

# The Battalion

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

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## No "Sentimental Fap"

THIS AFTERNOON at 2:30 the academic council of the faculty will meet with a four-man cadet committee to discuss the proposed change of the final review date. To the Texas Aggies this is an important consideration.

The four classes have met, have discussed the issue and have unanimously voted for its acceptance. It is the will of the entire student body that the date of final review be moved so that the traditional function comes after final examinations.

The Battalion feels certain that the faculty, in considering the case at hand, will be fair and open-minded. There has never been any fear on that point.

What The Battalion does fear, however, is that the faculty will not realize the importance of this issue to the cadet corps.

"The whole thing is merely sentimental fap," one faculty member publicly expressed himself Wednesday morning.

No "sentimental fap" this; The corps is sincere and serious in its belief that the change is in the best interests of the college and its student body.

There is no need to advance in The Battalion's editorial columns the reasons for the proposed change. This has been done once.

Today, as the faculty prepares to meet and vote on the issue, The Battalion only wants to do one thing: To point out to the members of the academic council that where the corps is concerned the issue is a no two-for-a-nickel affair—on the contrary, it's a Gibraltar-like issue and one in which every Aggie has a vital vested interest.

## OPEN FORUM

THE WRITER would like, if it is possible, to have a few questions answered by a member of the hospital staff or someone who is well acquainted with the affairs of the hospital. An answer in the Open Forum would be of interest to all of the students because certain incidents which take place there do not add to the hospital's popularity although possibly the hospital is itself seldom at fault.

An increase of only a few cents per student of the medical fee could add many improvements which are so obviously needed. If it is money that causes a lot of the following questions to arise, why doesn't someone who knows do something instead of letting the same things happen year after year.

What does the medical fee cover? If it does not cover any kind of medicine that is needed, then why isn't it raised to include any or all medicines?

If there are not sufficient doctors to diagnose every case that comes to the hospital's attention, then why are not more employed?

Why isn't there a fund set aside to purchase braces and crutches that a student might have them available without putting up a "stiff" deposit?

Would it be possible to purchase, even a second-hand one would suffice, an ambulance of some kind because it is possible for a student some distance from the hospital to be seriously injured; and is it not true that some deaths have been caused (not here but elsewhere) by improper handling of a seriously injured person although such handling was done with the best of intentions?

It is always necessary for a person, irregardless of what ails him, to lose weight to a noticeable extent when entering the hospital?

The writer would appreciate having the above questions answered in the Open Forum with the hope that the students, the faculty, or any other interested group might remedy some of the misunderstandings which continuously exist in the minds of the students.

C. V. Milburn '41

## Something To Read

BY DR. T. F. MAYO

Invitation—Or, Insult?

TO A BAND of intellectual seekers like the Aggies, an invitation to explore the College Library may seem heavily ironical. But if you've never deliberately gone there to spend an hour or two in ambling about, you may be surprised at what you can find.

On your right as you enter there are the current periodicals. Perhaps you hadn't realized that we subscribe to nearly nine hundred of them, and that you can look, without even asking for them, at the latest articles on public affairs (PM, New Republic, Harper's Fortune, Time, etc.) and on

every conceivable aspect of agriculture, veterinary medicine, engineering, biology, chemistry, the social sciences, and this-and-that (referring to Esquire!).

The walls of the entrance hall are covered every week or so with a fresh lot of "blurbs" for the most entertaining of the new books that come in. Incidentally, the box for student requests for the purchase of books is also in the entrance hall. Twenty odd newspapers, Texas and national, are available in the room on your left, and a selection of the lighter kinds of books.

The big Reference Room contains, of course, handy books on most subjects under the sun. It also contains the keys to the tons of richly varied materials which are locked up in thousands of volumes of bound bulletins and magazines, some of the files going back to 1850, 1800, and 1750. You'll find several millions of interesting and unusual magazine stories indexed in the Reader's Guide, the Agricultural Index, the Engineering Index, the Industrial Arts Index, the Index Medicus, and the Index to the New York Times. The Reference Room, by the way, is inhabited in the daytime by a Reference Librarian who apparently derives a morbid pleasure from finding answers to hard questions—intelligent and otherwise.

The third floor includes, besides the Required Reading Rooms, the Asbury Browsing Room, with all our fiction, most of our light books, and some good leather furniture, and the Music Room where you can play classical music, old and new, and where, by the way, you can listen every Monday evening to an hour of music and comment on "The Music I Like and Why I Like It", presented by some teacher or student.

One thing that the Library confesses to have neglected in the past, we are planning to supply very soon: A sizeable "browsing collection" of recent technical and scientific books. This will be announced and described later. Meanwhile, Mr. Hennessie keeps a pet display case filled with 75 such books in the Browsing Room. Rather to the surprise of the rest of us, they circulate well—largely to sophomores and juniors, which signifies something or other, I suppose.

If you would like a tour of the book stacks (five floors of them), ask Mr. Hennessie or Mrs. Thomas, at the Loan Desk. This isn't the easiest way to find a book by any means, but it may interest you to look at 90,000 books all at once.

## As the World Turns...

BY "COUNT" V. K. SUGAREFF

SEA POWER is one of the chief issues of the current war. Hitler indicated the importance of sea power when he declared in his recent speech that he would strike at Britain's sea power in order to bring her to his own peace terms. Hitler's plans call for an all-out attack in the Mediterranean basin, in the north Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans. Japan is being groomed for an attack at Singapore to open the way to the Indian Ocean. At all these strategic points the English are well fortified and prepared for a long struggle.

The Eastern Mediterranean is the most vulnerable point. Here Hitler might be able to strike a deadly blow, through Greece, and reach the Suez Canal. But his victory here will not cut England's ability to get around the Cape of Good Hope. At Gibraltar the English have made vast preparations for a long battle. The fortifications have been strengthened; ammunitions and food supplies have been stored up; and the repair shops have been improved for the coming trial. All the women and the children of the garrison have been taken away from the danger zone.

The Germans can do a great deal of damage to British shipping in the north Atlantic area. The English claim that they have a new weapon to cope with the German sea menace. Of course, the United States and the Canadian aid would be an advantage to the English. The Germans, like in 1917, might force the United States to declare war on Germany, or just join the British, should they insist on neutral shipping to keep out of the danger zone. Our government has warned Germany that she would be held accountable for any damage to American interests. Regardless of Hitler's threats, our aid to England would go on just the same.

The problem in the Far East is not particularly favorable to the Axis. Japan has had to explain twice in the last several weeks her peaceful intentions in bringing about the "New Order" in the Orient. Upon a show of firmness by Britain and the United States, the Japanese have been assured the Democracies that all differences could be settled amicably. Should Japan join the Axis actively, England and the United States could easily make of Japan a second Italy. British and American shipping could do an immense harm to Japan. An embargo on Japanese exports and boycott on her imports by our government would strangle Japan's economic structure. Our fleet in the Pacific is larger than the Japanese. Our ships are superior in all-around efficiency to those of Japan. Our Pacific Fleet has the strongest air arm of any fleet in the world; it is a full war strength fleet; it has a sufficient auxiliary craft; and it has a well trained personnel. Moreover, one should not discount the British military and naval strength as well as that of the Dutch East Indies, Australia and New Zealand. All these combined, together with China still at war with Japan, present a formidable array of military and naval power which the Japanese must be able to overcome before they can hope to realize their "New Order" in the Far East.

First men's college to buy an ambulance for the British-American Ambulance corps, Amherst College has received a permit for ambulance number 394.

Volney H. Jones, University of Michigan anthropologist, is studying refuse at an old New Mexican mission to learn what early Spaniards ate.

Sister Maria Giannino, SDC, a third cousin of Pope Pius XII, has enrolled for the spring semester at Mount Mary college, Milwaukee.

University of Minnesota students and faculty members are planning their first joint hobby show.

## BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

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

A Bird's Eye View . . . The selection of Boyd Raeburn and his orchestra for the annual Composite Regiment Ball has caused a little grumbling in the Signal Corps and Chemical Warfare Service units, but the men concerned might take a tip from last year. When Bernie Cummins was selected to play for 1940's function there was even more fidgeting than is evidenced this year. Yet Bernie was later voted into a tie for the social season's No. 1 orchestra . . . Varsity footballer Henry Hauser was the first cadet to pay the five-cent pass tax now current at the Campus Theater. All passes to the local theater are taxed a nickel, the money then being turned over to the A. & M. Student Aid Fund. . . . Adolph, God bless him, sticks out his neck: The Mighty Corporal and his unwary aids asked that Feb. 7 for suggestions on how the German radio broadcasts to the U. S. might be improved. "Just file your suggestion in 25 words or less with RCA," they prompted, "and charge it up to Ameradio, Berlin." Well, the boys got a terrific earful. As The Newspaper PM said Feb. 21, "They got an indignant, whimsical, long pent-up Bronx cheer, 25,000 strong, and it cost the Nazi war chest upwards of \$50,000 in good, hard American bucks." Whatever Hitler and stooges were looking for, they evidently didn't find it because they called a halt to the whole thing last Saturday night. But not before the total cost had exceeded \$100,000 and such messages had been sent as, "Please give reading of pacts signed by Hitler followed by dates on which they were broken," and "Just ate milk, butter, eggs, meat, fruit, vegetables, and coffee in this decadent democracy. Please broadcast superior German menus." But then, it takes all kinds!



Fuermann

"Oui, oui, monsieur; oui, oui," the cadet replied unthinkingly.

"Excuse me," the usher apologized. "Mezzanine floor, first door to your left!"

## Kelly Is Irish

The picture below is one you may see in Life magazine within the next 30 days—that is, if you see anything concerning A. & M. in the mag. She's the Houston lovely who dazzled Life's representatives to such an extent that they named her a sort of mythical "queen" of last Friday night's Sophomore Ball.



Escorted that night by L. P. Bassinger, she's Ethel Marie Kelly, all-the-way Irish, brown eyes and is the belle who's dancing with Cadet Colonel Bill Becker in the shot which has a cover chance.

## On Russ Morgan

The Field Artillery lassoed one of the best orchestras in the business for their annual ball. Maestro Morgan and company of 18 assistants are near-tops nationally in the business of music-making and were a definite success at last year's Senior Ring dance.

Here's what appeared in Backwash last May 14 following his A. & M. appearance a few nights earlier for the Ring dance and a corps dance.

"Songstress Carolyn Clarke broke the date-request record when she 'noed' 104 Aggie hopefuls Saturday night. Lovely Claire Nunn and lovelier Eunice Clark formerly shared the record with 93 requests each. . . . For the first time in 1940 'Tuxedo Junction' is not the Aggie hit parade leader. Stepping aside to make way for Russ' theme song, 'Does Your Heart Beat For Me?' the twelve-week leader in most off-requested songs went into second place and the old American folk song, 'Stardust,' hit the list of Aggie favorites in third place. . . . If I couldn't talk very well at the corps dance, Russ thereby. Best of the lot, though, concerns his visit to one of Houston's down-town theaters during the recent mid-term holiday period.

Stepping into the theater, he was approached by an usher who asked, "Close to the front, sir?" Carolyn Clark is no longer with Russ. Now it's Maxine Conrad.

## Oui Oui

One of the Aggies who is now in the throes of second-year French has made a habit of using the language whenever and wherever possible, thus—his prof assures him—enabling himself to get a better grasp of the subject.

The practice has led him into a half dozen unusual predicaments of late, and many a tale hangs thereby. Best of the lot, though, concerns his visit to one of Houston's down-town theaters during the recent mid-term holiday period.

Stepping into the theater, he was approached by an usher who asked, "Close to the front, sir?"



Here's Maestro Russ batonning the orchestra at last year's Senior Ring dance. He's fronted by one of his featured soloists.

## Dr. Jackson Davis Here for Conference

Dr. Jackson Davis, representative of the Rockefeller Foundation, was at A. & M. Wednesday afternoon to confer with Dean E. J. Kyle, Dean T. D. Brooks, Dr. L. P. Gabbard, and Dr. J. W. Barger.

The purpose of this conference is to study the possibilities of establishment of graduate fellow-

shops in agricultural economics here at A. & M.

"We are also to discuss with him about the possibilities of getting the Foundation to finance an educational program here to foster closer educational relations with the Latin-American countries," Dean Kyle also stated.

The University of Buffalo school of medicine is in its ninetieth year.

## Appropriation Bill

(Continued from Page 1)

to properly service the new units will be secured.

The new units will be financed by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in similar manner to the financing of the last group of dormitories.

The legislative committee of the A. & M. board of directors met last week to complete plans so that work could be resumed at once. This committee includes A. H. Demke from Stephenville; R. W. Briggs from Pharr; E. J. Kiest and Joe Utay from Dallas.

Translating services of Hooker scientific library at Central college, Fayette, Mo., one of the most comprehensive in the world, have subscribers in 17 countries.

Dr. Hollis R. Upson of Duquesne university is one of four persons in the world working to translate

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