

# The Battalion

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

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## Senate Into Action

LEGISLATIVE ACTION is being taken through a bill introduced in the Senate by Penrose Metcalf that would abolish the present office of Commissioner of Agriculture and State Department of Agriculture and transfer them to Texas A. & M. to be placed under the supervision of the Board of Directors of the college.

Said bill is now under consideration by the Senate Committee on Agriculture, and, if approved, will be returned to the Senate for vote. That the bill is being strongly pushed is evident from the last clause of same which provides that the constitutional rule requiring that bills be read on three separate days in each House be suspended.

The bill, officially known as S.B. 17, will become effective, if passed on September 1, 1941.

One duty, however, would not be transferred to the college and that is enforcing of the provisions of laws relating to weights and measures. This duty will be taken over by the Comptroller of Public Accounts.

Powers designated to the board of directors would include all the former duties and jurisdiction held by the Commissioner of Agriculture. This includes appointments of members of boards and commissions now established.

Activities of importance that will be transferred from Austin to College Station under the act will be the certifying of seed of all types, work with pecans—varieties and types.

Such legislation, long discussed on and about the A. & M. campus will greatly increase the scope of the agricultural phase of the school. It will mean that more buildings, more employees and work will be needed, and the hum and buzz of activity already existent will get a substantial increase. It will also add to the prestige and influence of the officials of the school connected with the various phases of Agriculture, and it will provide a closer contact between the college and activities of the State Dept.

## If He Only Knew

A LETTER received in the office of the president was attached to a newspaper clipping of a story dealing with the recent ban of the "bat" for use in disciplinary measures in the Texas prisons. The "bat" referred to is a heavy leather strap about three feet in length and six to eight inches in width. When the instrument was in use in Texas, there were a total of six states that condoned whippings.

But to the letter, as received, it reads as follows:

"Prisoners are more important than A. & M. Fish. Next inspection you make looking for bats, etc., be sure the ones at headquarters are not tipped off as before also look in closets and trunks.

"If teachers run the school and the seniors did not rule the teachers the parents would not send their boys to school to run errands and be laces and whipped. If I had a boy he would never go there."

Such a letter on first impression is extremely amusing, in fact hilariously funny. But on further consideration the aspect of such a communication is tragic. That there could be a citizen in the state of Texas with such an attitude is extremely discouraging. That a citizen of Texas could believe that such are the conditions of our institution is still more discouraging.

Where and when the school developed a reputation for hazing—no one can definitely say—but it reminds us of a story told by Jimmy Walker, the former mayor of New York City.

Walker was campaigning against La Guardia in an election, and in the heat of the political race, he made a statement charging La Guardia with attending a certain shady spot in the city's slum district. When asked the reason for making an accusation he knew to be false he replied that no matter how vociferously La Guardia denied the charge, there would be thousands of people but that would never be convinced that La Guardia was not a regular habitue of the bright light district, or but that he went there on occasion.

It seems unjust that accusations of the nature of those implied in the above letter, without any justification whatsoever, could be believed, but it is just not human nature to investigate matters before accepting them as truth.

To the unknown person who sent the letter we say, "Come down and visit our college sometime. It is evident from your writing that you have never been here. We have a fine school, and though you may not believe it, our freshmen are happy and well-contented."

## Quotable Quotes

"A DIPLOMA IS NO LONGER a bar to city service. Of course, politicians do not like highly educated people, but the politicians no longer exercise much control. In every department of the city, state and federal service there are openings in technical positions, in such fields as engineering, architecture, public health, physics, chemistry and others for which the training can be acquired only in college or in post-graduate work. We do need intelligent men and women in every department of government and we want them to make it their life work." New York City's Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia urges civil service as a career for college graduates.

—Associated Collegiate Press

## Man, Your Manners

OCCASIONALLY it comes to our ears that a few cadets while on corps trips take things from the hotels in which they are stopping. This seems incredible that young men from so fine a school would completely forget their manners; such behavior is unfair to the many really fine lads at A. & M. who do have nice manners—hotel managers might get the impression that all A. & M. cadets are crude. One of the rules of general conduct in hotels is: do not abuse furnishings of the room, and never take home with you anything that belongs to the hotel. Towels, stationery, spoons, ash trays, etc., are made available for your temporary convenience, not as permanent gifts.

There are special rules of etiquette that guests at a hotel are expected to observe; knowing these will make you an acceptable guest, and your stay a pleasant one.

Arrival—When you arrive at a hotel, a bell-boy will take your bags to the desk, where the clerk will ask if you have a reservation. If so, tell him your name so that he may look it up; if not, ask for whatever accommodations you wish. Since hotels are run on the American or European plan, or both, inquire which is in effect. The difference is that the American plan rate includes three meals a day, while under the European plan rate you pay for the room and are charged separately for the meals eaten at the hotel.

An unmarried man signs the register without the "Mr." He signs thus: George Bruce, Chicago, Illinois. If he is married, he signs Mr. and Mrs. George Bruce, Chicago, Illinois; he does not put the street address. Tipping—In most hotels, alas, the service you receive depends on the amount of tipping you do. Most any guest will let his pocket-book be his guide, but it is well to know whom should be tipped. The waiter, head-waiter, bellhop, porter, chambermaid, and elevator boy all expect tips; the chambermaid and elevator boy are very often overlooked.

When your stay is just overnight, the amount of your tipping should be at your discretion. Daily meals should include a tip of ten per cent of each meal's cost. Bellboys, porters, etc., are tipped after each service. Checking Out—When you are ready to leave, see the cashier or telephone and ask him to make out your bill. After you have packed, call for a bellboy to get your bags. Leave a tip in the room for the maid, and when you pay your bill at the desk, give the clerk a forwarding address in case any mail should arrive after you are gone.

## As the World Turns...

BY DR. R. W. STEEN

THE WAR OF NERVES is under full steam. Everyone is convinced that Germany will strike soon, but no one knows where. There is tension in England, in France and Spain, in the Balkans, and in the Far East. Regardless of where fighting may develop the main show will doubtless be the attack on England. The British say they are ready for such an attack. Germany will move soon in an effort to win the war before American factories reach peak production. All of the activity in the Balkans may be no more than a sham, for Germany cannot defeat Britain by fighting Greece, Bulgaria, Turkey, or any other Near Eastern country. In fact any fighting there would tend to weaken Germany rather than to weaken England.

The Italians are having nerve troubles of their own. Every radio report brings news of additional disasters in Africa. The British navy controls the Mediterranean, and occasionally delivers unwelcome calling cards to Italian cities. Now the British have added a new threat, that of parachute troops. A number of such soldiers were dropped in Southern Italy last week. There is no way of knowing how many were dropped, just as there is no way of knowing what damage was done. Italy claims to have captured all of them, but Britain reports that a number returned to their base. How they returned is left entirely to conjecture. Italy claims that no damage was done, yet it is asking a lot of the world to accept the suspension of freight traffic on railroads in Southern Italy as mere coincidence.

The Far Eastern situation is tense. The Japanese navy is prowling about in strange places, and Japan has recently taken air bases in Indo-China. Britain apparently expects an attack, and has mined the approaches to Singapore. Japan may move against Britain and the Dutch East Indies, but it is safe to assume that she will make no move until Germany gets her drive under way in Europe. Whether or not she moves then depends upon the attitude of the United States.

The Senate is debating the lease-lead bill this week. Even the opponents of the measure admit that it will pass, and they seem to have only vague hopes of writing any amendments into it. American aid is coming to be an important factor. American warplane production in January was slightly more than one thousand. A four motor bomber flew from California to New York Sunday, and it was announced that it would take off from New York in a day or two on a non-stop flight to England. It will be the first plane delivered by so direct a route.



"PAUL REVERE" CAPT. DAVID H. NICHOLS  
IN JANUARY 1874, MADE AN OVERNIGHT HORSEBACK RIDE FROM DENVER TO BOULDER AND BACK AGAIN TO SECURE FUNDS TO MEET THE STATE LEGISLATURE'S DEMAND FOR MONEY BEFORE IT WOULD ESTABLISH THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT BOULDER!



THE LOYOLAN  
UNIQUE NAME AND MASTHEAD OF THE FORMER STUDENT PAPER AT LOYOLA UNIVERSITY, (CALIF.)

STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN TRAVELED OVER 10 TIMES THE DISTANCE FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON IN ORDER TO BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS LAST YEAR!

## BACKWASH

The Way of Things . . . Leaning over backwards to aid hitch-hiking Aggies during the near-freezing weather current throughout the mid-term holiday period, one of the Bryan lumber companies distributed a truck load of lumber to the various hitch hiking stations in this vicinity with which the cadets could build fires. . . Tom Vannoy, by way of a definition, "A skeleton is a bunch of bones with the people scraped off!" . . . Social Secretary Jack Nelson and the writer have asked seven men to help poll the corps following each major dance of the social season to determine the Aggie rating of the various orchestras, the feminine vocalists and the Aggie hit parade. George Mueller, Howard Wilson, John Kellis, Joe H. Snow, John Ball, Dan Grant and Bob Alexander are the Aggies concerned. They're distributed evenly throughout the campus, so when you've got an opinion concerning the past weekend's dance, let one of the committeemen know about it. The poll will be conducted through a printed form distributed to those cadets who attend the corps dances regularly. . . A rule in the 1913 edition of the Blue Book required cadets "to salute members of the board of directors, the president, members of the faculty and instructors." . . . One of the best entertainment features of the entire college year was the so-called cooky shower given by the Houston A. & M. Mothers club for the Houston Aggies Sunday. An annual affair, it was attended by some 800 persons, featured an all-girl orchestra which was tops in its field and was a grade 'A' event if there ever was one. . . A cavalry senior, speaking of one of his professors: "He makes so much noise lecturing that we can't sleep in class anymore."

Ode to Sleep  
One of the A. & M. professors is telling a story concerning a believe-it-or-not occurrence in a recent class of his. It seems that one of the cadets near the rear of the room had been lulled to sleep by the musical intonations of the prof's lecture. Observing this and feeling that the student might possibly benefit from the lecture's contents, the prof asked a neighboring student to awaken the then snoring Aggie.

"Hub-hub," came the quick reply; "You put him to sleep—you wake him up!"

## On WTAW

Radio Station WTAW  
1120 kc. — 2677 meters

Radio Station WTAW  
1120 kc. — 267.7 meters  
Friday, February 21, 1941  
via Texas Quality Network (not carried on WTAW)

6:15 a.m.-6:30 a.m.: Texas Farm and Home Program. N.N. Newman, Rural Supervisor, Farm Security Administration. O. C. Copeland, Chief, Division of Dairy, Experiment Station.  
11:25 a.m.: Sign-on: Weather, News.  
11:30 a.m.: Federal Music Program (Works Progress Administration).  
11:45 a.m.: The Kitchen Clock.  
12:00 a.m.: Sign-off.  
4:30-5:30 p.m.: The Aggie Clambake.

Radio Station WTAW  
1120 kc. — 267.7 meters  
Saturday, February 22, 1941  
via Texas Quality Network (not carried on WTAW)

6:15 a.m.-6:30 a.m.: Texas Farm and Home Program. Mrs. F. L. Thomas, Texas Farm and Home Book Reviewer. George P. McCarthy, Extension Poultryman.  
11:25 a.m.: Sign-on: Weather, News.  
11:30 a.m.: Lest We Forget (Ins-)

## WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL  
Tuesday 3:30 & 6:45—"SOUTH OF SUEZ," featuring George Brent, Brenda Marshall, George Tobias, James Stephenson, Lee Patrick and Eric Blore.  
Wednesday, Thursday 3:30 & 6:45—"LITTLE NELLIE KELLY," starring Judy Garland, George Murphy, Charles Winninger and Douglas McPhail.

AT THE CAMPUS  
Tuesday — "THE LONE WOLF STRIKES," Warren William, Joan Perry, Eric Blore, Alan Baxter, Montague Love and Robert Wilcox.  
Wednesday, Thursday — "THE GAY CABALLERO," featuring Cesar Romero, Sheila Ryan, Robert Sterling, Cris-Pin Martin and Janet Beecher.

## COVERING CAMPUS DISTRACTIONS

Cesar Romero, the slick Latin, hasn't been given many roles in class A productions and he isn't fully given it in "THE GAY CABALLERO," but it is a step in the right direction. By Hollywood standards of budget and stars, this is a class B show, and it is, but Romero for once has his chance for the real male lead. He hasn't got much to work with and consequently can't turn out much of a howling success, but he does all right.

As the Cisco Kid, Romero finds out that he is supposedly dead and buried. This just helps him have a little more fun as he goes on his Robin Hood missions of crime busting. Some of the things he does are even ludicrous and the plot ends up exactly where it

started with Romero still single and riding off to new adventures, but it is still jolly entertainment. Except for Romero's ability, the show itself has nothing on the ball but you won't do any harm by going to see it.

There is some kind of a wild story about diamond mines and the frustrated love of a woman in "SOUTH OF SUEZ," and George Brent, with a slick mustache and close-cropped haircut, is the victim of suspicion in a vengeful murder. Brent has never really been such a virile or forceful actor as the man in the tropics and man of the world such as this show needs. He always seems a little weak and lacks something of giving a convincing act. Things start out on a diamond mine in South Africa with Lee Patrick married to the owner but in love with the foreman, George Brent. Brent ignores her, and hell hath no fury like a woman scorned. She gets him fired and he finally winds up in England with a murder charge pinned on him, so he marries Brenda Marshall after she helps to prove his innocence. The whole story lacks "punch" and convincing reality. Although most of the story takes place in a mining camp with possibilities for wild activity, the liveliest scene in the show is the final courtroom scene.

11:45 a.m.: Regular Army on the Air.  
12:00 a.m.: Sign-off.

Radio Station WTAW  
1120 Kc.—266.7 meters  
Sunday, February 23, 1941

8:30 a.m.: Roan's Chapel Singers  
8:45 a.m.: Songs of Your Heart  
9:15 a.m.: Gilbert and Sullivan  
9:30 a.m.: Sign-off

**NEW !!**  
**PARKER "51" FOUNTAIN PENS**  
Writes with instantly drying permanent ink. Perfect for drawing. 10 years ahead of other Parkers. Ask for a demonstration - no obligation.

**NEW! AGGIE SEAL HEARTS**  
—in yellow gold. New - Different

Also Silver Hearts at 50¢  
**NEW! Pepsodent 50 Tuft Tooth Brush**  
25¢ Pepsodent powder or paste, FREE!

**AGGIELAND PHARMACY**  
"Keep to your right at the North Gate and you can't go wrong."

**THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR QUALITY MERCHANDISE**

OUR STOCK INCLUDES ONLY THOSE ARTICLES THAT ARE NATIONALLY KNOWN



**Arrow Shirts**  
in new patterns and colors for spring  
**\$2.00**



**Ties**  
Arrow or Grayco Ties in attractive colors to harmonize with the new shirts  
**\$1.00**



**Socks**  
Interwoven or Phoenix Socks in colors and patterns to make your wardrobe complete  
**35¢ to 50¢**



**Underwear**  
Shorts in white or fancy patterns with gripper snaps  
**50¢ - 65¢**

**The Exchange Store**  
The Official College Store