

# The Battalion

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

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## What's in Your Attic?

THE MIND is a storehouse for all you have seen, heard, or felt. Your body is your house; your mind is the attic.

Some attics are the "catch-alls" for worthless junk, for discarded materials, for things never intended for use. Some attics have many valuables, but they are so piled and jumbled that the owner could never find any article he might wish to use. Some attics have been arranged where the owner can find the small gas stove quickly in case an early cold spell blows up from the north catching everyone unprepared. The extra bed covers are right where the owner can get them out for an unexpected guest.

Minds resemble attics a great deal. Some people have their minds so trained that what they know is always at their finger tips. They are the people that always know all the answers. But there are people of the other types, too.

There are three main channels into the mind—the eyes, the ears, and the sense of feel or touch. The coordination between these senses brings the maximum of knowledge. Some use these senses to clutter up their brain with worthless material. He who constantly reads nothing but the comic pages in the paper and who passes the front page and the editorial page is wasting space in his brain that might be put to better use. His eyes are bringing him nothing valuable. He who listens to nothing but comedians on the radio and who hears nothing but swing music is wasting the power of his ears and is also cluttering up his brain with junk.

There are those of the type who collect many valuable facts with the available forces of ears and eyes but who fail to classify the knowledge as it goes in. They are the people who take calculus and advanced math yet who cannot figure the simplest practical problem.

Sherlock Holmes claimed that the secret of his success was not that he had an especially brilliant mind, but that he never tried to remember anything that he couldn't use someday. Everything in his attic was stacked neatly in its corner where it would be ready for use on an instant's notice.

What do you store in your attic?

## God Bless America

"WHAT'S BECOME OF 'The Star Spangled Banner'—or have we abandoned it as our national anthem?" asks the Purdue Exponent. That's a question that a lot of college newspapers have been asking, half tongue-in-cheek, half seriously.

The Exponent "won't debate the merits of Irving Berlin's 'God Bless America' but we do dispute its right to the same honors as the national anthem. We think that the substitution of 'The Star Spangled Banner' for 'God Bless America' on a few public programs would be a welcome change—at least for college students who have built up a terrific 'hate' for the very obvious attempt to synthesize patriotism where patriotism has already existed."

The Daily Reveille raises a protest at Louisiana State university, taking its readers back to one of the recent football games. "When the band played the super-popular 'God Bless America,' thousands leaped to their feet, males swept their hats from pates and slapped them over hearts, and stood stiffly at attention while the tune swung on. We wish that such respect would be shown 'The Star Spangled Banner.'" The Reveille believes that "if the fervid standees would stop a moment to consider the silly tribute they are paying to the American god, Advertising, they might save their fervor for true patriotism. God didn't pick out this geographical spot to endow all his lofty virtues. We should be proud that we were born here; we should also remember that it's pretty much of a genetical accident that we are Americans. God doesn't 'bless' America; 'blessings' come where people are free to think and where those men act decently toward their fellows."

El Guacho takes up a similar cry at Santa Barbara State college. "Understand," says El Guacho, "we don't object to people's rising to sing 'God Bless America.' We think it is a very nice gesture to the composer and to the singer who made it famous, and nothing more. But one's ability to bellow forth chauvinistic babble is hardly an indication of one's feelings toward the United States."

Realizing that "there will probably be FBI men on our trail by morning," the Dartmouth declares it is "unable to keep silence any longer on 'God Bless America.'" The song, says the Dartmouth, brings up a "mental picture of someone waving a flag because it's fun to wave a flag and everybody else is doing it. It seems as though we could do a little more than place America's well-being musically in God's hands and call it patriotism."

The Anvil Chorus concludes with the observations of the Cliff Dweller at the University of Pittsburgh, which recalls that "when the country was growing and expanding in every direction, it sang boisterously and challengingly. We as a nation must grow and expand again. We need a song of spirit

and courage. Let the song pluggers play and sing Berlin's tune of apathy, but let Americans have a song like 'Onward America'."

It is suspected the collegiate writers are not really as excited about "God Bless America" and its possible implications as they seem. But most of them feel America's patriotism must have a more fundamental expression than the musical plea for divine blessings.

—Associated Collegiate Press

## Man, Your Manners

BY I. SHERWOOD  
The Etiquette of the Sneeze

DURING THE COMING WINTER MONTHS there are apt to be colds and "flu" a-plenty. Nice manners concerning our health are very important—some of them come nearer being habits, than manners, but consideration for others when we are cold sufferers will do much to prevent the spread of disease.

Years ago the following inscription was posted on the wall in a railroad station:

"Rats spread disease, so do public spitters, Rat-a-tat, spit-a-spat, don't be a rat."

We have gone a long way since then, in education for prevention of disease, but we still have the public spitter. Spitting (call it expectorating, if you will) ranks with the most loathsome of all bad habits.

One of the first rules of etiquette is, never do anything unpleasant to others. The cough and sneeze are very bad offenders, especially in public places. A flit-gun has nothing on a vigorous sneeze when it comes to spraying. The sneeze is pretty apt to be an impromptu performance, and requires a quick check or cover up. The cough is equally as troublesome, and dangerous as a germ spreader.

There is much more to etiquette than knowing what is correct under any circumstance. It is the everyday practice of good manners and the observance of the little social amenities, that count most of all in making a consistently good impression. For this reason let's give daily heed to the "do's and don'ts".

- When we have colds, let us remember:
- Do—Cover the cough or sneeze
- Do—Stay away from others, if possible, when suffering with a cold.
- Don't—Sniffle, cold or no cold, use the handkerchief.
- Don't—Spit in public places

## FRANK LOVING PRESENTS:

### I Heard the Preacher Say

BY AL C. PAYNE

LIKE THE PROVERBIAL anvil which outlasts innumerable hammers, the church has withstood the criticism of many generations. One of the advantages of our seasonal bombardment of magazine articles defending religious indifference is that the member is forced to re-evaluate the significance of his church. However, it is well to remember that the criticism of a member is a self-indictment, yet the fault-finding of one who doesn't participate is hardly justified.

Its future, of course, depends upon the layman as well as the minister, and should demand no more of the pulpit than that exerted by the pew. The question must change from a complacent "What good has it done?" to the more unselfish "What can I do?" The purpose will then be dual, and its benefits mutual.

## As the World Turns...

BY DR. R. W. STEEN

ITALY IS FACING a crisis that is perhaps as serious as any in her history. Her navy has failed miserably in its plans to wrest control of the Mediterranean from the British, and now some of the most powerful units of that navy seem out of action for months to come. Italian aviation seems to have given the British little to worry about. The Egyptian campaign is stalled, and has been for some time. Now the attack on Greece has failed to result in Italian victories. The Italian people seem to have little interest in this war. As a matter of fact, they have been living under conditions of war since the beginning of the campaign against Ethiopia in 1935.

They are tired of it. They need stories of great victories, and instead, they get "admissions of damage", reports of campaigns proceeding "according to plan", and excuses concerning difficult terrain and unfavorable weather.

The collapse of Italy is entirely within the bounds of possibility. It may not come for a long time, but it certainly could not be considered surprising if it should come next week. Germany appears to have doubts as to the stability of her axis partner, and German troops have occupied positions along the Italian frontier for some time. They were not sent there because of the climate.

Reports, as yet unconfirmed, indicate that Germany has sacrificed the interests of Italy in the Balkans to those of Russia. If these reports prove to be correct then Italy has already lost the war regardless of what its outcome may be for Germany. Mussolini is doubtless beginning to question the wisdom of his Caesar complex. Perhaps he is also learning that the honor of gangsters, even international gangsters, is not to be trusted. He was also assured that the war was won at the time he took Italy into the conflict. But something went wrong. Now, months later, Germany has still failed to invade Britain, and the war is being brought home to Mussolini and his people.

The Axis has suffered several setbacks in recent months. There is now a possibility that the French army in Africa may side with the Free French forces and continue the fight. Such a move would be little short of a disaster to the Italian troops in Africa, and would have to be classed as a major setback for the Axis powers.

## BACKWASH

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

Backwashin' Around . . . Story of the week comes from the Bryan bank concerning the freshman who, on his first visit to the bank, was asked to endorse the check he was endeavoring to cash. The freshman eagerly wrote on the back of the thing, "I heartily endorse this check."



Fuermann

... One noted educator divides American colleges and universities into two classes—those who wish they'd fired the football coach last year and those who wish they hadn't. . . There's a little-published story that concerns the fine impression the corps made on San Antonians after the Aggie-Tulsa game. One example of the esteem held for the Aggies by that city's Chamber of Commerce is the case of the two cadets who were hijacked as they were leaving the city to return to college. C. of C. officials, upon learning of the incident, immediately wrote to President T. O. Walton and Commandant Lt. Col. James A. Watson asking the extent of the theft in order that they could repay the Aggies.

The near-mutiny in one of the English classes recently was halted when the instructor concerned backed-up on his dicatatorial and "high schoolish" demands. The instructor had asked a class of juniors and seniors to, "Repeat after me two pledges—I will not chew gum in this class and I will not smoke in this class." No one said a word.

Genius. Meaning the gentleman who was the subject of a recent Associated Press article. A former resident of Brazos County, he had invented a truly remarkable method of making money. What he did was to cash a check one Monday at a hotel for \$20. Having a bank account in Oregon, he knew that the check

## TSCW Exchange

### Festivities on Dallas Corps Trip Remain But Memories For TSCWites

By Dorothy Schmittgens  
Editor, The Lass-O

November 9 remains just a yawn and a head full of memories to Miss TSCW, but before the whole week-end is completely forgotten, she would like to give her thanks to the committee of six who traveled to Denton to pick the Aggie Day Sweetheart, the A. & M. Band for their contribution at the half, and the entire student body for showing her a good time.

Iturbi Opens Artist Course  
Music at its best will be heard Monday night when Jose Iturbi, Spanish pianist, will appear on the Artist Course program.

Famous today as the conductor of Philadelphia, New York and Los Angeles Symphony Orchestra, the Ford Sunday Hour and as a frequent visitor to Kraft Music Hall, Mr. Iturbi made his humble beginning playing in cafes all night to earn room and board to send himself through the Conservatory of Paris.

That Good Old Aggie Line  
TSCWites who were lucky enough to rate the Kyle-Aggie dinner in Dallas Friday night before the game and who met the honor guest must have found the originator of the good old Aggie line. Dean Kyle's smooth words are enough to make a rosy cheek blush and many a feminine heart flutter. And it sounds just as good from him as from the more eligible tall, dark and handsome.

## WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL

Tuesday 3:30 & 7:30—  
"THE WESTERNER," starring Gary Cooper, Walter Brennan, Fred Stone and Doris Davenport.

Wednesday, Thursday 3:30 & 7:30—"THE SEA HAWK," starring Errol Flynn, Brenda Marshall, Claude Rains, Donald Crisp, Flora Robson and Alan Hale.

AT THE CAMPUS

Tuesday & Wednesday—  
"MILITARY ACADEMY," featuring Tommy Kelly, Bobby Jordan, Jackie Searl and Davil Holt.

## Movie Review

By Tom Gillis

The most expensive horse opera to come out of Hollywood in a long time is "THE WESTERNER" and it is of more interest in Texas than anywhere else because the story runs through a rowdy portion of our history. Everyone has heard of the wisdom and justice under old Judge Roy Bean and his Law West of the Peco. In "The Westerner," twice academy award winner Walter Brennan has the part of the eccentric old judge whose jurisprudence is often influenced by crude reasoning or the personal advantages of the moment. Brennan does a masterful job as the old fellow; he dies with a real look of tragedy on his face after one look at the idol of his life, the actress Lily Langtry.

Gary Cooper is "The Westerner" but he puts a new kind of life in the western formula which the American screen has shown so many times. It is the modified story of the strong, straight shooting hero who makes bashful passes at the homesteader's daughter, gets himself in some terrible tight squeaks, but finally heads the villains off to become the village hero. The situation which produces the tight squeaks is the old feud between cattle men and homesteaders with Brennan dishing out justice consistently for the cattle men and Cooper leading him a merry chase about the actress who is the light of his world. With the lure of a lock of her hair Cooper exercises mere control over local justice than Roosevelt and all his

packed Supreme court. The men and the era of this show have been long gone but the little bit of history that remains is worth knowing about. Particular (Continued on Page 4)

## CAMPUS

TODAY - WED.  
15c to 5 p.m. — 20c after

YOUTH! ACTION! HEART-THROBS!

with TOMMY KELLY BOBBY JORDAN DAVID HOLT A Columbia Picture

THUR. - FRI. - SAT.  
"Down Argentine Way"

THANKSGIVING CANDY TREATS

We've a great variety of delicious good, attractive packages for Thanksgiving. Stop by today and make your selection from our large variety of candies.

50¢ to \$3.00 — Postage Paid  
WHITMANS, KINGS and PANGBURNS  
We never sell old candy.

## THE AGGIELAND PHARMACY

"Keep to your right at North Gate and You can't go wrong"

## Assembly Hall

Last Day — 3:30 - 6:45

"THE WESTERNER" with GARY COOPER

Wednesday and Thursday  
3:30 and 6:45 Each Day

THE Thrill PICTURE OF A Thrilling ERA!

Warner Brothers present  
ERROL FLYNN  
in your greatest screen thrill...  
The SEA HAWK  
with BRENDA MARSHALL ALAN HALE · CLAUDE RAINS

## Good Clothes Deserve the Best Care

Protect the investment you make when you buy good clothes by giving them the advantage of our fine cleaning and pressing.

HOLICK'S  
North Gate