

# The Battalion

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

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## Cutting Corners

"IT TAKES A HEAP of living to make a house a home." Certainly it does! But under the heading of "living" there is no stipulation as to tramping down flowers and shrubs around the house. In our case on the A. & M. campus this rule still applies. There is no one who wants to deny students recreation or prevent us playing all the time we can spare, but there is no excuse for destroying all the trees and shrubs that have been set out around the dormitories. There is no rhyme or reason for cutting trails across lawns.

We are not so pressed for time that a few extra steps could not be taken. But we are heedless enough not to think when we walk across the grass. We are all guilty of this offense.

The Battalion points out that a possible remedy is to provide a means of jogging the offender's mind when he commits the error. A simple way to do this would be to have the Building and Grounds department or the Landscape Art department erect small board bannisters about one foot in height around the areas that are in particular need of protection. These would not be intended for the purpose of guarding the area, but would be high enough to cause the traveler to have to step up to get over. In so doing perhaps his memory would be jarred and he would be reminded that it is better to go around.

Some have been playing games on areas not designated for recreation and these, too, should perhaps be fenced before the improvements are demolished.

It has been said by observers who should know that the A. & M. campus is one of the most beautiful in the nation. We are proud to have this knowledge, and we would like to keep it that way. But each student must do his bit.

Remind the next offender, "Don't cut that corner. Go around!"

## Don't Throw Money Away

DID YOU SEND your money to the cleaners with your pants?

Did the dog tear it to bits?  
Did that small nephew rip your last ten dollar bill?

Did you char by fire or otherwise mutilate any paper money?

In case you did, do not put it, or them, in the trash or throw it away as lost. If you can save as much as three-fifths of the original bill, the U. S. treasury department will redeem it at full value. Skilled workers are employed in Uncle Sam's redemption office to identify currency. Making use of microscopic analysis, these workers paste the pieces on a sheet of paper the same size as the original bill and estimate the correct position.

The amount of the bill accounted determines the amount redeemed. For three fifths of the bill full value will be returned; for two fifths half value. In exceptional cases, one who presents affidavits and certificate of good character may get full value even when less than two fifths of the bill is available.

Books are kept on such recoveries, and recovering twice for the different pieces of the same bill is next to impossible.

But don't throw away that torn bill. Take it back to the bank.

## OPEN FORUM

OH, OLE MAN TROUBLE done bit me again! Texas beat hell out of us, SMU kicked a conversion, the mess hall food is terrible, that prof gyped me out of ten points and those pesky sophomores have been sitting in the senior section again. On top of all that I haven't had any mail for three days and I just bought a pack of ready rolls with my last two bits. If that isn't trouble, what is?

Seriously, fellows let's stop and consider our troubles for a minute—it seems possible these misfortunes that we spend a good part of our time fretting over could be a little exaggerated. Our happiness is proportional to some standard we have created within ourselves. If that standard has been distorted, it is quite possible that the smallest detail may have the most serious effect upon our mental "well being".

As a word of explanation let me relate an incident that recently occurred in one of the mess halls. One of the "college going dogs" came over to the table looking for something to eat. Some student placed a saucer filled with a decent looking piece of meat, some potatoes and a piece of bread on the floor near the dog. After looking the dish over, the dog sniffed disgustedly and walked away. The student was heard to remark, "I don't blame him for not eating the damn stuff". The point is, was the

dog hungry? Was the student hungry? There are millions of people in this world who would walk miles to have the same opportunity that dog had. Some of them would fight for the food he had refused.

The finest food would be repulsive to a man who had just gorged himself to the limit. So our many blessings assume ever decreasing proportions as we gorge ourselves on our good fortune. As the holiday season draws near, let us take time to devalue our troubles into their proper perspective and let ourselves enjoy and appreciate the many opportunities denied those less fortunate. Yours for a happier Christmas.

—A. W. Guill, '41.

## Man, Your Manners

BY I. SHERWOOD

Correspondence

Your personality is reflected in every letter or note that you write. The reader can tell from its appearance whether you have good taste or are neat. From its contents he can judge whether you are interesting, and from your spelling and grammar whether you are intelligent.

Stationery—White writing paper is always correct. Single sheet is best for business letters, but either single or double may be used for personal correspondence. Formal notes should be on smaller size and in white only.

The envelope should always match the paper. Personal letters—The salutation of the personal letter depends on how well you know the person. My dear Miss Smith or My dear Lois are formal, while Dear Miss Smith or Dear Lois are more friends. An affectionate beginning would be Grace Dear or Dearest Grace. Never address anyone as Dear Friend.

Don't begin a letter with an apology or end with an excuse for closing.

There is no objection to using the word "I" in a letter if it isn't used too often. Say, "I hope you are well" rather than "Hope you are well".

A "P. S." spoils the appearance of a letter and gives the impression that you haven't given your letter thought.

The complimentary close may be Sincerely, or Yours sincerely, if to an acquaintance. To a lady friend you may use Devotedly, Lovingly or With love.

Sign your first name to a letter to a friend when there is no doubt as to your identity; first and last name to an acquaintance. Notes—They are more brief and formal than letters; they are written for the following purposes—Invitations, thanks, congratulations, condolences, apologies, and acknowledgements. One page is sufficient and no matter where the address is, the date must be below the signature.

Business letters—The salutation is Dear Sirs to a firm and Dear Mr. Staples to a person.

Typed letters are preferred by business men. Omit all unnecessary information. Say, "I enclose" rather than "Please find enclosed", and "I refer" rather than "I beg to refer". Say, "I received your letter dated March 14th" instead of "Received yours of the 14th".

A correct closing is Very truly or Very truly yours.

Stetson University's most prominent co-ed is back for her fifth year.

She is 83-year-old Mrs. Letitia Wilson Reynolds, a resident of Illinois, who is doing graduate work.

## As the World Turns...

BY DR. R. W. STEEN

THE UNITED STATES has extended its blessings to Manuel Avila Camacho as President of Mexico. This act doubtless had something to do with the decision of the defeated candidate to accept the announced results of the election and not appeal to arms. The Mexican election was hardly a free election, and the canvassing board waited so long to announce the results as to arouse the suspicion of many Americans. In fact there is so much to indicate that things were not entirely as they should have been.

It is well, however, for Mexico to unite in the inauguration of Camacho. He might have won in a free and open election. Civil war is a terrible price to pay for a revision of announced results of elections. This tradition must be lived down, and there is no better time to start than now. In the first ninety-nine years of her history Mexico is said to have experienced 100 revolutions. It takes time to overthrow such customs, and the Mexican people are to be congratulated on accepting quietly the announced result of an election. They will have made a long step toward the realization of a democratic government when they finally learn to substitute ballots for bullets.

The Italian invasion of Greece continues to have all the earmarks of a comic opera war. The invasion has been in reverse since the day it started, and the Greeks now control most of southern Albania. Regardless of what the outcome of the war between Greece and Italy may be, the Axis has lost much prestige, and has suffered damage that can not be laughed aside. Meanwhile the British navy maintains almost unchallenged possession of the Mediterranean in spite of Mussolini's claim that it is "our sea." There is no doubt that Italy is suffering greatly. Germany is suffering too, and so is England. The war may develop into a contest of stamina.

The war is constantly coming closer to the United States. We have been sending England supplies for some time, but they have all been paid for by the British. It becomes apparent, however, that Britain will not be able to continue this policy in a long war. Ways and means of supplying credit to Britain are now being discussed, and before long this country will doubtless have a hand in financing the war. It is also suggested that American ships—escorted by American warships—be used in transporting supplies to the British.

## BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

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

Once Over Lightly . . . The Aggie footballers will soon eat a turkey that sold for a near-record of \$2 a pound. The 22-pound bird was the grand champion of the recent Southwestern Dressed Turkey show, and the Central Plains A. & M. Club will present it to the team.



Fuermann

Where football's concerned, there's one sight that few Aggies of the current generation will ever forget—meaning the enthusiastic way in which the Aggies' famed "pepper box," center Tommy Vaughn, comes up to the ball from huddle . . . Current lament of mess hall officials concerns civilians of surrounding localities who take advantage of a good thing and trek to Aggie-land each year for the annual Thanksgiving Day Banquet. They only pay the usual tax—30 cents—and thus have put officials in a what-to-do position. The banquet is for the cadets, pure and simple. Yet, if civilians are barred at that particular meal, parents and close friends of cadets would also be locked out . . . Jack Adams owner of a string of negro theaters throughout the state, was recently telling a group of Aggies about negro taste where movies are concerned. Rather than the might-be expected westerners, such films as Wuthering Heights, Rebecca and Dark Victory rate tops in the opinion of metropolitan movie-going darkies. Surprisingly enough, to most people, at least, even the Shakespearean pictures are popular with the colored customers, but comedies, most musicals, and class B pictures are money-losers for exhibitors who own negro theaters . . . Football letterman Leon Kahn has never played in a losing game during the four years he has been at A. & M. During his freshman year all three games played were won by the Fish; Leon played in two games during his sophomore year, both of which were winners; and he played in all of the Aggies' great run of 19 consecutive victories, but missed the Texas game.

W. C.

One of the best of the current stories going the rounds concerns a young couple about to be married who set out in search for a house in the country. On the way

back the young lady was in deep meditation and when asked the reason for her silence, said that she hadn't noticed a W. C. (meaning the water closet—as some people refer to such things). The groom recalled that he, too, had not seen it and wrote the landlord inquiring where the W. C. was located.

Somewhat confused as to the meaning of W. C., the landlord finally decided that his prospective tenant was referring to the Wesleyan Church. Accordingly he replied as follows:

"Dear Sir: I regret very much the delay in answering your letter, but I have the pleasure to inform you that the W. C. is located nine miles from the house, on a good paved road and is capable of seating 240 people. This is unfortunate for you if you are in the habit of going regularly, but you will be glad to know that a number of people take their lunch and make a day of it. Others who cannot spare the time go by auto, but generally they are in such a hurry that they cannot wait. The last time my wife and I went was six years ago, and we had to stand all the time. It may interest you to know that a bazaar is to be given soon to raise funds to furnish plush seats, as many of the members feel that this is a long-felt want. I may mention that it pains me greatly not to be able to go more often."

Nearer My God to Thee.

Meaning some of the excerpts from a recent address made in Naziland by A. Hitler's right-hand man in respect to the United States. To wit:

"Mr. Rosefeld will then beg the Fuehrer on knees to purchase from the United States not manufactured products but raw materials at prices which we will dictate." "The United States is at present so demoralized and so corrupted that, like England and France, it need not be taken into consideration as a military adversary."

"We have in the United States a police organization operating with the same exactitude as in Berlin or Prague."

"The United States also will be forced by Germany to complete and final capitulation."

"In the United States we have many of our compatriots and even more friends. They hold the most important positions in political and economic life."

## MUSICAL MEANDERINGS

By Murray Evans

During the Thanksgiving holidays the Aggieband Orchestra journeyed down to East Bernard for a one-nighter and ran into plenty of high water on the way. Skipper Jones was kept busy biting his nails and consulting road maps trying to find strips of dry terra firma down in that wet Sealy locality. Several of the orchestra boys who seemed to like their present state of health jumped out of the bus and walked across several doubtful-looking bridges. A chartered boat might have been more to the point in making this trip. There is an unconfirmed rumor being bandied about that Sug Barnes, the bass fiddle man, hooked an outboard motor onto his dog house and sputtered across one particularly bad stretch of flood.

But despite all the wetness the dance was a success; this, in spite of the fact that there was much agitation for "San Antonio Rose" and "You Are My Sunshine". Then, too, there was a hideous sign; extremely bad taste, hanging up over the band stand and advertising the fact that Texas beat us, 7 to 0. Somebody wanted to know why it is that the ordinary musician is addicted to drink more than any other body. At first I questioned that premise and raised the eyebrows in protest, but the consensus of opinion was against me so I retreated to a defensive position and proceeded to give him answer. Here are a few reasons why:

1. To feel happy when low.
2. Because he gets a kick out of it.
3. To stay awake.

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## Movie Review

By Tom Gillis

The fifth picture of the Dr. Kildare series is currently playing at the Assembly Hall and it bids to be the best of the bunch so far. In "DR. KILDARE GOES HOME" Lew Ayres has now become a full fledged doctor, and another thing which makes this one better than the rest is that lovely Loraine Day has a more prominent part and almost becomes Ayres wife. Of course the veteran Lionel Barrymore continues as the catankerous but understanding Dr. Gillespie.

An epidemic of streptococci in his home town is the problem which Ayres has to meet in this number of the series. As soon as he becomes a doctor in the big city he learns that his father is killing himself by overwork at home while trying to fight this epidemic in two towns. Ayres of course gives up the beginnings of his practice to return and help dad. With a little brains and medical ability he establishes a clinic to combat the

Occidental college alumni have issued an "Occidental Who's Who."

## Just Arrived! New Shipment of College Jewelry

?? Where ??

4. So he can go to sleep.
  5. Because it comes in such pretty packages.
  6. Because it goes nice with picnics, fairs, carnivals, etc.
- Matter of fact, you will find that, to a man, all musicians, both big and small timers, never take a drink unless they have one.

## You Must Dance . . .

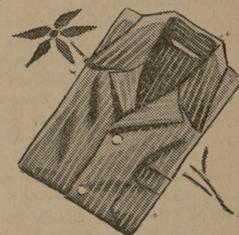
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