

The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE

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Good Signs and Bad Signs

Football season can be considered to be well under way when the freshmen begin painting and hanging signs over the campus. Already such signs are making their appearance, and the Fish are to be congratulated for their promptness in the matter. Most of the signs are good.

However, a word of warning to the freshmen painting these signs. The purpose of the signs is to keep the corps football-conscious, and to help the Fish, themselves, acquire as much of the Aggie spirit as possible. The purpose is not to amuse the freshmen with vulgar jokes nor pictures.

There is nothing funny nor inspiring in vulgarity no matter what the medium. Over-enthusiastic freshmen may have the idea that all Aggies are rough and tough, and all such rot, but they will find that conception mostly bull-session talk. Upperclassmen, and especially seniors, do not appreciate dirty pictures or dirty language displayed prominently before the public. In the first place such signs are not very effective in prompting Aggie spirit. Again it is decidedly not favorable publicity for the school. Visitors on the campus have been embarrassed in past years by vulgar pictures and language.

Our warning is this: "Think before you print such a sign just what your reaction would be to have your mother, your best girl, or your sister visit the campus and see such a sign. Would they blush and turn away? If so, then don't print it."

So far, no such sign has been hung. Let's keep them as clean in the future as they have been till now.

An Open Letter

This is an open letter to the President of the United States, the Secretary of War, and the Secretary of the Navy. We want to ask a question. We ask it respectfully, but with all seriousness.

WHY DOES THE GOVERNMENT CONTINUE TO BUILD SUCH VITAL INDUSTRIES AS AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURING PLANTS ABOVE GROUND?

It will not do to answer that the government is not building the plants. When one considers the way the plants are financed, it is absurd to say they are being built by private contracting firms. All the new plants are being built because of orders on hand from the federal government and not until then. All of them are operating with the national defense council. And even if they were not at the position they are occupying today, it is an axiom that control of the aircraft plants is in the hands of the government, because the government controls the purse-strings, which is control enough anywhere, any time, any country.

Dispatches from foreign countries all tell that those countries which had airplane factories hard to find survived longer than those in the open. Great Britain at this very moment is finding out the best place to put factories is out of sight. Yet this country ignores what has gone before and continues to build factories where enemy bombers can most easily find them.

To say that this country is immune from invasion is the blindest form of wishful thinking. This country has been invaded before. There is Hitler's threat that he will invade. There is no doubt but that there is not only a possibility but a probability.

Why do we not profit by history and written threats?

You have only to ride through Burbank, Calif., to see how little protection the plants there have. Flimsy construction and flimsy protection. One bomb could tear apart the majority of the plants in that great center of the industry. Built close together, with great glass windows for the most part, they are an ideal target.

Engineers say it would cost more to build the plants underground. It would cost a little more for permanent construction and quite a bit more in relation to the kind of initial cost. It costs less, for example, to build a plant underground which can operate under bombings than to build a plant which is bombed into non-existence at the first blow.

It is not a question of cost involved. It is a question of common sense and intelligence.

And the question still remains, why does the government continue on its same insane way?

When are we going to prepare for all eventualities? —Daily Texan

OPEN FORUM

Are you a Wilkie or a Democrat? That is a serious question confronting every true Democrat in the United States. There are many individuals of Democratic party affiliation, that is previous affiliation, who are making statements to the effect they are Wilkie Democrats or Wilkie rats. Of course, this is obviously impossible, as a voter could scarcely support the Republican ticket and be

a Democrat. Notwithstanding this fact there are many people who are misinformed as to exactly what the true facts of the cases concerning these Wilkie-rats are and therefore the Democratic party needs all the help and support it can possibly get from all its party members or affiliates.

The Young Democrats of Texas propose to give this help and do everything in their power to re-elect our present great president, Franklin D. Roosevelt, for a third term. Practically every other school of any importance in the South has a Young Democrats Association on their campus, and these associations or clubs have shown themselves to be of value, not only in a political sense but also in the fact that they encourage interest in the civic affairs of our government. Aggies, I know that there are enough Democrats among us to form a fine Young Democrats Club. This club will require work and cooperation. It is not an easy task which we have before us, but I feel that in a short time we can and will have a progressive Young Democrats Club here at Aggieland which will be of real assistance to the Young Democrats of Texas and to the Democratic Party Organization in this coming election.

In the very near future the Battalion will carry an announcement of a meeting to form this chapter of the Young Democrats of Texas. When the time comes, let's really get behind this movement and help the people decide against the Wilkie rats and for the DEMOCRATS.

Carl Harris, '41

Brain Twisters

By R. R. Lyle

The evening before the A quiz in Mathematics 204, five Aggies decided to relax a little and became engaged in a poker game. Their names were Brown, Green, White, Black and O'Reilly.

Their brands of cigarettes are Luckies, Camels, Kools, Old Golds, and Chesterfields, but not necessarily respectively. At the beginning of the game the number of cigarettes possessed by each of the players was 20, 15, 8, 6, and 3, but not necessarily respectively. Later in the evening, at a given time, when no one was smoking, the following conditions existed:

First, Green asked for three cards.

Second, O'Reilly has smoked half his original supply or one less than White has smoked.

Third, the Chesterfield ham ori-

ginally had as many more plus half as many more, plus two and one-half more cigarettes than he has now.

Fourth, the man who draws to an inside straight absentmindedly lit the tip of his fifth cigarette, the last he smoked.

Fifth, the man who smokes Luckies has smoked two more than anyone else, including Green.

Sixth, no one has smoked all his cigarettes.

Seventh, Brown drew as many aces as he originally had cigarettes.

Eighth, the Camel man asks Black to pass Brown's matches. HOW MANY CIGARETTES DID EACH MAN HAVE TO BEGIN WITH, AND WHAT WAS EACH MAN'S BRAND?

(Answers on Page 3)

BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

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

Backwashin' around . . . Today the College's enrollment is nearing the seven thousand mark, but it hasn't always been thus. It was September 14, 1890,

that The Galveston News published the following item: "Officers in charge of A. & M. College are more than pleased with the school's prospects. For the coming season, today some 200 students have arrived and they are still coming."

One of the profs living in the Y. M. C. A. received a gift from a very young nephew last week. Nothing unusual in itself, the attached card was worth a hundred times its weight in uniqueness. It read, "To my uncle, who has really been to college!" . . . Number one quip of the thus-far-college-year: Ira Lewis' "The boy-debutantes of the University of Texas." . . . And what about the Dallas lovely who, replying to a service station employee's remark that her oil was a quart low, let go with, "Oh, that's low enough." . . . The new \$10,000 night club now being constructed on the Airport Road will contain more than one unusual feature—

for A. & M. at least. There'll be a bar for stags only and a dining room for couples only. There'll also be a ban on stags where dancing is concerned . . . Band freshmen E. E. Volts is true to his name and initials . . . He's taking E. E. (Electrical engineering, in case you're new). . . . Tops in classified ads was the one in a Dallas newspaper last week which read, "Lost, one paycheck. Don't need the money but think of the sentiment attached."

Came the Revolution.

The newest slant on feminine decoration is the drawing of pictures on milady's fingernails. Initials, cats, dogs, silhouettes, and the Brooklyn Bridge are among the designs which are available at any self-respecting beauty salon. Usually painted in yellow over red fingernail polish, the fad is comparatively new at College Station. Quizzed in respect to the new fingernailing, one bauby operator said, "We've even put some of the designs on Aggie's fingernails."

On C. E. McMullan.

The College Station restauranter has a hobby all his own—one he doesn't tell people much about, but one that rates him a "regular fellow" rank in any corps. His hobby: Dogs, cats, and boys. Stray animals of any of the three men-

tioned species are taken in hand and fed by the generous-hearted Irishman as long as they care to hang around. One man—in a position to know—recently said of Mac, "He has kept more boys out of reform school and more dogs out of the pound than any other man I know." Most recent of Mac's adopted family is a small, brown combination-breed dog—dubbed "Buckskin" by Ed Handley—who's fast becoming a tradition at the North Gate. Buckskin, be it known, was originally imported to these parts by Tom Taylor who brought the canine from nearby Caldwell.

Maestroed now by Ed Minnock, who will not be a front man, the orchestra will probably have the best year in its history despite the loss of the brothers Littlejohn. The new pianist, Fred Nelson is probably the best the orchestra ever owned. Ed declared that "Fred can side-read anything, play excellently in any key, and he has a chorus technique that's second to none."

Another new man is Frank (Sug) Barnes. A base player of better-than-average ability, he's a double-feature attraction through the medium of his instrument. Popularly known as a bull fiddle, Frank's is technically known as a five-fourths base—meaning that it is a fourth larger than an ordinary instrument. Made in Germany about a hundred years ago, the thing was originally owned by a member of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.

WHAT'S SHOWING AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL

Tuesday 3:30 & 6:45: "LILLIAN RUSSELL," starring Alice Faye, Don Ameche, Henry Fonda, Edward Arnold, Warren William, and Leo Carrillo.

Wednesday 3:30 & 6:45: "ANDY HARDY MEETS DEBUTANTE," featuring Lewis Stone, Mickey Rooney, Cecilia Parker, Faye Hoday, Judy Garland, and Ann Rutherford.

AT THE CAMPUS
Tuesday: "ZANZIBAR," with Lola Lane and James Craig.
Wednesday: "LA CONGA NIGHTS," starring Hugh Herbert.

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Movie Review

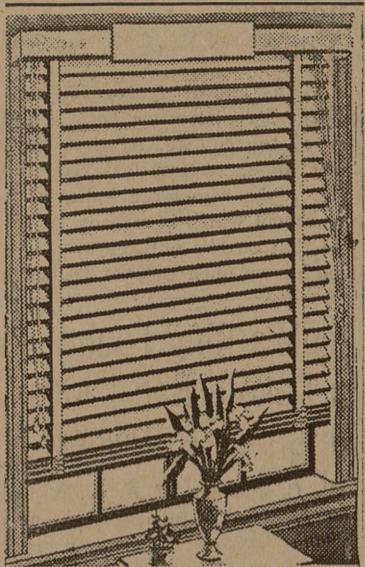
By Tom Gillis

Although it was reviewed in Saturday's column, the life story of the glamorous "LILLIAN RUSSELL" is still well worth seeing at the Assembly Hall. Alice Faye as Lil' makes a good performance, but the one most noted and probably longest remembered will be that of Edward Arnold, the jolly business tycoon, as Diamond Jim Brady. His courtship of Miss Faye is futile, and his part in the production is very minor, but it is the most impressive and convincing. Starring with these two are Don Ameche, Henry Fonda, Warren William, and Leo Carrillo.

And Andy Hary is coming again, this time trying to bust into the

New York '400' with his high school antics. The whole family is of course with him, and Lewis Stone and Fay Holden, as usual, typify the fatherly small town lawyer and wife. Mickey, however, somewhat runs his part into the ground with too much 'mugging'. A good actor should be able to express shades of meaning by the expression on his face, but Rooney has long been accused of over-acting which almost borders on ham acting for being the most terrible fault. In "ANDY HARDY MEETS DEBUTANTE" young Rooney is given opportunity to run the whole gamut of human emotions and display

(Continued on Page 4)



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