

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 123, Administration Building. Telephone 3-8464.

1940 Member 1941
Associated Collegiate Press

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Boots or No Boots—Matter for Careful Study

"BOOTS OR NO BOOTS" is a question upon which the junior class must render a verdict this afternoon. The gravity of the issue cannot be over-estimated; it merits more serious consideration than is being given it. There should be none in the junior class who could truthfully utter, "I don't care."

Many vital points can be quoted on both sides of this current question. There can be no man who can say one side is right or the other side is wrong.

As per Col. Watson's statement of Tuesday, the key to the idea of doing away with boots as a part of the senior uniform is saving money for the seniors while they are in school and also after they enter the regular army. His suggestions are based upon changes made in the regular army uniform during recent years. These are points of much merit. Unless it be said that only tradition is to be weighed against these arguments, The Battalion feels it its duty to present the other side to the question in order that the juniors may reach a justifiable decision.

Several present-day seniors have been quoted as saying their boots were worth their value to the wearer the first day of wearing them—exaggerated of course but indicative of the attitude of those who have worn them.

As a mark of distinction for the students and for the school there can be found no equal. Boots mark the wearer as a senior of Texas A. & M. No other school has boots—no other school is as large or distinctive as Texas A. & M. Boots make a smart, pert, snappy, dressed appearance and lend color to the uniform. A. & M. could do well to hang on to this mark of distinction.

As for saving the young officer money, the slacks bought the first of the junior year in college would hardly be left in suitable condition for wear after two years. Graduating seniors rarely try to sell serge slacks for they find them in no condition to be bought; these slacks have not undergone the steady year that the proposed "ice cream" slacks will be forced to undergo, because boot breeches absorbed a portion of that use.

The proposed changes in the uniform come but slightly closer to the uniform worn by the regular army than that worn at present. In the regular army all non-commissioned officers and enlisted men wear uniform of the same material. The proposed plan would have juniors, who are sergeants at A. & M., in the uniform of an officer.

The question is one that is highly debatable and perhaps undecidable as to which is right or wrong. It will be a matter of obtaining a collective opinion.

But before the junior class of 1942 makes the same mistake that the class of 1941 made last year, it would be best to bring out one point. The vote taken this afternoon will not officially decide the issue. Before any change can be made it must pass a vote through the general faculty. The faculty, however, is more than interested in having the opinion of the class, and will in all probability abide by the class decision.

Farmers Need Organization

To make a reasonably good farmer certainly calls for as much intelligence, training, and time as are required to make a reasonably good carpenter. Yet how do earnings of carpenters now compare with earnings of working farm folks? We admit it isn't quite true what somebody said about a government camp the other day: "If you can drive a nail, you can get \$1 an hour; if you can drive a nail straight, you get \$1.50 an hour!" But certainly the disparity is both shocking and inexcusable between what government and industry pay in wages for labor and what the farmer can earn from his labor in the form of crop prices.

Next then let's ask ourselves, "How come?" Just what are the things that have enabled American industry and American labor to achieve their larger earnings. We should answer, "Organization and legislation." And organization comes first because without organization, labor and industry could not have gotten their favorable legislation—high tariffs, relatively low freight rates, and other aids to industry; wage-and-hour acts and various similar laws for labor.

Of course farmers who are perfectly satisfied with 10-cent cotton when it ought to be 27 cents (or at least 20) . . . and farmers who are content with 10-cents-an-hour labor return when it should be 25 to 40 cents an hour—all such farmers need not do anything about the present situation. For them

things are all right as they are. But we wonder if other farmers hadn't better ask themselves: "Might not organization and legislation help farmers about as much as they have helped manufacturers and laborers?" And if the answer seems to be yes, hadn't we all better get busy in Farm Bureaus, Granges, Ruritan clubs, and other organizations. —The Progressive Farmer

Something To Read

By DR. T. F. MAYO
Hereditry and Eugenics
FORTUNATELY THERE are many well-written books in this field, suitable to laymen like ourselves. If one of these books proves to be too "technical" don't be discouraged; try the next one!

I. BASIC KNOWLEDGE ABOUT HEREDITY.
Prometheus: or, Biology and the advancement of man, by H. S. Jennings.
(A short appetizer for the solid meal that is to follow)

The Biological basis of human nature, by H. S. Jennings.
(A sane balancing of the claims of heredity and environment. Sound and serious, but pleasantly written)

Hereditry and environment in the development of men, by E. G. Conklin.
(The sixth edition and revision of the great classic in this field.)

How we came by our bodies, by Charles B. Davenport.

("The human child reveals in its development the past history of the race. Is there any way of predicting the future course of human development?")

II. APPLICATION OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT HEREDITY TO SPECIAL PROBLEMS.

War and the breed, by D. S. Jordan.
(The relation of war to the downfall of nations. An old book, but a classic in its field. War doesn't invigorate, it impoverishes a stock.)

The Child's hereditry, by P. B. Popenoe.

Hereditry and Politics, by J. B. S. Haldane.
(. . . we must examine ourselves. We must find out what we take for granted in the field of social science, and then ask ourselves why we take it for granted.)

We Europeans, by Julian Huxley.
(A survey of "racial" problems. "Racialism is a myth, and a dangerous myth at that. It is a cloak for selfish economic aims . . .")

III. SO WHAT?

Social and philosophical conclusions.

The Task of social hygiene, by Havelock Ellis.

What is eugenics?, by Leonard Darwin.

Out of the Night?, a biologist's view of the future, by H. J. Muller.

What dare I think?, by Julian Huxley.
(The challenge of modern science to human action and belief.)

As the World Turns...

BY "COUNT" V. K. SUGAREFF
SWISS DEMOCRACY combats effectively subversive propaganda. Switzerland, like the United States, has been a haven for radicals of all sorts. The world-wide expansion of dangerous propaganda was undermining the Swiss democratic institutions. Early in the last decade each Canton began a vigorous campaign against the Communist party; its publications were banned and its alien members were deported. The Federal government, alarmed at the spread of communist doctrines, enacted a law (1932), disqualifying member of the communist party for public service.

After Hitler assumed power in Germany, Nazi societies, like our Bunds, became very active in Switzerland. A federal law (1933) prohibited the wearing of party uniforms and badges. This law was reinforced with a propaganda act two years later.

It dealt with propaganda, foreign or domestic, directed against Swiss independence or neutrality, its democratic institutions, or its national defense.

Further fortifying itself against subversive influences, the Federal government approved another act (1938) which was directed against "all public or systematic efforts" to cast reflections upon the democratic bases of the Swiss Federation or the Cantons, or to stir up ill feeling toward any group on account of race, religion or nationality. The German Nazi or their friends could not print or distribute that part of the Nazi creed which caused most trouble in Switzerland. Needless to say, all the above mentioned laws prescribed severe penalties of fines and imprisonment or both. Whenever aliens are involved in connection with these laws, they are deported.

Switzerland has maintained her democratic institutions in the heart of warring Europe. We, in this country, need not adopt the Swiss pattern of self-preservation, but the increased espionage, sabotage, and strikes in the United States calls for more effective means to combat our foreign and native spies. A better cooperation between the Federal and state law-enforcing agencies would tend to curb the activities of the enemies within our gates. Each state in the Union might establish a duplicate F. B. I., round up the spies, and put them in detention camps. Give them all the benefits of the last clause of article VIII of our constitution and let them have a three-four hour course daily on—"The advantages of Democracy over dictatorship." If this treatment does not bring good results, we, too, can "get rough."

Since the foregoing remarks deal chiefly with propaganda, it may not be amiss to indicate how propaganda analysts differentiate between education and propaganda;—"Education aims at independence of judgment; propaganda offers ready made opinions for the unthinking herd. Education aims at a slow process of development; propaganda at quick results. Education tries to teach people how to think; propaganda what to think. Education strives to develop individual responsibility; propaganda develops mass responsibility. Education trains people to think; propaganda to act. Education fails unless it achieves an open mind; propaganda unless it achieves a closed mind."

BACKWASH

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

Written from a Hospital Bed . . . Measles was the verdict, and measles it was. . . Now the writer understands that neither the measles (particularly at this time at A. & M.) nor being in the College Hospital is even a little unusual. Cadets are doing it every day. . . But this sort of thing ought to get into the public record sometime or other, so here goes. . . Like many another unsuspecting and innocent soul, this was all a surprise to Backwash. . .



At 5:47 Tuesday afternoon the writer waltzed into the hospital to get his throat swabbed; at 5:48 he bumped into Dr. P. A. Woodward; at 5:54 he was in bed! Who said it couldn't happen here? . . . The current measles epidemic (which is statewide) has filled the hospital to overflowing, but the mob is nothing like the one that jammed the place last December when influenza hit the campus.

Personnel
The crew that makes the hospital tick is an okch outfit. Head man is Dr. J. E. Marsh and he's assisted by Dr. Woodward. These two, however, have less contact with the average patient than do the 12 nurses, most of them married and most of them wives of Aggies.

Heading the nurses is a person who has been Aggie-famed as "Mom" for many graduating classes. She's Mrs. Irene Clag-horn, assistant superintendent, came to the hospital in 1918, probably knows more Aggies than any other living person and is loved by them all.

Then comes Miss Erlene Vaughn head nurse, and Elizabeth Bergen, surgical nurse.

The "Sick Call" nurses are three. Mrs. Lois Adams is the nurse in the eye, ear, nose and throat room. Her husband, G. B., is a vet medicine senior who graduates in June. Then there's Mrs. Leah Rigger whose husband is a vet med sophomore. Hospital technician is red haired Martha Ritchey, wife of Clint Ritchey, another June graduate.

Prettiest of the nurses is Opal Palasota whose principal concern at the present time is the fact that her husband has been drafted. Gladys Chauvin—wife of Aggie Phil Chauvin—and good-natured Mary Novak make-up the remainder of the day nurses.

Attractive Nona Wilson has the job of keeping the records straight. She's secretary and office clerk.

Night nurses are Mrs. Alice Shannon and Miss Nina Dillen, and they're two people who generally have their hands full.

Around
As mentioned before, any Aggie has been through this sort of thing, but this is just in the way of making a permanent record out

of the facts. Usually a cadet forgets all about whatever ailment he may have after entering the hospital because, in most cases, the cure is worse than the ill—castor oil! Of course you can get over that in time, but it's the thermometer deal that worries the writer.

First off, a thermometer is stuck into your mouth. That's to be expected. The doctor has got to know your temperature. Then two hours later, when you're comfortably situated in bed, half asleep and no concern whatsoever for thermometers, WHAM! There's another one.

This year, for the first time in its history, Texas Christian University will have a swimming team entered in the Southwest Conference meets.

Campus

LAST DAY
Lucille Ball - Donald Wood
—in—
"Beauty For The Asking"
—also—
Screen Snapshots
The Giant Killer

Tomorrow and Sat.
Errol Flynn
Olivia DeHavilland
—in—
"Dodge City"
with
Bruce Cabot - Ann Sheridan
—also—
Knock Knock - News



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"Aggie Economy Center"
Bryan, Texas



Beautiful Nova Coggan lets go with a heart warmer as Boyd Raeburn accompanies with his alto sax at the Composite Ball.
—Staff Photo by Phil Golman

APPEARANCE COUNTS!
Get Ready For The Engineer's Ball and Corps Dance
Come to
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Across From P. O. North Gate

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Hm! Hm!

Delicious Tasty Food
Attentive Courteous Service

You will find our food prepared by real chefs from the choicest meats and vegetables procurable. You will like the home-cooked flavor and friendly atmosphere. We have a private dining room to accommodate parties or groups who desire privacy. The same elegant food and service prevail with the same reasonable prices.

SPECIAL DISHES PREPARED ON REQUEST
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and AMUSEMENT CLUB
Bring your girl here to learn the skillful game of pocket billiards.

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