

Battalion Editorials

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Civilian Students Now Have Their Chance

The civilian students are going to get their chance tomorrow.

After last year's heated class elections, in which the civilian students pleaded for equal representation in student life here, changes have been made and plans outlined that will give them this chance—if the students themselves want it enough to work for it.

The election of dormitory floor representatives in each civilian dormitory is the first step toward forming the Civilian Student Council, the proposed "voice" for the civilians.

Many people, both students and staff, have worked hard in setting up the machinery for the elections and council. The Battalion is proud that it had a small part, in that the council was proposed in the Battalion columns last spring.

But whether or not it works is up to the civilian students. They are the ones who will vote, and they will be the dormitory representatives and the members of the council.

Since school began, and A&M's new optional military plan was announced, everybody has been assuring the civilian students that they will get a fair break.

But that's only half way—the students

have to come the other half, and actively participate in the programs set up by and for them.

If the civilian students lazily accept the once-prevalent A&M idea that "anyone not in the corps just might as well not be here," then they just might as well not be here.

But if they meet their challenge and become active in student life, in both their own programs and in school-wide programs, they will have the complete college life. And they will enjoy it.

Aggies' Conduct Draws Praise

A&M students involved in two fights on the SMU campus last weekend have drawn praise from both SMU officials and officials here at the college for their conduct in trying to avoid the incidents.

Conduct such as was displayed by the Aggies should draw praise and should also go a long way in earning the cadet corps a good reputation throughout the state.

Continued action of this kind will not only strengthen the corps, but will also help to cement good relations with other schools in the state.

Doctors Claim Batchelor Sane

SAN ANTONIO, Sept. 29—(P)—Two Army psychiatrists yesterday testified Cpl. Claude Batchelor "knew right from wrong" while a prisoner of war in Korea.

Batchelor, 22, Kermit, Tex., has been on trial here for nearly a month on charges of collaborating with the enemy and informing on fellow POWs.

The soldier's defense attorneys have claimed Batchelor is innocent of collaboration by reason of temporary insanity. They denied he ever informed on a fellow prisoner.

Most of the testimony yesterday delved into psychiatry—its terms and meanings.

The two Army psychiatrists were Maj. Henry A. Segal and Col. Albert J. Glass. Both are stationed at Walter Reed Medical Center, Washington, D. C.

Segal interviewed Batchelor when the soldier returned to U. S. Army control after changing his mind about remaining with the Communists.

Glass interviewed the soldier when Batchelor was arrested here in March.

Segal testified Batchelor was "in perfect contact with reality" when he returned from Communist captivity. He said the soldier was "not sick" psychiatrically.

Segal also said he did not believe it was possible to cause a person to become mentally ill by inducing a psychosis.

He said in his interview with Batchelor after the soldier's return he noted that Batchelor differed from many returning POWs in that



Cpl. Claude Batchelor

Batchelor did not have a "zombie" reaction.

Another Army psychiatrist yesterday testified a "zombie" reaction was one in which the prisoners showed apathy toward returning home.

Glass testified in his opinion Batchelor was free of any mental defects during his captivity and able to tell "right from wrong."

Batchelor's civilian defense attorney, Joel Westbrook of San Antonio, read a paragraph of Glass' original report on his interview with Batchelor. It said, in effect, that while Batchelor was a POW, loneliness and homesickness made him vulnerable to suggestions that he become a member of the Communist fold.

Glass said this was simply a speculation.

Red Escapee Says Resistance Rising

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29—(P)—An escapee from behind the Iron Curtain, a top ranking Polish security officer, turned up in Washington yesterday. He declared that resistance to Communist regimes is wide-spread throughout the Soviet satellite countries.

The official is Jozef Swiatlo, who was No. 2 man in Communist Poland's security program. The U.S. government had kept him secretly in Washington for eight months, and lifted the veil of secrecy only yesterday. No one explained the delay.

The story, which had the elements of a spy thriller, brought into the open an account of the mysterious European disappearance five years ago of Noel and Hermann Field, American brothers, and Noel's wife, Horta.

Swiatlo, a stocky, ruddy faced man of 39, spoke with newsmen at a far-ranging press conference at which he said:

1. Active revolt against the Communists in Iron Curtain countries is a virtual impossibility now because "The Red army is everywhere." But the United States

Bill Pochatko won the 1954 municipal golf title at Greensburg, Pa., with his first hole-in-one on the 117-yard No. 7 hole. A few days later he was showing some friends how he did it and sunk his second hole-in-one.

"should do everything it can to bolster the spirit of resistance."

2. "There is a great movement for resistance" against the Moscow-directed Red leaders in Poland. This resistance shows up "among all classes." He said it was likely that a central body was organizing the resistance.

3. He "knows the great majority of Poles are convinced" that the Polish victims of the World War II Katyn massacre were "murdered by the Soviets" rather than the Germans.

4. He fled Poland because of his "great ideological disappointments" with communism.

The Foreign Operations administration, obviously delighted to present a significant case of Communist defection, introduced Swiatlo to 200 newsmen late in the afternoon.

Swiatlo, wearing a conservative blue suit, white shirt and blue tie, answered questions freely through an interpreter, Jules A. Nowotny, of the Library of Congress. Much of the questioning was concentrated on the case of the Fields.

As if to punctuate the dramatic situation, the State Department made public the text of notes sent to the Iron Curtain countries of Poland and Hungary, demanding the release of the Fields.

At Other Schools

Fraternities Are Big Topic At TCU

By JON KINSLOW
Battalion Managing Editor

(Editor's Note—This exchange column, At Other Schools, will be a weekly feature of The Battalion, and will be published each Wednesday if space permits.)

Texas Christian University

Fraternities are the big topic at TCU since the recent action of the school's Board of Trustees approved them. Active fraternal organizations will probably not come until late in the spring, a college official announced, and a seven-man committee is now establishing governing policy for the organization. One of the reasons for the Board's action was because of "increasing competition being forced on TCU" the organizations should be added "to keep local students in Fort Worth."

University of Texas

Again this week the Orange and White Steers had a little trouble, but this time it was the fighting Irish team. Reports on students who stayed on the campus and listened to the game on the radio painted a pretty black picture of Texas' school spirit. The students were so dejected that with each score, ten of fifteen listeners in the Student Union would walk out. It doesn't say however, whether they went out to drown their sorrows or look for a new coach. Also, don't feel bad if local bookstores didn't have that book you need—Texas has a similar problem. This proves people do have to do some studying at other places except A&M.

Baylor University

New buildings are going up on campuses throughout the state and Baylor is no exception. A half-million dollar structure is currently being built for an expected increase in the law school enrollment. Described as being one of the best law buildings in the country, the building comes complete with a miniature courtroom. Baylor has one of the five law schools in Texas.

North Texas

Freshmen beware! If you go to North Texas State college, you have a chance to establish a tradition—but all that glitters is not gold. The tradition is wearing freshman beanies from registration until the first home football game, and a letter requesting the cooperation of the freshmen will be distributed in freshmen English classes. One question: what has wearing beanies got to do with English?

TSCW

Twenty-four Lassies from Texas State College for Women will journey to Aggeland Oct. 22 to serenade the Aggies. These talented Tessies are the Singing Stars, and their concert here is an annual affair. No waiting in line for tickets, either, because it's all free.

Rice Institute

The Honor council of Rice recently published an article in the Rice Thresher explaining their honor system used at the school. Major requirements of the system are sitting in alternate rows and alternate chairs, leaving books and notes at the front of an examination room, an examination pledge similar to the one suggested at A&M, and leaving the room only for "personal reasons." The council said failure to follow them is a reason for suspicion of cheating. Yes, I think we can agree on that.

University of Arkansas

Near catastrophe has struck at the University of Arkansas because he nickel Coke is now a dime. Higher operating costs were given as the reason for the price rise, and local company officials said they had tried to avoid the jump, but just couldn't do it and still make money. People who switched to Cokes when coffee went up now have a dilemma.

And the university officials denied charges that any women students had been refused admission to the school because of a housing shortage. The college said the rumor probably started when notices were mailed to some students saying the college would "do everything possible to aid them in finding approved housing in town if residence halls were filled."

Southern Methodist University

SMU has somewhat of an unusual problem. Their campus humor magazine, the late Hoofprint, is the third such periodical in eight years to meet an untimely end. An editorial in the SMU Campus says the magazine's liquidation proves two things—1) The administration will not condone a student humor magazine at SMU, and 2) The student body won't look twice at any other kind of magazine. Proving, the article says, that magazine founders are licked before they start.

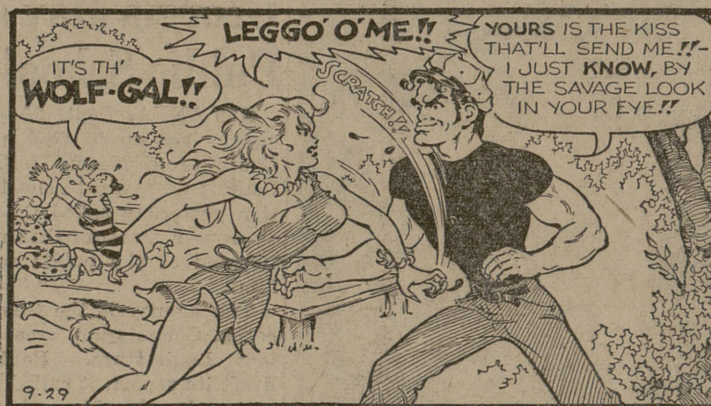
Smoker Postponed

The Veterinary Medicine smoker for freshmen has been postponed until Oct. 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center ballroom.

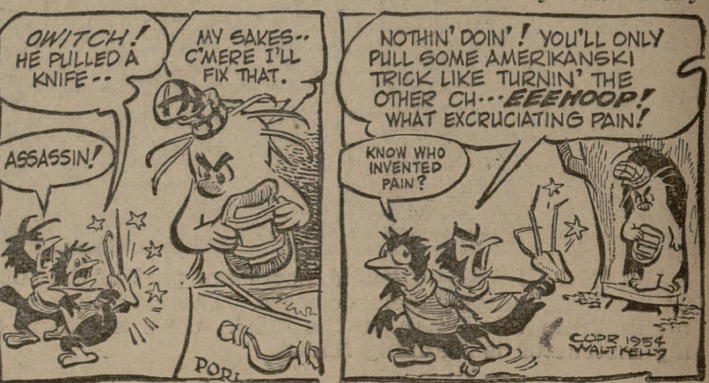
COLT
SPORT WOODSMAN
Holds many records
HILLCREST
HARDWARE

By Al Capp

LPL ABNER



POGO



By Walt Kelly

The Battalion

The Editorial Policy of The Battalion Represents the Views of the Student Editors

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 \$9.00 per year or \$.75 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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Bank Teller Steals \$82,000 At Bank

NEW YORK, Sept. 28—(P)—A 23-year-old bank teller disappeared today with more than \$82,000 from a Staten Island bank, and apparently took his wife and three children with him.

Asst. U. S. Atty. Peter Passalacqua of Brooklyn obtained a warrant for the arrest of John Siemer of Stapleton, for absconding with the money. The FBI was called in.

Sidney O. Simonson, Richmond county district attorney, said Siemer, a gangling six-footer, had worked at the West Brighton branch of the Staten Island National Bank & Trust Co. for more than two years.

Bank officials began to check, and found Siemer's teller's cage short of all its bills—a little more than \$82,000 worth.

22 RUGER
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