

NO MONOPOLY

It is understood that the Bryan and College Station city governing bodies are considering creation of a transportation monopoly between the two cities. The Battalion herewith expresses the belief that the student body as a whole—the group of persons most vitally affected by any transportation change—would disapprove such an action.

Students here have seen enough of monopoly. There's enough of it on the campus and in Bryan to make them oppose the granting of another one.

Some time ago The Battalion proposed a plan of allowing free competition in transportation. We stick by that plan. For only if we have free competition can we expect the service to which the inhabitants of the two cities are entitled.

If a monopoly is granted, it will be done because the firm to receive the benefits will make rosy promises of how it will be handled. Once a firm gets the monopoly, however, the rosy promises may become things of the past.

Our attitude is that the two city bodies should agree to license any taxicabs which meet requirements of insurance, driver and mechanical regulations. If this is done, we may expect adequate facilities.

If, on the other hand, a monopoly is granted, we may not have adequate facilities, for in granting a monopoly, the two bodies will lose a lot of control over the actions of the monopolistic concern in spite of the fact that they should not do so.

Students prefer cabs; we hope the College and Bryan governments won't make them take just what they can get.

At the same time, the Bryan commissioners and the College Councilmen should not be content to leave matters as they are. We need action, and we need it quickly. We do not, however, need "hasty" action, particularly in the matter of granting monopolies.

FISCAL HOURS

"OPEN FROM 8 A. M. UNTIL 1 P. M."
That is a sign posted at the Fiscal Office. And that is a sign which has caused students here much inconvenience.

Until a few years ago, that much time would have adequately taken care of the entire student body. As the enrollment grew, W. H. Holzmann, comptroller of accounts, increased the time from a noon closing hour to the 1 o'clock closing.

However, since that change the student body has been greatly increased until now those hours are not adequate for the convenience of the student body.

Students usually have classes up until 12, at which time they must eat. And at 1 o'clock many of them have labs.

Nothing would give an added convenience to the student body more than a rearrangement of Fiscal Office hours to keep the place open until 3 p. m. at the least.

A close second would be keeping the library open until 11 p. m. each night in the week, including Saturday.

And a good way to give visitors a better impression here is to keep the museum open on Sunday.

We urge that these changes be considered.

MORE TENNIS COURTS?

To dozens of boys who flock to the tennis courts every day during the fall and spring, one fact stands out like a sore thumb: A. & M. is sorely in need of new tennis courts—not to mention handball courts and athletic equipment.

Last year four fine new courts were built. They served to alleviate the pressing demand to some extent; but with the growth in enrollment and the increasing interest of the Aggies in this sport, still more courts—at least six more—have proved necessary.

The same boys who grow disgusted with waiting for a court to play on would have their courts, and many more Aggies would have the opportunity and the incentive to indulge in the sport, were these six new courts to be added to our present physical plant.

We strongly urge that steps be taken in the near future to remedy this lack.

Always important in indicating the trend of college thought is a survey of the latest developments in student organizations. During the past month four new groups have been formed that forcefully demonstrate the results of the various campaigns that have been carried on in the collegiate and the professional press.

Parade of Opinion

Still loudly drumming to keep the U. S. out of the threatening European war, the college press nevertheless is urging the government to take economic measures that will be favorable to the democratic states of the world.

The trend of opinion is toward support of sales of supplies to the non-totalitarian states, but collegians favor doing it only on a cash-and-carry basis. They definitely favor economic retaliation against the dictator-controlled countries, and heartily approved the President's establishment of a 25 per cent tariff on all German goods.

Of the latter move, the Texas Technological College Toreador said: "Hitler is undoubtedly the strong man of middle Europe today. Acquisitions in Austria and Czecho-Slovakia have increased that power until he can virtually thumb his nose at the world's democracies without fear of armed conflict. Yet in the face of such strength, he is still unable to cope with isolation. He must depend upon the world for a market. Once that market is shut off he must humble himself or face extinction of the Germany he seeks to build. The sooner the great powers bring to bear the force they command, the sooner Herr Hitler will become less aggressive and more ready to respect his neighbor's rights."

The Westchester (Pa.) State Teachers College Quad Angles approved the move with these words: "With other nations of the world following America's example, Germany would soon feel for the first time the strength behind a concerted economic boycott. Germany has stated that it 'must export or die,' so perhaps this will cool off Hitler's zeal for disregarding every human law, written or verbal. Even though these tariffs will work hardships on some people, they will benefit many, many more in the long run. Here is the first acid test of collective security, and it is being led by a former advocate of strict isolation. The way is clear."

The University of Michigan Daily advocates world-wide extension of the boycott: "The United States, the most powerful democracy in the Western hemisphere, can take the lead in preventing further outbreaks of lawlessness and utter disregard for the rights of minority peoples. The 25 per cent increase on German imports is a step forward. Laws placing economic sanctions on aggressor nations should follow."

Always helpful in keeping the collegians of today on the right track, the college press came out with something new in the form of moralizing last week. It was in the Salem College Green & White, and the editorial dealt with a subject that is not usually discussed in a newspaper:

"You really should charge things only when you absolutely can't pay at the moment, and then, as soon as you get some money, you should pay your bill—at least part of it."

"Why should the people who are kind enough to let you charge things have to spend their time and energy running you down to collect your money? And then sometimes you are even rude enough to hide from the collector—that's true dishonesty, you know. Why don't you surprise the people to whom you owe your bills, and surprise yourself too, by bringing your money to pay bills, without being chased and begged for it till both the collector and you are sick of hearing about it. Certainly that would show a more admirable attitude toward the inevitable."

It's something to think about, isn't it?

PREVIEWS and REVIEWS

BY RAY TREADWELL

"HONOLULU"—an MGM picture directed by Edward Buzzell with a screen play by Herbert Fields and Frank Partos. Showing Friday at the Assembly Hall.

The cast:
Dorothy March Eleanor Powell
Brooks Mason and George Smith Robert Young
Joe Duffy George Burns
Millie De Grasse Gracie Allen
Cecilia Grayson Rita Johnson
Nurse Jo Ann Sayers

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer started out with the intention of making this picture as another hit or miss. Probably the latter, for Eleanor Powell but in a manner characteristic of her radio and screen personality Gracie Allen appropriated the film and is chiefly to be complimented for finally making a Powell picture a success. Of course, you can not overlook some of the sex-appeal dances of Eleanor Powell in the show for they carry plenty of "umph" as Eleanor's irrepressible feet tap out a rhythmic accompaniment to the song hits. Nevertheless it takes more than a dance to make a picture and Gracie comes through in grand style to fill the bill.

The story evolves around Brooks Mason, a screen star, who finds a double to make his personal appearance tour and then goes off to the double's Honolulu plantation. He meets a girl on the boat, finds his fiancée at the plantation with her father and a host of detectives. From there things go from bad to worse with plenty of side en-

FELLOWSHIP AWARDED PROF FOR PH.D. WORK

Lester Hanks, Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics, at A. & M., has been awarded a fellowship by the General Education Board to study next year for the Ph.D. degree at Harvard University. Only a very limited number of such fellowships are granted each year to young educators in the South who have done outstanding work and have demonstrated unusual promise for professional attainment and public achievement.

At Harvard, Mr. Hanks will devote part of his time to the study of marketing in the Graduate School of Business and the remainder to research under Dr. John D. Black, noted agricultural economist.

Mr. Hanks graduated in Agricultural Administration at Texas A. & M. and received the Master's degree and also did further graduate work at the University of Texas. Prior to joining the staff in the Agricultural Economics Department in 1936, he had several years' experience with the New York Telephone Company, the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, and the Texas and Magnolia Oil Companies.

tainment by Eleanor Powell and Gracie Allen.

If you can stand Miss Powell's acting between her dances, helped out by Gracie, this is a good picture to see; not a top-notch film but good entertainment.

"TEXAS UNIVERSITY GIRL'S GLEE CLUB"—The aforementioned show doesn't stand a chance as the main center of attraction with 60 beautiful coeds in the same theater, especially when the group contains such beauties as Jean Granberry who was elected Sweetheart of Texas and presented at the Round-Up Revue. Not to mention a number of Bluebonnet Belles who are also included in the group.

The club, contrary to popular opinion, does not sing classical music entirely but includes popular songs and has arrangements similar to the Phil Spitalny style which all adds up to an attraction that is more than worth any Aggie's time. The one big drawback to the entire show is the fact that it is an arrangement made to promote other things in one's mind besides concentration on studies. But after all—

What's Showing

PALACE

Tuesday and Wednesday—"Society Lawyer" with Walter Pidgeon, Virginia Bruce and Leo Carrillo.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday—"The Story of Alexander Graham Bell" starring Don Ameche, Loreta Young, Henry Fonda and Charles Coburn.

ASSEMBLY HALL

Tuesday and Wednesday—"The Duke of West Point" with Louis Hayward, Joan Fontaine, and Richard Carlson.

Thursday—"St. Louis Blues" starring Dorothy Lamour, Lloyd Nolan, and Maxine Sullivan.

Friday—Texas University Girl's Glee Club and "Honolulu" with Eleanor Powell, Robert Young, and George Burns and Gracie Allen.

Aggie Lutherans To Attend Meeting In San Marcos May 7

The annual convention of the Texas Lutheran Students Association will be held on Sunday, May 7, at San Marcos. A devotional service will be held in the morning, and in the afternoon there will be a program with several speakers, to be followed by a business meeting.

All Lutheran students here are urged to attend the convention. Those interested should see C. A. Richter, secretary of the Lutheran Club. Plans for going will be discussed Sunday after the services.

Military power in international relations is the subject of a special course being taught at Tufts Fletcher School of Law.

COLLEGIATE REVIEW

A new drive by scientists against the totalitarian states has been announced by the Cambridge branch of the American Association of Scientific Workers, who have declared a boycott against German-manufactured scientific apparatus and supplies.

Representing the scientists of Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and other colleges and universities in this area, the local chapter of the association is now planning to seek the support of other scientific groups for the boycott movement.

Leaders of the drive pointed out that the U. S. last year imported approximately \$10,000,000 worth of scientific equipment, cameras and chemicals from the Reich.

A special committee said that the boycott was made "in view of the extensive and cruel persecution of scientists in Germany for religious and political reasons, of the evidence brought out by our own study that the whole structure of German science, once so notable, has been undermined and partially destroyed, while certain sciences have been distorted to fit political theories which are widely recognized as wholly untrue."

If you want to be a varsity footballer at Cornell University, you'll have to give up automobile riding.

That, in effect, is the result of a statement of Coach Carl G. Snavely, who has ruled that gridiron athletes must ride bicycles when they travel about the campus.

Snavely believes that American youth has softened up physically "through the modern tendency to ride around in automobile instead of walking and running as preceding generations did." He believes bike riding will strengthen leg and back muscles and increase lung expansion.

Students will live high at Northwestern University in 1940.

University officials have just announced that construction will begin soon on the tallest building in the world to be used exclusively as a university dormitory.

Housing 700 students on the university's Chicago campus, the new building will be 210 feet tall and will cost \$1,700,000. It will be a city in itself, with shops, libraries, dining rooms, lounges, exercise facilities including bowling alleys and squash courts, and a recreational roof garden at the tenth floor level.

In 22 volumes, Princeton University will publish the 100 "lost" (hitherto unpublished) plays of American authors.

New Records

"Sunrise Serenade" and "If It's Good" by Hal Kemp and his orchestra are both selections that have been particularly well scored. The staccato muted brasses with clarinet sub-tone counter melodies lend the Kempian flavor to this pair of hit tunes. Freda Gibson sings the vocal refrain to "If It's Good" and displays a charming voice and pleasing style of delivery.

Tommy Dorsey and Jack Leonard join forces in sweetly playing and smoothly singing a brace of attractive ballads—"You Grow Sweeter as the Years Go By" and "In the Middle of a Dream." Johnny Mercer is composer of the former and with it adds another feature to his already overcrowded chapeau. "In the Middle of a Dream" is a composition of Einar Swan and Al Stillman. The Dorsey orchestra is tonally at its best.

Charlie Barnet and Roscoe Fritch wrote the fast swing special "Scotch and Soda," in which Charlie's sax is much in evidence. The coupling, "Echoes of Harlem," is a famous composition of Cootie Williams and Duke Ellington. Don't miss the "dirty" sax and trumpet work in this latter title.

Both the sun and the moon serve as topics for Glenn Miller's musical discourse, "Sunrise Serenade" and "Moonlight Serenade." Miller's interpretation of the popular "Sunrise Serenade" is beautifully effective in slow swing tempo. The coupling is his theme song, and as such is familiar to all who have heard his radio programs. Glenn composed "Moonlight Serenade," and should be proud of the selection. It is truly a gorgeous number, and as played by this promising band gives every evidence of becoming a hit among theme songs.

WE'RE AGIN IT

Recently a group of students have been working diligently at trying to make suggestions for the improvement of A. & M. scholastically.

While we agree with most of their aims, we heartily disagree with their attitude toward final examinations. The group suggests instituting a system of exemptions from exams, exempting either the highest 25 per cent or exempting all with averages of more than 85.

Earlier in the year, The Battalion asked that Dead Week be re-instituted here, and we still look upon that as the only logical solution to the pre-exam week problem.

In rejecting it, a spokesman for the Board of Directors stated that it was rejected principally because it puts too much emphasis on cramming for exams and that it was his attitude that students already place too much emphasis on exams.

Emphasizing exams was not our attitude in proposing Dead Week. Our attitude was that a Dead Week would enable students, under competent instruction, to obtain a broader view of the course, a view of the study as a group of related topics—as a whole, if you will. This point was not mentioned by the spokesman.

Does the exemption system offer anything Dead Week does not? Does it, as a matter of fact, offer as much? Our opinion is No.

In the first place, an exemption system does not award good students as much as it penalizes those who are not so good. And that, it seems to us, is not exactly one of the principles of education. If exams are held to give a student a broad view of a course, as they should be, then there is no reason for anyone to be exempt. If, on the other hand, finals have ceased to serve in that capacity, then there is no reason for anyone to be required to take them.

We sincerely hope that the faculty will not institute an exemption system here, but that consideration of Dead Week be brought before it. If the faculty made a recommendation to the Board of Directors, it would probably be adopted. When the Board killed it before, the faculty had taken no positive action. The only thing it had done was to appoint a committee to investigate.

The faculty and the Board of Directors should not blind themselves to the importance of the pre-exam week problem. They should not overlook it any longer, but take some definite action to solve this pressing question.

The Battalion

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