

The Battalion

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

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Sportsmanship Pays

Following is an excerpt from a letter lately received by President Walton from William H. Wallace Jr., pastor of the First Methodist Church of New Orleans—the city where the Aggies played and beat Tulane University in the Sugar Bowl New Year's Day:

"Let me congratulate you on the splendid work you are doing at Texas A. & M. College. It is quite outstanding, and though perhaps most people know Texas A. & M. from the New Orleans standpoint according to their football team, still there are many of us who know of the academic standing of the school and the great work the president of this college is doing.

"Let me commend the young men of the football team and all of the visiting cadets to our city on their splendid and sportsmanlike conduct and attitude, both on and off the field. Never has one word of criticism been leveled at any of them, and they embedded themselves in the hearts of the people as no group has ever done before.

"The entire city would welcome a return visit on the part of your athletes with a great deal of pleasure."

Thanks, Rev. Wallace. A compliment like that is certainly appreciated, especially when criticism is so common.

AGGIES — COURTESY, GENTLEMANLINESS, AND SPORTSMANSHIP PAY DIVIDENDS!

The Eleventh Hour

Literature has consistently through the centuries proposed the excellence of eleventh-hour work, for what reason no man, even the critics, seems to know. Good deeds, clearing up a potable record of corruption and destruction, kind words, following a life-time of sarcasm and rashness, and forgiveness and redemption in the last minutes, are supposedly not only an acceptable plot but an excellent one.

We might say, an excellent one for literature, but not so much for scholars, or as they might be more accurately called students. Eleventh-hour preparation in such a situation might be more accurately dubbed no preparation at all, because as a rule when the twelfth hour arrives, then is the time for a general forgetting of all that has been learned.

Using the slang expression, "Cramming" isn't what it used to be under the pure-fact educational regime. Those were the days when a quick memorization of dates, a scanning of what who did at what battle, and a thumbnail summary of the course borrowed from a conscientious student and converted to memory was enough to carry on through the examination and anyway—who wanted to go further?

Now there seems to be a trend in education to make the facts a part of what the student is doing. It may be in the form of a term paper, in a list of questions which must be answered intelligently, or in general response given verbally or by typewriter. Unfortunately a thumbnail summary doesn't help much here.

And furthermore it is quite fair to a professor to have to judge a whole term's work on one test paper? Perhaps these professors haven't realized the real meaning of earnest endeavor in the eleventh hour, but somehow we can't quite keep from agreeing with them. After all, one does go to school four and a half months each year, and it does seem like a waste to forget that fact all except the last half.

"Dies" Twice

A man who has "died" twice says dying is not a terrifying experience, but pleasant.

He is Carlito Garcia, consul general for Cuba in Seattle, twice pronounced dead after severe attacks of pneumonia.

"Dying is like floating down a broad river, like floating through space, leaving the earth below, and flying into the clouds," Garcia said. "It is like slowly floating even above the clouds and seeing on the clear blue sky. In death there is no real sound—just a soothing whisper of a cool breeze.

"The last time I died I knew I was dead and accepted it. What made me come back I don't know. One moment I was floating, rising higher and higher toward that blue sky. And then

with only a moment of going earthward, I slowly opened my eyes.

"I could see and hear plainly—see them preparing for funeral services—and hear them mourning me. But I could not move—even my eyes through which I was seeing so plainly.

"With a great effort, I finally managed to twitch one finger. And then they knew I had come back."—Chicago Tribune.

BOOKS YOU'LL ENJOY

- Anderson—Winterset (a successful Broadway play.)
- Baker—Young Man With a Horn (a novel).
- Bernheim—Medicine At the Crossroads. Best Short Stories of 1939
- Brindze—Not to Be Broadcast: The Truth About Radio.
- Bryson—Which Way America? Communism, Fascism or Democracy.
- Caldwell—Tobacco Road c.2.
- Carroll—Conversation, Please.
- Cushing—From a Surgeon's Journal.
- De Kruif—Why Keep 'Em Alive?
- Dos Passos—Three Soldiers.
- Edmon—Four Ways of Philosophy.
- Engle—Corn: A Poem.
- Florinsky—Toward an Understanding of the U. S. S. R.
- Fulop-Miller—Triumph Over Pain.
- Hemingway—Farewell to Arms, 2 copies.
- Household—Rogue Male.
- Johnson—The Lost Battalion.
- Krause—Wind Without Rain (a novel).
- Lamb—Enchanted Vagabonds.
- Hedden—How Great Cities Are Fed.
- Lay—I Wanted Wings.
- Liddell-Hart—The Defense of Britain.
- Lin Yutang—Importance of Living.
- Malchow—The Sexual Life.
- Maugham—Christmas Holiday.
- De Mille—Hollywood Saga.
- Nordhoff—Men Against the Sea.
- Norway—Ordeal.
- Pierce—At War.
- Sanchez—Mexico: Revolution by Education.
- Sanderson—Animal Treasure.
- Sears—Who Are These Americans?
- Souvarine—Stalin: A Critical Survey of Bolshevism.
- Streit—Union Now.
- Whitehorn—Supercargo (a novel).
- Wren—Beau Geste, Beau Ideal, & Beau Sabreau (three novels in one).

Germans can now have six kinds of jam, not including the one the whole country is in.

Any, that coed who shot the football star was thoughtful enough to wait until near the end of the season.

By comparison, the late Calvin Coolidge's "I do not choose to run" now seems crystal-clear.

What with so many governmental regulations and restrictions, even the going concerns in this country wonder where they're going.

District Attorney Dewey has tossed his hat into the ring, and ill-tempered New York critics are saying it is the biggest hat in American politics.

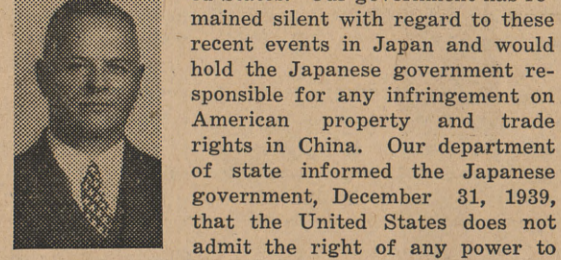
As the World Turns...

By "COUNT" V. K. SUGAREFF

The re-shuffling of the Japanese cabinet yesterday came several days after Tokyo had decided to establish a new central government in China under Wang Ching-Wei, a former premier to China. The new cabinet, headed by Mitsumasa Yonai, is reported to be friendly to the United States. Our government has remained silent with regard to these recent events in Japan and would hold the Japanese government responsible for any infringement on American property and trade rights in China. Our department of state informed the Japanese government, December 31, 1939, that the United States does not admit the right of any power to set up a "new order" in areas not under its sovereignty and guide the destiny of said areas. Our trade relations with Japan expire on the 26th of this month. Our government will give sympathetic consideration to whatever constructive suggestions the said friendly cabinet may make to continue our trade relations with Japan. Meanwhile, our department of Navy, in spite of congressional opposition, has announced that it will fortify Guam. At Manila we have now six old type submarines and six 1400-ton latest type American submarines. There are also 14 long-range naval bombers as well as 20 high speed pursuit planes of the most recent design.

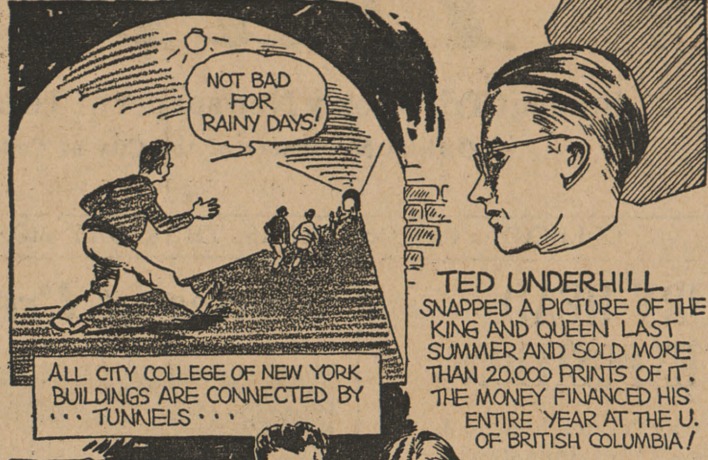
England's polite but firm refusal to respect the Pan-American Neutrality belt is based on long established rights and duties in maritime warfare. Some changes in these rights and duties are necessary in view of the modern long range guns and planes, but the extension of a neutral zone to hundreds of miles around the Americas constitutes a too revolutionary step in maritime warfare. The Hague Convention (1907) makes it obligatory that neutral states must police their territorial waters so as to prevent belligerents from getting aid or using such waters as bases of operation. The Pan-American republics merely announced their neutrality belt without making definite provisions for its patrol. Secretary Hull upon being informed of England's position, remarked that the various phases of the problem would require a thorough study. It is evident, for the present at least, that it is not practical to maintain the Pan-American neutrality belt without effective patrol.

Can the unemployed be employed? Read Frank J. Taylor's article in the January 15, 1940, issue of the New Republic. It is stimulating and refreshing as an antidote to Steinbeck's "Grapes of Wrath," particularly if the "grapes" left a bad taste in your mouth.



Sugareff

Collegiate Kaleidoscope



ALL CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK BUILDINGS ARE CONNECTED BY TUNNELS...



NOW ALL ARE STUDYING FOR DEGREES!

Movie Review

by Bob Nisbet

Musical comedies have been and always will be entertainment that everyone enjoys and will go to see. Bing Crosby puts out a fine type of musical comedy, and he has quite a large following. For that reason I think that the Polo Club was wise in picking "EAST SIDE OF HEAVEN" for their benefit show Thursday and Friday. Bing's pictures are always light and usually have a better than average story attached. In addition there are few crooners that can hold a light to Bing in his inimitable musical renditions.

Besides Crosby in the show are Joan Blondell, Mischa Auer, and Sandy, the baby who was starred in a show at the Assembly Hall last week. At the opening of the show, Bing is a singing messenger boy in love with a telephone operator. The two are too poor to get married. Then Bing is fired from his job because he meddles in the affairs of a family when he delivers a telegram. The family row is over Baby Sandy, and to help his mother, Bing agrees to keep it for a while until the storm blows over. With Mischa Auer again with Baby Sandy, you know what to expect. Bing arrives with the baby. It is right in the groove for two grade-points.

Duck for cover! "GERONIMO," and his gang of Apaches are on the warpath! Such a message would have been taken seriously back in 1873 when Geronimo lived and terrorized the western state of Arizona. In this year of 1940, that statement means nothing more than a show by that name is showing at the Palace beginning Sunday. The actors in this thousand feet or so of celluloid are as run in the following cast:

Captain Starrett...Preston Foster
Alice Hamilton...Ellen Drew
Sneezer...Andy Devine
Lieut. Steele...Ralph Morgan

The part of the Indian chieftain, Geronimo, is played by a full-

blooded Cherokee by the name of Chief Thunder Cloud.

Angered by his father's coldness to him, Lieutenant Steele sends for his mother and fiancée to come to his fort in Arizona and proceed with him to California where he can pursue a peaceful living. Thus he hands in his resignation to his father, who immediately "blows his top" when he learns of the great danger he has subjected the women to in reaching Arizona during Geronimo's uprising. Trouble General Steele predicted, and trouble came. Mrs. Steele and Alice are attacked and Mrs. Steele is killed. Then father and son, reunited in tragedy, set out to catch Geronimo.

Frankly, the picture Geronimo laid an egg as far as box-office receipts over the country are concerned. I don't mean to be a wet blanket, but its rating is one grade-point.

Cornell University student and faculty car drivers are required by the student council to buy liability insurance.

BACKWASH

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

Tish tosh . . . Senior class prexy Max McCullar writes to one of the New Orleans newspapers, "After the wonderful time we Aggies spent in your city, most of us have come to the conclusion that what Texas needs is a good Ramos' Gin Fizz — not biscuits!" . . . An interesting highlight of the football aftermath is the cash bonus



paid every member of the Athletic Department. From Coach Norton to the negro boy who keeps Kyle Field in condition, everyone received a well-deserved 10% bounty . . . Sam Davenport is relating the story about the freshman in his organization, Jack Swank, who asked a girl at last Saturday night's Freshman Ball for a late date. "I'll be more than glad to give you one," the young miss replied, "but you'll have to wait until 4 a. m. I already have three late dates!" . . . Remember the contest—one hundred words or less on "What I Like (Or Don't Like) About T.S.C.W.-ites." It closes on February 15 and all entries should be mailed to the writer, Box 2279, College Station.

Somehow or other many of the Aggies enjoy going to the movies in Houston much more than in near-by Bryan. It seems as though the comments of the audience have so much more punch and freshness to them. Witness, for example, the case of the cadet who came out of "The Housekeeper's Daughter" a week or so ago trailed by a couple of lads who were ten if a day. They stopped to gaze at a large photograph of Joan Bennett, draped in a vaporous negligee by the ticket window. "The housekeeper's daughter!" one of them appreciatively said to the other. "Geel! What house?"

The brightest of all the third-year University of Minnesota lawyers is a blind student.

There are more than 26,000 plants in the Clark University herbarium.

And here's one that ALL Aggies will be soon singing:
A. & M.'s mythical poet laureate, Gat Garrison, has rhymed three more verses—this time to the tune of the South's anthem, The Beer Barrel Polka. Gat has titled it with the accurate but time-worn nomenclature, "Texas' Sweetest Collection of Women," and if you don't think you're allergic to it, just try putting the words to music—The Beer Barrel Polka.

There's a college, what a college, Only pretty misses go there; And there's never any room there For a worry or a gloom there. Oh, there's beauties, and there's cuties

And a lot of gay sweet smoothies; But when they bring the Aggies, They'll all get in the swing.

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"AYE, AND THRIFTY TOO!"
OBSERVE NATIONAL THRIFT WEEK
BY PURCHASING WITH THE ASSURANCE OF GETTING SERVICE QUALITY DEPENDABILITY AT
THE EXCHANGE STORE
"AN AGGIE INSTITUTION"