

— Sound Off —

Editor,  
The Battalion:

On July 4, 1963, I had an unfortunate heavy fall on my cycle on College Main. This occurred while trying to avoid an unit construction barrier while approaching the college. The road is extremely hazardous, and with no signs, even more so. In the whole stretch, most of the flares were out. If this is the work of pranksters, it is unpardonable. In the aim of traffic safety, more vigilance should be spent in pointing out such traffic hazards where they exist and of making such knowledge publically available. It was only by extreme good luck that I was not more seriously hurt or killed.

I would like to express my appreciation to the two Aggies who gave me assistance at that crucial time, and would like them to drop me a line. A bouquet is also due our Aggie Hospital, the nurse and two doctors who stitched me up promptly, and to the many others who contacted my wife and brought her to the hospital. I am proud to be an Aggie. It has always been my experience that when a fellow Aggie needs assistance, other Aggies put aside their personal duties to concentrate on the job at hand. Fellows, keep up our fine tradition.

H. A. Kendall '56  
Y-2-D Hensel Apts  
College Station

Editor,  
The Battalion:

I have always had faith in America's greatness, for she is among the greatest of nations if not the greatest. Never in history has a country existed which has done more for the world than America. America has been the bulwark of freedom, the prince of peace, the Democratic stronghold of the world. But America today is on the threshold of two paths, one leading forward and progressively upward, and the other down, down and away from God.

What is wrong with America? Since the advent of the Atomic Bomb after World War II and the developing "cold" war tension between the two powers of Russia and America, the people of America seem to be gripped by fear. We seem to be afraid of losing our security, our productivity, our democratic way of life. This fear seems to dominate our thoughts. Let's take a lesson from the Bible. It was Job who said "The thing I fear has come upon me". Fear is only a habit of expecting the worst, and what we expect we usually get. We can easily see that Job's faith was nullified by fear and that he got exactly what he expected. What can we do about fear? America and its Democratic way of life was founded upon the Pioneer Spirit. Let's return to the Pioneer Spirit, that spirit of our founders that faced fear with courage, grit and determination—a determination to win against

all odds. What is it? To me, it is a way of living, an attitude toward life, it is a deep personal feeling of self reliance, belief in oneself and in his God. It means to stand for something, to face life with vigor and determination, to be a man. One has to fight for what he believes in, regardless. Only then can one have self respect and the respect of others. To face fear any other way one loses his own self respect and the respect of others. This then is what America needs as a nation among nations. Let's wake up our Pioneer Spirit!

We the people are dilly-dallying around hunting for security. Or if we think we have it, we are too busy protecting it while the world passes us up. When we think too much of our own interests and how to protect them, we neglect those very things which give us our democratic way of life. This right now is affecting our government, our economy, our foreign relations, and undermining our democratic system of government.

Faith without works is dead. We have faith in Democracy so let us be true to this faith. As citizens of a Democracy we must face responsibilities as no one else in the world. Simply living a christian life can help the world tremendously. We can set examples of fair play, honesty and helpfulness. Let's face our daily work with new determination and zeal. If we put the pioneer spirit in our daily lives it will spread to larger and larger spheres of influence. It has to start with the individual. You and I must put the pioneer spirit back into the heart of America.

If our forefathers had wanted security, they would never have come to this country. They could have idly sat by and waited for better times. But they knew if they wanted freedom and the ideals they yearned for, they could never have them till they did something about it themselves. Their belief in the rights of the individual is the very foundation of our government. In our democratic system, recognition of the individual and his rights are basic doctrine. This is as it should be so each man can fill his proper place in society. Each man's desire determines his station in life. He is free to go as high as he can. Or if he sinks down, the democratic system makes it possible for him to be helped so he can help himself. The individual is never forgotten in a Democracy.

Security is stagnation. It is also a false "peace of mind". Our Democracy should go onward and upward. If it stops or hovers at a certain level, it stagnates and begins to weaken and fall. We do not want security. We want progress!

Through the years the greatest men have been spoken of as "He gave this to the world." Why?

Man's deepest longing is for creative self expression and when he gives himself wholeheartedly to helping his fellow man through this creative self expression he is fulfilling God's purpose for him.

Our forefathers realized their responsibilities. They created a vision of a Democracy and they worked for it. They gave themselves fully to their ideals. They gave their lives so that future generations could live and work in a Democracy. They had the Pioneer Spirit!

This pioneer spirit which made America can preserve her. The pioneer spirit knew fear, but fought for what was right. It had moments of weakness but never lost hope. When problems arose, it met them. It had its eyes on a clear definite goal of a government "of the people, by the people and for the people." It gave no excuse for failures, but rose up and overcame them. This is the Pioneer Spirit so woke up America. Wake up your Pioneer Spirit!

Robert D. Fitzgerald  
Education Student



"Why would they leave last semester's grades up this long except for intimidation?"

Texans Know Little About Their Past, Says Historian

GALVESTON (AP) — For people who are so proud of their state, Texans know very little about how the whole thing began, says R. Henderson Shuffler, advisor to the chancellor of Texas Collections for the University of Texas.

Henderson said, in a recent interview here while collecting information, that the Texas Declaration of Independence was not signed on March 2, 1836, as many suppose. "There is so much misinformation in Texas history," Shuffler lamented. "The Texas Declaration of Independence was not signed on March 2, for a very accurate diary reports that the signatures were not affixed until March 3."

"WE KNOW SO little about what actually went on there," he added.

In an effort to understand more clearly the events of early Texas history, Shuffler has examined aerial photographs taken in the early morning when the dew reflection betrays the position of the old streets of Washington-on-the-Brazos where the document was signed.

A check with deed records may reveal the actual location of the various buildings.

"It's ridiculous that we don't know what happened there in 1836, for our history began there," the Texana director said.

Shuffler expressed concern that the average citizen has little or no interest in history. Many priceless documents are destroyed or lost each year because their owners don't realize their value.

"There is a gap between the historian and the public," Shuffler said. "They simply don't understand the work the historian is attempting to accomplish."

ALL IS NOT hopeless, however, in the world of the historian, he hastened to point out. Only recently the Texana collection acquired the rarest Texas book published by the Galveston News in 1865, "Adventures of a Prisoner of War." There are only two known copies.

It is the overall picture of the Texana program which intrigues Shuffler as well as the specifics. He hopes to instill in Texas citizens a knowledge of Texas history which will fulfill the basic need of the individual for roots in soil and heritage. This need, when fulfilled,

becomes an important stabilizing influence.

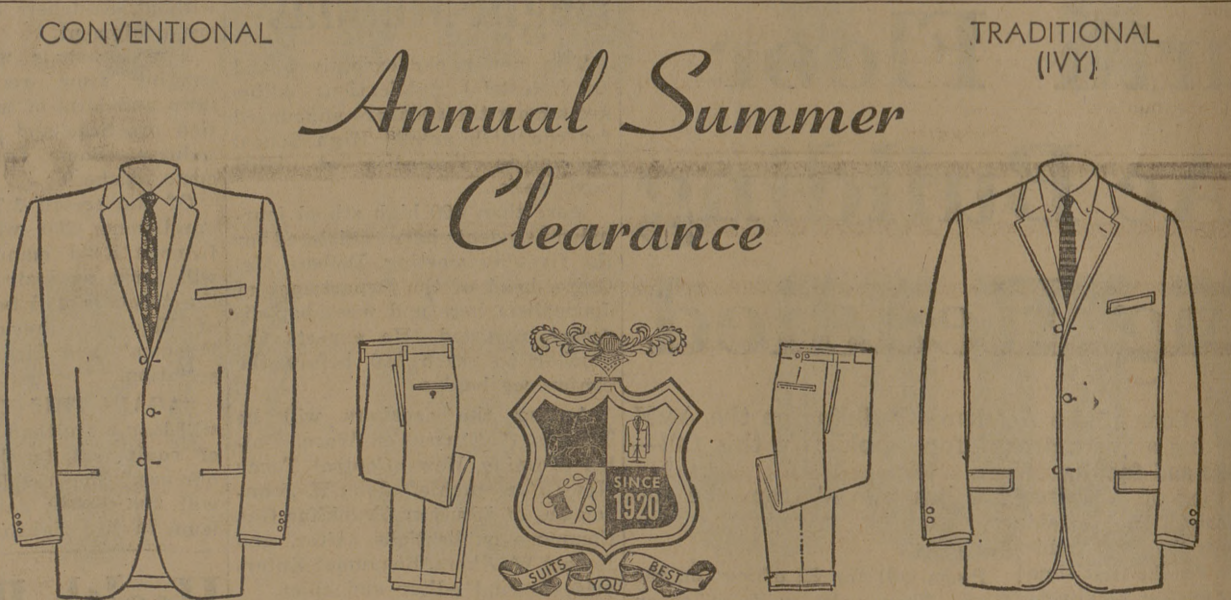
"Our gangling Texas culture, groping toward maturity, feels the need to understand more clearly its origins and the struggles by which it was brought to its present place in time and civilization," he said.

SHUFFLER DESCRIBED revolutionary Texas as a far different place from the one pictured on television or in frontier lore. Texas was cosmopolitan from the beginning, particularly Galveston.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COURSES

to be offered summer (second term)

Course 313 Daily 11-12	2	Survey of the New Testament	Baptist Student Center
Course 318 MWF9	1	The Book of Acts	Bible Chair Building
Course 323 Daily 9-10:30	3	Life of Jesus	Baptist Student Center
Course 325 Daily 7-8	2	Book of Job	Bible Chair Building



of Men's Clothing and Natural Shoulder Apparel

BEGINS TODAY JULY 11

OPEN THURSDAY NIGHT 'TIL 8:30

Featuring men's Suits, Sportcoats, Slacks and Natural Shoulder Apparel in Best Selling Styles

All Merchandise from our Regular Stock

No Charge for Altering Sleeve Lengths or Trouser Cuffs

EXTENSIVE GROUPS 1/2 OFF

- SUITS ● SPORT COATS
- SPORT SHIRTS ● SLACKS
- TIES ● DRESS SHIRTS
- BELTS

Varsity Shop

FISHING for the first time



C RANCH LAKES

Caldwell  
Hwy. 21 - 4 Miles West - Right on FM 908 - 1 Mile...  
MINNOWS — CABINS — BOATS  
Rates upon request

THE BATTALION

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the student writers only. The Battalion is a non tax-supported, non-profit, self-supporting educational enterprise edited and operated by students as a college and community newspaper and is under the supervision of the director of Student Publications at Texas A&M College.

Members of the Student Publications Board are James L. Lindsey, chairman; Delbert McGuire, School of Arts and Sciences; J. A. Orr, School of Engineering; J. M. Holcomb, School of Agriculture; and Dr. E. D. McMurry, School of Veterinary Medicine.

The Battalion, a student newspaper at Texas A&M, is published in College Station, Texas daily except Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, and holiday periods, September through May, and once a week during summer school.

The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the use for republication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in the paper and local news of spontaneous origin published herein. Rights of republication of all other matter herein are also reserved.

Second-Class postage paid at College Station, Texas. MEMBER: The Associated Press Texas Press Assn. Represented nationally by National Advertising Service, Inc., New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Mail subscriptions are \$3.50 per semester; \$6 per school year, \$6.50 per full year. All subscriptions subject to 2% sales tax. Advertising rate furnished on request. Address: The Battalion, Room 4, YMCA Building; College Station, Texas.

News contributions may be made by telephoning VI 6-6618 or VI 6-4910 or at the editorial office, Room 4, YMCA Building. For advertising or delivery call VI 6-6415.

VAN CONNER ..... EDITOR  
J. M. Tijerina ..... Photographer

PARDNER  
You'll Always Win  
The Showdown  
When You Get  
Your Duds Done  
At  
CAMPUS  
CLEANERS

