

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.

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at College Station, Texas, under the Act of Congress of March 8, 1879.

Subscription rate, \$3 a school year. Advertising rates upon request.

Represented nationally by National Advertising Service, Inc., at New York City, Chicago, Boston, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

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Winning Is Fine, But . . .

CHAMPIONS OF THE SOUTHWEST and the nation's No. 1 football team. That's the cry from far and near. Honor, glory and fame are ours. The toast of the nation! It doesn't sound bad to our ears. This afternoon at the T.C.U. football game Dean Kyle and President Walton will raise flags bearing inscriptions reading "Southwest Conference Champions" and "Nation's No. 1 Team '39". A fine gesture. We have the title, and acknowledging the fact is no act of conceit.

But keep this fact in mind. Anyone can yell for a winning team. The true test of the Aggie Spirit will come if and when we lose a game.

The bigger we build ourselves while we are winning the farther and harder we will fall if we lose.

Winning is fine, very fine. In fact it puts that extra snap into the step; it raises the chin level; it straightens the shoulders; it sends a chill up the spine.

Losing is no disgrace. Texas A. & M. and the Aggies were known for their fine school spirit long before they produced a world champion team. Maybe the spirit had something to do with the production. At any rate the spirit has been in the school for ages.

No other student body stands and yells throughout the entire game. No other team greets every substituted player leaving the field regardless of the success his efforts have had. No other school has all the fine traditions that A. & M. has.

No other student body yells "just a little bit harder" when the team is in a hole or is losing the game. We are proud of our spirit.

But still let's remember that backing a winner is an easy proposition and the nation knows that fact. We are going to have to yell louder than usual to convince anyone that we're the best.

Our championship is history! Playing our games one-by-one is our technique. Let's swell with pride as those flags go up, but let's deflate before the game starts. Our purpose on Kyle Field today is to beat T. C. U.

OPEN FORUM

October 16, 1940

Dear Batt,
To many of those who saw it, the recently current attraction at the Assembly Hall, "The Mortal Storm" will soon be only a hazy memory of an unpleasant dream.

But to those who take life seriously, and think of "justice" not simply as a rather boring term to be used only by judges and "patriotic" political aspirants, but who sees it as a flaming symbol of the only means by which men may learn to live together in this world with complete harmony—to those, that picture will live on in memories seared by the injustice, the coldly calculated inhumanity it so vividly portrays.

May we let it be at once a soothing relief and an ominous warning. In EVERY instance where force is used; where men are compelled to do (if not think) as others do, or as some others want them to do, there will be injustice—there will be tragedy!
R. W. McDonald, '41

FRANK LOVING PRESENTS:

I Heard the Preacher Say

By Rev. James Carlin
Pastor, First Methodist Church
"WHAT WOULD you say," Mr. Carlin, "to a young man who has come to A. & M. and has turned cynical about everything and everybody?" An Aggie asked the question—about whom, I do not know.

A lack of knowledge of the problems which brought about this attitude in this particular Aggie would largely keep any would-be counselor from giving any real help to him. However, it helps any of us to see ourselves from another's viewpoint. The Cynic is no exception.

On the positive side, let's observe that a Cynic is usually an Idealist, and something has gone wrong. Someone (perhaps himself) has failed those ideals—and the reaction is cynicism. It helps if the Cynic realizes that he is a "self-made" man. It is his state of mind, his personal reaction to the world, that produces HIS cynicism. Everyone faces the same world. Yes, the world does treat people differently, but the wide differences we observe in people's attitudes are not always traceable directly and exactly to external circumstances. People living under nearly the same external circumstances react very differently. One person under stress of poverty will work harder, hold to hope more tenaciously; another steals; still another becomes discouraged and turns to his work like a slave, hating it.

One man comes to A. & M. with all the fresh exuberance of youth, hears cynical and pessimistic statements by fellow students and faculty men, charges it up to experience, and keeps his confidence that the world is on his side. Another observes inconsistent behavior on the part of leaders whom he is expected to follow and he becomes cynical, insisting "the place is filled with hypocrites". The place is filled with the same folk for both men, yet each man's reaction is his own.

Cynicism is an attitude resulting from personal inadequacy in coping with the world as it is. Cynicism is "defense mechanism", a running away from dealing adequately and positively with unpleasing facts and people by resorting to an attitude of condemnation of "the other fellow".

The Cynic presupposes the superiority of the Cynic; he sits in judgment of his fellow men, finds them disappointing, and makes himself unhappy in the bargain. "Judge not lest ye be judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged." Jesus was not saying that a person must not make evaluations of human conduct but that he must remember that his standards of judgment will be used by others in judging him. That remembrance will make a more tolerant man.

Is cynicism a necessary reaction when a man comes hard up against the world?

It isn't to keep trying to realize our best aims and to live up to our ideals. It is right and proper that during a man's college career he repeatedly re-think his aims, and it is not too much to say that the ideals with which he came to college must be re-thought. If they are to prove of value they must become principles. Ideals must stand examination in the light of experience and be hammered "on the anvil of experience" into life principles—from the clouds into foundations, from vague "good intentions" into worthy goals.

Finding ways and means of turning our good intentions into realities is the most difficult task confronting every man. That's a sweeping statement. But, look at it. Sam Jones, a colored American preacher two or three generations back said, "The road to Hell is paved with good intentions." Our reach always exceeds our grasp. Our ideals outrun our actions. Our intentions are the best but the difficulties of every-day living are very real.

That "spread" or gap between the ideal and the achievement produces cynicism in some men as they fail to bridge it or see other men fail; to others it is a life-time challenge, a challenge which is the secret of zest in living, of the "why" of hard work, the source of large happiness and achievement. Men don't grow old and pessimistic and cynical who have "practical ideals," the kind it takes a life-time to realize, and are worth a life-time to realize.

As the World Turns...

By Dr. Al. B. Nelson

THE "SECRET Bomb-sight" of the U. S. Army is to be released to the British according to late reports. U. S. intelligence reports indicate that Germany already has it and that the only thing we can do now is to equalize matters by allowing the British to use it on their planes. If the report is true it shows plainly the extent of German espionage in this country when our most valuable aviation secret cannot be guarded from the enemy.

The last of the fifty destroyers traded to the British have been delivered. Two hundred and twenty-nine old tanks have been traded to Canada for training purposes. They are two slow for modern military use.

The English Cruiser Ajax, one of the ships which fought the Admiral von Spee nearly a year ago, has once more covered itself with glory by sinking three Italian destroyers in an engagement with superior enemy forces.

In a political speech delivered in Rhode Island Wendell Willkie called for an embargo against Japanese goods coming into this country. It is interesting to note that Japan has had what amounts to an embargo on imports from the United States, except supplies needed by their army, for a long time.

The latest Gallup Poll records a reversal of the recent political trend toward Roosevelt and shows a gain of four states for Willkie, plus an increase in sentiment for him in states which still have a majority for Roosevelt. The democrats are now beginning to question the value of polls.

The German tolerated French Government has just restored the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor to King Leopold of Belgium. It had been taken from him at the time he betrayed the armies which had come to his assistance.

Semi-official statements from Turkey have warned the Axis powers to keep out of Greece and not to encroach upon Turkish interests in the Black Sea. Russia is also reported to be massing troops to threaten the flank of the new German invasion of the Balkans. Britain is also said to be sending Anthony Eden to Turkey to talk over the threatening situation in the Near East.

The former King Carol of Rumania is busily engaged in attempting to set up a Rumanian Government in exile to be backed by the British. The doubtful part of the procedure is as to whether he can gain British backing. Carol is noted for his attempt to ride more than one political horse at a time in the not too distant past. The English government may not trust him again.

Under the new congressional legislation permitting Home Guard units, many states are already at work upon such a program. They will be composed of men ineligible for the army and will be useful in guarding bridges, factories, etc., from sabotage by agents of hostile countries.

They're guffawing about a new one by Wisconsin's Coach Harry Stuhldreher, rated as the best collegiate story-teller in his weight class. Seems a couple of idiots were out duck hunting together. A flock of mallards zoomed overhead and one of the idiots aimed carefully and dropped a duck. "You niny!" bellowed the other. "What did you waste a shell for? The fall would have killed him!"

We were really beginning to worry about the plight of the University of Michigan, where the only key to the lost and found office was lost, when we were jolted by a report on some eye tests at the University of Washington, where it was learned one-fourth of the co-eds are incapable of winking.

BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

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

Once Over Lightly . . . Keyes Carson, who made a 13,000-mile hitch-hiking jaunt this past summer, says that the Aggies' All-American back, John Kimbrough, is equally as well known in Canada as in the U. S. "Almost every Canadian who gave me a ride asked about Big John and were curious to know whether or not he was really the 'great bone crusher' that they had read him to be," Keyes said . . .



Unique: Meaning Tommy Vaughn's introduction of another varsity footballer to an escort of a few evenings ago—"Meet John Doe, a graduate of Daniel Boone junior college at North Bedias Creek where he lettered in trapping, trail blazing, tap dancing, and open-heart cooking!" . . . Best of the current stories concerning local golfers is the one about the prof who was in a sand trap and, after three futile attempts to get out of the thing, decided to call it a putt and conceded it to himself! . . . Sidelight of the day's T.C.U. game is the fact that the Fort Worth college is generally considered to be A. & M.'s most friendly intercollegiate rival. Illogical enough the reverse-reason seems to be the fact that the Horned Frogs have defeated the Aggies often and consistently since 1924. Between that year and 1936 the cadets failed to ring the bell a single time, although the Frogs were tied twice. The all-time record favors the Aggies 19 to 11 with four games split even. The first Aggie-T.C.U. game was played in 1897 when the Christians were located in Waco as the Add Rann College.

Water Comes High. Then there's the story concerning the six Aggies and dates who trekked into one of California's swankiest night spots, La Conga. It was Jim Clay, Clarence Hall, W. C. Carter, Guy Crawford, John Searcy, and Lew Ness and, at the conclusion of the night's dining and dancing, the six were presented with a check totaling \$12. Somewhat taken aback, they approached the manager, explained to him that they were just poor boys trying to get along, were not interested in buying an interest in La Conga or even a small portion thereof, and would he, the manager, please do something about the sky-high prices. A good natured fellow, the manager finally brought the price down to \$4.28—including tax—and the six managed to leave without washing dishes. Joke of the evening, though, was John who hadn't ordered as much as a five-cent drink. One full glass of water was his share of the evening's winning and dining—but his, like the rest, was a 50 cent cover charge.

Brain Twister

Here is a method suggested for boys in 101 and 102 who can multiply and divide by two and add but who can do no other arithmetic operation.

Suppose you wish to multiply two numbers together. Proceed as follows.

Make two columns by dividing the first number by two, disregarding fractions, putting the result down in the first column. Multiply the second number by two and put this result in the second column. Next divide the number you placed in the first column by two, disregarding fractions, placing the result in the first column again. Multiply the number in the second column by two and place in the second column. Repeat the above process until you obtain the number one in the first column. Now strike out all the numbers in the second column which are opposite an even number in the first column and then add the remaining numbers in the second column. The sum is the desired result of the multiplication. See example.

| | | |
|---------------|---|-----|
| 27 | × | 31 |
| 13 | | 62 |
| 6 | | 124 |
| 3 | | 248 |
| 1 | | 496 |
| End of No. 1. | | |
| 837 | | |

Here is a nice little problem in division on which to spend a little time.

AN EASY ONE

Each letter represents a digit. No two letters represent the same digit and no letter represents two digits.

(Answer on page 4)

Love is the spark that lights the brightest fires of service.

Westward Ho!

Stories now going the rounds concerning the recent cross-country jaunt of a quarter - thousand Aggies to watch the A. & M.-U. C. L. A. game are as many as the Aggies who made the trip, but there are two in particular that rate public-hearing. The first, as told by Jack Fuller, concerns the adventures of Jim Rominger, Tom Houston, Joe Stokes, Kay Cox, John Kenagy, and George Bentinck who made the College Station-to-Los Angeles trip via a temperamental Chrysler dated 1933. All went well until the crew neared San Angelo where the car turned over—no bones broken. Continuing, things really began to get rough when the car windows had to be kept down in sub-zero weather because of exhaust fumes from a broken muffler. Finally, after 65 hours of day-and-night driving, they arrived in L. A. two hours before game time.

The return trip wasn't much better. A broken axle delayed them 24 hours in Westmorland, California, but Kay had a job and needed to get back to college as soon as possible. The result: He and John began the cross-country highway jaunt. Back in the Lone Star State once again, Kay and John

Movie Review

By Tom Gillis

The main and ever present character of "REBECCA" never appears in the show but her domination of the entire feature and the actions of every single character can not be forgotten for a minute. It is well that she does not appear because such a perfect and charming woman as she is made out to be would be hard to find. Every scene refers to this marvelous woman in some way and the way this single thread of interest running throughout the whole feature is one of the outstanding points in making this a top notch production.

Joan Fontaine is perfect as the young, shy, second wife of Laurence Olivier. Rebecca was wife No. 1, and Joan enters an existence constantly overshadowed by the personality of this woman. Her over-eager and half-apologetic attempts to live up to the reputation of Rebecca carry on until the latter part of the show. Laurence Olivier is the surly, reserved member of England's landed gentry and he returns with his new wife to his country mansion, abandoned since the death of Rebecca.

Telling the story of such a moving picture could not do justice to the fine direction and camera work which help to make it so outstanding, but the combination of drama, photography, and excellent direction are all brought out in the scene giving Oliver's eight minute monologue explaining the death of Rebecca. In an abandoned bathhouse, he tells Joan of the real life of the woman who now casts a shadow over her happiness. This picture is a 'must' on everybody's list.

At the Campus is another anti-Nazi film, "THE MAN I MARRIED." The title was changed to

WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL
Saturday 6:45 & 8:30—
"TORRID ZONE," featuring
James Cagney, Pat O'Brien,
Ann Sheridan, and Andy Devine.
Monday, Tuesday, 3:30 &
6:45—"REBECCA," starring
Joan Fontaine, Laurence Olivier,
and Judith Anderson.
AT THE CAMPUS
Saturday—"THE MAN I MARRIED," with Joan Bennett, Francis Lederer, Lloyd Nolan, Anna Sten, and Marie Ouspenskaya.
Saturday midnight, Sunday, Monday—"DARK COMMAND," starring Claire Trevor, Walter Pidgeon, John Wayne, Porter Hall, and Marjorie Main.

W. J. Douglas, Jr.

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•
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Curb Service

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SATURDAY NITE, OCTOBER, 19

CORPS DANCE

Music By
Aggieland Orchestra

ADMISSION \$1.00—Tax .10—Total Admission \$1.10

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SBISA HALL 9-12 P.M.