

BATTALION EDITORIALS

What's Your Opinion?

As college students, most of us like to think that we are capable of listening to the opinions of others with a certain degree of equanimity. However, if actions be qualified criteria for deciding whether or not our estimates of ourselves are justifiable, many of us will find that we are in drastic need of self-improvement. We believe that we can be open-minded about most things, but, at the same time, we avoid situations which might expose our bigotry. If you think this statement is absurd, simply look around. What do you see? Sure, there are small groups of people talking together, laughing together, etc. But look more closely! There are three engineering students. A little farther away under the tree are some students majoring in English. So what?

How many of us ever consider the reason behind our gathering in small little cliques? Of course, in all probability, the students in any single group have similar interests. This fact alone seems to justify their being together. Yet, "outsider" enters our discussions? As a matter of fact, why do we feel resentful the very minute this person offers us his opinion about our topic of discussion? (He sounds a little stupid, doesn't he?) If we really examine this sort of occurrence, we unfortunately may find that our hostile feelings spring from our failure to understand or appreciate the "outsider's" opinions. It is because of this failure to understand others that we often choose to remain in our closed little groups. Now, exactly how open-minded are we?

In the near future, we are to have a new Department of Philosophy and Humanities here at A&M University. As students and as social beings, we owe it to ourselves to reap as many benefits as possible from the courses to be offered by this new department. By diligently applying ourselves to the study of ideas, we can attain a better understanding of our fellow students' ideas and actions. Also, we can discover that many of the greatest thinkers in history were both scientists and philosophers. (For example, have you heard of Rene Descartes?) However, most important of all, we can gain a receptive attitude toward other and their ideas. Once this is accomplished, we can be genuinely proud of our open-mindedness.

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THE BATTALION

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JOHN WRIGHT Editor
Cloviss McCallister News Editor

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



"... man, was I prepared—I studied 'til 4:00 last night! I had that quiz down cold—from one end to the other—I was zeroed in! I'm rather curious to know how I would have done if I hadn't slept through it!"

Grazing Land Infested

TEMPLE, Tex. (AP) — Over four-fifths — 88.5 million acres — of Texas grazing land is now infested with various kinds of undesirable or low-value shrubs or trees, the U. S. Soil Conservation Service reports.

State Conservationist H. N. Smith says on half of the infested area — 54 million acres — the better forage plants on which the livestock industry relies are unable to make satisfactory yields.

On 24 million acres there is so much brush of medium density — with 10 to 20 per cent of the range shaded by the brush canopy — it soon will crowd out the better grasses and forage plants, Smith said the survey showed.

Soil Conservation Service technicians found that, in the 17-year period since an earlier survey, brush has moved onto nearly 5 million acres not previously infested. Existing stands have grown thicker in that time. This is in spite of the efforts of many ranch operators to control the brush, Smith said.

The survey showed an increase in mesquite to a new total of 56 million acres of this doggedly stubborn plant. Rangelands occupied by cedar now total 21 million acres, an increase of 3.5 million acres since the 1947 survey.

HEW personnel indicate "tentative procedures for enforcement of Title VI (of the Civil Rights Law) will require assurance from local school boards of compliance or intention to comply before federal funds will be awarded."

Highlights And Sidelights From Your State Capital

By VERN SANFORD Texas Press Association

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas' progress in the field of race relations was commended by visiting federal officials here to discuss aspects of the new Civil Rights Law.

Gov. John Connally met briefly with Secretary of Commerce Luther Hodges; former Florida Gov. LeRoy Collins, director of the new Community Relations Service; and former Gov. Buford Ellington of Tennessee.

Session was one of a series to be conducted with governors in all states at the request of President Johnson to discuss the Community Relations Service operation. Agency will provide conciliation service at the state and local level to resolve discrimination disputes.

Governor Connally predicted Texas will continue to move forward without outside help.

Meanwhile, Texas School Board Association warned that action on the part of segregated schools between now and Labor Day may determine their continued eligibility for federal funds.

According to Department of Health, Education and Welfare officials on the Civil Rights Law, all the answers won't be known until new regulations are drawn late this month.

But the law has been interpreted as banning federal aid to segregated facilities.

Texas schools now get about \$30,000,000 a year in federal money for such programs as the national defense education act, vocational education, school lunch and milk program and aid to districts where federal installations bring in a large number of pupils.

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APPOINTMENTS announced — Governor Connally selected Pat Taggart of Waco, president of Newspaper, Inc., as a member of Texas State Historical Survey Committee to succeed Sam Privitt of Childress for an unexpired term extending until January 1.

New members of the State Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners are Miss Hedwig Pustejovsky of Houston, Mrs. Jimmie L. Morrison of Hico and Mrs. Naomi Younger of Levelland. Their terms extend until September 7, 1969.

Dr. J. A. Barrington of Wichita Falls and Dr. Claude Willey of El Paso were named to six-year terms on the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. They succeed Dr. John McCoy of Paris and Dr. Edmund Dwelle of Alice.

Kirby Hillin of Dallas and Virgil A. Walston of Houston succeed W. J. Burkhardt of Dallas and Kenneth Nelson of Diboll to six-year terms on the State Board of Registration for Public Surveyors.

Allan Searight, community coordinator for Texas Industrial Commission, has accepted a job as executive director of Texas Historical Foundation. Larry Miller, San Angelo, will take over Searight's duties with the Industrial Commission on August 15.

LOBBYISTS — Texas legislative leaders, who have been the target of many lobbyists, have turned lobbyists themselves.

Lt. Gov. Preston Smith, Speaker Byron Tunnell and Sen. George Moffett, chairman of the Legislature Council's redistricting committee, have been lobbying in Washington for passage of federal laws to clarify the congressional and legislative redistricting situation.

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Sound Off

Dear Sir: In the fourth section of the Aug. 6 issue (Freshman Edition) of The Battalion, it was erroneously reported that "The Spirit of Aggieland" was written in 1941 by Mrs. Ford Munnerlynn. "The Spirit of Aggieland" was written in 1925 by Richard J. Dunn, director of the Aggie Band from 1924 until he retired in 1946, and M. H. Mimms, a 1929 Aggie graduate.

Mrs. Ford Munnerlynn wrote the Aggie fight song, "The Twelfth Man" in 1941.

Sincerely, Josephine Dunn Johnson (Mrs. J. N. Johnson) Ed.—You are indeed quite correct Mrs. Johnson, The Battalion apologizes for such a gross error.

Bulletin Board

The Industrial Education Wives Club will meet on Thursday evening, Aug. 20 at 8:00 p.m. in the Brooks Room of the YMCA.

Hostesses will provide games for a 'game night' or members may bring their favorite.

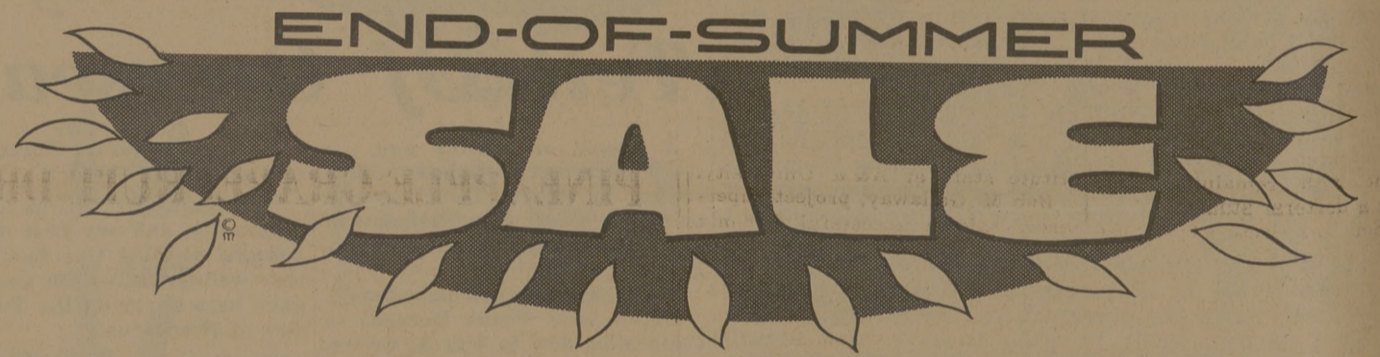


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