

The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
 TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE
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Too Much of a Good Thing

IT'S BEEN SAID that the chief difference between French and American liquor drinking is that the French know when to quit. You never see a drunk Frenchman. The same characteristic of intemperance applies to other phases of American life as well as the drinking. For instance the "pranks" pulled in Houston Wednesday night presumably by Aggies illustrate the intemperance prevalent in most Americans.

Reports say that gallons of red paint were daubed over structures on the Rice Institute campus, and most particularly over the statue of William Marsh Rice, founder of the school. A flag painted to read, "Texas A. & M. National Champions," was raised on the flagpole over the fieldhouse, the ropes cut, and the flagpole greased. Everywhere "Texas Aggies" in permanent red paint was in evidence. Authorities at Rice are justly indignant.

Just what the significance between desecration of the tomb of the founder of Rice has to do with the coming football game, only the thoughtless who did it can say. Certainly it doesn't improve the spirit of either side.

The raising of the flag over the fieldhouse of Rice stadium would have been a good joke, and would have been quite an accomplishment in itself. But the old trait of not knowing when to quit cropped out and paint was daubed over buildings, paint that cannot be removed, paint that will stand as a blemish on the record of Texas A. & M. for years to come.

Not even one per cent of the student body condones the desecrating of a tomb. That is not a joke; it isn't even decent. Of course it has not yet been proved that an A. & M. student committed the act. But circumstantial evidence strongly suggests—circumstantial evidence has hanged many men—that it was A. & M. students.

Now that the deed has been committed, let's try to make up for the misdeed and play the perfect host to the people from Rice and Houston who attend the game today. Let's follow an example set by the Aggie Band in treating visitors.

Each visiting band is met by the freshmen in the band, their horns and bags carried to Harrington Hall, and the members allowed to wash and change clothes. Nothing is too good for those boys while they are the visitors of the band. That should apply to the other students as well.

We've got no bone to pick with Rice other than to beat them in today's football game. Let's show them we're the best sports and the best bunch of good fellows to be found anywhere.

A Mighty Conflict

THE AFTERMATH of the recent political campaign brings forth this contribution to The Battalion in the form of a bit of levity.

- ... And Four Fat Years Followed
1. Now it came to pass that a famine fell upon the land, and it was very grievous, and all the people were sorely afflicted.
 2. And the people came and stood in long lines and cried out to the rulers, saying, "Give us bread for our wives and for our children, or we perish."
 3. But the rulers belong to the Republicans, and they hardened their hearts, and heeded them not.
 4. Wherefore the people rose up and cast them out.
 5. And they chose a man from the Democrats and set him up to rule over them. And this man went about the land doing good, for he was a great Humanitarian.
 6. And again the land was fruitful, and the people cried out no more.
 7. But the Republicans were discomfited, and they biteth their nails.
 8. And they gathered themselves together, and called unto them the rich men of the land. And they said unto them, "Look ye what this man doeth. He taketh from thee, and giveth to the poor."
 9. "Yea, verily, let us drive him from the seats of the mighty. And when we have cast him out, we will choose one of our own number to rule."
 10. And they chose a man named Wendell, who came from the middle provinces.
 11. But the ruler of the land was told concerning these doings.
 12. And he called unto himself his chief captains, who were mighty men of valor. And he commanded them saying,
 13. "Gather the Democrats together, and let them speak to the people."
 14. And the Democrats and their high priests and scribes went throughout the land, and spake to the multitude, saying,
 15. "Did not this man feed ye when ye hungered, and did not he remember you, ye men who were forgotten?"
 16. And the people answered and said, "Surely he is a righteous man."

17. Wherefore they arose, and took each man his ballot.
18. And they cast their ballots at Wendell so the earth shook. And the land slid and covered him, and put the Republicans to flight.
19. And for another four years, peace reigneth throughout the land.

Exchanges--Why College

There has been thousands of words written on why one should go to college. There have been as many thousand words written on why one should not go to college. Some people contend that college is a bad influence—that it undermines the foundations and bases laid in the home—that the individual turned out by our colleges is an egotist, expecting the best in life to be handed to him on the proverbial silver platter.

Perhaps this was true in previous years. But the generation reared in the years of the depression does not belong to this group. This generation, to which we belong, is appreciative of the opportunities and advantages which are offered in the chance to attend a college.

In our day almost everyone has a college education. Lack of a degree is a strong detrimental influence in the attempt to get a job. For in our day, it is not hard to get an education if the driving obsession—the unquenchable urge for knowledge—is within the heart.

It may be true, as many argue, that the individual learns habits in college which he would not otherwise have picked up. Habits which do not further his best interests in society. But how can we be sure that this same individual would not have acquired these same habits once he was out in the world? Why blame all the bad and unhelpful habits on college?

Even if we should grant that this were true, there would still be the indisputable fact that college is a universal developer. The freshman learns that his own is not the only right viewpoint. He learns of the cultures and opinions of philosophers and thinkers of ages past which infinitely surpass his own. Thus he comes to realize the value of other people—his contemporaries. He begins to learn something of toleration. The sophomore generally is a carefree soul who learns the value of pleasure and recreation. He is fully aware of his own potentialities. A junior in college is a grand composite, holding some of the sophomore characteristics and promising some of the senior characteristics. These seniors usually wake up during their last year in college to the realization that their life will not always be one of pleasant undemanding associations. They soon learn that there is work to be done in the world and that they are the ones who must lead in its accomplishment.

And these college seniors—these young men and women who enter the world with four years experience in associations with their own generation and with the trained minds of their professors—enter the utilitarian world of today unmeasurably better able to cope with the problems which will beset them than those men and women who do not have such an education. The graduate will naturally have much to which he must adjust himself; but his training will enable him to accomplish this adjustment less painfully and with deeper, more influential results, than the knock-about training received by those who never graduate from any college.

—T. C. U. Skiff

As the World Turns...

BY DR. AL B. NELSON
 THE BRITISH NAVY has once again covered itself with glory. The Jervis Bay, an old armed merchant ship used for convoy duty, sailed out to certain destruction at the hands of a modern German pocket battleship in order to save the ships of the convoy under its protection. Its astounding feat in holding off the German raider for two hours enabled most of the ships in the convoy to escape. The German was a sister ship of the Graf Spee which ran from an inferior British force and was scuttled by its crew off Montevideo, Uruguay.

The British air force may have caused the bombing of Taranto, the Italian naval base, to go down as one of the decisive actions of the war if its claim to have sunk or destroyed three battleships and two cruisers is fully substantiated.

There are continued rumors of a shake-up within the ranks of the presidents trusted helpers. It is said that Mayor La Guardia, of New York may enter the cabinet and there is great agitation for the removal of Madam Secretary Perkins from the Department of Labor. Ambassador Kennedy, back from his London post is said to be seeking a cabinet post in return for his pro-Roosevelt campaign speech. Ambassador Bullit, reluctant to return to France, is credited with desiring an under-secretaryship in the Department of State but late news reports indicate that Roosevelt is urging him to take Kennedy's place in the London embassy.

Late reports indicate that England is so apprehensive of a German attempt at the conquest of Iceland that eighty thousand troops have been sent to prevent such a move. German planes based on Iceland could do much to disrupt communications between England and the American continent.

A queer turn in the news is the revelation that Greece obtained much of her supplies of arms and munitions from the Japanese who are now partners of the axis powers. The tragic part of it all to us will come when the Japanese begin shooting munitions made in America, and made from steel made in America at our own soldiers and sailors.

Hawaii is once again asking for statehood and a bill to make this possible is even now before Congress. If it is passed the Hawaiian Islands will become the forty ninth state, but the Army and Navy oppose statehood on the ground that it would weaken national defense. More than 150,000 persons in the islands are of Japanese descent. It is said that a majority of persons of American descent oppose statehood on the ground that it would hand them over to the rule of those of Japanese descent and who are still Japanese at heart.

BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

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

Once Over Lightly. . . Houston newspapers recently quoted the Rice footballers as saying, "What's so tough about the Aggies? They put their pants on one leg at a time just as we do." The Cadets' All-American guard, Marshall Robnett, is right back at the Rice men with, "Yeah, but they can't run with a football the way we do after they get their pants on!" . . . Believe-it-or-not story of the week concerns



Fuermann

sophomore Robert E. (Bob) Burns who recently wrote to his post office box number at TSCW. Nothing unusual in itself, the thing took on incredible properties when the return letter was signed by one Martha Raye. Investigation proved the signature to be a fact rather than a gag; the belle in question being an SMU junior transfer, who, by her own admission, is a "blonde with blue eyes, weight 115 pounds, 5 feet 7 1/2 inches tall and naturally curly hair" . . . Best definition of a corps trip—from a TSCWian: "I have eaten two honest-to-goodness meals in the past day and a half, slept three hours, lost five pounds and fallen in love!" . . . Jerry Mann's escortee, Dallas coed Anne Morris, said it at the close of last Saturday's Aggie-Mustang game: "The Aggies are like Roosevelt—they can't be beat." . . . Football pools, at best, are a rotten racket, and even when run fairly, the odds are tremendous against the bettor. But still worse are the pools that fail to pay the winners—on the rare occasion when there is a winner. In the past two weeks both Houston and College Station have seen run-outs by pool makers who would have had to pay off big

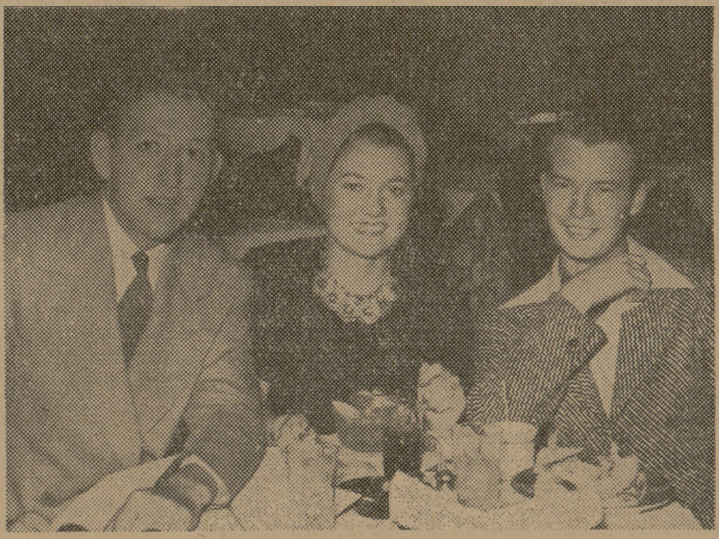
winnings. Then, too, in most cases, the bettor doesn't know who the pool maker is, the selling being done by an agent who is working for another agent and so on. The moral being: If you've got to bet on football pools, don't. But if you still do, then try to find out who the pool maker is and make as certain as possible that he'll be around in case you're one in a million and happen to win that week-end.

Ten Minutes is the Test: Aggie-ex William S. (Bill) Hipp, who graduated in 1926, is telling one of the best of the current stories going the rounds concerning the "good ole days." It was during Bill's freshman year that Dr. W. B. Bizzell was A. & M. president, "Prexy Bizzell reigning from 1914 to 1925. Those were also the days when the corps was required to attend chapel service every Sunday morning at which a local minister would deliver a 80-minute address—and therein lies the tale. It seems that more than a few of the cadets looked upon that compulsory period as a chance to complete their Sunday morning sleeping, regarding which Prexy had only one thing to say: "You men stay awake for the first ten minutes—if the speaker doesn't interest you in that length of time, it's perfectly all right for you to go to sleep."

On Shining Boots There's more to the job of shining officer's boots than readily meets the eye. Two darkeys who shine more than their share of the senior footwear are Eugene Center and Ed Brown, both employed by a local bootmaker. Over a nine-month period they average 60 pairs of boots a day and it takes about five minutes to shine each pair. If you figure the thing out, you'll find that they shine 12,960 pairs

Jimmie Lynch Again.

The item in Thursday's column concerning the Death Dodgers and sophomore Jimmie Lynch Jr. attracted enough comment to merit further discussion. The whole thing amounts to a two-hour show of continued thrills. Some of the featured acts include jumping an automobile through a burning board wall, then over the top of a truck parked 45 feet from the end of an inclining ramp leading up to it—the poor automobile going off the end of that ramp and landing—just a little hard—more than a hundred feet away after a flight through the air. Another act that usually gets the crowd on its feet is to roll a car over from wheel to wheel. The climax of the show comes when an old junk car (usually a '25 or '26 model) is jumped over the top of a truck and two more cars, then into two other junk cars parked at the end of the ramp—thus completely demolishing three old cars. "That's one hell of a trick to do, too," Jimmie says. Jimmie has been driving for four years and occasionally leaves the college on weekends to take part in a show. Last season the Death Dodgers gave 3,000 performances at the New York World's Fair.



In the usual order, that's John A. Scarborough, Aggie sophomore; attractive Jacqueline (Bye-Bye) Bodie who does a little driving for the Death Dodgers herself; and Jimmie as the three of them were doing whatever people do in a New York night club.



CORPS DANCE
 SATURDAY NITE, NOVEMBER 16
 MUSIC BY
ED GERLACH AND HIS SWING BAND
 9 'til 12 Mess Hall
 "NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR BIRD DOGS"

of boots during a single long session; to shine that many boots it takes them 1,080 hours, which means that if two of them should start shining boots this morning and would shine continuously eight hours at a stretch without taking time-out for anything, it would take them 67 days—until January 23, 1941—to shine the boots which they normally shine in the nine-month period—not that it makes any difference.

Even shining boots has its trials and tribulations. To wit: The recent case of the two freshmen from different military organizations who came after boots for upperclass-

men. Being in a hurry, they only looked in one boot of each pair for the owner's name—but failed to get the mate; thus mixing four pairs of boots into a crazy turmoil which took four days to straighten out. "We like shining boots fine," said both Ed and Gene. "The only tough part is when we bump our heads together too hard while we're both working at once!"

Good FRIED CHICKEN at SOUTHERN CHICKEN GRILL Highway 6 — Bryan

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