

An Editorial

Election Commission Could Insure Fairness in Voting

SPRING ELECTIONS for next year's class officers have come and gone and they have left a bad taste in the mouths of many.

No blame is to be placed on any of the retiring class officers who usually handle

the voting. They have carried out their duties, for the most part, faithfully and as positively as they could, facing the situation they do.

An excellent solution, or rather something which would aid in remedying an unsatisfactory situation, would be an election commission.

Many Jobs Aren't Jobs

AS THE SITUATION now stands, classes elect from four to eight or nine officers, half of whom never do a lick of work during the year.

Most of the positions are strictly honorary jobs, since few secretaries take any minutes, few historians write histories, few reporters report, and few parliamentarians know Roberts Rules of Order.

This, however, isn't the offensive part of the present election system. We shouldn't say "system," for actually there is none.

The usual class election operates some-

thing like this. Someone reminds the outgoing class president a new election of officers is just around the corner.

Announcements are made and candidates file. Seldom are candidates checked for qualifications. Just about anyone can run.

The ballots are distributed through corps units and through the civilian dorms. This distribution and collection of votes often must be done by men who are candidates themselves, and it is an easily proven fact that much of the counting is done by candidates.

Cannot Insure Fairness Now

IN ALL FAIRNESS to those men running for office, this should not be allowed. Holding an election is no snap job, so few people volunteer to work.

An election commission would not remove any of the sovereign rights of a class to hold its own election. It would, however, standardize class elections and make them more efficient and fair.

Here would be a few primary functions of such a body: (1) to announce all filing dates

and deadlines; (2) to see that all candidates were checked for qualifications; (3) to standardize positions on ballots, possibly by holding drawings or by first-file, first-on-ballot; (4) to see that ballots are given to each qualified voter in that election and that no one else is allowed to vote; (5) to observe the election carefully and prevent, if possible, any occurrences which might cause an improper result of a vote; and to (6) have runoff procedures standardized and announced publicly before even the primary vote is taken.

All Groups Represented

COMPOSITION OF the election commission might be something like this: three representatives from each of the four classes, members of the Student Senate election committee, two members of the Student Life Committee, and one member of the M S C Council.

All members of the commission need not be involved in each election, but in only those within his jurisdiction. Any appeals con-

cerning elections could be made to this body, which might also establish rules of campaigning, limits to finances, and set proper penalties for rule infractions.

Commissioners could operate more freely if they were appointed impartially from the group they represent. This would prevent the commission from becoming a political plum itself.

Plan Must Be Detailed

MUCH MORE detail than this must be worked out before such a plan could be put into satisfactory operation, but an ugly situation is now existing when it need not.

Last year's Student Senate vetoed a sim-

ilar plan. This year's Senate didn't receive the suggestion. But the Student Life Committee meets Monday and such a plan might well be brought before them at the last meeting.



Senate Committee Upholds Bradley's Refusal to Talk

By DON WHITEHEAD

WASHINGTON, May 18—(AP)—Senate investigators decided 18 to 8 yesterday that they cannot compel Gen. Omar N. Bradley to reveal what was said between President Truman and his advisers at a meeting which led to the ouster of Gen. MacArthur.

The Senate Armed Services and Foreign Relations Committee thus upheld their presiding officer, Senator Russell (D-Ga.), who ruled Bradley was within his rights in refusing to disclose the conversation. Bradley declared his value as a confidential adviser to the President would be ruined if he talked.

The vote kicked up a new controversy in the Truman-MacArthur dispute with charges and denials that the inquiry into MacArthur's dismissal has taken on "political overtones."

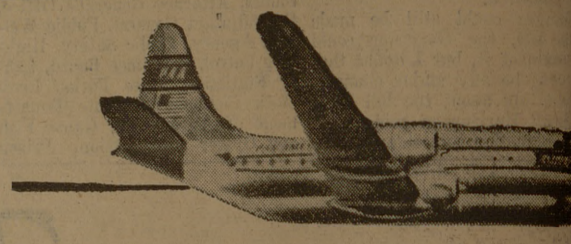
Truman Speaks Out

President Truman spoke out with a glimpse into what went on at the White House meeting April 6—five days before MacArthur was fired.

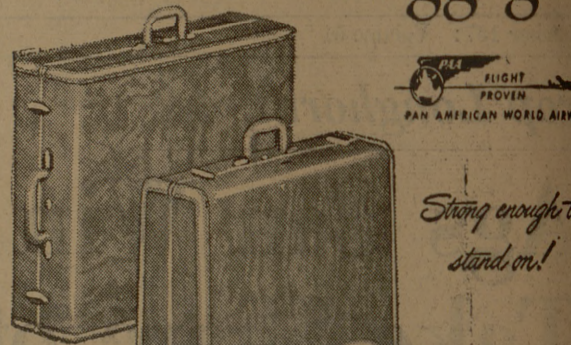
He said he had been thinking of firing MacArthur off and on for a year—but hadn't made a decision until the general offered on March 24 to talk peace terms with the Red commander in Korea. The President referred to this offer as an ultimatum. Administration men have asserted it threw a wrench into a settlement attempt Truman himself was planning at the time.

Some Republicans have said that Acheson urged the dismissal of MacArthur. Truman asserted the Senate inquiry group did exactly right in

upholding Bradley's refusal to talk. He added the decisions and actions taken were his own and his conversations with his advisers and staff were his own business. Earlier, the President struck out at those he said would have the country "go for an all-out war in China all by ourselves."



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SW Veterinarian Award to Lumb

By BILL DICKENS Battalion Staff Writers

Dr. William V. Lumb, professor of veterinary medicine, was presented the Annual Southwestern Veterinarian Faculty Award for Service and Achievement at the AVMA chapter meeting in the Veterinary Medicine lecture room last night.

The award, devised by the editorial staff of the Southwestern Veterinarian as a means of recognizing outstanding faculty members for their services, contributions, and interest in promoting the magazine, is the first of its nature to be presented.

Becomes Annual Event. In the future, the award will be an annual event and a replica of each year's award will be kept on display in the Veterinary Hospital.

Dr. Lumb was born in Sioux City, Iowa, and reared in Manhattan, Kan. He graduated from Kansas State College in 1943, whereupon he went on active duty with the Veterinary Corps, U.S. Army, for three years.

In 1946 and 1947, he served his internship at the Angel Memorial Animal Hospital in Boston, Mass., where he made his residence for the two following years. In 1949 he joined the faculty of the School

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Deeper Cuts Ahead, Warns Truman

Government Slaps Controls On Auto Steel, 'Hard Goods'

WASHINGTON, May 18—(AP)—The government cut supplies of steel for autos and other civilian "hard goods" yesterday to about 65 per cent of pre-Korean war levels and warned of deeper cuts ahead.

The orders, varying somewhat from industry to industry, will be issued shortly to take effect July 1. They were announced as President Truman and key officials tried to arouse public support for the administration's program of

holding back cattle for expansion of herds. Chairman Cooley (D-NC) told Brannan his testimony "fails to justify" the rollback order because he had not shown it would lead to an increased production of beef.

M'ville Cattlemen Make Invitations

The Madisonville Sidewalk Cattlemen's Association is inviting cowgirl representatives of the various organizations of College Station to honor guests June 6 at a western dance held in Madisonville's Legion Park and to attend the annual barbecue and reunion held over the week end.

Colley Explains

"That's what we're interested in," Colley said. "Everything tends to show just the contrary—that incentive (to produce more beef) has been dulled and that we will have a decrease." Cooley then demanded: "Did you in the first place look with favor on the rollback?"

Brannan replied uneasily that his department just supplied information to Price Stabilizer Michael V. DiSalle, who issued the order. Mr. Truman later backed DiSalle to the hilt.

Across the capitol, general counsel Wilbur La Roe, Jr., of the National Independent Meat Packers Association, told the Senate Banking Committee:

"Meat prices, believe it or not, are not unduly high and should not be controlled. The price of meat is subnormal compared with the price of labor."

La Roe was quickly challenged by Senator Moody (D-Mich), who wanted to know what the working man should answer when his wife complained of paying \$1.25 a pound for ground round steak "when wages are frozen."

La Roe replied that an hour's labor now will buy more meat than at any time since 1929.

The Battalion

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

Table listing staff members and their roles: Clayton L. Selph, Dave Coslett (Co-Editors); John Whitmore, Dean Reed (Managing Editors); Fred Walker (Sports Editor); Vivian Castleberry (Women's Editor); Dean Reed (Managing Editor); Bob Hughson (City News Editor); Bill Aaberg (Campus News Editor).

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Letter-Writing Advised

The President's advice: Write your congressman. Secretary of Agriculture Brannan said unhappily he didn't want controls of any kind, but he hastened to add:

"These are abnormal times and we may have to take abnormal measures." Brannan's comment came as he underwent a stiff grilling by members of the House Agriculture Committee on the government's recent order for a rollback on cattle prices.

Western cattle raisers have besieged Washington ever since the order was issued, complaining angrily that it means ruin for them and the return of meat black markets for the public.

Means Less Later

Brannan said the price order may put more beef on dinner tables over the next year or two, but less in three to five years hence. He had testified that the rollback would "not jeopardize cattle production."

Brannan asserted that when long-range price prospects for cattle are unfavorable, cattlemen tend to sell off the beef instead of

Bible Verse

BLESSED ARE ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh. —St. Luke 6:21.

