

# But What Did the Yell-Leaders Get?

During the past football season, the Texas Aggie team won the Southwest Conference championship—our first since 1927; was invited to play a bowl game, and won the Sugar Bowl championship; ended its season undefeated and untied; and was named the nation's No. 1 team for 1939.

During and after this glorious series of victories, the football players were awarded dozens of beautiful gifts and trophies. And they fully deserved them.

**BUT—the yell staff, what did it get? NOTHING. Exactly NOTHING.**

In previous years it has always been the custom, when the Aggies ended an unusually successful season, to reward the yell-leaders of the Aggie corps with some gift, some trophy which would signalize student esteem for them, and commemorate the season of victory.

But this year, after finishing the most successful and sensational season in A. & M.'s history, was any such presentation made the yell-leaders?

NO. And it seems rather surprising that no one would have thought to make any such award. Nevertheless, through some oversight, no one did.

It's late now—but by no means too late, to remedy that omission. And The Battalion urges that some steps be taken to do so.

## We Have a Museum

One of the outstanding museums around this part of the country is being built up here at A. & M.

Too few students realize or take advantage of that fact. Since the College Museum was started a couple of years ago in the building it occupies just northwest of the Administration Building, work has been going on steadily and extensively to put on exhibition innumerable museum pieces which had formerly been displayed in various collections at various places on the campus. And progress has been made in adding to these collections, making the museum ever bigger and better.

One of the finest collections of fossil animals in the South—that of the late Dr. Mark Francis—and one of the finest collections of fossil plants, that of Dr. O. M. Ball—formed the nucleus of the museum. In addition, many of the items of interest in the museum are contributions of faculty members, citizens of College Station, and inhabitants of the surrounding regions.

Dr. Ball is now curator of the museum. He and his chief helpers, assistant curator C. J. Hesse, and Mrs. J. J. Taubenhans, are due much credit for their work.

Hundreds of articles of both local and national interest are being preserved for future generations in our local collection. And yet some students on the campus have never visited the museum.

A great deal of pleasure as well as educational benefit can be gleaned from an extensive inspection of the collection.

Students owe it to themselves educationally to visit the museum; and if it is ever possible, contributions should be made to the collections.

## A SUGGESTION ABOUT SONG 'SUGGESTION'

Songs with risqué lyrics are rising in popularity. The recording companies have issued two recently, and the records are in much demand among a pseudo-sophisticated group of juke box nickel-pluggers. Others have invaded radio programs, and surprisingly enough seem to be tacitly accepted by the evening listeners.

Our philosophy is that if people accept lyrics with bawdy suggestions, and if they like to hear them, well, they may listen to them. Right now, however, a new batch of sweet melodies by Cole Porter is being plugged by the orchestras, plaintively sweet tunes like "I Didn't Know What Time It Was" are coming through the radio dials, and two young orchestra leaders, Will Bradley and Bob Chester, are showing that Artie Shaw and Benny Goodman are not the last of the top-flight popular musicians.

With all these expressions of fine musical talent at hand on recordings and on the radio, it's a shame that the risqué trend in lyrics should come along at this time. If such songs had tune they might be more acceptable. When it comes to a song, the melody's the thing.

# The Battalion

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

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the City of College Station, is published three times weekly from September to June, issued Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings; and is published weekly from June through August.

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at College Station, Texas, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Subscription rate, \$3 a school year. Advertising rates upon request.

Represented nationally by National Advertising Service, Inc., at New York City, Chicago, Boston, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

Office, Room 132, Administration Building. Telephone 4-5444.

1939 Member 1940 Associated Collegiate Press

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Many students have expressed themselves as of the same opinion.

We think that a sweater or jacket—probably one similar to that given the football players, bearing a national championship emblem—should be given each of the yell-leaders. Or a pennant of the same nature. Or a traveling bag. Or anything which would properly convey the regard of the student body for the fine work of the 1939-40 yell staff—'Bodie', Bert, 'Foots', and Buster.

And it has been great work. Actually the yell-leaders hold one of the most important positions in the student body; and arousing and maintaining the spirit of the "twelfth man" is no easy job. This year's yell-leaders are to be commended for the fine way in which they have done this.

But they deserve more than commendation. In past years, the yell-leaders used to be able to finance their last years in school through the sale of yell books at 25 cents a copy to every freshman in the corps. That practice died out some time ago. Now the yell-leaders get little out of their positions except hard work.

We think they deserve some gift as a souvenir and a reward. It would take only a few cents from each student to give it to them.

Let's give it now, before it's too late.

## MAN, YOUR MANNERS—

**QUESTION:** Is it always proper to speak to fellow guests, or must you first be introduced?

**ANSWER:** Under informal circumstances the roof of a friend serves as an introduction, but whether you speak or not depends upon mutual willingness rather than upon a rule. There are circumstances where it is necessary to speak to other guests whether you have been introduced or not; you must talk to those sitting on either side of you at lunch or dinner; you also talk with whom ever may be sitting next to you at a small gathering.

**QUESTION:** When should bread and butter plates be used?—M. E. A.

**ANSWER:** Bread and butter plates are used at luncheons, both formal and informal; they are used at breakfast and supper, but never at formal dinners.

## AGGIES, ASK YOURSELVES—

Even though A. & M. is a school for men only, Aggies, is that any reason for our not having a beautiful campus? . . .

Already this year several thousands of dollars have been spent for landscaping, especially in the vicinity of the new dormitories. Yet so far not a blade of grass has been able to survive.

No, the soil isn't the reason at all. It seems to be due to the students who are too lazy to use the sidewalks and are consequently trampling the grass and shrubs to death.

If we use the sidewalks more and allow the grass and plants to grow, this campus should be the envy of all schools by next year. Aggies, won't you do your part? —L. B. Tennison.

## As the World Turns...

By DR. R. W. STEEN

After two weeks of rumors and counter-rumors the newspapers are now announcing the Fergusons as possible candidates for the governorship. A Ferguson campaign would certainly detract from the O'Daniel following, and might pave the way for a victory by some as yet undecided upon third candidate. It is doubtful that a Ferguson campaign would be rewarded with victory for Mrs. Ferguson.

Mr. Ferguson is too old to make an intensive statewide campaign, and his greatest political asset has always been his remarkable platform personality. The radio could carry the words and the voice, but it could not carry the man. Since the Fergusons are being mentioned as candidates it might be interesting to follow in outline the rather remarkable political career of this family.

James E. Ferguson made his first R. W. Steen appearance on the Texas political horizon in 1914. Prior to that date he had taken part in a few Bell County campaigns, but had held no public office. In the ensuing campaign he pitted his oratorical ability against that of Tom Ball, well-known Houston attorney, and to the surprise of many people Ball was defeated. Ball was the prohibition candidate and Ferguson the anti-prohibition candidate. Ferguson was aided materially by the political machine of Governor O. B. Colquitt.

Ferguson has been involved in most elections since. In 1916 he sought and won re-election, but did not get to serve all of this term as he was impeached and removed from office in 1917. At this time he was made ineligible to hold any state office. In spite of this prohibition he was a candidate in 1918, but was defeated by W. P. Hobby. In 1920 he organized the American party, and was its candidate for the Presidency. In 1920 both Ferguson and his wife were candidates for the U. S. Senate. After his name was finally placed on the ballot Mrs. Ferguson withdrew from the race. Earl B. Mayfield finally won the Senate seat in 1922.

In 1924 Mrs. Ferguson, whose initials conveniently combine to spell "Ma", was elected governor on an anti-Klan platform. In 1926 she was defeated by Moody, and 1928, for the first time since 1914, the Fergusons sought no office. In 1930 Mrs. Ferguson was defeated by Sterling, but in 1932 she defeated Sterling, thus winning a belated second term. Since 1934 the Fergusons have taken no great part in politics, but it would be far from correct to say that they had taken no interest in politics.

# BACKWASH

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

Down Military Walk . . . Ed Pettit, at Engineers' Ball, "I'm not a very good dancer, but I really can 'intermission'." . . . Secretary of the Athletic Association, E. W. Hooker—the man who handles the finances of Aggie's athletic games: "Everything in our office is too serious; we're either over-spent or under-collected." . . . Del Courtney, who played for the Coast ball, will officiate at fun U. of T.'s traditional Sweet-heart function and Round-Up festivities April 5 . . . Via their student publication, The Lass-O, T. S. C. W.-ians declare that, "An ideal husband must have a soul, like John Garfield." . . . Louis Tregre wanted to escort a girl to the Engineers' Ball who hailed from distant lands. Not-too-distant Bryan's Becky Foster was his date however, but the whole thing was finally worked out to fulfill Louis' ambition. Becky made the five-mile Bryan-to-College trip via Greyhound bus, spent the weekend in Walton Hall with other girls "from distant lands," and shared expenses back to the capital of Brazos County with a friend . . . Boring on the almost ridiculous, however, was the College Station belle who, bag and baggage, moved the few blocks from her home to spend the weekend in Walton.



Fuermann

for a flower was three cents; highest was fifty cents. Incidentally, they'll be back again soon. Frances James is chairman of the local project to help crippled children which, incidentally, deserves the co-operation of those Aggies who have a few extra "chips."

### On George Hamilton:

The "Music Box" maestro was not the most popular to visit the campus this year. Although an excellent orchestra, it wasn't over-appreciated by Aggies who like swing-and-away better than rumba and semi-classical. A Dartmouth grad of '23, his vocalist was formerly Betty Grable. George, by the way, is the composer of such popular song hits as "Betty Coed" and Ran Wild's theme song, "Wild Honey." His latest effort, "Blue Christmas," is now being recorded by Glenn Miller and will shortly be released. Most oft-requested number of the past weekend was "In The Mood."

### Confectioner's dilemma:

Cashing checks for us students is a necessary evil which assumes astounding proportions to campus confectioners and other merchants. The weekend of the Field Artillery Ball, for example, one confectioner cashed \$1,300 worth of checks for students. Last Saturday alone, the same business man cashed 167 checks amounting to \$66. The confectioner in question, who is typical of other College merchants, finds his losses considerably smaller than might be imagined. On an average, fifteen "hot" checks a week are cashed and most of these are taken up in short order. Each month an average of two to three forged checks are cashed but, since September, the confectioner has lost \$75 on bad checks. "As a whole," he pointed out, "students are very nice about this. Sometimes it is absolutely impossible to cash checks, and most of them understand this. Most of the cadets, incidentally, are more than fair and honest in their dealings with us."

The Rockefeller Foundation has joined an international group of scientific organizations to establish an observatory on the Sphinx. Researches will be made in astronomy, physics and aerodynamics.

Ocean liners are being equipped with aluminum funnels to save weight on the ship and to resist the corrosion that affects steel in a salt atmosphere.

### Bill Beck is the winner:

The judges of the contest to find a name for Lawrence Welk's dachshund decided in favor of Bill's entry, "Kadette," if a female and "Kadet," if a male. Bill, incidentally, is a Band sophomore from Pecos. Close runners-up were "Tam" (Texas A. & M.), contributed by Warren Robertson and "Taps," contributed by James S. Boyd and M. C. Schadt.

Among the other entries were Gustaf, Fish Blotto, Jarrin' Jawn Jr., Schnowzer, Military Mike, Agginess, Dachanaggie, and Flagpole. Freshman A. D. Sakellariou contributed "Detail" since this is the most common thing on the campus! "Boobie prize went to the freshman who sent in the original entry, "Doggie." There were forty-seven entries in the contest which was judged by Dick Pitts, Fred Sandlin, Charles Hamner, Frank Corder, and Lester Hambrick. The winner received five of the latest "Champagne Music" recordings of Lawrence Welk.

A pretty girl will do it every time:

You may have wondered about the seven lovelies selling Easter lilies on the campus last Saturday. All seniors in Bryan High School, the girls were Jean Barnard, Mary Louise Jones, Rae Powers, Martha Jane Nunn, Lena Marie Adams, Alice Sue Roman, and Peggy Dewey. The idea being—the cadets couldn't resist the feminine attraction as an incentive to help Brazos County's crippled children—and it worked! "We just pinned them on," one of the girls said, "Then they had to buy them." Another pointed out that, "The usual 'line' was that they were broken or else 'I'm crippled too.'" Still another girl declared that, "Most of the cadets wanted to buy us a drink rather than buy our lilies." Lowest price received

# Movie Review

by Bob Nisbet

Students who stay here during the spring holidays will not have much choice when it comes to shows. About the only thing worth seeing after Wednesday is "THE FIGHTING 69TH" at the Palace showing Wednesday through Saturday. The Assembly Hall is also taking a vacation so that the operators can get a breathing spell and perhaps go home to see the folks. At any rate there will be no show at the Assembly Hall after Wednesday until school takes up again. There is a show here Wednesday night before we leave, "JUDGE HARDY AND SON."

James Cagney, Pat O'Brien, and George Brent take us back into the World War again to relive the tragic days of 1917 in "THE FIGHTING 69TH." Cagney is the rawest of raw recruits being sworn into the 69th regiment under the command of George Brent as Colonel "Wild Bill" Donovan. The only man that can make an impression on Cagney is the chaplain, Pat O'Brien, but even he cannot keep him out of trouble when the outfit gets to the front. He fights with the top sergeant, fires a rocket and gets half the outfit shot up, and finally runs away when they are supposed to go over the top. At last, however, by the heroism of O'Brien, Cagney is convinced of his duty, and he makes

a good soldier. There's some good acting in this show, but they are fighting the wrong war: they should have been in Finland. Two grade-points.

By now the Hardy family is almost as well known as the President's family in the White House, and I wouldn't be surprised if they didn't have more friends. There are quite a few Republicans, you know, that like the Hardys. "Judge Hardy and Son" is the eighth picture of the series. Casting of characters in the Hardy family shows has been much the same each time and is as follows:

Judge Hardy.....Lewis Stone  
 Andy Hardy.....Mickey Rooney  
 Marian Hardy.....Cecilia Parker  
 Mrs. Hardy.....Fay Holden  
 Polly.....Ann Rutherford

This picture keeps the Hardy family at home, but they have move adventure and Andy gets into more trouble than ever before. His girl troubles are multiplied by three this time when he gets them all to submit his essay in a contest. Of course there are some more "man-to-man" talks between Mickey and the Judge—it wouldn't be a Hardy picture without them. However, this time it has grown longer until it almost resembles a conference. It is worth two grade-points.

## WHAT'S SHOWING

**AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL**  
 Tuesday, 3:30 and 6:45—  
 "THE REAL GLORY," with Gary Cooper, David Niven, and Andrea Leeds.  
 Wednesday, 3:30 and 6:45—  
 "JUDGE HARDY AND SON," with Lewis Stone and Mickey Rooney.

**AT THE PALACE**  
 Beginning Wednesday—  
 "THE FIGHTING 69TH," with James Cagney, Pat O'Brien, and George Brent.

**AT THE QUEEN**  
 Wednesday and Thursday—  
 "MA, HE'S MAKING EYES AT ME."

Elizabeth Leaf of Richmond, Va., found a ring embedded in an imported frankfurter, and traced the brand of the hot dog through a New York importer and back to a Danish packer who had lost the ring two years earlier.

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