

BATTALION EDITORIALS

Welcome To A&M SCONA Participants

A big Texas Aggie "Howdy!" to all the participants of the ninth annual Student Conference on National Affairs.

We are proud of the heights that SCONA has reached in its short nine years. We want to say now that this growth would have been impossible without the concentrated efforts of hundreds of individuals in the past and again this year.

There is one thing that you can do for the SCONA Committee, and all the students of Texas A&M University. If you would simply "tell an Aggie" if there is anything that can be done to make your visit to our campus more pleasant.

This is simply an effort to encourage all SCONA participants, especially the delegates, to do something that so many people directly associated with shaping the future of our country and our world fail to do so often.

Once again, WELCOME TO TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY.



... He thought it was a cake, but evidently his mother heard about his grades!

President Johnson, Take-Charge Guy, A Supreme Egotist--Good or Bad?

By RAYMOND J. CROWLEY

WASHINGTON (AP) — Reflecting, a long-time observer of Lyndon B. Johnson says:

"You know, any man who aspires to the presidency must have a liberal coating of egotism. But Lyndon has been double-dipped."

There is no doubt that the new President is a take-charge guy, a supreme egotist. Is this bad or good? Make up your own mind, with due consideration to the problems he faces.

Read the text, for example, of his impromptu "coffee hour" meeting with the press last Saturday. Note how the pronoun "I" tends to change to "we".

"We think that we have made very good progress. We plan to see Erhard West German chancellor in our home," etc.

What does the "we" signify here? Is it the kind of royal "we" that Louis XIV used? Or is it simply a folksy attempt to spread the credit around; another stress on the Johnson unity theme?

Before passing judgment, let's review some of the President's problems. Take the budget.

If you look at it right, this budget question is a drama, with a couple of weighty characters off-stage, in the wings.

One of them is Sen. Harry F. Byrd, D-Va., an apostle of frugality. He wants to see a carbon copy of the next budget before he makes the faintest move toward going along with an \$11-billion tax cut.

So, by chance or design, there appears in the other wing a man making noises like a great economizer. This is Robert S. McNamara, secretary of defense, proclaiming that he will lop 25,000 jobs off the civilian employment of the Pentagon.

This seems like an enormous, almost heartless cut—until you realize that it is pretty small percentage-wise, since the civilian employment of the defense establishment is more than one million.

Anyway, it appears that the budget is going up, as it practically always does. Maybe something over \$101 billion, as compared to \$98.8 billion this year. But the fixed charges are heavy and increasing, and President Johnson could explain:

"We don't want to be just a

tightwad. Our feeling is that we waste as much by doing nothing as we do by doing too much."

Thus, Johnson put himself in the position of going down the middle, a position he prefers.

The problems are crowding in on him, however. How to get Congress to enact a civil rights bill without a grand, unity-hustling fight? How, in general, to advance the hopes of the New Frontier, pretty thoroughly stymied in the administration of the late President John F. Kennedy.

Abroad, too, the issues are vast. Aside from what Nikita Khrushchev and the Red Chinese may do next, there is the problem of President Charles de Gaulle of France, a country the United States had to succor in two world wars. De Gaulle shows certain tendencies to go it alone.

When De Gaulle was here for the Kennedy funeral, the word passed that he would be back

right soon, to talk in depth. Now this has become vague. Suggestions even emanate from 'abroad that, to satisfy the niceties of protocol, maybe Johnson ought to go see De Gaulle.

Which may help explain why our "can do" President, the supreme egotist, looks at times a little red-eyed for want of sleep.

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Johnson has assured congressional leaders of both parties that he intends to keep American military power strong enough to survive a surprise attack and be able to destroy the enemy.

While he is pressing for economies in the Pentagon and all

through the government, he was reported on good authority to have told Republican and Democratic chiefs of the Senate and House that any economizing in no way will damage basic military power of the nation.

Johnson set up and attended a briefing for the congressional leaders on the latest estimates of the relative strength of U. S. and Soviet military forces now and as forecast through the 1960s.

"The President," a White

House statement said, "emphasized that the United States military program will continue to provide for a strategic force sufficiently large to absorb a surprise attack and survive with sufficient power to be capable of destroying the aggressor."

This has been fundamental American policy for years. But Johnson chose to stress it again at a time when he is getting the federal budget into shape for transmitting to Congress next month.

Bulletin Board

WEDNESDAY Aerospace Engineering Wives Club will meet in the YMCA Building at 8 p.m.

Baha'i World Faith will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Anderson Room of the YMCA Building.

THURSDAY Hometown Clubs

Abilene will meet in Room 208 of the Academic Building at 7:30 p.m.

Amarillo will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the lobby of the Memorial Student Center.

Brazoria County will meet in Room 204 of the Academic Building at 7:30 p.m.

Corpus Christi will meet in Room 127 of the Academic Building at 7:30 p.m.

Deep East Texas will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the lobby of the YMCA Building.

Laredo will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 207 of the Academic Building.

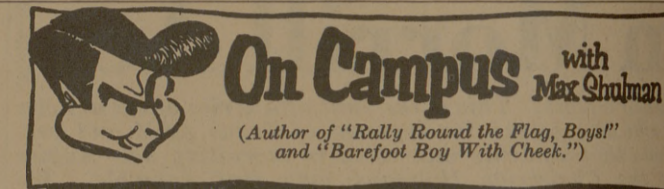
Mid-County will meet in Room 207 of the Academic Building at 7:30 p.m.

San Angelo-West Texas will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 304 of the Academic Building.

Spring Branch will meet in the lobby of the Memorial Student Center at 8 p.m.

Waco-McLennan County will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Gay Room of the YMCA Building.

Washington County will meet in the lounge of Puryear Hall at 7:30 p.m.



'TIS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY

If you have been reading this column—and I hope you have; I mean I genuinely hope so; I mean it does not profit me one penny whether you read this column or not; I mean I am paid every week by the makers of Marlboro Cigarettes and my emolument is not affected in any way by the number of people who read or fail to read this column—an act of generosity perfectly characteristic of the makers of Marlboro, you would say if you knew them as I do; I mean here are tobaccoists gray at the temples and full of honors who approach their art as eagerly, as dewy-eyed as the youngest of practitioners; I mean the purpose of the Marlboro makers is simply to put the best of all possible filters behind the best of all possible tobaccos and then go, heads high, into the market place with their wares, confident that the inborn sense of right and wrong, of good and bad, of worthy and unworthy, which is the natural instinct of every American, will result in a modest return to themselves for their long hours and dedicated labors—not, let me hasten to add, that money is of first importance to the makers of Marlboro; all these simple men require is plain, wholesome food, plenty of Marlboros, and the knowledge that they have scattered a bit of sunshine into the lives of smokers everywhere; if, I say, you have been reading this column, you may remember that last week we started to discuss Christmas gifts.



Do you know someone who is interested in American history?

We agreed, of course, to give cartons of Marlboro to all our friends and also to as many total strangers as possible. Today let us look into some other welcome gifts.

Do you know someone who is interested in American history? If so, he will surely appreciate a statuette of Millard Fillmore with a clock in the stomach. (Mr. Fillmore, incidentally, was the only American president with a clock in the stomach. James K. Polk had a stem-winder in his head, and William Henry Harrison chimed the quarter-hour, but only Mr. Fillmore, of all our chief executives, had a clock in the stomach. Franklin Pierce had a sweep second hand and Zachary Taylor had seventeen jewels, but, I repeat, Mr. Fillmore and Mr. Fillmore alone had a clock in the stomach. Some say that Mr. Fillmore was also the first president with power steering, but most historians assign this distinction to Chester A. Arthur. However, it has been established beyond doubt that Mr. Fillmore was the first president with a thermostat. Small wonder they called him Old Hickory!)

But I digress. To get back to welcome and unusual Christmas gifts, here's one that's sure to please—a gift certificate from the American Chiropractic Society. Accompanying each certificate is this winsome little poem:

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, Joyous sacro-iliac! May your spine forever shine, Blessings on your aching back. May your lumbar ne'er grow number, May your backbone ne'er dislodge, May your caudal never dawdle, Joyeux Noel! Heureux massage!

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The makers of Marlboro, who take pleasure in bringing you this column throughout the school year, would like to join with Old Max in extending greetings of the season.

Ferreri's Triangle Restaurant Invites You To Try Our AGGIE SPECIAL Also, try PIZZA, Spaghetti, Raviola, Mexican Food, and Seafood. Book Your Banquets and Special Parties Early. Accomodations From 10 to 200 Persons

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The SCOFIELD Reference Bible Edited by Rev. C. I. Scofield, D.D. Assisted by Eminent Scholars Helps on Pages Where Needed With Chain References, Revised Marginal Renderings, Prophecies Harmonized, Books of the Bible Analyzed and many other features

The Exchange Store "Serving Texas Aggie Since 1907"

University Blazers LOUPOT'S 5,000 Aggie Can't Be Wrong VI 6-6312 At North Gate A Blazer will be given away each Friday until Christmas. Come in register weekly (if you buy a blazer and win you'll get your money back). Last Weeks Winner Fish Pankervydet Dorm 15

PEANUTS comic strip panels by Charles M. Schulz. Panels include: 'C'MON, WE'LL BE LATE FOR SCHOOL..', 'DID YOU WASH YOUR HANDS? LET'S SEE YOUR FINGERNAILS...', 'THEY'RE CLEAN! HOW'D YOU GET YOUR FINGERNAILS SO CLEAN?', 'TOOTH PASTE!', 'RATS! I HATE RAINY DAYS..', 'I NEVER HAVE ANYTHING TO DO..', 'LET'S FACE IT... I NEVER HAVE ANYTHING TO DO EVEN WHEN THE SUN SHINES!', 'GOOD GRIEF, I ONLY GOT A "B+" IN SPELLING!', 'WHAT'S SO BAD ABOUT THAT? NO ONE EXPECTS YOU TO GET AN "A" EVERY TIME..', 'THAT'S ALL YOU KNOW!', 'PEOPLE ALWAYS EXPECT MORE OF YOU WHEN YOU HAVE NATURALLY CURLY HAIR!'.

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