

The Battalion

STUDENT SUMMER-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, second 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, \$50 the summer session. Advertising rates upon request.

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

Office, Room 122, Administration Building, Telephone 4-5444.

1939 Member 1940 Associated Collegiate Press

GEORGE FUERMANN, Editor-in-Chief; JAMES REDBERRY, Advertising Manager; PAUL W. LEVINE, Managing Editor; E. C. GARDNER, Sports Editor; Margaret Hollingshead, Sports Assistant; William G. Hauger, Circulation Manager; Philip Goldman, Staff Photographer; Peter B. Tomlinson, Staff Artist; J. F. Clarke, Amusements Editor; Betty Shelton, Movie Editor; Kate Stone, Editorial Assistant; James Ashby, Short Course Editor; Lucille Thornton, Editorial Assistant.

REPORTERS: W. O. Brimberry, C. B. Campbell, Jr., Peggy Campbell, B. B. Clements, Ross Earl Cox, Joseph L. Green, W. D. C. James, W. A. Moore, Jack Shelton, Gordon Sigel, Goldie Ruth Simpson, John Sleeper, T. B. Vannoy, Ruth Toubenhaus, J. A. Villamil, Margaret Ann Williams, Betty Jane Winkler.

Twice Every Fourth Year

ONE HALF OF America's every-four-year political sideshow got under way last Monday as the Grand Old Party began its platform making and nominating convention in the Stanley Walker-dubbed "City of Brotherly Hate"—Philadelphia.

In three weeks more the Democrats will do the same thing in Chicago. But before either of these conventions meet, the party shock troops do most of the real platform making. Meeting before the hands and bunting of a political convention have taken over a town, this group of nationally significant committeemen do the behind-the-scenes work and generally formulate the plans and policies which are later officially adopted at the convention.

Because of the tremendous significance of the day-by-day happenings in Europe, and the resulting attitude the United States takes in respect to these things, the nation's attention is now being constantly focused on the federal government. What the platform-builders do in their respective conventions is a matter of considerable importance to the nation's citizenry. Texas Aggies, and collegians in general, are vitally concerned with at least one of the platform planks—the one which indicates a party's attitude toward the current European conflict, and more especially the attitude the United States will take in respect to it.

Beyond this, however, is a still more important question: What will the victorious party do AFTER the election? Platform declarations are made with present conditions in mind. But a person need only turn back ten months or so and see that world and national conditions are changing rapidly—not month by month, week by week, or even day by day, but minute by minute. Whatever platform the victorious party may have, it can't possibly be one that will keep pace with these rapid-fire world developments—the decisions will be up to the electees.

No one can accurately predict the answers to these questions. No one can accurately predict the choice of candidates that the two parties will make. Nor can anyone accurately predict the outcome of the election itself. But reasonable conclusions can be drawn from the facts at hand.

Trying to forecast the opinion of the corps in respect to the forthcoming presidential election is a difficult task for The Battalion or any other agency, but with national and state politics coming to the fore—entangled as they are with current world affairs and the possibility that this nation may soon be engaged in armed combat—it seems to be within the realm of reason that a collegiate newspaper might opine in respect to these affairs. Especially in view of the fact that hundreds of Aggiegrads' six thousand-odd are of legal voting age.

As a general rule, Texas has long been a Democratic state. Nomination to any state office on the Democratic ticket is tantamount to election. The vast majority of Texas Aggies are Texans, by birth or by choice—and it's logical to conclude, therefore, that the vast majority of Texas Aggies are Democrats also. Most Aggies, The Battalion believes, would prefer to see a Democrat as the nation's chief executive.

But the field of national and state politics is too big a one for a collegiate newspaper to enter into, and, as such, The Battalion has only one hope to express in this connection.

That world conditions are grave, even children understand. That the United States might soon become involved in armed combat is equally obvious. One mistake now, on the part of our governmental agencies, might be the very factor which would lead to the nation's engrossment in the war; or, if war becomes inevitable, a mistake might leave us woefully unprepared.

The Battalion hopes that in the light of the forthcoming political campaigns versus the world crisis, pre-eminence will NOT be given to politics. . . . But that the nation's leaders and the nation's populace will give pre-eminence to the United States.

Summer-Styled For 1940

WHEN MORE THAN 800 students, of a total enrollment of 1,471, take part in a program of any kind—that program is important.

When any program of student activity can give a long session tang to a usually listless summer school—that program is important.

When any program of student activity can provide healthful and sensible entertainment with a definite student appeal—that program is important.

When any program of student activity can do all three of these things, that program is more than important—it's almost the very heart of a successful summer session.

Summer-styled for 1940 is the current program of student activity being directed by the Physical Education Department, and the factors mentioned

above are all part of this program.

The so-called Juke Box Proms, the Twilight Softball League, swimming, and tennis are the four principal components of a program which also includes golf and volleyball.

But, to The Battalion at least, the idea behind this summer program is the important thing—the thing which is the very foundation of its acknowledged success. And that idea, as expressed by the Physical Education Department's more-than-capable director W. L. Penberthy, is this: "Wherever possible, give 'em everything they want."

Even more than this has been done. Not only have summer students been given "everything they want" where summer sports and activities are concerned, but these wants have been given in such a way that everyone can participate; or, as one person recently expressed it, "The most for the money."

Anyone with the will to do so can play softball, tennis, and other summer sports. Anyone with a first semester registration slip can make use of the swimming pool. Anyone with fifteen cents can attend the Juke Box Proms. Certainly that represents getting "the most for the money."

And the Juke Box Proms—they deserve more than just being referred to as a part of the summer program. Two have been held thus far, and approximately 350 persons attended each. But the sentiments expressed by those who have attended these dances borders on the unbelievable. One Texas Aggie, who seldom fails to attend the regular Saturday night corps dances during the spring social season—dances which are rhythmized by the nation's top-ranking orchestras in the flesh, declared that, "I've enjoyed myself more at these Juke Box Proms than any other dances I have attended." And his opinion seems to be in the same groove as the opinions of other Juke Box goers.

So, summer-styled for 1940, or summer styled for any year, the current sports and activities program is one which has not only filled a long-aching cavity in the mouth of A. & M.'s summer sessions, but it is one which will make for bigger and better summer sessions to come.

The directors of this program don't want any orchids—all they ask for are suggestions in respect to improving the program. But the flowers are theirs nevertheless. The work that W. L. Penberthy and assistant Luke Harrison have done has put a new life-blood into A. & M.'s summer school. Their work—together with the fine cooperation of the summer school student body—has been a valuable contribution to Texas A. & M. College.

Littlejohn And Fitch

FOR THE PAST two months the front pages of several Battalions have contained articles relating to an attempt to place Jack Littlejohn's Aggieband Orchestra on the 1940 Fitch Summer Bandwagon. Each summer the F. W. Fitch Company stages a weekly radio show via NBC featuring unknown orchestras which are the near-equal of the name orchestras. The idea being: Besides making for a number one radio show, the Fitch Company can give a long boost to up-and-coming orchestras.

Texans who listened to the programs last summer—and especially those thousands of Texans familiar with A. & M. College—were struck by one fact in particular; that there was an orchestra right here in Texas which was the equal of those presented on 1939's Summer Bandwagon. . . . The Aggieband Orchestra.

These Texans, of course, were prejudiced, but evidence has since turned up which has given foundation to their belief. On one occasion during the victorious 1939 football season, the Aggieband Orchestra played over the NBC network in the Sugar Bowl Preview. An hour later a telegram from an NBC official said, in part, "Littlejohn terrific." But if the Fitch Company wants some more evidence, then it can take a look around the state. The praises that have gone to the Aggieband Orchestra in the past three years have been in a single groove—terrific!

The Fitch Company, of course, is naturally interested in selling their products. To that end The Battalion takes time out to indicate to the company that if the Aggieband Orchestra appears on their Summer Bandwagon, they can start shipping hair tonic and oil to College Station in carload lots from then on.

Maybe the Fitch Company hasn't been told that there were 6,000 cadets enrolled at Texas A. & M. last long session; that there are 22,000 ex-Aggies scattered throughout the nation and world who will be listening to the program; that there are millions of Aggie friends and supporters who will do the same thing; and that the college is definitely a news-salient from any point of view—as a great educational institution, as a great military college, and as the home of the national football champions of 1939.

In Littlejohn and Fitch, there's definitely a good tie-up. Jack Littlejohn and the Aggieband Orchestra would win with this deal; Texas A. & M. College would win; and the Fitch Company would win.

As the World Turns...

By AL B. NELSON

The Ford deal, to build thousands of plane engines for the United States has been cancelled. The reason given is that Henry Ford refused to make some at the same time for the British Government. The patents belong to England and the English had given permission for the U. S. to manufacture them. Under these conditions it is hard to understand the attitude of the Ford Motor Company.

Leaders of the Republican party have practically expelled Stimson and Knox from the party for accepting cabinet posts under Roosevelt. Knox was the Republican candidate for the vice-presidency at the last election and Stimson had held cabinet posts under two previous presidents. Democratic party leaders were also infuriated at the appointments. The significant point is that in neither group has the slightest question been raised of their fitness for the War Department and Navy posts.

Organized In 1937 And Headed By Dr. O. M. Ball, A. & M.'s Museum Is One Of College's Fast-Growing Units

Special to The Battalion: In September, 1937, a museum was established on the campus of the Texas A. & M. College. This museum was founded upon three collections which had long been on the campus, but never before had they been adequately housed or exhibited. These collections were: the S. M. Tracy herbarium, the O. M. Ball collection of fossil plants, and the Mark Francis collection of fossil vertebrates. The death of Dr. Mark Francis in 1936, and the question of the disposal of his collection brought about the establishment of the museum. All this material was moved into a small, entirely fireproof building, and Dr. O. M. Ball, retiring as head of the department of biology, was placed in charge of the project.

The nucleus of the Tracy herbarium is a collection of Texas and Gulf Coast plants, made by Mr. S. M. Tracy and Helge Ness. Upon the death of these men it became the property of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. Through the efforts of H. B. Parks, V. L. Cory and others of the Experiment Station staff, the collection has been greatly increased. It now contains about 45,000 plants, and the task of mounting and filing them in herbarium cases is being carried out as rapidly as possible. Only in the last few months has any of this material been in such shape as to be really available for use. The herbarium is especially rich in grasses, and the entire flora of Texas is well represented. It has already formed the basis for a "Catalogue of the Flora of Texas" by V. L. Cory and H. B. Parks.

The O. M. Ball collection of fossil plants is the result of thirty years of collecting and exchange by Dr. Ball. The collection contains several thousand specimens ranging in age from the Cambrian to the Oligocene. A representative suit of material of the succeeding ages is exhibited and the bulk of the collection identified and stored. The most valuable part of this material is that collected from several localities in the Texas Eocene. This has been the subject of one large monograph by Dr. Ball and another will appear shortly. Some of this material has been discussed by E. W. Berry, and the Green River (Colorado) plants were written up by R. Brown. There are many type specimens in this collection, and almost all well known fossil plant localities in United States are represented by at least a few specimens.

Dr. Mark Francis was a veterinarian; his interest in the origin and domestication of animals led him to collect and preserve the fossils found in southeastern Texas. His collection is in two parts, a large collection of Pleistocene material, over half of which is proboscidean, and a smaller lot of Miocene fossils. There are a few cretaceous fishes, scattered Mesosaur vertebrae and a fairly complete polyotidid plesiosaur. Scientifically the Miocene material is the most important it is essentially the same fauna as that described by various writers from beds of like age in Florida. O. P. Hay published one paper on the Miocene vertebrates of this collection and several on the Pleistocene material. Of the three

The Isolationist Bloc in congress is doing everything possible to prevent aid being sent to England. The sale of the twenty torpedo boats has just been blocked and other aid has been delayed and protested. Some of these men were said by James Cromwell (husband of Doris Duke, former Minister to Canada, and now candidate for the Senate from New Jersey) to be sincere fools, but Cromwell declared most of them to be crooked.

In spite of the pressing danger from overseas, the Stimson-Knox incident and the activities of the isolationist bloc show that the worst danger to the United States is from those self-seeking politicians who knowingly or blindly sell out the best interests of their country for their own personal or party advantage.

Mines have been laid at both entrances of the Panama Canal, and the entire defense force of thirty thousand men has been placed on an emergency footing according to the latest reports. The U. S. battle fleet has left its Pearl Harbor base for the destination which has been kept secret up to now. There are two principal guesses being made; first, that the fleet is headed for the Philippines, or second, that it is on its way to the Canal Zone in order to be able to operate in either the Atlantic or the Pacific at need.

Movie Review

By Betty Shelton

At the Assembly Hall Saturday is "And One Was Beautiful," a melodramatic society story with an engaging cast. However, the performances, with the exception of Laraine Day, Robert Cummings, and Billie Burk, fail to be very convincing. Mr. Cummings does well in his role of a spoiled playboy who takes a jail sentence in order to protect somebody else. Miss Day does equally well as a sub-deb who beats her debutante sister's time. Jean Muir, however, does not give much credibility to the role of the selfish society girl. "Dr. Kildare's Strange Case," the fourth of the scientific romance series, will be at the Assembly Hall Monday and Tuesday with Lew Ayres, Lionel Barrymore, and Laraine Day. In this picture the young intern takes matters into his own hands to prove that a surgeon-friend is unjustly accused of performing a delicate brain operation that caused madness in the patient. By using the insulin-shock-treatment to restore mental normalcy, Dr. Kildare gambles love and his whole career on this astonishing case.

"The Mad Miss Manton," which will be at The Campus Tuesday, offers Barbara Stanwyck and Henry Fonda fine opportunities. Miss Stanwyck has the role of an irresponsible, thrill-seeking girl whose escapades arouse a serious minded young newspaper editor, who attacks her through the columns of his paper. Because of the reputation she has gained for her pranks, she is disbelieved when she reports finding a body in a deserted house. Enraged at the attitude of both the police and Mr. Fonda, she sets about to solve

the mystery with the aid of her feminine companions. "The Grapes of Wrath" by John Steinbeck has been acclaimed "the greatest novel that has yet come out of America." Darryl F. Zanuck's production of "The Grapes of Wrath," which will be at the Assembly Hall Wednesday and Thursday, follows both the spirit and the letter of the book with extraordinary exactness. The Joad family, "the people that live, the people that can't nobody lick, the people that go on forever," come to life with Henry Fonda as Tom Joad, Jane Darwell as Ma Joad, Charley Grapewin as Grandpa, and Doris Bowden as Rosasharn. Like the book, the film is powerful, rough, tender, and true.

Dr. A. Benbow
DENTIST
Phone 375
Astin Building - Bryan

CAMPUS
15¢ to 5 p. m.
25¢ to 11 p. m.

Today - Saturday
"Jesse James"
with
Tyronne Power
Nancy Kelly
Henry Fonda
Late War News-Cartoon

Pre. Sat. Nite-Sun.-Mon.
Jean Arthur
Fred MacMurray
Melvyn Douglas
in
"Too Many
Husbands"
Late War News-Cartoon

Tuesday Only
Barbara Stanwyck
Henry Fonda
in
"The Mad Miss
Manton"

Wednesday - Thursday
Richard Greene
Wendy Barrie
in
"Hounds of The
Baskervilles"

TREAT OF THE WEEK
Double Size
Fresh Orange Ade
5¢
Banana Split
with whip cream
9¢
LIPSCOMB
Pharmacy
North Gate

GOOD FOOD means GOOD HEALTH
CHEF JOHN SERVES THE BEST
Try Our
CHICKEN or STEAK DINNERS
Plate Lunches 25¢ - 30¢ - 35¢
Home-Made Ice Cream
CHEF JOHN'S STEAK HOUSE
On Highway No. 6 - Next to Grant's Ser. Sta.

PENNEY'S HAS WHAT YOU NEED

Topflight SHIRTS
98¢
Fine white broadcloth, Sanforized*!
*Fabric shrinkage will not exceed 1%

Men's Gentry* PAJAMAS
\$1.49
Cool summer weight in fast colors!
* Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

Men's TIES
49¢
In colorful combinations to set off his whole outfit! Resiliently constructed, wrinkle resistant.

Slippers 1.98
Operas or everettes* in soft glove.

Polo Shirts 49¢
Light cotton with gay stripes. Cool!

Sweaters 98¢
Sleeveless style in pure wool.

Swim Trunks 1.49
Rayon satin with "Lastex" Wool!

Suspenders 98¢
In white, light tone gabardine.

Gift Sox, 4 for .. \$1
Fine rayon in smart clocks!

Razor Blades
20 for 25¢
Single edge blades plus blade vault.

Sport Sets 2.98
Cool cotton, Sanforized*!
*Fabric shrinkage will not exceed 1%

PENNEY'S
F. W. PENNEY CO., INC.

On WTAW

1120 kc.—257.7 Meters
Thursday, June 27, 1940
11:25 a. m.—Sign-On; Weather, News.
11:30 a. m.—"Pleasantdale Folks" (Social Security Administration) Local.
11:45 a. m.—Texas Farm and Home Program (To WOAI) Samuel L. Rodriguez from Porto Rico, and Visiting Professor in Agricultural Economics Department "Understanding Porto Rico."
12:00 noon—Signoff.
Friday, June 28, 1940
11:25 a. m.—Sign-On; Weather, News.
11:30 a. m.—Federal Music Program (Work Project Administration).
11:45 a. m.—Texas Farm and Home Program (To WOAI). L. A. Machemehl, Supervisor, Farm Security Administration; A. D. Jackson, Experiment Station; Tolbert Patterson, Deputy State Superintendent.
12:00 noon—Signoff.
4:30-5:30 p. m.—THE AGGIE CLAMBAKE.
Saturday, June 29, 1940
11:45 a. m.—Sign-On; Weather, News.
11:30 a. m.—"Drama of Food" (Farm Credit Administration).
11:45 a. m.—Texas Farm and Home Program (To WOAI) Mrs. F. L. Thomas, Farm and Home Book Reviewer, Agricultural Education Department Representative.
12:00 noon—Signoff.
Sunday, June 30, 1940
8:30 a. m.—Sign-On; Musical Moments.
8:45 a. m.—Roans Chapel Singers.
9:00 a. m.—Masterworks.
9:30 a. m.—Signoff.
Monday, July 1, 1940
11:25 a. m.—Sign-On; Weather, News.
11:30 a. m.—"Homes On The Land" (Farm Credit Administration).
11:45 a. m.—Texas Farm and Home Program (To WOAI) Dr. Kelshaw Bonham, Assistant Professor of Fisheries, Fish and Game Department; S. B. Apple, Department of Horticulture.
12:00 noon—Signoff.
Tuesday, July 2, 1940
11:45 a. m.—Sign-On; Weather, News.
11:30 a. m.—"The Story of Wool" (Farm Credit Administration).
11:45 a. m.—Texas Farm and Home Program (To WOAI) Roy Snyder, Extension Service; Dr. Ide P. Trotter, Head, Department of Agronomy.
12:00 noon—Signoff.