accident on this campus. Considering the large student body, and the congested traffic areas used by both pedestrians and automobiles in the mornings, at noon, and in the evenings, our record is somewhat unusual.

Unfortunately, it is impossible to foresee just when or where an accident will occur. Were this possible, necessary action could be taken to prevent it. But the many intersections used by students, either walking or in cars, prevents stationing a campus security officer at each of these points to direct traffic. This, however, would prove to be a

great safety factor particularly in front of the Aggie Inn and the intersection South of the Aeronautical Engineering Building.

There should be someone directing traffic before and after meals at Sbis Hall. Every student living in the Basic Division area must cross the street to return to his dormitory. At dusk, the crossing is especially hazardous. Driver visibility is cut down, and the ever present factor of some student jokingly shoving or jostling a classmate, possibly into the path of an oncoming automobile, must be seriously considered.

Whether student pedestrians, in a hurry to get back to their areas before meals, or day students, veterans, and college employees rushing to their homes in cars have the right-of-way is a debatable question. Not to be overlooked is that several thousand pounds of steel is hardly comparable to a hundred or more pounds of human flesh when the two collide.

We urge not only the drivers of automobiles and other vehicles to take care, but urge pedestrians themselves to take it upon themselves to act in a manner conducive to saving lives.

The safety adage "The Life You Save May Be Your Own" seems particularly appropriate at this time.

*We can remember, not too long ago, when nearly everybody was looking for work.*

## Putting Crime In A Squeeze . . .

The Kefauver Committee was first mentioned in this column several weeks ago, and we are very glad to report that a great deal of progress has been made since then. The Internal Revenue Bureau has its agents hot on the trail of approximately \$1,000,000 in delinquent taxes as a result of the work of this Senate Crime Committee.

The second major milestone is the evidence that has been compiled in an effort to persuade Congress in 1951 to put the "bookies" out of business. The main problem is to shed light on the obscure connection between racketeers and "legitimate" news dealers.

The third point of progress is the effect of the Committee on local law enforcement. If investigation shows laxity of enforcement, local politicians, gamblers, and hoodlums will have to answer some embarrassing questions. Fear of these "spot checks" has a very sobering influence.

As the work progresses we can expect revisions of the Securities and Exchange Commission regulations, and Immigration laws. Gangster ownership of legitimate businesses is the main target for the investigations of the Committee, and it will take more power and money than the underworld can muster to "call off" the Senate Committee.

The center of this investigation is New York, and it is being directed by Boris Kostelanetz, the famous "gang buster." Senator Kefauver has promised to show that gangsters have substantial interests in banks, steel companies, utility companies, and other enterprises.

*The average student takes too long to learn too little.*

# The Battalion

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

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1950

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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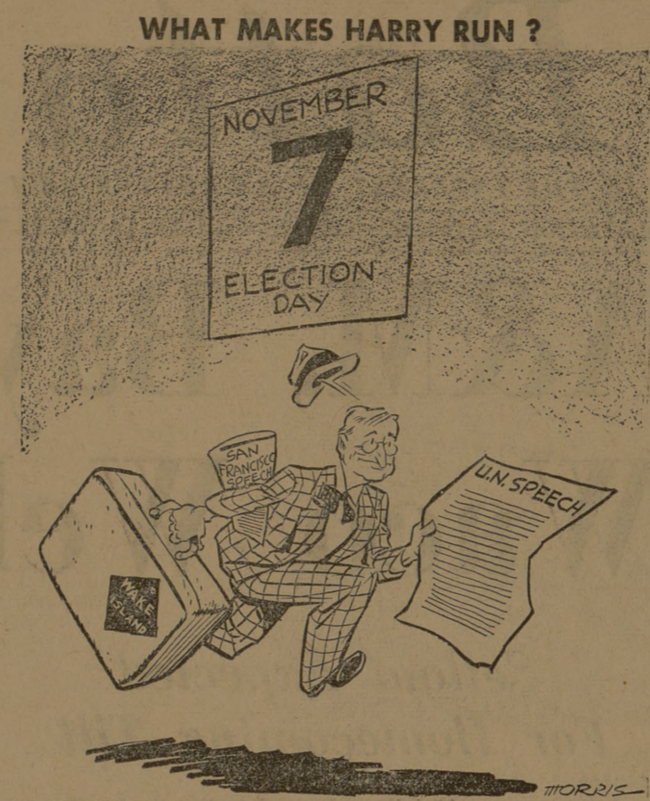
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## Letters To The Editor

### The Battalion, Spreader of Scandals

Editor, The Battalion:  
We have noticed that the Battalion serves as a most efficient medium for spreading all types and manner of Aggie misdemeanors, acts of violence, and scandals (true or otherwise) to hometown newspapers, and the public in general.  
But, when are you going to headline the numerous misdeeds suffered by our own students at the hands of various other SWC colleges?

For instance, the only mention of the recent Baylor mistreatment of three visiting Aggies was in a published letter from the Baylor Student Council apologizing for the incident. Thank goodness that the B.S.C. wrote, for we might never have heard of the incident.  
Here's hoping the Batt is still the Aggie's newspaper.

John D. Mugg '52  
Roger H. Jenswold '52  
W. B. Hayes '52  
Hobart Fatheree '52  
John H. Wallace, Jr. '52  
Ernest A. Elmendorf '52

(Ed. Note—Allow us to enumerate our defense.)

(1. We label the charge in your first paragraph as just a little unfounded. We have "spread" only one Aggie atrocity story if our memory doesn't fail us. And that was the Associated Press story carried Wednesday. As for "spreading" that, we can't take the credit. The story was spread by the AP wire throughout the state and originated in Waco.

(2. As to your second charge, we'll go into a little more discussion. We don't claim to be infallible in tracking down news. Our reporting staff and our time are both extremely limited. Until we get a few more "volunteers," we'll have a hard time licking that.

But, to be more specific—the first word we received of the Baylor mistreatment of visiting Aggies was also through that letter. We held back publication of the letter for two major reasons.

(Not having heard of the incident before, we couldn't find a source for information on it. We therefore assumed (and later developments upheld these assumptions) that the Aggies involved took the matter as an isolated instance and were satisfied that sufficient reparations would be made.

(They apparently saw nothing to be gained by publicizing the incident. We concurred with them in that respect. Past experience has proved that some people take all such events as something needing personal vengeance. Our failure to publish the letter or to publicize the incident, we felt, would prevent this.)

(Developments concerning the cub (which you'll notice we didn't

## Mid-November Congress Recall Hinted by HST

Washington, Oct. 26—(AP) President Truman was known to have under serious study today a special call to Congress to return to Washington on Nov. 15—just eight days after the elections.

Two different sources in a position to know about White House moves told a reporter last night that Mr. Truman was considering issuance of the call before the Nov. 7 election.

They did not know whether he would be ready with an announcement at his weekly news conference.

These sources who stipulated that they not be named, said a tightening and extension of federal rent controls was the main item on an emergency program of legislation the President is working on.

The President was understood to be planning talks with democratic congressional leaders before making such a move in the middle of a political campaign in which most Congress members are battling for re-election.

In addition to rent control, the President was reportedly considering asking Congress for new taxes—it was pledged enactment of an excess profits tax late this year or early in 1951—and possibly for some new military manpower legislation.

Observers here recalled the dramatic surprise of Truman during the 1948 campaign. In his speech accepting the democratic Presidential election, he announced he would recall the Republican-controlled 80th Congress into special session.

## The Night Owl . . . Berlin's Song Best Tribute to Al Jolson



By Herman C. Gollob

Newspapers this week have contained a good many odes to the late Al Jolson, the world's greatest entertainer, who died unexpectedly Monday night of coronary occlusion.

Donning their best elegiac prose, columnists have reminded us of the jazz singer's stage immortality, of the indelible imprint he has left on show business during the last half-century, of the fantastic popularity he enjoyed for over a generation and a half because of an infectious tremolo and impassioned delivery.

They tell us that living to Jolson was being able to get before an audience and pour his gritty, vibrant tones into a song. Al got a bang out of life because he was doing what he loved best of all—singing, they say. Thus came his vital and exciting style, which incited imitation from all who saw him.

But the greatest tribute that has ever been paid to Al Jolson came while he was living. Not a paean lavishing praise, it's a song called "Let Me Sing and I'm Happy," written by Irving Berlin especially for Al. Argue if you will that the two Columbia technicolor films purporting to be Jolson's biography are his most lasting monuments. True, they were enjoyable, if not always factual, accounts of a dynamic singer and entertainer. But in the long run they were too slick with Hollywood gloss, even with the prodigious singing by Al himself, and like present newspaper accounts, were too eulogistic in tone.

Berlin's song is an example of the power of simplicity. To a melody that is simultaneously poignant and lighthearted, Berlin has fitted unpretentious lyrics that are an eloquent summary of the Jolson personality, an appropriate statement of the Jolson creed:

Let me sing a funny song,  
With crazy words that don't belong  
And if I make you laugh,  
Then I'm happy.

Let me sing a sad refrain,  
Of broken hearts that love in vain,  
And if I make you cry,  
Then I'm happy.

Let me sing of Dixie's charms,  
Of cotton fields and Mammy's arms,  
And if I make you homesick,  
I'm happy.

### Houston

Zephyr Club—3008 Blodgett. A familiar sight in the Riverside neighborhood, the Zephyr is being reopened by Howard Russell, who also owns the Algerian in Big H.

### Dallas

Studio Lounge. Negro pianist Gene Rodgers is currently holding nocturnal imbers spellbound with his fancy manipulation of the keyboard. A versatile lad, he can handle anything from boogie-woogie to the classics.

### One on the Aisle . . .

Houston: Opening November 1—"Joshua Beene and God"—Alley Theatre—709 Berry Ave.—Curtain 8:15. All seats reserved—\$1.80. November 4—Wagner Opera Co. in "La Boheme." Music Hall. Seats on sale at Levy's—\$1.95, 2.60, 2.99, 3.25, 3.90. November 8—"Red, White and Blue"—Music Hall. Evenings—\$4.80, 4.20, 3.60, 2.40. Matinees—3.60, 3.00, 2.40, 1.20. November 1-14—Shrine Circus—Houston Coliseum. General Admission—Adults 1.20, Children .60. Reserved seats—2.40, 1.50, 1.00.

Dallas: November 16-17—"Red, White and Blue"—State Fair Auditorium. Prices same as in Houston. November 25, 26, 27—Sadler's Wells Ballet—State Fair Auditorium. Prices—\$4.80, 4.20, 3.90, 2.70, 2.10, 1.20.

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### It May Hurt Us

Editor, The Battalion:

It seems that this clipping might have a great deal of truth in it. I am the mother of an Aggie who is a member of the Varsity squad football team and I certainly want nothing left undone that would help the team to victory and the college to success.

### By Jinx

Baylor goes back to work this afternoon, and will start getting ready for the homecoming game Saturday.

The Aggie cadets are doing everything possible to get the Bears ready for the game mentally, by stealing the two cub bears, and by sowing or attempting to sow wild oats at the new Baylor stadium. They hoped it would sprout up and form the letters "A. and M." The Aggie cadets do not know it, but they handicap their coaches and team more than any other student body in the United States. Down through the years A. and M. would have won far more football games if it had not been for the pranks of the student body. Bill James, old Aggie line coach, and a good one, used to tell me that if the opposing team did not happen to be ready for a game with A. and M., the Aggie student body would do something to get them ready. However, this week (See LETTERS, Page 6)

**L'L ABNER** Sweet Li'l Buttercup

**By Al Capp**

**L'L ABNER**

**By Al Capp**