

The Battalion

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

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Silver Taps

"Silver Taps", played by a group of trumpets in harmony in honor of an Aggie who has just died, is one of the most beautiful and impressive of all A. & M. traditions. It is indeed a fitting tribute to a comrade.

In the past Silver Taps has always been played from the dome of the Academic Building, with the student body gathered below. But with the enlargement of the dormitory area this year, a problem arose. The first time Silver Taps was played this year, it was played from the Academic Building only; and students in the new halls did not get to hear it, but according to custom were supposed to turn out their lights and maintain silence at the time it was played. However, a good many lights and radios remained on. The second and latest time, Silver Taps was played from the top of the dining hall in the new area, but not from the dome of the Academic Building; and this time students from the older area who gathered at the Academic Building expecting to hear it there, awaited it in vain.

The reason given for its not being played at both places was that the players had not time enough to form two groups. The reason probably is valid; but another failure to observe Silver Taps properly might lead to this tradition's falling into disregard. We must not allow such a thing to happen.

We think that broadcasting Silver Taps over the campus from the dome of the Academic Building by means of the amplifying system there would be a solution to this problem. There is no reason why every part of the campus and College Station should not hear this beautiful honor to the dead.

And if all the organizations on the campus should fall out in formation outside their halls, with all lights and radios on the campus turned off, the ragged observance which has lately prevailed would be eliminated and the full impressiveness of this tradition restored.

Better Armistice Observance

Saturday is Armistice Day. We should have a fitting and dignified observance of it by the entire school. As usual, there will be the rolling of drums in memory of each of the 55 Aggies who gave their lives for their country in the World War. Why not add to this a program of stirring music by the Band, and climax it with Silver Taps? The entire ceremony might be amplified over the campus from the Academic Building; and furthermore it might be relayed from here over the radio stations of the nearest large cities, for people of the entire state to hear. We think it would be an impressive program for others to hear—and there are thousands of Texas people who have never heard A. & M.'s Silver Taps and who we think would find it beautiful and inspiring.

Man, Your Manners—

Question—When does a man lift his hat?
Answer—A man lifts his hat when greeting ladies or an elderly man. He removes his hat and holds it when in conversation with a lady. Also, when ladies are present he removes his hat in elevators of hotels, apartment houses, and clubs, but not in office buildings and stores.

Question—When does a man take a lady's arm?
Answer—A man does not take a lady's arm except when his assistance is really needed, as on slippery streets, in crowded traffic, at night, or if she is elderly or has been ill.

Question—Does a man speak first when he meets a lady acquaintance?
Answer—A man waits for a lady to speak first if she is an acquaintance but if they are friends it is silly to stand on formality.

Question—On which side does a man walk when accompanying a lady on the street?
Answer—He walks nearest the curb. If there are two ladies he still should be on the outside.

Many are not esteemed at their true worth—which is fortunate for some of us.

Madman of Europe

Adolph Hitler, the man whose shadow darkens all Europe today, inherited from his mother and father those traits that make him what he is: a ruthless plunderer, a self-appointed "Messiah" to lead Germany back to greatness.

From his mother, Klara Poelzl, who ran away from home at fifteen and came back a broken and defeated woman ten years later, Hitler inherited his "mission" in life and the will to achieve it. Klara coddled her son, fawned on him, coached him in greatness, sought to hide his physical weakness (he was a puny child) with an outgrowth of demi-God arrogance.

Alois Hitler, 23 years his wife's senior, despised his son for his weakness. He was tall and powerful and a drinking man, and he never missed a chance to beat and torment Adolph. From his father Hitler learned what fear and hatred and what force can do.

"He was terrified of his father, hated him for the beatings he received himself and for those his mother suffered," writes Allen. "Yet he saw that the ability to give those beatings, pure force, makes a man boss, even in his own home. And he has never forgotten that in boss rule it is force that counts."

Hitler was a poor student; he couldn't concentrate on his studies. He failed in everything but drawing and gymnasium. Klara made excuses that the schools were at fault. She transferred him from one to another, with no improvement. But in Adolf's aptitude for drawing, she envisioned him a great artist. All artists, she said, were "moon-struck." Adolf was different from other boys, in her estimation.

Only once did Klara waver in her belief that Hitler was destined for greatness. That was when he was expelled from school for smoking. Terrified that he might follow in his father's footsteps—"a man who drank too much, ate too much, smoked too much"—she worked on him with such hawk-like attention that soon he was able to resist every temptation. As a result, Hitler grew up without any close friends, without a girl of his own (his mother was the substitute), without a full life. He grew up a loafer. He loved the soft life.

Hitler was fourteen when his father died. Five years later his mother followed. Although she was suffering from cancer, it was the shock of Adolf's failure to pass the entrance examinations at the Art Academy in Vienna, that killed her. She left a proud, penniless youth who didn't know how and didn't want to work.

Every since then Hitler has been trying to justify his mother's faith in him. To what fanatical lengths he has gone!

Europe is the victim of the sound and the sneer.

What keeps peace so slim is the war diet.

Most of us would be in better shape financially if it weren't for the extravagance of our neighbors.

Instead of hoarding foodstuffs, we would do much better to conserve our emotions and store up some intelligence.

As the World Turns...

By "COUNT" V. K. SUGAREFF
Our friendly relations with Japan are cooling off as the Sino-Japanese war continues. The Japanese have informed us several times that they intend to "create a new order in East Asia." This "new order" means the creation of another Manchukuo of all the recently occupied Chinese territory, under a Japanese protectorate. Plans are under way to establish a "Central Government of China" headed by Wang Ching-Wei, former Chinese premier and, of course, with the benediction of the Japanese Emperor. Such a government in China spells the end of the "Open Door Policy" in China, or if the door still remains open, there will be a Japanese guard at the door. Many foreigners, including Americans, will feel the discrimination against them under the Japanese domination of China.

In fact, our government has already felt such discrimination. So much so that last August President Roosevelt notified the Japanese government that our basic commercial treaty with Japan is to end within six months, January 26, 1940. Our ambassador, Joseph C. Grew, speaking before the America-Japan Society in Tokio last October 19, stated that Americans do not like the conduct of Japanese military authority in the occupied territory of China. Mr. Grew is a career man in our foreign service, and career men seldom speak without previous authorization. They usually reflect the attitude of their governments in public addresses and statements unless they prefix their remarks with some such phrase as "my personal opinion." Again, Mr. Grew called at the foreign office in Tokio last Saturday and frankly informed the Japanese government that the United States would use economic pressure if the Japanese continued their present tactics in China. He emphasized the fact that if Japanese-American relations did not improve by January 26, many Americans would demand an embargo on sales of all American goods to Japan.

An English newspaper, The Daily News, has released the information that the Allies plan to create a rightful German government in England composed of German refugees. The report states that the allies will recognize the government and urge other countries to do likewise. The English government will advance 2,000,000 pounds to this "rightful German government" so as to enable it "to maintain diplomatic representation in the countries which recognize it and to work actively with the Allies." Through this government the Allies hope to convince the German people of their sincere desire for peace and through it to offer them "honorable" terms of peace. It is just more proof that this is a war of propaganda.

Collegiate Kaleidoscope



ADOLF MEIER IS THE ONLY MALE TO BE GRADUATED FROM BRYAN MAWR COLLEGE IN ITS 54-YEAR HISTORY!



THE VALUE OF A COLLEGE EDUCATION IS \$66,000 ACCORDING TO DEPT. OF INTERIOR STATISTICIANS.

USING A WOODEN SUPPORT FOR THE STUMP OF HIS ARM, MARSH

FARMER TEXAS TECH HURDLER, SET A NEW JUNIOR RECORD BY STEPPING OVER THE 110 YARD HIGH HURDLES IN 14.2 SECONDS IN THE N.A.A.U. MEET!



Movie Review

By Bob Nisbet

Apologies are due for the mixup in shows for last weekend. "The Old Maid," which plays this weekend, was written up for last week in the place of "Babes in Arms." Regret for the error is deeper than personal pride because this column should have the reputation of always being correct—so correct that boys desiring to find out what's showing will say, "Look in The Battalion." For that reason no more errors of that magnitude will appear again.

"THAT CERTAIN AGE" is a novel take-off on the antics and awkward situations of a group of teen-age boys and girls with Deanna Durbin and her unusually fine singing carrying the lead. Through studio publicity, Deanna has been spoken of as a child prodigy until the general impression is that she is almost a baby. Really she's 18, and that's no child's age.

Those appearing in the picture are as follows:
Alice Fullerton...Deanna Durbin
Vincent Bullitt...Melvyn Douglas
KenJackie Cooper
Mrs. FullertonIrene Rich
GraceNancy Carroll
According to Mr. Gay, "That Certain Age" will be run both Thursday and Friday nights contrary to the calendar.

Collegiate Review

In the last ten years, Washington University has awarded scholarships totaling more than \$1,000,000.

Barnard College has received a gift of \$100,000 to be used in establishing a health education program.

Vassar College is conducting a special campaign to raise a \$2,000,000 endowment and scholarship fund.

Princeton University will found a special geographical library in honor of Richard Halliburton.

Alabama Tech's Tiger eleven will play only one home game this season.

Temple University has offered its stadium as the site for the 1940 Olympics.

Campus jobs netted Williams College students \$68,000 last year.

GREATER PALACE

Thursday — Friday — Saturday

She cried on her wedding night!
MIRIAM
DAVIS HOPKINS
AND TONIGHT YOU'LL FIND OUT WHY!
THE OLD MAID
with **GEORGE BRENT**
DONALD CRISP • JANE BRYAN • LOUISE FAZENDA • JAMES STEPHENSON • JEROME COWAN • WIL LUNDIGAN • CECILIA LOFTUS
Directed by EDMUND GOULDING • Screen Play by Casey Robinson • Based on the Pulitzer Prize Play by Zoe Akins and the Novel by Edith Wharton • Music by Max Steiner • A First National Picture
PRESENTED BY WARNER BROS.

Preview 11 p. m. Saturday Night
Carole Lombard — Cary Grant — Kay Francis
in
"IN NAME ONLY"
Also Shown, Sun. — Mon. — Tues.

BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

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

Down Military Walk . . . Twenty-five F Company Infantry men attended last week's A. & M.-Arkansas game . . . Something should be done about the system now in force in respect to Silver Taps.

A general resentment has lately been expressed throughout the corps regarding the unsatisfactory observance of it. . . . An Engineer freshman was overheard saying, "I don't want to take up your time, Mr. Whipsby, but how are you?" . . . And one of the local cleaners and pressers is now offering a special service—very special: they carefully inspect all cuffs and shirt fronts on the few dress shirts which come their way and write down all telephone numbers and addresses written thereon—returning them with the cleaned shirt . . . Whatever influence has caused the terrific slump in grades throughout college is a major mystery. At any rate, 1,009 students or 16 per cent of the total enrollment are listed on the several "Dean's teams."

Tommy Vaughn and Euel Weston started it:

They were the first two who bought loud caps and colorful lumberjack shirts on the team's recent jaunt to Arkansas. The fad quickly took hold and soon the entire roster were wearing the caps and shirts. Later, everyone chipped in a nickel and bought a shirt and cap for Coach Norton who immediately proceeded to wear them at the game and on the trip back to Aggieland. All went well until Mrs. Norton appeared on the scene. The sight was too much; she nearly fainted at her first glimpse of the colorful array.

And here's an item to end all items from one of our English classes:

An Aggie was writing a story-theme, and writing either stories or themes was definitely not his strong point. It was a wild romantic outburst about a young

Southern belle, full of all the blood and drama that hot blood engenders. The climax was in the sentence, "She threw open the door and, uttering a piercing scream, fell prostrate upon the floor."

The professor was unmoved. He returned the paper with one unruffled comment: "We must learn to distinguish between a fallen woman and one who has momentarily lost her balance."

About the failure of the Kraft Cheese Company to play "The Aggie War Hymn" on their weekly nationwide broadcast last Thursday night:

The Kraft Company is definitely not at fault. The story goes something like this: An Engineer senior wrote a letter to Bing Crosby telling him about A. & M. and asking him to mention our school on his program—as he had been doing for other large colleges. Bing replied that he would do so if his sponsors would okeh the deal. Thus far the sponsors have not done so and the fact that "The Aggie War Hymn" would be played has no foundation other than rumor. The story in last Saturday's Battalion pointed out that the story was only rumor and the several Aggies who have written Kraft's president sarcastic letters are only hurting the college and permanently removing our chances of publicity on the Kraft program.

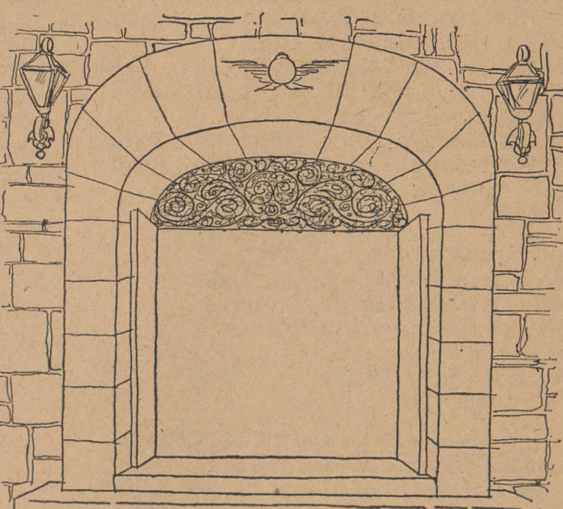
At the recent annual meeting of the American Humane Association in Albany, N. Y., a speaker suggested a means of stopping dog theft. He proposed a plan for nationwide identification by "nose printing" dogs.

FOR
**Eye Examination
And Glasses
Consult**
J. W. PAYNE
DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY
Masonic Bldg. Bryan, Tex.
Next to Palace Theater

SIX DOWN, THREE TO GO

Y.M.C.A. BARBER SHOP

In The "Y"



OPPORTUNITY

The Secret Of Saving And Wisely Investing
Your Money Is The
SECRET OF SUCCESS

The Open Doors Of Opportunity To Safe Investment
Is Through Adequate Life Insurance

SEABOARD LIFE INSURANCE CO.

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H. E. Burgess Sid L. Loveless
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