

The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF
TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE

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Editor's Note: We regret our inability at the present time to carry our complete staff in the masthead, but following staff organization Tuesday night we will be able to do so.

The Battalion Staff Will Organize Tuesday

The editors of The Battalion, tri-weekly student newspaper and monthly magazine of A. & M., take this means of inviting all Aggies who are interested in journalistic work to become members of the staff this year. We shall be delighted to have as fellow-members anyone who wants to join. There are no "strings" attached, no "red tape"—all you've got to do to join is to let us know your intentions.

Every old and prospective member of the staff is asked to be at The Battalion Office, Room 122 in the Administration Building, Tuesday night after yell practice. At that time our final organization plans are to be made. But talk to any one of the editors before that time if you are interested; he'll be glad to talk things over with you and tell you all he can about the work.

We regret that our masthead does not as yet carry our entire staff, but after Tuesday night organization will be complete enough for us to do so.

For most people journalistic work is highly interesting. It's frequently varied, never monotonous. The newspaperman is able to improve his writing as well as his speech—to learn many styles and types of writing—to be better informed about the news of the world and of his immediate locality. Here a reporter has the opportunity to know many more of the college authorities and faculty members as well as his fellow students—and friendships and acquaintances are valuable. And he knows better than the average student what's going on around the school. The reporter has many chances on The Battalion staff to specialize, to develop his own initiative, to make suggestions and often to carry them out. He has an excellent opportunity to work up into a paying position after a year or two; and his work on a college publication usually proves a practical experience of value after graduation. It's undoubtedly one of the best of extracurricular activities, we believe.

So for the above reasons, and more, we think you'll be doing yourself a favor if you join The Battalion staff.

A course in practical journalism—English 329, offering two hours' credit—is again being presented this semester for students of junior or senior rank who are interested in journalistic work. If you're interested in working on either the newspaper or the magazine staff, we suggest that you immediately see E. L. Angell, manager of student publications, who is in charge of the course. And if you desire to continue it next semester, a companion two-hour course is offered next semester.

Again we repeat that we'll be delighted to have who wishes to join as a member of the newspaper or magazine staff. We'll be glad to tell you all we can about it; and don't forget to attend the meeting Tuesday night if you're interested.

Wherein We Talk Things Over

With the starting of a new regular session, a declaration of my hopes and policies for the year as editor of The Battalion would seem to be in order.

This year marks for me the last of the four happiest years of my life, here at A. & M. living with the finest aggregation of boys I've ever known. I have been tendered a great honor in your electing me your editor, and I intend to do my utmost to live up to it. It is my hope that The Battalion may have a thoroughly constructive editorial policy. I shall endeavor to do my part to offer you, the readers, the sort of material in your newspaper that you will enjoy. I'll welcome any considered opinion, comment, criticism, suggestion, or contribution that any of you may have to make. Where it's possible, I shall attempt to answer your requests so long as doing so will produce a better paper. With these aims in mind I hope to be the editor of a publication that will as completely as possible be satisfactory to all concerned. I am being assisted by a very capable staff; and the above expresses the hope of all my co-workers in regard to the newspaper.

Any contribution in the form of a news story, feature, or other article that you, the reader, may have to submit for the paper will be more than welcome; and whenever such a contribution is usable, it will be used. In the future space in the editorial columns will be open to letters from readers intended for publication. Whenever a letter is truthful and of value, and is not libelous or contrary to good taste, it will be printed. The one thing I ask is that all letters for publication be signed.

The staff this term is attempting to arrange more complete news coverage than ever before. We will appreciate your suggesting or reporting to us stories you know of that can be used in The Battalion. We ask that you get all notices in for publi-

cation before the deadline; otherwise they cannot be printed in that issue.

I hope that each of you will come to feel that you are a part in the making of this paper and its editorial policy. We'll be delighted to have any of you as active members of the staff. We feel that working on the college newspaper is one of the most valuable and practical of all extracurricular activities, and we think you'd enjoy it. There's no trick at all to joining the staff; simply let us know that you want to be, and it's very easy to arrange. Why don't you give it a try?

Once again I wish to express my deep appreciation that you have given me the privilege of serving you as editor of The Battalion. I shall do my best to deserve it.

—Bill Murray

A Word of Welcome

The Battalion welcomes some thousands of old students who have just returned to the A. & M. campus for the new session just getting under way. And to some two thousand new students we extend an equally hearty welcome. We're glad you're here; we're glad to see the old men back; and we hope that we're getting off to the best session A. & M. has yet had, in many ways.

To the "fish" just entering into the biggest year of their life to date, we wish to extend a word of encouragement and cheer. You are beginning a new and unfamiliar routine, and you may find some difficulties along the way. But don't get discouraged and downhearted; you'll soon absorb some of that "good old Aggie spirit" and catch on to the hang of things here; and it will be but a very short time until you're agreeing with the upperclassmen that we have the greatest school on earth. At least, so we think.

A number of things will seem new and unfamiliar, too, to the old students returning. In their absence this summer, many changes took place. The twelve new dormitories and the new mess hall, begun last year, have been completed. Organization changes have been made; a new registration system inaugurated; rules passed providing for week-early commencement exercises and final review, for special exams for seniors, for deducting grade points for excess absences; and a number of other changes in the old set-up undertaken.

Some complaints are to be expected about any change in the usual set-up. It's hard to get used to new ways; and it's next to impossible to please everyone at the same time. As a whole, The Battalion feels that the changes that have been made are commendable, considering the difficulties confronting and puzzling those who had to make the changes. Notwithstanding the changes that have been made that are desirable, there are some few with which we disagree; The Battalion will have more to say about them later.

But for the present, we are content to extend a warm welcome to the students, both old and new, who have converged on Aggie land during the past few days. Let's get the best start we can, on what The Battalion and all of us hope will be a tremendously successful season.

"School Spirit"

The spirit of Aggie land has made Texas A. & M. justly renowned. We have a large and loyal student body, upstanding officials, a fine football team, energetic yell-leaders and good loud school yells, a reputation for sportsmanship, and many other things that go to build up what is known as "school spirit."

But these things are not all that go to make up true school spirit. Many other essentials are necessary. Some of these are more or less intangible qualities—something we feel but find hard to express. These include supporting our teams in mind and spirit as well as with our yells. Give those men your moral support; tell them they played a good game, after they did; stick to them, through thick and thin; and let them know at all times that you, their fellow students, are behind them—win, lose, or draw. No matter what the score is or who wins the pennant, those boys will be fighting for our school always, with might and main.

Get those activities tickets, too. Without them you cannot attend the games; and unless you do, you won't be doing your part as you should. One of the tangible, easily measurable gauges of school spirit is the number of activities tickets sold. And remember, by purchasing that ticket, you are supporting not only the school's sports but also its publications. No institution can flourish without student support. The Battalion needs and asks for your support, as do all the other features of college life.

School spirit is manifest at many places and on many occasions besides the playing field: in support of student clubs, publications, the A. & M. Town Hall series, and all other student activities.

Here are several ways in which you can help to build up a real school spirit. Let's observe them; let's cooperate to make this the most successful season A. & M. has ever had.

"MENTAL NARROWNESS, INTOLERANCE, zeal to choke somebody else's belief or theory are out of place in an institution of learning. A university should be a sanctuary of intellectual freedom." A New York Times editorialist campaigns for free discussion of "all the news that's fit to print."

"Scientists and educators have a moral obligation to the American people and to the world. Today as never before their influence must be exerted in a positive program for democracy and intellectual freedom." Columbia University's Prof. Franz Boas urges faculty support of the new American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom.

"The universities of this country are now in a critical period. In Europe, to a considerable extent, the professors must play up entirely to popular sentiment. Slowly but surely this dominion of mass psychology, with its foibles and hysteria, is gaining a foothold in American universities." Harvard University's Prof. Carl C. Zimmerman strongly condemns faculty members who constantly "play to the galleries."

A collection of jewels from many parts of the world, worth more than \$5,000,000, is one of the major attractions for women at the New York World's Fair. Brief lectures on the stones are given in the House of Jewels.

"You Should Have Seen the One that Got Away!"



Recently put on exhibition at the A. & M. College Museum was this interesting exhibit. The skull, that of a mammoth, was found near here. The tusks are more than nine feet long.

This is just one of the many things of interest to be seen at our museum. It boasts of one of the finest collections of fossil plants and animals in the South. Much work has been done of late in mounting birds and animals in their native habitat.

Drop in and see the museum's exhibits some day. The workers there have been doing a fine job, and are giving us a showplace we can be proud of. You'll enjoy your visit, and you'll learn from it as well.



Movie Review

By Bob Nisbet



With three theaters soon to be open in Bryan and two at college, everyone should be able to find a show to suit his taste.

The Assembly Hall is presenting a very good program for the opening week of school. Out of this program "Lucky Night" seems to me to offer room for discussion. Myrna Loy and Robert Taylor are teamed together for the first time, and as everyone expected, they came through with a good show.

The story of "Lucky Night" deals with a rich girl out to show the world she is made of the better stuff. In order to accomplish her purpose, she leaves her comfortable home to try to find a job. Her noble efforts come to naught, and a park bench looms as night's lodging. On this same park bench she meets "the boy", also broke and also out of a job. Together they bum a quarter from a cop and play it in a slot machine. Jackpot! All through the night their amazing luck continues until they finally decide that they should get married while their luck holds out. Time tells on their marriage, however, and he finds out that her views on marriage aren't as reckless as his. She wants to settle down completely; he wants to go out once in a while and have a good time. Running home to papa does no good because he agrees with the young man. What do they do—what would you expect when papa has the money?

As I said before, this is a good show. It is good because it is light comedy with a script full of witticisms and such. For the acting, both stars have given better individual performances, but somehow together they rather make up for their dramatics. Music—there is-

Ludlum on Year's Leave To Work On Educational Project

Dr. R. P. Ludlum, instructor in the A. & M. History Department, is on leave for the academic year 1939-40, in order to do research in connection with a project financed by the General Education Board, a national board appointed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to study and make improvements in the educational standards of schools of the United States.

The project, sponsored by two professors at Cornell University, is called "How to Develop the Capacity for Critical Thinking About Social Issues Among High School Pupils." It calls for the construction of source problems in the social studies. Dr. Ludlum's work will consist of framing the problems.

BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

"Backwash: An agitation resulting from some action or occurrence." (Webster).

Drivel . . . "Sir, you are speaking of the bag I love." Thus spoke an Infantry senior yesterday . . .

Varsity footballer Henry Hauser would rather golf than football; and he's good too. He won five important Texas golf tournaments this past summer . . . While "highwaying" into Bryan last Tuesday an ancient model T passed me with the following optimistic quip

pointed on its side: "Hell, Heaven, or Hoboken by Xmas" . . . Seen painted on an incoming freshman's trunk—"Cyril Crabtree Lipshtz III." The fellow I was walking with couldn't make out whether it was a breakfast food or the trunk-owner's name . . . "Jo Jo" Jordan was heard advising that "No matter how hard you struggle against it,

sooner or later you'll hafta drink water."

An example of super-stage-presence was displayed by one Aggie a few nights back. A group of Aggie land's scholars were departing gaily from one of Bryan's abounding night clubs, singing merrily the sweet strains of "Beer, Beer For Old A. & M." Now one of these pleasure-bent lads had a noticeable bulge in one of his pockets. As he passed one of the waiters, who was casting the fishy eye of suspicion in his direction, a sugar bowl fell to the floor. He turned calmly to the now satisfied waiter and with some annoyance looked toward the staring bystanders.

"Ruffians," he said with condescension, "who threw that?"

The Aggies' new football coach, Harry Faulkner, was making a hasty trip to Lubbock last week and on the way picked up a young (Continued on page 8)

ALL SET AGGIES

We're right here, on the job to help you get into that uniform . . . we're still giving you R.O.T.C. patches and fish stripes and sewing them on FREE!

Check up and see what you need to be "all set" and regulation.

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Serge Slacks (18 oz.) Hi-Back	\$7.95
Archer Trench Coats, now	\$3.50 - \$4.25
Aggie Coveralls (Best Grade) Sanforized, Zipper opening	\$3.25
Regulation Broadcloth Shirts (Form Fit) with R. O. T. C. Patch and Fish Stripe Sewn On	\$1.75
West Point Bombay Shirts, now	\$2.00
Fine Quality Regulation Caps, now	\$2.75
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PIPES - that are new
TOBACCO - that is fresh
CANDY - that is tasty
SANDWICHES - that are delicious and appetizing

Our fixtures are new, our stock is new and fresh. Our one thought is to serve the Aggies the way they like to be served. Make us a visit and see for yourself.

George's Confectionery

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Next to Grammar School

In the New "Y"