

Corps Takes Operational Responsibility

By JOHN WHITMORE
BATTALION EDITOR

The Corps of Cadets took a firmer control over their own body today when Colonel of the Corps, Eric Carlson, read over a new memorandum of policy.

This new policy was made up by a committee of two regimental commanders, five company commanders, one battalion commander and the Corps Commander. It received the approval of the commandant shortly after being drawn up.

In essence, the new policy code establishes a new and standard method of handling discipline and "to clarify and standardize the methods and manner which all upperclassmen will use in correcting underclassmen."

Unit Commanders to Carry Out

The official policy set forth by the Corps of Cadets with regard to the operation of units is to be carried out by the unit commanders, under the provisions of the Articles of the Cadet Corps, Carlson said.

In clarifying the order about correcting the men in the corps, the order said, "It is the duty of all cadets to demand compliance with the directives and policies of the Corps of Cadets. Correction is the act of demanding compliance with these policies and college regulations."

Action was taken by the student body after two men

were dismissed from the corps for unauthorized orientation. The group decided to distinguish between orientation and correction. "There was a fine line to draw between orientation and correcting," Carlson commented. "We decided to ask the authorities if we could set up directives concerning the correcting of the cadets."

Responsibility Given to Cadets

In explaining the order to company, battalion, and regimental commanders, Carlson and Col. Joe E. Davis, commandant, gave the responsibility to the cadets to correct one another.

"It is the specific responsibility of all upperclassmen to correct all underclassmen on any violation of the Articles of the Cadet Corps; therefore, all upperclassmen will make these corrections and when doing so will adhere to the approved policy."

This statement, made by the Corps Commander, also made it mandatory for all officers and non-commissioned officers to correct all cadets.

Many of the policies made by the students are similar to those followed in the Armed Services. Col. Shelly P. Myers, PMS&T, remarked.

The new memorandum includes:

- All upperclassmen will use a conversational tone of voice while correcting the underclassmen.
- Correction is permissible in a classroom until the

time the instructor enters the room, at which time all correction will cease for the duration of the class.

• Upperclassmen will stay at arm's length from underclassmen while correcting the underclassmen. This item makes it mechanically impossible for underclassmen to be orientated at a Yell Practice.

• While correcting an underclassman, the upperclassman will put the subordinate "at Ease" at the North Gate, in the City of Bryan, Memorial Student Center, Guion Hall, and the Exchange Store.

Similar to System Used In Service

This Colonel Meyers pointed out is similar to the system used in the service. "When a superior officer is correcting a junior he calls him off to the side and corrects him privately. There is no reason to 'hang out dirty wash in anyone else's back-yard.'"

The memorandum also said that orientation is a command function and will be handled by Unit Commanders and their assistants. "Discretion will always be used while upperclassmen are correcting underclassmen."

"The Unit Commander has full jurisdiction over his unit and his dormitory area. It will be his duty to enforce the corps policies."

Since the salute is not exchanged between members of the corps, Carlson said, the upperclassmen will require the underclassmen to speak first in a courteous greeting

on the campus. His oral greeting takes the place of the salute.

All upperclassmen will report the memo said, underclassmen to Unit Commanders for violations listed under the Articles of the Cadet Corps.

Becomes Effective Today

This directive became effective at 12 noon today and all cadet officers and non-commissioned officers were directed to enforce the regulations. This memo will also be read and explained by the unit commanders at organizational meetings.

In looking over past history of the corps, this is the first time in many years that the students have taken over the disciplinary of their own ranks. The responsibilities they have taken have always been listed in the Articles of the Cadet Corps.

Another important change in the handling of discipline of the corps will be that the Corps Commander or the Executive officer of the corps, the company commander, the battalion commander, and the regimental commander will be called in during the discipline of flagrant violations.

Senior court events will be recorded and distributed in the form of a special order after each session. The purpose of this, Carlson commented, is to keep the corps informed.

Battalion Editorials

Page 2 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1951

RHIP and RHIR

"RANK HATH its privileges" used to be the only song the cadet officers knew how to sing. But starting today a new verse has been added—"Rank hath its responsibilities."

The corps has asked for and received permission to take over control of the discipline and regulation of its own members. This is in accord with the Articles of the Cadet Corps and the Basic Policy.

Officials of the college said this provision has been in the articles since their beginning, but this is the first class that has asked to take over their full duties.

Now, all of this is well and good, but there is a hitch. What are the cadet officers going to do about handling other cadet officers and seniors? This is where the real test comes in.

If these men can perform their duty as it is outlined in the regulations of the college and not show partiality—its good. If these men can not do this the whole thing should be called off as a bad deal.

In the outset, the men should realize this is going against what has been called the Aggie Way of Life. This will mean turning in a "Buddy" if he is breaking a regulation.

It all boils down to a choice of one of two things. Are the officers going to choose honor or friendship? We feel of the two, Honor is the more important.

Postman Won't Ring

ONCE again the cry has gone up to erect mail boxes and house numbers. It must get awfully discouraging for city officials to continually urge this measure without receiving a collective response.

The steps are simple; yet, it requires a little time, a little effort, and a great deal of prodding. All that is necessary is to dial 4-7004, City Hall phone number and ask for the proper numbers which are to be placed on the front of your house. House numbers can be obtained at any hardware store.

After that step is completed, make or buy a mail box. They are available for a nominal sum. Place the mail box on the gate, if your house has a fence, or place it on the front of the house. In fact, place it anywhere the postman can conveniently reach it.

Your neighbors are waiting for you to do your job before they can receive their mail. The Kiwanis Club will conduct a survey in a few days. Help make the report favorable so the postmaster can inform the Post Office Department the community is ready for the service to begin.

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 by students 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 \$5.00 per year or \$1.50 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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DOGGING HIS FOOTSTEPS



APME Urges Break With Czech Gov't

San Francisco, Sept. 26—(AP)—A special investigating committee of the Associated Press Managing Editors Association today urged a full break in diplomatic relations with Communist Czechoslovakia if all other means fail to win release of imprisoned AP correspondent William N. Oatis.

The committee's report was prepared for 250 top-flight American editors meeting in their four-day annual appraisal of domestic and foreign news problems.

APME President L. R. Blanchard, managing editor of the Rochester, N. Y., Democrat and Chronicle, pointed up the importance of the Oatis case, because of its bearing on the free gathering of news, to editors throughout the nation. He was scheduled to open the first session at 9:30 a.m. (11:30 a.m. EST).

Blanchard told interviewers "I think we should get tough with the Czechs."

Oatis Committee Report

The Oatis Committee report went farther. Signed by J. R. Wiggins, Washington Post, George Cornish of the New York Herald Tribune who was unable to attend, and John Stempel of the University of Indiana Daily Student, it said:

"If those who retain William Oatis in prison continue in their disregard of every plea of humanity, in their indifference to every consideration of justice and in their defiance of every demand for the protection of the citizen of a friendly power, the most serious measures must be contemplated. "If all else fails, we must ask ourselves and our government if it is wise to maintain international relations with a power that is unable or unwilling to fulfill its obligations."

Imprisoned Since July

The report pointed out that Oatis, the AP correspondent at Prague, has been imprisoned by Czechoslovakia since July 10 "on the outrageous charge that the routine reporting of events in that iron curtain country constituted espionage."

It added that not since the days of the Barbary Pirates "have civilized nations had to cope with crimes of abduction and false imprisonment against an individual as irresponsible and lawless as this offense."

The committee reported it was convinced the State Department was "profoundly disturbed" by the incident, and that the U. S. government was determined to do "everything that is consistent with national interest."

Referring to a press conference Czech Ambassador Vladimir Pro-

Son Remember

From Governorship, Coke Was Elected to U.S. Senate

(Editor's Note—Governor Coke took over in a time when the state was just recovering from the effects of the Civil War. He was elected, and then the retiring governor decided to try and stay in office. Coke had a hard time getting in office, and for the first days of his office he had a rougher time staying in office. This is the fifth part of a six part story on the original booster of Texas A&M College—Governor Richard Coke.)

The remainder of Coke's first term in office was comparatively peaceful and was filled with accomplishment. The Constitution was rewritten in 1875 and adopted in 1876, an instrument of sufficient value and durability to serve Texas until this day.

Carpetbaggers and scalawags were cleaned out of office in every county, public respect for official integrity was restored along with law and order and the public debt was appreciably lowered.

When the State Democratic Convention was held in the old Tremont Opera House in Galveston, in January of 1876, Coke and his month lieutenant governor, along with practically all other high state officials, were renominated by acclamation.

They were re-elected with little opposition, and were installed in office on the third Tuesday in April. In May of that same year Coke was elected to the United States Senate, but continued to serve as Governor until the following January.

Senator 18 Years

He was seated in the national Congress on March 4, 1877, and served there 18 years, practically without opposition. He retired voluntarily on March 4, 1895, and returned to his home in Waco.

During his service in the Senate, Coke was a highly regarded and most effective member of that body. As a member of the committee on commerce he secured large appropriations for the improvements of rivers and harbors

in Texas and on the judiciary committee his legal attainments made him a power. Nor did he by any means give up his interest or active participation in Texas affairs.

Throughout his career, nothing could swerve Richard Coke from the path of what he considered right. Even when his old friend George Clark, the man who had first persuaded him to run for governor, and who through the years had successfully managed his campaigns, decided to run for office against James Stephen Hogg, Coke would not allow these old ties to hold him from the course of his convictions.

The fight between Clark and Hogg for the governorship of Texas in 1892 was one of the bitterest political campaigns Texas ever saw.

Rail Commission

The principal issue was the new Texas Railroad Commission, which Hogg had created to regulate the railroads. Many people, including Clark, feared such a regulatory body would cause the railroads to fight shy of new ventures in Texas and slow up the state's industrial expansion. A federal court ruled on the matter, granting an injunction against the operation of the Texas Railroad Commission.

Had he been a different sort, Senator Coke could easily have avoided this issue and allowed the candidates for governor, both of whom he liked personally, to fight it out. Instead he came back to Texas and stumped the State for Hogg.

From a score of platforms he waved his heavy cane and shouted that "a whole cowpen full of Federal judges cannot keep Texas from regulating the railroads within her sovereign borders."

Center of Storm

Nothing came easy for Richard Coke. Throughout his public life he was often the center of a raging storm. He did things "the hard way", choosing deliberately the course which he believed to be right, apparently without thought

or care for the consequences. He bull-dozed his way through, this power-house of a man, and came out on top a remarkable percentage of the time, his head "bloody, but unbowed."

Even his funeral, at Waco on May 17, 1897, closed amidst a terrific storm. Dr. Rufus C. Burleson was pronouncing the benediction and the vault was being closed when a bolt of lightning from a sinister cloud overhead struck a tree within thirty feet of the grave. There was a deafening detonation and a blinding flash, but not a person of the hundreds who had gathered to pay final tribute to Richard Coke stirred.

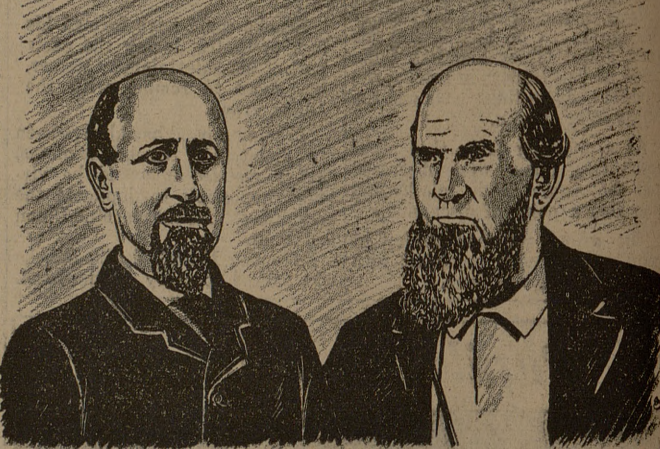
Many were shocked and the huge former Governor Hubbard was knocked to his knees. Several women fainted, horses reared and plunged and two teams ran away, only to be stopped when their carriages mired down. All of the people stood calm in a blinding rain until the services were ended.

"Governor-Senator Coke," writes one who knew him well, "was a remarkable man in any aspect that he might be viewed. He was of

gigantic stature, massive head, heavy brow and beard. His voice was deep and cavernous, slightly husky, but very pleasant in its soft southern accent. Generally he spoke with deliberation and suppressed emphasis, but when aroused to earnestness or anger his tones were like the roar of a bull. Intellectually, he was profound, a little ponderous in his processes, slow to form conclusions."

Above the tomb of Richard Coke in Oakwood Cemetery, Waco, rises a twenty-foot shaft, topped by a life-size figure of the former governor. On the shaft you will find this inscription:

RICHARD COKE
Characterized by a Splendid
Manhood
The Brave Soldier
The Able and Impartial Judge
The Enlightened and Patriotic
Governor
The Distinguished Senator
In Congress for Eighteen Years
Born March 18, 1829
Died May 14, 1897
(The sixth and last portion of the Governor Coke story will be published tomorrow.)



L. S. Ross

Richard Coke

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