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THE TREEHOUSE OF THE AUGUST MOON

Spring is just around the corner, and with spring, as always, will come tree-sitting contests. This I applaud. Tree-sitting is healthful and jolly and as American as apple pie. Also it keeps you off the streets.

Tree-sitting is not, however, without its hazards, as you will presently see when I tell you the dread and chilling tale of Manuel Sigafoos and Ed Pancreas.

Manuel and Ed, friends and room-mates, were walking one day past the folk music room in the School of Dentistry and Fine Arts. Suddenly they stopped, for coming through the door of the folk music room was a clear and thrilling alto voice singing the lovely folk tune, *I Strangled My True-Love with Her Own Yellow Braids, and I'll Never Eat Her Sorghum Any More.*

When the last shimmering notes of the ballad had died away, Manuel and Ed rushed into the room, and there they thought their swelling hearts must burst asunder. For the singer was as beautiful as the song! Fair as the morn she was, doe-eyed and curvilinear.

"My name is Manuel Sigafoos," cried Manuel Sigafoos, "and I love you madly, wildly, tempestuously!"

"My name is Ed Pancreas," cried Ed Pancreas, "and I love you more than Manuel Sigafoos."

"My name is Ursula Thing," cried the girl, "and I've got a jim-dandy idea. Why don't you two have a contest, and I will go steady with the winner?"

"What kind of contest?" cried Manuel and Ed.

"A tree-sitting contest," cried Ursula Thing. "Natch!"

"Done and done," cried Manuel and Ed, and they clambered up adjoining aspens, taking with them the following necessities: food, water, clothing, medicaments, bedding, reading matter, and—most essential of all—plenty of Philip Morris cigarettes.

We who live on the ground, with all the attendant advantages, know how important Philip Morris cigarettes are. Think, then, how much more important they must be to the lonely tree dweller—how much more welcome their vintage tobaccos, how much more soothing their mild pure flavor, how much more comforting to know as one sits in leafy solitude that come wind or weather, come light or dark, Philip Morris will always remain the same dependable, reliable, flavorful friend.

Well supplied with Philip Morris, our heroes began their contest—Manuel with good heart, Ed with evil cunning. The shocking fact is that Ed intended to win the contest with a Machiavellian ruse. It seems that Ed, quite unbeknownst to Manuel, was one of three identical triplets. Each night while Manuel dozed on his bough, one of Ed's brothers—Fred or Jed—would sneak up the tree and replace him. Thus Ed was spending only one-third as much time in the tree as Manuel. "How can I lose?" said Ed with a crafty giggle to his brother Fred or Jed.

But Ed had a surprise coming. For Manuel, though he did not know it himself, was a druid! He had been abandoned as an infant at the hut of a poor and humble woodcutter named Winthrop Mayhew Sigafoos, who had raised the child as his own. So when Manuel got into the tree, he found to his surprise that he'd never felt so at home and happy in his life, and he had absolutely no intention of ever leaving.

After four or five years Ed and his brothers wearied of the contest and conceded. Ursula Thing came to Manuel's tree and called him to come down and pin her. He declined. Instead he asked her to join him in the tree. This she could not do, being subject to acromegaly (a morbid allergy to woodpeckers) so she ended up with Ed after all.

Only she made a mistake—a very natural mistake. It was Jed she ended up with, not Ed.

Ed, heartbroken at being tricked by his own brother, took up metallurgy to forget.

Crime does not pay.

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The Battalion

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

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Battalion Editorials

Page 2 THE BATTALION WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1955

An Awesome Silence

Most A&M students don't know what the Executive committee of the Academic council is, yet their every-day life is affected by the actions of this group.

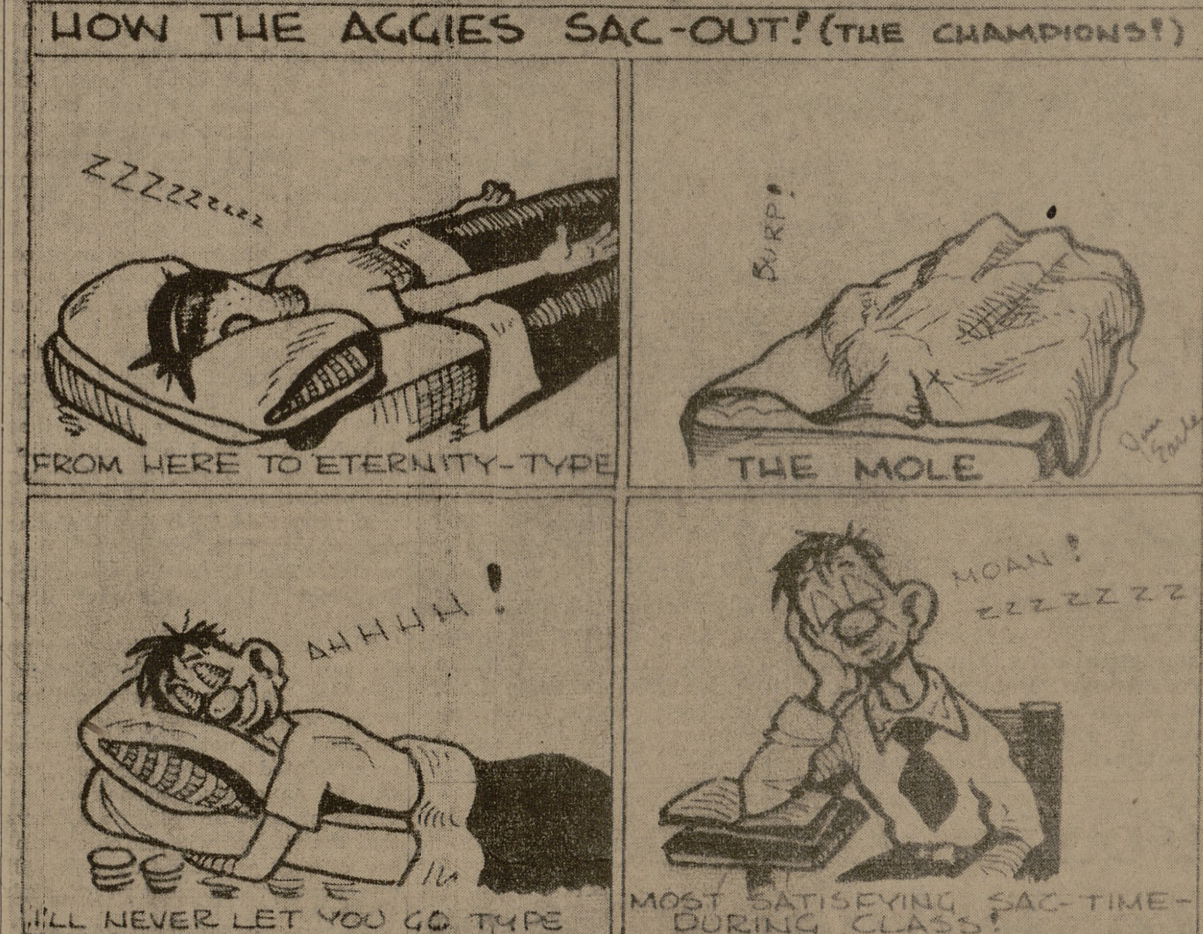
The committee, composed of all the deans, makes most of the rules for A&M. "They write the rule book," a college official once said.

This powerful group met yesterday, and refused to say what they did at the meeting. It is probable that they discussed the Tonkawa Tribe secret fraternity, but that is not the important thing here.

The important thing is that the rule-makers are operating in secret themselves. "We just don't release information from Executive committee meetings unless the information is of immediate interest to the students and faculty," its chairman told The Battalion.

An ominous statement. They could do almost any thing they please, for good or evil, without the knowledge of the public, both students and faculty.

Such Star-Chamber tactics are not a good practice for a rule-making body.



Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors:
I'm writing this letter in hopes that it will make the Aggies start thinking. I want to know if everything A&M has ever stood for has gone to pot. After tonight's Silver Taps and the one before it, I believe it has.

I came down here as a fish knowing as little about A&M and its traditions as anybody could. At that time I was from out of state and had just heard tales of the school, not really knowing its background or what it stood for. Now I know and I'm proud of it and proud to be a part of it.

From the first day I set foot on the campus I was taught the do's

and don'ts that make up the Aggie life. I was also taught that Silver Taps was something that was sacred. I was told that every light on the campus was turned off and the Aggies gathered in front of the Academic Building to pay their last respects to a departed friend.

Well, it seems like this as so many other traditions are slipping by the wayside. I saw before the bugles started tonight and after they had finished lights spotted all over the campus. The time before this, the Academic Building was lit up like a Christmas tree. Can't there be something done to preserve at least our one great tradition? It seems to me that this one should be preserved above all others because it brings us closer together into a united body, the one thing A&M is known for.

What are we going to do, Aggies, uphold our traditions or abolish them all and go HOLD-HAWG NEW ARMY.

Ben Rawls '55

Milford Awarded Jones Fellowship

Murry Milford, senior agronomy major, has been awarded the Luther G. Jones fellowship, a \$100 scholarship awarded annually to an outstanding agronomy major.

The presentation was made by Charles N. Shepardson, dean of agriculture, Tuesday night at an Agronomy Society meeting.

Aggies Attend Reserve Meeting

About 40 A&M students are flown to Houston and back once a month to attend training periods at the air force reserve unit at Ellington field.

This unit is the 8706th pilot training wing, called the "San Jacinto Wing." It meets the second Saturday and Sunday of each month for 16 hours of classroom instruction. The wing has 25 C-45 planes attached to it, which are used to fly members to and from meetings and to keep reserve pilots in training.

Anyone interested in joining the reserve unit should see Stephen L. Love in dormitory 11.

Eckard Elected

Roy (Connie) Eckard was elected president recently of the Irving A&M club. Other officers are Terry Donohue, vice-president; Eugene Palmer, secretary-treasurer; and James Starr, reporter.

What's Cooking Col. Sauer

5:00—Rio Grande Valley hometown club, front of new Administration building, Aggie-land picture. THURSDAY

7:30—Austin hometown club, basement of YMCA, discuss Aggie-land picture.

Fort Worth hometown club, YMCA chapel, refreshments.

(Continued from Page 1)

Oh, I'm sorry, says the Irishman. I'm moving to England next week.

Before Sauer made his talk, 1954 President J. B. (Dick) Hervey introduced 15 Kiwanians who were awarded tabs for perfect attendance records. They were J. H. Sorrels, 10 years; R. M. Wingren, 9 years; W. M. Potts and W. S. Manning, 7 years; J. B. Baty, R. O. Berry, L. G. Jones and Charles Lamotte, 4 years; M. V. Krenitsky, and J. B. Longley, 2 years; K. A. Manning, R. G. Cherry, S. L. Lovelless, R. R. Shrode and D. F. Martin, 1 year.

Mumps Leads List

Mumps was the leading communicable disease reported last week to the Bryan-Brazos County Health Unit. Twenty-five cases were reported. Influenza was second with 24 cases, and diarrhea was third.

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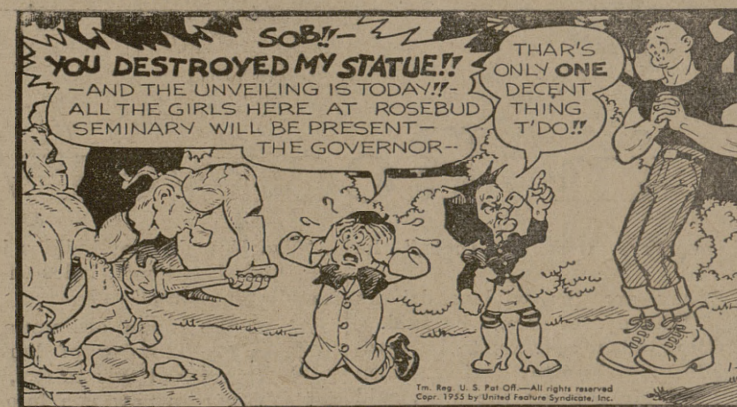
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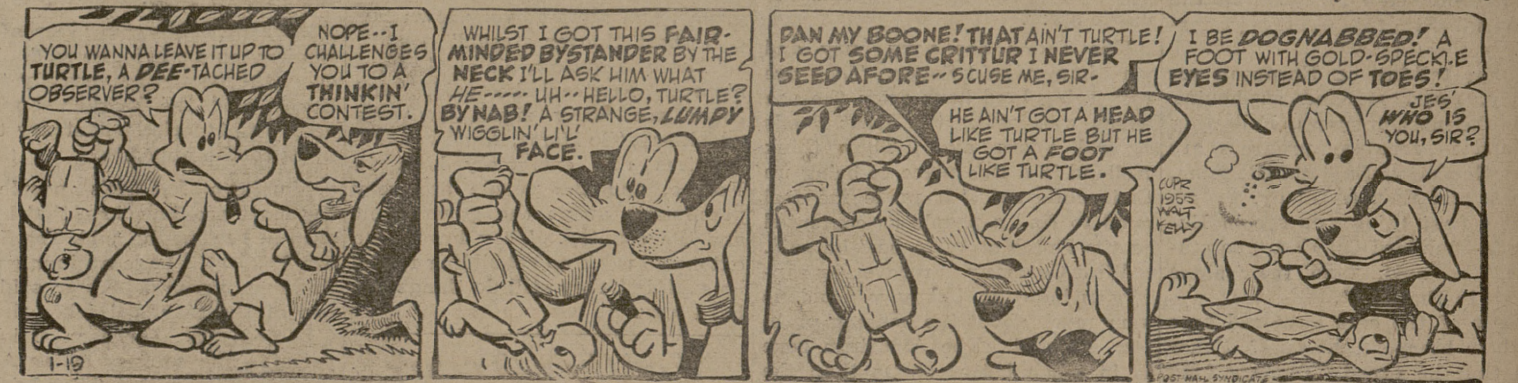


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OLE ARMY-Books in trade are worth more than cash - Lou