

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.

Office, Room 122, Administration Building. Telephone 4-6444.

1940 Member 1941
 Associated Collegiate Press

Bob Nisbet Editor-in-Chief
 George Fuermann Associate Editor
 Keith Hubbard Advertising Manager
 Tom Vannoy Editorial Assistant
 Pete Tumlinson Staff Artist
 J. B. Pierce, Phil Levine Proof Readers

Hub Johnson Sports Editor
 Bob Myers Assistant Sports Editor
 Mike Heikin, Jack Hollimon Junior Sports Editors
 W. F. Oxford

Tommy Henderson Circulation Department
 W. G. Hauger, E. D. Wilmet Assistant Circulation Managers
 F. D. Asbury, E. S. Henard Circulation Assistants

Phil Golman Photograph Department
 G. W. Brown, John Carpenter, Joe Golman
 Jack Jones Assistant Photographers

Earle A. Shields SATURDAY'S EDITORIAL STAFF
 T. R. Harrison Managing Editor
 Junior Editors W. C. Carter Don Gabriel

Will O. Brimberry Reportorial Staff
 Charles Babcock, Herbert Haile, Paul Haines, Carl Van Hook, J. J. Keith, Z. A. McReynolds, Beverly Miller, Ehrhard Mitterdorf, Jack Nelson, L. B. Tennison

On the Hatch Act

WHILE THE LEASE-LEND bill and defense appropriations have been claiming all the black headlines these several weeks, some other governmental issues have been receiving attention in a quieter sort of way. One of these is the so-called Hatch Clean Politics act.

Purpose of this legislation is to curtail the political activity of federal employees and of state and local workers employed in connection with any activity which is financed in whole or in part by loans or grants made by the United States. Specifically exempt are federal officials who hold elective offices, state executives who are directly concerned with formation of public policy or are elected, and city mayors.

Apparently, observes the Oregon Emerald, "these provisions would indicate that federal employees are prohibited from attending, actively participating in, or speaking before political meetings. This would seem to be a curtailment of the right of free speech and the right to peaceable assembly."

The Emerald goes on to point out that Section 15 of the measure "authorizes and directs the civil service commission to promulgate rules or regulations defining the term 'active part in political management or in political campaigns.' 'May we point out,' asks the Oregon publication, 'that this would appear to be delegating legislative powers to the commission? On this point the constitution seems quite clear: 'All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a congress of the United States, which shall consist of a senate and house of representatives.'"

The Minnesota Daily feels the act is "based on dangerous concepts," and the Wisconsin Daily Cardinal echoes this view by pointing out what it considers "questionable concepts." "The Hatch act," says the Daily, "aims to secure clean politics by sacrificing two important concepts fundamental to American society—academic freedom and free elections. We favor legislation which will encourage clean politics and minimize corruption. But we deny emphatically that these things can be secured by the provisions of the Hatch act, which deprives federal, state or local employees, paid in whole or part by federal funds, of almost all political rights except the right to vote. 'The whole philosophy of these clauses of the Hatch act seems to be that any political activity is a corrupt and corrupting activity. There can be no more dangerous concept than this, at a time when daily problems of all the people turn upon political decisions and activities of every kind. Casting a ballot is only the culminative act of many which constitute the institution of free election. The right to propose candidates, discuss their relative merits and advance the cause of one—these elements are also essential to the electoral process.'"

The Ohio State Lanter feels that "University of Wisconsin professors who are agitating for the repeal of the act have put their finger on the repressive weakness of the bill as it applies to educators. It makes no distinction between academic political discussion and unsolicited expression of opinion. Professors have no right to force their opinions on students under the guise of professional comment, but students have a right to expect interpretative comment by those whom the state pays to educate its youth."

—Associated Collegiate Press

OPEN FORUM

THERE HAS BEEN for a long time a need for an answer to the various charges made against the hospital by the student body.

I am glad the writer of the letter in last Thursday's Forum admits that possibly the hospital may not be entirely at fault.

In the first place, what proof can be offered that an increase of even a dollar in the medical fee could alleviate the conditions charged to exist?

"What does the medical fee cover?" I daresay it covers more here than in any other group hospitalization plan in operation. It is charged that there are not sufficient doctors to handle all the cases coming to the hospital. So why not hire more doctors? In order to handle all cases the hospital would have to maintain a staff of specialists which is obviously impossible. It is to be expected in any hospital that in times of emergency or epidemic conditions such as existed here in December that the regular staff will be overloaded and that at times they will not be able to care for all cases

adequately. Is there any reason to make such a charge against the hospital just because we have failed to see the doctor on an afternoon when he is particularly busy?

As to crutches, there was a time when no deposit was required. And crutches, braces, etc., were always getting lost or broken. So why kick about a deposit when it is our own fault that we have to make them?

Suppose we bought an ambulance? Ten to one if some band fish got the jumpin' jives and jumped out of the fourth floor and breaks a couple of legs his friends will roll him over a couple of times to see if he is hurt before the ambulance arrives. True, deaths have been caused by improper handling but it is also true that in many cases there were ambulances that could have been called.

"Is it always necessary to lose weight when in bed in the hospital?" I don't believe that all lose weight in the hospital when in the hospital. Admitting that most do, we must remember that the majority of cases here are colds and flu and what person can have the flu and take medically approved treatment and not lose weight. It is natural for us to lose weight when we are sick. But we must expect that normal, sound, young men will begin to feel hunger when they begin to recover from illness. And if they have been accustomed all their lives to getting just about what they want, then naturally they are going to bleed about the hospital and its "damned soup." No hospital would feed a sick Aggie his normal diet.

It is often said that if a person comes near the hospital with a stomach ache, or a sore finger, or a bad case of athlete's foot or what have you that he will lose his appendix before he gets away. Yes, there are lots of appendectomies performed in the hospital. But I have yet to see or hear of an appendix removed which was not in an inflamed and dangerous condition. Of course some of them might have been all right, that is, they might have lived without an operation, but when all indications point to a steadily increasing inflammation of the appendix what is the doctor to do? Assuming for the sake of argument that one in ten operations may be unnecessary—who wants to take even that chance? No, thank you!

We must realize that mistakes will be made. No organization that involves human minds and actions can avoid an occasional mistake. And I do not mean to assert that the hospital service could not be improved. Again, in any organization controlled by human beings there is always room for improvement. It is fatal to the growth of any individual or group, for that individual or group to think that he or they have become perfect. The hospital does not take such an attitude.

I do not know if anyone may have gained anything in the reading of Thursday's and today's Forums, but I wish to reiterate my faith in our hospital. Every Aggie who stops for a moment to consider the case will realize that Mom and Miss Vaughn and the doctors and nurses are doing all they can to keep the Aggies well. They will make mistakes and there will be times when they cannot do all that needs to be done, but on the whole I think we owe them all a vote of thanks.

The Open Forum is still open for any who wish to speak further and my room is usually plagued with a "bull session" anyway, so if you want to argue, come on over.

DOC WATLEY, '42—I hope

The Collegiate Review

Men outnumber women almost three to one at North Dakota Agricultural College.

South Dakota State University recently dedicated a \$76,500 addition to its Carnegie library.

Professor C. B. Farrington is in his fortieth year of teaching at Sam Houston State College.

—Associated Collegiate Press

As the World Turns...

BY DR. AL B. NELSON

WHY WAS THIS STRIKE CALLED? The C.I.O. union at the Lackawana plant of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation at Buffalo, N. Y. has called a strike and is attempting to prevent even those workers who do not desire to strike from working. The wages and working conditions are the same as last month and the month before, what has suddenly brought about the necessity for a strike? National defense orders amounting to one quarter of a billion dollars are in danger of being held up by this strike. Work on warships, planes, rifles, cannon, and ammunition, are utterly dependent on a rapid and continuous supply of steel, and are endangered by irresponsible labor leadership. Tactics of this type caused the great republic of France to collapse in spite of the valor and patriotism of her soldiers.

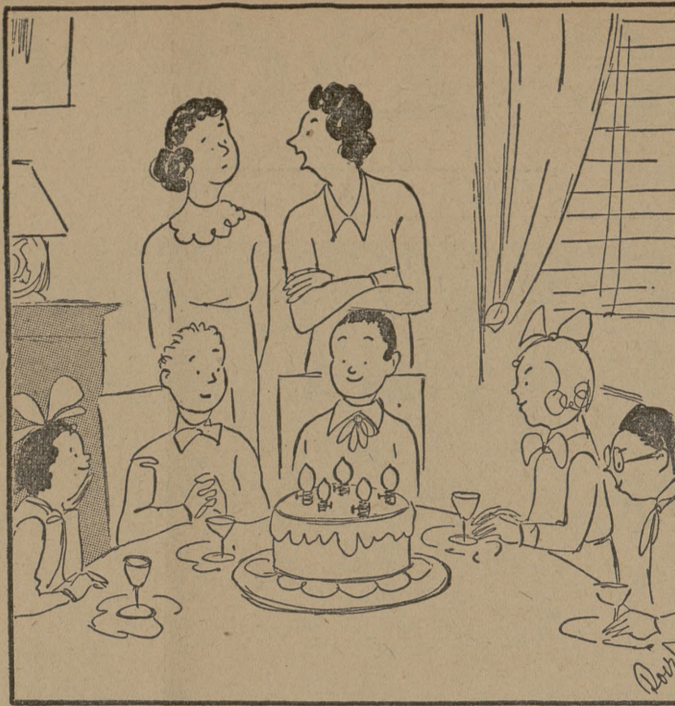
Japan has threatened to intervene if the French in Indo-China do not immediately cede a large portion of their territory to Siam (Thailand). So far the French are talking fight rather than cede territory.

The British East African Armies have captured Italian Somaliland, wiping out an entire colony of Italy's African Empire. This constitutes another serious blow to Italian prestige.

The President called certain senators down last week for revealing military secrets to the newspapers after having received the information in confidential meetings. Men who sabotage national defense in this manner should receive something more than verbal punishment.

The British minister to Bulgaria has publicly advised that nation to count the cost before permitting themselves to become tools of the German government.

The English have also announced the capture of the Italian island of Castellorosso with its seaplane base. This is one of the Dodecanese Islands in the eastern Mediterranean.



COVERING CAMPUS DISTRACTIONS with TOM GILLIS

The first of the really big spring corps dances is coming off tonight with the music furnished by Russ Morgan. As has been said, Russ came out second in a campus poll taken last year for the best band playing here during the season and it is not idle talk. Everyone, in fact, is entirely familiar with Russ' quality from hearing his broadcasts and that ought to be encouragement enough for anyone to attend. With his trombone and "Does Your Heart Beat For Me" he is a good evenings entertainment for \$1.10.

With Morgan as vocalist this year is Maxine Conrad, a new girl. She will have to be doing pretty well to outshine Carolyn Clarke, the songstress with the band when it was here for the Senior Ring Dance last year. Another thing which will add to a pleasant atmosphere at the dance are the new decorations for the band stand. The wings are draped in alternate sections in heavy white and maroon material, and the large central portion is covered with white with a maroon draw-curtain effect.

A bright spot along "THE ROAD TO SINGAPORE" is comedian Bob Hope. He furnishes all the gag lines, which he is well capable of doing, but he still has Bing Crosby and Dorothy Lamour to contend with. Bing croons a little with that pasty-faced look on his mug.

"The Road to Singapore" has Hope and Crosby as a couple of broken down playboy-sailors who hide in Singapore from Bing's rich father and aggressive fiancée. Native girl Dorothy Lamour, sort of adopts the two boys and decides to be their housekeeper. They go through many and varied adventures but Bing's only laugh scene is when he gets mixed up in a native dance with one of the girls. Bing and Hope have a pretty good one-two-three act that gets them out of trouble.

Bob Hope is the mainstay of the show even if he doesn't get the girl in the end, and his laughs keep it rolling. The Lamour woman is in it too but she neither adds nor detracts much either way. Bing doesn't either.

"THE LADY WITH THE RED HAIR" is a misleading title if you take it for its implications. The show tells of the struggle for suc-

WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL
 Saturday 12:45—"L'L ABNER," with Martha O'Driscoll, Granville Owen, Mona Ray and Johnnie Morris.
 Saturday 6:45 & 8:30—"LADY WITH THE RED HAIR," featuring Miriam Hopkins, Claude Rains, Richard Ainley, Helen Westley and Laura Hope Crews.
 Monday, Tuesday 3:30 & 6:45—"DR. KILDARE'S CRISIS," featuring Lew Ayres, Lionel Barrymore, Lorraine Day and Robert Young.

AT THE CAMPUS
 Saturday—"A CHILD IS BORN," with Geraldine Fitzgerald, Jeffrey Lynn and Gladys George.
 Saturday midnight, Sunday and Monday—"THE ROAD TO SINGAPORE," starring Bob Hope, Bing Crosby and Dorothy Lamour.

MUSICAL MEANDERINGS

By Murray Evans
 One of the most popular orchestra leaders in the game once said, "Boys, you don't have to play loud to play good!"

To that gem of truth I would like to add a few 'Amens' and 'So-be-its.' Certain it is that few people enjoy going to a dance and finding themselves in dire need of ear muffs to avoid the blasts of some over-enthusiastic band.

Of course there are those of the jitterbug ilk who would have nothing except louder, swingier music. These are the ones who gather round the band stand and make fully three-fourths of the requests, all of them invariably of fast tempo. Thus the leader and the orchestra members conclude that the crowd in general wants swing for the evening. But not so. For, back away from the band stand and closer to the walls is found the majority of dancers. And, make no mistake, these do not want swing nor fast music. These are the ones who seldom make requests, but are content to rely on the band leader's judgment. These are the ones who, in most part, pay for the band's services, and who make or break a band with their stamp of approval or otherwise. And it is this set of dance-goers that love and appreciate the slower, sweeter, ballad type tune.

Most young musicians are inclined to "feel" a number so much that they work themselves into near frenzy and overblow their instruments many times over. A trombone or even a trumpet can be played as softly and effectively as a violin with the right technique.

But it isn't easy. As a matter

of fact, it is much more difficult to play a slow sweet number right than it is to play a loud fast number for the loudness itself camouflages plenty of blue notes. Nobody remembers swing tunes for long. And, by the same token, Joe Public that pays and pays forgets the swing band in a short while.

The wise maestro who wants to stay in the business will build a reputation with a "tenor" or sweet band and vary his music program with accelerated tempos just enough to avoid becoming draggy and monotonous. An overdose of sweet or swing is altogether possible, but certainly the former is the lesser of the two evils, in this writer's opinion.

Bring her, and you both can enjoy our fine meals. Mexican food our specialty. Lunches and quick orders.

New York Cafe
 Bryan

Burroughs Company Has Exhibit Here

The Burroughs Adding Machine Company, makers of business machines and equipment, will have an educational display in the basement of Sbis Hall from noon Monday until 5 p.m. Friday, March 7. T. W. Leland, head of the Department of Accounting and Statistics, announced yesterday.

The exhibit, which has been designed especially for college students and has been displayed at a number of the larger universities in the United States, will consist of 23 different pieces of equipment that are valued at \$35,000. "All A. & M. students and others interested are urged to attend," Mr. Leland said yesterday.

15c to 5 p.m. — 20c after

LAST DAY
 Geraldine Fitzgerald
 Jeffrey Lynn
 Gladys George
 —in—
 "A Child Is Born"
 —also—
 Late News - - Cartoon
 Prevue Saturday Nite
 Sunday - Monday

—also—
 Fox Movietone News

Assembly Hall

Today 12:45 Only

The Boy Wonder of the Comic Pages on the Screen

"L'L ABNER"

—with— OWEN - DRISKILL - KENNEDY

Selected Shorts

Do I Worry
 Tommy Dorsey

You Stepped Out of a Dream
 Sammy Kaye

Whatcha Know Joe
 King Sisters with Alvin Rey's Orchestra

Dancing In The Dark
 Artie Shaw

There'll Be Some Changes Made
 Vaughn Monroe

Oh! Look At Me Now!
 Bob Chester

Dolores
 Tommy Dorsey

When the Quail Come Back To San Quentin
 Artie Shaw and His Grammercy Five

R.C.A. Victor
 RECORD PLAYER
 \$4.95

HASWELL'S
 Bryan

She didn't have any experience, either, so... SHE STARTED AT THE TOP AND WORKED HER WAY UP!

She'll show you how a 'nobody' can become a star... overnight!

Lady with RED HAIR

MIRIAM HOPKINS
 with CLAUDE RAINS
 Richard Ainley
 Laura Hope Crews
 Directed by KURT BERNHARDT
 A WARNER BROS. First National Picture

Screen Play by Charles Kenyon & Milton Krims • From the Story by N. Browner Morse & Norbert Faulkner • Based upon the Memoirs of Mrs. Leslie Carver

6:45 - 8:30

Orchestra - - - Cartoon