

**Proposed Charter Can Boost Taxes**

THAT THE proposed College Station home rule charter will increase the tax rate is an argument which has been levied against the charter's adoption.

College Station has enjoyed tax rates well below the average for the state since the city incorporation in 1939. Presently the tax rate is set at \$1 per \$100 property evaluation. This in itself is below the state average of \$1.17.

However, the method which the board of equalization uses to arrive at the evaluation figures is sometimes more significant than the rate. College Station assesses only 50 per cent of the assigned property value, whereas many cities assess as high as 75 per cent. In this manner taxes can be increased without increasing the tax rate.

The limit for tax rates for a general law city such as College Station is \$1.50 per \$100 property evaluation. The limit as set by the Texas constitution and laws for home rule cities is \$2.50.

The city can increase property taxes without increasing the tax rate; therefore, if it desires a general law city can increase property taxes well beyond the average for home rule cities, without changing the tax rate.

This condition should not stand in the way of the charter's adoption.

One of the most important advantages of the charter's adoption in the case of College Station is the provision allowing annexation of adjoining property by city ordinance. This is especially important due to College Station's closeness to a city which has a home-rule charter.

The home rule charter gives the city council power to pass ordinances to meet new situations which under a general law charter issued by the state, it might call for state legislation changing the charter.

The step from a general law city to a home rule city might be compared with the step from territorial government to statehood. College Station's home rule charter is patterned after a model prepared by the Texas League of Municipalities. It is a charter which will enable the city to more efficiently serve its citizens.

College Station has always been a progressive community, and the adoption of a home rule charter is a big step forward. The Battalion urges the charter's adoption by 100 per cent of the 850 qualified voters in the city.

**Sounds Like Whistle Stop**

AGAIN THE student body is questioning the correctness of the name College Station. One class is planning to sponsor the request for a change and the others are expected to fall in behind. But the only thing the students can do is to make the suggestion and hope the citizens of the community will see fit to indorse the change.

The crux of the argument is that the name College Station does not carry with it enough distinction. The girls at TSCW get their mail at a station as do the students of several other colleges. So the name station is rather overworked. But there is only one Aggieland.

Now citizens of College Station if you think back what is the cause of the growth of the city? It was the college that gave birth to the city. It was a gradual movement of the employees of the college who moved off campus and gave birth to the city.

Troubles coming out of the change would not be many. A group of students over the Christmas holidays sent out postcards from all over the state. All were addressed to Aggieland, Texas. All of the cards came to College Station, so the excuse the Post Office would get fouled up does not hold too true.

Think it over, it would be a distinctive name.

**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 \$2.00 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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**Author of 'I The Jury'**

**Students Burn Midnight Oil; Spillane Preferred To Profs**

By JERRY BENNETT  
Battalion Staff Writer

Lights burned late last week in the college dormitories. Students who hadn't cracked a book all year were seen gazing intently at the printed pages that lay open before them. Some chain smoked while others drained thermos bottles of coffee to keep awake.

As the students toiled over page after page, concentrating intently on what they were reading, passages such as this appear before their eyes: "I snapped the side of the rod across his jaw and laid the flesh open to the bone. He dropped the sap and staggered into the big boy with a scream. . . . I pounded his teeth back into his mouth with the end of the barrel. . . . and I took my own time about kicking him in the face. He smashed into the door and lay there bubbling. So I kicked him again and he stopped bubbling."

**Looked Good**

When they read further, they found this paragraph: "When she turned around she had two glasses in her hands and she looked even prettier coming toward me than going away. Physics, chemistry military science, all were forgotten. 'The Big Kill' Mickey Spillane's new sex filled, bullet splattered documentary had hit the news stands, and the Aggies were catching up on the latest literature."

**More Copies Sold**

Since "I the jury," Spillane's first novel, found its way into College Station magazine racks three years ago, his books have sold more copies than any other pocket novel.

Taking advantage of his first success, Spillane followed through with "My Gun Is Quick," "Ven-

geance Is Mine," "One Lonely Night," and "The Long Wait" which as yet has not been reprinted in the quarter edition. All have been successes, the quarter editions having sold over a million copies each.

**Sets Record**

No matter what the critics or English professors say, "The Big Kill" has already set a record in quarter book printing history. Last month two and a half million copies came off the presses. No other paper back novel holds that distinction.

Every copy has been sold, said J. Davidoff, head of the Brazos News Agency. Davidoff said his agency alone distributed 1600 copies, the first going on the stands Dec. 8. "This is my largest sale of any one title," he added.

**140 Copies Sold**

He also reported Nita's News Stand and Confectionery received 140 copies of "The Big Kill" Saturday afternoon, Dec. 8. By Sunday night, none were left. Counting the first four books, Davidoff estimates he has sold nearly 7,000 Spillane novels.

Spillane's first five books concern a hard drinking, tough talking, fast shooting, chain smoking private eye named Mike Hammer who eliminates more undesirables and loves more women in 150 pages than Sam Spade or Phillip Marlowe could in a life time. Although Hammer doesn't appear in "The Long Wait," the author's latest bucket of blood, Time Magazine says, "Spillane fans need not be alarmed."

**Flu Leads County Morbidity Report**

Influenza was the leading disease in Brazos County for the week-ending Dec. 29, according to the Morbidity Report issued by the Brazos County Health Unit.

There were 78 cases of influenza reported in College Station and 161 cases in Bryan making a total of 239 cases in the two communities.

Eleven cases of diarrhea were reported in Brazos County. Five of these cases were in College Station and six in Bryan.

Bryan had six cases of spetic sore throat and College Station two cases.

Other cases which were reported by the health unit were chicken-pox one case, gonorrhea one case, measles two cases, pneumonia five cases, and whooping cough one case.

**Rift Develops Over Proposal For Security Council Meeting**

Paris, Jan. 7.—(AP)—A split developed today between the United States and other prospective sponsors on terms of a counter proposal to last week's Russian resolution for a high-level meeting of the U.N. Security Council.

A special private meeting of countries concerned was called (at 8:30 a.m. EST) to iron out differences.

Under the Soviet plan submitted to the U.N. political committee last week, the proposed council meeting would be attended by foreign ministers or chiefs of state and would take up the Korean armistice as its first order of business.

**Wait for Success**

The United States wants the Western counter-thrust to state specifically that the meeting would not be called until the council thinks such a high-level meeting would have good chance of success.

Some other countries think such a limitation would give Russia the chance to accuse the West of stalling. Today's meeting was devoted to finding a formula for the new proposal.

An influential Latin American delegation was reported to have told the United States such a limitation is unnecessary since already the council alone has power to call meetings.

His country's view was said to be that, with its pro-Western majority, the council would not summon a special session until the U.S., Britain and France think the time is ripe.

According to this view, it thus is unnecessary to include a limitation.

**Council's Job**

There was a hint that Canada also supports this view in a speech to the political committee today by Canadian delegate Stuart S. Garson. He said:

"My delegation have, of course, no objection to the Security Council meeting at any time to hold periodic meetings to discuss anything it likes but that is for the Security Council, not for us, to decide."

Canada is one of 11 sponsors of the original anti-aggression resolution now being debated by the committee and therefore one of the countries expected to sponsor

the new plan, which would probably take the form of an amendment to that draft.

The Western powers were also trying to line up support of Asian and Arab countries for their version of the call for a special council meeting.

The original resolution notes a report by the U.N. collective measures committee on steps which the veto-free assembly might take to combat aggression whenever it breaks out.

One of these steps would be to call on forces of such regional groups as the NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization.)

**Gypsy Wedding Lasts Two Days**

Ormond Beach, Fla., Jan. 7 (AP)—The 15-year-old bride was shy and tearful—after all, she had never seen the groom before—but she was faultlessly dressed for the big moment in her life.

It was the royal gypsy wedding of the son of Mike Davis, "King" of Romanian tribes in Florida, and hundreds of Sunday motorists had a ringside seat as the bride turned on the music and wound up two days of celebration with the nuptials.

After the brief ceremony, she retired to the semi-seclusion of a trailer awning while the groom joined other teenagers at a blaring juke box and apparently forgot about the whole thing.

The marriage between John Davis, 16, and pretty, bespangled Katherine Johnson of Baltimore, had been arranged by their fathers more than ten years ago.

Gypsy custom, said the bride's father, demands that the bargain be carried out.

The couple met for the first time at the head of a feast table. A few words in dialect, a blessing followed by a burst of laughter and the ceremony was over.

"No ceremony like it in America," said a tribesman. "Just an explosion of good words from everybody and they are married."

**City Name Change Gets Wide Interest Aroused**

(Continued from Page 1)

senior agricultural economics major, thought the town had done well enough being called College Station.

"I think Aggieland is a silly name to call a town," was the opinion of Jim Anderson, Houston business major, however, Lewis Rigan, sophomore, thought the proposed name would be more suitable for the community.

"If they want to get College Station out of the 'station' class, they should just call it College," said Bill Sparks, owner of the Aggieland Pharmacy. Sparks added he was the first person to use the name Aggieland commercially.

**C C Should Advise**

Tom Taylor, owner of Taylor's Variety Store, thought it was a good idea but should be discussed thoroughly by the Chamber of Commerce before any definite action is taken.

"There would be a lot of confusion and expense to local business men if the change is made," Merchants would have to set up new letter heads and make other changes," said S. A. Lipscomb, owner of Lipscomb's Pharmacy.

"The college has made the town," said Ernest "Red" Williams, sophomore. He is in favor of changing the name to Aggieland.

Mrs. Harold Redmond, owner of the Redmond Real Estate Company, added the name Aggieland meant a great deal to her because three of her family had graduated from A&M. For this reason, she was in favor of changing the name.

Gil Cox, freshman architecture major, said everyone already knows College Station by that name and not by Aggieland, while Ignatius Trauth, senior, said, "What else is at College Station but Aggieland."

Max White, senior industrial engineering major, said, "It doesn't make any difference to me one way or the other."

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Rhonda FLEMING  
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**POGO** By Walt Kelly  
IF YOU IS GONE CELEBRATE ALL HOLIDAYS AT ONCE, DO YOU GOTTA TAG AFTER ME?  
I IS LOYAL, POGO... I STARTS WITH YOU, I FINISHES WITH YOU -- YEOWIE! WALSPIEGIS NIGHT... RAH!  
BE NICE DO HE START CELEBRATIN' MAW'S DAY, POGO.  
**MOTHER'S DAY!** RAW! RAW! RAW!  
THAT ALL HE GONE DO? HE DINT EVEN PUT IN A PLUG FOR THE FLOWERS.  
THATS IT... HE MORE PLUGS PUT OUT THAN PUTS 'EM IN.  
**L'L ABNER** By Al Capp  
WHILE STROLLING THROUGH OUR NATION'S FAIR CAPITAL, IVE DEVISED A MASTER PLAN TO DESTROY THE BUM -- AND -INCIDENTALLY - MYSELF!!  
THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT... HIGH ISN'T IT?  
BUT IT WILL DO.  
-AND NOW TO THE SMALL TOWN OF PLEASANTVILLE, MERELY 70 MILES FROM SLEEPING WASHINGTON --  
A TYPICAL NEIGHBORHOOD MEAT SHOP - YES - IT WILL DO!!  
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