

# The Battalion

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

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## Town Hall and the Houston Symphony Orchestra

That Aggies are not lacking in culture, and that they do appreciate the finer things in life was emphatically demonstrated Tuesday night by a capacity crowd in Guion Hall that applauded the Houston Symphony Orchestra to countless bows and five encores, and even then was anxious to hear more.

And the audience really had reason to applaud, for to anyone with an appreciation of music, the orchestra was magnificent. Its program consisted of a number of the best-known and best-loved classical and semi-classical selections. Words cannot amply describe the beauty, the thrilling impressiveness of the orchestra's rendition.

The orchestra members expressed great satisfaction and pleasure at all the arrangements made for their program and their stay here, and at the enthusiasm with which the Aggie audience received them on their second visit to this campus. They also stated that they were highly pleased that the Aggies were so well-behaved and "didn't throw paper wads, and do other such tricks" as did the audience that heard the orchestra a few nights ago at the University of Texas.

After their success thus far, The Battalion feels that Town Hall and its management are due the highest of compliments. This year student manager Walter "Sully" Sullivan and his assistants have succeeded in bringing to this campus the greatest aggregation of talent ever to visit A. & M. The Houston Symphony Orchestra, enthusiastic as was its reception, is just one of a list of great names in the entertainment world appearing at A. & M. during 1939-40. Those that have thus far appeared include, beside the orchestra, nationally famous politician, and authority on public affairs, Phil LaFollette, and Serge Jaroff's original Don Cossacks Choir (the latter at a time when schools all over the country were hearing other imitation Don Cossacks).

Yet to appear are Max Gene Nohl, famous adventurer, photographer, writer, lecturer, authority on sunken ships, and champion deep-sea diver; the incomparable Gladys Swarthout, world-famous star of opera, radio, stage, and screen; and a popular swing band not yet announced. And so enthusiastic has been this year's reception of Town Hall, that an additional program has been secured, for January 19. Through the efforts of President Walton, Frank Baldwin, newspaper publisher, recently returned from travel in Europe, has been added to Town Hall. He will relay first-hand information on what is happening in Europe today.

The unprecedented success of Town Hall this year, due to its support by the student body, should make possible an even greater series next year.

## Christmas Seals Mean Lives

The ever-constant fight against tuberculosis is one of the nation-wide campaigns which should receive wholehearted support from every student at A. & M. On this campus as on others, the unrelenting fight is brought to the foreground in the sale of Christmas seals.

This year's seals, designed in brilliant reds and blues by Rockwell Kent, author and artist, are really colorful. In addition to adding a cheerful note on each of the letters and packages you will send this month, the seals bear the message that one more person is learning about tuberculosis preventative measures, that by your contribution one more victim of the disease is being helped to combat his sickness.

Health education and active warfare among those stricken by tuberculosis form the two sweeping purposes of the program. Visiting nurses, special clinics, and maintenance of children in preventoriums are a few of the smaller, but no less important, services of the campaign which is being conducted by the Philadelphia Health Council and Tuberculosis Committee.

The drive is obviously commendable. The fight is carried on during eleven months of the year unobtrusively without seeking your praise or support. In buying Christmas seals, you as A. & M. students will put into action the unanimous approval of the college on the tuberculosis fight.

Probably the most disappointed man is the Congressman who goes home to mend his fence and is given the gate.

Phi Beta Kappa has started a drive to raise a scholarship fund of \$300,000 for "the defense of freedom of speech and the humanities."

## OPEN FORUM

Sweetwater, Texas  
December 6, 1939

President T. O. Walton,  
Agricultural & Mechanical College,  
Dear Dr. Walton:

During my visit with my son at the college this past week, I had the pleasure of attending the A. & M.-Texas football game and it is indeed a pleasure for me to write you this letter and to tell you how noticeable it was the few people that were drinking at the college and during the game.

It is my good fortune to be over the State and have an opportunity of seeing a lot of football games and I saw less drinking at this one in a crowd of 40,000 people than I do at the average high school football game with an attendance of 5,000. I only saw one man that showed any indication of being intoxicated and not a single A. & M. boy did I see that even looked like he had had a drink, and I think this speaks well of A. & M. college.

During my visit there I spent quite a bit of time in the dormitories visiting with the boys and never have I seen anyone boosted by the student organization like their present president. It is always a pleasure to me to visit the A. & M. College.

Yours very truly,  
B. N. ROBERTS.

New York City,  
December 6, 1939.

To The Battalion:  
A year ago I was perusing the sayings of the philosophers that the University of Texas says must be conned before they hand out a degree in journalism.

I managed to outwrestle Aristotle and the bards and got a sheepskin.

The Poo-Bahs of the Fourth Estate were singularly unimpressed by a college graduate who did sports and amusements for the Daily Texan, wrote, produced and directed the annual varsity show, and was drama editor for an Austin daily for two years.

A pox on New York editors in their seclusion! I am submitting a bit of fact and whimsy as a weekly column to tell about the goings on along Broadway in plays, whiskey, music, drama, bands of the moment and the glamour gals that college readers might be interested in.

I conceived the idea on remembering how much I should have liked to have had such for the Texan.

You may have one each week for the goodly sum of nothing. No catch.

Let me know how it goes over.  
Sincerely,  
JOE WHITLEY

(Editor's note: Readers are invited to give their opinions of Whitley's column, entitled "Broadway Collegian.")

## Man, Your Manners

QUESTION: Is it proper to send informal Christmas greetings to persons that we ordinarily consider as formal acquaintances?

ANSWER: There is a tendency to make Christmas greetings less formal, and it is proper to send them to those we consider formal acquaintances.

(The following has been asked several times.)  
QUESTION: Which is proper, to put the husband's or the wife's name first when having them printed or engraved on Christmas greetings?

There is no set rule as to which should be first, but Emily Post says, "It might seem more polite to put Mary's name first, but John and Mary follows the conventional Mr. and Mrs. form."

QUESTION: Is it proper for a young man to give his girl jewelry?

ANSWER: If you are engaged, you may give her jewelry—as much as your pocketbook affords.

Knox College, the original "Old Siwash," has been selected as the location for a series of "Old Siwash" motion pictures.

## As the World Turns...

By DR. AL B. NELSON  
Aid for Finland is on the way from many nations of the world. Most of the aid is of non-military character, however, and will be absolutely valueless if the Finns are defeated in the end. Not only would it be without value to Finland but the stores sent for the oppressed would then be used by the oppressors.

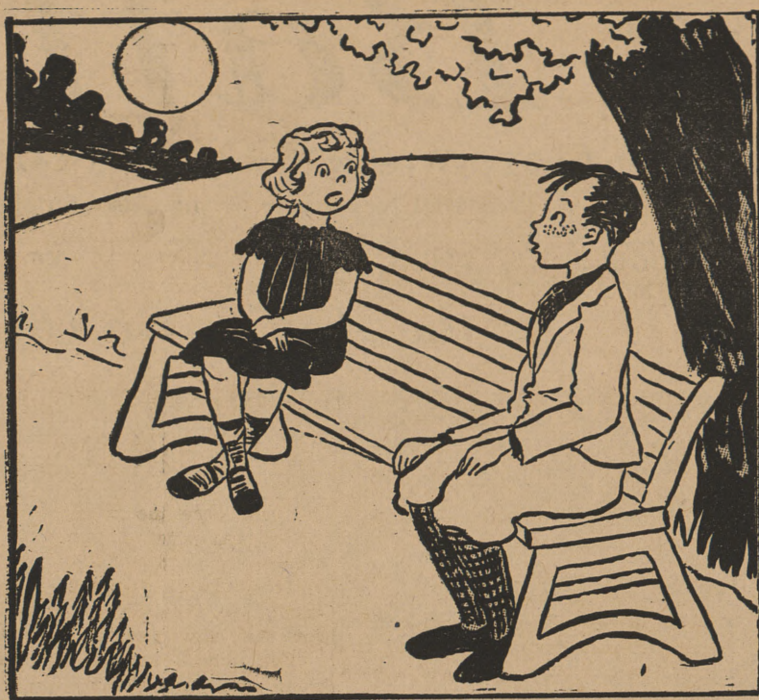
Military Aid Needed: Most people in the U. S. seemingly are satisfied to sit back and thank God that we are not as other people, we merely pity others who are not strong enough to care for themselves. We forget many times, that had it not been for military aid from overseas the thirteen colonies would not have won their independence at that time. Washington's victorious army at Yorktown was largely composed of French regular troops and a French fleet made the victory possible.

Newspapers over the U. S. are collecting money to aid Finnish civilians. The Dallas Morning News has already raised about two thousand dollars.

John Nance Garner is to run for the presidency whether Roosevelt seeks a third term or not, according to announcement of E. B. Germany over a national radio chain. Mr. Germany is one of the managers of the pre-convention campaign for Garner.

A naval battle at last in which two British cruisers armed with six-inch guns plus one armed with eight-inch guns battled the German pocket-battleship Von Spee. The German ship armed with eleven-inch guns firing a broadside of 4,700 pounds, was defeated and driven to shelter by the lighter British ships firing a broadside of only 3,100 pounds. In spite of the facts as established by neutrals, the Germans claim a great naval victory!

## Off the Record



"If only you looked like Robert Taylor!"

## Movie Review

by Bob Nisbet

By Ray Treadwell  
Guest Reviewer

After an absence of six months quite an amount of fury can be stored up to expand on the movie industry, so here I come again as guest reviewer.

Right at the present moment the motion picture industry is concentrating its forces for one of the most brilliantly conducted publicity campaigns in the history of film to bring out the \$4,000,000 picture, "Gone With the Wind." The campaign may not have the color to it that other campaigns have had but it will be designed to bring in cash-customers to the much-talked-of show.

No matter how good the show, which is to make its debut next Thursday in the major theaters—maybe—the movie industry aims at only one point: that is to keep the movie in line with the book by making it a record-breaker in attendance just as the book was a record-breaking best-seller. That is just a point to keep in mind when reading press publicity or newspaper ads about "Gone With the Wind."

At the time of the last press-release the film was still two hours and forty-five minutes in length and is a whole show in itself. Personally I want to see the show just to see how good a picture of the book appears in Hollywood style. I think a vast majority of the people who read the book have definite mental pictures of the characters, and in true movie style the film characters will probably resemble the mental characters only in name. So much for that.

"BACHELOR MOTHER," RKO Radio production, is showing at the Assembly Hall Saturday night. The picture is directed by Garrison Kanin and produced by B. G. Besylva from a story by Felix Jackson.

Cast:  
Polly Parrish.....Ginger Rogers  
David Merlin.....David Niven  
J. B. Merlin.....Charles Coburn  
Freddie Miller.....Frank Albertson  
Butler.....E. E. Clive

The picture has all of the attraction of a back-alley peep show

just as did "Yes, My Darling Daughter." To read publicity for the show one would think that it was slipped by the censor's office in the dead of night as was the case of the publicity of the aforementioned show. However, this is not the case this time because where "Yes, My Darling Daughter" fizzled after one walked inside the show, Ginger Rogers comes through with some outstanding entertainment.

If you go to this show with the expectation of seeing some real dirt you are going to be disappointed, but if you can rake the build-up out of your mind and watch the action it's worth the time and effort.

### WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL

Saturday, 12:30 — "THE HARDYS RIDE HIGH," with Mickey Rooney and Lewis Stone.

Saturday, 6:30 and 8:30 — "BACHELOR MOTHER" — Ginger Rogers and David Niven.

AT THE PALACE

Sunday, Monday and Tuesday — "ON DRESS PARADE," with the Dead End Kids and John Litel.

AT THE QUEEN

Sunday and Monday — "ON YOUR TOES," with Zorina.

The A. & M. Hillel Club was privileged recently in hearing Mrs. Rose Bernard of San Antonio present one of her well known programs of Jewish ceremonial, religious, and folk songs.

Her entertainment, following a regular meeting of the club, opened with presentation of the songs and chants of the Sabbath day. A group of familiar folk songs in English, Hebrew, Yiddish, and Aramaic followed. The program concluded with the music of the present holiday of Chanauca.

A Norwegian shipping line has named one of its vessels "Tulane" in honor of Tulane University.

## BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

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

Seven more shopping days til Christmas... Santa Claus came to Bryan yesterday—but via the "modern" method. The whiskered one parachuted to earth from an airplane... Cadet Colonel Woody Varner has received 17 letters from Texans in respect to his rebuttal of Lloyd Gregory's poorly aimed shots at A. & M. Sixteen of the letters heartily endorsed Woody's reply... Backwash here goes on record as advocating that women be allowed to remove their hats in theaters, auditoriums, and other public places. At last Tuesday night's Houston Symphony concert the writer sat behind a prof's wife whose hat made it a nip-and-tuck battle all the way in respect to who would see most of the concert—the hat or your columnist. The hat won!... Another Aggie who has done his share of making the current Town Hall series the great success it has been this year is the series' electrician, Carl Pipkin.



Fuermann

The All-American boner: In a recent showing of Paramount News' All-American selection for the current season, pictures of some thirty of the nation's footballers were flashed on the screen to show the audience how Paramount reached its final decision. Getting around to tackles, Marshall Robnett's picture was shown as the announcer all-knowingly pointed out that the lad on the screen was none other than "Texas A. & M.'s ace tackle, Joe Boyd."

And speaking of All-Americans, how about this one for the nation's first-ranking puzzle: The Associated Press football poll shows the Texas Aggies the top football team of the nation, yet the A. P. poll for the outstanding team for any sport during the year, which listed the New York Yankees as the leader, places Iowa, Southern California, Tennessee, and Cornell teams above the Aggies.

Add to Hitler stories: A teacher in the primary grades somewhere in England had requested her charges to write a little letter to Herr Hitler, expressing such sentiments as their ten-year old minds might contain. She received various replies, but the one that impressed her most came from a boy who lived on the other side of the tracks. "Dear Mr. Hitler, sir," he wrote. "Please do not kill our teacher, as we might get a worse one. Sincerely yours, Jim Hatchfield."

## AH WOMEN

By Tess Charlton

Special to The Battalion from The Lass-O of T. S. C. W.

Marion Guinn receives letters from England from a boy named Dennis. Recently he wrote: "I'm so sorry you were ill. The excitement of the football match must have been too much for you. What do A. & M. and T. C. U. stand for? I guess Ancient and Modern and Texas Cities United. I wonder how far wrong I am. And by the way, what are drunk Aggies?"

Janice Halsell, freshman, had heard that T.S.C.W.-ites and Aggies dated a lot, but in her ten weeks at school she hadn't met a single uniformed student. During the Thanksgiving holidays she had a blind date with one; therefore, she decided that the best place to meet an Aggie was in her home town.

At the Rio Grande Valley Club dinner: Charlie Hamner and Kathleen Twenhofel, George Tillson, and Irlene Cook, Arthur Le Page and Eloise Allen. Seen in front of Austin Hall with Hamner Saturday afternoon were Roland Hass, Richard Moore, James Ragsdale, and "Red" Cecil. And here's where the news angle comes in... there wasn't a girl in sight!

On the campus today will be Roy Martin, Shelby White, and Ted Weydell to discuss plans for the Southwest Texas Club's Christmas

dance with Eloise Hunt, Southwest Texas Club president here. Guests of honor at the dance will be the members of the T.S.C.W. club. Big event will be in Crystal City December 29.

On the campus last weekend: Walton Lehmborg and Victor Kothman to see Jewell Grosse and La Belle Schuessler; Woolie Streicher (ex-Aggie) to see Polly Norwood.

B. Christian, who spends almost as much time on this campus as he does at A. & M., breezed into Denton Monday night for a date with Jane Abbott, and is back again this week-end for the Adelpian Club dance.

And we hear that "Backwash" Fuermann will whip into Denton sometime today.

Answers to the open letter to Aggies from "A Modern College Girl," which appeared in the November Bat, are still filling the Lass-O editor's mail box. We haven't been able to find out who the Modern College Girl is, so we have taken the liberty of reading the letters you Aggies have written. As to your opinions, more of you agreed than disagreed with her letter, but many of you suggested that our Modern College Girl follow the Golden Rule if she expects to find a sincere Aggie.

## SUGAR BOWL BOUND

Make The Trip In One Day  
HITCH-HIKE DAY AND NIGHT WITH A  
Reflection Emblem

Get Your A. & M. Reflector from  
Keyes Carson 66 Milner



SEE OUR SHOW WINDOWS  
When Buying Your Christmas Gift  
Come In And Let Us Help You Decide

# THE EXCHANGE STORE

"An Aggie Institution"