

The Battalion Something To Read

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

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"Facts in Review"

COPIES OF THE PAMPHLET, "Facts in Review," issued by the German Library of Information in New York City continue to flood the country and The Battalion office. The pamphlet, whose appearance is almost as regular as the phases of the moon, is as subtle a piece of propaganda as can be found. Its clever wording evidences the master touch of the propagandist expert.

Why does this country continue to allow the publication of material designed for the overthrow of the democratic form of government? Why doesn't the F. B. I. or the Dies Committee put a stop to its distribution? The answer is several-fold.

Someone in 1775 said in substance, "I disagree with what you say, but I'll fight for your right to say it." That remark is the basis for the democratic principle of free speech and the reason why this country, as a democracy, cannot at this time deny freedom of speech and of the press to anyone—not even to Nazi-sympathizers. The presence of "Facts in Review" is another proof that democracy in the United States still exists.

"Facts in Review" is not so radical a publication that it makes direct attacks advocating the overthrow of the democratic form of government. Its editors naturally are too wary for that. Such would be just cause for its confiscation, war or no, but what it does is paint Nazi Germany as a land of paradise and a brother to all nations. It accuses Britain of conspiring to draw America into war and of being the aggressor in the current war. Its objective is to promote overthrow of U. S. government not by criticizing it but by the indirect method of praising and advocating the dictatorship.

Not until the United States declares war on Germany can such publications be stopped for not until then will its publication be a violation of the law. Its editors will see that it remains within the letter of the law. Such a thorn-in-the-flesh is the price we pay for neutrality.

On the other hand what harm can the pamphlet do and what can it hope to accomplish? Pro-American citizens scoff at the sheet and toss it aside; those "on the fence" daily come into contact with tons of anti-Nazi material poured through newspapers and magazines; pro-Nazi, in the face of this counter-propaganda, would be pro-Nazi—with or without "Facts in Review."

Paradoxically the continued publication of the German Library's pamphlet is the symbol of continued democracy and the standing indication of neutrality.

OPEN FORUM

"A STUDENT'S OPINION of a student's opinion on the answer to strikes."

Someone (we have never known who he was) once advanced the belief that persons of extremely great intellectual capacity tend to share a common train of thought in many instances.

We are sure that there are a number of truly great men associated with Texas A. & M. college who have never been given their just due. Let us pause and recognize a member of our student body who should by all rights fall in that category.

Mayo Thompson, '41, seems to have made a very thorough study of a current problem, the serious differences now arising between employer and employee in the large industrial centers, which is likely to become one of the largest stumbling blocks in the path of our present defense program.

The proposal offered by Thompson is most timely and his interest in the problem and the attitude he takes are most commendable.

However, the most striking element of this proposal is its noticeable likeness to a suggestion offered by one Dr. William M. Leiserson of the National Labor Relations Board.

Both of the above-mentioned men seem to have a mutual interest in one of the popular weekly magazines—Mr. Thompson as a reader and Dr. Leiserson as a writer. We are justly proud of them in our midst. We would refer the reader to the March 22 issue of *Colliers Weekly* (page 74) so that he may more clearly and better appreciate these soft words of praise.

Plagiarism is a nasty word. Do you not think so, Mr. Thompson? Quotation marks are SO easy to use.

Senior, '41

Fifty-six major meetings drew 59,000 persons to the University of Illinois in the last academic year.

Something To Read

BY DR. T. F. MAYO
Good Reading in the Bible

Whatever else the Bible may be, it is certainly a whole library of fine things to read, sufficiently varied to suit any taste—well almost any. We all remember, of course, the touching and romantic "short story" of Ruth, who followed her young husband back to his strange country, only to lose him. No other story that I know has a "happy ending" of such quiet dignity and rightness. Certainly no other story contains such a satisfactory mother-in-law as Naomi, to whom, by the way, is given the "best lines": "Entreat me not to leave the . . ."

A thrilling play could be made of the familiar book of Esther, the courageous heroine of a court drama of intrigue. In fact such a play has been made of it by Racine, one of the masterpieces of French literature. Another Bible drama, perhaps even more thrilling, is not so well known. It is built around the scarlet figure of Queen Jezebel, probably the meanest woman in literature but also, somehow, because of her amazing meanness! a fascinating creature. When she does poor Naboth to death to get his beautiful vineyard, you want to kill her. (1 Kings, Chapter 16). But when, after a long and thoroughly misspent life, her richly deserved punishment approaches, the old harriard meets it with such brazen nerve that she almost wins you over. "And when Jehu (her worthless son's triumphant slayer) was come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and she painted her face, and tired her hair, and looked out at a window." (2 Kings, Chapter 9). Poor brave old thing! "And he said 'Throw her down.' So they threw her down—and he trod her underfoot." Grim stuff, but a good story.

Job, I believe, is the oldest book of the Bible, written about the time that Socrates and Plato were serenely working out Greek philosophy. Beside being an interesting story, it tries (I think) to solve the problem: "Should a good man expect to receive his reward for goodness in the form of earthly blessings?" or, to put it another way, "When misfortunes rain down on you, should you take this as proof that you have done something to deserve them?" Job's answer is "No!"

But aside from its narrative and philosophical interest, Job is worth reading for its truly magnificent language: "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord." "Where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary shall have rest." "When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy." "Hast thou given the horse strength? hast thou clothed his neck with thunder?—He paweth in the valley, and rejoiceth in his strength."

If you are tough-minded enough to stand pessimism, profound but undaunted, read the Ecclesiastes, with its ripe sophistication, its grand organ music, its weary refrain: "Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity." If you like Ecclesiastes, you are grown up.

J. G. Quick has been registrar at the University of Pittsburgh for more than 25 years.

Carnegie Corporation, granting \$650,000, led last year's donors to Harvard university.

As the World Turns...

BY "COUNT" V. K. SUGAREFF
THE BATTLE OF GREECE is in the making. Hitler is not apt to attack Greece until he has exhausted every possible diplomatic device to disarm Turkey and Yugoslavia. Hitler's agents are endeavoring to bring these two countries within the Axis orbit, or to insure their absolute neutrality in the battle of Greece. Both of these countries have promised to remain neutral as long as their territory is not invaded.

Still, Hitler does not feel safe while both Turkey and Yugoslavia, keep large armies mobilized. Neither the Turks nor the Yugoslavs appear anxious to surrender their independence to the German army. They have been encouraged by the heroic exploits of the Greeks against the Italians and the landing of British troops in Greece. German diplomacy in these two countries is chiefly interested, like in the neighboring states, either to demobilize their armed forces completely or reduce them to a size which the German army can easily control.

If the British are re-enforcing the Greeks with large numbers of troops and mechanized equipment, and Hitler is preparing to attack Greece, it looks like an admission on his part that the English might survive an all out German attack during this spring and summer. A victory for the Anglo-Greek forces in Greece might well mark the beginning of the end of the war. And with the increased aid from America, such an end is within the realm of possibility. Some people, though, seem to think that the battle of Greece is a side show.

The "Business-as-usual" status in our economic outlook has been greatly affected by world conditions. Two-thirds of the world is in a death struggle. It is a struggle between the "haves" and the "have nots." Our economic relations with the world have been so disrupted that we are beginning to feel the pinch.

Cotton exports fell last January to a new low of 60,000 bales as compared with a million bales in the same month of 1940. Our industries are being geared to produce ships, munitions, and food for all those countries that oppose the totalitarian states. President Roosevelt has decided on a total victory for the democracies. A "super-mediation" board has been suggested to deal with strikes. The rise in prices in some commodities is closely watched by the administration. Mandatory priorities have been established on aluminum, machine tools, and on other materials as soon as the need arises. A broad licensing system has been established on exports.

Over 2,500 articles are now under government control before exported. Our whole economic set-up is being streamlined to meet the war demands of the democracies. "Business-as-usual" is fast becoming the business of producing war materials.

BACKWASH

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

A Bird's Eye View . . . Latest of the gag-terms given birth by the current war situation is "Khaki-wacky"—meaning women who are crazy about men in uniform . . . Jay Dudley, Peck Clark and Johnny Olsen are telling the believe-it-or-not story of a recent hitch-hiking trip to Houston. No. 1 in line for a ride was a cadet attired in dress uniform. Hanging from his side, of all things, was a slide-rule, "I'm going to show my girl how it works," was his only comment . . . J. Wayne Stark, Aggie-ex and a former associate editor of The Battalion who is now working toward a law degree at Texas university, recently entered that school's political arena by filing for editorship of the Cactus, Texas U.'s annual publication. Observers from the Forty Acres say that he has a good chance, but there's one thing which looms large in his path. For the past 22 years the Cactus editorship has been held by a fraternity man. Wayne is an independent . . . Many A. & M. employees, particularly in the mess halls, have already been drafted. By June 1 more than 100 will begin the year's training . . . Jay Cowan, Dallas freshman, is the cadet who's doing most of the better-than-average commercial art work you see around the campus. His best job thus far is the 4x8 foot mural that gives Martin Griffin's office a bamba and South Sea island atmosphere . . . Out of the groove of normalcy is the cadet who sits in one of the rural sociology classes and blows smoke rings throughout the prof's lectures . . . Battalion Magazine Editor A. J. Robinson is coming up with one of the mag's best issues in many years. In the main, it's theme is based on T.S.C.W.



Fuermann only comment . . .

Latest addition to the A. & M. contingent of members in the Royal Canadian Air Force is Louis V. Girard, C Company Infantry sophomore. He reports on Ontario March 31; received his papers from Leslie Bland Dufton, British vice-consul in Houston; and hopes to be flying in Britain within six months. Behind his entering the R.C.A.F. is the usual story of Americans entering that service. For more than a year he had attempted to become a flying cadet in the U. S. Air Corps. Bad teeth, however, prevented him from passing the rigid American physical examination. "Don't worry about your physical," he was told in Houston. You'll pass okeh in Canada."

Reason

One of the best of the current stories going the rounds concerns an A. & M. freshman who was being interviewed some months ago concerning his qualifications as a potential "Fish Sergeant." As is usually the case in such

examinations, the freshman was asked to relate his pre-college athletic exploits to the assembled group.

"Well," the cadet drawled, "I did a good bit of football playing in high school."

"Where did you go to high school?" he was quizzed.

"San Jacinto High in Houston," he replied.

"Did you make all-city?"

"Yep."

"Were you any good?"

"Nope."

"Then how come you made all-city?"

"That's Houston!"

R.C.A.F.

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Bob Groulx

He's one cadet who has already completed most of his training in Canada. Now on sick leave (was hospitalized for a month with scarlet fever and a mastoid operation), he recently visited the campus as he passed through college on his way home—Harlingen.

Recently married to Dorothy Byfield in Columbus, Ohio, he expects to receive his commission soon; does not expect to be sent to Britain because he's married; will probably remain in Canada as an instructor; now receives \$160 a month; will receive \$240 after receiving his commission; and visited the military organization of which he was formerly a member, I Battery Field Artillery, while on the campus March 12.

COVERING
CAMPUS DISTRACTIONS
with
TOM GILLIS

The Houston Symphony Orchestra is the Town Hall presentation for tonight and its reputation is all that is necessary to know that the performance will be worth while. The upperclassmen who have heard them in past years know that the orchestra makes a special effort to please the Aggies because of sentimental attachment to the place. They play a program largely made up of requests which were turned in to Town Hall several weeks ago.

The whole orchestra of 77 musicians is going to come here this time. This feat was formerly im-

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One of the ten best shows of 1940 is being shown tomorrow for the benefit of the Economics Club. It is "ABE LINCOLN IN ILLINOIS," which was voted sixth by a composite group of movie critics and reviewers.

For the important part of Abe Lincoln, they picked a natural in Raymond Massey. The tall, lanky fellow has a face so homely that it is ugly, and with a beard and a slight stoop he looks like Abe in the flesh. As in his real life, Abe got into plenty of scrapes with the town toughs but was always able to save his face by either whipping them or outwitting them with his tolerant, human philosophy. His drawing delivery is so slow as to be sometimes painful but it is always worthwhile to listen to what he has to say.

This show is a good biography

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CO-EDiquette for College Men

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2 Never tell a gal you're a great guy—it's just possible she'll find out for herself.

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ARROW SHIRTS



1942 Five I

Coach five ret around yesterday awarded team and year squ Captain ed his th Lang an letters w Sammie B. Bayer Nabors. Mike C than a g he was ir Fresh ed Jamie A. M. E. Robinson Walker.

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