

# The Battalion

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

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## Texas Cornerstone of Liberty

On March 2 Texans celebrated the 104th anniversary of the declaration, by founders of the commonwealth, of their independence from the yoke of Mexico. On March 2, 1836, at Old Washington-on-the-Brazos a little group of hardy pioneers, representing every economic and social strata of the population of Texas, gathered in the little frame building where Rev. Noah T. Byars, minister, gunsmith and blacksmith held forth. There the Declaration, drafted by five men, was signed by the 59 who made up this assembly.

There is an analogy between the issuing of the Declaration by the Colonies and the action of the Texas pioneers. In both instances the people had lived under an oppressive and tyrannical form of government. In both instances the first comers—to the shores of America and to the confines of Texas—had sought a new land where they might be free to think and speak and worship as conscience dictated, bearing in mind always the rights of others.

The same spirit animated both groups. They spoke for men and women who sought a greater opportunity for themselves and a future much brighter than any they had known for their children.

The five men who drafted the Texas declaration—though many students contend that Childress had written it in Tennessee and had brought it to Texas, practically as it finally was adopted, were not natives of Texas. They, like the other thousands who sought a greater opportunity, had come in from older and longer settled areas. In fact, but two of the men who signed the declaration were born in the present confines of the state.

Childress was deeply in sympathy with the settlers of Texas and their aims and as an editor of the Nashville Banner had done what he could to aid them by writing favorably of their aims and pointing out the governmental conditions under which they lived. It is reasonable to believe that he envisioned a new and free state and that he drafted a declaration of independence, modeled after that which Jefferson penned.

The men who drafted and adopted the Declaration had lived in an organized society, which had for its legal background the Federal Declaration of Independence and Constitution. Undoubtedly they had seen legal processes misused and the rights of men trampled under by those who were stronger in influence or physical strength. Undoubtedly they envisioned a more Utopian community, where individual rights would be observed and where there would be a general cooperation for the general welfare.

The Texas Declaration of Independence is so high in ideals and sounds such a clarion cry for freedom that it merits a place beside the earlier declaration, issued at Philadelphia. It holds the dream of a free people—the dream of men who had come to the realization that all men have certain inalienable rights and that there can be no justice without the element of mercy.

Upon this foundation stone was laid the Constitution, and on these two pillars the Commonwealth of Texas has been reared. In these two are guarantees of individual freedom of action that Texans should regard as their greatest heritage, and which they should guard as their chief treasure. The youth of the state should be made aware of the ideals and principles found in this document and early taught that as citizens of Texas they have no greater responsibility to their own and future generations than to preserve the spirit of this document and see that it continues to permeate the institutions of government in this Commonwealth.—Bryan Eagle.

## Investigate-It Pays!

Investigate—it pays. Too often we are tempted to criticize unfairly without first finding out all the details connected with certain incidents. Whether it is custom, habit, or even tradition, the Argies are well-versed in the art of griping. For example:

The Y. M. C. A. Lounge in Kiest Hall was not opened on a recent weekend for certain reasons. Instead of spending a few minutes to investigate and learn the real reasons, most students were content to gripe and criticize, and give their own reasons. We went over to the "Y" and talked with those in charge of the Lounge and found that the opening of the room was delayed because of inability to get the furniture by no means the fault of the "Y". They were as anxious to get the Lounge opened as the students are but till lately it has been impossible.

This is just one incident where a little investigating cleared up a cloudy situation. If we must criticize, we should first find out the true facts of a situation and then see if we have proper

grounds to criticize others. People who gripe endlessly soon get monotonous and find that they are not welcomed in the circle.

If you think that you have a right to criticize something or somebody, go and talk with that person and you will find that he will be more than glad to explain the circumstances. The next time you feel the urge to gripe, investigate and then see if you still want to gripe.

Investigating will produce rich results.  
—Don Corley.

## The Unglamorous Male

So much is being said of the glamorous maiden that the writer, being the mother of an only son, is prompted to say a word in favor of the unglamorous male. In the first place, to define glamour we find that it is delusion or enchantment; the first means imagination and the latter delusion; sounds pretty much like optical illusion to me.

Back in my day a girl was ugly, pretty or beautiful; no such thing as "it," "umph" and "glamour" were heard of. In fact, we wouldn't have liked the terms.

A young man uses none of the artifice of the glamorous maid when he makes up his face. He scrubs his face until it shines; he brushes his hair back as slick as a whistle leaving his manly features unconcealed by any device of the cosmetician. He won't even try to manipulate his eyes to enhance his charm—just gives you a straight forward look. To me there is no perfume that can compare with the odor of a freshly-shaven face.

Let us consider his clothes. He doesn't resort to camouflage by choice of pattern, fabric or design in his suits; if he is tall he takes a slim model; if he is fat he takes a stout model; and if he is average he takes a regular. He has no variety of choice like the fair young damsel. If she wishes to hide large hips, she widens her shoulder effect; if she is large, she chooses plain or small patterns so that she will appear smaller; if she is too small, she chooses bold patterns to make her seem larger; if she is too short, she puts on high-heeled shoes to appear taller, but if she is too tall—well, that is just too bad. She can wear almost anything for a hat and get away with it without question. And her shoes, if she were compelled to wear the kinds she does, she would have a fit.

Young men are just as sensitive to romance as young women, even more so, or they wouldn't fall so hard for this glamour business; frankly, I'm suspicious that it may have originated with this same unglamorous male.

—Mrs. R. M. Sherwood.

## Leaders Preferred

The BOSS drives his men;  
The LEADER coaches them.

The BOSS depends on authority;  
The LEADER on good will.

The BOSS inspires fear;  
The LEADER inspires enthusiasm.

The BOSS says, "I";  
The LEADER says, "We."

The BOSS assigns the tasks;  
The LEADER sets the pace.

The BOSS says, "Get here on time";  
The LEADER gets there ahead of time.

The BOSS fixes the blame for the breakdown;  
The LEADER fixes the breakdown.

The BOSS makes work a drudgery;  
The LEADER makes it a game.

The BOSS says, "Go";  
The LEADER says, "Let's go."

## As the World Turns...

By DR. R. W. STEEN

Improving weather conditions in Europe are bringing increased activity on the part of German and Allied airmen. As yet the flights are being devoted largely to gaining information, taking pictures and scattering pamphlets. Bombs will doubtless be dropped in time, and when bombing begins, the true value of an air force in modern warfare will be demonstrated. Germany made successful use of her air force in Poland, and Russia has used hers to advantage in Finland, but the world has yet to see war in the air when both sides have quantities of fighting and bombing planes.

England has just begun to prohibit the shipment of coal by sea from Germany to Italy. A ban was placed on most German exports some time ago, but ships loaded with coal for Italy were permitted to pass. England wished to exchange English coal for Italian military supplies. As yet the countries have been unable to come to an agreement. Mussolini is interested in English coal, but prefers to pay for it with food supplies.

The British are of the opinion that Mussolini will bluster for a while, and then agree to the exchange. From a theoretical point of view the coal ban is a good piece of strategy. It will not only tend to force Italy into the Allied camp, but will force Germany to place additional tasks upon her already overburdened railway system, as Germany will doubtless attempt to continue selling some coal to Italy.

A few people are developing quite a lot of excitement over the census. It is claimed that census-takers plan asking too many questions. Age, marital status, number of divorces, income, employment, and similar matters can be classed as personal matters, yet they have a social significance of national importance. It is difficult to see that any basic American right is being invaded by demanding that citizens answer these and similar questions. One woman, testifying before a Congressional committee, stated that millions of American women would go to jail rather than answer the questions. Her error is chiefly one of degree. A few publicity seekers will go to jail for refusing to answer the question, but the number will in all probability be something less than millions.

## BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

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

Backwash's Ugly Boy championship enters its second phase—the runoff... And it's Eddie Hall, Red Hartin, Roy Chappell, Maurice Shepherd, and Irvin Thompson in that order... Biggest surprise of all is that Jack Fugate didn't make the finals. The excitement of the Field Artillery Ball, the fact that dormitory number ten didn't vote at all (No. 10 is a Field Artillery hall), and the

proximately 2,000 plates of the original 500 sets have been sold and are now helping to extend Aggie lore throughout the world.

Well, who WAS Confucius? Five hundred years before the birth of Christ, a near-giant lived and taught a reverent group of pupils in China. His real name was Kung-fu-tze, but this was too much for the moderns so the name was Latinized to its present form. A philosopher, his teachings have dominated the life of the Chinese millions for nearly 2,500 years. From 511 B. C. to 1940 A. D., it's "Confucius says..."

But Aggies DO get married: Roughest letter of the year is this one received yesterday morning from a T.S.C.W.-ite.

"Dear Sirs: I have never yet met an Aggie who was unconscious of his eminence as such and who did not attempt in every way to make the fact known. Believe me, there is nothing so boring as spending an evening with a man who can speak of nothing but himself or how hard he works at Aggie land. There are, I have found, various degrees of the vile plague, 'Aggie-ites.' The disease usually begins when the man begins to request that you pass the NaCl. It goes on to the stages where he insists on telling you that the scientific sets on the screen are all fakes. He doesn't realize that nobody is interested because just then the hero is stabbing the villain with a revolver as he always is. The extreme mental decay caused by the disease is usually reached in the senior year. I do not know what causes it, but it is evidenced in the man who describes his girl in terms of ionization potentials and triple integrals. And there you have it: the reason why Aggies stay bachelors. "As my roommate was telling me the other night, 'Aggies and War are Hell.' Yours truly, "A T.S.C.W. Junior."

fact that Jack had a date on the campus for the Field Artillery Ball all contributed their share to Jack's seventh-place standing. His campaign managers included Henry Herder, Ross Novelli, Bill Moore, Jimmy Cokinos, and J. W. Jenkins... Hollywood's W. C. Fields received one vote and so did Germany's A. Hitler... Red Martin's campaign manager is Bill Bohning who is assisted by Victor Kothman, Phil Golman, and Denny Lovoi... As votes were being counted Sunday night and several in a row were called off for Roy Chappell, his campaign manager, Bill Beck sighed, "Sweetest music this side of heaven."

From Del Courtney: The "Candid Camera" maestro was very emphatic in declaring that, "The most beautiful girls in the nation are in Texas." Quizzed on what was the most off-requested number Saturday night, Del pointed out that the "Hawaiian War Chant" was by far and wide the most popular number. Incidentally, if you want to hear him again, he'll be playing at Houston Rice Hotel for four weeks beginning March 8.

Last chance: Those cadets who still want to purchase Aggie dinner plates may still do so by contacting Edgar Butschek in project house 16. The sale of the commemorative plates held in February was a striking success and this fact has resulted in its continuance. To date, ap-

## Movie Review

by Bob Nisbet

More information on "GONE WITH THE WIND"—it will play at the Queen instead of the Palace, also the schedule of performance has been announced. The doors will open at 9:30 a. m. with the first show starting at 10:00 o'clock. Without a stop between shows it will start again at 2:00 p. m. Seats for these shows will cost 75c and no seats will be reserved. The night show will start at 7:30. All seats at night will be reserved and will cost \$1.20.

Running down the calendar, we find "DAYTIME WIFE" at the assembly Hall at 3:30 and 6:45 Wednesday. Chances are that you will remember the show, not for acting or emotion or such, but for Linda Darnell. Boy, she's terrific! She and Ty Power head the cast, which include several favorites of film and screen.

The cast follows:  
Ken Norton...Tyrone Power  
Jane...Linda Darnell  
Bernard Dexter...Warner William  
Blanche...Binnie Barnes  
Kitty...Wendy Barrie  
Miss Applegate...Joan Davis

The story is a non-scientific research into the subject of "What have secretaries got that wives haven't?", with Linda doing the researching using Tyrone as the guinea pig. Married two years, Linda is rather disconcerted when Tyrone takes to working nights at the office and coming home with

### WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL  
Wednesday 3:30 and 6:45  
—"DAYTIME WIFE," with Tyrone Power and Linda Darnell.

AT THE PALACE  
Beginning Wednesday—"I TAKE THIS WOMAN," with Spencer Tracy and Hedy Lamarr.

AT THE QUEEN  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - "CONGO MAISIE," with Ann Southern and John Carol.

### DON'T

sit around home and try to think of some place to go for entertainment. Come on down and join the crowd. Our food is the finest and our records are of the latest and best bands.

### It's HRDLICKA'S CAFE

"On the old College Road"

## Collegiate Review

(By Associated Collegiate Press)

Catholic University of America has organized the nation's first religious round table for law students and lawyers.

The flags of seven nations have flown over the acres which now constitute the Louisiana State University campus.

Queens College has added 69 new courses for the second half of the present school year.

New York University safety educators will visit 20 states this summer lecturing on safety education.

A Canadian college student has transferred to the University of Georgia because she wanted to learn more about the country described in "Gone With the Wind."

For the first time in history, faculty members of state educational institutions will this year pay a federal income tax.

University of Toronto students are giving blood to be used by Canadian soldiers at the front.

What every candidate knows: If it is more blessed to give than to receive, the voters don't believe it.



### THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF BRYAN

Cordially Invites the Public to Attend the Formal Opening Of

### THE NEW BIBLE ANNEX and OPEN HOUSE

In the Main Church Building  
WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 6, 1940  
Beginning at 7 o'clock

MR. J. L. KRAFT, GUEST SPEAKER  
President, Kraft Cheese Company, Chicago, Illinois  
and Chairman of the Board of Deacons of the North Shore Baptist Church  
(The officers and teachers of the Sunday School will be in their Departmental and Class Rooms to welcome you.)

### THE PROGRAM

7:00-7:50—The Bible Annex will be open for inspection.  
7:30-7:50—The Adult, Intermediate, and Junior Departments will be open for inspection.  
8:00-9:00—Formal dedication of the Bible Annex and address by Mr. J. L. Kraft, Chicago, Illinois.  
9:00—The Elementary Departments will be open for inspection, followed by a reception in the Church Parlors.

## RIGHT OR WRONG?

A 2-minute test for telephone users

1. It's impossible for you to telephone to people in two different cities at the same time.  
RIGHT  WRONG

2. Police Radio Telephone made by Western Electric is an outgrowth of research at Bell Telephone Laboratories.  
RIGHT  WRONG

3. About 75% of the Bell System's 85 million miles of telephone wire is contained in cable.  
RIGHT  WRONG

4. Lowest telephone rates to most out-of-town points are available every night after 7 P. M. and all day Sunday.  
RIGHT  WRONG

### ANSWERS:

- Wrong. Telephone Conference Service enables you to talk simultaneously with as many as five other people.
- Right. And that's true also of broadcasting equipment, aviation radio telephone and marine radio telephones.
- Wrong. Over 95% is now protected by cable—nearly 5% of which is underground.
- Right. Why not telephone home oftener? Your family will enjoy it—so will you!

### BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM