

# THE BATTALION

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NOTICE  
All manuscripts intended for The Battalion must bear the signature of the writer—no non-descript names will be accepted. While the name will not be published, no notice will be taken of pieces if they are not signed.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16

## GOV. LANHAM AND A. & M.

In his message Governor Lanham refers to A. & M. in the following words. With the Governor behind us, as well as thousands of thinking Texans who hold no office, we believe we may expect something more than running expenses from the Legislature this year:

"The Agricultural and Mechanical College is an institution of great practical utility and has been steadily advancing in efficiency. It is believed to be one of the best of its kind, in comparison with those of like purposes in other States. Its graduates are in great demand and have no difficulty in securing employment in the various pursuits for which their training has qualified them. Its present facilities are insufficient for its increasing necessities. Its conservation, proper equipment and further upbuilding should receive the favorable consideration of the Legislature.

"The educational system of the State, in tone, standard and organization, as well as in practical application, is of excellent character and affords just cause for public satisfaction. It is symmetrically correlated, and from the elementary stages to the highest consummations it is co-operative, helpful and uplifting."

## A. & M. MAN IN THE LEGISLATURE

The Dallas News of January 12, publishes a picture of W. A. Trenckman, with the following facts about his life. This is the father of Robert Trenckman, now at College:

W. A. Trenckman of Bellville, Austin County Representative of the Forty-Ninth District, was born at Millheim, Tex., in 1850, and was educated at the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College, 1876-79. He has been publisher and editor of the Bellville Wochenblatt for fifteen years; for twelve years previously he was a teacher. Mr. Trenckman was elected to the Legislature as the nominee of the Democratic party, which party had not made nominations for the Legislature or for local offices during the thirty-three years preceding 1906.

## ABOUT THE BATTALION.

The Leader is indebted to the Lampasas boys in A. & M. for a number of copies of the "Battalion," a weekly paper published by the students of that institution. It is well edited and very neatly gotten up. The standard set by it is very high and it is free from the petty spirit and nauseating frivolities, which too often characterize a publication of that nature.—Lampasas Leader.

## THE DIRECTORS' REPORT.

Last Sunday's Houston Post contains an article on the report of the board of directors of A. and M. The following clipping from this article is likely to interest the students here:

After detailing what has been accomplished in the last two years, the report gives in terse strong terms the "Needs of the College." It says: "There are many things not included in this summary that will be of inestimable benefit to the growth and development of the college, and in many instances the amount asked for are below the sums needed, but we have selected only the most urgent and only for such sums as we believe the state can well afford to supply. The proper support of a state institution, devoting all of its energies to industrial education is an investment of the most economic kind on the part of the State, and is in no sense a donation." For maintenance, an increase of \$10,000 a year is requested, on account of the large increase of students requiring additional instructors and the desire to establish a department of metallurgy and mining engineering. For the care of roads and grounds \$2000 annually is asked; and an increase of \$2500 is asked for the student labor fund, in order that greater provision may be offered for the constantly increasing number of poor young men unable to pay their way through college without work of some kind.

Under the head of "Buildings" an appropriation of \$75,000 is asked for the erection of an engineering building, in which three departments will be quartered. The great necessity of this building is fully demonstrated and could the legislature but see the crowded, inadequate quarters which the departments of civil engineering, electrical engineering and drawing there would be no hesitation.

The "Steam Heating Plant" requested is simply an economic necessity, as it is believed it will pay for itself in less than five years.

The report quotes Dr. Houston, now-president of the State university, in his biennial report of the Agricultural and Mechanical college in 1901-1902, who says: "It seems clear that it is a matter of State policy to furnish at the Agricultural and Mechanical college industrial or technological training of every kind whatsoever to the young men of the State. It seems clear that the college was intended to be, in the largest sense, the technological institution of Texas." And yet at Austin the State university has a magnificent civil engineering building, while here that department is crowded into a few rooms of the main building, the electrical engineering department has one floor of the oldest dormitory building and the department of architectural engineering one-half the fourth floor of the main building.

The great need of a new dormitory and natatorium is so evident to any one who knows anything at all about the college that the lengthy defense of the request in the report seems superfluous. "Come and see" would be the most effective argument.

It is to be hoped that this telling report will have the desired effect upon the legislature now in session—that they may have their eyes opened to the great needs here to the adequate maintenance of appearances, not to speak of the expected growth and development of this institution of the people, commensurate with the growth and development of this great State.

## WEINERT'S TALK ON THE STUDY OF THE BIBLE.

Max Weinert delivered the following talk at the Y. M. C. A. meeting last Sunday:

"Fellows: I have spent many a pleasant Christmas vacation, but the one that has just passed surpassed all its predecessors. As far as deep thought and pleasure combined are concerned, these holidays excelled everything I have previously experienced. And it was due to you all giving me the honor of being one of the delegates that I went, and I want to thank you for that human hand has ever done.

"I intend to say a few words concerning Bible study. Whether or not I'll succeed in so broad a subject is left for you all to decide. Bible study is the nucleus of Y. M. C. A. work. It may be called the foundation of the Y. M. C. A. The Bible Study Class of the association is its main working force.

"Fellows, we want to, and we are going to make the Y. M. C. A. the most progressive of all organizations here. In order to do this we must get busy on Bible Study. We cannot afford to lag behind other colleges of our size in this respect. In the American institutions there are about 34,000 students engaged in Bible Study. In Clemson College, S. Carolina they have an attendance of 550 students, and out of these there are 280 engaged in Bible Study, or over 50 per cent. They have thirty-nine Bible classes. That institution has only seventy-five more students than we, and look at the work they are doing. They have a splendid secretary in the person of Mr. Legate.

"The A. & M. College of North Carolina has an attendance of 400 men, with 185 enrolled in Y. M. C. A. They have a budget of \$1,290. This is only to show you what is being done in other institutions. Many other examples might be given.

"The question comes up, What is Bible Study for?"

"It is to bring the Bible to the earnest attention of every man in college, as students must not and will not miss this opportunity for Bible Study. It is either now while we are at college, or never. Let us hope that it is not the latter. Bible Study is essential to a thorough, well rounded education. Fifty years ago it was brawn that counted; now, it is the mental capacity; twenty-five to fifty years from now it will be spiritual and mental capacity. Mr. Froude said, 'The Bible thoroughly known is a literature in itself; the richest, the rarest of all departments of thought and imagery which exists.' No man upon graduating from college can honestly call himself educated if he has neglected that most remarkable library of essential knowledge, the repository of the principles underlying the progress of mankind. Now is our time, for after we have once entered the professional or business world, we do not find time and never think about it. So much for the first point. The second purpose of Bible study is to enlist and train earnest Christian students in the work of winning men to Jesus Christ. Winning men to Christ is partly accomplished by getting them to attend our Bible classes. The subject is too deep for me to speak on, but I earnestly wish that you all might have the opportunity of attending a Y. M. C. A. Conference. A delegate there obtains some small conceptions of our obligations to our Lord, Jesus Christ. I'd give anything to have that grand man, Clayton S. Cooper of the city of New York, address the cadets

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here. He could make this point clear to us, and we should readily grasp it as the sweet truth. After each of his talks at Ruston, the boys crowded around and expressed their appreciation of what he had said.

"Now the third purpose of Bible Study is to lead a man to form the habit of personal Bible study which will remain with him throughout life. There is nothing that aids us more. We ever all of our tasks with greater determination and a lighter heart. Now, we are in the habit of raising the objection of not having time. Martin Luther, during the busiest part of his life, said, 'I am so busy now that I must spend two hours each morning in communication with God.' At other times he set aside one hour for that purpose. Do you all know that the West Point cadet has only forty minutes a day to himself? And they have hard work at that. Just before Christmas, they expelled twenty plebes and many resigned to keep from being expelled. Notwithstanding this fact, that beehive of busy workers contains over two hundred men actively engaged in Bible works. Their organization is well recognized everywhere.

"We have now only about forty that are taking Bible study. We told the head of the Bible Study department at the Conference at Ruston that we would increase that number to one hundred and fifty. I tell you fellows, we must come up to that promise and we are going to do it. We knew when we made that promise that the cadets of the A. & M. of Texas were the ones to do it. There is no other thing that will show up our college any better. You are the ones to do it. You are the Jimmy Larson's of this college. Larson was a student in the University of Idaho, where the moral and spiritual studying was of so low an order that the directors recognized the fact that unless something be done, the institution would go down in ruin. Larson was leader of students, of athletics and various organizations in college. He was recognized as the only one who could save the institution. When the Y. M. C. A. conference was held at Pacific Grove, Cal., the University sent a delegation there, Larson being appointed one of the members. The management

thought that by introducing the Y. M. C. A. into the university it might be saved. Larson himself was a tough and did not believe in the spiritual side of life, so you can about imagine the time those fellows had in getting Jim to that conference. Even after they had succeeded in getting him there he would not attend a single one of the meetings, but like the mighty Achilles, 'sulked in his tent.' The delegation knew that the only one who could do anything was Jimmy Larson. He must be won over. His bosom friend wielded great influence over Jim, and he undertook the task of trying to solve the problem. In order to do this he must himself become a Christian. At night he went to Mr. Cooper, who had charge of the meeting, and told him just how things stood. They stayed together and prayed for a while and then the visitor left to hunt up Larson. The next morning Mr. Cooper noticed his night visitor walk up to him with that smile of a happy Christian. He had found Larson in bed the night before. He woke him up and took him out. They spent the whole night walking along the beach. He told Larson that he was the only one who could save the University, that it was his duty to the University and to God to do so. He told him how he himself had become a Christian. Larson decided to do it. He saved the institution. It's up to us fellows. What is our delegate to Ruston to report on Bible study next year? This question is for you to answer."

## ORDER MODIFIED.

Clause Relative to Exclusion From Civil Service Stricken Out.  
Washington, Jan. 15.—By direction of the president Secretary Taft issued a special order modifying the special order dismissing the negro battalion of the Twenty-fifth Infantry by striking out the clause relating to the exclusion of the discharged soldiers from employment in the civil service. The secretary, now that the investigation has closed, will undertake to pass separately upon the applications for re-enlistment of the discharged men wherever they are supported by evidence of their non-complicity in the affray.

Death Due to Carbuncle.  
St. Louis, Jan. 15.—Captain Samuel C. Boyd died Monday from a carbuncle on his neck that resulted from having scratched a small pimple. He had been connected with the police force thirty-eight years.