

### PROGRESSIVENESS

TO THE BATTALION:

The inertia evident in the great mass of our student body is truly deplorable. I am referring to the fact that whenever there is a chance to effect an improvement in conditions of this school, it is so hard to arouse and maintain the interest of the students and the leadership of those who should lead us. It has taken us years to effect the much-needed and long-desired reduction in tailoring prices here.

And now that we have the best chance we have ever had to get the telephones we need in our dormitories, it seems we are not taking the interest or initiative we should. Some of the organizations, more progressive than the rest in this matter, have applied for phones already. A couple of phones have already been installed, and from all reports are doing good service. The others that were applied for will be put in as soon as possible. The new dormitories will have telephones. Are the majority of our organizations going to lag behind the more progressive ones, behind the new dormitories, and behind all other collegiate institutions in securing a convenience we have needed here for forty years, a facility known and used by civilized people everywhere?

But this is not my point. There are many, many more things we need here (and probably will acquire eventually) such as a union building, a small park with a bandstand where our band and others can give concerts, fountains and rest rooms in many halls and older class buildings in which their lack is a great inconvenience, and innumerable other things. My point is this: If we as a whole show the same inertia, disinterest, unprogressiveness, and lack of leadership generally shown in this matter of securing telephones (which is just one of the forward steps we should take to improve our school to the standards it should attain) then it will be years before we ever get the other additions, conveniences, and improvements we need so badly here—if we ever, through good fortune, get them at all.

As one of the first steps in this progressive upbuilding of our great school, I wish to urge once again that we act now to get the rest of the telephones we need—and then, more important, keep the same forward-moving spirit in order to succeed in getting as soon as we can the rest of the improvements we need. If we do we will leave the school a much better one than we found it, and we will be doing future generations of Aggies a big favor.

BILL MURRAY, Band Junior

### ARMISTICE DAY

TO THE BATTALION:

Last Friday it was indeed fitting that the cadet corps of A. & M. College observe Armistice Day—that memorial day when twenty years ago the powers of the world agreed to cease the war of all wars that was to make the world safe for democracy. Today, we stand on the threshold of another great international dispute. Just how can we account for the existing state of affairs—is it because we have forgotten or is it because men no longer trust one another? Perhaps both of these factors have contributed to those bloody conflicts which are now in progress on the face of the earth. Therefore, it should be the aim of the present generation to constantly remind the people of the world of that deadly blot on humanity and civilization that was the result of a world at war. It should furthermore be the aim of this modern generation, and especially the youth of the world, to create peace and friendship among men.

Striking evidence of the fact that these two objectives of this present generation are being at least partly carried out could have readily been seen on our campus last Friday at noon. It is true that the

### THE BATTALION

Entered as second class matter at the post office at College Station, Texas, under the Act of Congress on March 3, 1879.

Subscription rates, \$2.00 per year  
Advertising rates upon request.

Office in Room 122, Administration Building. Telephone College 8. Office open from 11 a. m. until 4 p. m. daily.

Represented for national advertising by National Advertising Service, Inc., 420 Madison Ave., New York City.

**R. L. DOSS** EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
**W. H. SMITH** ADVERTISING MANAGER

Bill Payne, James Critz  
Managing Editors  
George Fulton, B. C. Kneisar  
Assistant Advertising Managers  
Bob Oliver, Wayne Stark  
Associate Editors

**E. C. (Jeep) Oates** Sports Editor  
**Philip Gelman** Staff Photographer

**J. C. Dietz**  
Circulation Manager  
**Don McChesney, H. G. Howard**  
Circulation Assistants

**C. F. DeVilbiss** Proof-reader

#### TUESDAY STAFF

**Tom Darrow** Sports Assistant  
**Jack Puckett** Junior Editor  
**Bill Murray** Junior Editor  
**A. G. Warren** Junior Editor  
**B. F. Rogers, A. J. Carroll, N. A. Moore, M. G. Fiermann, H. G. Tolbot, W. J. Sandige, J. R. Scott, Lewis Chevallier, W. T. Guy, George Nassner, E. A. Shields, Carter Beam, J. A. Stansell, R. H. Ingfield, C. A. Rhode, A. K. Adams, Foster Wise, Bill Whall, M. H. Robinson, R. E. Sparks, S. P. Davenport, J. W. Jenkins, L. J. Wehrle**  
Advertising Assistants

#### FRIDAY STAFF

**W. F. (Chick) Denny** Sports Assistant  
**C. W. Wilkinson** Junior Editor  
**Ray Treadwell** Junior Editor  
**L. E. Thompson** Junior Editor  
**Paul Ketselsen** Junior Editor  
**Frank Phelan, J. F. Henderson, Billy Clarkson, L. A. Schell, Mason Jones, G. W. DeArmond Jr., L. A. Newman, R. W. Burchfield, Jack Rount, R. W. Gerlich, W. C. Rogan, R. L. Adams**  
Advertising Assistants

ceremonies we conducted here were held in all sincerity, but I doubt that a majority of the corps realized the significance of our tribute to those men who gave their lives for us. If my assumption is true, I would contribute the fact to the poor manner in which the ceremonies were conducted. They were very rough, and they could have been improved one hundred percent if a few words of explanation could have been given prior to the reading of the names of those deserving men. Perhaps, any words of explanation were omitted because of the lack of time at our noon formation. If this was the reason for the omission of the words of explanation, it certainly is a reflection upon the cadet corps. Is this patriotism? Surely we don't consider ten or fifteen minutes of our time as a just observance of Armistice Day, nor neither a just tribute to those men who gave their lives in order that we might reap the benefits of a free nation—a nation which is a blessing to humanity.

A STUDENT

### ON NATIONAL AFFAIRS

BY DR. R. P. LUDLUM

#### The Elections—At Last

Mr. R. L. Doss, the hard-driving editor, chided me for not discussing the elections in this column last week. In fact, he went so far as to say I had disappointed him. Naturally, I hasten to assuage his disappointment by discussing them this week. Just to keep the record straight, however, this column is written on Tuesday or Wednesday each week, and last week that was too early to know in detail how the elections had come out.

In trying to get at the significance of last week's voting, we should remember several fundamental facts about American politics. One is that this country normally is conservative. In practice, that has meant the country has been attached to the Republican party far more often than to the Democratic party, in the years since 1860. For example, up to the end of Mr. Roosevelt's second term in 1911, eighty years will have passed since 1861. Democrats will have held the presidency during only twenty-four out of those eighty, or for six terms out of twenty. Since 1889, the Republicans will have controlled the House of Representatives for 16 terms, or 32 years, and the Democrats will have controlled it only 10 times, or 20 years—still counting to 1941.

We should remember, also, a point that has become almost an axiom in politics. The party in power almost invariably loses seats in Congress in the off-year elections like the one last week. A loss for the party in power is normal. If the loss of seats is so large, however, that the party in power loses control of the House of Representatives, then the party in power is quite likely to lose the presidential election two years later. Thus the Democrats elected Cleveland in 1892, lost control of the House in the election of 1894, and lost the presidency in 1896. The Republicans elected Taft in 1908, lost control of the House in the election of 1910, and lost the presidency in 1912. The situation was a little unusual during Wilson's terms, inasmuch as he was re-elected in 1916, at a time when the Republicans obtained a minute margin over his party in the House. The Republicans increased the margin greatly in 1918, however, and practically following the axiom, they won the presidency in 1920. The Republicans elected Hoover in 1928, lost control of the House by a slight margin in 1930, and lost the presidency in 1932.

Because Mr. Roosevelt has had such a hold over the imaginations of the voters, or for some other reason, the rule has not been strictly followed since 1932. In the normal course of events, there should have been some falling off in the Democratic strength in the House in 1934, but instead, the Democrats actually gained. In 1936, they gained still more seats in the House, so that the two parties held seats in the ratio of 335 to 89. (In the Senate it was 75 to 17, also for the Democrats.)

Of the 335 Democrats elected to the House in 1936, about eighty were elected in districts normally Republican, and had margins over their Republican opponents of less than two per cent of the votes. It was therefore to be expected that the Democrats would lose those eighty seats this year. About the same situation, in proportion, obtained in the Senate. Sure enough, the Democrats have lost just about eighty seats in the House, and eight seats in the Senate. Of course, the Democrats still have control of both houses by wide margins—69 to 23 in the Senate, and 261 to 170 in the House, not counting scattered independents in either house. Thus the Republicans have not won control of the House, and our political axiom gives them no certainty whatever of success in the presidential race of 1940.

All this goes to reduce the magnitude of the Republican gains last week. Nevertheless, the Republicans did gain. They had the maximum success they could reasonably expect—a thing they have not had in some years. A more respectable minority is established in Congress, and more state administrations, also, have become Republican.

One feature of the conservative trend was the defeat of the progressives who are members of independent parties. Phil LaFollette lost the governorship of Wisconsin, men like Amalie were defeated for Wisconsin's Congressional delegation, and the Farmer-Labor party lost in Minnesota. Many progressives within the Democratic party also were defeated. These defeats may indicate a change of heart on the part of the voters, which, if it is more than temporary, will have an important bearing upon 1940.

"Poems and fireflies. They represent our lucid intervals and glow only for a moment." Poet Robert Frost, addressing Ohio Wesleyan students, added, on the subject of what to write poetry about: "I would say, begin at pleasure and arrive at wisdom. Too many young poets want to write about philosophy at first." And Allen Tate of the University of North Carolina faculty advised literature students that "Second readings are necessary for a complete understanding of poetry."

For the first time in the history of American football a game will be played without the point after touchdown when the University of Detroit and Santa Clara meet at Sacramento, California, Sunday, November 27.

### Hollywood Censors Cut Good Scenes And Give No Explanation for Damage

Hollywood Censorship

Hollywood has its own form of censorship, which was noted most extensively in the picture now showing at the Palace. "Men With Wings". Mr. Wellman, the director of the picture, originally had planned to have Fred MacMurray shot down in Spain, early in the picture. The plane that brought him down was to have been manufactured with the MacMurray money by his wife, Louise Campbell, and his buddy, Ray Milland. Mr. MacMurray was to escape death in the crash but was to get it from the firing squad. As he faced the executioners he was to ask, "What's the war about." Those of you who saw the picture, did not see this sequence.

Follow up on this scene was to have been the reaction of his wife and buddy. They were to face their board of directors and announce that in the future no more planes would be built for war. That their mission was to perfect commercial travel throughout the world. The final shot was to show a giant commercial plane ready for flight.

An announcer was to say, "all aboard for New York, London, Paris, Shanghai, Manila, San Francisco and return to New York. Again we find no such scene in the final picture. Why the censors in Hollywood found that these sequences were no good is hard to

say. They censor when they want to and no questions are asked. It's a shame, such a story had to be hashed up the way "Men With Wings" was.

Palace—Saturday night Preview, Sunday and Monday

"Hard to Get". A very funny picture, due mostly to the fact that Charles Winniger is included. Dick Powell, the singing romeo, who for some reason or two has not clicked the way the producers had hoped he would, is struggling along with the routine singing and acting which has so long been in his field. There are no kicks on the film "Hard to Get", and there is some praise. It is a fairly good picture and should be seen.

Musolini has branded Popeye a sissy, probably because he fights with his fists, instead of bullets. Assembly Hall—Friday—Benefit Poultry Club

"Vivacious Lady", a comedy done up in the best of style, the well on the borderline of greatness, the directing and dialogue along the same lines. Ginger Rogers, does a very good job and her stock should rise because of this film. James Stewart, the tall gangling boy, has made the studio plenty of cash and from the looks of his action in this picture he will continue to do so.

It would have been a hard job for the Poultry bunch to have picked a better picture. See it!

### EAGLE EDITOR GIVES SATURDAY'S GAME OPINIONS

THE BRYAN DAILY EAGLE Mrs. Lee J. Rountree

Saturday we saw the Aggies play their game with Rice, the first and only game we have seen this season. It was a glamorous occasion, flags flying, horns blowing, and a mass of happy humanity. Each with a smile which added effluvia to their hilarity. . . . We never saw the corps march quite so well, nor make their formation quite so perfect as they did on this occasion. The band seemed stronger, the notes sweeter, the steps lighter; everything seemed in tune. . . . And did that team play! It clicked just like a piece of machinery tuned to perfection. We sought for the reason, because we had heard street quarterbacks play the game the next morning after those played at Waco with Baylor and at Dallas with the S. M. U. Mustangs, and they had a different story to tell. We know how for ourselves the Aggies are a well coached and trained team, and that they have as much spirit and fight as any one could ask for. . . . We want say that the strategy of Coaches Norton, Rollins and James were the inspiration that brought about the success of the occasion, not by their training and skillful coaching, for that is not everything, but by being on the bench with the boys, giving them a word of encouragement and a gentle pat on the back as they sent them into the game, which is worth as much as training. The power of "the pat on the back" cannot be estimated. It fires the soul and stirs within emotions that make men super human for any Herculean task. . . . We are always for the Aggies and we always think they will win until after the game is over, and then

### Marsteller Attends Ft. Worth Horse Show

Dean R. P. Marsteller, Head of the School of Veterinary Medicine, returned yesterday from Fort Worth, where he attended the Fort Worth Fall Horse Show. This is one of the best horse shows presented in the entire Southwest.

While in Fort Worth Dean and Mrs. Marsteller were guests of John C. Burns, manager of the famed "6666 Ranch" and of the Burkburnett Estates. Mr. Burns was formerly head of the Animal Husbandry Department of A. & M. and is a prominent alumnus of this school (1904).

Dean Marsteller saw a number of fine horses exhibited at this show. Among these were "Midnight Star", world's champion five-gaited horse and winner of the \$1,000 five-gaited saddle stake. This horse is from the Leisure Hours Stables, owned by Joseph Freeman, well-known financier and sportsman of San Antonio. Other outstanding winners included "Queen Anne" (winner of the 5-gaited model class), a chesnut filly owned and raised by Senator Jesse Martin of Fort Worth; and "Royal Fascination", owned by James M. North, editor of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

we can always find some excuse if they didn't. But we are not one of these wolves that are always blaming it on the coach or the umpire, referee, or linesman, etc., etc. We try to be a good sport and take defeat like one. It is not all of a game just to win, but it is how you played it. If every player can come out of the game with a clean conscience for having given the best that was in him, when he has done as much as the most, whether he won or lost. . . . Long may the maroon and white wave in successful defense of Aggie land, but lose or win, may it never train in the disgrace of having played unfair. . . .



### Do You Plan to Build In The Spring?

The selection of a proper site is the first essential to planning your home. You can find the proper site in North Oakwood, located between Bryan and College on Highway No. 6. This addition is unexcelled in beauty and convenience.

Select the lot you want. Our budget-payment plan will make it easy for you to buy NOW. Your planning for Spring building will be more accurate and enjoyable if you know and own the lot on which you are going to build. We will be happy to show you around.

### North Oakwood Addition

Phone College 235

**H. E. BURGESS**  
Owner and Developer

**C. A. HILL**  
Agent

### ENGLISH TESTS—

(Continued from page 1)

three times as many students as in the two lowest deciles survived their scholastic work of last year and enrolled in sophomore English courses this year.

"The great number of low scores made on the test indicate once again," Dr. Summey remarked, "that the grammar and high schools are yearly turning out hundreds of students poorly prepared in the fundamentals of English language."

#### WINTER IS COMING

Get Your Anti-Freeze Early And Avoid the Rush  
**FLOP COLSON**



**Gebhardt's Chili con Carne**  
The only Chili con Carne made with imported one-year Mexican Ancho Chili Peppers.  
**Lipscomb Pharmacy**  
North Gate



Sat., Nov. 19

25¢

YES SIR!

Prepare for Winter

We Are Stocked With

Justin Cowboy Boots

### The Exchange Store

### New Low Prices

Cash and Carry

Suits 60¢, Pants or Coat 30¢, Dresses 60¢ and Up  
Heavy Coats 60¢ and Up

Charge, Called for and Delivered

Suits 80¢, Pants or Coat 40¢

Satisfaction Guaranteed on All Work

Alterations of All Kinds

We Specialize in Ladies Dresses

### AGGIE CLEANERS

"RECOGNIZED FOR QUALITY"

R. C. RAPP, Owner

Bryan Representative: Curtis Cobb

Phone College 308 North Gate, College Station

Gentlemen—  
I bought one of your soft-collared Arrow Trumps when they first came out in '36. I've worn it almost every week since. And it still looks as handsome and fits as well as when I first bought it. That's what I call a shirt!

Charles Lasher



NEW TRUMP \$2

SANFORIZED SHRUNK

**W.S.D.**  
NIMBERLEY, STOKES, DANBY  
CLOTHIERS