

BATTALION EDITORIALS

Aftermath Of Big Fight: Time For Prompt Steps

Now that wide-spread and often magnified reports of last Tuesday's near-riot in Austin have died down, students and administrators both here and at the University of Texas should initiate efforts to put the incident into its proper perspective and take steps to prevent such occurrences in the future.

We would be the last to overlook the seriousness or possible consequences of the incident, but what benefit will additional accusations bring? In fact, what was gained from any of last week's heated charges? Does anyone even know how the fisticuffs started? Or who started them? Or why they started? We will readily admit we can't answer the above questions, and would certainly welcome the answers from anyone who thinks he knows.

From our viewpoint, the incident seems to be a result of a conflict of traditions. Aggies aren't about to give up any of their traditional practices at athletic events, and students at the university are just as determined to keep all of their practices. For those who didn't know, the chant 'Poor Aggies' is considered a tradition, at least according to university members of the Southwest Conference Sportsmanship Committee. So any hopes of eliminating this one practice can just about be forgotten.

This also leads to what we consider the biggest problem area—the acceptance of each school's traditions by students of the other school. The answer is anyone's guess, but surely the first step would be an improvement in communications. In short, students need to learn what to expect and how to 'take it' as well as they can 'dish it out.'

A second problem, and possibly the most significant, is that incidents between the two schools always occur in Austin. The reason for this is simple—UT students are always far outnumbered here, but Aggies attend athletic events in Austin in large numbers. A solution, however, is another matter and law enforcement does not appear to be the answer. According to university officials, 14 policemen were on hand for the game, far more than are needed for games in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Student leadership is more than adequate to handle crowds here, but is definitely lacking at the university where any one can see that there is an entirely different situation. From our contacts with university leaders, there appears to be some effort to improve the situation among student leaders. But what steps are being taken by the large majority of ordinary students who just attend the games and have no say-so in student policy-making? Those students start the trouble—here, at the university or anywhere else—and should be the ones called on to make improvements.

As seems to be all too often the case, post-fight charges and accusations proved to be far more damaging than the actual encounter. Newspaper accounts last Thursday and Friday overflowed with spicy verbal blasts and contradictions—all of which only served to heap insult onto injury. Gaining most attention was an editorial in The Daily Texan, the university's student newspaper, calling for the abolition of A&M because it "trains men like the Romans trained gladiators." Unfortunately, many papers gleefully hopped onto the editorial and tried to prompt even more A&M-Texas disagreement by seeking retaliations. And in some cases, writers blasting The Daily Texan charge committed almost the same prejudices.

We would only hope that during the past week's controversy students and administrators have stopped to realize that Aggie and Longhorn athletic teams are due to meet at least a dozen more times during the school year, with seven meetings scheduled in Austin. This should be sufficient incentive for prompt steps toward an improvement in relations.

Read Battalion Classifieds

-SOPHOMORES-

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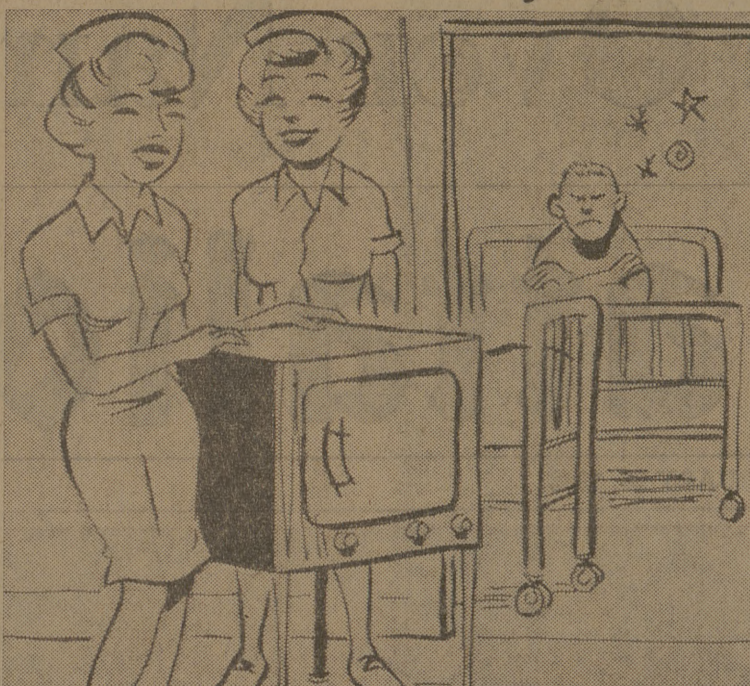
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CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle SCIENCE AND MORALITY—11



"... We've discovered that we're clearing up this flu epidemic when th' TV's are taken out!"

BY BOOKMAN

Solons Might Remember '61

Backers of a name-change to Texas A&M University better not change their letter-heads prematurely.

On Feb. 25, 1961, the A&M System Board of Directors voted to ask the legislature to change the school's name to Texas A&M University.

A bill to that effect was prepared and submitted in the Senate, but died when it was blocked from reaching the floor. Two years later Rep. David Haines, '51, of College Station says he thinks the House will pass such a bill.

Bryan's Sen. Bill Moore, '40, co-authored the 1961 bill with Sen. Andy Rogers, '46, Sen. George Moffett, '16, Sen. A. R. Schwartz, '47, and Sen. Ray Roberts, '41. Before the bill was introduced there was little or no reaction, especially from former students.

"I expected to hear a lot out of the ex-students when the bill was first introduced, but as yet I haven't even had a phone call."

But when Moore tried to put the bill on the floor without having it printed—a routine move for local, uncontested legislation—several senators balked. The bill died without ever coming to a vote.

Now, as the 10 Aggies in the House prepare to submit a similar name-change bill, there has been little or no reaction, especially from the former students.

L. F. (Pete) Peterson, president of the Association of Former Students and a member of the Board of Directors, told Battalion editor Alan Payne last week:

"I haven't heard a word of objection from a former student... I haven't heard any opinion one way or the other."

Possibly Haines and the Aggies in the house should take a lesson from the abortive try two years ago. Brick walls don't make any noise.

Question Of 'Status Quo'

(Eleventh of a series)

Why Out There

When Columbus proposed to make a voyage westward across the sea, a great many people said, "What do we want to explore that area for? Isn't Europe a good enough place for us?"

As the United States probes into space, there are still people who ask, "What do we want to go away out there for? Isn't the earth good enough for us?"

America has excellent reasons for pursuing an expanding program of space exploration. The reasons may be set down briefly under four headings:

(1) To increase our scientific knowledge.

AGGIELAND PORTRAIT SCHEDULE

CORPS JUNIORS AND SOPHOMORES

All juniors and sophomores in the corps will have their portrait made for the AGGIELAND '63 according to the following schedule. Portraits will be made in Class A winter uniforms.

Portraits will be made at the Aggieldand Studio between the hours of 8 a. m. and 5 p. m. on the days scheduled.

Feb. 20-21 A, B, C, D-2
Feb. 25-26 A, B, C, D-3
Feb. 26-27 E, F, G, H, I-3
Feb. 27-28 Maroon-White Band

Feb. 28-March 1 Sqdns. 1-4
March 4-5 Sqdns. 5-8
March 5-6 Sqdns. 9-12
March 6-7 Sqdns. 13-16

ATTENTION CORP SENIORS After Friday Feb. 22 absolutely no Aggieldand pictures will be made. If your picture is not made by then it will not appear in the Aggieldand.

Class Section Editor

CIVILIAN MAKE UP from Feb. 18 - 22.

(2) To exploit commercial applications.
(3) To strengthen military capabilities.
(4) To enhance national prestige.

The present military aspect of research includes, among other things, mapping, warning of ballistic-missile attack, aiding surface navigation, developing communication satellites, and weather observation. The true measure of our research and development is to preserve and protect peace, to deter war. It is, therefore, a peaceful mission.

In all this scientific endeavor man is not forgotten. He is the key, still the factor for ultimate success. It is the daring of creative man has brought us to our peak of scientific success.

ITS

March 8 - 6:30 p.m.
G. Rollie White Coliseum
Admission \$1.00

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SAM HOUSTON ZEPHYR
Schedule Change
Effective April 26
Lv. N. Zulch 10:08 a.m.
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Lv. N. Zulch 7:31 p.m.
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PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz

WHAT IF EVERYONE WAS LIKE YOU?
WHAT IF WE ALL RAN AWAY FROM OUR PROBLEMS? HUH? WHAT THEN?
WHAT IF EVERYONE IN THE WHOLE WORLD SUDDENLY DECIDED TO RUN AWAY FROM HIS PROBLEMS?
WELL, AT LEAST WE'D ALL BE RUNNING IN THE SAME DIRECTION!