

The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE
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In Fine Shape

"EVERYTHING IS IN FINE SHAPE."

That is what Col. E. A. Keyes, officer in charge of ROTC in the Eighth Corps Area, said about the condition of the A. & M. college as shown by the annual federal inspection, but from Col. Keyes, that means a great deal.

The general tone of remarks made by the inspectors of the individual units was also complimentary and only additional evidence of what has been known for a long time, that the A. & M. cadet corps is not only the largest but the best.

And although the official reports of the results of the inspection will not be received here for another two weeks, it is believed that the rating of Excellent has been retained. But it will not be an accident if it happens. It will be the result of work on the part of instructors and a good measure of work on the part of the cadets. If everything is in fine shape, it is because we have made it so.

The military staff this year has stressed the practical side of military training in order that the corps might be shown to be in fine shape to any inspector and that Aggie graduates would be the same fine officers that they were shown to be in the last war. The value of everything being in fine shape is all the more important in view of the fact that active service is contemplated for the graduating officers, and could be of the greatest importance if the foreign situation does not clear up. Present indications are such that these officers may not only be on active duty but have better than average chances of being on combat duty within a short time. In such an event the true meaning of fine shape would become clear.

Nor is this effort on the part of military instructors or students a new thing at A. & M. The honor rating if later reports bear out the fact that it is retained, will not cause local merchants to order new stocks of blue stars. A. & M. has received this highest rating every year since 1918, and that is as far back as records are obtainable. The federal inspections and ratings have been given to ROTC units only since their establishment under the National Defense Act of 1916.

The meaning of receiving the rating Excellent is shown by the fact that about 50 per cent of the schools in the Eighth Corps Area have that rating today.

The efforts made by cadets and instructors have not been wasted in any sense. They have not only shown that A. & M. is still a top ranking school but that the school is fulfilling its duty as a vital element in the national defense program. A. & M. has shown similar results for its efforts for the past twenty-three years, and it must always be so, as traditional as the military training itself.

On Race Prejudice

THERE IS A PROBLEM existing throughout the world which, continuing slowly year after year, contributes much toward the spirit that forms blitzkriegs. In this country, democracy was supposed to abolish it; in the South, it is very much alive. Although it is usually ignored by people who are respectable, a few have had the courage to face it. The problem is race prejudice.

Aversion to someone of another nationality or race is founded on the primitive superstition that a stranger, one with different customs, dress, or looks, is inferior to one's own customs, dress, or looks. And everyone knows that what is one's own is the best.

Now, the absurd race theories that make one race superior to another clash directly with the findings of anthropology and are the products of minds interested in other things beside the good of humanity.

A concrete move toward the abolition of such race prejudice here in San Antonio has been made by a group of students from white and negro colleges. The Interracial commission, although it may not accomplish world-wide reform, or even attain recognition, is doing constructive work just by the meetings themselves. When a group of white and negro students can meet and discuss their problems, the state of the nation is not so bad after all.

To prevent spread of tuberculosis, New York city's four municipal colleges now require X-ray examinations of the chests of all entering students.

Film actress Gale Sondergaard is a daughter of a former University of Minnesota professor.

FRANK LOVING PRESENTS:

I Heard the Preacher Say

CHIVALRY IS A WORD which legend has filled for us with a rather romantic and ethereal meaning. It connotes a vision of galantry, bravery, courtesy, nobility, and sincerity which only legendary people could possess. Nevertheless one of the finest compliments of our South is the reputation attributed to us of southern hospitality and chivalry. Although the flower of this chivalry was supposed to have been nipped in the bud by the Civil War, I maintain that the South has held on to some of that old feeling of friendliness and good will that is said to have prevailed then. Any number of people moving to the South from other parts of our country have commented on the difference in our atmosphere, and it makes me proud to be a southerner, and all. Every day now, however, the South is moving farther and farther away from her lot in the old days. Step by step we are approaching the mechanized and stereotyper model which the North and East is providing. With this "progress", as the world calls it, we are simultaneously drifting away from the traditions which have made us unique. I do not question the fact that these changes which others have brought to us are for our betterment, but I do think that we should hold stoutly to the things which are of perennial value to happiness. Regardless of how fast the tempo of life around us accelerates, let us keep time on our schedules to give a friendly greeting to the passerby; regardless of how much we have to do for ourselves; let us manage to help our friends when they need it; regardless of how cold the world may become to those principles which our homes and friends hold dear, let us never lose sight of the happiness that can be ours by following a humble and simple doctrine of chivalry.

Quotable Quotes

"THE QUESTION is more symbolic of the modern mood. We are here as inquirers; we try to find answers to many problems, great and small; and there is hardly a more inspiring enterprise than this. Cultivate also that which is represented by the exclamation point, namely, your capacity to wonder and admire." Pres. C. M. McClelland of MacMurray College for Women punctuates his comments with apt similes.

"I am much impressed by the need for providing a broader education for all our professional men, whether they receive their higher degree from the faculty of arts and sciences or from one of our professional schools. I think the reform should start in the college, but the movement should not stop there. It seems to me those most concerned with liberalizing our higher education today should regard the college and the professional school years as one unit. Only thus, I believe, can we effectively broaden and improve the education of our professional graduates." Harvard's Pres. James Bryant Conant believes there's something wrong with today's artificial divisions in higher education.

"The chief hopes for the future lies in the cultivation of human qualities of sound dispassionate thinking, calm judicial judgment, a sense of justice, a devotion to wide loyalties, and the will to create a better social order. It is in the university, if anywhere that the qualities may find the best opportunity for development." Dr. George E. Vincent, former president of the Rockefeller Foundation, tells University of Chicagoans the future meaning of higher education.

—Associated Collegiate Press

As the World Turns..

BY DR. AL B. NELSON

TWO MILLION TONS of merchant shipping are being brought together at the orders of the President in order to get materials to the British. This includes about fifty oil tankers. The only catch in the arrangement is that none of these ships may go into the war zones to get the supplies to the points where needed.

The War Department, under the direct orders of the President, has refused to renew the commission of General Hugh Johnson in the reserve. General Johnson has been a most outspoken critic of the President's political policies.

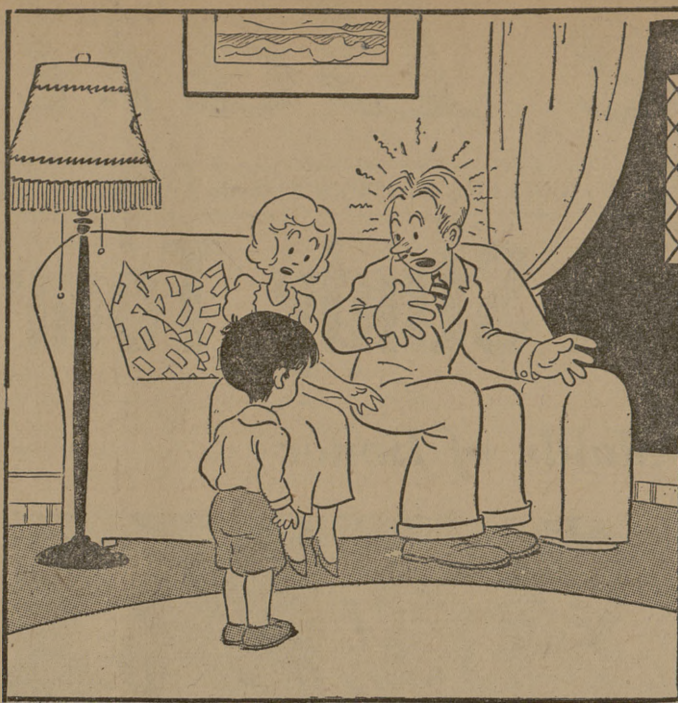
A serious move by Japan in the far east is generally expected in the next few weeks. This move may be against the Dutch East Indies, or Singapore but whatever the object of the attack the United States will be the only power in a position to act against the Japanese. Observers are generally agreed that Hitler is bringing pressure to bear on the Japanese to strike now in order to prevent Australia and New Zealand from sending additional aid for the defense of the Suez Canal and British possessions in North Africa and the Near East.

Attorney General Gerald Mann is setting a splendid example for other office seekers. While campaigning for the United States Senate he is refusing to accept his salary from the State of Texas. It will be interesting to note whether other office holders follow his example.

U. S. News Correspondents in Mexico state that Lindbergh's speeches are widely quoted by Nazi agents there as proof that Germany is sure to win the war. A statement was made in the British House of Commons that Lindbergh's speeches are a direct aid to Germany.

The boasted German air power, with complete control of the air over the Greek ports, was unable to prevent the evacuation of the British Expeditionary force and of thousands of Greek soldiers and civilian refugees.

Eighty-five per cent of June graduates at University of Texas plan to go to work, 10 per cent plan to marry, 5 per cent plan to return home.



"Sis says she bets you wear long, red flannel underwear. Do ya?"

BACKWASH

By George Fuermann

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

The Way of Things . . . One of the best gags of the year was born early last week when a Western Union messenger boy walked into Sbisa Hall, located a particular cadet and rendered a singing birthday telegram to the astonishment of hundreds of eating students and to the dismay of the Aggie concerned. Sung in the best W. U. manner to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb," the messenger prefaced his choral effort with, "I'm sorry

In an instant a roar went up from the cadets and the formerly tense bus-audience clapped in relief. A few minutes later, as the bus left the campus, the "War Hymn" could still be heard as the now-converted musician became a Christian.

Quizitis
The college hospital's nurses will tell you that "acute quizitis" is easily the most prevalent disease on the campus. The dread disease takes some queer turns, but queerest of the lot was the case of a Cavalry junior not so long ago. Entering the hospital shortly after 11 o'clock one night, the Aggie told the nurse that he had sprained his ankle and wanted to go to bed, pointing to his left foot, which he was favoring with a limp. The nurse looked at the alleged injury, quickly saw that the cadet's most serious grievance was quizitis, but decided to play ball with him. Taking him to one of the wards, she told him to undress and get in bed. He did so and was much put-out when he learned that his foot would have to be raised above his head throughout the night. "But that's uncomfortable," he protested. "I know," the nurse replied, "but it will make your foot get well much quicker."

Then came the pay-off. Not remembering which foot he had originally favored, he held up his right limb as the one to be suspended from the ceiling. "What's this?" the nurse asked. "It was your left foot a few minutes ago." "Oh," the confused Aggie replied, "You see, I really sprained both ankles!"

Five A. & M. Horses Are Sold to Mexicans
A Percheron stallion and four Percheron fillies, all A. & M. stock, left College Station enroute to Nuevo Leon, Mexico, Monday night. The animals were bought from the college by R. B. Sada and Fidel Martinez of Monterrey, Mexico, who have private ranches at Nuevo Leon. The animals will be used in cross-breeding work with thoroughbreds.

Converted
It was last Tuesday night that the incident occurred as the Dallas-to-Houston bus arrived on the campus at 10 o'clock. From within an accordion could be heard playing Texas University's alma mater, song, "The Eyes of Texas."

As the bus neared its stopping place at Aggie Inn, the driver turned to the player and pointed out, "Now look, bud, if you want to get killed you've picked an easy way. My advice to you is to stop playing THAT song in a hurry."

An all-American optimist, the lad continued the song and, as the bus stopped, got off with an attractive girl and circled the bus, still playing the Aggie-unpopular T. U. song.

As he circled the bus he called-out to nearby cadets, "Come on, follow me." No one moved until a minute later when he stopped both the walking and playing. Woosh!—as if from nowhere more than a hundred Aggies surrounded the radical.

"Aren't you on the wrong campus?" Senior Charles Duncan quizzed. "And furthermore, don't you know how to play the 'Aggie War Hymn'?"

"Like this?" the now thoroughly scared rebel asked as he nervously swung into the famed Aggie hymn.

COVERING CAMPUS DISTRACTIONS

with TOM GILLIS

By Tom Vannoy it has the usual happy ending when the villain is defeated in duel and Joan is rescued by her hero, the Count.

Besides the extraordinarily good cinematic distractions on schedule for this weekend is the corps dance tonight from 9 till 12 in Sbisa Hall, with music by the Aggieband orchestra. With memories of the Cotton Ball still fresh on our minds, we can say that the corps dance should rank among the season's finest, and is well worth the price of admission.

Appearing at the Assembly Hall three times today is LAND OF LIBERTY, a composite film of all the outstanding pictures concerning our historical past. It is made up of 112 features and short subjects. If you want to see a motion picture version of a glorified American history book, then this picture should be of interest to you. Incidentally, all profits made from this picture will be turned over to war emergency welfare work.

"The Son of Monte Cristo" with Louis Hayward and Joan Bennett in the starring roles is to be shown at the Assembly Hall Monday and Tuesday at the customary hours. It's a sequel to "The Count of Monte Cristo," and concerns the freeing of a mythical country from the yoke of its dictator. A bit mushy in places, and displaying remarkable swordplay by the Count of Monte Cristo, Louis Hayward, when he rescues Joan Bennett from execution, the show is filled with romance and excitement. Of course,

A cleaned-up version of the long-est-running play in theatrical history, "Tobacco Road" is showing for the last time today at the Campus. Bringing reminiscences of "The Grapes of Wrath," it presents the earthy drama of dirt, malnutrition and moral decay among the Georgia backwoods people. Since the Hays office had to be satisfied, the film script was cleaned up considerably in comparison to that of the original play, and a few substitutions made for incidents in the plot. Charles Grapevin as "Jeeter Lester" plays a remarkably good character performance.

"Kitty Foyle," the story of the American working-girl will be at the Campus for the midnight show.

(Continued on Page 4)

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL

TODAY ONLY
6:45 & 8:30 P. M.

139 STARS!
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LAND OF LIBERTY
Edited by CECIL B. DEMILLE

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SUNDAY - MONDAY

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No. 2
"Oh Johnny How You Can Love"
Shows at 2:48 - 6:06 - 9:24

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