

# The Battalion

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

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belongs to the world of free peoples because only among free peoples does the welfare of the broken human atom count for much. Those who help it in its present work may be sure that what they give will be spent in the spirit of the Golden Rule.

—New York Times

## At War With Ourselves

OPEN SEASON for careless pedestrians is still in full swing. The drivers' license division, Texas State Highway Patrol, reports that conclusion from its analysis of the traffic-accident record for five consecutive months.

During that period 25 per cent of the persons killed on Texas roads and streets were struck down while walking. The pedestrian fatality list carried 165 names—7 per cent more than for the like period in 1939. As for some years past, the record showed more persons killed while walking on country roads than while crossing city streets; and 57 per cent of the victims were struck down at night.

The most hazardous way to go places still was shown to be walking in the rural road travel-lane after dark. When a person finds it necessary to go on the highway at night, the Division advises, he should take these precautions:

“Wear light-colored clothing, carry a flashlight or use some other means to make sure that the motorist can see you.”

The report further shows that Saturday is the most hazardous day for pedestrians. Almost twice as many are killed then as on other days. Though the walker problem usually is associated with children, only 21 of the 165 killed during the five months were of school age. That relatively favorable showing suggests that the safety drills and classroom instruction, together with the school safety patrols, are increasingly effective in keeping down accidents.

However, 10 children not yet four years old were killed while playing on the streets. One-fourth of the pedestrians killed were over 65 years old. Evidently the streets are not for the very old or the very young.—San Antonio Express.

## Lo, the Poor Day Student

FAMILIES IN BRYAN, through the Chamber of Commerce protested about the inconvenience caused them by the college ruling that dormitory space must be filled before day-student registration may begin.

But the ruling was not of college source. It seems that when the school borrowed \$2,000,000 from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, they agreed to an arrangement of this kind.

It is just another bad situation that no one can remedy. However, they need have no fear about not being able to stay at home or in project houses; a record enrollment for next year is expected, and the dormitory space was filled last year.

When asked “If it were a matter of choice, would you rather have your husband imprisoned for conscientious objection or killed in Europe?”, the girls in Smith College preferred a dead hero to a live coward.

Texas produces an average of 1,500,000 tons of sulphur annually, which is twenty-four per cent of the total world's production.

Works of distinguished contemporary poets are being recorded by the poets themselves for the phonographic library at City College, New York.

## As the World Turns...

By Dr. R. W. STEEN  
EUROPE SEEMS TO BE IN FOR A HARD WINTER. England is holding fast to the blockade which is admitted to be her best weapon, and in the very logic of the situation could not be expected to modify it in any way. Yet, as a result of that blockade many people on the continent are going to be hungry this winter. Some doubtless will starve. This is a most tragic situation, but the tragedy is one for which Germany is primarily responsible. According to most experts there is probably sufficient food in Europe to prevent starvation if it were properly distributed. Germany, however, is taking the lion's share for her own use, and is leaving the people in conquered territories with barely a crust. She argues that the conqueror should not be expected to provide food for the conquered.

The move to transfer fifty old American destroyers to Britain is gaining momentum. Various agents of the Department of Justice are now engaged in trying to discover legal names for the transfer. There would be no difficulty if Congress could see fit to pass a resolution authorizing their sale, but that would take a great deal of time due to the fact that numerous isolationists, who still insist that America's interests are not at stake, would have to spend some days orating about the matter. Therefore the search is on for a means to effect the transfer without Congressional authorization. A group of lawyers, with the indirect approach typical of the legal profession, has suggested that the navy transfer the destroyers to the army, that the army then transfer them to some company as payment for war equipment, that the company then sell them to a neutral country, and that the neutral then transfer them to Britain. It is difficult for one not schooled in the wiles of politics to see the point made by some Senators: that it is an act of war to provide England with destroyers, but not an act of war to provide her with planes.

The United States seems to be on the verge of obtaining leases to naval bases on various British possessions off our coasts. The bases are needed in order to make easier the defense of the Panama Canal and other vital areas in North America. This, and the proposed joint defense agreement with Canada, should improve considerably the ability of America to withstand attack. It is possible, however, that that attack would not come during the lives of persons now living if America should see fit to give England ample aid at the present time.

Reflecting a shortage of skilled workers in the fast-growing aircraft manufacturing industry, a California aircraft company now conducts an apprenticeship training program. Young men are paid about half the prevailing wage rate of trained workers for part-time work between classes during a four-year period.

The Texas Dairy Products association has gathered information that no cows are kept on 125,000 Texas farms and 75,000 farms are without a single chicken. Statistics gathered by Texas A. & M. College show a total of 3,282,000 persons in Texas are on diets lacking in the fundamental essentials of good nutrition.

## Brain Twisters

By W. S. McCulley

A yacht, the passengers on which have separated into two antagonistic parties, was sailing in the South Seas—out of reach of the Japanese Navy. One evening, after the navigator had looked too long on the wine when it was red, he forgot to watch where the ship was going, and the yacht was wrecked on a desert island. The yacht had been well stocked with food, too, so the two parties had plenty to eat. They found an accurate scale which had been tossed up by the waves, but they had no standard weights. The two parties definitely did not trust each other, and some way had to be found to divide the food equitably.

A grindstone, marked forty pounds, was found. The navigator, still under the weather, said it must have floated ashore. Another of the group, by the exercise of a little ingenuity, discovered that if the stone was cut into four pieces of different sizes, and these pieces combined in various ways on the two sides of the scales, it would be possible to weigh any amount in integral pounds (look up “integral” if you want to know) from one pound to forty pounds. Assuming that a method for cutting the stone was available, WHAT DO YOU DETERMINE OF THE WEIGHT OF EACH PIECE OF THE GRINDSTONE TO BE? Answer on page 4)

## BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

The way of things . . . From the sweet rhythmations of “Never Smile Again” to the bouncing glissandos of the “Johnson Rag”, Juke Box Proms goers have visited in Austin while the campaign was at its height. Walking into a music store, he asked for the order they clerk came back with, “My God, so want them to form the mythical Aggie Hit Parade for the summer of 1940. The number one, two and three spots go to the ‘Smile’ song, Russ Morgan’s ‘Does Your Heart Beat For Me?’, and Pennsylvania 6-5000.” “Six Lessons From Madam LaZonga” is fourth, “Boog-It” rides the number five spot, and “The Breeze and I” comes in for sixth place honors. “Sierra Sue” is seventh, “Fools Rush In” is eighth, “Devil May Care” rates ninth, and “Johnson Rag” trails in tenth place. Backwash compiled the statistics through the requests made each week at the summer proms. Incidentally, the poll's results are surprisingly close to the latest national hit parade sponsored by a major cigarette manufacturer.



Fuermann

Individual choices were equally grooved. Mavane Warner, Adine Womble, and Jimmy Joy gave the “Smile” song the nod. Joe Floyd blessed “Sierra Sue” as the number one song. Joan Brink and Wilma Hancock favored “The Nearness of You”, even if it didn't make the first ten. And the summer poll brings to mind the past spring's social season when “Tuxedo Junction” rode the number one spot for thirteen consecutive weeks.

Black coffee and flat fifties: That's the order of things as finals near and 1940's summer session becomes history. Probably the greatest summer school in the sixty-four year history of the college, it's principal entertainment feature has been the Juke Box Proms which debuted the first semester and which have been tremendously popular. So “auf wiedersehen” it is, but most of you will soon be back in the collegiate saddle again as the nation's colleges and universities begin their long sessions in mid-September. Here's the best of everything to you all, and may you have a gay two weeks before you hit the scholastic groove again.

## Movie Review

By Betty Shelton

At the Assembly Hall Saturday is “Adventure in Diamonds” co-starring George Brent and Isa Miranda. As the title indicates it is an adventure story, but the dialogue, the fast-paced romance, the setting of gay Cape Town, and the unconventional behavior of Brent and Miss Miranda put the picture definitely in the comedy class. The picture starts when an officer in England's Royal Air Force meets a beautiful lady crook who is attempting to loot the fabled diamond hoard of Kimberley.

in its screen form than it was on Broadway. Joan Crawford's dramatic promise reaches its culmination as the self-centered Susan who adopts a new social movement as a fad and makes a complete both of the lives of her friends and of herself by her meddling. As the inebriate husband who finally wins the battle with himself and Susan, Fredric March turns in a matching performance and makes a brilliant return to films.

### WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL

Saturday—“Adventure in Diamonds” with George Brent and Isa Miranda.

Monday and Tuesday—“My Favorite Wife” with Cary Grant, Irene Dunne, Gail Patrick, and Randolph Scott.

Wednesday and Thursday—“Susan and God” with Joan Crawford and Fredric March.

## J. R. Ketchersid To Leave; Will Join Army Vet Corps

Lieut. James Randle Ketchersid, Veterinary Corps Reserve, has received orders to report to active duty August 19 at Fort Bliss.

Lt. Ketchersid has been an instructor in the department of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery at Texas A. & M. College until now.

Dr. R. P. Marsteller, dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine, said that Dr. Ketchersid is leaving his teaching duties for a career as an officer in the army Veterinary Corps. It has not been decided who will take the place on the teaching staff of the officer.

Graduates of the schools of Veterinary Medicine, whether ROTC graduates or not, may apply for a commission in the corps. Many of the A. & M. students take veterinary medicine and some branch of ROTC work and take their commissions as first lieutenants in the Veterinary Corps in place of the second lieutenants commission in their branch of the service.

## E. A. Norton, S. C. S. To Speak on Federal And State Relations

E. A. Norton, Chief, Physical Surveys Division, Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D. C. and visiting professor in the Department of Agronomy this summer, will speak on Federal and State Relations in an Action program in the Animal Industries Lecture Room Thursday at 8 o'clock. The meeting is being sponsored by the Agricultural Forum and the Agronomy Department and is to the especial interest to those persons connected with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and the Extension Service who are interested in the Land Use Planning Program.

About 1,000,000 persons were taken off the unemployment lists last year according to an estimate by the federal reserve board.

Reflecting a shortage of skilled workers in the fast-growing aircraft manufacturing industry, a California aircraft company now conducts an apprenticeship training program. Young men are paid about half the prevailing wage rate of trained workers for part-time work between classes during a four-year period.

“Tough” story of the year: The forthcoming registration brings to mind the story of the out-of-state freshman who enrolled at A. & M. last September. Needing a little extra money, the boy wrote his father explaining that he had enlisted in the Cavalry and needed \$125 to buy a horse. The gullible father sent the money and two weeks later received another letter from his son which asked for \$10 a week to feed the animal—which was regularly sent throughout the year. The payoff, though, came during the last week of school when the father wrote and asked the lad how the lad intended to get the horse home. The son came back with an obituary explaining that the horse had broken his leg as a result, and had to be killed. The letter contained a postscript which read: “By the way, I need \$15 to bury the thing.”

Believe-it-or-not item of the week is the story being told by J. W. “Woody” Walker and L. G. “Pinky” Denny. The two Arggies were “highwaying” out of Dallas recently and received a ride from one of the county's deputy sheriffs. The deputy, however, was only going as far as Corsicana and, being a die-hard Aggie fan, he was anxious to help the cadets get an all-the-way ride. In short order a car with a Brazos County license passed the sheriff at a much more than legal rate of speed. The sheriff went to work and caught up with the speeding car, stopped it, and amazed the driver by letting him go—on one condition—that he give the two Arggies a through ride to College Station.

Backwashin' around . . . Bruce Edmonds, to his escortee of a few nights back, “My grandmother lived to be 80 years old, and fifteen days after she died she look-

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