

From the City Desk

## A Lesson Learned On Kindling Fires

... By Joel Austin



"Whoa, Luke, let's don't jump the gun. Looks like you're trying to kindle a fire that's been out a long time. People have been bickering about the possibilities of merging College Station and Bryan for many years now, but why try and stir things up; the subject has been forgotten." In this space two weeks ago we asked for letters of comment on the subject from residents of either city and received none. Indication: It would appear folks want to "Let the sleeping dog lie."

And that's where it will stay. There were a few inquiries as to how we felt about the subject and, before it is dropped, we would like to go on record as being against a union of the two cities, as any resident of this community would probably do.

Reason for this stand isn't based necessarily on loyalty to the hometown, however, but just on simple reasoning. A few people of Bryan have told us what an ideal situation could come about from a union of College Station and their city, but when we classify that word "ideal," the question arises, "Will everyone fall into such a category?"

### Who Would Be Loser?

There certainly isn't anything for Bryan people to lose in the matter, but College Station would be in a position to suffer greatly. Instead of worrying about joining the two cities, we think it would be best for the leaders of College Station and Bryan to work together to establish better intercity relations. Already civic clubs, social organizations and professional groups are working to better the feelings between residents of both communities.

Make this your goal also and improve both cities in doing so. Everyone has something to gain that way and there is no cause for worry in either city.

The old adage, "If ya can't beat 'em, jine 'em" shouldn't have to be the case in College Station and Bryan and as long as both communities continue to make progress in their programs of inter-city relations, the two groups will be as one, working together for their own success and well-being.

### Commercial Electricity Still High

The proposed ordinance to lower commercial electric rates in the city failed to get any definite action by the College Station City Council at its meeting Monday night. After the council debate for nearly an hour on the ordinance, which would offer a new reduction after the first 500 kilowatt hours, it never reached a vote and the councilmen decided to carry over the subject to the June council meeting.

Apparently they decided they didn't know enough about electricity rate setting to argue reasonably and arrive at a satisfactory conclusion. It was suggested by one councilman that all members be given at least a month to study the factors involved.

Several interesting questions were aired during the discussions. Why not lower the rates gradually—say once every two or three months—and see how much our budget can stand?

As a good friend of ours summed up this question "Don't cut the dog's tail off a piece at a time."

### New Electric Lines Offer New Profits

True, there is some indecision as to how much the city budget can stand for the rates to be reduced. But with a new annual income of \$15,000 from the recently purchased College Hills electric lines, a reduction could be in order.

Another question raised by one of the councilmen who favored the full rate reduction, "Wouldn't reduced rates be an incentive for consumers to use more power?"

That question also deserves some thought because even with the lower domestic rates we have, it remains quite evident that electrical appliances don't have too firm a stand in College Station. Approximately seven people in the city have electric stoves alone.

Rates, taxes, fees—people are always fussing and worrying about these inconveniences, yet from these "inconveniences" come the necessary funds our city operates on.

### Bible Verse

YEA, THOUGH I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. —Psalm 23:4.

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## Letters to The Editor

### Non-Reg Juniors Voteless in Run-off

Editor, The Battalion: A&M has class distinction but we always thought that within each class we were suppose to be democratic.

Such was not the case with the run-off election held May 14.

Out of the 1,288 classified Juniors at A&M this semester, 32.7 per cent—the Non-Reg Juniors—did not get to vote. In fact we never even got ballots.

We wish to question the results of such an election since almost one-third of the total voting potentiality of our class was completely left out.

We are afraid that the Corps Juniors do not realize that even though we are not in the Corps, we are still Aggies; and as such would like to have a voice in deciding who the future leaders of our class are going to be.

Sincerely yours,

- Augusto Leon-Oretga, '52
- Charles T. Williams, '52
- John P. Pickens, '52
- Arthur M. Heath, '52
- M. D. Polzenlogan, '52
- Leo Hoove, '52
- Robert Henkhaus, '52
- Alfred C. Haynes, '52
- Fred Figueroa, Jr., '52
- William F. Pearson, '52
- Roger Longley, '52
- Gordon W. Day, '52

(Editor's Note: Harold Chandler, president of the Class of '52, was contacted last night for further information on this matter. Chandler reported that, under present conditions, no suitable arrangement could be found for distributing ballots to civilian students.

(Housemasters, he says, will handle only Student Senate elections. And, Chandler adds, it would be a matter of personal contact

### MSC Sets Room Reservation Plan

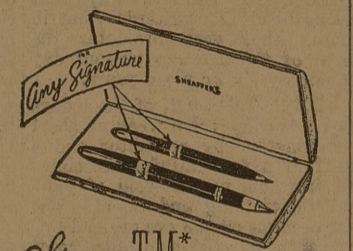
The MSC will accept guest room reservations for the coming year starting tomorrow and ending at 2 p. m. May 29. Reservations may be made for any date between June, 1951 and June, 1952.

Reservations may be made for specific events. The exact date is not necessary at this time. Requests made for separate events must be submitted on separate sheets of paper and marked Attention-Reservation Clerk.

Drawings will be held for selecting the reservations for each event and notice of confirmation will be mailed. A deposit will then be required to hold the reservation.

with each civilian student to get ballots to them. (Chandler did suggest that he would be more than happy to have civilian students assume the task of getting ballots to the students outside the Corps Area. The only other alternative, according to Chandler, would be to set up a central poll for non-corps students. So far, he says, no suitable location for such a poll has been found. (Chandler invited civilian students to try to work out some method acceptable to them for tonight's run-off. He can be contacted in room 112, Dorm 12).

### SPECIAL SELECTION Graduation Gifts at The Exchange Store



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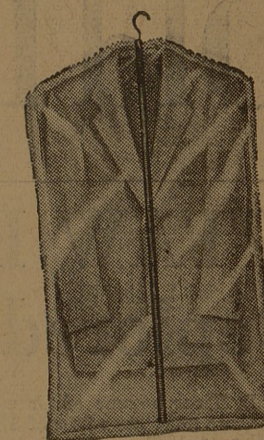
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## Proving Themselves . . .

MANY of you people missed an excellent show these past two nights. And while you were missing it, the Aggie Players were proving several very interesting points.

### Everybody Knows Except Us

RECENT events have started a concerted movement to revise the criteria by which government news releases are classified. The motive could be political, but there is reason to believe that some good could be derived from such a revision.

Actually, this country is dependent on the intelligent vote of an enlightened people, and any facts that are withheld materially weaken this power of decision. Those who suffer or benefit from government policies are entitled to a voice in the formulation of these policies.

There are those who merit the confidence of the public to such an extent as to make them "custodians" of the public interest and security. Unfortunately, however, there are others who manage to pervert the power of security and classification, for personal or political gain.

The present state of affairs has been described by some observers in such a way as to show the American public to be the least informed group in the world. In other words, the people of every other country know "what goes on," but not the people of the U.S.A.

It is certain that we could not survive if all information of all types were revealed, but we are apparently nearer disaster from too much classification. If the American people knew as much about our domestic affairs as the Russians do, a great improvement would be inevitable.

If civilization is doomed, we believe that it is far better to die in knowledge than in ignorance.

First, and most important, they proved with this most recent production that they are a thoroughly capable, thoroughly alive, hard-working organization.

They proved too that any really worthwhile organization has to do it alone around A&M. Student body attendance at the Players' latest effort was pitifully small and highly indicative of their unconcern for anything more complicated than an intramural game.

And the Aggie Players should go back on the stage of Guion Hall their very next performance. That fact is more than justified by the quality of their performance.

They may not be the biggest money makers on the A&M campus, but there are plenty other student organizations here that make less money, are less worthwhile, and get a fat subsidy to operate on.

Hardly a student is there on the campus who would not have thoroughly enjoyed the Players version of "Milky Way." The group worked hard, produced an excellent student show and played to a handful of onlookers. Inadequate publicity had a good deal to do with it, but student apathy looms as the more important cause.

Potentially, the Players are one of the most valuable student groups on this campus. Not only do the members gain educationally and culturally, but the student body and campus community benefit as well.

One may count on a very few fingers the number of student groups on this campus dedicated in even a small way to cultural development. The Aggie Players stand as one of the best of those few.

We feel strongly that our campus thespians deserve all the support possible, even to the point of being subsidized if that is necessary.

St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times: "One lot gabardine trousers. These will not last long."

### Bradley and Baruch Say

## Inability to Meet Russia In Showdown Is Policy Key

By J. M. ROBERTS, JR. AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

GEN. OMAR BRADLEY and Bernard Baruch have touched simultaneously on one of the keys to American policy not only in Asia but around the world—the fact that the U. S. is not militarily prepared for a showdown with Russia.

Bradley says so before the Senate committee, adding that

to strike directly at Communist China would "involve us in the wrong war, at the wrong place, at the wrong time, and with the wrong enemy."

Baruch says: "Many issues have become involved in the raging controversy over Far Eastern policy. I would not want to seem to be answering or dismissing them. Still, I would like to put forward this one thought of my own. Much of our trouble is the result of mili-

tary weakness. In our present situation, whatever is attempted in behalf of peace must fall short, because of a lack of supporting military strength." In Korea, he added, young men are buying the time for the whole free world to rearm.

Secretary of Defense Marshall testified to that. One thing that needs to be borne in mind in evaluating all of the arguments about Korea is that leaders are applying themselves to conditions of the moment. As time goes on and American strength grows, things may be done which it would be wrong to attempt now. MacArthur may yet see his ideas applied under a different set of circumstances.

Says Baruch: "Many of the issues—and choices—raised by the controversy would solve themselves if more of America's strength were mobilized. Until we have mobilized, few if any of the issues which have been raised can really be solved."

Mobilization Director Charles E. Wilson seemed to be thinking about that, too. He referred to the "foolishness" going on up on Capitol Hill.

### May 26-27 Reunion Set for 1906 Class

Invitations have been sent out to the 42 living members of the class of 1906 for their reunion to be held here May 26 and 27, P. M. "Pinky" Downs, general chairman of arrangements for the reunion announced this morning.

"We will have a general get-together meeting at a banquet Saturday night, May 26," he said. "Andy Rollins of Austin will be the master of ceremonies."

A&M System Chancellor Gibb Gilchrist will welcome the Class at a breakfast at 8 a. m. May 27, Downs said.

The class will hold a business session at 3 p. m. Saturday May 26 and select officers and a class agent. They will hear a talk by R. Henderson Shuffler, director of information and publications of the A&M System.

Fritz E. Litche and Dr. John Ashton are serving with Downs on the committee to make all arrangements.

## The Battalion

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

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