

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 4-5444.

1940 Member 1941
Associated Collegiate Press

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Taxes for Two

The United States treasury department has just launched a drive to sell United States savings bonds.

They can be bought in denominations ranging from \$25 to \$1,000 and are thus fitted to the reach of purses in every walk of American life. And it is from every walk in American life that the campaign to get money for the government is going to take its toll. Somehow despite billions and billions of dollars being bandied about in the headlines, the actual cost of recovery from the depression and entry into the present arms race with Hitler has not been felt by the average citizen. It will be, and soon.

Income taxes are at present the most obviously hiked tax mean. Theaters and other luxuries are only beginning to feel their share. When the United States begins paying for everything it has bought it is going to be felt.

It may not be an exaggeration in the near future to lay down your money at a theater ticket office and get back two tickets and a receipt for building costs on a lightweight battle cruiser.

—Michigan State

Current Temper of Youth

(Editor's Note: The following article first appeared in the College Maroon in a column, "The Hill and the Plain," by James C. Cleveland. It has since been called a significant item in judging the current temper of American college youth.)

OUT OF THE REVELRY of the senior class beer party last Friday night there has come an idea too tragic for laughter, too symbolic to be overlooked, too clever to be ignored. The idea came from the brilliant mind of Bob Blackmore, Phi Beta and draftee-elect for the month after a date that once spelled for him the beginning of life and a chance for happiness and success.

The idea has met with approval of varying degrees from every senior I have talked to. The idea has had suggested revisions yet still stands original, penetrating and overwhelmingly expressive. The idea is not bitterly partisan, nor hopelessly resigned. It has the saving grace of acceptance yet at the same time poignant indictment. The idea voices college youth of 1941 as I have never heard it voiced before. It is college youth of 1941.

The idea has to do with our senior class gift. It is simply that the gift this year shall be a sum of money to erect at a suitable occasion a fitting memorial to the first member of our class killed in the war.

Added suggestions have poured in. For example it has been suggested the memorial be to the first conscientious objector thrown in jail. Others have said it should be to all members of the class killed. Restrictions have been suggested the members must be killed in action, or perhaps in this hemisphere. Perhaps the money shouldn't be wasted and some fund started but named for the first casualty. And so it goes.

Bob Blackmore, who started it all, just shrugs his shoulders. He is still going to be called up in July for an army that he feels may well be misused. He started the idea he says as a joke. Many people would like to think that's all it is, a joke. Perhaps administration pressure will reduce the idea to just that, a joke.

But to me and many, many more, the idea is not a joke. It is college youth of 1941, making a humble and unheeded plea to what is left of sanity in the country today.

—Associated Collegiate Press

OPEN FORUM

TO MANY AGGIES, Mother's Day is a day full of recreational activities, exhibits and demonstrations. The program of entertainment planned for mothers each year has met with enthusiastic approval. But what of the unscheduled events? That which concerns Aggies' conduct.

On Mother's Day of 1939, we had a picnic lunch similar to the one planned for Mother's Day this year. When lunch was served, there were hundreds of Aggies crowding around the lunch counters trying to get something to eat, and the Mothers had

to stand back from the "thundering herd" and wait until the crowd had dwindled down before they could be served.

Let us not make the same mistake again this year. Let us manifest respect instead of starvation, for we are not judged alone by our scholastic standards. We have been first to our mothers for a good many years, so why not make Sunday truly a day for mothers and let her be first.

—F. M. Edwards, '42.

Something to Read

BY DR. T. F. MAYO
The Best Biography

THAT DR. SAMUEL JOHNSON is the best known English personality is due to his biographer, James Boswell, who may also be described as a fool of genius. A shortened form of Boswell's *Life of Johnson*, skimming the cream of this greatest of all biographies, is about as entertaining and stimulating a book as the College Library (or any library) contains. The best things in the book, however, are probably Boswell's account of the excellent informal conversations, dominated by the mighty Doctor but participated in by such men as Edward Burke the orator, Goldsmith the poet, Garrick the great actor, Gibbon the historian, and Sir Joshua Reynolds the painter.

Boswell, a young Scotchman who came up to London eager to taste the intellectual and social life of the big city, deliberately attached himself to the Great Doctor because Johnson impressed him as the biggest man (in every sense!) he had ever met. Dr. Johnson, in spite of occasional fits of understandable irritation, genuinely liked Boswell. The literary result was a glowing, intimate picture of a strong, racy, humorous, "human" personality, in a setting of the best minds of the period.

Just by way of samples, here are some random bits noted during a recent reading:

Johnson said to Sir Joshua Reynolds: "If a man does not make new acquaintances as he advances through life, he will soon find himself left alone. A man, Sir, should keep his friendship in constant repair."

At supper this night he talked of good eating with uncommon satisfaction. "Some People," said he, "have a foolish way of not minding, or pretending not to mind, what they eat. For my part, I mind my belly very studiously, and very carefully; for I look upon it, that he who does not mind his belly will hardly mind anything else."

Boswell: "I have often blamed myself, Sir, for not feeling for others as sensibly as many say they do." Johnson: "Sir, don't be duped by them any more. You will find these very feeling people are not very ready to do you good. They pay you by feeling."

Johnson: "The value of every story depends on its being true. A story is a picture either of an individual or of human nature in general: if it be false, it is a picture of nothing."

Boswell: "I have often blamed myself, Sir, for there are fifty women in the world, with any one of whom a man may be as happy as with any one woman in particular?"

Johnson: "Ay, Sir, fifty thousand."

As the World Turns..

BY "COUNT" V. K. SUGAREFF
NATIONAL DEFENSE PROGRAM is getting on a War Basis. We are not coasting any more on the production of all armaments. Col. J. H. Jouett, president of the aeronautical Chamber of Commerce of America, told the annual convention of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, on April 30th, that plane production is catching up with German production. He said, "Even now, half our output, coupled with British output, exceeds Axis plane production according to best obtainable estimates. '18,000 planes will be produced in the United States this year, and 30,000 in 1942. Mr. John D. Biggers, production director of O. P. M.' spoke before the same body and predicted that production of powder, rifles, small arms, machine-guns and tanks would double, triple and in some instances go as high as five fold. There is a movement on foot that the big corporations subcontract some of their big orders to small industries. There are 28,000 industrial establishments which do not have a single defense contract. Labor too is using more sober tactics in the defense industries. President Roosevelt called recently for two million tons of shipping to aid Britain. He ordered all machines and machine tools establishments on twenty-four hours basis; and his order to the Secretary of War Stimson, two days ago, for an increased production of big bombers is indicative that we are fast approaching a capacity war materials production.

The Battle of the Atlantic is becoming a reality. All our accelerated production of war materials points that way. The recent German victory in the Balkans, the attack on the British Empire life lines in Egypt, the German instigated revolts in the Near East and the proposed drive on Gibraltar are but incidents in the war. The real battle of the war will start with the invasion of the British Isles if it ever comes. Germany is now supreme on land and in planes over land. The ultimate issue of the war, however, is developing as between land and sea power, and sea and air power. The United States and Britain are supreme on sea and are speeding up plane production for a supremacy over the sea. All-out aid to Britain is then our primary objective in the battle of the Atlantic. The longer Britain is able to resist German invasion, the better are our chances of staying from active participation in the war. Still, we are determined to convoy our war materials to Britain. That is bound to bring us in clash with the Axis powers, should they attack our ships. Some people think that Hitler will not risk a war with the United States regardless of provocation. Whatever the future developments might be about the battle of the Atlantic, official Washington is preparing for the crisis. Cooperation with government agencies in the national defense program is obvious. Obstruction of any sort might prove fatal. It should not be said that the United States, like France, was "too late."

This is a picturization of Kenneth Roberts' story of the War of 1812 as it was fought on the high seas, in this instance mostly by Victor Mature, a Yankee sea captain, and Bruce Cabot, a slave runner with whom money is the all-important issue.

Louise Platt, daughter of an American shipowner, is out to avenge her father's death at the

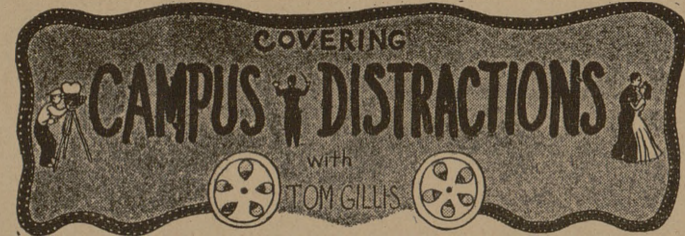
World War I Flying Ace



Above is Jesse L. Easterwood, Aggie-ex for whom the college's rapidly expanding airport is named.

Killed in an airplane accident May 19, 1919, at Coco Sola, Panama Canal-Zone, Easterwood was cited for bravery during World War I and is generally recognized as one of the institution's outstanding men in the last war's air service.

Seeing service in three foreign nations, he made 16 successful raids across the enemy lines and, following his death he was awarded posthumously the Navy Cross for bravery.



By Carl Van Hook

There will be plenty of water splashing in The P. L. Downs Jr. natatorium May 9 and 10 as a galaxy of swimming beauties, diving champions and tank stars swing into action at the annual Water Carnival.

Aquatic events of all kinds will be featured at the carnival besides the specialty act which is to be given by Baylor university and the hilarious antics of clown divers "Chick" Denny and "Scotty" Potter.

Another interesting event will be a water polo game played by teams selected from the new and old areas.

Opening time is 7:15 for both nights and the program is scheduled to terminate before dance time, so go down to the natatorium and cheer the different teams on to victory.

The benefit show at the Assembly hall Friday night will be "Captain Caution" for the Kream and Kow Club.

This is a picturization of Ken-

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hands of a British man-of-war and it is through her furious denunciation of Mature as a too-cautious coward that the story derives its name.

Life on the high seas is portrayed here in a rough-and-tough fashion, making this a vital story of action. There is too much fighting, however, among both ships and men, to make it anything but a man's picture.

"Tin Pan Alley" is back again and this time it is accompanied by "You're In The Army Now." These two will be shown at the Campus Thursday and Friday.

Regardless of how many times

you have seen "Tin Pan Alley," you will enjoy seeing it again. Going to no extremes in either history or histrionics, it merely parenthesizes a few years before and during World War I, and it punctuates them with such pleasant old-time numbers as "Moonlight Bay" and "K-K-K-Katy."

Since the story is no more than

(Continued on Page 4)

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