

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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Something To Read

BY DR. T. F. MAYO

"A Plain Story Simply Told"

This is the sub-title of one of the two or three most interesting books in the College Library: THE OUTLINE OF SCIENCE, by J. Arthur Thomson. If you have ever thought that scientific reading is necessarily a bore, this book ought to remove that impression. It is so planned, in the first place, that any one of its four volumes may be read by itself. Each volume, furthermore, is divided into sections, each of which may be read independently of the others. In other words, you can ask for the four volumes (on a white call slip), leaf through them in the Reading Room, then check out the volume or volumes you prefer.

Volume I begins appropriately with The Romance of the Heavens, a lucid sketch of modern conceptions of astronomy—the universe as a whole. You read about the solar systems, the mountains of the moon, the birth and death of stars. Also in Volume I are sections, profusely illustrated, on evolution, the struggle for existence, the ascent of man, evolution now going on, and "the dawn of mind". This excellent volume concludes with The Foundations of the Universe, all about atoms, electrons, and energy.

Among the more interesting sections in the other volumes are Bacteria, The Making of the earth and the Story of the Rocks, The Einstein Theory, The Chemist As Creator, The Causes of Weather, The Body-Machine, and The New Psychology.

Please don't get the idea that you have to be a scientist, even a budding scientist, to enjoy and profit from these books. As a matter of fact they are carefully devised (with lots of excellent pictures) for the man who, without any scientific training, yet wants what science has to offer by way of a general view of the world we live in.

And after all, it would seem that an intelligent denizen of that world would want to know something about it, don't you think?

Our position is that the kind of man who sings while he shaves ought to whoop at the breakfast table.

And the reason why the woman usually gets the last word is because she has had more experience in last-wording.

As the World Turns...

BY "COUNT" V. K. SUGAREFF

WHAT TRANSPIRED at the meeting of the Axis partners last Monday is still in the realm of speculation. Regardless of what Hitler and Mussolini have planned for the future, it becomes increasingly evident that the Nazi's new order for the world is far from realization. The Blitzkrieg which has netted the Axis partners so many victories has broken down. Hitler's large victories have been bought with larger responsibilities. The occupied territories are ruled by the Gestapo, and judging by the reports that filter through the strict censorship, the Nazis are continuously pestered by the natives of these territories. Rumania, likely egged on by Russia and Turkey, is not cooperating with the Nazis. Bulgaria, encouraged probably by Russia and Turkey, has promised to fight if her neutrality is violated by any power. With the French army in northern Africa as a weapon, Petain of France dares refuse all that Hitler asks.

The Albanian and African campaigns give every evidence that Italy is now (and may permanently remain) a liability to Hitler. So far the Greeks have defeated the Italians. Hitler's minister to Greece has assured the Greek government that Germany does not intend to attack Greece, if that assurance means anything. In north Africa the British are overcoming the Italians and they have begun an advance against them in Eritrea for the protection of the Suez canal. It is rumored that the tribesmen of Ethiopia are revolting, under the leadership of Haile Selassie, the former emperor of Ethiopia.

The third partner of the Axis, Jana, is in a similar predicament. The war with China has been a stalemate for several months. A complete victory over China now appears a remote possibility. Besides, the Dutch East Indies, Australia, New Zealand, the Federated Malay States, Straits Settlements, (Singapore), and the possessions of the United States in the Far East, have reached an agreement of cooperation should Japan attack any of the foreign possessions in the far east. The nature of the cooperation agreed upon has not been disclosed, but the fact that Japan has not attempted to occupy any of these possessions indicates precaution on her part.

Then, too, Russo-Japanese relations are uncertain. It is said that Russia demands a big price for joining or cooperating with the Axis powers. Russia wants the abrogation of the Portsmouth Treaty (1905), except the ceded half of Sakhalin Island. This would deprive Japan of her fishing rights off the Siberian Coast, the source of a large food supply, and cash profits. Russia wants the cancellation of the oil, coal, and other concessions to Japan in the northern portion of Sakhalin Island and the demilitarization of that zone by Japan. Russia, also, wants demolition of all fortifications along the borders of Manchukuo and Korea (on the Siberian side) and Outer Mongolia and a formal renunciation of Japan's aspirations to Outer Mongolia. Supported by the Axis powers, Japan is not likely to concede so much.

But the most serious obstacle the three Axis powers will have to overcome is the United States. President Roosevelt in his stirring public addresses has left no room for doubt as to what the United States will do to preserve democratic institutions. He gives the three Axis powers plenty to think about.

BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

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

A Bird's Eye View . . . For a fair discussion of a currently bad situation, read A. H. Hamner's letter in today's open forum column. Then watch for action throughout the corps in this connection . . . Best of all—they're free!

Imagine his surprise, therefore, at receiving an 'A' grade on the masterpiece and an attached note from the prof which read: "A few years back this was a 'C' paper. Like old wine, however, it's improving with age. But, by God, if this paper shows up in my class again it'll get an 'F'!"

Who is Yehudi? The question which has tried to be answered for so long has been given another definition in La Gaviota of the Corpus Christi High School. Yehudi is the man who makes the rim for the rimless glasses with the invisible lenses for the man who wasn't there to read between the lines of the unwritten law.

Uncle Sam uses the Schneider test and Index as a means of testing the physical fitness of prospective aviators.

Semi-Annual Clearance Sale
Closes Saturday Night
TWO MORE DAYS TO SAVE ON
Hart, Schaffner & Marx SUITS and TOPCOATS
Glover LEATHER COATS
Glover WOOL COATS
DRESS SHIRTS
PAJAMAS
GLOVES
SWEATERS

Best-Seller
Bell Telephone crashed through with another best-seller yesterday with the publication of another of their directories.

The letter "P"—missing in the old College Station directory—finally got in the telephone listing as C. V. Issac, vet medicine junior, started the ball rolling in that part of the alphabet.

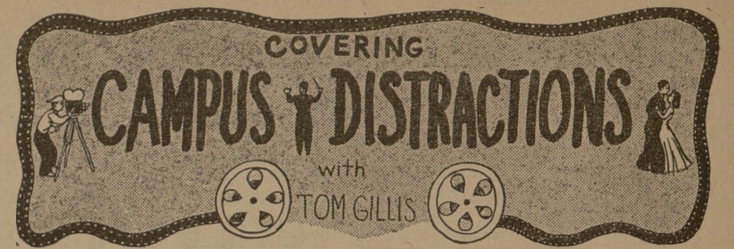
The current edition represents an increase of two pages over the last book, and in the race between the Jones' and the Smiths, the Smiths lead two-to-one with a score of 11 to 5.

These telephone books are rapidly becoming an American institution. There are more copies of this book than any other publication, barring none. The book is rapidly replacing the Sears-Roebuck catalog for versatility. It can be used for a seat raiser (in any of the principal cities where the book is a couple of inches thick), paper-weight, space filler, doodling and social purposes—friendly and otherwise.

Not only that, but in most cities the books contain, in addition to telephone numbers, maps of the

Close-out on Special Lot of
Freeman Oxfords
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SALE
\$2.65

Bullock & Akin



Moviegoers who like brawls and beer (on the screen) will find "SEVEN SINNERS" hard to beat. The show takes place in the honky-tonks of the East Indies and none of the boys back down when a fight is in the air. Twice there are good mob fights which leave only one man standing and able to navigate under his own power.

The brawls are only a sideshow to the main run of events. Languorous Marlene Dietrich has the part of a song and dance cutie who has been thrown out of the best night spots in the islands. She has a peculiar fascination for the men in these joints, especially naval officers, which means especially John Wayne. His husky build looks good in a navy uniform, but Dietrich holds the film spotlight throughout the show so he doesn't

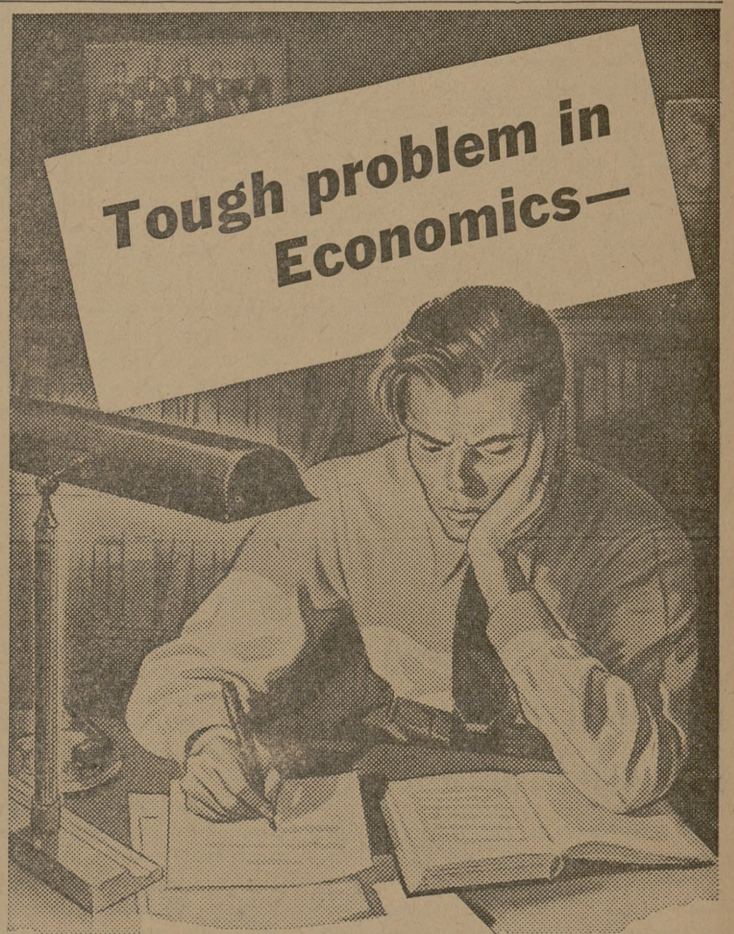
do much. She just gives everybody the run around but at a pretty wicked pace.

There is a catchy little tune about the navy in this show that will probably run through your mind for quite some time after seeing it. There is a good supporting cast and it is pretty good even if Marlene does occupy most of the film footage.

To be what we are, and to become what we are capable of becoming, is the only end on life.

Science is resourceful; it could not pry open Pullman windows, so it air-conditioned the train.

You cannot prevent the bird's sorrow from flying over your head, but you can prevent them from building a nest in your hair.



... and a simple solution

When the Bell System was still very young, a problem arose: How to assure—at lowest cost—a dependable supply of telephone apparatus of high quality and uniform standard?

As the System grew and the telephone network became more complex, this problem of supply grew more difficult. But it was solved this way.

Western Electric was given responsibility for manufacturing, purchasing and distributing the equipment needed by the telephone companies. The concentration of these functions has resulted in keeping quality up and costs down—to the benefit of every telephone user.

Western Electric
... is back of your Bell Telephone service

Humor, A Subtle Blind

FUNNY PAPERS, as some call the comic strips in a newspaper, contain more editorial matter than does the editorial page itself—and it has ten times the effect.

Humor is the most subtle blind for deeper thinking that can be found. Who was it in the days of yore that had the most power to sway the rulings of the king? Was it the prime minister or the bravest knight? Of course not. It was the court jester, the king's fool.

What is it today that has the most influence with American thinking? It would be a close race between the funny papers, the motion pictures, and the radio—all primarily created for amusement.

Think of the library of slang that has flooded the country from these sources and realize the gigantic effect upon our English language.

As a specific instance, observe the lowly hamburger—by now a legitimate word in our dictionary. What brought this lowly ham sandwich into fame—why Wimpy in the funny papers, of course. Without such a boost the hamburger might have passed into eternity unnoticed.

So far not a word has been said about these agencies exerting the wrong kind of influence upon the American people. But don't wonder for a minute why Hitler and his "stooge" have the universal hatred of all America. The U. S. has been pumped full of hatred for years until today it would be an exceptional citizen indeed that could listen to an argument on the other side with an open mind. Indeed! Even the mention of the name or a flash of his picture brings unanimous boos and hisses. Don't wonder how this mood was created among the American people.

That any danger could exist in these agencies distributing propaganda for Nazi causes is a question mark. But why couldn't they. Well, they might, but the possibility is fairly remote. It would do no harm to keep an eye on these organs. As long as the power these forces exert is realized and accounted for, the danger can not be very great.

But do not laugh at the fellow who first picks up the funny papers. He knows, better than you with the editorial page, where to find the editorials.

OPEN FORUM

While on trip up-state this past week-end, this is what I noticed. Freshmen and sophomores arrived at the places where Aggies catch their rides in Fort Worth and in Waco. Both juniors and seniors were standing at each place. To my knowledge, however, neither freshmen nor sophomores met anyone at either town.

Maybe I am just behind the times on the way underclassmen are supposed to conduct themselves in such cases. In the past it has been proper for underclassmen to meet everyone when he arrives at the "thumping" point.

"Must the good traditions fall with the bad? This little incident can be remedied in short order and without the aid of college officials. It is the slack allowed by the seniors that brought this on. Let's have action!

A. H. Hamner, class '41.

This Collegiate World

NYA students at Stout Institute, Menomonie, Wis., have installed a short wave radio station in their campus center.

There are ten miles of electrical wiring in the main barracks of The Citadel, the military college of South Carolina.

Though Millsaps College is supported by the Methodist Church, its Baptist Union, only denominational organization on the campus, has a membership of 108 out of a student body of 600.

University of Cincinnati's 10,800 students include 4,022 from 44 states and the District of Columbia, 11 foreign countries, Puerto Rico, Canal Zone, and Hawaii.

Fairmont State College, Fairmont, W. Va., has been broadcasting over the Fairmont radio station for nearly 12 years.

Teacher education and secretarial science are the most popular courses with freshmen at Eastern New Mexico college.

An intercontinental highway linking the U.S. with southernmost South America is advocated by a University of Texas engineer, who claims the U.S.-Panama leg can be built for \$38,000,000.
—Associated Collegiate Press

A COMPLETE LINE

UNIFORMS
BOOKS
SUPPLIES
NOVELTIES

THE EXCHANGE STORE

"An Aggie Institution"