

The Battalion

Summer Reading...

BY DR. T. F. MAYO

- Furnas: Storehouse of Civilization**
("We cannot expect to have intelligent mass action unless the average individual is reasonably well informed concerning science and technology and their social implications.")
- Polakov: The Power Age, or Chase: Men and Machines**
(If the above quotation hits you, either of these readable books will give you an opportunity of (painlessly) informing yourself "concerning science and technology and their social implications".)
- Odets: Paradise Lost (radical play)**
("Paul: All over, millions dreaming of democracy and liberty which don't exist.
Leo: No! There is more to life than this! Everything Paul said is true, but there is more. That was the past, but there is a future.")
- Havelock Ellis: My Life**
("I have been a dreamer and an artist; a great dreamer, for that is easy; not a great artist, for that is hard; but still an artist, whether in the minor art of writing, or the greater art of comprehending, or the supreme art of living, wherein it is something to have tried even if one fails.")
- Moore: The Novels of John Steinbeck: A First Study**
("He (Steinbeck) doesn't enjoy being a best seller; the fact that he is one causes him to doubt his work, and to wonder if it is lacking in ideas, since it attracts so many readers.")



"Ain't that cute? He signed it with a kiss!"

This City of Ours...

BY GEORGE B. WILCOX

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of weekly columns which will appear during the remainder of the summer and all throughout the long session in respect to happenings at College Station City Council meetings and interpretations of College Station ordinances. The column is intended to be an official outlet for College Station City Council business and affairs.

George B. Wilcox, writer of the column, is a professor in the Education Department and for the past two years has been a member of the City Council. At the present time he is in charge of publicity for the City Council and the City of College Station.

For some months the City Council of College Station has been much concerned over the matter of getting the story of the activities of the city government to the citizenry. News stories have appeared from time to time in The Battalion. The ordinances carrying penalties have been published in this, the city's official paper, as required by Texas statutes. Various notices for the guidance of our citizens have appeared frequently.

It remained for George Fuermann, present editor of the Battalion, to offer a happy solution to the problem of publicity by way of the current news route. This column will appear each week with items of news and information which we hope will be of value to all concerned.

It is planned to take up the various ordinances and summarize them so that we may know more in detail the requirements of our own city government. Your suggestions will be gratefully received.

Several of the insurance companies have sent general circular letters to all their policy holders concerning the new key rate for fire insurance. If you have not taken the matter up with your company, do so at once.

Mayor Anderson gave a detailed explanation of the city's expenditures in the last issue of The Battalion and indicated that there would have to be an increase in the budget for 1940-41. This increase will probably be off-set by the increase in the assessed property values within the city.

Mention was made in Mayor Anderson's discussion of a revenue bond issue to pay off certain obligations incurred by the City and thereby effect quite a saving interest charge. Many cities are doing the same thing. A revenue bond issue obligates the city to pay off such a bond out of its earnings.

Hearne recently voted a revenue bond issue of \$100,000 to be used in making extensions to the present municipal plant. The present plant has paid a net profit into

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Political Merry-Go-Round

Usually "Hot" State Politics Slowed By Current European Crisis

By Robert L. Doss

Up until the European war became a war, Texas was headed for one of the hottest political campaigns in years. With the rapid pace of events in Europe, however, the Texas politicians have found themselves without too attentive audiences.

The politicians still have their fire; the people still like their fights. But the people are now far more interested in whether they themselves are going to have to take part in a fight—and that not a verbal one. Consequently, candidates for State offices have been unable to drum up the amount of fire we usually find at this time of year.

Possibly the situation will change; certainly State politics will assume more importance within the next few weeks than has been the case to date.

The governor's campaign this year is much like the Democratic campaign in 1936 when Roosevelt was the issue. Today O'Daniel is the issue. The people either like him or don't like him, and it's going to take at least one primary—and probably two—to determine which is the case.

Governor O'Daniel has divorced himself from the sales tax by saying that he's for any tax the legislature passes. The association of a sales tax with his name was undoubtedly one of his greatest stumbling blocks, and he has done a lot to remove the stigma. Whether or not there should have been that association at all is another matter.

So far as this writer knows, on-

ly the Fergusons favor a sales tax, and they're careful to call it a gross receipts tax. While the two are not the same, they do operate in strikingly similar manners.

The other candidates are all more source tax plan, which seems to be about the "most popular idea with the average voter."

Before the campaign is over, we will probably see a sort of contest between the candidates to determine who's the "best American." At any rate, patriotism is going to play an increasingly large role in the current campaign. Already this has begun with Governor O'Daniel and Colonel Thompson exchanging blows more in the nature of reconnaissance than anything else.

The style of campaign hasn't changed much. Governor O'Daniel is more serious in his approach; Colonel Thompson is more belligerent than he was in 1938. Jerry Sadler has "streamlined" the 1938-O'Daniel technique; the Fergusons are strangely quiet, expecting to take the usual Ferguson 90 per cent plus more later; Harry Hines is conducting a rather quiet, old-style campaign.

Actually of course, we can't expect the words to begin to fly until after the Democrats choose their candidate for the presidency. Then, if Roosevelt is nominated, we'll probably have a race to see who is the best Roosevelt supporter. (Remember that one of Mrs. Ferguson's planks is a third term for Roosevelt, which may be significant later on.)

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

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Texas A. & M. and The State Legislature

TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE is an engineering school. An Agricultural school. The college has no great law school, nor any law school at all. Few of its graduates enter the field of state politics because that is a field for which their collegiate training has not fit them. Voters are scarce who believe that engineers and farmers should be State Legislators.

So, on the surface of the thing, it appears that it might be said that Texas A. & M. College is numerically woefully unrepresented in the State Legislature. The college, of course, is capably represented by the Senator and Representative from this particular district, but more than that is needed in a legislative body as large as our State Legislature, the college must look further than that.

Besides these two representatives from Brazos County and the local Senatorial District — both of whom are close enough to the institution to be familiar with its problems — the college must look to every State Senator and every State Representative as its own personal representative.

Every citizen of Texas has a vested interest in the college. A. & M. doesn't operate for the benefit of Brazos County, or any other given locale. The college exists solely as a State institution—representative of the interests of every Texan. From the Gulf of Mexico to the plains of the Texas Panhandle... From El Paso to Texarkana, the benefits of the college's vast educational resources, its invaluable Extension Service work, and the researches of its famed Experiment Station are evenly spread.

And so it is that every State Legislator is actually the personal representative of the college. From every corner of the State the legislators are actually — in part, at least — the representatives of A. & M. College. This they must be if they are to adequately represent their own particular county or district. This they must be if they are to adequately represent the people of Texas.

INTRODUCING YOU TO LATIN AMERICA

Perhaps you would like to place yourself in the front of a movement which is setting in: The turning of our national attention southward.

"South American Primer", by Katherine Carr.
An excellent preliminary survey: "Most of all, the author writes, 'I wanted to know the South American people, and the way they lived and why they lived that way.' Well, so do we.

"Pecay by Revolution", by Frank Tannenbaum.
Mexico, this author thinks, can never reach peace until she has completed her hundred-year Revolution: The return of the land to the people.

"America South", by Carleton Beals.
A poorly written book, but easy to read, and full of indispensable information about history, resources, people, and prospects.

"Don Segundo Sombra: Shadows on the Pampas", by Ricardo Güiraldes.
A rousing novel of Argentinian ranch people.

"Venezuela", by Erna Ferguson.
A pleasant and informative book.

"Gomez, Tyrant of the Andes", by Thomas Rourke.
The most recent and perhaps the most outrageous of the Latin American dictators—a formidable breed!

"Whither Latin America?", by Frank Tannenbaum.
A brief and systematic argument to prove that South America will never become industrialized.

"The Ejido: Mexico's Way Out", by Eyller Simpson.
The best book for an understanding of the forces working under the surface of Mexico affairs.

"Porfirio Diaz", by Carleton Beals.
The crowded life of the old dictator who for thirty years held Mexico in a sort of frozen peace.

"Guatemala", by Erna Ferguson.
The most readable book about Central America.

"The Banana Empire", by Kepner, Charles David.
A painstaking, slow-moving, thorough account of the doings of the great American fruit companies. Read this for a real grasp of how economic imperialism works.

"The People and Politics of Latin America", by Mary W. Williams.
A detailed and comprehensive book with which to fill up the chinks in your knowledge.

Movie Review

BY BETTY SHELTON

At the Assembly Hall Saturday is "Millionaire Playboy" with Joe Penner, Linda Hayes, Russ Brown, and Fritz Feld. Penner is cast as a young man whose reaction to kisses is violent hiccupping fits. His father, a utilities magnate offers \$5,000 for a cure. A friend undertakes to earn the money and takes him to a resort hotel that is full of oomph girls, who are eager to kiss the lad who is a millionaire playboy. His theory is that Joe can never get over his girl-shyness unless he plays with girls.

"The Story of Dr. Ehrlich's Magic Bullet", which will be at the Assembly Hall Monday and Tuesday, marks a turning point in Edward G. Robinson's career. In a role utterly different from anything he has done before, he gives a performance so superb that it ranks with the finest portraits in screen history. He lives the role covering the span of years from young manhood to gray old age in a constant battle for the humanities. "The Story of Dr. Ehrlich's Magic Bullet" is such intelligent and courageous entertainment that it is impossible to praise it too highly. Walter Winchell rates the show as one of the year's best.

Bing Crosby and Bob Hope, assisted by Dorothy Lamour, have gotten together for the first time on the screen in "The Road to Singapore" which will be at the Assembly Hall Wednesday and Thursday. The story serves as a background for five new tunes including "Too Romantic" and a series of funny incidents such as Big's and Bob's playing "patty-cake" before socking offensive parties and donning sarongs and grease-paint in order to get something to eat at a native party. The picture ranks as one of the best comedy musicals of the season.

The substitution of new names for German dishes in Canadian restaurants brings to mind what happened during the World War. A little western Texas town was called Brandenburg, in honor of a German state. Most of the citizens were of German descent. But when war came, the post-office department didn't like the place to connote anything German. So, the name was changed to Old Glory, in honor of our flag.

Male vs. Female item: West Virginia University telephone operators report that the men are the most courteous over the phone, that women make the most intelligent phone conversationalists.

As the World Turns...

BY DR. AL B. NELSON

France is no longer a republic—the republican government whose motto was "Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity" has been destroyed by those sworn to defend it, destroyed from within by members of its own government, by high officers in its own arm, and a dictatorship of the Italian model has been created in its place. The new motto is "Labor, Home, and Fatherland."

England is in danger from similar forces. An admiral of the British fleet has just been thrown in one prison and his wife in another for treasonable activities. They were the heads of a pro-Nazi organization. This officer was a former Chief of Naval Intelligence and held this office while the Germans were making their military and naval preparations. No wonder the British were caught asleep.

Many national leaders of the Institute of Latin American Affairs, which met in Austin last week, went on record as believing that the United States should immediately declare war on Germany, Poland, Norway, Holland, Belgium, Luxemburg, and France, all waited for Germany to choose her own time to attack them. If the U. S. should declare war now our Navy and air force could render England vital assistance. IT WOULD BE FAR BETTER FOR OUR COUNTRY TO FIGHT OVERSEAS THAN TO WAIT AND FIGHT HERE.

We are not isolated. Japanese naval and air bases are within three hours flying time from continental United States and another dictatorship nation is within fifteen minutes, bomber time, from the continental U. S.—Look at your map and examine the positions of Japan, Russia, and ALASKA. At the present time there are only one thousand soldiers in Alaska for defense and no real air bases.

This is not a trend-of-the-times note, but we believe you should keep informed on such matters just the same: Five students of Young Harris College have been expelled for leading a strike to have a no-hand-holding ruling rescinded by the faculty. Said college's president after the action: "This is one institution where the faculty will not back Bolshevism."



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CAMPUS TODAY—SATURDAY

Warner Baxter in "Return of the Cisco Kid" Late News — Cartoon

PREVIEW SAT. NITE SUNDAY-MONDAY

Spencer Tracy in "Stanley and Livingstone" Latest News — Cartoon

TUESDAY ONLY

"Fifth Avenue Girl" with Ginger Rogers and Walter Connolly

WED.-THUR.

"Hollywood Cavalcade" with Alice Fay and Don Ameche Cartoon — Comedy

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