

# The Summer BATTALION

Summer-session Weekly Newspaper Published Each Friday by Students of Texas A. & M. College. Deadline 10 a. m. Thursday.

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at College Station, Texas, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Office in Room 122, Administration Building, Telephone College 8. Advertising rates upon request.

REPRESENTED FOR NATIONAL ADVERTISING BY  
**National Advertising Service, Inc.**  
 College Publishers Representatives  
 420 MADISON AVE. NEW YORK, N. Y.  
 CHICAGO - BOSTON - LOS ANGELES - SAN FRANCISCO

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## Can't Library Be Open On Weekends?

Last week-end a summer student failed to get up an outside history report, another was unable to complete his English assignment in parallel reading, and numerous others were greatly inconvenienced in their preparation for Monday classes by the College Library's being closed from noon Saturday to Monday morning.

Our Library is indispensable in our pursuit of an education, and the librarians are always tireless and courteous in their efforts to aid us. But added labor to enable the library to stay open week-ends is necessary. We urge that a provision be made to afford A. & M. students the use of these facilities during the week-ends of the summer session and, while we are on this subject, why can't the swimming pool stay open Sundays?

## NORTH EAST WEST SOUTH

By DR. AL B. NELSON

**THE BALANCED BUDGET** is no longer even a fond dream, let alone a promise, in the news of the day. The President was sure that the 1938 budget would be balanced, or nearly balanced, as late as the beginning of that fiscal year, but ended that period about Four Billion Dollars in the red. The current fiscal year finds the budget in practically the same general condition, and for the future a balanced budget is neither promised nor even thought of for 1940. As a matter of fact, ten years after the depression began Congress is in the process of appropriating One and Three Quarter Billions of Dollars for work relief (W.P.A.), more money for this object alone than was spent for the entire Federal Government expenses in any year previous to 1917, more than was spent in any year of the Civil War. The reason is not far to seek—next year is campaign year, with the election of a President, Vice-President, an entire House of Representatives, and one-third of our U. S. Senate, The National Party Conventions are only one year in the future, and one year from this coming November we will choose a new national government to rule or misrule for another four years. The motto for the coming year will be "bigger and better appropriations, and let the tax-payer pay."

**WHO WILL BE ELECTED?** Will the election go to the man, or men, who promise larger pensions for more people, more colleges for more communities, more roads for more drunken drivers to kill more people on, more jobs on the government payroll at more money per job, together with lower taxes, shorter hours, and the other fellow to pay the bill? What do you guess the best-educated mass of voters in the world will do?

**"DON'T PULL ENGLAND'S CHESNUTS FROM THE FIRE FOR HER"** seems to be a popular sentiment in the nation and on the campus. Meanwhile the "chessnuts" are tumbling into the laps of the current rulers of the universe—Germany, Italy, and Japan—and some of them are our chessnuts, much to our surprise and indignation. It really pains us to see Old England becoming so spineless and no-account that she can't or won't defend our rights, our democracy, etc., with her life blood. Chamberlain is a perjured statesman, etc., for not defending the democracy of the Czechs and the freedom of the Chinese, and incidentally our interests in these countries. Our nationals are as much endangered in the Chinese foreign concessions as those of England but we follow a policy of watchful waiting to see how England handles the situation. Meanwhile, we make money by selling scrap-iron, arms, and ammunition to the Japanese in order that they can kill the American citizens, British subjects, and Chinese patriots more easily and expeditiously. By all means let England pull our chessnuts out of the fire. Let us live in hope even though she does disappoint us again.

**WHEN A DRUNKEN NAZI** murdered a Czech policeman the German officials merely announced that it was a regrettable incident. But the previous unexplained slaying of a German in the Czech city of Kladno brought forth a heavy fine for the city, martial law, a curfew law forbidding Czechs to be on the streets after 8 p. m., and a house-to-house search.

## Summer Reading

BY DR. T. F. MAYO, Librarian  
**Red Star Over China**, by Edgar Shero. (The author, a distinguished newspaper man, lived for a year or two with the Communist armies in the interior of China. The forces which he here describes may eventually beat Japan).

**The Story of the Winged-S**, by Igor Silorslai. (Good stuff about aviation—for those who think that aviation is good stuff to read about).

**The Movies Come from America**, by Gilbert Seldes. (A wonderful new book about the movies and the movie queens and kings).

**Marvels of Insect Life**, by Edward Stef. (Makes you wonder why everybody doesn't study entomology, especially with Bilsing and Co. to teach it).

**Labor's New Millions**, by Mary Heaton Vorse. (A painless road to intelligence about the C. I. O. and the A. F. of L. Judging by much of the talk one hears, I should say that this book is badly needed).

### WHAT'S SHOWING AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL

Saturday—"Paris Honeymoon", with Bing Crosby, Francisca Gaal, Akim Tamiroff, and Shirley Ross.

Tuesday—"Blackwell's Island", with John Garfield and Rosemary Lane.

Thursday—"The Hound of the Baskervilles", with Richard Green, Basil Rathbone, and Wendy Barrie.

### From Faculty

By DR. T. F. MAYO, Librarian  
 I offer the following, not necessarily as truth, but just as a beautiful chain of reasoning. It will brace you up, I think, to follow it step by step, and to hunt flaws:

1. Modern methods of production require that most industries increase in size.
2. As industries increase in size, the money power of their owners tend to equal the power of the government.
3. As the money power of the owners of business comes to equal the power of the governments, the two powers tend to coalesce: that is, it becomes necessary that either business or government shall rule the other. (Attention, English 210 sharks! This a dilemma. Is it a false one?)

4. It would be unbearable for the owners of big business to control the government. Hence since either big business or the government must control the other, government should control business.
5. There are only two kinds of government: (a) autocratic, not responsive to the will of the people, and (b) democratic, responsive to the will of the people.

6. Now, if an autocratic government controls business, we have Fascism, which we don't want.
7. Therefore, what we must have is a considerable control of business by a democratic government.

This is a digest of a short article called "Democracy and Economics", by Bertrand Russell, in the Survey Graphic for last February. It interested me partly because it stated so compactly the "liberal" point of view, but largely because its tidy form carries one's mind so neatly from point to point.

If you will bring or send me, signed, by noon next Monday, your attack on all or any link of this chain, I should like to put it into this column. There must be a flaw somewhere, mustn't there? Otherwise we'd all be New Dealers!



The Assembly Hall presents

three good shows this week—"The Hound of the Baskervilles", "Paris Honeymoon", and "Blackwell's Island". With just fifteen cents in my Pocket, I believe I'll blow it in Saturday night and see "Paris Honeymoon."

Bing Crosby is my reason for picking "Paris Honeymoon" over "The Hound of the Baskervilles". and it isn't because of his acting—it's because he gets to sing just a whole batch a tunes I've been humming for months. Some of the songs are "You're a Sweet Little Headache", "I Have Eyes", "Those Funny Old Hills", and "Joobalai". Here is my chance to learn the words without buying the music—that's the Scotch in me. The story deals with "Lucky" Lawton, an American millionaire, who while waiting for his fiancée to get a divorce, decides to stay in an ancient castle called "Pushtalnick". While staying here, Lucky meets and falls in love with a local girl. Then the Countess De Remi, whom Lucky is to marry arrives upon the scene to complicate matters. Everything ends well, but Lucky has to drug the Countess to do it.

"The Hound of the Baskervilles" is taken from the work of the

same name by the well-known author of all Sherlock Holmes stories, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. If you've read the story, you'll notice a few small changes to fit the movie version, but you'll also notice that mainly, it follows the book more closely than most shows taken from books. Basil Rathbone succeeds in portraying Sherlock Holmes just as I pictured him in my mind, and that was a source of delight to me. The story is about a murderer's use of an old superstition built around the legend that a gigantic hound haunted members of the Baskerville family because of the evils committed by an ancestor. When the youthful heir, Sir Henry Baskerville, comes to the family estate to live, a neighbor plots to kill him and actually sets loose a bloodthirsty hound upon the moor. Sherlock Holmes, in his own fashion, uncovers the murderer and discloses his motive.

"Blackwell's Island" deals with the capture of a gang of racketeers who have been exploiting a penal colony at New York and John Garfield has the part of the secret service man who goes after them. It is a gangster thriller, and will prove good entertainment if you're gangster inclined.

## AROUND THE CAMPUS With Peggy Campbell

Seems to me that a mere co-ed is sticking her neck out when she attempts to write a column for The Summer Battalion, but when you spend your life here at Aggieland, you just can't help imbibing some of that good old "do or die" spirit. Hope you'll all be patient with a poor poor summer-tolerated female in her first attempt to play the role of a campus Walter Winchell.

Helen Hill returned recently from San Antonio where she had been recovering from an emergency

kept her from taking part in the A. & M. Consolidated High School graduation exercises. That was a rotten break, and we're all mighty glad to have Helen back home again.

Up at the Administration Building the other day Dean Kyle took time off from this business of registration to tell me that he knew some news to put in The Battalion. He said that there are an awful lot of beautiful girls on the campus for summer school, and those are his exact words, so help me. (Dean Kyle told me I could print this, but I'll bet he didn't think I really would!)

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