

# Battalion Editorials

Page 2 THE BATTALION TUESDAY, MAY 18, 1954

## Drastic Action Needed To Stop Secret Groups

So the college has unrooted some more TT's. Back in 1952, the TT investigation was quieted down by giving the involved students probation. It's better this time. Indefinite suspension will keep them away a little longer.

But it won't keep them away permanently. The college says it gives indefinite suspension instead of dismissal to "give the boys another chance." The college says it will investigate thoroughly before letting these men back in.

These men obviously think more of the

organization than they do of the school. When they come back, what is there to keep them from starting again? Perhaps the college has found a method to investigate motives that will keep out men who would want to start the group again. Perhaps.

And what of the person or persons who live in College Station permanently and must be providing continuity for this group?

The college is making an effort to abolish the TT's and secret fraternities of this type, but the effort is not quite enough. More drastic action is necessary.

## Segregation Bows Out

Yesterday after months of deliberation, the United States Supreme Court ruled segregation in public schools is unconstitutional.

This doesn't mean integration of whites and Negroes in public schools will start tomorrow or even next year, but it's coming.

In the rush of statements howling about how the rights of whites have been fouly invaded, very few have even considered the Negroes, whose rights have been trampled in legal hodge-podge of "equal facilities" for scores of years.

The pretense of equal facilities has been used so long the people assume it is so without bothering to check.

Here in our own community, one has only to drive past the A&M Consolidated High school, then by the Lincoln (Negro) High

school. It would take a shallow-minded hypocrite to search his soul and say, "Yep, equal facilities!"

They are considered equal only if the other fellow has to use them.

While many Southern officials have already copped up with long-winded protests, others seem willing to accept the decision and are awaiting orders on how to comply.

Ever since the Civil War, Negroes have been fighting to throw off the status of "second class Americans" which has been their lot because they were a minority without the voice to be heard, but now it's over.

The United States Supreme Court has made the Negro a full-fledged American citizen with equal rights.

## On Segregation Ruling

### State Studies Problem

By DAVE CHEAVENS

AUSTIN, May 18—(AP)—Official Texas reaction to the Supreme Court's anti-segregation ruling yesterday boiled down to this: "Making the change will be a big job. Let's get on with it."

Gov. Allan Shivers asked the State Education agency to speed up its study of the mountainous problems erupted by the ruling that Texas and 16 other states must eventually stop separating white and Negro school children.

Shivers said it would take "years" to comply with the decision. "I don't think anyone can estimate the seriousness of this decision—what it will cost—what it will do to the curriculum," the governor said.

"Orderly Compliance" with the ruling will require legislative action, to point the way, said J. W. Edgar, state education commissioner. Separation of white and Negro students in Texas public schools has both constitutional and statutory bases, Edgar said.

But no state official was ready to say yet whether a constitutional amendment would be required to bring Texas into line with the Supreme Court ruling. All agreed it presented the next legislature in January with an issue that will probably overshadow all others.

Atty. Gen. John Ben Shepperd said he wanted time to study the opinion before commenting. One question not answered at once was what, if any effect, the decision might have on racial barriers in state-supported colleges. Official sources wanted time to think that over.

Under the 1950 Supreme Court ruling involving Heman Sweatt, the

Law school of the University of Texas admits Negro students, as do graduate divisions.

Students in these graduate divisions are already taking undergraduate courses. About 50 Negroes are enrolled in the university there. In summer school, the number is usually doubled.

Many state officials said they were relieved when they learned the Supreme Court's decision may not have to go into effect for many months, perhaps years.

Shivers said the matters of timing and method of enforcement were "all important."

"I hope that it can be worked out so as not to cause damage to the school children and so that the children themselves will not be placed at a disadvantage," Shivers said.

"Sometimes those who seek reforms go so far that the evils of the reform movement are more onerous than the evils they're trying to remedy."

Shivers said that the problems were by no means insurmountable, but that they could not be worked

out in days or weeks or months. "I know of nothing that can be done immediately except to intensify our study," Shivers said.

Texas has 1,952 school districts; 864 have some kind of Negro school, 1,089 no Negro schools. Only 51 of the state's 254 counties have no Negro schools.

Of about 1,770,000 school age children in Texas, 228,838 of them are Negroes.

There are about 8,000 Negro teachers, administrators and other school personnel who presumably would have to be absorbed somewhere in the non-segregated school system. Negro schools are manned now by Negro teachers, but some special white teachers also work with Negro students.

The State Board of Education discussed in January but took no action on what it might have to do if segregation were outlawed. Edgar had asked the board then for guidance, and Education agency officials have been struggling with the problem since the anti-segregation cases were first filed two years ago.

## Letters to the Editors

Editors, The Battalion

In answer to the gentlemen who yesterday criticized the manner in which the flag of the United States is respected at Texas A&M.

In some respects you are correct in your criticism, but in others you are completely ignorant of the situation. For instance, you probably think that the raising and lowering of the flag is a corps function. Actually, the flag is handled by the Housing Office and is raised and lowered by the students that are working for this

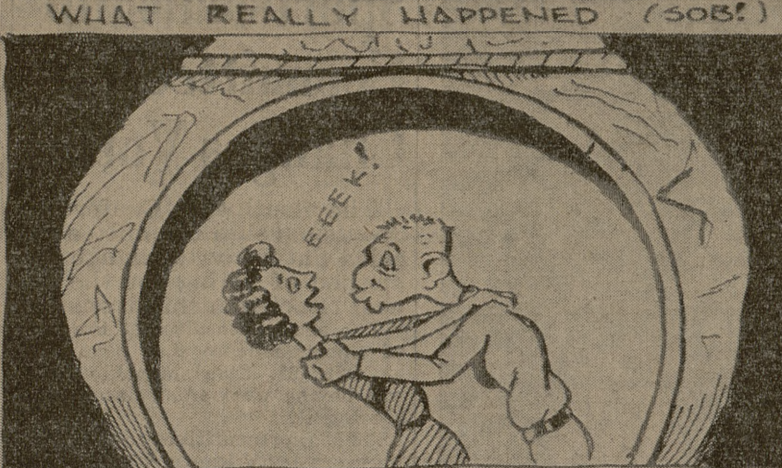
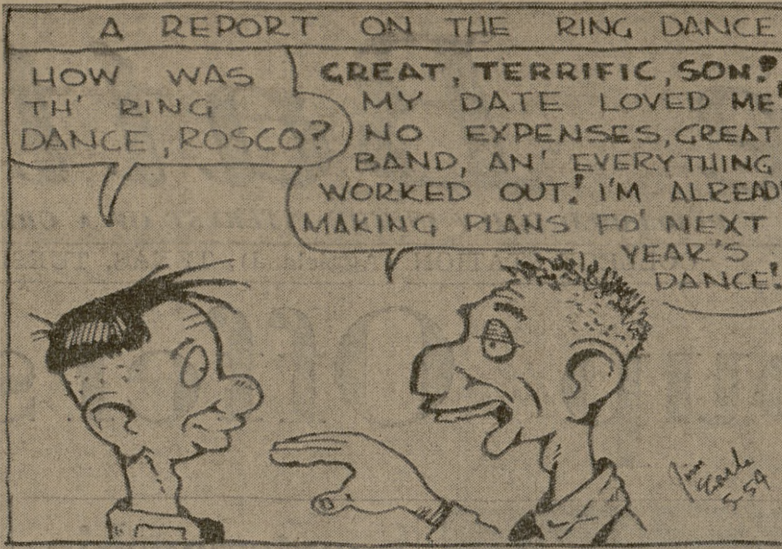
office. It was a corps function at one time but it seems that the duty was passed on because "the corps did not have enough men to handle the job". Even if it were turned over to the corps now, who would raise and lower the flag during the holiday sessions?

One man has the duty each day of raising and lowering the flag. It is impossible to observe the proper ceremony when one man must handle the ropes and spread the flag at the same time. Occasionally the large flag is flown for special occasions. This flag is about three times the size of the ordinary flag and it is impossible for two men to fold the flag when it is lowered. Nevertheless, one man must raise and lower the flag "in the proper manner". Also you say, "sometimes it touches the ground other times it doesn't". I have yet to see the flag touch the ground when it is being raised or lowered and I have been handling my end of this duty for three years.

How many times have you seen the students on this campus stop and stand at attention or salute when the flag is being raised or lowered? Not one single time for the past year have I seen one person making any attempt to stop when the flag is being raised or lowered. Usually there are a group of men passing the stand on the way to the mess hall who don't even speak let alone watch the flag. Mention it to them and they'll stare at you like you're crazy. If no one is going to respect the flag, why raise it in the first place?

I think the men who raise and lower the flag should be commended for accepting the responsibility and doing a job for which they receive no pay except their own personal satisfaction.

Grady Paul Pepper '54



ROSCO GOT A BLIND DATE AFTER BEING STOOD UP. HAD 2 FLAT TIRES, SPENT \$40 ON DATE. WOULD'NT STOP KISSING HIS DATE UNDER THE RING, SO SHE CLIMBED TH' FENCE AND FLED. A WHILE LATER ROSCO WAS THROWN OUT OF THE DANCE FOR LEADING YELLS FROM THE BAND STAND. THIS HAPPENED JUST IN TIME FOR HIM TO SEE THE MIDNITE MOVIE AT QUON. THIS DANCE WILL ALWAYS BE A CHERISHED MEMORY FOR ROSCO.

## Veterans Should See Advisor About School

All veterans planning to attend summer school should report to room 102 Goodwin hall, said Bennie Zinn, assistant dean of men for student affairs.

If veterans don't plan to attend summer school, they should see the veterans' advisor for a change of address, Zinn said.

The ancient Druids believed that the dead atoned for their sins by residing in the bodies of animals.

## What's Cooking

7:15 p. m.—Pre-Law society meeting, cabinet room, YMCA. Very short meeting for the election of next year's officers.

A I E meeting, room 207, Engineering building. Election of officers.

7:30 p. m.—Accounting society meeting, MSC. Officers and a sponsor will be chosen for next year.

Kream and Kow Klub meeting, Creamery lecture room. Program and refreshments.

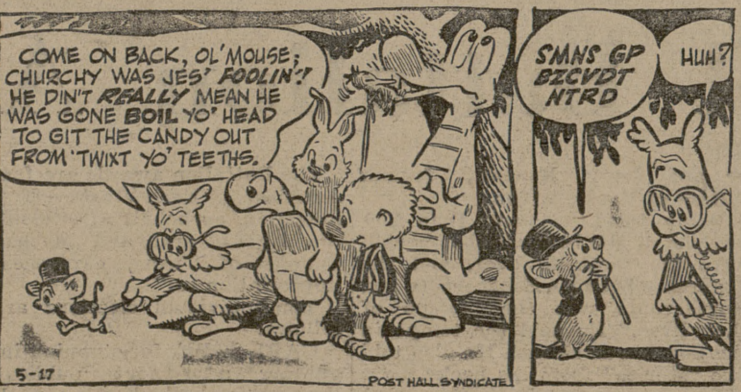
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## L'L ABNER



## POGO



## POGO



## TT Members

(Continued from Page 1)  
tion, membership cards, and a list of members. All of these items are in the hands of the reviewing board.

"I think we have all the members who are active now," Penberthy said. He said the group might revive again in the future, and that there might be "several people locally who encourage the boys."

"There's no place at A&M for secret fraternities and no place for a boy who believes in secret fraternities," Penberthy said.

"Secret fraternities are contrary to our philosophy of life, and our objective is to stamp them out immediately, as soon as they are found to exist," President David H. Morgan said last night. "I have complete confidence that this time the entire group has been obtained, and there will be no re-occurrence."

Penberthy said that as far as the reviewing board could determine, the organization had been "purely social" this year.

An investigation in April of 1952 revealed that an "undisclosed num-

ber" of students were members of the organization then. All known members at that time were placed on conduct probation.

"Only the seniors gave up in 1952," Penberthy said last night. "These boys did not."

At that time the college administration announced that the organization was "dead," and that effective April 4, 1952, "membership in secret organizations of this type will be just cause for dismissal."

## UNITED STATES WINS INTERNATIONAL TUSSLE

BALTIMORE — Judy and Sue Devlin caused quite an International furor besides winning two titles at the All-England badminton championships in London.

The sisters told friends upon returning home here that four countries wanted to claim them.

Their mother was born in England, their father in Ireland, Sue in Canada and Judy in the United States.

They stuck with the United States and together won the doubles championship. Judy also triumphed in the singles.

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News contributions may be made by telephone (4-5444 or 4-7604) or at the editorial office room, 202 Goodwin Hall. Classified ads may be placed by telephone (4-5324) or at the Student Activities Office, Room 209 Goodwin Hall.

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Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions  
"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

## The Battalion