

# The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER  
TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE  
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## Attention Faculty

THIS AFTERNOON the faculty will meet in regular session to discuss the usual routine matters which come before this important branch of the college's administrative set-up.

Not so routine, however, is the fate of the proposed Texas A. & M. Student Aid Fund. Already blessed by the Student Activities committee and the Executive committee, faculty approval is all that remains in the path of final organization of the proposed fund.

The Battalion urges the faculty to accept this plan which—so The Battalion believes—is one of the finest movements in the recent history of Texas A. & M. college. Hundreds of students and many college officials have expressed parallel opinions.

The Student Aid Fund is a good thing. It is something unique in American colleges and universities. It is something which every Aggie will be proud to be a part of.

Here's hoping that the faculty stamps OK and gives a go-ahead signal on the proposed Student Aid Fund.

## Cramming--Mostly Pro

WHO IS THE MAN who hasn't studied, who hasn't done his books justice, who has read magazines and gone to the show when thermo was calling? Who is about to flunk? Who will flunk if he makes a low grade on his final examination? Is it you?

If so, then you are not the person to argue against the proposition of cramming for final exams. For you, my friend are just at the stage where cramming is the last resort. You, my friend should be in a position to hear an argument, of all things, in favor of cramming.

Usually about a week or so before examinations the question of cramming comes to mind, and it is usually about this time that campus sages pass out the un-asked-for advice not to cram. Cramming jumbles all the facts you've learned until you are so confused that you know neither which way is up nor which way is down. One never learns by cramming; it is strictly memory work and accomplishes no good. Constant studying is the only solution. These sages have waited just four and one half months to late to begin their dissertation. At this stage of the game, the practice of cramming needs some favorable comment.

In the first place cramming has been the only straw from which many a desperate youth has clung to escape the angry tide of failure. This business of becoming confused is theory at best. If beforehand no facts had been learned, how could cramming possibly jumble them up?

But the big asset to cramming is this. It gives the student a chance to cover the whole course at one sitting. It gives him a complete picture to study instead of presenting one scene at a time. It enables him to grasp the general scope of the course, to see toward what end each statement is driving. It enables him to tie one idea in with another idea and see best how they work together.

Many learned men favor no compulsory class attendance and place all the stress upon one final examination. In this manner they take one week of concentrated studying for a course and claim they get more good from their efforts than a whole semester's work of piece-mealing. They may have something.

At any rate, let's not condemn the man who now has to cram. Don't bother them! Let them study.

And to the man with the low grades, don't give up hope at this stage of the game. Cramming has passed many a man, and the principle has many advocates. And if you pass the course by cramming, don't let it hurt your conscience.

## The Collegiate Review

Four Colgate university alumni received \$200 in prizes for songs submitted in a contest.

Miss Abby Burgess is the thirty-first member of her family to attend Brown university. Her father is a faculty member.

A report estimates Dartmouth pin-ball players shoot 5,000,000 balls a year.

Vunise Barrow, sister of heavyweight champion Joe Louis, is attending the University of Michigan.

A new species of oak, first distinctly new tree found east of the Mississippi in 75 years, has been discovered by Dr. Wilbur H. Duncan, University of Georgia botanist.

Stevens Institute of Technology received totaling \$96,562 in the fiscal year 1939-40.

Southern life and economy are to be interpreted in educational and dramatic films to be produced at the University of North Carolina.

The Lincoln library of the late Valentine Bjorkman, comprising more than 1,000 volumes, has been acquired by Upsala college, East Orange, N. J.

Seventy-four Minnesotans are included in the enrollment of 6,300 at Northwestern university.

Students at New York city's four municipal colleges last year contributed \$972,000 in fees.

A poll revealed nearly two thirds of University of Detroit students favor freshman hazing.

Catholic University of America has added 31 new members to its teaching staff.

—Associated Collegiate Press

## Man, Your Manners

BY I. SHERWOOD

The Welcome Guest  
CONSIDERATION, ADAPTABILITY and tact are the principal qualities of a gracious guest—one whom any host or hostess is delighted to entertain.

Faculty members are always glad for cadets to visit them in their homes, but when you call do not over-stay your welcome—a call of thirty minutes is long enough. Never stay longer than an hour after dinner unless entertainment has been provided.

Answering Invitations: Your reply should be prompt and if the invitation is written, it is permissible to use your visiting card by putting in the left corner "With pleasure" and under that the date of the dinner or party. To decline write "Regrets" and the date below. If you have no visiting cards, your answer should be in the third person.

Mr. Philip Laird accepts with pleasure or (regrets that he is unable to accept) Mr. and Mrs. John Smith's kind invitation for Saturday the twenty-second of May at seven o'clock

When you do not know what to wear you should inquire to make sure.

Your Arrival: Arriving too early is almost as bad as arriving too late. You should time your arrival according to the type of party. One should arrive for dinner about five minutes before the specified time. Guests are expected for informal parties about twenty minutes after the stated time.

At the Party: If host or hostess does not greet you at the door, pay your respects to them as soon as possible.

At very large parties you may converse with anyone without being introduced.

Be careful of the hostess's possessions. If you break something, apologize but don't dwell on it. Later send her a duplicate, if possible.

Be a clean smoker. Don't leave a trail of messy ash trays as you go from place to place in the home.

Your Departure: A guest should know when to go home without waiting for someone else to make the move.

At a large party say goodbye to those close by. At a small party or dinner tell your host and hostess goodbye, the honor guest, if there is one, and the hostess's family.

Thank them by saying "Thank you so much" or "I've had such a nice time".

## As the World Turns...

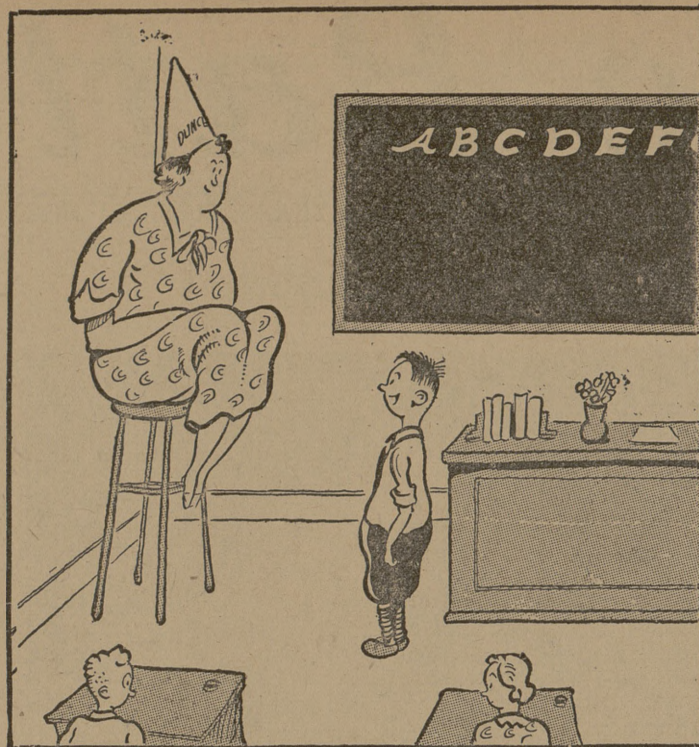
BY DR. R. W. STEEN

IT IS DIFFICULT to understand all of the excitement over the opinions of Colonel Lindbergh. He has proved himself to be a competent pilot, and he is doubtless an authority on matters pertaining to aviation. His opinions on such matters doubtless deserve careful consideration. There is, however, nothing in his training or experience that qualifies him as an expert in foreign policy.

As an American citizen he is entitled to have opinions and to express them freely. Some Americans will agree with him, others will disagree. All of that is to be expected, but there is no reason why his opinion on foreign affairs should be worth any more than the opinion of the average diplomat on matters of aviation—and no one would care to ride in a plane built and operated by diplomats.

Colonel Lindbergh himself seems a bit confused about the whole situation. He is convinced that Britain can not win, and that America has nothing to fear from an Axis victory. At the same time he favors a comprehensive preparedness program. If we have nothing to fear from an Axis victory, then against whom are we to prepare? Surely we are not to fear any of the powers already beaten. Surely we are not to fear a defeated Britain. Could it be that Lindbergh himself lacks confidence in this "Wave of the Future" which is being sponsored by national leaders who gained their positions by the tactics of gangsters, and who continue to use such tactics.

Hitler and Mussolini have met again, and the result this time seems to be a plan for a unified command of the Axis forces. It is easy to believe that such a plan might have been formulated, and it is just as easy to believe that when it is put into effect Italy will have very little to say as to what is going on. Incidentally, the Italian empire in Africa is rapidly ceasing to exist. A well organized revolt is getting under way in Ethiopia, and British troops are having no little success in taking over other portions of the empire. The Italian empire seems doomed. If Britain wins Italy will not get the territory back. If Germany wins she will probably take the lands as compensation for assistance given to Italy. From all present indications, Mussolini made a serious mistake when he entered the war last summer on the assumption that all was over except writing the peace terms.



"It's sporting of you, Miss Murphy, admitting you were wrong about that arithmetic problem."

## BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

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

Concerning Examinations and Term Reports . . . A few of the answers and statements received by the profs where exams and term themes are concerned are a little on the goofy side. An agronomy student, for example, recently had the following to say about a dust mulch: "The dust mulch theory is nothing more than a panacea cure-all or remedy for all ills which are so often advocated by high-powered salesmen medicine men and college professors." . . . And here's a new conception of seed germination and growth as expounded by another agronomy student: "The seed are planted in good soil. The germ side of the seed is fertilized by the fertilizer in the soil and begins to grow." . . . And here's a few answers received on a recent history quiz: "The person asking to be naturalized must not be an alien." . . . "To be a citizen of a state a citizen must not be a citizen before he can become a citizen." . . . "A minor is not allowed to vote unless he is at least 21 years of age." . . . Unique was the occurrence at Sunday's tour duty. One offender, assigned to do the full two-hour stretch, showed up with 30-odd turkey sandwiches which freshmen in his military organization had made from the dinner's left-overs. At the half-time, while cadets were resting from their Devil's Island duties, the sandwiches were passed out as far as they would go. . . . Seniors who contributed Vanity Fair candidates for the 1941 Longhorn have one chance in three and a half of winning. Twenty-nine entries were sent Cecil B. deMille yesterday afternoon by Joe Jones, manager of the section.



Fuermann

Fluorescent Lights Is Topic of Committee Meeting  
The use of fluorescent lamps in the dormitories and ways of helping students do more studying were the main subjects discussed at the last Student Welfare Committee supper.  
L. L. Fouraker of the Electrical Engineering Department, is head of a committee doing research on the advantages of fluorescent lights. As soon as the findings are complete the Student Welfare Committee will decide whether fluorescent lamps will be used in A. & M. next year.  
The Student Welfare Committee is composed of 41 members, including students and teachers. Each class and The Battalion has a representative on this committee.

## An Explanation

Saturday's Backwash contained an item which alleged that within a few weeks, a near-scandal would be exposed involving three of the college's highest student body officials. The item stated that the expose would be based on capitalization of student executive positions.

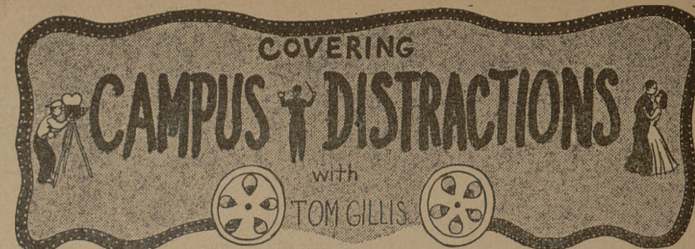
The item also stated, "Backwash may be wrong on this tip."

Backwash was wrong—completely. It's not difficult to apologize for a thing of this kind, and the facts are these. Last Wednesday night six seniors and a civilian came to the writer with off-the-record information concerning an alleged scheme whereby three prominent students were capitalizing on their executive positions. The seven men asked the writer to help in the investigation. The writer refused.

The following night (Thursday), two of the six seniors again returned with the information that they would have the necessary facts within 60 days. "Would The Battalion publish these facts?" they asked. The writer explained that the facts would be published as a news story contingent to two things. First, their accuracy, and second, the decision of The Battalion's editor-in-chief.

The writer however published the tip on the basis of having an advance "scoop" for the column.

The item was altogether unfounded—as investigation by competent



"ESCAPE" is a picture you will ED." He can't even resist being want to see before the hard grind tempted at all though; he plays of finals sets in. The picture may the part of a kleptomaniac who leave a depressed feeling after you hasn't got conscience pang 1. This have seen it but it is plenty good. rather irks his pretty daughter, Here is enough suspense in this Peggy Moran. Herbert "woo-woo's" production to frazzle the nerves his way through this show like he of a stone statue. Robert Taylor is does all his others. That is just a trying to rescue his mother from silly little mannerism of his that the authorities in Germany and you can't forget, but there are lots smuggle her out of the country, of silly little school girls that you and he really has the devil of a can't forget either but you don't time. In the first place he doesn't find out she is a German prisoner until a few days before she is supposed to be executed, and in the second place he has to cause her artificial death to get the body and then revive her and whisk her away.

The director couldn't have picked a better countess than Norma Shearer. She has an aristocratic, sophisticated air if there ever was one. And when she has her hair done in an overhead braid, she looks like nobility itself.

The ruthlessness of the Nazis is the villain of the story. The German general involved works with a machine-like Prussian personality, and there is a little Nazi doctor who is sympathetic with their efforts but rather helpless and afraid of the long arm of the Gestapo. The picture wasn't really meant to be propaganda but it helps.

Hugh Herbert is down at the Campus in "SLIGHTLY TEMPTED."

## WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL

Tuesday 3:30 & 6:45—  
"SKY MURDER," with Walter Pidgeon and Donald Meek.  
Wednesday, Thursday 3:30 & 6:45—"ESCAPE," starring Norma Shearer, Robert Taylor, Conrad Veidt, Felix Bressart, Bonita Granville, Albert Basserman and Phillip Dorn.

AT THE CAMPUS

Tuesday — "SLIGHTLY TEMPTED," with Hugh Herbert, Peggy Moran, Johnny Downs and George Stone.

Wednesday, Thursday — "I'M NOBODY'S SWEETHEART NOW," with Dennis O'Keefe, Constance Moore, Henel Paris and Samuel S. Hinds.

## MUSICAL MEANDERINGS

By Murray Evans

Glenn Miller continues to be the number one band in the estimation of this department. He rightfully boasts the finest reed section in the business, and has made it the distinguishing feature of his style. With a liberal use of clarinets and a full, yet soft background, he has developed more than one sparkling arrangement, and these to the despair of all imitators. Ray Eberley handles the vocals in blue ribbon style. His rendition of "There I Go" is strictly super-duper. Ironically enough, I heard a north Texas station play "Moonlight Serenade" this last week end. Miller himself can't use this, his own theme, on radio!

If "Practice Makes Perfect" there ought to be droves of ultra-fine bands by the time this music feud is over. To quote one musician, "It was good the first 345,634 1/2 times I heard it." Maybe it ought to be called "BMI Blues!"

Once in a great while some name band reaches down into the hill-billy grab bag, scores some simple old la-deda tune and elevates it into something altogether worth while. Wayne King is a current example, and his "You Are My Sunshine" stacks favorably with the best of the present day ditties. (Which, at the moment, isn't anything to rave about.) King puts plenty of sugar-coated sunshine into this one with a violin quartet that catches the ear.

## Assembly Hall

Last Day — 3:30 and 6:45

## "Sky Murder"

—also—

"Homeless Flea" - "Wedding Bills"

News

Wednesday - Thursday — 3:30 & 6:45

## CAMPUS

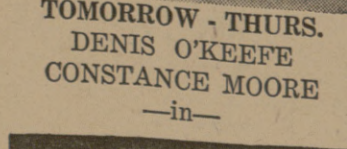
15c to 5 p.m. — 20c after

TODAY ONLY



HUGH HERBERT  
SLIGHTLY TEMPTED  
with Peggy Moran

TOMORROW - THURS.  
DENIS O'KEEFE  
CONSTANCE MOORE



I'M NOBODY'S SWEETHEART NOW  
UNIVERSAL

Advertisement for the movie 'ESCAPE' featuring Ethel Vance and Robert Taylor. Text includes: "Your Thrilled Heart Will Cry, 'Let Them Escape!'". "ESCAPE" starring Ethel Vance and Robert Taylor. "SHEARER-TAYLOR" with CONRAD VEIDT • NAZIMOVA, FELIX BRESSART • ALBERT BASSERMANN, PHILIP DORN • BONITA GRANVILLE. Directed by MERVYN LEROY. A MERVYN LEROY Production.

Short—"Eyes of the Navy"