

## Legislature's Fast Move Requires Citizens' Attention

THE EYES of Texas will be on the Legislature during the next few days after the swift and secret move yesterday by the House Appropriations Committee which approved a bill providing 161 million dollars for general state services for the next two years.

Although this would hold the budget strictly in line with the present spending rate, it is three million dollars under the budget recommendation of the governor.

Many legislators have complained because of the hasty action. Others want the bill to move quickly through both the House and the Senate to a joint committee where a compromise bill may be developed to determine how much to spend for state services such as courts, colleges, departments, hospitals and special schools.

After the money is alloted, some groups will be left out.

Yesterday the Texas Prison Board chairman said a proposed \$3,500,000, thousand-man cell block is needed to relieve the crowded conditions in the system. A few weeks ago, budgets of many colleges and universities were trimmed. Every group wants more money.

Many representatives rightly questioned why four subcommittees had worked for weeks, listening to money requests of state

officials, if there was no intention of making use of the gathered information.

One thing is certain: The Legislature plans to fall in line with the governor's economy plan. But no one knows how far they will follow the governor's suggestions. As yet, no one has introduced a bill concerning the tax increase he has suggested of one cent per gallon of gasoline.

For many groups—such as the colleges and universities, all of which need more money, especially for increase in salaries—the cut will hurt.

No one knows how it will effect A&M. Only a wait-and-see attitude can be adopted.

However, former students interested in the development of their school should make positive efforts to see that the educational institution's budgets are filled.

Economy is not always the answer to effective government. The Legislature's actions will be watched more closely as time passes.

*"Education is the apprenticeship of life."*—Willmott.

## Church Noticed By Investigators

CHAIRMAN VELDE (R-III) of the House Un-American Activities Committee plans to investigate alleged communist influences in churches. He is not definite as to when, but presumes that colleges come first, then the churches.

But Velde has made it clear that "the investigation would be the field of individuals rather than the churches themselves," and, of course, organizations affiliated with some churches.

This includes everyone.

From clergy to congregational members, from college president to janitor, the committee plans a clean sweep of the nation to search and "to determine whether the American communist party, through its membership is attempting to destroy religion, or influence education in this country — by infiltration and by external means."

No one can blame the senators and representatives for directing the investigations toward other grounds. After all, the beginning of such investigations was in the capitol, and they were not completed.

But Velde and his associates may be right. He said, "If the universities and colleges and their administrative bodies had been able to handle the problem, they would have done it before now."

The same, he eventually will say, about the churches, and soon the homes. And the congressman can be happy knowing he has helped to clean everyone's house but his own.

When that investigation is started, he might say, "Oh happy day."

*"Who escapes a duty, avoids a gain."*—Theodore Parker.

## Cadets Deserve Better Example

ONE OF THE loudest "wildcats" to ring through the aisles of Duncan Hall followed the announcement yesterday that the "inspection had been cancelled."

Through a little work, The Battalion found the inspection, according to College Regulations, is illegal at that scheduled time.

At least one of these inspections has already been held in the Third Division Area this year.

One of the first things a cadet learns at A&M is "to do anything one can get away with." We do not know whether or not the military department was promoting this practice, or if it has merely infiltrated into its channels, or if an oversight occurred.

This we do know. The reason for many disturbances in the student life here can be traced to the original root of the administration, mainly the lax discipline, or the "show an example" type of rule.

Ross Hall and inhabitants could stand an inspection themselves. There seems to be a little dust settling.

Another "wildcat" would be in order, if a successful coeducation throughout the chain of command would be established to "set a better example" of the military in action.

# 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 publication 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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# ARTS AND DARTS Drawling Sex Jones-Heston



By JERRY BENNETT  
Battalion Managing Editor  
**"RUBY GENTRY"**—starring Jennifer Jones, Charlton Heston, and Karl Malden—20th Century Fox—Campus Theatre  
"Ruby Gentry" gives Jennifer Jones and Charlton Heston a chance to practice rough and tumble necking everywhere from the front seat of a moving convertible to the foggy swamps of North Carolina.  
Against a corn pone and sow belly atmosphere, Miss Jones gives the role of Ruby all the southern sex appeal censors allow.  
Three Notches  
Before the film ends, Ruby's tight sweater and loose morals have helped cause the death of three men, bankrupt several others, wreck a marriage, practically close down an entire town and ruin a multimillion dollar irrigation system.  
Director King (Duel In The Sun)

**AGAINST REGULATIONS**—Jennifer Jones tries to explain her disobedient attitude to worried hubby Karl Malden in one of the few tranquil scenes of "Ruby Gentry."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS Coeds Not Needed Here; Students Should Decide

Editors, The Battalion:  
Let's stand pat!

One of the most controversial issues to come before the Texas Legislature in recent years is the issue which has all of A&M College in an uproar and Ex-students' Associations all over Texas holding frenzied meetings to plan campaign measures—Coeds for A&M!

It's true that the quality of the military corps has declined in recent years—noticeable to a startling extent even in the past two years. But this is due, not to a deficiency in morale which could be corrected by co-eds on the campus, but it is due mainly to the enforced laxity of the restrictions placed upon the underclassmen by the upperclassmen. It's true that the seniors still run the school, but only when they run it the way the military department dictates.

In the days before any "Mamma's Boy" could break a cadet officer's rank by writing home to his folks that he was hazed, the spirit, and pride, and respect, and love of A&M was high. Class distinction was rigidly enforced, while on the campus, as the officers in training would find it when they assumed their duties in the military service of their country.

There was pride in personal military organizations because the cadet officers built it with the tools of tradition. A&M was famous and admired for those same traditions. A new underclassman was forced to knuckle down under those traditions until he learned the meaning for them. Then he realized that they were what A&M stood for, what made A&M! That they were what had built a great school . . . that they were what made A&M one of the outstanding schools in the country.

All of A&M's fame is based, to a large extent, on its traditions, and if those traditions are tossed out of the window, then what is there left? The "Boys Only" tradition is one of the most basic ones, on which the others have risen, and if that one is destroyed,

all the other traditions will follow, in like manner, and make A&M just another school!

Whereas the majority of the upperclassmen do not want the coeds, the majority of the underclassmen do want them. This is partly because the underclassmen have not yet learned to love the traditions which have made A&M what it is today. They still have hopes of a merry, carefree four years of fun before assuming the responsibilities of adult life.

A&M degrees have a very high distinction in the modern business world, not only because of the high scholastic standards, but also because anyone who can take four years of A&M student life is worth his metal, personally, and is also topnotch in his relations with his associates.

It's true that a large number of cadets drop out of school before the end of their first semester because of the roughness of Aggie student life. But before those practices can be censured, however, it must be remembered that A&M trains officers with its military corps, and not every boy who comes to A&M is officer material.

To uphold the high scholastic standards of the college, the courses have to be hard, too hard in some cases it's true, but a high scholastic tradition can not be maintained with "snap-courses." Enough time must be spent now on studies, if there were coeds on the campus, available for extra-curricular activities, the grades would suffer for many boys.

Although coeducation would probably benefit the businessman of College Station and Bryan, it would not benefit the college as a whole, any more than making West Point coeducational would benefit that school. It's true that the quantity of enrollment might increase, but would the quality?

It is obvious; the type of coed who would come to A&M would attract boys of like caliber. Together with the draft deferment plan and the financial cheapness of the college, anyone who wanted a cheap, gay, carefree four years of draft-deferred fun could come to A&M, and the upperclassmen would be stripped of their tools with which to weed the men from the boys.

The student body, as a whole, should get together and decide the issue, because it is their school, and not merely the plaything of some unscrupulous businessmen. The student body, in a general election, should decide A&M's fate, and the board of directors, if not the Texas Legislature, should act accordingly.

But what ever we do; the students, the exes, the friends of the college; let's all work together and decide what we want, and then act together for a better Texas A&M!  
Robin Ransome, '54

## BACKWARD GLANCES

### One Year Ago Today

The portraits of six former Aggies, who were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, are displayed on the second floor of the new Administration Building. Four of the awards for bravery in World War II were awarded posthumously.

### Five Years Ago Today

The Campus Security Office announced that it had collected \$295 "in fees for reinstatement of drivers' permits during the current school year." Money collected from the violators is deposited in the Student Recreation and Welfare Fund.

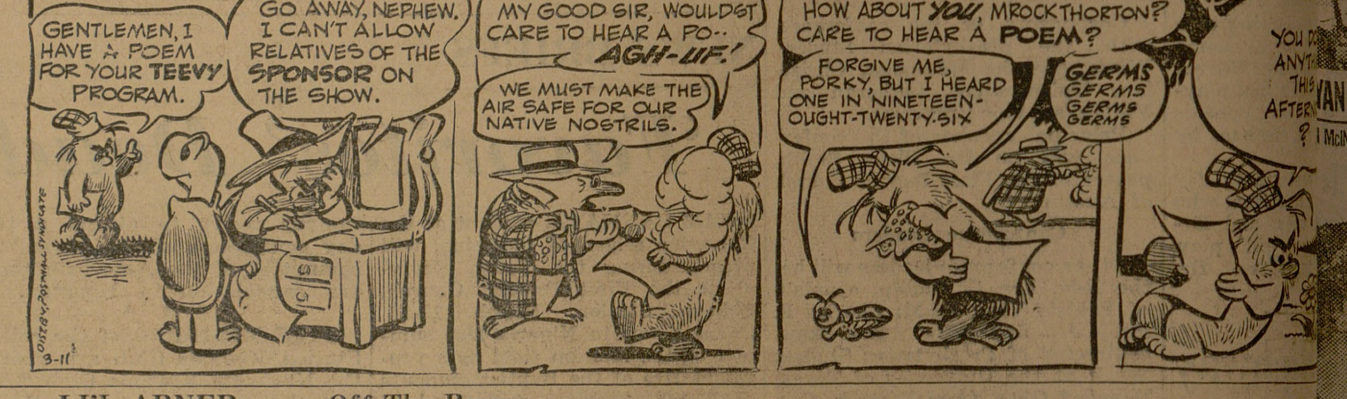
### Ten Years Ago Today

A. Varga, "who is rapidly gaining fame and popularity in Esquire," has accepted an invitation to judge Vanity Fair entries.

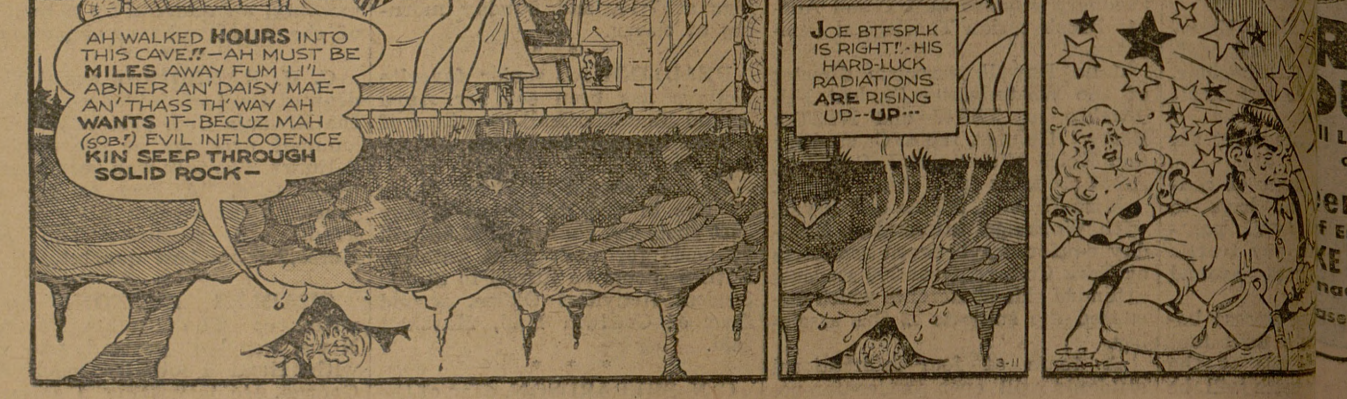
### Fifteen Years Ago Today

A detachment of one officer and eight enlisted men from the 69th Coast Artillery Regiment at Fort Crockett will be at A&M to inspect modern anti-aircraft equipment.

### POGO



### L'L ABNER Off The Beam



Vidor has filled the sex and novel cover, direction, the through a sudden death, letely sinking of improbable. Charlton Heston through an heated climb, that should be with Lee's smugly early in the still has time stupid as Ruby. Although all the reg powered ters always much fun a downfall to tragedy.

What? T 5 p. m.—Nie tra dsdale. yesterday will I Club, from this wee Aggieand. 7 p. m.—Wag Course Bangs have Luthera. 2D, MSC. 7:15 p. m.—e Oklah Society, CE h place. 7:15 p. m.— 2C, MSC. Ralph Executive hopes Room, MSC oring Newman relay, w el, will dea. ar the 7:30 p. m.—r ho Rooms 2A ed Ash Architectur Firth South Solu. captai Vrooman of William partment on the

8 a. m. to 10 a. m. Water and S tions and MSC. 7 p. m.— T BIG Room 3B, MSC. Petroleum s. HOPE, UMIO ment. Schar S—CL Assembly ne See 7:15 p. m.— TIGE F ial Room, MSC. 7:30 p. m.— RSDAY Room, MSC stress' Amateur MSC. Junto Club Aggie 20 Rooms 2C A&M Film Voyage Home Knights of St. Mary's East Texas 301, Goodwin High School the Aggieand 8 p. m.— MSC 3D, MSC.

RE Wee To Be Me Future plan clude several J. Gordon G. There are needs at ur Rank Org iversa-INTA These are: with the pried people, a conduct the a better fap. Gay explan underway to Individual members are RE Wee a s added.

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