

The Battalion

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

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Friendly Rivalry

TODAY'S ISSUE of The Battalion was edited by the editors of The Daily Texan of the University of Texas. The editors of The Battalion will edit the University of Texas daily on February 3.

Nothing better could be done to make these students realize how many things they have in common. They have found out that one another are human beings, no fooling.

About the only times that the Aggies and the U. T. students visit one another in very great numbers are in times of stress and in periods of great rivalry. It would be a great thing if every U. T. student could visit the Aggie campus on just an ordinary day and see what a welcome he would get.

Under normal conditions and without the stress of excitement, the students of both schools will find that, whether singly or in pairs, they are very much alike, have the same virtues and shortcomings. It would be a great thing if each student of U. T. could see Aggie and experience its welcome and if each Aggie could catch the spirit of Texas in like manner. They can do that by visiting one another when they have the chance.

For the Texas Steer the pastures of Aggie land (1400 acres) are rich. And for the Aggies—every one of them—the "Forty Acres" are fertile with welcome.

—Boyd Sinclair

Grads and Defense

THERE IS A LOT OF TALK going around about what the college graduate's place in the national defense program is. At colleges other than those offering military training the boys of that certain age hear rumors that college graduates will find easy berths at the conscription camps. What is the true picture?

Military authorities and press officers qualified to speak say this:

College graduates will go through the same channels as high school graduates, grammar school graduates, and graduates of nothing at all. After a two-weeks probationary period at Camp Bowie the draftee will be put in the work he is most capable of doing. This will be done easily enough, since the U. S. is not now at war and there is time for a placement period. Because college graduates are capable of doing technical and special work, these men will probably draw assignments of the better nature. And why not, for they have been especially trained for four or more years for the jobs. The main point is that the selection of personnel for the better jobs comes after selection and not before.

We will assume that graduates of this particular college will become reserve officers upon graduation and will find their way into the service as officers. The U. S. has spent a great deal of money on its senior R. O. T. C. training plan and has a right to expect officers, and good officers, for the expense. Therefore students at A. & M. college may find it a little difficult to consider the position of the draftee in the national defense program. To most officers, soldiers are just another damn object.

As I see it, the problem is not the immediate one of officers and draftees and conscription, but what of the long-run plan of national defense and the place of the college student of today?

The struggle for national existence will not be based on tanks, guns, and planes. These are an outward measure of power and the most immediate line of defense. What a country fights with is its peoples and it has been ever thus. Our struggle is and will continue to be based on our definite and unconquerable belief in democracy and in ourselves. Our place in national defense today is to learn so well what we may be taught that we may spread the teaching to all the country. History teaches that we cannot put our faith in an army alone; we must put it in ourselves.

—Jack Dolph

Something To Read

BY DR. T. F. MAYO

Aggies' Delight: Hemingway's New Novel
FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS, Ernest Hemingway's new novel, is already so popular on the Campus that this reviewer, though he hangs around the Library most of the time, had to borrow a copy from a wealthy student of his who actually bought the thing. Not for the first time, the reviewer finds himself in hearty agreement with the Aggies about a book. This is a swell story.

The young American radical who got leave of absence from a teaching job in Montana to fight as a dynamiter against the Spanish Fascists for worldwide social justice is by far the most interesting and likeable of Hemingway's heroes. The book

is full, moreover, of other interesting and likeable people, definitely headed by the gypsy woman. This old girl, in fact, for mellow raciness, earthborn strength, and weatherbeaten wisdom, is a worthy partner of Steinbeck's Ma Joad. For "characters" in recent American fiction who are worthy to stand beside these old gals, we must explore Thomas Wolf's first two novels, Look Homeward, Angel and Of Time and the River.

To one who has followed Hemingway from book to book since he emerged in the 1920's with The Sun Also Rises, an interesting quality—perhaps the most interesting quality—of For Whom the Bell Tolls is its concern with social justice. Hemingway's books used to be devoted exclusively to the personal relations and emotions of his characters: His hard-boiled youngsters turned their backs pointedly on public affairs and yearned violently at each other. (It's barely possible, of course, that this has been the secret of his appeal to your generation. We hope not!). In To Have and Have Not a year or two ago, however, were confused indications of the author's beginning to suspect that individual lives are largely determined by social forces. He seemed also in this novel to be feeling, dimly and gropingly, as yet, that now that most adults (and I mean adults) have grasped this fact, there is something unsatisfying in a yarn which fails to take these social forces into account.

In short, just a few years ago Mr. Hemingway began apparently to find bull-fighting, tarpon-fishing, African big-game hunting, and plain and fancy drinking and love-making, just a shade on the juvenile side. He followed the Spanish War closely, on the ground, and he followed it not as an adventure, an extension of big-game hunting, but as a struggle, ending tragically, for economic freedom and social justice.

Now at last, in For Whom the Bell Tolls, Hemingway has made a book with all his powers and faculties, old and new. Its dialogue has the nonchalant but crisp and beautifully precise "Ping" of The Sun Also Rises. Its love story, though subordinated to the class conflict, is as "right" as the one which ran away with A Farewell to Arms. In its middle distance glitter the splendid, grotesque, or pitiful bull-fighters of Death in the Afternoon. Its plot is as cunningly dramatic and suspenseful as the plots of his best short stories. But in addition to all this, or rather underlying, pervading, and brooding over all this, is the author's newly awakened concern that everybody shall get a square deal from society—his sense of social right and wrong.

It is in this last quality that For Whom the Bell Tolls marks Hemingway's coming of age. If you feel and like this quality, you too must have come of age. If not . . .

Quotable Quotes

"MANY OF US ARE convinced that democracy cannot be saved by arms alone. Even if we are not drawn into the war, even though England may avoid defeat, the causes that destroyed the democracies of Europe will still be at work. Totalitarianism, as it exists today, is the outcome of the prolonged unemployment, the economic hopelessness, the perverted training, and the sense of insecurity of the great masses of adult youth." Donald DuShane, president of the National Education association, looks behind the threat to democracy.

—Associated Collegiate Press

As the World Turns...

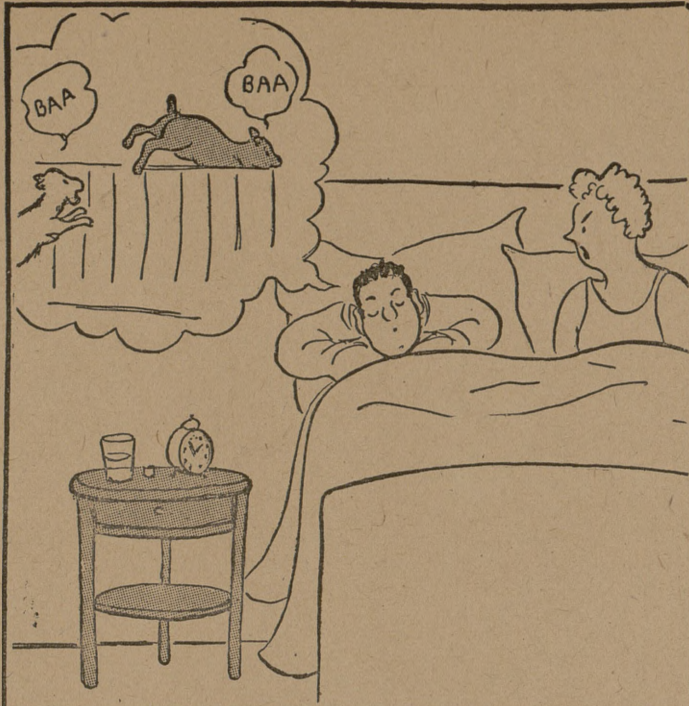
BY "COUNT" V. K. SUGAREFF
THE HOUSE of Representatives Bill which, if passed, will give the president more extensive powers than any former president has had in time of peace, bears the historically significant number of 1776. The bill specifically provides that the president will have the right to "sell, transfer, lease, lend or otherwise dispose of" any "defense articles" to a friendly power. It is rumored on Capitol Hill at Washington that bill No. 1776 will pass both houses of congress, however, some opposition from the House Republicans and the non-interventionists in the Senate has already developed. In the House, Congressman Kenneth F. Simpson has presented a bill limiting the president's powers as stated in bill No. 1776 to two years. Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana has announced that he will try to defeat the bill. The indications now are that congress will pass the bill, authorizing the president to hurry aid to friendly nations.



Sugareff

Somebody is telling the country bed-time stories. We are told that our industry is now operating on a 135% basis as compared with 1935, but we still have some eight millions unemployed. Insiders say that the auto industry is utilizing only about 50% of its capacity. The small industries are operating on less than 50% capacity and in some instances are discharging some of their employees. Government officials say that contracts are given to companies on the basis of 5% to 7% profit, but the aviation industry demands 18% profit, the amount which they get from British orders. During the month of last November the average American pocketbook should have swollen considerably because there was more money in circulation in the United States than ever before—eight billion and three hundred million dollars. Still there were many sections in the United States in which business was far below normal. We had millions on relief and the WPA rolls.

The appointment of Sidney Hillman to the new Office of Production Management was a friendly gesture to organized labor. Mr. Hillman has equal powers with Mr. Knudsen. Both of these men are responsible for speeding up our rearmament program, and they have extensive powers for granting contracts and demanding priorities from industries. This agency has not had time to prove itself, but at present the difficulties of the task to which they have been assigned appear insurmountable. It is to be hoped that these two men can reconcile the differences between the employers and the employees and bring about a realization of our national defense program. Industry and labor are the keys to our successful rearmament.



"Stop counting those sheep. Their baa-baaing is keeping me awake!"

BACKWASH

By Boyd Sinclair
Editor, The Daily Texan

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

Freshman as Defined By a Sophomore

A chlorophyll or slime is the lowest form of animal life known to science. It is found in large numbers on all college campi. It is often a victim of hallucinations and often imagines itself worth of considerations, and in severe cases, equal to a sophomore. It is prone to clutter up school dances, sorority houses, and dormitories, making itself generally obnoxious. Feeds on ice cream, peanuts, hot dogs, steaks, and Haig and Haig. Excellent medium on which to exercise good right arm and as a test of the flexibility of a paddle. Inclined to be very susceptible, especially during first semester, and has on occasions been known to lend money. One of the necessary evils all good sophomores must tolerate. Very little intelligence, but in most cases harmless.



Sinclair

Freshman as Defined By the College Widow
Secret of success. Very susceptible to "lines." Has money, ambition (collegiate speaking), and willingness. Is the means of attending all social functions when nothing better turns up. Attends all dances. Dances badly, but makes up for minimum ability in maximum energy expended. To be cultivated intensively and dropped immediately when it shows signs of intelligence. Generally outlives its usefulness near close of spring term.

Freshman as Defined By Himself

The most important unit of campus life. A superior but misunderstood and mistreated individual. The reason school dances are successful. Very probably the future football captain or president of the student body. Considers bid to Sigma Nu or Chi Omega more important than a Phi Beta Kappa key. Very nice fellow in general.

Sonnet To Donald Duck

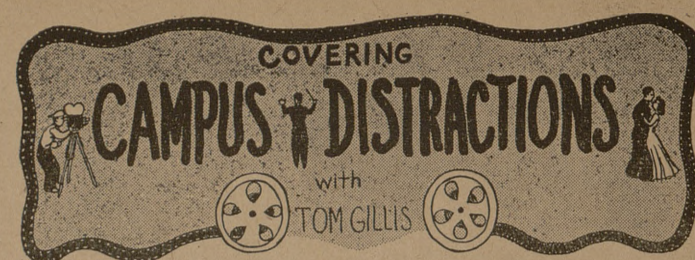
Bad-tempered fowl, I'll writ of thee awhile,
Merganser bird, meseems, of plumage rare,
Thou has a temper little short of vile,
That would, without Will Hays, cause thee to swear.
By nature thou of water art acquiant,
But thou, I ween, couldst swim in lakes of fire,
When thou in wrath upon the world art bent,
Destruction-bound and full of vengeance dire.
But, prident duck, meseems that there had been
A flaming insult to thy kind and sex,
I think they master hath been in a spin—
Thy status (male or female?) is complex;
And I for one think there is some mistake—
Thou, Donald, art no duck, thou art a drake.

Aggie Weather For a Week

The weather today: Lightning. Probably thunder.
The weather tomorrow: Rain. Probably wet.
The weather Saturday: Sunshine. Probably warm.
The weather Sunday: Cloudy. Probably shady.
The weather Monday: Unsettled. Probably anything will happen.
The weather Tuesday: Sleet, ice, and snow. Probably cold.
The weather Wednesday: Hurricanes, tornadoes, cyclones, si-moons, monsoons, and typhoons. Probably wind.
The weather a week from today: I will make my weekly weather report at that time. Probably more wind.

Psalm to Pappy For the New Year

1. Our Pappy who art in office, hollered by thy name.
2. Thy pensions come or thou wilt be done in flour as it is in office.
3. Give us this year a very good session (of the Legislature) that we may pay our bills.
4. And give us something on our debts, so that we may give to our debtors.
5. Lead us not into Louisiana



This is the first column under the new head of CAMPUS DISTRACTIONS, which replaced the Battalion's Movie Review. It will now cover not only movies but any form of organized entertainment on the campus. In a word, it will cover anything which distracts the reader from studying.

"SOUTH OF PAGO PAGO", the benefit show for the Entomology Club Friday, is the old story of how the white man's greed can play havoc in a South Sea paradise. Victor McLaglen's greed for pearls makes him lead an expedition to exploit the natives, and the way native chieftain John Hall falls for Frances Farmer almost allows him to succeed. McLaglen has the role of a toughie who brow-beats the natives into bringing up his pearls and this bully role is certainly down his alley.

His appearance in this show is the first Jon Hall has made since "The Hurricane." For a young native chief he is pretty good, but he lets his people get into trouble when he goes overboard for the first white girl he has ever seen. Any white girl but the kind portrayed by Frances Farmer would be all right but you can imagine her as being the only woman tough enough to make the voyage with a boatload of men. This show has the typical Dorothy Lamour setting but without Dorothy. That helps make it a good show.

and deliver us \$30 a month, and thine is governorship, the flour, and the glory.
6. Forever. Amen.

CAMPUS
15¢ to 5 p.m.—20¢ after

Last Day
DOWN ARGENTINE WAY
IN TECHNICOLOR!

Tomorrow - Sat.
JOEL MCCREA
BRENDIA MARSHALL
Year's Most Sensational Discovery!

ESPIONAGE AGENT
WARNER BROS.' Headline Bombshell!

Also Cartoon and News

"DOWN ARGENTINE WAY" is back at the Campus again. It was such a hit the first time that the management decided to bring it back. Carmen Miranda is one of the standouts as she sings her piquant Portuguese songs. Not one Aggie out of the bunch can understand her ling when she sings but she makes you wish you could from the way she rolls her eyes and moves her jeweled arms. If you go back the second time parts of this feature will be rather stale, but if you haven't seen it, it will distract you a good deal.

With reference to the two editors from the Daily Texan who are putting out this issue of the Battalion, it may be said that the Texan's Movie Editor selected "Down Argentine Way" as one of the worst 10 pictures of 1940 because it was the first time that Betty Grable had shown her stomach in technicolor. Don Ameche was also described as the worst male singer on the screen over 15 years of age.

THIS IS THE LAST WEEK OF W. S. D.'s REMODELING SALE

Come in this week and take advantage of these SALE PRICES on—

- Men's Fine Suits,
- Topcoats, Slacks,
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- Gantner Sweaters,
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