# The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF

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#### Spirit of Aggieland?

In today's "Open Forum" column appears a letter from Colonel George E. Hurt, director of the University of Texas band. It is not the purpose of The Battalion's editorials to continually sermonize in respect to occasional faults shown by members of the cadet corps, but this case is so outstanding and so unrepresentative of the wishes of A. & M.'s 4,000 upperclassmen that The Battalion takes time out to question the reasons involved in the occurrence mentioned in Colonel Hurt's letter.

Certainly it is true that if such occurrences continue to happen, A. & M. College and the members of its cadet corps will receive a name so tarnished that the school will be in continual disrepute with native Texans as well as the nation's population in general.

The actions mentioned in Colonel Hurt's letter fall in a certain class which, for want of a better word, we will call "high-schoolish." It can hardly be denied that this sort of thing went out with the bustle and horse-and-buggy days.

Of course, there are two sides to every story and Colonel Hurt's letter only relates one sidethat of the University. However, investigation has shown that his letter was not only a fair and just one, but one which actually minimized the true state of affairs.

The damage has already been done. One thing, however, can still be undertaken which will take the edge off the unwarranted attacks on Texas University's band members-RETURN THE STOL-EN CAPS AND THE MEGAPHONE. You upperclassmen who know where these articles are located will be helping the college and yourselves if you will see to it that they are turned over to The Battalion which will, in turn, have them forwarded to the

The men from whom these caps were stolen will have to pay for them and, in many cases, this will work a hardship. So; come on out, Aggies. Let's partially make up for what has been done and return the property. You owe it to yourselves and your college to do this.

#### "Dear Mr. Gregory--"

We read with interest some time ago your first comment on the Aggie yelling corps, and grant that there is some truth in what you had to say.

However, after reading your continued comments upon the same subject, we've begun to wonder if you are encountering a dearth of information and material for your column. If so we'll be glad to furnish you with plenty.

It looks as if in your "Looking 'Em Over" you have gone to an extreme in "looking over" this item.

In branding as unsportsmanlike the action of the Aggie yelling section, you seem to have overlooked the fact that every other student body and band in the conference follows the same tactics. And while we are not trying to excuse ourselves by citing other examples of the same thing, it does seem that you've singled out A. & M. because we have a greater school spirit and a mightier-lunged student yelling section than other schools.

Mr. Gregory, we like to read your column even when we are put on the spot. But a repetition of the same note gets monotonous. Let's add another string

### OPEN FORUM

UNPLEASANT AFTERMATH

December 6, 1939

I have waited a few days before writing you concerning an unfortunate happening after the football game on Thanksgiving at College Station. Let me first say I was advised to write you by a young cadet officer who was very nice to me and whose name, I believe, was Neubert. Before I go into details, I should like to tell you that the Austin newspapers yesterday and this morning's Daily Texan make reference to some disturbance against the members of The University of Texas band last Thursday, but these references have been made without conferring with me, and so I am in no way responsible for them.

Just before the close of the game, I instructed some of the members of our band to leave the stands and go down to the train with some of our property. It was sometime before I noticed that as the boys reached a point in front of the corps, they

were being snatched from sight by cadets bent over so that they were no longer visible to the to the crowd outside, and in these struggles we lost several of our uniform caps. The head yell-leader was grappled with in the same way, and he came out of his huddle minus his megaphone. Two instruments belonging to boys of our band were taken from them, but I was able to retrieve these, and our only losses so far as I can find out now are about seven caps and the megaphone belonging to the head yell leader, together with some cow bells which were carried by our boys. The latter, I think, we might call "spoils of war" and let them go, although the were actually taken from the boys by force. The caps that were stolen are the property of the University and must now be paid for by the boys to whom they were issued, which in some cases will entail a great hardship.

I recognize, of course, the spirit in which disturbances of this kind take place, and I know only too well that they do not represent the true spirit of Aggieland. The members of the Aggie Band were so fine to us this year, and they themselves formed the finest Aggie Band we have ever heard, that it seems to me what happened to our boys was not at the wish or will of the upperclassmen of this fine school.

So that the record may be clear in regard to my personal experiences, after the game and especially in view of the fact that references have now appeared in print, let me give you an exact account of what happened in which I was involved. After we had, with the assistance of the police, been able to get our boys clear of the mobs that had hold of them, I was working back to the stands to carry on my job of supervising the movement of our band members from the stands when I saw a cadet seize a Longhorn Band member by the coat, pull it open, twist him around, and rough him. The Texas boy was then knocked about by two or three other boys, one of whom took his cap. I ran after the cadet who attacked the boy first and caught him and twisted him around and asked him what on earth he thought he was doing trying to rough one of our boys. He scarcely had time to reply when a student of the University (not a bandsman) hit him, using these words, "You can't do that to Colonel Hurt." I realized the student who had hit the cadet was under the erroneous impression that I had been attacked. I, therefore, stayed with the A. & M. cadet and apologized to him, and he and I later shook hands. Two cadet officers then came with me to the north end of the field, and one of them stayed with me until I was ready to leave. They were extremely kind, and no one regrets more than I do the occurrence just mentioned.

Just previous to this particular happening while I was trying to get my boys out of the various huddles to which they had been dragged, a cadet did say, "I will knock your damn block off if you

I can't help believing that there is something quite fine which can come out of the intense rivalry between A. & M. and Texas, and I know so many upperclassmen at A. & M. who were former students of mine and others whom I have only met since I have been here at the University who would regret so much the degrading of this rivalry between our two schools. Now that the battle is over, there can. of course, be in the minds of our boys only bitterness for the unprovoked attacks upon them by overwhelming numbers, and I am asking that you will be so kind as to use whatever influence you may have to recover our property for us and have it shipped here to me, charges collect. It may be within your sphere of influence also to let it be known among the freshmen and perhaps the sophomores that what happened to our boys after the game was not an expression of the true spirit of Aggieland.

Be assured that I shall be most grateful to you for anything that you can do, and if there is any way you can think of in which I can collaborate with you in obviating difficulties such as this ever arising again between our two student bodies, but without in any way lessening the keen rivalry between the two schools, believe me I shall be most happy to be called upon.

GEORGE E. HURT Director of Bands

## As the World Turns...

By DR. AL. B. NELSON

Communist newspaper headlines in their "New York Daily Worker" read "RED ARMY HURLS BACK INVADING FINNISH TROOPS" showing once again the close ties between American Communist and Soviet Russia.

> Even Germany and Italy are calling Russia names because of the invasion of Finland. This is indeed a case of the POT calling the KETTLE black and yet, on the basis of recent reports, the Germans and Italians are giving the most immediate and effective aid to the Finns. Germany is sending arms and ammunition to Finland and Italy is reported to have already delivered sixty planes to the

Finns by air.

The French Chamber of Deputies and Senate recently extended Premier Deladier's dictatorial powers for the duration of the war.

In the realm of national politics New York State's John Dewey has formally launched his campaign for the Republican Party presidential nomination. In most of weekly national polls he is still top man in the Republican race and in comparative polls on public favor he is frequently found running a close race with the President.

President Roosevelt, however, is beginning to talk economy again, in preparation for the coming presidential campaign. The last time he mentioned economy with any degree of frequency was just preceding the 1936 campaign. His main idea this time seems to be that by listing the national defense expenditures separately he can make the main bud-

Our high prices are not so high after all, in comparison with others. To give a few samples, coffee costs three dollars per pound in Hungary but if it can be smuggled into Germany the enterprising smuggler can get eight dollars per pound.

Those who like pictures can find plenty of both war and girls in the new issue of LIFE.

# Movie Perieer &

STAR MAKER," another of Bing prices during the 1920'. Crosby's pictures. As usual Bing does a fine job with his vocaliz- follows: ing, but another of these child prodigies lays him in the shade with a torried rendition of "Darktown Strutter's Ball." The effect is improved when she follows it with Tschaikowsky's "Waltz of the Flowers" sung in the best operatic writer who cannot hold a job, but who, with the aid of his wife, interests a producer in an act he has developed. After his first performance, his success is assured. He becomes a producer himself, putting on kid vaudeville acts all over the country. He has trouble with the law and the Child Labor Act, but his ever-present ingenuity irons this out in a hurry. Two popular songs he sings in this picture are "An Apple for the Teacher" and "Go Fly a Kite."

An announcement from the Y. M. C. A. reads: Y cards of December 2 will be good for "The Star Maker" Saturday at 12:45 p. m.

A seldom-mentioned chapter in the history of the American Navy is brought to light in Wallace Beery's newst picture, "THUNDER AFLOAT." A point in the picture noticed by many was the fact that the Navy was always fighting the same enemy submarine, and that when it was sung, the Navy celebrated as though the incident had won the war. History reveals that the American 110-foot subchasers destroyed more than just a few submarines in the war. However, be that as it may, the picture is a good one, and has plenty of fast

"THE ROARING TWENTIES" is a very recent release from Warner Bros. showing at the Palace Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. The picture is supposed to be a re-

my Dorsey, has stepped into a against them.

didn't care about giving the peo- You should hear it.

sicians agree, has been kicked er had some

Eddie Bartlett......James Cagney jor Moore at A. & M." an upper-

close of the war, plans to return T.S.C.W., will make its radio de- ed. business prospers and he becomes ten hours on December first numspeakeasies and fights among the December first, 1938, and makes for the plot; but I wonder if the body . . . If you will turn to the presence of these factors isn't a "J's" in the student directory and And for looks, she was one of the great deal over-emphasized? After look on page 63, you will find the Chicago that never saw a gangster takes on a particular significance and never visited a speakeasy. When you notice that he is listed

#### WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL Saturday, 12:45 (Y cards for Dec. 2 good) — "THE STAR MAKER." with Bing Crosby, New Sparks, and

Laura Hope Crews. Saturday, 6:30 and 8:30-"THUNDER AFLOAT." with Wallace Beery and Virginia

AT THE PALACE Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday—"THE ROARING TWENTIES," with James Cagney, Priscilla Lane, Humphrey Bogart, and Gladys George.

AT THE QUEEN Sunday and Monday-"BAD LITTLE ANGEL," with Virginia Weidler.

Musical Meanderings \*

George Fuermann

In the grove . . . An Aggie fresh- earlier this week with a telegram Looking over the "What's Show- view of the lawlessness and carous- man with a more-than-usual for Arba Norton. A freshman in ing" column, we find first "THE ing that accompanied the high knowledge of campus affairs and the company pointed out that Arba personages recently declared, "I'm was in steam lab. Back came the The cast for the picture is as going to see Major Moore this messenger boy with, "Steam lab, afternoon." "But there is no Ma- Texas?" Jean Sherman ....Priscilla Lane classman pointed out. "I meant In the poetry corner: George Hally....Humphrey Bogart General Moore," the first-year man The latest is Doyle Dodd's con-Panama Smith.......Gladys George replied . . . Fred Waring's recent- tribution to T.S.C.W. date memor-Lloyd Hart ......Jeffry Lynn ly written song, "Texas Forever," ies. Doyle adds that the occur-Eddie Bartlett, in France at the which was written especially for rence in the poem actually happenstyle. Bing plays the part of song to his old job as a machanic. When but on Waring's broadcast of Wed- Will you listen while I relate he finds that it is no longer avail- nesday, December 20. . . . The The story of a C.I.A. date? able, he turns to bootlegging. His list of Aggies passing less than It was on our last corps trip to old a big shot. Night life in the bers 1198, two per cent more than That I met this girl, you see, racketeers provide the background up 20.1 per cent of the student She came on the train with all the rest.

> best. all, there's a great number of "just name of one Glendon P. Jones. After we met, and talked awhile, folks" living in New York and Nothing unusual in itself, the name I asked to be her date, in Aggie style. as a member of P. Company In- She was a fish, the sweetest of fantry. Maybe a new company types, was added when we weren't looking I was a sophomore, a wearin' two ... Most unusual name on the Destripes. cember first failing list: I Belaus- Two terms of summer school had classified me, teguigoitia . . . The negro janitor in dormitories one and three, John I thought I'd never pass that Chem-

Richardson, has set an enviable istry. record this football season in the matter of guessing football scores. All over Dallas, we did go, With but few exceptions he has The game, the dance, and the pic-

guessed within one or two points ture show. of all conference games this year. Then came the time for us to part, A. & M.'s games with T. C. U., And this I thought would break Arkansas U., and Baylor were my heart. guessed exactly, and his guess on

the Turkey Day game was A. & M. I last asked her, "Where do you 21, Texas 0. dwell?" And here's the part I hate to tell. Where is the place?

To think of it I have to frown, One of the local messenger boys By gosh, we're from the same home town!

#### WOMEN Tess Charlton Special to The Battalion from The Lass-O of T. S. C. W.

Event of the week seems to be T.S.C.W.-its to be at the New About bands: Glen Miller and resent being snubbed at his dances. tell us the decorations are going ford. the Andrews sisters have been Artie plans to retire soon, as he to be quite ultra, and it must be We hear tell 'twas an embarrassigned to replace Paul Whiteman's has accumulated scads of the long true because they've been making sing moment for Jimmie Schultz band on the Wednesday night CBS green. Maybe it's just as well, paper flowers for it for the past last Thursday when Daphne Salois, Chesterfield smoke show. New for the public who made him can few weeks. And it will be the first inspecting the dorms with Dan program begins December 17 (and will) "dethrone" him if he dorne in the TSCW sweeks. Chesterfield smoke show. New 101 the public will be weeks. And to Closer to home: Remember the balcony. The sophs are expecting to speak. (That's Spanish!) tough job, that of replacing Edythe Closer to home: Remember the balcony. The sophs are expecting to speak. (That's Spanish!)

Wright as vocalist with Dorsey. old-timer, "Moonlight Bay"? The great hordes of fellows from AgEdythe from 1935 until a few Aggieland Orchestra has received gieland including Sophomore class writes that we say too much in weeks ago was the only girl sing- a Glenn Miller arrangement of the president Edna Clarke's brother, our column about fellows. "Why er Tommy featured, making Anita's number, and featured it at the Fred, who has a date with Madge not tell us more about the girls. I

invaded A Signal Corps' sanctuary

of the orchestra business. But he I still like Chu Berry's sax takedidn't stop there. He said (with- off on "Ain't She Sweet," recorded dance are Sam Crews to see Doris

Hall freshman tells us that she out pulling his punches) that he by Jimmie Lunceford for Victor. George; Bill Evans to see Shorty and her date had to stop on the McGlasson; Don Peterson to see ple what they wanted—that he was On the Cuff: Someone extracted Ann Marrs; Bob Alexander to see to wait until the fog lifted so he interested only in making music— five dollars from Ray Noble, the Sara Jane Carter; Ed Bush to see could see to drive her home. That's that he detested the sight of auto- old Englisher, for a fake "cat- Dorothy Blazek; Dee Poteet to see what we call subtle. graph hunters. Shaw, most mu-license" . . . The pseudo-cat-catch- Marie Robertson; and Charles Hol- Box 1971, who signs himself "An

over which he had no control. He make the boys upstairs stop tap- with Geraldine Walker.

is to be admired for being honest ping their feet . . . Governor Stark The Senior Christmas formal, a Eloise Hunt, whose heart beenough to act as he feels-being of Missouri made a special broad- week from today, will be held in longs to the Field Artillery this frank and candid at all times— cast from Westminster College over the Stoddard recreation room, year instead of the Cavalry, will but he is certainly losing his vast CBS with Postmaster-General Far- Something new for senior dances join the throngs at the College following of cash customers who ley and John D. M. Hamilton . . . here.

the Sophomore dance. . . the Orleans' Sugar Bowl: Alice Keck, "Sofiesta," they're calling it. Sophs Martha Perrin, and Mary Lang-

job more than tough . . . Artie Thanksgiving Dance in Sbisa Hall Putnam. Edna's escort will be think they're pretty important,"
Shaw has declared himself "sick" last Thursday night. highway two hours Thursday night

ething there . . . \$5 for linshead to see Winelle Nesbitt. .. Aggie," writes, "Your column has around unjustly of late. He has a cat; \$10 for an ickey; \$15 for a See on the campus Sunday: a concealed humor. By humor I been criticized for dozens of things jitterbug . . . That's the way to Korky Stephens and Bill Conatser mean that I don't get it." That's nothing, we don't either.

Club tonight with Jimmie Giles.

