

# The Battalion

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

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## Praise To and From The "Oomph Girl"

The last issue of The Battalion contained a story telling of a telegram of congratulation received here from Ann Sheridan, beautiful Warner Broth. "oomph girl" and a former Texas girl, to the A. & M. Rifle Team.

It seems that the news services Saturday evening carried stories about the Rifle Team's chivalry in arranging a handicap match with the T. S. C. W. girls' rifle team, which the girls won.

We reprint the text of Miss Sheridan's telegram: "I rejoice that the spirit of gallantry still lives in Texas."

"It was wonderful for the A. & M. Rifle Team to shoulder an undue handicap in order that their fair visitors would outshoot them."

"To the Rifle Team of A. & M. and to the cadet corps of 6,000 gentlemen, I send affectionate congratulations and regards."

"Look for me in your yelling section when A. & M. plays U. C. L. A. in October. Cordially yours, ANN SHERIDAN."

We too congratulate the A. & M. Rifle Team, not merely for winning the regular, official match with the T. S. C. W. team as expected, 784 to 725, but for having the chivalry to arrange the special 40-point-handicap match which the girls won 514 to 487. It was a fine gesture.

Every newspaper reader will remember how a few weeks back the editors of the Harvard Lampoon had the audacity to nominate Miss Sheridan as "the movie actress least likely to succeed", and the resulting controversy in newspapers all over the nation. It seemed for a time that she had scarcely a friend in the world.

But along came the Aggie marksmen and furnished her with the spark that might set off a very friendly relationship with A. & M. College.

There'll be quite an exodus of Aggies to California, and it would be a fine thing if Miss Sheridan (who in our eyes is quite a lovely and already a very successful young lady—she makes \$100,000 a year as compared with a Harvard graduate's average \$5,000) on deck when the Aggies arrive to take over Los Angeles.

If at the invitation of the Aggie football team (whom she has already promised to pay tribute to by being in the Aggie yelling section) she should consent to be official hostess out there, it would be a great thing for the college in national publicity, and would as well provide much pleasure for the Aggies on the coast.

She might, very probably, be on hand with a few dozen other beautiful young starlets who might consent to be the Aggies' dates during the whole visit.

We think it's a great idea. It'll pay high dividends all around, and we appreciate Miss Sheridan's own generosity and thoughtfulness.

## Business "If's"

The business analysts are pursuing a cautious course. Their forecasts are liberally qualified with "ifs," "ands," "buts," and "on the other hand."

The spring slump was expected. What was not expected was its severity—worse in our recent history. On top of that the expected signs of betterment have not appeared in particular force.

The Federal Reserve Board index of industrial production, which came close to the 130 mark during last winter's sharp upward movement, fell to around 104 in March. And the forecast is that it will drop to 100 and perhaps below by the time May ends.

We hear there are quite a few "business IF'S" in the Bryan motion picture business these days, too.

## "Two Percent"

In an "Open Forum" in the last issue of The Battalion, a number of juniors and seniors brought to public attention a situation that has already occurred too many times this year—that is, the disregard of the proper observance of "Silver Taps" by that certain ubiquitous "two percent" of the student body.

They cited the case of a certain few students who violated and disturbed the traditionally beautiful solemnity of Silver Taps, played for a dead comrade Sunday night, by keeping their lights on while Taps was being played, by staying in their hall to play dominos, and by their loud cursing and laughter; and who then, when students investigated later, challenged them to "try to do something about it!"

Several times this year The Battalion has editorialized for the proper observance of Silver Taps. We can hardly understand how any boy who calls himself an Aggie could so rob a dead student of his last heritage from Aggeland. To us it's desecration and sacrilege.

We ask that the student body and the Commandant's Office take no half-way steps in dealing properly with any so-called Aggie who disturbs the observance of Silver Taps in the future. An example should be made of them for other students NOT to follow.

## Offensive Conduct

Army, at the present time, with the Assembly Hall receiving such great patronage from you, and with its management doing everything in their power to satisfy and to support you, here's one thing that's been called to the attention of The Battalion, that we've editorialized about often and that you ought to act upon.

In the past, the offensive conduct on the part of just a certain "two percent"—peanut throwing, loud cursing and insulting, vulgar remarks—has been the thing causing a large number of faculty members and other citizens of College Station to refrain from attending the Assembly Hall, and causing them to attend shows elsewhere.

At a time when hundreds of these people have expressed their desire and willingness to support us in our drive to secure first-rate, date-to-date showings with Bryan, many of them complain that they are now robbed of seeing any show at all—because of the disgusting, childish behavior of the certain "two percent" of our student body.

While we believe it is true that such behavior has abated to a large extent this year, it is true that a great deal still goes on. And it isn't fair either to ourselves, the citizens of this community, or our many visitors here. Furthermore, it isn't helping out our movie campaign.

Don't you think it time for such offensive conduct to be stopped altogether?

We do—and we urge that measures be taken immediately, no matter how drastic—by the Commandant's Office and all other authorities—to put a complete end to it, once and for all time.

A judge rules that having a wooden leg need not bar a man from driving a car. He didn't pass on the matter of wooden heads.

A cynic says that when he sees two women kissing it reminds him of two pugilists shaking hands at the beginning of the first round.

## As the World Turns...

By "COUNT" V. K. SUGAREFF

Hitler is putting the democracies to a severe test. Many people look back to the "Munich Surrender" as the greatest mistake of the allies. Mr. Chamberlain then told the House of Commons, "It would be horrible to go to war because of a far-away little country (Czechoslovakia) of which we know nothing."

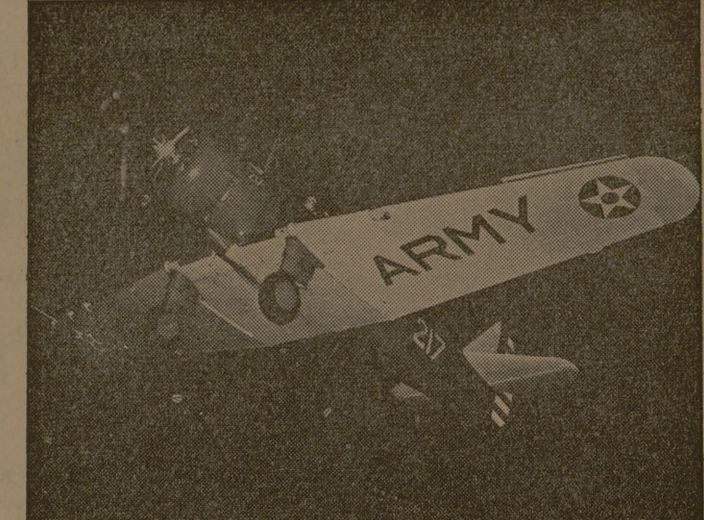
Germany has now invaded Denmark and Norway as a protection as well as to provide herself with a steady flow of raw materials from the Scandinavian countries. Germany does not have to fight (after the invasion is completed) unless forced to, for the foodstuffs and minerals which she was getting from them under normal conditions. They are prepared to offer effective resistance to Germany.

Belgium and Holland might be the next victims. Unless the Allies rush troops to aid them, Germany can easily occupy these two countries on the same pretense—protection. Belgium and Holland are said to be prepared for a defense and might put up greater resistance than the Germans have hitherto encountered from the other small nations. The Allies too might occupy these two countries, entrench themselves and use them as bases for operation, should they decide to wage an aggressive war.

If Germany is pressed by the Allies in Belgium and Holland, she might turn, in desperation, against the Balkan countries. Here Hitler would have to reconcile the interests of both Italy and Russia before he attempts an invasion of these regions. Moreover, the Allies together with Turkey have a large number of troops to aid the Balkan states should they, together or separately, decide to resist Germany. The Balkan countries possess the elements of danger for Hitler more than either Scandinavia or the Low Countries (Belgium and Holland). The peoples of those regions have been subjected to foreign rule before, but they have never been absorbed by their conquerors.

Gloomy, indeed, is the situation for the Allies, but it is not desperate by any means. The more Hitler expands, the less dangerous he should be. He appears successful now, but the new regions present problems of administration, military control, and economic organization which in time might prove damaging to the best interests of Germany. The war is not over. England and France have pulled through far more serious crises than the present one. Napoleon often said: "England loses every battle but the last one."

## Army Training Airplane in Night Flight



This remarkable night aerial photograph of one of the U. S. Army Air Corps training planes was made by a Randolph Field, Texas, photographer while the plane was flying at an altitude of several thousand feet above the main airfield at the Army's "West Point of the Air."

This is the type of basic training airplane used for the secondary phase of training of Flying Cadets at the Army Air Corps Primary Flying School.

Every six weeks a new class of Flying Cadets arrives at Randolph Field for primary training in military aviation. As they advance and become qualified, Flying Cadets then acquire additional skill in aerial acrobatics, night flying, and "blind" flying.

These future pilots at Randolph Field are between 20 and 27 years of age and while in training as Flying Cadets receive \$75 per month together with maintenance, uniforms, and medical care.

## BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

Once over lightly... An unusual fact brought to light by the various orchestra leaders on the campus this year is that none of them have "Put Your Little Foot" in their repertoire.



Fuermann

More than that, most of them have never even heard of the piece—and it comes second on the Aggie hit parade... Quiet please: A sign in a vacant lot in not-too-distant Hearne reads, "No Camping Allowed."

It's only the beginning—this controversy now raging between Harvard and Texas A. & M. The school voted "most likely to succeed on the gridiron" is more than willing—even anxious—to defend, with true Southern chivalry, the honor of Harvard-dubbed "actress least likely to succeed"—the same which is Miss Sheridan.

As one cadet said, "Who do these Harvard guys think they are, talking about our girl that way. Another crack like that and we'll play 'em anything from football to jacks." Not especially an authority on the subject but definitely an interested bystander, Backwash makes its own nomination in respect to the situation—that the Sheridan belle is the girl who has succeeded in the hearts of Aggies everywhere.

There's more to come: Incidentally, you can expect to read a lot more about the Aggie-Sheridan-Harvard controversy in coming months. It's already rumored that Ann will be host to Aggeland's footballers when they play U. C. L. A. in Los Angeles October 12, and maybe La Sheridan will reciprocate with a visit to A. & M.

Anson Weeks on the air: Not only the Cavalry, but the entire corps can go "dancin' with Anson" tomorrow night as maestro Weeks is presented via WTAW from 9:30 to 10:30. Radio director John Rosser—furthering the station's entertainment value to the corps—filed with the Federal Communications Commission for permission to broadcast the orchestra and the official okeh was received yesterday afternoon.

Paul Haines chairmans: With the Cavalry junior in charge, Bob Alexander, Bob Langford, and Eli Whitney are assistant, and the fiscal side of the affair is under the surveillance of Graham Purcell, George Taylor, Tom Power, Sid McDonald, Bob Tonkin, and Keith Hubbard.

With an "ace-high" orchestra, the ball bids fair to be one of the best of the current social season, and especially in view of some of

Two-to-one this wins: An interesting sidelight on the forthcoming Cotton Ball is the contest to decide what girl will come the longest distance to attend the function. Cavalryman George Anderson is almost a sure winner—his sister, attractive Bee Anderson, will journey from New Haven, Connecticut, to attend the event.

What a shame: Hitch-hiking—than which there is none whicker at A. & M.—seems

Advertisement for AMERICAN STEAM LAUNDRY, DRY CLEANERS, BRYAN. Patrons are urged to patronize their agent in their organization.

## Movie Reviews

By Donald Crist

The age old tale of Indian versus white and a slightly different twist is vividly portrayed in the coming attraction, GERONIMO appearing at the Assembly Hall for the benefit of the Petroleum Engineering Society.

The plot of GERONIMO is precisely that of LIVES OF THE BENGAL LANCERS, a highly rated cinema of a few seasons back. Exchange your setting from India to the American prairies, swap a power crazed Maharaja for a vindictive Chieftain, trade a hard-boiled colonel in the British Lancers for one in the American Cavalry, and a horde of beturbaned Hindus for a tribe of coppery aborigines and you have GERONIMO.

According to the story, Geronimo's family was wiped out by the whites. Geronimo immediately vowed to kill one thousand whites to compensate the loss of each member of his family. With the aid of some white renegades who are selling him firearms and amunitions his vow would have been fulfilled had it not been for the timely entrance of the U. S. Army.

Excellent performances are turned out by Preston Foster as a rough and tough captain, Ralph Morgan and William Henry as the disciplinarian Colonel and the Greenhorn son fresh from West Point. Andy Devine adds a bit of comedy in his role of scout, Ellen Drew is a comely lassie as William Henry's betrothed and Chief Thunder Cloud gives a good exhibition of the Poker-faced chief.

All in all GERONIMO is a very good picture and should have a place on your must see list.

## Gene Barr, Edwin Walker, Members Aggie Band, Wed

C. E. (Gene) Barr, Field Artillery Band senior of Bonham, Texas, and a student of marketing and finance, has become the first Band graduate of '40 to be wed.

Gene has just made public the disclosure of his wedding on March 1st to Miss Mary Esther Carney of Concan, formerly of Waco.

The bride, whose father, E. G. Carney, was formerly a professor of art at Baylor University, attended Sul Ross State Teachers College at Alpine until a serious automobile accident interrupted her college career.

The wedding was performed by Rev. James Carlin of the College Station Methodist Church at his home here, at the time of the annual Field Artillery Ball.

Edwin Walker, Band junior and mechanical engineering student at present enrolled as a student pilot in the C. A. A. flight training school here, became the first Band member of the class of '41 to be a husband, March 26 when he wed Miss Evelyn McCoy at Lake Charles, Louisiana, home town of both the bride and groom.

Mrs. Walker is a graduate of Port Neches High School and Port Arthur Business College and is a former T. C. U. coed. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. P. McCoy of Port Arthur.

The couple plan to make their home at College Station until Walker completes his course next year.

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Advertisement for Aggie Cab Co. We are moving to College Station. Round Trip 50c - One Way 25c. Our new location is at the Sinclair Filling Station - one block east of the North Gate. CALL COL. 400.