

# The Battalion

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

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## OUR Political Views

The date of the annual general election among the student body for editor-in-chief of The Battalion, head yell-leader, and junior representative on the Student Publications Board has been announced for next Wednesday, April 3.

This year, to reduce candidates' expenses and the possibilities of unfair allegations in campaign literature, the Student Publications Board has ruled out all handbills and other forms of political reading matter.

Handbills and such may be written and distributed fairly, and they may not. They may be secured cheaply, and they may not. It is generally agreed that prohibiting them altogether is fairest to all concerned.

Instead, this year the pages of The Battalion will be freely and equally open to all candidates—within reasonable limits, of course. The statements are to be published in Saturday's issue.

To answer or forestall the usual questions asked of a college newspaper's editors during election time, we wish to state that this year the editors are refraining from any part in the election or the accompanying politics. To us the selection of next year's editor is purely a matter for the corps to decide, and we are having nothing to do or say about the choice. The editorial columns and the news columns, as far as humanly possible, have refrained and will continue to refrain from giving political "knocks" or "boosts".

In other words, we're not expressing a preference for or against any one as candidate for any position, and we're trying to be just as fair and impartial as possible in our coverage of the election. We're not 'pushing' anyone.

The election will be handled and rules for it set by the student election committee. All complaints about the course of affairs will be referred to it.

The Battalion hopes that no matter which way you cast your ballot, you will vote for the man you think best for the job—regardless of personal friendship or acquaintance, organization, or any other such factor. For instance, in the race for editor-in-chief, a man's length, amount, kind and quality of service on The Battalion and his personal capabilities for the position are the things that should be considered.

An interest in seeing that the election is conducted fairly and with such a view as above described, is the only interest The Battalion has in the political course of events.

## Class Leaders ---

Twice already The Battalion has expressed editorially the opinion that the student body ought to express its esteem for our president, Dr. Walton, by sharing in the drive for funds initiated by the Former Students Association for the purpose of having a nationally famous portrait painter (Seymour Stone) paint a life-sized portrait of Dr. Walton as an honor to him and as a permanent valuable gift to the college.

So far we have received no great response. This, it seems to us, must be due to the natural inertia in any large student body. But we think it's time some student move should be started. Such an opportunity as this should not be allowed to lapse.

There are few better ways in which any class at A. & M. could render service. The Battalion strongly advocates that the senior class—and the other classes too—allocate some of their funds to this purpose.

Class leaders—what do you think about it? How about calling some class or committee meetings to consider this movement? And how about letting us know what you think of the suggestion?

## Tip To Seniors

The more pieces of bread you cast upon the waters, the better your chances of having one piece return to you. Just in case you haven't thought about it, the U. S. Civil Service may be a means toward getting a job.

The Civil Service often requires college-trained young men and women to fill vacancies. You don't have to take just any job, but you can work at something you've studied throughout your years at school.

Notices for Civil Service examinations are posted on the college bulletin boards. Better still, to make sure you won't miss anything, talk to O. E. Teague at the local post office.

## A. & M. Mothers ---

A. & M. mothers, once again The Battalion wishes to call your attention to the unfortunate financial situation of our College Library.

The state Legislature grants it barely enough funds to keep going—not enough to purchase sufficient copies of the most popular fiction and non-fiction works, the kind your sons like to read, and the kind they clamor for in the library.

Such a situation is unfortunate indeed. A good library is one of the most important prerequisites of any college or university.

You mothers have undertaken as one of your federation's major projects the making of contributions to the library for the Students' General Reading Fund. And since last spring you have done nobly in contributing more than \$600 for this purpose. It is one of the most valuable steps you could have undertaken. Your sons appreciate your efforts.

There are two chief ways in which you mothers may render aid: directly, by continuing your contributions, as much as possible; indirectly, by informing your representatives in the Legislature of our library's financial needs, with a view to securing larger appropriations for it in the future.

## In Anticipation

There is at present a rather concrete suspicion that the Federal Department of State is indulging in laying plans for the peace which must follow the war in Europe. The war will certainly end and there certainly will be need of a peace. More than that, there will be need of a sound peace and not an armistice such as followed the World War.

Certainly the world will have need of strong peace efforts and the sounder the better. When the time comes to make peace, there is going to be need for middlemen, and the United States, in its position as the strongest of the neutral powers, can contribute toward this peace. That efforts have already begun is praiseworthy and not derogatory. The countries at war have enough on their minds now, without taking steps toward the formulation of peace plans. The United States can contribute its efforts this time in thinking of peace, instead of doing its part by contributing to the warfare.

Nor is the part that the United States can play an unselfish one. It is not to the interest of this country for wars to be fought. There is too much time lost, too many connections broken. During and after a war economic and cultural relations have a tendency to break down. It is not good policy to allow this to happen, for when such relations are paralyzed, the neutral countries are hurt as much as those engaged in the war. The way in which the neutral can protect itself is to see that each is made with the smallest reparations possible and the least crippling necessary. It is to the interest of the neutral that such a peace be made that is as lasting as possible, for the longer the seemingly incessant European wars can be put off, the better the neutral will fare.

There is an isolationist creed which demands that the continent be let alone. Sure, keep your nose clean, buddy, if you can, but when the fighting is over, help clean the noses of the belligerents—so he can see to trade with you. There is an older creed than that of the isolationists, and that creed is help your neighbor. For both selfish and unselfish reasons, the United States can and must assist in the peace which must follow the European war.

## As the World Turns...

By "COUNT" V. K. SUGAREFF

The peace flurries of last week have not produced any concrete evidence that the warring nations really want peace. Von Ribbentrop's visit to Rome was not as profitable as Hitler had anticipated. He took with him thirty-two economic experts to try to convince Mussolini that his economic cooperation is as essential to Hitler as his neutralities is vital to the Allies. Von Ribbentrop found the Pope adamant in his demands about the religious rights of the Polish Catholics. To cap it all, just as Von Ribbentrop was leaving Rome, Mussolini was informing the Italian parliament that the Brenner fortifications are as invincible as the Maginot Line and the Westwall. That might explain Hitler's hurried visit to Brennero for a conference with Mussolini. Meanwhile, the propaganda experts of the Berlin foreign office were telling the world that great events would come to pass (last weekend). Rome papers, however, were lukewarm to the prophecies from Berlin, and Moscow has repeatedly denied that Molotov was going to Berlin. In fact, Hitler himself may find it expedient to go to Moscow. Neither Russia nor Italy cherish the idea of a powerful Italy dominating the destiny of Europe. The centuries-old theory of "balance of power" will sooner or later assert itself, and Hitler, like Napoleon, must yield to the inevitable.

The approximate billion-dollar farm bill, which has been sponsored by members of both houses of Congress, has been branded as "subsidy" to the farmers. The United States has subsidized railroads, shipping companies, aviation, and other industries. This new venture in subsidizing is merely an indication that we as a nation recognize the importance of the farmer in our social and economic setup. He needs aid now just as other interest groups have in the past. We have given protection to many industries when they did not need such protection. We put high tariffs on goods that did not need protection. We allowed the industrialists to bring in cheap labor and gave them a free domestic market, a market free from competition and free from price control. The farmer is the only individual in our society who "does not live off the back of the other fellow." If the farmer is being subsidized, it is unfortunate that he does not receive the full benefit from the subsidy. It has been revealed recently that the insurance companies have been supporting the government's farm relief program in order to get their interest on farm mortgages. The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company is described as "the biggest farmer in the United States." It has 7,000 farms estimated in value at \$79,800,000.



Sugareff

## Collegiate Kaleidoscope



WREN BUILDING  
GUESS I DIDN'T MISS MANY OF THEM!  
OLDEST COLLEGE BUILDING IN AMERICA IS AT COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY. IT WAS DESIGNED BY SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN-1697.



THE BELL THAT CALLS COLBY COLLEGE STUDENTS TO CLASS BEARS THE HALLMARK: PAUL REVERE & CO. 1824.  
KEN HALL, RENSSELAER POLY STUDENT, ATTENDED 100 DIFFERENT SCHOOLS DURING HIS FIRST EIGHT SCHOOL YEARS!

## BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

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



Fuermann

Backwashin' around . . . Marble . . . Not so impressed, however, was Sophie Newcomb sophomore Alice Kinabrew. Watching the R. V. drill Friday afternoon, her only comment was, "They stink!" . . . Queen Mary May Crawford bated Al Kavelin's band and an unidentified Bryan belle stopped the show with her almost-expert drumming.  
Kavelin was excellent: R. V.'s were more than satisfied with maestro Kavelin and his "Cascading Chords." Schottisches and put-your-little-footin' were popular, although, as R. V. date Nina Tate pointed out, "Everyone was dancing what they darned pleased." Kavelin did a lot toward popularizing the conga and rumba while he was here and found that "Tuxedo Junction" was the most requested number with "Johnson Rag" a close second. Songstress Patty Morgan was formerly with Artie Shaw and was the equal of Lawrence Welk's Jayne Walton who was on the campus a few weeks ago. All things considered, Kavelin proved to have one of the best orchestras to play at Aggie-land this year.  
More about checks: So much interest was shown in a recent Backwash item concerning checks cashed for cadets by local merchants that an important addition and equally important correction should be pointed out. After the item was published, the confectioner in question asked his bank to make an investigation and find out how many checks he had cashed for students during a particular month. February, 1940, was the month selected and the bank reported that in the 29-day period the merchant had cashed 1,819 checks for students totaling \$7,468. And the correction (the original item stated that on a particular day 167 checks were cashed totaling \$66); the total should have been \$566—a typographical error, no less.

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## FASHION NOTE

### Aggie Blouse Is To Have 'Bi-Swing' Back

The Aggie uniform blouse has undergone a change. Colonel George F. Moore, Commandant, has announced that the specifications for the service coat have been modified to call for a "bi-swing" back. All tailors of College Station, Bryan, and other cities where Aggie uniforms are made, have been furnished specifications for making the coat accordingly, Colonel Moore stated. Effective immediately, new coats will be made with the "bi-swing" back. Existing coats may be worn by all concerned until no longer serviceable, or may be modified if so desired. The new "bi-swing blouse" is said to be more attractive as well as more comfortable than the old-style one.

The College of Emporia was the first U. S. College to receive a Carnegie library.

## Movie Review

by Bob Nisbet

The matinee and night show for Friday night is a benefit for the Junior Chapter of the Future Farmers of America. This group of boys intend to use the money to send representatives to the F. F. A. convention in Kansas City, which is a noble aim to say the least. Since it is more or less a slack period after the holidays, since the farmer boys need this help, since the show is a good show, and since they gave the writer a pass, the whole student body ought to turn out to see the show. "SLAVE SHIP" is the name of the show and it stars Wallace Beery with Mickey Rooney. Laid in times when our country was new, the story is about slave trading done on a big

scale. Wallace Beery is a case-hardened slave trader, feared and respected by all the motley crew and feared more than respected by the cabin boy, Mickey Rooney. Beery and the crew, having had their captain killed, feel the need of a man with a clean reputation to front their dealings, and so they pick on a young man who upsets their plans by bringing along his bride. Just imagine the fun that was had by him.

## Uruguayan Cattle-Raiser Visits Here

Mr. and Mrs. Pablo Risso, of Uruguay, where Mr. Risso is an extensive Hereford cattle breeder, were visitors on the campus Tuesday and were guests of the college for a luncheon and inspection trip of the college. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Jamie Brooks of Brady. Mr. Brooks is president of the Texas Hereford Association.

Recognized as an outstanding cattleman of his country, Mr. Risso was invited by the American Hereford Breeders Association to come to Texas as one of the judges in the recent Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show at Fort Worth. Following the fat stock shows, Mr. and Mrs. Risso plan to visit cattle raising sections of the state and throughout the United States before returning to South America.

The group came to College Station from Houston where they attended the Houston Fat Stock Show and visited other points of interest in South Texas, including the King Ranch.

TWO HIGHLY VALUABLE letters—from George Washington and Robert E. Lee—both addressed to George Baylor, father of Judge R. E. B. Baylor for whom Baylor University was named, are preserved in the Judge Baylor rooms at the institution.

"BROADWAY MELODY OF 1940" is the Palace offering in far-away Bryan. Fred Astaire had dropped his little gal from Texas (Ginger Rogers) and has adopted a new partner in the shape and form of Eleanor Powell. Some think she is better; some think she is worse. Both parties are right. Eleanor is the better dancer, and Ginger is the better actress. As a rule musical comedies are not much on acting anyway. This one is no exception, but it is worth two grade-points.

### WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL  
Friday, 3:30 and 6:45—  
"SLAVE SHIP," with Wallace Beery and Mickey Rooney.

AT THE PALACE  
Thursday, Friday and Saturday — "BROADWAY MELODY OF 1940," with Fred Astaire and Eleanor Powell.

AT THE QUEEN  
Thursday—"BALALAIKA," with Nelson Eddy and Ilona Massey.

### FOR Eye Examination And Glasses Consult

J. W. PAYNE  
DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY  
Masonic Bldg. Bryan, Tex.  
Next to Palace Theater

## GREATER PALACE

Wednes. - Thurs. - Fri. - Sat.



Preview 11 P. M. Saturday Night

Carole Lombard Brian Ahearne

"VIGIL IN THE NIGHT"

Also Shown Sun. - Mon. - Tues.

### To the Class of '42

Next Year's

## JUNIORS

... Next year's Juniors who wear a uniform "Made by Mendl & Hornak" will be satisfied customers.

—They Cost No More—

The Symbol of Distinction

"Made by Mendl & Hornak"

## Uniform Tailor Shop

MENDL & HORNAK