

The Battalion

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

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A. & M. Loses

FRONT PAGE ARTICLES in several Battalions during the past three months have stated that Colonel George F. Moore will soon leave the college permanently. The articles have also pointed out that for the past three years Colonel Moore has served the college as Commandant and Professor of Military Science and Tactics. There have been some other facts in these articles too—facts that are included in any good news story—but there's a lot more to it than just that. There's a lot that's been left unsaid in these articles.

To begin with, there's been no mention made in these stories to the effect that Colonel Moore takes rank among the college's greatest commandants—and that's a record to write home about because Texas A. & M. College has been here for sixty-four years and many good men have served it as commandant during that time.

Neither did the articles mention that Colonel Moore served under conditions which few commandants in the past have been faced with. Since the fall of 1937 the college has expanded tremendously—in enrollment, physical property, and prestige.

Nor did the articles point out that Colonel Moore had served in a double capacity—both as Commandant and P.M.S.&T. In the past, as a general rule, these have been two separate posts headed by two men rather than one.

But most important of all, he earned the respect and admiration of every thinking Aggie. The very nature of a commandant's duties makes his position one which is a target for cadet criticism. The commandant's job is to say "no" when he would rather say "yes"; to enforce discipline; to execute military orders regulating the conduct of the corps; and to generally supervise all activities of 6,000 men. The person doesn't live who could tackle that job and satisfy everyone.

But Colonel Moore did the job as well as, and probably better than, any of his predecessors. Aggies, ex-Aggies, college officials, and faculty members alike are of one mind. . . . When Colonel Moore goes, A. & M. loses.

Once Again

The following editorial appeared on the front page of last Thursday's Battalion and is here reprinted at the request of many Battalion readers who failed to obtain a copy of last week's paper:

"Too many R.O.T.C. officers!" That has been the War Department's reply to repeated pleas from A. & M. officials in respect to securing more advanced military science contracts so that more students could take the advanced course and thus, upon graduation, receive reserve commissions as second lieutenants in the United States Army.

The Battalion believes that even at times of world peace such an answer is out of joint—and in 1940 it has become axiomatic that a nation which has not prepared in peace time, ceases to exist as a nation. It has always been true, and particularly so now, that no nation can have too many trained officers.

A. & M.'s 1940 graduating class numbered 677—358 of this number received reserve commissions or certificates. Twice that number COULD have received reserve commissions. The senior class-to-be has approximately 1,150 members—463 of this number have advanced contracts. With a few exceptions, every man of the 1,150 took the two-year basic course—only 463 had advanced contracts. The number COULD BE 924!

A few years ago, before the War Department limited the number of advanced contracts, NINETY-EIGHT PERCENT of the juniors and seniors had advanced contracts—NINETY-EIGHT PERCENT of the graduating seniors became second lieutenants in the reserve corps. The percentage today isn't ninety-eight—or even near that figure.

Many A. & M. men who are qualified and have a desire to take the advanced course are unable to take it because of the limitation of the number of advanced contracts. These men, too, would like to be reserve officers in their nation's army. . . . These men, too, would make valuable additions to their nation's army.

The last issue of The Battalion contained an article which stated that Texas A. & M. College had offered all of its facilities to President Roosevelt and the War Department for national defense use. Not only as the largest military college in

the world, but also as one of the nation's greatest educational institutions—especially in particular fields of skilled trades so valuable to a nation at war, the college is in a position to be of great importance to any program of national defense.

And now the government can reciprocate by opening wide the door to the advanced military science course. This nation needs more trained officers now as never before. It's not a case of "too many R.O.T.C. officers," but TOO FEW OFFICERS.

The principal reason advanced by the War Department for limiting the number of contracts has been insufficient funds. Apparently, however, this reason no longer holds water. With millions being expended daily for national defense purposes, it seems logical to assume that a comparatively small portion of these funds could be allocated to train R.O.T.C. men as reserve officers. If ever there was a time when funds should be provided to this end, that time is NOW.

It's impossible to tell what an officer is worth, but it's easy to know how much one costs the government—\$20,000 at West Point . . . \$400 at Texas A. & M.

At considerably less expense, equally as efficiently, and in far greater number, the college stands ready to do its part in training officers for the nation's army.

All that Texas A. & M. College wants is the word "Go"!

Summer Reading...

By DR. T. F. MAYO

Cowley (editor): **Books That Changed Our Minds** This is a list (with an analysis of each) of twelve books which, in the opinion of a group of important writers, consulted by the editors of the New Republic, have most largely shaped the modern mind. The Library, we announce with honest pride, had every one of them. Here they are. How many of them have you read? That is, how "modern" is your mind? How about trying them out this summer?

1. Sigmund Freud: **Introduction to Psychoanalysis** (About dreams, complexes, the unconscious.)
2. Charles Beard: **Economic Interpretation of the American Constitution** (That economic motives largely shaped our government; "The Fathers" were human too.)
3. Henry Adams: **The Education of Henry Adams** (The author's own life story becomes a bitter indictment of our American way of life.)
5. Nikolai Lenin: **The State and Revolution** (The radical classic of our day.)
5. Oscar Spengler: **The Decline of the West** (A gigantic interpretation of history, maintaining that our whole civilization is entering its ice-and-iron age.)
6. Frederick J. Turner: **The Frontier in American History** (That the presence of free land in the West determined the character of American history, and that the disappearance of free land, since about 1890, has now changed this character.)
7. Frang Boas: **The Mind of Primitive Man** (That nations have different histories more because of environmental conditions than because of "racial" traits.)
8. I. A. Richards: **Principles of Literary Criticism** (That poetry, plays, novels, can be evaluated scientifically.)
9. The stein Veblen: **The Theory of Business Enterprise** (That, under the profit system, the interests of owners of industry conflict with those of the creators in industry and of the consumers.)
10. V. L. Parrington: **Main Currents in American Thought** (That our literature has grown out of the economic and social conditions which prevailed when it was produced.)
11. William Graham Sumner: **Folkways** (That a study of tribal customs and standards proves that everything is relative; i.e., that what is good in one place and time may be bad in another.)
12. John Dewey: **Studies in Logical Theory** (That "the use to which a proposition is put determines what it means, and that meaning determines what we are to think of it and do about it.")

As the World Turns...

By DR. AL B. NELSON

Lack of patriotism and personal honor among members of congress is reported to be so common that even essential military secrets cannot be kept. Congressional committees demand information from army and navy officers, the information is given in "secret" committee session, and within a few hours is available to anyone, even enemies of the nation. MORAL—the people back home should be careful in the choosing of their representatives.

The isolationists in congress are fighting every bit of aid to England, but after three years of fighting in China the Japanese are still getting almost all of their supplies from the United States, and their is NO PROTEST from the isolationists. Also, almost to a man, these isolationists have aided in the concentration of dictatorial powers in the hands of a small group. Why?

Gen. Smedley D. Butler, retired, of the U. S. Marine Corps, died last week. Back in 1930, while still on active service, Gen. Butler called Mussolini a "hit and run driver" after he was concerned in an auto accident. The incident caused international complications and nearly resulted in a court martial for the general. He retired the following year at the early age of 49. Since that event the President of the United States has called the Italian leader far worse names than Butler did.

Robert Montgomery, movie actor, is now back in the United States after gaining much publicity as a result of FIFTEEN DAYS of service as an ambulance driver in France. At least a fair part of the fifteen days seems to have been spent in being photographed in a good looking uniform.

Political Merry-Go-Round

Wilke Plus Third Party Threat Will Give Democrats An Acid Test

By Robert L. Doss

Editor's note: The following column is the first in a series to appear in The Summer Battalion in respect to current state and national politics. The author, Robert L. Doss, is a former editor-in-chief of The Battalion (1938-39) and is now a graduate assistant in the Economics Department.

Any opinions expressed in this column are the opinions of the author and are not the opinions of The Battalion:

Nobody except an individual with a Hitlerian complex likes to see a Big Somebody stomp a Little Somebody, and for that reason the Republicans' nomination of Wendell Wilkie is a healthful thing. Mr. Wilkie will, in all probability, be a very tough candidate to defeat.

But in the meantime we find the usual fly. What does Mr. Wilkie believe in? By his own words he believes in the New Deal except for its attitude towards business. At the same time he supports the New Deal's "fundamental reforms." If he supports its fundamental reforms, then he automatically endorses most of its attitude towards business, since said reforms concern business directly, for the most part.

A rose by any other name would smell as sweet, and a New Dealer by any other part designation would be the same. Possibly, however, the GOP's candidate will change his ideas. Landon did in 1936. The Kansas governor, you will remember, was an ardent New Dealer until he got the Republican nod. So may it be with Wilkie.

It could be that the greatest danger the Democrats face is not Mr. Wilkie, but the real

"dark horse" in the presidential campaign—a possible third party. The Republicans did not write a platform which differs greatly from the New Deal program. Maybe they were afraid to. Maybe they didn't have any ideas. On national defense the Republicans are "regular." So are they "regular" in being cautious not to pledge to keep America out of war.

Out of this point may develop the third party; a great deal of talk has already been heard on that point from such men as Senator Wheeler, who is a very close to John Lewis, CIO mogul. If the third party movement becomes a reality, then we may expect the CIO's endorsement of that party.

While Lewis may not be able to swing the CIO the way he wants, he nevertheless has a great power in all laboring groups (Who mentioned the AFL?). This labor group, along with Green's AFL, has been trotting right down the line with Roosevelt for eight years, and plenty of votes and dollars have come therefrom.

If labor's allegiance — and along with it the allegiance of the "progressive" voters—should switch to a third party, the pinch would be felt largely by the Democrats, not the Republicans. The GOP remains just about the same at all times, and Wilkie will certainly enlarge it.

In any event, it's going to take more than soothing words and new postoffices for the Democrats to come out on top even with Roosevelt as a candidate. First they'll have to gig Wilkie, then they'll probably have to set their guns for what may be the strongest third party since 1912.

Centennial Museum of the University of Texas has a collection of dinosaur material from the Big Bend country.

Rutgers University will celebrate the 175th anniversary of its founding in October.

The honors list at the University of Michigan reached 884 at a recent convocation.

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AROUND THE CAMPUS

By BETTY JANE WINKLER

In the world of telephone conversations: Adding to the stock of information that isn't worth very much are these heretofore unrevealed and astounding facts in respect to collegiate telephone artistry. . . . The College Station belle, for example, who chipped off \$20 her first week away from home—one call alone tolling \$9. Disease—homesickness. . . . Then there's the Aggie who invested \$14.86 in a College-to-Hollywood conversation with red beaked W. C. Fields at 3 a. m. one morning. . . . The favorite expressions of the young "ladies" answering the dormitory phones at Sophie Newcomb College are almost worth writing home about. "It's your nickel—Shoot!" and "You called; start talking," are two of the gems. But the one that lays 'em in the aisle is that which is rendered in a tobacco auctioneer chant, "Second floor, west wing, Josephine Louise House, H. Sophie Newcomb Memorial College for Young White Women, including dining room, drawing room, laundry room, parlor, cafeteria, infirmary, sun porch, and beds. Thank you. To whom do you wish to speak?"

The 1940 Battle of the Sexes—where College Station is concerned—is currently raging Shisa's ceiling fans which are always fanning at the Juke Box Proms. The boys are all for them, but girls say that this new form of fan dancing plays havoc with their skirts.

A new twist to law enforcement was flipped at John Public the other day in a nearby Texas town when a fire truck roared into a dead-end street followed by the usual crop of fire chasers. A second truck soon proceeded to park across the open end of the

street and a group of assorted policemen slapped tickets on the trapped civilians for following a fire truck. Who said it couldn't happen here?

L. C. Cueball" Doss is thoroughly bewildered. The former editor of The Battalion, now turned economics instructor, has "a rare thing" in one of his summer classes—a girl who is "both beautiful and intelligent; the first I have ever seen," Cueball points out. And at A. & M. too.

SPECIAL JUMBO SODAS 7c
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CAMPUS
Today - Sat.
"Gunga Din" with Cary Grant Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. Victor McLaglen
Late News - Cartoon

Pre. Sat. - Sun. - Mon.
"Grapes of Wrath" with Henry Fonda Jane Darwell
Latest News - Cartoon

Tuesday - Bargain Day
Leo Carrillo in
"The Girl and The Gambler"
Cartoon - Act

Wed. - Thurs.
"Banjo On My Knee" with Joel McCrea
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On WTAW
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Thursday, July 4, 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) Open Forum.
12:00 noon—Signoff.

Friday, July 5, 1940
11:25 a. m.—Sign-On; Weather, News.
11:30 a. m.—Federal Music Program (Works Project Administration).
11:45 a. m.—Texas Farm and Home Program (To WOAI) L. A. Machehmel, 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, July 6, 1940
11:25 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; T. W. Potts, Extension Service, Agricultural Education Department Representative.
12:00 noon—Signoff.

Sunday, July 7, 1940
8:30 a. m.—Sign-On; Musical Moments.
8:45 a. m.—Roans Chapel Singers.
9:00 a. m.—Masterworkers.
9:30 a. m.—Signoff.

Movie Review
By Betty Shelton

How a synthetic divorce starts unfolds in "Mexican Spitfire," which will be at the Assembly Hall Saturday with Lupe Velez, Leon Errol, and Donald Woods. It is a sequel to "The Girl from Mexico," and is even funnier as they try to make "a social whirlwind of a Mexican wildcat." She visits her husband's office while intoxicated, ruins their chances of receiving an important contract, has a hair-pulling battle with her husband's ex-fiancee, and throws \$50 worth of pastry at a wedding reception.

Joan Crawford and Clark Gable, who have co-starred with success many times, team again in "Strange Cargo," which will be at the Assembly Hall Monday and Tuesday. The story is of nine men and a girl who make a getaway from a South American penal colony and strike through hitherto impassable jungle. Only four of the original ten survive, but each one who perishes meets a repentant death through the influence of a mysterious stranger with a Bible. Clarke Gable is a convict who believes implicitly in his own physical strength, and Joan Crawford is a cynical cafe entertainer.

Leo Carrillo in "The Girl and The Gambler" will be at The Campus Tuesday. Carrillo plays the part of a border bandit who fancies himself as a Casanova. When a disgruntled side tells him of a beautiful but cold dancing girl in a resort town, he makes a wager that he can win her affections. He sets out to make good, but the dancer has other ideas.

The romance of Hollywood, from bathing beauties to world premieres, is shown in Technicolor in Darryl F. Zanuck's production of "Hollywood Cavalcade," which will be at the Assembly Hall Thursday. Alice Faye, Don Ameche, and great personalities of yesterday tell the story of the men and women who conquered the enter-

