

# The Battalion

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

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## TWPA Laureate Writes One for A&M

WHEN THE MEMBERS of the Texas Women's Press Association visited A. & M. Monday and ate the noon meal in the Duncan Dining Hall, Cora Pritchard Dines presented the editors of The Battalion with a poem which she dedicated to "boys of A. & M." She claims it is her "thank you" for hospitality shown. It is as follows:

### Hero Worship

There is more to playing football than just a college game—  
It requires more than a touchdown to rate the hall of fame:  
It's the way you take the wallop that glorifies your name!

There is more to intercepting a thrill-packed bullet pass  
Than to outrun guards or tackles or make them bite the grass:  
It's the team and not your ego keeps you in the hero-class!

Though the scores may be lop-sided and fresh upsets every day,  
You come to know the fiber of the fellows that you play  
And the many unsung heroes that you meet along the way.

Victories are brief sensations and you soon forget the thrills—  
But you'll ne'er forget the pal who apologized for spills,  
For his loyalty was sturdy as the mute, eternal hills.

Today he's on the sidelines with a badly crippled limb  
Because he knew a sacrifice meant more to you than him—  
You were the public idol and with you his squad could win!

Co-operation, discipline and often "sterner stuff  
Than dreams are made of", set the course that turns the gridiron rough:  
O keep God with you lad—what e'er the score—  
'twill be enough!

Cora Pritchard Dines  
Poet Laureate  
Texas Women's Press Association

## OPEN FORUM

HAVE THERE BEEN any occasions on which other democracies have found themselves under similar conditions as this democracy at this time?—If there have been such, what solutions have they given to the problems which confronted them?

Dr. Sugareff has ably described how a small democracy "in the middle of the frying pan", Switzerland, had introduced some constitutional changes in its Federal Law designed to make the democracy conform with the changes which had taken place in the country's living space. This was necessary since at the time the Constitution was laid down it was impossible to foresee the changes that would take place in this man-made world.

This, of course, was a sign of character in a people; an effort to avoid self-destruction through lack of preparedness because the enemy was already at the gates 'preaching a 'remarkable' way of life. The Swiss realized that unless checked the latter would have sooner or later caused the disintegration of the people's spirit and later the disintegration of the nation. The weapons were the enemy's weapons since it is useless to fight with a dagger a man who is armed with a rifle.

Preceding Switzerland, however, there was France. Whether it was an absolute democracy or not has direct bearing on the problem. France faced the same problem which haunts every nation today, and, whatmore, it gave the answer.

The French Republic, the offspring of the middle-class Revolution, had institutions similar to those in other democracies. But, "in order to obtain high returns from a stretch of land the climatic and soil conditions must bear a direct relation to the kind of crop grown."

France had to face an enemy because the way of life of a democracy contradicts, in every way, the way of life of a totalitarian power. France had its heterogenous social structure since a democracy admits only an equality of opportunity and

not equal human beings. France had its industry to which were applied the principles of private initiative and free competition so as to assure the safeguarding of the incentive to progress, profit.—So what is it that caused its downfall?

Internal strife; the failure to use all that a democracy offers. The nation's energy was being drained internally and how much would be left to offer external resistance was still to be seen.

Labor had a viewpoint and the masters of industry had theirs. In the light of national emergency the select of the people should have been able to decide whose viewpoint assured the non-slackening in national preparedness; or were there private individuals in France in whose interest it was to discourage the national effort? Individuals who either suspected the soundness of their own viewpoint or others who were straightforward fifth columnists.

The select of France was too weak to decide; so it brought about France's downfall.

England chose a different course. The Government of Appeasement was replaced by an honest government and labor was brought right into the Cabinet to represent labor where a decision could be taken. The masters of industry had to admit defeat, likewise the Conservative Party. They called it a 'mistake' and with a great deal of British humor plunged into a way of life which did credit to Democracy.

Britain recognized that a rise in the cost of living requires a rise in wages; so a Royal Commission was consulted and a law made which provided for a point to point rise in wages to conform with the corresponding rise in the cost of living. An undisputable formula.

Whatever emerged beyond the assurance which the British government had thus given to every citizen that he would be provided with the bare necessities of life was not, of course, a matter for monopolistic-democracy but for pure socialistic-democracy. If it was the contention of labor that its labor was an investment similar to that of the masters of industry and that therefore if the latter's profit in wartime was fivefold in comparison with peacetime profit that then "labor should also benefit by the general prosperity of the country" and its wages increased in a corresponding proportion to one to five, labor touched here a problem which was inconsistent with national emergency. British labor realized this and decided to leave such matters of major reconstruction for the post-war era, thus "making a strategic retreat in favor of a later attack which would not involve total-risk"; the choice of the lesser evil.

The British government, with the consent of the labor members of the Cabinet, made it a matter of policy to regard any future strike as first rate fifth-column work. However, the danger of high treason in Britain was much smaller than in other countries, both from the point of social make-up and that of physical vulnerability; Britain was, at the same time, a country at war.  
E. Schalit

## As the World Turns...

BY DR. R. W. STEEN

THE WAR ON TWO FRONTS is now a reality. German diplomacy sought to conquer Yugoslavia and to scare Greece into submission. The diplomats failed and now the army has been assigned the task of conquering the two tiny kingdoms. The development of a Balkan front means that Germany now has to look two ways at once. Her resources must be divided, and any plan that she may have had for the invasion of Britain must now be wholly revised.

Germany will fight in the Balkans under great handicaps. Her lines of supply are quite long, and the Balkan roads and railroads are few in number. Moreover Bulgaria and Rumania will doubtless prove to be half-hearted allies, with the result that much damage will doubtless be done to war supplies being transported through these countries. The German government has already warned its people not to expect a quick victory. Yugoslavia has about 1,000,000 men under arms. They will not be able to defend Croatia, but should be able to put up a good fight in the mountainous sections of the country. The mountains will do much to immobilize German's motorized units, and a man to man conflict in the mountains will be a long drawn out affair.

The German forces doubtless hope to reach Salonika. The distance is not so great in miles, and the capture of this port would do much to weaken the Greeks. On the other hand the Greeks have something in their favor. The terrain is difficult, and then there is the little matter of a British expeditionary force of undetermined size. German sources indicate that the British have about 300,000 men, perhaps more, in Greece. The British have said nothing about the size of the force, but admit that there is one. The British troops are veterans of the African campaign, and from all reports are quite well equipped. It is being strengthened with some regularity.

The Balkan war may give England some relief from bombing attacks. There is every reason to believe that Germany is handicapped by lack of oil, and if this is the case she may find it impossible to feed one war machine in the Balkans and another in Western Europe. In that case she will have to feed the one where active fighting is in progress. At the same time British bombing attacks on Germany will doubtless be increased.

The United States has denounced the German attacks on Yugoslavia and Greece. It has also been announced that supplies will be furnished them under the terms of the lease-lend act, and that the Red Sea will be removed from the zones prohibited American merchant vessels. This means that American ships will carry American goods to the very edge of the war zone, and leave Britain and her Allies only the duty of transporting them across the Mediterranean. Germany's failure to invade England was the first major set-back for the Axis. The failure of the Italians in Albania was a second. The collapse of the Italians in Africa was a third. The defeats suffered by the Italian fleet constitutes a fourth, and now the fact that there is fighting in the Balkans is a fifth. The end is by no means in sight, but the legend of Axis invincibility is beginning to crumble.

## BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

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

In Passing. . . . A little out of the groove of normalcy was the situation in which George Taylor and Bob Alexander found themselves late Sunday. Their dates of the past weekend—Dorothy Woodley and Dorothy Drainer—were all set to board the 6:12 streamliner headed Dallas way. Suitcases and both girls were already aboard when George and Bob performed a coup-de-grace and persuaded them to remain here another night. The double-breasted scramble that followed was something to write home about. The girls hopped off as the train was moving, but George was still aboard trying to rescue the luggage. Finally, as the train speeded-up, George bounced off with the two suitcases. . . . An unprecedented move by President T. O. Walton has just been inaugurated which will reward students who earn a 'distinguished' rating scholastically. Merit citations signed by Dr. Walton, they'll have considerable value as recommendations to prospective employers. . . . A letter recently received by Lieut. Col. James A. Watson from an officer recently on duty at A. & M. says, in part: "Another thing I miss is not having our young A. & M. officers here. I know they are good but seeing these others here brings it out stronger. I could take the chief regimental officers (cadets) at A. & M. and walk off with this game from the first day. Our young officers here are from the midwest and the east. The few A. & M. men here are all in responsible positions and handling them well." That's a quote that should be of No. 1 interest and pride to the corps. . . . Student Labor Chairman W. R. Horsley revealed Monday afternoon that 45.4 per cent of last semester's distinguished students were student labor employees—a truly significant fact by any measuring stick. . . . George (Spud) Grimes and Charles Thompson set some sort of a record at the Cavalry Ball. Their escortees, Eleanor Riggins and Brooxie Williams, trekked from Memphis, Tennessee to attend the function. . . . Unique is the word for the closing one Houston belle placed on a letter received by an Infantry senior last week. It read, "A pinch of devotion, a tablespoon of luck, a cup of sincerity and love to taste."



Fuermann

even if Eddie didn't have a feminine vocalist; the men in the orchestra were 'regular fellows' from the toes up and enjoyed playing here as much as the Aggies enjoyed hearing them, and drummer George Stowe and vocalist Bill Wallace climaxed the Fitzpatrick show as the best three-ring circus to hit the campus in many a dance.

Bill's favorite stunt—when asked for a cigarette—is to pull out an expensive case, flash it in front of the asker, open it and there—believe it or not—are three or four 'snipes.'

Goofiest of the Fitzpatrick crew was George who, by his own admission, is "good for a laugh-a-minute except on Sundays and holidays!" He wowed onlookers when he quipped—as his pic was taken, "Oh Gawd, I feel like a movie celeb."

While here Eddie escorted a Brenham belle, Mary Jo Becker, to AggieLand's assorted night spots. First on the Aggie Hit Parade this past weekend was "It All Comes Back to Me Now," which was the No. 3 song two weeks ago and which failed to show last week. In second place was "The Last Time I Saw Paris," the No. 2 song last week, and third place in the Aggie requests went to "Star Dust," a song which has been a consistent number on this year's mythical hit parade despite the fact that it's an oldie.

### Hochuli Writes

A California band, Eddie personally favors waltzes. "They're the rage on the west coast now," he pointed out, "but Texans still like swing best." And that's what he played most while at A. & M.

After a week's layoff, Eddie opens at Dallas' Plantation for a two-week run and then he does a month—with a two-month option—at San Antonio's St. Anthony Hotel.

Martin Griffin, local clothier, was formerly Eddie's business manager and, as such, spent the weekend with the orchestra and particularly Eddie, Bill, George, trombonist, Frank Hess, pianist, Skipper Travathan and Hank Porcella.

Saturday night, The Houston Press columnist, Paul Hochuli, and his wife attended the corps dance and, with Publicity Director Byron Winstead and wife, toured the college's so-called night clubs.

A genial companion and, as one cadet put it, "a swell guy," he devoted the whole of his Monday column to the event.

### E. Fitz & Co.

The Fitzpatrick band, which played the Cavalry Ball, was okeh all the way. Cavalrymen—and those who attended the Saturday night corps dance—liked the music,

### Quoting Paul

College eds and co-eds still have more fun than anybody. Especially when the co-eds are imported for a very special college function.



Get Ready for The  
R. V. Holidays  
Go Home With  
A Neat Appearance  
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## Go Home for EASTER

By S P



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Not having attended a learned shindig since the days when "Peddlin' Madeline Home" was No. 1 on the Hit Parade, and you had to be careful not to get sediment instead of sentiment in your brew, yours truly hitched up the horses and rode off in all directions to the Texas Aggie Cavalry Ball in College Station Saturday night. And am I glad I didn't have an 8 o'clock class this a.m.

I'll admit I was a bit of a wall flower—dancing not being one of my better accomplishments since a two-way stretch has become standard equipment on the chassis—but I had a swell time. Hospitality of that type prevents from having anything else but a swell time.

The Cavalry Ball is typical of the unit social functions scattered through the A. & M. year. The lassies closest to the hearts of the horsemen were invited down for the week-end of dancing, dining

and, I presume, to listen to storied up sweet nothings. Friday night the dancing was a closed corporation, but the Saturday stepping was open to the corps with the cash. Eddie Fitzpatrick, et al, furnished the music both nights.

There must have been few pretty girls left in other sections of Texas because the concentration of pulchritude was terrific. There must be something to that uniform magnet.

Official dancing stopped at midnight, but the festivities didn't. They just adjourned to a couple of late spots labeled "Ed's" and "Franklin's" where all good Aggies taper off. And one Rice man went right along, until creaking bones screamed a warning.

Twelve co-eds at Barnard college are learning how to repair automobiles in a course in practical mechanics.



## MAN TO MAN— LET'S TALK UNIFORMS

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Come in, look around, and you'll always be satisfied.

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Produced and directed by HERBERT WILCOX

Wednesday and Thursday  
3:30 and 6:45 Each Day

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