Battalion Editorials

Page 2 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1951

Amazing Meeting

LAST NIGHT the class of 1952 continued the policy it began at its first meeting of the year.

That policy is essentially this—Seniors realize the necessity of getting somthing done which will be both profitable to the class and to the student bodies of A&M in future years. Whether these policies bear fruit is something only time will tell; however it is a step in the right direction.

Officers of the class, such as the class president and members of the various committees, especially the Traditions Committee, deserve a great deal of praise for their efforts. Many people are only now beginnig to realize the difficult task facing these groups.

But, no one person or group is responsible for the excellent work of the class. Little could have been accomplished without cooperation from the class as a whole.

If the seniors continue this type of work throughout the remainder of the year, they will undoubtedly leave their mark in the pages of A&M's history.

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 $6.00 per year or $.50 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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FOR ARROW SHIRTS

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Readers Say 12th Man Dead, Seats Wrong, Batt All Wet

12th Man Dead

Editor, The Battalion:

The 12th Man is dead. Willfully murdered by the Senate. The lethal weapon used was the new seating arrangement, whereby every member of the student body (comprising the team's 12th Man) was segregated according to whether he is a corps or non-corps, senior or freshman.

A foreign student or a non-corps senior or junior going to any football game would necessarly feel resentment at being separated from their friends, who are corps members.

I have heard it said that, "the Corps is A&M," I beg to disagree. As a foreign student, I feel that I am as much of an Aggie as any member of the Cadet Corps. This seating plan, however, emphasizes the feeling quoted above.

I suggest that section of the seats be assigned where all AGGIES holding ID cards be admitted whether they are in uniform or not.

Let the 12th Man live again.

Mazen Abdel-Hagi

Traditions, Yes or No?

Editor, The Battalion:

Traditions, whether begun last year or when Lawrence Sullivan Ross was president of the college, are still traditions and must be regarded as such. They must be held in regard or must be abolished—there is no middle road.

In yesterday's editorial concerninvg the Senior Class Tradition committee, the writer, presumably the editor, made several assertions which we don't think can be proved. The main gripe which we have is concerning the wearing of senior boots.

The article read, and we quote, "The opinion on the campus as to the senior boot tradition has seemed to be that the men qualified to wear boots were seniors and not just someone who has been here one, two, three, or any number of semesters."

There are two ambiguous terms which the writer put into that one sentence alone.

Ambiguous term number one: "The opinion on the campus." Just exactly whose opinion was expressed in this opinion?" Certainly not a representative number of the corps was asked this question and we don't believe anyone who has spent three years at A&M, one of them at the Annex, would make a remark, even joking. As we see it, only someone who didn't care to uphold practically the oldest tradition of A&M or someone who transferred from another college could have made such a statement.

We aren't criticising the transfer students for coming here, we simply feel that there should be some distinction between four year A&M students and the two semester A&M students. We think that if a poll were taken among the transfers alone, a majority, left to vote using their sense of right and wrong as a guide, would say, "no, we aren't really qualified to wear the senior boots.'

Ambiguous term number two: "The men qualified to wear senior boots." Just exactly what does the word "qualified" mean? We know what the College Regulations read. However, who established the qualifications for the College Regulations Book? Was a poll taken to determine this? Was an impartial group asked to render a decision? Or was a committee, composed of administrative and cadet leaders formed to establish a definition of the term qualified? We really want to know.

Here is our definition of qualified. A person, academically classified a senior and who has taken at least one semester of privileges from each of the three underclasses, is entitled to the privilege of wearing senior boots.

Alton Hooten '53
Bill Scott '53
Mike Sewell '53
Eddie Bennett '53
Bobby Browne '53
Gene Fuller '53
Sherwood McClaren '53
Billy Simmons '53
Ed Horstman '53
Guy King '52
John Childs '53
Jack Hall '53
M. J. Dittman '53
R. Marlow '53
J. H. Singletary '54

(Editor's note—We think you missed the general theme of the editorial under question, but we have a suggestion we would like for you to consider. Naturally every old army man knows a transfer student isn't as good as a regular student. They didn't have the trials and tribulations of the annex while they were a freshman—so we would like to make this suggestion. All transfer students who are classified seniors should wear boots the color of the school they transfer from. That way they will be branded and at the same time they will have their boots.)

Seats All Wrong

Editor, The Battalion:

We, the undersigned, have just finished reading the article concerning the seating arrangement for the Baylor game.

It seems that nugget waving is being encouraged ln the non-regs at the present time. An Aggie has to have a ring to get a decent seat at a football game if he is not fortunate enough to be a member of the corps.

First, we wish to know who originated the present seating plan and what he has against us. Next we wish to know where he gets the idea that freshmen and sophomores in the corps should get better seats than we who have been in the corps two years or more. As non-regs, we are just as deserving of our class privileges as any cadet. When we first entered A&M we were told that it was our class which determined our privileges, not our scholastic marks. The lack of a contract or a senior ring should not strip a man of his class privileges.

As everyone knows, contracts can be refused for physical and scholastic deficiencies. It seems that our inability to qualify for a contract is held against us. This to our minds is not the true Spirit of Aggieland. We are waiting for some good answers or changes.

J. W. Trouodale Jr. '53
Frank Orts '53
Lew Colvin '52
Laurin D. Black '53
Bob Jones, Jr. '53
Walter S. Marlow '53
G. W. Longserre '53
H. E. (Bud) Klingman '53
Iley Compton '53
Bud Williams '53
Berry Bridges '53
Bill J. Holland '51
H. J. Harris '53
R. J. Creel, Jr. '53
R. R. Rolun '53

Seats Wrong II

Editor, The Battalion:
or
President, Student Senate:

Since when do freshmen in the class of '55 and sophomores in the class of '54 rate over the class of '53? When I entered this school I was told everyone ranked according to their class—seniors, juniors, and on down. I've just read about the new student seating arrangement made up by the Student Senate.

If this is an example of honest administration by our Student Senate, I say someone's got the head up. I am one of those Aggies that lives in a non-reg dorm, but nevertheless I am an Aggie. Just because I don't wear a uniform and am not a classified senior; does this mean that I sit in the end zone? Have I been going to A&M for three years to sit in the End Zone while sophomores and freshmen sit in a seat where you can tell who's playing?

I say no and show me one Aggie that says I'm wrong. Evidently we voted for the wrong people to represent ourselves in the Student Senate because those students in office now are doing a very poor job of representing us. If there's going to be new laws governing the student body, lets all make them fair.

Does the Student Senate think that we (non-regs) are going to watch field goals while our classmates are watching the football game?

We go to yell practices, we attend all the games, and in the most part are active in Student activities. We've been in the corps (most of us) and have taken all that due us when we were fish and sophomores. Because of scholastic standings or other such things, we are living in the non-regs. Don't we deserve the same rights as our classmates? This new seating plan is one of the most un-Aggie like things I've seen since I've been here. You members of the Student Senate should hide your heads or get this seating arrangements straightened up PDQ.

George A. Gruber '53
Bobby Fletcher '53
Bob Creely '53
Hector V. Otiro '53
Alfred Walter '52
J. R. Bilhartz '53
Henry Lee '52
Norwin Linnart '53
Murphy J. Clark '53
Duane Boems '52
J. Louis Magress '53
W. B. Travelstead '53

Batt Wrong

Editor, The Battalion:

In regard to the editorial of Oct. 23, 1951, entitled "Our Great Congressman," you have succeeded in running down the Hon. John E. Rankin of Mississippi in a most assinine and disgusting manner.

You do an excellent job of condemning Mr. Rankin for his stand but no where could I find the stand you advocated. Or does the reader need to know your stand?

Perhaps you are so adept at the practice of labeling a congressman not worth a damn, that you do not need to show your reasons for doing so.

You, after presenting excerpts from one of his congression speeches, label him "completely unfit" for his position and then proclaim that he is in office because "you and I and the Jones down the street are too lazy and indifferent to get out and exercise our rights at the polls." Exactly how then did he get into office? I have always been under the impression that Congressmen in Mississippi as in the other states, are elected by the people in the districts they represent.

I thoroughly agree with you that it is a shame that more citizens do not exercise their right at the polls, but do you want to disregard the wishes of those citizens interested enough to vote?

If a man does not even have the desire to exercise by vote his right to his own opinions, I do not feel that his decision would or should command great attention. Besides, what gives you the idea that the majority of those who did not vote in Mississippi

(See LETTERS, Page 4)

Senior Meeting

(Continued from Page 1)

order by expressing thanks for the large attendance. Dalston also acted as moderator on questions brought before the class during the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Bob Dobbins, secretary, and chairmen of the various class committees made short reports.

John Tapley, acting chairman of the Gift Committee in the absence of Ted Stephens, explained that the deadline for decision on what type of gift the class would present to the school had been set for Jan. 1.

Campus Beautification Committee, headed by Harold Hughes, made several recommendations for making the college grounds more attractive.

These suggestions were: keep grass growing on the main drill field at all times, investigate the possibility of constructing a sidewalk at the east end of the main drill field, construct sidewalks from the entrance of new buildings to the street, instead of using gravel paths, and construct a sidewalk at the east end of the MSC.

Dalston explained the Film Committee is working on plans for distributing a 20 minute technicolor film to ex-student associations, mothers' clubs, and other groups. This film, used by last year's seniors, is designed to promote A&M across the state.

Purpose of the election Committee, Dobbins, chairman, explained will be to conduct an election to choose a class agent. Also, other class elections will be handled by this committee.

The Social Committee, Chairman C. L. Ray explained, has not yet started its work, because an orchestra for the Ring Dance cannot be secured before the first of the year.

Van Vandenberg reported the Calendar Sales Committee has so far sold 687 calendars in the Freshman area. So far, $1,031 has been made from the sale of these calendars and one third of this money belongs to the class. The remainder goes to Student Activities. Calendars are now being sold in the New Area dormitories.

Five per cent of the U. S. male population over 18 hold college degrees, according to census figures.

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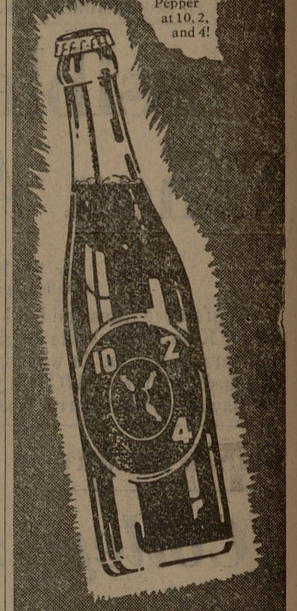

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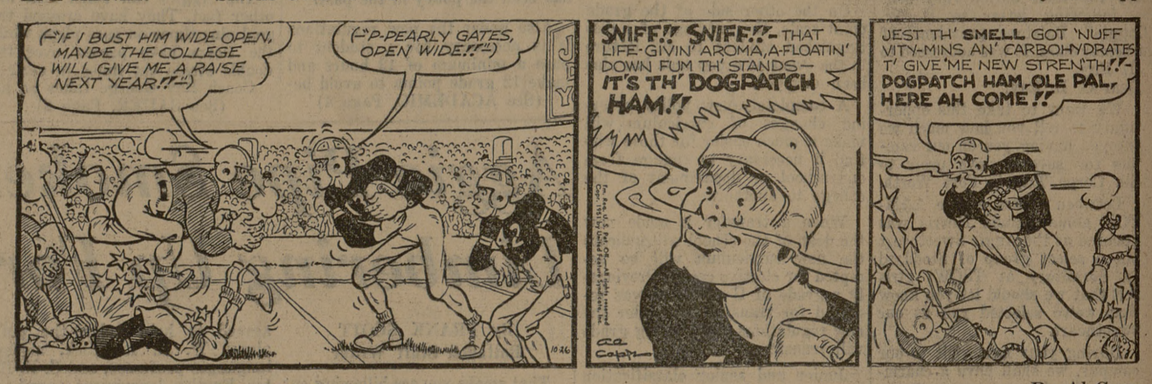
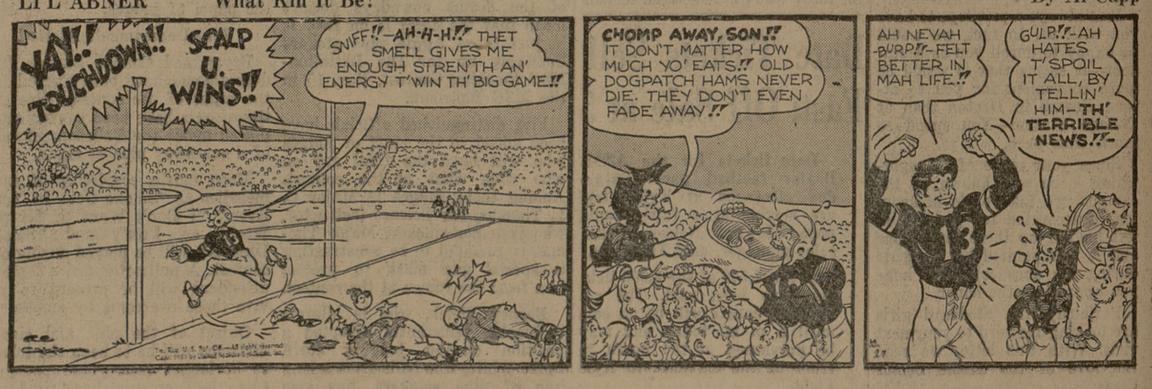
LI'L ABNER — Smoke Gets In His Nose — By Al Capp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