

The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
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, issued Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings; also it is published weekly from June through August.

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Editor's Note: Staff organization will be completed after the first staff meeting, and the masthead will carry the complete staff as soon thereafter as is possible.

COMBAT. But, if and when the United States does enter armed conflict again, Texas Aggies will lead the way.

Joining The Battalion Staff

"How to join The Battalion staff" is a question which for the information of freshmen and others interested in journalistic work can be answered in very few words. The procedure is to come to the Battalion Office, room 122 Administration Building and tell any senior on the staff your intentions. That is all there is to it.

Prospective members are invited to attend a meeting of the entire staff of The Battalion to be held Thursday at 7:30 p. m. Members of the editorial, advertising, art, and photography staffs will be called together to organize their work for the year, coordinating their efforts to function smoothly and in harmony with the rest of the units, and the meeting will furnish new and old members an opportunity to get acquainted.

Those who have done journalistic work in high school or on other publications will agree that newspaper work is fun. Newspaper reporting aids the student in making new acquaintances both among other students and among faculty members. It gives the cadet the chance to meet professors and learn the problems involved in courses of study other than his own. Too, the feeling that he knows what's going on and why, is a feeling of satisfaction. A newspaper reporter has the opportunity to improve his writing ability as well as his speech.

Speaking of improving one's writing, W. C. Stone of Waco has been brought to A. & M. to work as an assistant in the Student Publication Office. Among his other duties, he will conduct classes in journalism cooperating with The Battalion. Classes will be held in the morning, and laboratory work will be done as part of the regular Battalion news and feature writing. This course, known as English 329, will be open to juniors and seniors and to some sophomore with permission. It will carry a credit rating of three hours, and in this course will be taught news writing, feature writing, headline writing, copy and proof reading, advertising, and other essential parts of a journalistic course.

Besides the personal satisfaction and the educational value to be gained from work on The Battalion, there is also a chance to work into a paying position as a senior on the staff. Managing editors, advertising assistants, the advertising manager, the sports editor and intramural editor, the associate editor, staff artist and staff photographer as well as the editor-in-chief are all paying positions.

To those who are skeptical of their ability, it is not always the "A" student who makes the best reporter, although good grades never hurt anyone's chances. If you have never done any newspaper work before but you think you would like to try, the opportunity is yours. You never know what you can do until you try.

The goal of this year's paper will be to build a staff that will work together as one large machine, each man doing his share of the work and each man getting his share of the credit. The appearance of the paper is not what the editors of '40-'41 desire to change; we hope that we can improve in the content and in the ease with which a paper should be written. In the past each paper started from scratch and built from the ground up. Our object is to reverse the process and attempt to build and enlarge upon what has been accomplished before us in order that the final result will be twice that from where we picked it up.

As the World Turns...

BY DR. R. W. STEEN

This column is one year old. It has lived through one of the most tragic years the history of mankind can offer. The world is at war. That is bad enough, but worse still is the fact that international gansterism—masquerading under a swastika and a fascis—has been so successful in exploiting the theory that might makes right. Nation after nation, including many devoted apostles of the principles of personal liberty and unpreparedness, has fallen before the onrush of a German geared to war and conquest.

Long before actual fighting began Czechoslovakia was sacrificed upon the Nazi altar in a futile attempt to maintain peace in our time. In spite of the fiasco at Munich men and nations continued to believe that appeasement was possible. Some men still believe that it is, but it is difficult to see how they can do so. Poland, Norway, Denmark, Belgium, Holland, Luxemburg, and France have fallen. Today civilization, as America knows civilization, is protected by little more than British courage and American industry. Perhaps the two can win.

There is reason to believe that Hitler has erected a house of cards. Once it is shoved off balance it will probably collapse in even less time than it took to build it. First, however, it must be shoved off balance. Hitler's first major defeat will result in a definite loss of face for Germany in those countries that are yet neutral, and will do much to restore British prestige. More important still is the fact that millions of subject peoples will doubtless seize the first sign of weakness as an opportunity to revolt. These people are already smarting under the memory of a recently inflicted defeat. The starvation rations on which they will be placed this winter will do little to increase their love for Germany. Hungry men are dangerous. They will not overlook many opportunities to bit the hand that starves them.

Italy is one of the weakest spots in the Hitler armor. Italy stood by during the trying days which saw France putting up some resistance to the German invasion. As France weakened before the onslaught of the German war machine and the treachery of some of her own leaders, Mussolini courageously tossed insult after insult at the beleaguered French. Then with collapse practically complete Italy, in true jackal fashion, rushed bravely to the assistance of Germany. She seemed to think that Britain would collapse too, and that the war was over. Britain has not collapsed, and there is now much evidence to indicate that Italy is already in desperate need of many vital supplies.

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Maybe that's the answer . . . At any rate, that seems to be the way that Aggies feel about the situation. Let's give till it hurts where our industrial products are concerned. As far as the United States is concerned, let's make this an economic warfare. If possible, LET'S STAY OUT OF ARMED

BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

"Backwash: An agitation resulting from some action or occurrence."—Webster.

Backwashin' around . . . It's back new A. & M. blanket. One of the in the collegiate saddle once again about four years ago, dictates that each year the new head yell leader must buy Rev's blanket. After protecting the famous lady for a long session, the blanket becomes the souvenir-property of the yell leader. Head Yell Leader E. R. "Buster" Keeton has ordered the blanket for the 1940 season and it will soon be decorating the canine mascot in the guise of her new fall clothes.

But there's quite a story in Rev herself . . . She's the only female student at Aggieland . . . Has no classes to make, no maintenance to pay, and a lifetime fellowship . . . She's the object of every Aggie's affection and the commander of the corps' protection—not that she has ever been in a spot where she couldn't take care of herself . . . She's almost ten years old, coming to the campus in 1931 as a pup . . . Takes her meals in either of the two mess halls and sleeps in any room on the campus that she desires . . . "Goodbye to Texas" has as much meaning to her as to the Aggies . . . Her favorite sport is heckling Joe College and Peruna, Baylor and S. M. U. mascots . . . She rates a full seat on the train on corps trips . . . Is very snooty to other dogs . . . She makes every college practice and is respected by every Aggie . . . Is a queen in her own right.

All this and a Kitchen stove too: Early this past summer a sign on the Y.M.C.A. bulletin board pointed out that a woman's purse had been found in the building and that the owner could repossess same by identifying the thing. Now it's quite possible that many persons, on reading the sign, wondered what the purse contained. Some probably even let their imaginations run riot and imagined that the purse contained a thousand dollars in cash or Trojan Horse plans to blitzkrieg the college and blow up the Administration Building. In fact, however, the contents were very down-to-earth and probably typical of women's purses in general. The contents: One Xmas greeting card, postmarked December 28, 1938; one valentine, unused; one pair of dice, small; one compact with broken mirror; one coin purse, contents, one cent; one miniature white ivory horse; one fountain pen; one small piece of yellow chalk; two pencils, both broken; one handkerchief, clean; and one small piece of quartz.

Point of View: Earlier this summer an editorial appearing in the Summer Texas, student publication of the University of Texas, aroused considerable comment on the basis that it was an un-American expression closely akin to Martin Dies-hearded "subversive activities." Most unique of the many letters received by editor Boyd Sinclair (who, incidentally, is anything but un-American) was the following gem:

Dear Editor: "A well-known authority remarked to me that there has been subversive activities going on at the Texan. He did not make it clear what they were, but if they are anything like submarines or outboard motors, I wish to join said subversive activities at once, as it sounds like fun to me. "The last time I rode in a submersive was one summer when my favorite Model T ran into Bull Creek. Since that time I have not seen any of my friends that were with me, but that's not the point, since I got to ride in a submersive."

This time, and twice more: . . . Believe-it-or-not item of the past summer is the story being told by J. W. "Woody" Walker and L. G. "Pinky" Denny. The two Aggies were "highwaying" out of Dallas 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 him at a much more than legal rate of speed. The deputy 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 Aggies a ride to College Station.

Milady's fall styles: When the famous Aggie mascot, Reveille, trots out on Kyle Field September 28 she'll be wearing her

Movie Review

By Bob Nisbet

About a year ago this writer was having a short snack in one of the local confectioneries, drinking a coke with two friends. The conversation had run rather stale, and one of the pair asked me when I was going to announce a four-grade-point show. Old students will remember the one, two, and three grade point ratings developed in this column last year. That day the best answer I could give the two hecklers (that was before football season was well under way) was to quip, "The first day one of you gets more than three grade-points per hour on some course."

Now, however, this writer has found a show that in his mind merits all of four grade-points and more. Those who saw the Sugar Bowl pictures will agree that "Tulane vs. A. & M.", starring John Kimbrough and Walemon Price, was certainly the most heart-warming show ever to be shown before a bunch of Aggies. In fact I think John Kimbrough got the Academy Award; didn't he?

The first few days of school, being leisure days with no classes to make and no lessons to prepare, will find a goodly percentage of the students spending their time at the Assembly Hall and The Campus seeing shows to pass the time. What they will find when they go is listed in the "What's Showing" column, and so we will take a quick trip through its entirety.

Beginning with the Assembly Hall on Wednesday, we find "FREE, BLONDE, AND 21", which is just as funny as Joan Davis and Chick Chandler can make a show, plays Wednesday afternoon and night. A murder develops, though, and an attempt at drama is made—that ruins it. The story is built around a hotel for women where Mary Beth Hughes, portraying a scheming young thing, pretends to commit suicide, becomes as accom-

plished to a killing, and finally winds up in jail. The story moves along at a fast pace, and the whole thing is not too bad. Probably the best picture of the list is "IRENE", a musical comedy starring Ray Milland, Anna Neagle, May Robson, Roland Young, and Billie Burke, all able actors and actresses. Irene vows society's upper-crust at a Long Island ball by wearing an evening dress of Alice Blue, which brings forth the song "Alice Blue Gown". The story there is recounted the rise of a girl whom circumstances elevate from a job in an upholstery establishment to pre-eminence as a model of fashion, and who goes on to become the rage of the social realm. Several songs are introduced, among them "Out on a Limb", "Castle of Dreams", and "Irene". "DANGER ON WHEELS" is a just-fair story of auto racing and stars Andy Devine, Richard Arlen, a test driver, is the heavy, and the female interest is Peggy Moran. The show telegraphs its punches, but it is fairly well paced.

WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL

Wednesday — "FREE E, BLONDE, AND 21", with Lynn Bari, and Joan Davis.

Thursday and Friday — "IRENE", with Anna Neagle, Ray Milland, and Roland Young.

AT THE CAMPUS

Wednesday and Thursday — "YOU'RE NOT SO TOUGH", with Nan Grey, Billy Halop, and Huntz Hall.

Friday and Saturday — "DANGER ON WHEELS", with Richard Arlen and Andy Devine.

AGGIE HEADQUARTERS

WHEN IN BRYAN . . .

If It's New, We Have It

AGGIE JEWELRY OF ALL KINDS
TRY OUR WATCH DEPARTMENT

We have served you Aggies for over fifty years and we feel like we have improved with age.

Have Your Eyes Examined by

DR. J. S. CALDWELL, Registered Optometrist

Caldwell's Jewelry Store

Bryan, Texas

WELCOME AGGIES!

ZUBIK'S UNIFORMS . . .

. . . ARE OUTSTANDING IN THE FIELD . . .

FISH SLACKS, JUNIOR SLACKS, BLOUSES,
SHIRTS AND BOOT BREECHES—

MADE TO MEASURE . . .

. . . Here at College Station

Guaranteed Quality Workmanship and Fit

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44 Years

1940

North Gate