

Approaching Perfection . . .

HOW NEAR perfect can a Corps trip get? Not much nearer than the one we have just had.

Some wives are like fishermen. They think the best got away.

Let Them Mind Their Own Affairs

AND if my ways are not as theirs Let them mind their own affairs. Their deeds I judge and much condemn.

— A. E. Housman

One of the outstanding points to be gained from the study of history is the realization of man's constant fight for control of others.

At this very time, our nation is engaged in a war to help preserve democracy, the rights of the individual.

In the past few weeks, Dallas pastors have sought to force the closing of grocery stores on Sunday.

Service stations, theatres, and restaurants have not yet been attacked.

Ours is not to judge the ethics or morals of Sunday trade. We just think it is an individual matter to be decided by the grocer.

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.

The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the use for republication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in the paper and local news of spontaneous origin published herein.

News contributions may be made by telephone (4-5444) or at the editorial office, Room 201, Goodwin Hall.

Entered as second-class matter at Post Office at College Station, Texas, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Member of The Associated Press Represented nationally by National Advertising Service Inc., at New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

DAVE COSLETT, CLAYTON L. SELPH Co-Editors John Whitmore, L. O. Tiedt Managing Editors Frank N. Manitzas Sports Editor Jerry Zuber Campus Editor Joel Austin City Editor

Today's Issue L. O. Tiedt Managing Editor Bob Hughson Campus News Editor Frank N. Manitzas Sports News Editor Joel Austin City News Editor

T. M. Fontaine, Carter Phillips, Bob Hughson, George Charlton, Tom Rountree, Leon McClain, Raymond Rushing, Wayne Davis, Robert Venable, Herb O'Connell, Norman Blahuta, John Hildebrand, Jerry Fontaine, News and Feature Writers Ray Williams, Roger Coslett, Special Assignments Page Hartz, Edith, Editor Emmett Trout, Jerry Clement, Bob Hendry, Cartoonists Sid Abernathy, Campus News Editor Sam Molinary, Chief Photographer Herman C. Gollub, Chief Amusements Editor Ralph Gorman, Ray Holbrook, Harold Gann, Joe Blanche, Pat LeBlanc, Dale Dowell, Jimmy Curtis, Chuck Neighbors, Fred Walker, Sports Writer Bob Franck, John Hollingshead, Tommy Fontaine, James Lancaster, Photo Engravers Audrey Paschke, Advertising Manager Russell Hagen, Frank Thurmond, Advertising Representatives

Terrific Tank Battle Fought, No Yanks Lost

By HAL BOYLE

With U. S. 24th Division, Korea, Nov. 13—(AP)—Without the death of a single American soldier, a U. S. battalion trailed a retreating enemy column by the sound of its clanking tank treads and destroyed it in a three-hour night battle fought at point-blank range.

It was a dramatic cowboy-and-Indian type chase in darkness and moonlight fought on the escape route to Manchuria.

After being pursued 13 miles the fleeing Red column of seven tanks and 500 North Korean infantrymen turned and tried an Indian ambush.

They employed small arms fire which two veteran officers said was "the heaviest we have seen in two wars." But the Americans defeated it by throwing their own artillery and mortars into action in record time.

Reds—five tanks destroyed and the other two missing. Fifty dead infantrymen, at least 100 estimated wounded, and the rest dispersed and running.

The Americans—24 men wounded, none seriously, and none killed.

The battle—One of the larger night actions of the Korean campaign—look place Oct. 31. The 24th Division's 21st Regiment was on a breakthrough drive that took it within 14 air miles of the Manchurian border before it was ordered back after the appearance of Chinese Communist troops on its right flank.

The story of the Halloween engagement—the enemy produced broomsticks—was told for the first time today by a group of battalion officers relaxing on cots in an abandoned Korean peasant home.

A wintry wind seeped through cracks in the yellow clay walls as they talked.

"We passed through Chongju just at dark," said Lt. Col. Gines Perez, battalion commander, of San Antonio, Tex. "The British had just taken the town but houses on both sides of the road were burning. And the enemy on the hills were still mortaring it."

As the two and a half mile long battalion column drove through flaming Chongju it heard the rumble of withdrawing North Korean tanks.

The American column set out in pursuit. Half the doughboys rode in the freezing night on the tanks and artillery vehicles and the other half walked. After a few miles those on foot climbed on the vehicles and the others got off and walked.

"We kept hearing the enemy tanks ahead of us and every once in a while they would halt and fire," said Maj. C. B. Myers, Lufkin, Tex.

"Yes, and about midnight we heard one tank that had become stuck in the woods to one side,"

said Capt. Norman Brown, Woodsville, N. H. "But we decided to let him go. It was better to keep rolling and catch the main force," recalled Ernest D. MacDonald, 118 N. Dakota St., Vermillion, S. D.

That battalion wheeled into Kwaksan and caught a North Korean tank crew and officer who said they were going back to help this tank stuck in the woods.

Two miles beyond Kwaksan the battalion killed two North Koreans and captured two more. The battalion staff and the regimental commander, Col. Richard W. Stephens, Pierre, S. D., moved up to the head of the column to question the prisoners. They were told seven tanks but no infantry were ahead.

"We decided we had trailed them far enough and were about to mount everything and go after them at 20 miles an hour" said Perez. "Then the roof fell in."

The long straight road suddenly turned into a lacework of flame. The two prisoners had turned in an ambush. And they were supported by 500 enemy infantrymen in the hills.

Stephens, who has been through ambushes before, hit the ditch with his battalion staff and they crawled and ran back to their radio jacks to direct the fight.

It turned out to be a battle for text books on night combat.

"As soon as they hit we started hitting them," said Perez. "The telephone wires were singing like harps overhead as the bullets hit them. We fired flash for flash."

"Their lead tank was only 300 yards away. And every time a

Who's Who Lists Hill and Williams

John W. Hill and E. L. Williams, are listed in the "Who's Who in the Veterans of Safety." Hill is the director of Workers Compensation here. Williams is the vice-director of the Engineering Extension Service.

The Veterans of Safety is a national association which provides contact for people who have devoted 15 years or more of their life to the cause of human conservation.

The association tries to further develop and maintain the professors of safety engineers and to assist schools of engineering, and trade schools in the teaching of the profession of safety engineering.

Here Is What Last Week's Election Means to Congress

Editor's Note: This is the first in a series on the possible effects Tuesday's election will have on the nation, on Congress, the president and his cabinet, and on you.

By JAMES MARLOW

Washington, Nov. 13—(AP)—If you're wondering what Tuesday's elections mean in Congress, here's a brief fill-in.

The Congress due back here this month is the 81st—elected in 1948—and not the 82nd, which you voted for Tuesday.

The two-year term of the 81st, which began at noon, Jan. 3, 1949, ends just before noon, Jan. 3, 1951.

And at noon next Jan. 3 the 82nd Congress begins its two-year term.

Keep Majority

In the 81st the Democrats had a majority over the Republicans. They'll keep it in the 82nd, but slimmer, as a result of this week's elections.

This majority gives the Democrats a position of power. But because it's slim, they won't be able to ram through any legislation they please.

For example—because they're in a majority, the Democrats will have a majority on all committees. And all committee chairmen will be Democrats.

tank fired it was like a big orange ball coming our way. They made several hits on our tanks—but they all bounced off."

Within 10 minutes the American mortars were in position and firing, within 34 minutes the artillery at the end of the column pulled back of Kwaksan, got into place and was firing.

"Without bragging," said the quiet Perez, "we feel that is better than the book says you can do in a night action."

"At daylight we found the enemy had scattered. He took his wounded with him—about a hundred—but left behind 50 dead plus five knocked-out tanks; one self-propelled gun and seven anti-tank guns."

Juvenile Offenders Now Get 'Break,' Better Treatment

By MILTON KELLY

Washington, Nov. 13—(AP)—One of the nation's newest laws arms the Federal Courts with broad powers to seek and try to cure the causes of juvenile delinquency.

The federal judges asked for it—enough of them, at least, to convince Congress at the session ended in September.

They contended they were administering something far short of justice to youthful offenders, and that it was high time to amend the laws and give the wayward kids a better break.

Backed by Justice Dept.

The Justice Department backed them, contending seven of every 10 youngsters sent to corrective institutions come out as "hardened criminals," and that the old probation laws were of little benefit.

The American Bar Association, American Legion groups and Supreme Court justices threw support to the bill. It finally passed, drawing small attention in the pre-adjournment rush.

The old laws gave a judge authority to send a guilty youth to some federal institution, or place him on probation for anywhere up to a couple of years. It allowed no middle course.

The new one provides that middle course, while preserving also the right to sentence as before.

Clinic Analyzes Cases

Under it, however, before pronouncing sentence the judge can send a youngster to a sort of clinic where specialists can take a month or more to analyze the case. Their



job will be to try to find out what made a boy or girl go wrong, and try to figure out how to get the youngster back on the right track.

The judge can accept or reject any part or all of this advice. It allows him to recognize emotional and mental upset short of insanity and turn the youth over to specialists for treatment.

He can, if he chooses, help to get the lad a job, send him to some school to learn a trade or find him a better home—do any of a variety of things—while requiring long-term, skilled supervision so that different type of help may be substituted if the first guess was wrong.

Parole Board Changed

The measure reorganizes the federal parole board, shifting authority to appoint members from the Attorney General to the President and requiring Senate approval of his selections. It increases the board from five members to eight.

Within the board it creates a youth corrections division to take active hold of the program. Various members of the Parole Board will constitute the division. Aiding the division will be an advisory corrections council, composed of a federal circuit judge, two U. S. district judges, and non-judges to plan a long time war on juvenile delinquency and recommend improvement of the laws.

It defines a youth offender as anyone up to and including the age of 21. (The judges wanted it to apply to 22 and 23-year-olds, too, but Congress said "no").

A judge could simply turn a

youth over to the corrections division for four years of "supervision and treatment;" keep him under specially supervised probation for periods up to 18 years even after the lad passes the age of 21, or at any time revoke this order and commit him to an institution if probation produces no results. Or, he could pronounce a sentence to a prison, reformatory or training school, without relying on the new law.

Chief Judge Bolitha J. Laws, of the District of Columbia Federal Court endorsing the change, had told a Senate committee on Oct. 5:

"On Friday of this week, I have 17 sentences to impose. Many of them have pleaded guilty before me; I have spent no time with them; I have seen some for 30 seconds, perhaps. I have to pass upon a matter that effects their entire career, using a short report of a probation officer obtained within a week, which is totally incomplete and totally inadequate." He said it hurt his conscience.

Comparison Made

In some prisons, he said, more care is taken in deciding to what jobs a man should be assigned than the courts could take under the old law to determine whether to incarcerate a convicted youth.

The Justice Department told a reporter it plans to move slowly, and in small steps, to make the program effective lest too much haste result in costly blunders. It awaits now appointment of the new Parole Board before moving to recruit the doctors and others who will aid in the program.

Its next step then will be to set up a "clinic," properly styled a classification examination. Ultimately more of these will be set up, the department says. Location of these agencies has not been determined yet.

Letters

Senior Opposed To War Hymn Change

Editor, The Battalion:

I think Mrs. Pee Wee Smith's suggested change to the "Aggie War Hymn" stinks! I don't agree with anybody who thinks the "War Hymn" ought to be altered or revamped. The Aggie team (football or otherwise) should have enough intelligence to know that regardless of the verse about T.U., the "War Hymn" puts emphasis on the game they are playing when it is sung by the Corps. It is a war hymn, and regardless of the words, should serve to put fire and renewed strength into both the team and the corps, especially when they are behind. The "War Hymn" has served this purpose for many years.

I like tradition! We changed the name of our annual and day by day someone tries to stamp out another long-standing Aggie tradition. Shall they all die? Let's put a screaming halt to this talk about changing the "Aggie War Hymn"! Beat the hell outa Rice! . . .

Robert E. "Rip" Martin '51

LIL ABNER Dis is Hard to Believe



By Al Capp