

WHAT'S HAPPENED TO DEAD WEEK?

A little contemporary history:
 Nov. 29—The Battalion, in a front page editorial, expressed the belief that Dead Week should be re-instituted here.
 Dec. 2—In another front page editorial, The Battalion defined Dead Week as a week during which were forbidden (1) quizzes or written reviews covering more than one day's assignment, (2) make-up quizzes, except those given to individual study, (3) parts of final examinations and (4) term papers of projects. It also announced that a survey of student opinion was being conducted on the issue.
 Dec. 6—It was announced that the largest number of A. & M. students ever polled, 1,068 out of 1,087 had answered "I favor the re-instituting of Dead Week at A. & M. and I would take advantage of the week as an opportunity for study."
 Dec. 9—In an editorial The Battalion again discussed Dead Week, re-defining it and explaining its functions. It also carried an article to Student Forum with a substitute plan.
 Dec. 13—Dean Bolton said he felt sure a decision regarding Dead Week could be expected at the first meeting of the faculty after the Christmas holidays. He said the substitute plan proposed could be put into effect only by adding to the number of days attending school.
 Dec. 16—In an editorial The Battalion summed up the Dead Week campaign. The editorial was optimistic about the adoption of Dead Week here.
 Jan. 6—A front page story stated, "The fate of Dead Week will be known within the next few days, it was learned today with the announcement from Dean Bolton that a faculty meeting will be held 'as soon as it is possible to get the entire group together.'"
 Jan. 10—A front page story: "There is slight chance that Dead Week will be adopted here this semester, Dean Bolton said today. Dean Bolton stated that 'many illnesses and absences of members' have prevented a meeting of the faculty this week. . . . He said, 'I believe that for the second semester we can work out a satisfactory solution to the pre-exam week problem.'" He pointed out that "the

executive committee has not yet been able to complete its study of it (Dead Week)."
 Jan. 20—A front page story: "The principles of Dead Week were approved by the Student Welfare Committee last night in its monthly meeting in the mess hall."
 The Battalion herewith offers the warning it made the first term: Unless Dead Week is acted upon one way or another in the near future, instructors will be handicapped in the closing weeks of the term.
 We offer the columns of The Battalion to the committee from the executive committee which is studying Dead Week. We feel certain students would like to know its status.

CORRESPONDENCE

TO THE BATTALION:
 Please allow me to express my appreciation to The Battalion for publishing in the Student Forum an open letter by Mr. Pete Fry. I appreciate this all the more because Mr. Fry's letter was voluntary, and we of the Dining Hall knew nothing of his plans.
 There was a slight error made regarding the price of meals, which I would like to see corrected. That is, the charge per meal is 22.98¢ instead of 30¢, as Mr. Fry gave it.
 I believe that if more students were to visit our establishment; see our organization at work, examine more closely the quality and grade of foodstuffs which are purchased, see the manner in which they are prepared, even give us suggestions or ideas which might lead to improvement in our menus, that there would be considerably less antagonism and open disparaging criticism made of the Dining Hall.
 Assuring you that we welcome all students, parents, and others at all times, I am
 Yours sincerely,
 J. C. HOTARD
 Supervisor, Dining Hall



PREVIEWS and REVIEWS

BY RAY TREADWELL
 The acting is all that can be expected from such a group with a 50% discount for the effect caused by the story.
 "Let Freedom Ring", an M-G-M production, directed by Jack Conway from an original story and screen play by Ben Hecht with Harry Rape in charge of production and Douglas Shearer as recording director.
 The cast:
 Steve Logan Nelson Eddy
 Maggie Adams Virginia Bruce
 Chris Mulligan Victor McLaglen
 Thomas Logan Lionel Barrymore
 Jib Knox Edward Arnold
 David Bronson Guy Kibbee
 "The Mackerel" Charles Butterworth
 Tuesday and Wednesday at the Palace—Arizona Wildcat starring Jane Withers.
 Assembly Hall—"Angels With Dirty Faces" with James Cagney, Pat O'Brien and the "Dead End Kids".
 Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the Palace—"Let Freedom Ring" starring Nelson Eddy, Virginia Bruce, Lionel Barrymore, Guy Kibbee, Victor McLaglen, Edward Arnold and Charles Butterworth.

Hollywood is reaching a bad state of affairs when they turn to two-bit Western story dramas to star their most outstanding concert and operatic star and then expect something to come of it besides a nightmare and a headache.
 Nelson Eddy, the so-called golden singer of "Maytime" is starred or at least has the main role as far as the story is concerned, as a dashing figure of the "ole west" who after graduation from Harvard comes back to the lawless and bloody frontier and tells the tough, wildcat town just how and what to do and gets away with it in a big way. That, in short, is the melodramatic dime-story plot. Of course he has also learned at college how to make a quick-action draw with a six-gun, and to do saloon fighting.
 At one time the motion picture studios used to pride themselves on the realism or at least the realistic touch that they put in their pictures but now they go to great pains to have their movies technically correct and then run them on a story that even a five year old kid would think is absurd.
 The singing in the picture is good but the songs, "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling", "Home, Sweet Home", "My Country 'Tis of Thee", and "Loves Serenade" darn sure don't belong in a show that smells even before it is released.
 The cast is an all-star one with Nelson Eddy as the horse hero, Virginia Bruce as the heroine, Edward Arnold, as the third act villain, and Victor McLaglen, as his helper who does all the evil work.

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CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS

BY BILL MURRAY
 The Saddle and Siroin Club
 One of the oldest and strongest organizations on the A. & M. campus is the well-known Saddle and Siroin Club. Founded many years ago, it has grown and continued its work with never a halt.
 The primary purpose of the Club, as its name applies, is to stimulate interest in all the phases of livestock work. In carrying out this purpose the Club promotes such activities as the Aggie Rodeo, and sophomore and freshman livestock judging contests. The Club helps present the Cattlemen's Ball each year—this year it will be May 5—and it puts on two annual barbecues.
 The Rodeo held at A. & M. each year is staged primarily to send the senior livestock judging team to the Chicago International Livestock Show and Judging Contest. In past years A. & M. teams have won high honors in this contest. The team members that took part in the Chicago meet last fall were the same that as juniors, competed and took first place at the Fort Worth Fat Stock Show.
 The Cattlemen's Ball is an annual affair, put on jointly by the Saddle and Siroin Club and the Cream and Kow Klub. The University of Texas Glee Club girls have been invited to this year's dance, to be escorted by the Aggies of the two A. & M. organizations.
 The first barbecue, held in the fall, is a send-off for the boys of the judging team going to Chicago. The second one, held in the spring, will be some time this May. At that time medals for the Chicago and Fort Worth judging team members will be awarded, and the annual baseball game between the Animal Husbandry Department instructors and the Saddle and Siroin Club seniors will take place.
 At the present time the Club is working to get a large showcase for the second floor of the Animal Industries Building, in which case will be exhibited all cups and other trophies won by Livestock judging teams of A. & M.
 At the Club meetings, held every other Monday night in the Animal Industries lecture room, the members and guests hear well-known men speak on livestock subjects. Speakers have included men from the Extension Service and Experiment Station, and representatives of nationally known meat-packing firms, livestock feed and shipping concerns, and stockyards.
 At present 164 Aggies are members of the Saddle and Siroin Club, 74 of whom were newly initiated last week. To be a member one has to be either majoring or minoring in the field of Animal Husbandry. Nearly every Animal Husbandry student at A. & M. is of course a member.
 The officers of the organization this year are Herbert Mills, president; Sam Harris and A. E. Prugel, co-vice-presidents; Frank Carter, secretary-treasurer; Mari Westerman, publicity manager; and Charles Jennings, social secretary.

New Records
 "Could Be", the Johnny Mercer and Walter Donaldson composition, is coupled with "Penny Serenade", by Hal Halliwell and Melle Weerama, in the new Victor recording made by Sammy Kaye. The three Barons furnish the vocals of "Could Be"; Jimmy Brown, backed by the Glee Club, is heard in "Penny Serenade".
 Larry Clinton and his orchestra with Bea Wain doing all the vocals, has teamed "I Get Along Without You Very Well" with "The Masquerade Is Over" to make a very impressive recording.
 Two ballads of the days of our grandparents, "Old Dog Tray" and "Seeing Nellie Home", share the recent Victor record made by Les Brown and his orchestra. Miriam Shaw sings the lyrics to both of these old songs.
 Vernon Geyer has proved the Hammond Electric Organ to be an instrument of swing by recording his interpretations of "Lullaby in Rhythm", played in fast tempo, and Dvorak's "Humoresque", played in fast fox trot tempo.

SALES TAX

The levying of a tax may have effects that are too easily foreseen by the tax-makers, and a tax may legally, as well as practically, accomplish ends other than, or in addition to, the raising of revenue. At the debate institute here Saturday, Dr. George Hester, economics professor at Southwestern University and an ex-student of this institution, pointed out a role the sales tax plays in the nation's effort at economic recovery.

Using statistics gathered by the federal government, Dr. Hester reported that one third of the nation are barely making ends meet for a subsistence level. Considering each family as a consumer unit, Dr. Hester drew the conclusion that here are two-thirds of all the consumer units in the land unable, beyond a negligible degree, to use what the nation is able to and must produce. While he does not venture a cure-all for this dilemma in modern America's business and economics, Dr. Hester does assert that most economists agree that one part of the remedy—or one step in the direction of remedy—is the bolstering of the buying power of these near-impotent consumer units, these families that constitute two-thirds of all the families in the country.

Getting back to the sales tax, Dr. Hester finds that this tax certainly does not add to the purchasing power of this two-thirds; indeed, he concludes, the sales tax actually takes away a portion of the buying power of two-thirds of our families, because they pay a sales tax not out of any surplus income (because they have none) but pay the tax with money that otherwise would flow into the channels of business. Not enough of this money is thus "flowing," as it is, Dr. Hester finds. Surely, he contends, it would be an ill-advised tax that would cripple the flow all the more.

Dr. Hester's analysis is erected upon the proposition that taxes should generally be levied on the basis of ability to pay and that ability to pay may be determined to a degree by the extent to which the tax may be paid out of income above that required by the individual for the necessities of life.

This is a new approach to the evils of the sales tax to some who already were opposed to the levy on other grounds. That crippling of the already limited buying power of two-thirds of the nation's families is a direct result of the levy of a sales tax is easily seen, now that Dr. Hester has pointed it out to us. It is another potent argument against an iniquitous tax.

—CAMPUS CHAT

VACANCY

For the fourth time during the tenure of office, President Roosevelt has received the opportunity to place a man of his own appointment on the Supreme Court bench. The most recent vacancy occurred with the resignation of Associate Justice Louis D. Brandeis this week.

Brandeis, 82, exercised his prerogative under the court act of 1937 to retire after 10 years of service on the high tribunal and after attaining the age of 70 years. He had been a member of the Supreme Court for 23 years.

Unlike two previous occasions, the appointment of a successor to Brandeis will not disrupt the liberal-conservative balance of the Court, for Brandeis was one of the original justices who saw fit to support the New Deal in a majority of instances.

Regardless of affiliation, however, there can be naught but regret at the resignation of the veteran jurist. He has proved himself a man worthy of his position. May the Supreme Court of the United States be blessed with many more men of his calibre.

—THE TOREADOR

PRESIDENTIAL TIMBER

Speculation on the Democratic nominee for the next presidential ballot is rapidly becoming the favorite session-subject. Talk usually centers around "third term," Garner, Farley, Hopkins, Hull, and Murphy.

According to precedent, at least one stigma can be attached to each of them. Garner is "too conservative," Farley "too much the politician," Hopkins is cursed with the WPA investigation, Hull "is too old and too straight-laced" and Murphy bears the called strike of being a Catholic. Others not infrequently mentioned as possible nominees are Tom Corcoran and Robert H. Jackson.

Next summer's national nominating convention of the Democratic party will probably be more heated and more exciting than the election itself.

Interesting to note are student opinions shown in recent polls on possible presidential candidates. At the University of Texas, Garner's home state, the campus voted 34.0 per cent for Garner, 49.8 per cent for a "liberal New Dealer," and the remainder voiced no opinion. The Butler University Collegian says: "We believe Mr. Hull is the one man in the Democratic party today who could unite the conservative and liberal elements. He has supported the radical New Deal measures only mildly, and also has backed the conservative actions of the administration."

At the College of the City of New York, seniors in the school of business voted President Roosevelt the "most outstanding man alive," while University of Minnesota students voted 3 to 1 against a third term for President Roosevelt.

Unless national opinion crystallizes in a particular direction before the convention, America will continue to speculate, and with increasing interest as the weeks roll by.—New Mexico Lobo.

"Love always finds a way" or "Courtship supreme difficulties." That ought to be the title for this tale about a certain Holy Cross College student who was struck with the loveliness of a co-ed pictured in Collegiate Digest. It was love at first picture, as it were.

As the co-ed was not identified in the caption describing the photo, this inventive lover just clipped the picture, pasted it on an envelope and wrote the name and location of the college beneath the clipping. Inside, of course, was a request for an answer, etc.

Yes, believe it or not, Lucille Trudeau, a student in Mundelein College's skyscraper on the shores of Lake Michigan in Chicago, received the epistle promptly.

And now there's quite a steady flow of letters between the Windy City and Worcester, Mass.

The Battalion

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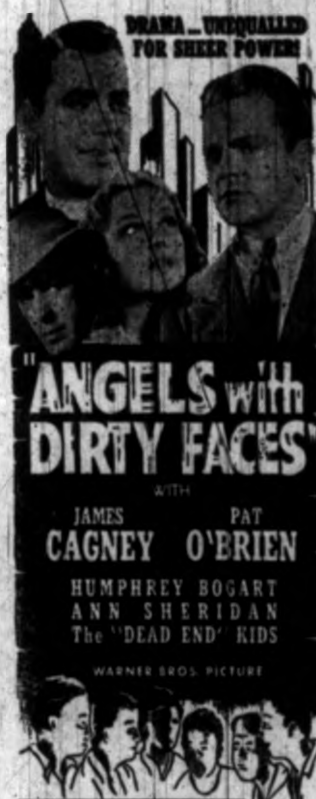
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