

Mac Has Had It Again . . .

WELL, OL' MAC, the perennial fall guy, has had it again.

This was the first thing decided on by Truman and Attlee in their talks this week: United Nations troops will be withdrawn from Korea only providing General Douglas MacArthur is convinced he cannot form and hold a defense line there—in effect,

New Trespass Law Gives Hunters A Fit

THE NEW "trespass law" has just about brought an end to the poor but intrepid hunter who seeks to fill his frozen food locker for nothing. This drastic change in hunting conditions will probably cause many old-timers to hang up their pet guns and take up photography.

If you are in the chips you "have it made" so to speak. A stack of hundred dollar bills will open the portals of Alaska, British Columbia, or Africa, but let's get practical. What happens to the little guy who can't buy a chance on a possible five-dollar-a-pound venison roast?

The best answer is "build a duck blind for the nominal annual tax." This is really great! Our hero makes a dash to the nearest lake only to find that there are now duck blinds in such profusion that you can't even find room for your decoys. This will of course mean a terrific increase in pressure on our depleted supply of wildlife.

The next best thing our hero can do is demand a reasonable chance at public owned game through public shooting grounds. This program would almost certainly require a lottery to keep the "hunter per acre" to a safe number, but it would at least provide an occasional big game hunt for the average man.

Until a fair program is established, several thousand hunters will either quit in disgust, hunt illegally, or buy property for their own hunting and fishing. The previous situation is unfavorable to the hunter. It is possible that golden mean exists that would be fair to both.

Engineer Instructor . . .

Aggie-Ex Writes from Korea

(Editor's Note: This letter from Major V. C. Williams, headquarters 185th Engineer Battalion, was addressed to Lt. Col. John Kelly, Armor section instructor. This letter was dated Oct. 20, but many of the points Major Williams brings out have more importance now. This is the first of a series of letters from A&M men fighting in Korea.)

I received your letter while in the Seoul area but this is the first opportunity to answer it.

We are combat loaded out again, and have been for several days, waiting for the go signal which I hope is cancelled. I had this one figured out to be similar to the Inchon landing. The objective, I would guess to be Suwon or Hamhung on the east coast of North Korea.

We may still go in somewhere to the north but with most of North Korea already taken, I think

it unlikely. This is based on the composition of the force here afloat. My hope is that we go back to Japan.

Our battalion is attached to the Seventh Division for the planned operation, Part of X Corps.

"Legs" Garrett is on a ship anchored nearby. We got together in Pusan for an evening at the club last week. Our topic of conversation was how rough it must be back there in "Aggie-land." All of you have our sympathy! How can some people be so lucky? I'm referring to "Legs," "Doc" Meisell, Roy Smith, and myself.

Well, Jack, I'll give you a little of what I've been doing and let you get back to "preparation" or "presentation."

First of all, we went in at Inchon with "Charlie" group. That is the wave just following the nurses and quartermaster. It took a couple of days to get vehicles and equip-

ment before we could start work around Yongdong-po and Seoul.

My first job as S-3 of the battalion was to take a bulldozer across the Han, through Seoul and back to a point on the river to construct a 50-ton ferry—two o'clock in the morning and Seoul had not been secured according to my definition of "secure." Anyway, I made it and the next day an entry in the S-3 journal referred to misuse of staff officers.

Other jobs around there consisted primarily of road and bridge repair and maintenance, building a POW enclosure and water purification and supply.

From Seoul, we started work on one of the main roads south. I took two companies to Chungjer. That is about 100 miles a little southeast of Suwan. Our job again was to clear the main road on down to Taegu. That took about four days, then we (See LETTER, Page 6)

The Battalion

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

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From the City Desk . . .

Delinquent Tax List Scorned by Reader

By Joel Austin



Wednesday's paper carried a belated letter from a reader concerning a paid advertisement of the city of College Station, which included names of delinquent city tax payers. The reader claimed that, "the delinquent tax list published by the City of College Station was very ill-advised and a backward step in a supposedly progressive community."

Obviously the reader does not realize what some of the factors were behind the city's decision to publish the list of delinquent tax payers. At the time the city council discussed the publication of these names, some \$2,244 was listed on the books of the city in delinquent taxes.

Although notices were sent regularly to those people who hadn't paid their assessments, no response had been received from a large majority of them for several months. With the many new additions to the city's utilities, the council decided these unpaid taxes could be the source of some financial aid to meet the high cost of the utility additions.

The information was released to newspapers and letters were sent to all the tax delinquents explaining the list of those who hadn't paid by the end of September would have their names printed in the newspapers as delinquent tax payers.

Publicity Produces Money

As soon as the letters and publicity was released, a steady stream of past due taxes were collected by the city secretary from people who evidently didn't want their names included in the list to be published.

As for the action by the city council being labeled an "ill-advised and backward step," we hesitate to accept such a statement from this reader. We must remember that although everyone hates to be forced to do something, there are certain responsibilities which are required of residents of any city.

How can the municipal authorities meet the demands of the population if their funds are so badly depleted they cannot provide the services which they promise their citizens? Through the tax assessments comes the bulk of the city's revenue for operation.

Like any other incorporated municipality, the City of College Station must operate as a business organization. The delinquent taxes could have been collected through attorneys paid a large commission.

Why Condemn Leaders?

But why should our local leaders be condemned for trying to save a little money and at the same time collect funds owed them from months and years past.

A city official said that one reason for the tax list publication was to inform those people who had not been receiving the statements for the money they owed.

We said the idea did some good and although it may not be classed as the most "progressive" action ever undertaken by the College Station City Council, there should be no reason for resentment for such doings.

Another interesting notation to add along these lines is it would appear that anyone criticizing the College Station City Council would be a citizen of this city. According to information we would classify as reliable, the reader who submitted that letter is not a resident of College Station.

If the local city dads can collect as much as half of these taxes which have been on the books since 1939, a worthy purpose has been accomplished.

As for the "confidence and support of many not included on the list which has been weakened," we would like to hear from some of the people in that category.

Letters

Lost Jacket

Editor, The Battalion:

Last Sunday I picked up four Aggies in Houston and gave them a ride to College. When I arrived in Fort Worth I found that one of them had left his jacket in my car. One of their names was Irish and he lived in Leggett Hall. The jacket is brown suede.

If the Aggie who left this jacket in my car will send me his mailing address I will return the jacket to him. He can contact me at the following address:

Stephen F. Traynor
1808 Frederic
Ft. Worth, Texas

War Camp Victim Is CHS Speaker

Seichi Sakamoto, '38, who survived four and one-half years in Russian concentration camps, told students at Consolidated High School last Tuesday of hardships endured in the Communist camps.

During his talk he said that prisoners are kept in a half-starved condition, living only on bread, millet, sugar, oil and dried-fish, and are forced to do heavy labor. Sakamoto spoke to the group for an hour, but did not have time for a question period.

Air Force to Publish Thesis by Aggie-Ex

W. H. Bachle's thesis titled "Determination of the Torsional Modulus of Rupture of Aluminum Alloy and Steel Tubing of Diameter to Thickness Ratio Less Than Ten" is to be published as an Air Force Technical Report, E. E. Brush, head of the Aero Department, said today.

Truman-Attlee Talks Not Like You'd Think

By JAMES MARLOW

Washington, Dec. 8.—(AP)—One of the astonishing things about a meeting between the heads of states is the little time it seems to take them to decide the most important problems.

President Truman and Britain's Prime Minister Attlee have been meeting here every day since Attlee arrived by plane from London Monday.

There probably has never been a more important meeting between an American President and a British Prime Minister, even in World War II.

What these two men decide to do about the crisis with Communism may change the fate of the world.

You might think the two men would want every possible minute together to talk over their problems, which are plenty.

You can almost imagine Attlee staying with the Trumans, sitting up till the early hours talking things over, and even leaning against the bathroom doorway in the morning, still talking, while the President shaved.

It isn't being done that way. When Attlee arrived, accompanied by a couple of Scotland Yard detectives, he was whisked off to the British embassy where he's staying on his visit here.

And so far the President and Prime Minister have conferred together officially for four hours and 25 minutes in three days.

After each day's session the White House has issued a brief statement, known as a communiqué, on what happened.

This communiqué hasn't revealed very much. Maybe the two men will give out a statement after they've finished their talks.

After the Monday and Tuesday conferences reporters got a brief fill-in, in connection with the day's communiqué, from Charles G. Ross, Presidential Secretary who handled the press for Mr. Truman.

But Ross, former newspaperman and old-time friend of the Trumans from their days in Missouri together, died suddenly of a heart attack after his Tuesday conference with the press.

The Wednesday night fill-in was handled by Stephen Early, whom Mr. Truman called in to help out. Early had been press secretary to

President Roosevelt for years but is now in private business.

Neither Ross nor Early has revealed very much. No one expected them to, since anything released piecemeal on the conference might be of big help to the Russians and Chinese in making decisions of their own at a time when the Chinese are fighting the United Nations

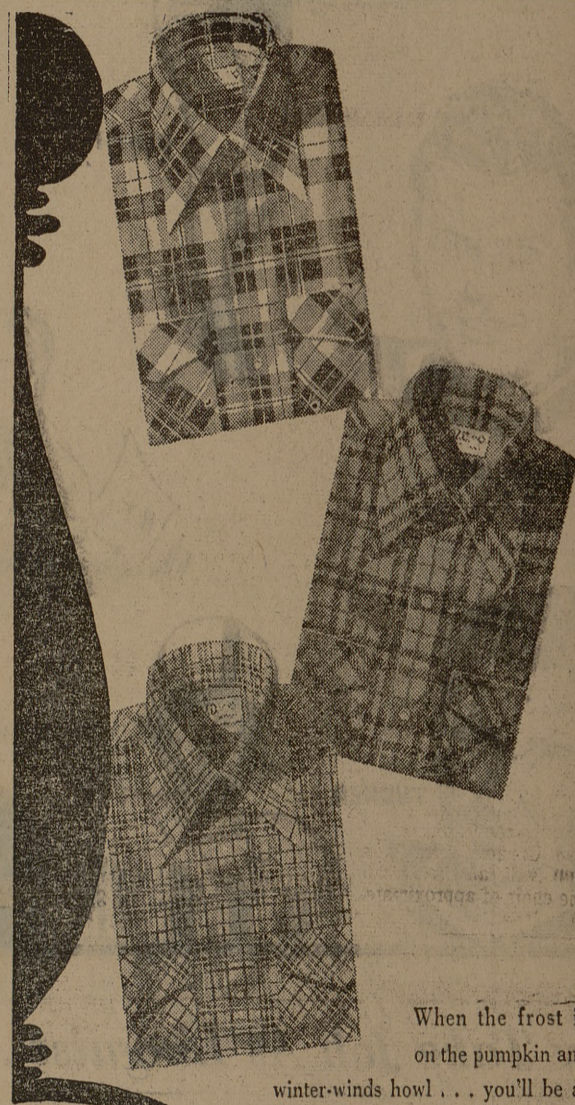
troops in Korea.

But the British haven't been idle. Their press relations in Washington have been very smartly handled now for years. British press relations people gave newsmen a fill-in every day.

Some reporters closely covering the conferences complain that the British have been more helpful than American press relations men.



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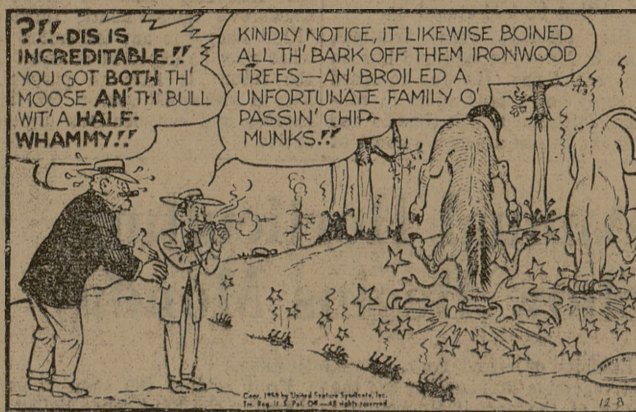
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