

# Battalion Editorials

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THE BATTALION

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1953

## British Opinions Differ On College Before Draft

EDUCATORS of Great Britain have mixed opinions about drafting students for two years before allowing a college education. An article in US News and World Report shows, however, the majority of British college administrators and industrial personnel experts prefer two years of military service before college.

An Oxford professor recently polled personnel experts in business and industry and concluded that men are preferred who come directly from college with their military service completed before entering college.

In contrast the article says a Cambridge University professor has changed his mind after originally concurring with the Oxford professor. His conclusion was military service does more harm than good to untrained minds and advises completing college first.

In the US educators have frowned on any action to take prospective students into the armed forces immediately after high school graduation. Two alarming results are feared by Defense officials, college authorities and industry if students are drafted without the opportunity for college training:

1) A draft of all potentially new students in 1953 would mean no engineers or atomic scientists graduating from American colleges in 1957 and 1958.

2) Schools would be left without any entering students, except women and 4-Fs, for two years.

Still the British educators argue, "Two years is too long an interruption for a youthful student. Especially for students preparing for the professions. It's difficult after a two-

year interruption to buckle down to a long grind and hard examinations.

The usual conclusion, the magazine says, for the majority of educators in Great Britain, is to judge each case on its own merits.

"The decision—military service first, or college first—may depend on the student's personality and the college course he's to take. For some, military service first may be wisest; for others, college."

## Really--It's Easy Editing a Paper

IT'S EASY to put out a newspaper.

The reporters, young and inexperienced as they are, rarely get the facts wrong. People are always identified correctly in stories and pictures. Nobody is ever misquoted.

If there's ever an error in fact, the people involved send in letters or call up or come in and say:

"We understand perfectly. It's really okay. An occasional error can't be helped. Don't worry about it."

And another wonderful thing is that nobody ever questions your right to opinions. They always say:

"Well, we disagree with you, but you have a right to say what you want."

And even when you criticize anybody in the administration or some other bigwig, he still acts just as friendly as ever to you, and smiles.

"We're still friends. I understand you're just doing a job. You don't have to tell me you don't make the news. You just report it. Forget it."

Your staff never forgets to get the important news in the next day's paper, and it always gets in all those short little items to keep the various campus groups happy and off your neck.

And the advertising staff always says, "Sure, we understand you need the space. We'll only run 30 per cent advertising today."

And if there's ever a mistake in an ad, the advertiser calls up and says:

"Don't worry about it. We'll pay just the same. It's understandable. By the way, how would you like some extra advertising?"

So you see, it's really a joy to edit a college newspaper.

—From The Daily Northwestern

## Solonly Bows

SENATORS of West Virginia will make a solonly bow to members of the fairer sex soon when they let the ladies of the house (their own) sit beside them for a day.

The resolution to invite wives of the senators to the March 5 session took a cue from the Scriptures—"We know too well that the Creator said after he found man, 'It is not good that the man should be alone,' and so he made woman."

YARBROUGH SAYS

## Ill Relations Festered Over Oil Land Issue

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26 — (AP)—Ralph Yarbrough, Austin lawyer, said today the controversy over submerged oil lands is a "festering sore" that is "slowly poisoning the blood stream of federal-state relations."

He testified at a Senate Interior Affairs Committee hearing in support of legislation under which the federal government would give coastal states clear title to the lands.

A former assistant attorney general of Texas, Yarbrough was beaten last year for governor.

"The people of Texas," Yarbrough declared, "are stirred by this tidelands issue as they have been by no other issue of federal-state relations since federal occupation troops were withdrawn from the county seats of Texas at the close of reconstruction."

Before 1937, he said, the federal government had not questioned Texas' right to submerged lands extending to her historical boundaries 10 1/2 miles out in the gulf.

Yarbrough added "equity, justice and just common horse sense—demand the confirmation of the title of the states" to the submerged lands over which the Supreme Court has ruled the federal government has paramount interest.

Editors, The Battalion:

On reading your lengthy editorial in the Wednesday Batt concerning A&M's so-called decline and lack in military proficiency, I was never quite sure which side you were taking. Although you stated many true facts concerning the US's increase in ROTC programs, I couldn't find any constructive criticism as far as A&M is concerned.

What struck me was the manner in which you degraded A&M as the real military school, only to state later in the editorial that people shouldn't confuse A&M as being a soldier's school, but one principally for educational purposes.

I think that if this latter point was stressed more, there would be a lot less debate as to whether A&M had lost its military standards, etc.

Naturally the Military Department is a very important one, especially in times like these; but as the objectives of this college state, only to be reaffirmed in your editorial: "A&M is primarily based on a sound occupational education of the individual, and additional training in military sciences in case emergencies should arise. A&M—school of the civilian soldier."

I can't see that A&M is particularly going to the dogs. A drop

## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS No Constructive Criticism Offered for A&M's Situation

in the quantity of students shouldn't lead us to believing that the quality has dropped also. Furthermore it's always been a wonder to me how so many students can know what kind of a school this was back in the good "ole Army" days.

Of course we've dropped many traditions, some good, some bad; but then they change the models of cars every year and girls are always getting new hairdos.

I suppose every Freshman class

has thought or will think they had it a lot rougher than those coming after them. To me this is only natural, and not a sign for dissolving the corps of cadets, etc.

I think if we would only realize how lucky we are in getting to go to a school that the rest of the Southwest respects, we'd be a lot better off.

Editors' note: If you could not find constructive criticism in the column, we feel you overlooked a few dozen paragraphs. We agree that changes should be made from year to year, but apparently you are satisfied with the situation as it now stands.

## Need More Class Distinction

Editors, The Battalion: To say that we must choose between coeducation, mediocrity, and militarism is absurd. I have yet to be convinced that any one of these courses is the proper one for A&M to follow.

First of all, we must decide what we want. Do we want A&M to become another Citadel or VMI? I think not. Our military discipline is much the same today as it was three, four, or five years ago. It is not military discipline that has declined recently, but class distinction. If we are to rebuild the corps from this angle, it is class distinction that needs to be strengthened, not military discipline.

But the crux of your editorial was concerned with the coeducation issue, not the military one. Now don't misunderstand me, there are many good things to be said for coeducational schools, but would going coed help A&M?

Once again I think not. If the presence of women were the only criteria in selecting ones college, then how could we compete with Texas University, even if we were "coeducationalized." Obviously we must compete along other lines. I cannot agree that a school needs to be coed to have a large enrollment or good facilities. Two very good friends of mine, both Phi Beta Kappa, who are seniors at Yale, would laugh in your face if you told them that.

In closing let me say that I sincerely feel sorry for you, in that you are attending a school which you obviously consider to be mediocre. It seems to me that you and Mantizas and your fellow travelers who find A&M so distasteful would have been far happier somewhere else.

Editors' Note: We are not convinced that any one extreme is the answer to A&M's problem—at least not in the near future. Perhaps striving to near one or the other would help at the present.

As we said in the article, we do not think discipline is the same today as several years ago.

If advocacy of class distinction is the answer to such a problem, who is to say what the seniors do? They are still part of the corps and should set an example for underclassmen—not do everything possible they can get away with.

Figures recently released show practically every state coeducational school has increased its enrollment in the last ten years while A&M and TSCW are decreasing.

We reiterate enrollment is necessary for higher legislative appropriations. Yale is a privately endowed school.

Joe C. Wallace '53

## Use of Ag Aircraft Increases in US

"The number of aircraft used for agricultural purposes in this country has increased from about 500 ten years ago to approximately 6,950 last year," said Fred E. Weick during the Monday evening dinner session of the second annual Agricultural Aviation Conference and Short Course on Pest Control.

His subject was, "Some General Facts Regarding Agricultural Aviation."

Weick is director of the personal aircraft research center, Texas Engineering Experiment Station, and chairman for the conference.

The conference is sponsored by the A&M System, the Texas Aeronautics Commission and the Texas Flying Farmers Association.

## University Lands

### Quarter-Million In Taxes Owed

One of the biggest delinquent taxpayers in Texas is the University of Texas, which owes a quarter-million dollars in back taxes to 19 West Texas counties, charges a San Angelo Standard-Times reporter, Edward H. Harte.

The reporter says the legislature, prodded by complaints of these counties, must figure out some way to pay the delinquent county taxes on lands held by the University and another \$80,000 to pay estimated taxes for 1953 and 1954.

The A&M System shares one-third of the proceeds from these holdings.

The back taxes are owed on 3,810 sections of University lands in West Texas, some of it with oil production. Prior to the constitutional amendment of 1930, no taxes were paid on University lands. From 1930 to 1949, they were paid regularly from the state's general fund.

In 1949, however, the Legislature refused to appropriate any money for the taxes, hoping to get the University to pay out of its funds. The University has not paid, and is delinquent in its 1950, 1951, and 1952 taxes.

Some counties have had to borrow money to operate on as a result of the revenue stoppage.

No bills have yet been introduced to deal with this situation, but Sen. Dorsey Harleman is expected to present some sort of legislation this session.

The University's delinquent taxes, by counties, is as follows:

County	Sections	1950	1951	1952
Andrews	443	\$28,429.84	\$30,181.19	\$24,919.81
Crane	94	16,127.05	22,693.38	24,580.15
Crockett	519	5,809.35	5,169.62	5,523.52
Culberson	72		371.47	352.90
Dawson	1		4.55	4.55
Ector	7		2,715.16	2,717.12
El Paso	25	157.92	148.90	144.38
Gaines	1	42.10	40.00	40.00
Hudspeth	708	3,438.18	4,067.11	4,067.11
Irion	24		842.98	832.07
Loving	35		386.56	722.70
Martin	18		772.11	772.11
Pecos	324		3,222.08	3,198.44
Reagan	322	5,298.89	14,966.95	13,914.04
Scheicher	84	2,644.47	3,479.56	3,479.57
Terrell	96		796.29	796.29
Upton	114	1,494.78	1,519.14	1,600.34
Ward	121		1,621.08	1,391.08
Winkler	67	355.47	306.44	367.73
Total		\$63,798.05	\$93,304.57	\$89,434.91
Total unpaid, 1950, 1951 and 1952			\$246,537.53	
Estimated Need for 1953 taxes			91,000.00	
Estimated Need for 1954 taxes			93,000.00	
Grand total			\$430,537.53	

POGO



By Walt Kelly

POGO



By Walt Kelly

## Pay Raise Proposed For State Officials

A BILL to raise pay of the governor and other state officials and also to extend their terms to four years was approved yesterday by a Senate committee.

As a proposed constitution amendment, the measure would need a majority vote of the people if approved by two-thirds of the legislature.

The amendment would boost the governor's salary from \$12,000 to \$25,000; attorney general, \$10,000 to \$15,000; and comptroller, treasurer and secretary of state, each from \$6,000 to \$12,000.

We look upon this bill as long overdue. It is indeed a shame when members of the movie, TV, radio, and theatre profession earn salaries in the six figure bracket and we quibble over giving raises to these men who run our great state government.

"Who to himself is law, no law doth need."—Chapman.

## 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 four times a week, during the regular school year. During the summer terms, and examination and vacation periods, The Battalion is published twice a week. Days of publications are Tuesday through Friday for the regular school year, and Tuesday and Thursday during examination and vacation periods and the summer terms. Subscription rates \$6.00 per year or \$5.00 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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