

The Summer BATTALION

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Futher Progress

With this issue of The Summer Battalion, the paper is increased in size to that of the long-session Battalion, seven columns, instead of the five-column tabloid-size paper it has been during the past five weeks.

With the beginning of the current summer session a summer-school newspaper was published for the first time in the 63 year history of Texas A. & M.

This new experiment has been tried and has proved successful. Its success has warranted this increase in size to seven columns, which will be maintained during the coming summer semester.

The Summer Battalion staff extends its sincere and hearty thanks to the student body for its fine support of the paper, and to the advertisers of College Station and Bryan for their support of a new publication.

Pointed Paragraphs

Puzzled because whenever his men raided a burlesque house the girls were always fully dressed, Inspector Edward Handley of the San Francisco police force sneaked in through an alley one night and found the dancers nude. He learned that formerly the cashier had pressed a buzzer each time the raiders entered and that dresses, suspended from the ceiling, had dropped over the girls.—Pathfinder.

A scarecrow installed in a fruit orchard at the agricultural station at East Lansing, Mich., holds a small "gun" operated by carbide gas, which explodes automatically every few minutes. Birds that jeer at old-fashioned scarecrows keep well away from this one.—Country Home Magazine.

NORTH EAST WEST SOUTH

By DR. AL B. NELSON



Abandoned, one appendage umbrella, by Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain of England. In answer to a question in the House of Commons, Chamberlain "burned his bridges behind him" and came out with the blunt announcement that any grab at Danzig, without Poland's free consent, would mean war. England and France then undertook to provide money in aiding Poland to maintain her army in readiness for war. The man who won the Munich booby prize is now standing out in the open, daring the War-Gods of Europe to "let it rain." Someone must have been feeding the man raw meat lately, he isn't acting in character at all. Question—will his backbone be as stiff in the negotiations with Japan which were scheduled to begin at Tokio on Thursday of this week?

Cordell Hull has wasted another sheet of paper in sending one more "strongly worded" protest to Japan over violation of our rights in China (they are only slamming our "open-door" in our face). Question No. two—will the United States back this protest with the same sort of tariff penalties she has recently applied against Germany and Italy? If the U. S. does, it will have more effect than all the polite notes she can think of.

A combination of some standpat, isolationist Republicans (Borah of Idaho and Johnson of California, et al) who were largely responsible for the rejection of the League of Nations by the U. S., and who must therefore assume a large share of the blame for the present mess in Europe, with a few of the Democratic Senators who survived the attempted Roosevelt-purge have managed to block the President's neutrality law revision. Question for thought—Is it possible, or profitable, for a nation to be neutral when its own interests and sympathies are at stake?

The Governor of Texas just exercised his constitutional prerogative by vetoing a great many items in the current appropriation bill. Some four or five million dollars will be saved. More than forty thousand dollars for lab equipment and research assistance at A. & M. College came under the knife. The Governor also signed a bill giving away half of the state ad valorem taxes to the counties. This will almost equal the amount saved by his pruning knife.

Polish Guarantee

The importance of Neville Chamberlain's Monday speech to Parliament must be recognized in Berlin, Rome and Warsaw alike. On the question of Danzig, the Prime Minister burned every bridge behind John Bull and ranged Great Britain squarely beside the Polish Republic in any fight necessary to assure the exclusion of the Reich from Danzig. Britain's stand is unequivocal. No loophole has been left for Nazi euphemism to take over Danzig without a fight.

The Chamberlain speech was necessitated by inspired accounts from Berlin of what Britain would do to let the Reich take the Free City. Drunk with the Munich triumph, the Nazis have been assuring Danzigers that the British guarantees to Poland mean nothing, that Britain would be glad of any excuse to save face and not back Warsaw. On this assumption the growing immigrant Free Corps in Danzig could start an internal revolution and attempt to oust the Polish control.

Certainly the Chamberlain forthright speech dismisses that possibility. The Reich is put on notice that any attempt to take over Danzig from within or without will be regarded as violative of Polish rights and that England expects to carry out its pledges with arms if need be. The language is too clear and concise to let doubt exist.

Under the circumstances the issue presented to Hitler is no longer one of conquest without conflict. He knows beyond the peradventure of a doubt that he must fight if he gets Danzig. The question of war or peace has now been placed up to him.

—The Dallas Morning News

"Tsk - Tsk" Department

One University of Missouri coed is accompanied to classes by a pet mouse . . . A Harvard freshman claims the unofficial milk-guzzling championship: seven glasses per meal . . . Salem College students recently held a Chinese checkers tournament . . . Several Princetonians caused a traffic jam when they left a life-like, catnap-splattered doll lying on a highway . . . Swarthmore pranksters locked their schoolmates in the campus cattery.

Summer Reading

By Dr. T. F. Mayo

"The Yearling," by Rawlings. An honest, warm-hearted story of Florida crackers by the author of "South Moon Under," which by the way, is also good.

"My America," by Adamic. A Czechoslovak immigrant's frank but affectionate picture of this country as seen through the eyes of a hopeful and intelligent newcomer.

"Thirty-five Thousand Days in Texas," by Acheson. An entertaining history of the Dallas News and its forebears.

"Labor's New Millions," by Vorse. Just what everybody wants to know about the C.I.O., the A.F. of L., and the meaning behind all the headlines about "sit-downs," "yellow dogs," and so on.

"Troilus and Cressida," by William Shakespeare (of all people!) A sorry female, very good-looking by the way, with just enough decency about her to wish occasionally, feebly and ineffectually, that she were not such a congenial two-timer. Also contains the finest defense in the world of the aristocratic principle of society—which I don't believe in, but which the Aggies cherish. Shakespeare calls it the principle of "degree." Ulysses speaks the lines.

"The Tyranny of Words," by Stuart Chase. Mr. Chase, who always clarifies and illuminates, shows in this little book how words, which by rights ought to create understanding, are actually more frequently used to obscure the truth.

"The Rise of American Oil," by Fanning. All you need to know about the story of our most sensational industry.

COLLEGIATE REVIEW

EIGHT INTERNATIONALLY FAMOUS INDIVIDUALS are listed on the 1939-40 Drama-Lecture-Music course of Baylor University, being inaugurated next fall to replace two other civic entertainment groups in which the university had interest. The course program was announced recently by a faculty committee headed by Dr. A. J. Armstrong. Students will be admitted free.

Listed are Boake Carter, radio news commentator; Herbert Agar, Pulitzer prize winner in journalism and editor of the Louisville, Ky., Courier Journal; Frank W. Asper, organist at the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City; Helen Jepson, popular singer; Edward Weeks, editor of the Atlantic Monthly; Eva LeGallienne, actress, in the play "L'Aiglon"; Rollo Walter Brown, author and lecturer; and Miss Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor in President Roosevelt's cabinet.

LOOK TO YOUR LAURELS, YOU YOUNG mud pie makers! A corps of Texas student engineers have called in science to beat you at your own game.

In the shops of the university's college of engineering, these potential "mud" engineers can whip up in a jiffy a mud pie—neat and round, as goeey as you want it, and any color under the sun. The results of their pie making is of vital concern to the great oil industries, university engineering heads declare.

For where the amateurs leave off, there young engineers are just beginning. Their finished mud pie has to be analyzed in university laboratories to determine whether it will solve the drilling problems in the wells of east Texas or those of the gulf coast area.

THE OUTSTANDING DEFECT OF THE curriculum of the present day American college is its lack of spiritual drive. It does not bind together the teachers and students and graduates of a college into a single unified community dominated by the emotional attitude of a single enterprise. Educator Alexander Meikeljohn gives Dartmouth College undergraduates his analysis of educational dilemma facing U. S. educators.

BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

Headed by Peggy Campbell and capably assisted by Delbert Whitaker and Charles Ballowe, the 18 members of the Summer Pasture Prom Committee did a fine job producing a dance which was thoroughly enjoyed by nearly everyone and which was enough of a success to warrant another prom next semester.

Jimmy James was wondering the other day why it is that telephone operators insist on pronouncing "nine" as though the word were spelled "niyen." On calling one up and questioning her we learned that the number is often confused with the numeral five unless the pronunciation is exaggerated—which information is passed on to you for what it's worth.



Here's a picture of the Battalion mascot, Backwash Charlie, whom I mentioned in last week's column and who is the personal property of the editor.

A statistical item which is probably of interest to the college gentry is the decline in the population of C ramp Walton which the new semester will witness. Four of the present 14 inhabitants will return and three new girls will move in to bring the total to seven.

AROUND THE CAMPUS

With Edith Thomas

V. B. Woods, assistant in the Sociology Department, who has been in charge of all the project houses, will leave Saturday to accept a position with the N.Y.A. Administration out of Houston.

Chappel Young, who started working with the Sociology Department last year, is now working with the Old Age Assistance Commission.

Dr. John Ashton, Sociology professor teaching Agricultural Journalism, will spend the latter part of the summer in Austin studying records in the State and University Libraries on early live stock industries in Texas in connection with a history that he is writing on the development of cattle industry in the Southwest.

C. N. Shephardson, head of the Dairy Husbandry Department, has just returned from a trip to Pullman, Washington, where he attended the annual meeting of the Dairy Science Association.

The Foreign Cotton Study Tour group will arrive in England the latter part of this week after having been to Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. They will spend three days in England visiting points of interest around London, Rothamsted Experiment Station, Harpenden, England. This is the oldest agricultural experiment station in the world. It was founded by Sir John Lawes in 1843.

On the boat going to Europe, Texas was represented not only by three honor students—H. F. Goodloe, R. V. McNiece, and J. D. Aughtry, Jr.—but also by Professor J. S. Mogford as conductor of the tour, and by M. A. C. Williams, president of the Federal Land Bank of Houston, who is accompanying the Foreign Cotton Study Tour and taking moving pictures of the tour for later use here in Texas. At the last minute Mr. D. W. Williams, head of the Department of Animal Husbandry, changed his plans and sailed with the party, on the U. S. S. American Importer.

On July 14th the group sailed for London on the U. S. S. American Merchant, and will not return to College Station until the last part of July.

One of life's minor tragedies almost happened recently when several of the summer school boys and girls attended the dance given for the 2,500 4-H Club members who were on the campus last week. Getting into the dance was comparatively easy, but getting out almost proved to be impossible. The idea was that everyone who attended the dance was supposed to be a 4-H Club member and, when the affair was over, the boys and girls were to be marched to their respective dormitories—but separately. At any rate, after remaining at the dance a few minutes, Helen Hill and several others decided to leave but almost couldn't convince the matrons on Sbia's main door that they were not members of a 4-H Club. Visualizing a long two or three hour stay at the dance, the girls almost resorted to strong-arm tactics to persuade their would-be "jailors" that they were students of the college.

Incidentally, it was a fine dance and, according to some of the campus people who have been here for a long time, the crowd was the largest ever assembled at a dance in the Mess Hall.

Notes taken at the Summer Pasture Prom . . . Troy Wakefield was overheard saying "this dance is the barniest, corniest, and one of the best I have ever attended" . . . bare feet were much in evidence and so was "jitterbuggin" . . . Jack Calhoun and his date arrived in true barn dance style by coming in the college milk wagon . . . senior president of the class of '37, W. A. "Doc" Ruhmann was on the campus for a few hours and attended the dance . . . the orchestra arrived on time only to find that no piano was in evidence and the resulting hurrying and scurrying would have made a champion track man blush with envy.

From the T. S. C. W. campus comes the news that Juanita Taliaferro of Denton has been named the most beautiful girl attending that college's summer session. Evalie Rushing of Lott was elected most popular.

As an indication of success which may come to students who are willing and able to take sound fundamental, and preparative courses to equip themselves for graduate work, it is interesting to cite the experience of J. D. Aughtry, Jr., who graduated here with a major in agronomy in the class of '39.

After preparing himself for technical work in soils, Aughtry applied for graduate fellowships at three of the highest ranking agricultural colleges in the United States: Cornell University, Ohio State University, and Ohio State College. Meanwhile Aughtry showed proficiency in the field of cotton by earning a position on the eighth annual Foreign Cotton Study Tour sponsored by the Agronomy Department.

Before this group sailed for Europe on June 3rd, Mr. Aughtry had received and accepted a flat-tering fellowship at Cornell University, rejected one from Ohio State College, and while he was in Europe he received a third offer for a fellowship, this one being from Ohio State University.

That gave him a 100% batting average—having received an offer from every institution to which he applied.

The fact that graduates of agricultural colleges are much sought after in professional fields is indicated by the following item:

On July 11th Mr. Morgan Walker, a representative of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, visited the campus for the purpose of interviewing men with regard to a position they have for an agronomist to work on their property in Venezuela, South America.

Mr. Walker specified that he wanted men trained in analysis and classification of soils and that he would be expected to direct the company's activities in production of truck crops, feed crops, and cotton.

He interviewed some six candidates for work in the office of the Agronomy Department and the man finally selected for this work will have a most attractive professional opportunity. This man will have to stay two years at the least.

Movie Review

By Bob Nisbet

This week marks the last of the semester of summer school—the end of the beginning, so to speak. The Assembly Hall signs off the first semester with "The Arizona Wildcat," "Confessions of a Nazi Spy," and "Cafe Society." Without taxing my imagination any, I'd say "Cafe Society" beats them all.

Jane Withers plays the lead in "The Arizona Wildcat," and if you like Jane Withers, this is one of her best. The story is about the West, where Jane leads an outlaw band and gets into lots of trouble. Leo Carrillo keeps the show from being very bad, but still it is "just another show."

The next show on the list is "Confessions of a Nazi Spy." This show was the subject of much harsh criticism when it showed in Bryan this past winter, but in my opinion it doesn't merit all the bad things said about it. Hollywood put out this show, not to make the public hate Hitler, but merely to take advantage of a popular topic of discussion to make a little money. If you have ever seen shows of the "hooded men," you'll agree that this is just the same stuff branded with a Nazi swastika. Edward G. Robinson was used in the picture to help make it sell better.

"Cafe Society" involves Madeleine Carroll, Fred MacMurray, and Shirley Ross in a story of the bright lights of New York. Madeleine Carroll plays a society-minded debutante who marries a ship reporter just for the publicity. Fred MacMurray, who gets mar-

ried, finds out what happened and ducks Miss Carroll in a "wee bit" of the Atlantic Ocean. Then he makes her jealous by running around with Shirley Ross. Then he convinces her his way is best, so everything turns out for the best. It's a pretty good show.

FOUR AGGIES—COKER MOSS, S. A. O'Rear, and John Arendale, students taking technical journalism here, and Bill Murray, Battalion editor—made a journalism field trip to Houston last Monday. They visited and inspected the Houston Post, Houston Chronicle, and Gulf Publishing Company plants.

THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS have already completed all requirements for the master of science degree, since the June Commencement: D. H. Bhawani, majoring in agronomy; T. L. Edmonson, also majoring in agronomy; and A. J. T. Toombs, majoring in chemical engineering.

ENCINAL, IN THE LAREDO and South Texas area, was the hottest spot in the state Sunday with a temperature of 114 degrees. Uvalde and Hondo reported 112. Six other towns recorded 110, with a score or more cities reporting 11 or above.

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