

# The Battalion Man, Your Manners

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

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BY I. SHERWOOD  
CADETS AT A. & M. are carefully trained in discipline and in the official and social duties of a military school, but many of the Seniors will be entering the Army of the United States as officers, in June, and a thorough knowledge of the social customs of the Service is essential; such a knowledge will give the young officer confidence in himself and save him from embarrassing situations.

The following is taken from Official Courtesy and Customs of the Service.  
Calls: For all posts in the United States calling hours are from 8:00 to 9:00 in the evening. It is permissible to call on Sunday afternoon between three and five o'clock. This practice differs from civil life where calls are usually made in the afternoon.

An officer arriving at a post at which he expects to remain longer than twenty-four hours should call on the post commander. If assigned to duty there, he should call on all his intermediate commanders. If unable to wear a uniform, an explanation should be made. This official visit to the post and intermediate commanders should be repeated at their residences within twenty-four hours after arrival. If the commander is married, it is the custom for the officer making the visit to be accompanied by his wife. The calls are formal and should not last longer than ten minutes.

It is not necessary for the new arrival to make other calls until officers of the battalion, regiment or garrison have called on him.

It is customary for officers to call on a new arrival as soon as he is situated. If the newcomer is married, ladies call with their husbands.

Calls should be returned within ten days.

Calling Cards: In the service do not neglect the conventions in the use of visiting cards. At receptions, teas or similar functions it is customary to leave a card for each person in whose name the invitation is extended and for the guest of honor, if there is one.

A bachelor, or a married officer not accompanied by his wife, leaves one card for the officer called upon and one for each adult member of the officer's household.

Social Functions: It is customary for officers of all grades to dance or chat with the wives of the senior officers of the unit.

A member of a dinner party later attending a dance should not fail to dance with the hostess and the guest of honor.

Invitations to dinners and private functions, when accepted, constitute social obligations and should be returned.

## BACKWASH

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

Backwashin' Around . . . Unique in the realm of Mothers' Day telegrams was the one sent by an Infantry senior which read, "The Italians believe that Benito is; the Squareheads swear by Adolph, but here's one country American who



Fuernmann

knows darn well that his mother is the greatest person in the world." . . . Backwash, under its current by-line, goes to press for the last time Saturday. When the writer signs '30' that day, Charles Babcock will tentatively take up the reins. The column's full-time writer for the forth-coming long session will not be announced until late this month when editor-elect Tom Gillis names his new staff . . . As predicted here last week, the first annual Engineers' Musical Review was a tremendous, howling success. Packed with gags and giggles, it sent a near-capacity audience away hungry for more and was easily a top-notch item in the current college year's list of Aggie-talent entertainment events. The show was so successful that tentative plans call for an encore late this month, a possible performance at Texas U. and, most important of all, one enthusiastic witness (who has the ways and means to back him up) says that he'll place next year's review on the stages of the largest theaters in Houston and Dallas. Producers Walter Sullivan and Ben Elliott, plus a capable, ambitious staff, did an All-American job on the show which now takes a well-deserved place among the college's annual and much-to-be-looked-forward-to events . . . Watch for T. S. C. W. freshman Connie Lindley (she was queen of this year's Cotton Ball) to go a long way in the Aggie world during her remaining three years in college. She, and Fort Worth's attractive Dorothy Hamm, were pointed out by Maestro Al Donahue this past week end as "the two most attractive girls I've seen in many a dance." . . . Still another addition to the fast-growing list of Aggie hitch-hiking benches is serving cadets. The McLennan County A. & M. Mothers' club (Waco) has made and painted two benches, each 20 feet long, which they have placed at the intersection of the Waco loop.

Joe Bourn was without a date but, not wanting to miss going through the traditional ring ceremony, he explained to Dee his plight and asked her to go through with him.  
Dee agreed and, as the pair were standing in the middle of the ring, Dee kissed Joe in the best-approved ring ceremony manner. No sooner done than from trombonist Maddelena's instrument came a series of notes not at all in harmony with the music the rest of the orchestra was playing.  
Quoth Joe: "Any way, I didn't get shot with lead!"

Two newcomers are riding the mythical Aggie Hit Parade this week.  
First in Aggie requests is, as Al termed it, "a new oldie," "Apple Blossom." No. 2 is "Intermezzo", and, for the tenth consecutive week, "Star Dust" rides the hit parade, this time in last place.

Al's playing of the "Aggie War Hymn" was plenty popular with cadets as was his two best novelty numbers, "The Volga Boatmen's Song," and a gagged-up "Anvil Chorus" as Mr. Verdi never imagined it.

Al and all of the men in his orchestra were much interested in the ring ceremony.  
"We've never seen anything like this," he said. "As a matter of fact, this is the first great military college at which we have ever played."

From here the band goes on a series of one-nighters which includes two dances at Missouri's Stephen's college May 16 and 17.

With 13 men in his band, two vocalists, two arrangers and a manager, his men average \$100 a week—which sounds a little truth-stretched to the writer.

## Graduate School Planned for Prairie View State Normal

The Board of Directors of Texas A. & M. disclosed plans last Saturday for a graduate school in arts and sciences and two years of instruction in basic medicine for Texas negroes at the Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College at Prairie View, Texas.

Announcement for additional educational advantages for Texas negroes came from F. M. Law, of Houston, president of the A. & M. Board of Directors, in commenting on items totaling \$53,600 in the appropriations bill for the Prairie View institution.

"The Board of Directors of A. & M. college endorses 100 per cent the items in the House bill setting up \$28,600 for each year of the coming biennium for a graduated school at Prairie View", Law said. "While the graduate school will be set up primarily in the field of arts and sciences, \$10,000 of the funds provided will be used for purchase of books for the library, which is used by all the men and women students at Prairie View."

"In addition to this amount, there is included \$25,000 yearly for the first two years of basic medicine study, which we can give by addition of three or four new courses at Prairie View."

"While the House bill does not at this time provide for it, the A. & M. Board of Directors favors establishment of an additional \$10,000 annual fund for out of state aid for Texas Negroes."

## WHAT'S SHOWING AT THE CAMPUS

Tuesday and Wednesday  
"COWBOY FROM BROOKLYN", featuring Dick Powell, Pat O'Brien, Priscilla Lane, Dick Foran and Ronald Reagan. Also "BEHIND THE NEWS", with Lloyd Nolan, Doris Davenport, Frank Albertson and Robert Armstrong.

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL  
Tuesday - 3:30 and 6:45  
"HIGH SIERRA", starring Humphrey Bogart and Ida Lupino.  
Wednesday - Thursday  
3:30 and 6:45  
"VIRGINIA", featuring Madeline Carroll, Fred MacMurray, Stirling Hayden, Carolyn Lee, Helen Broderick and Marie Wilson.

Cartoon  
Orchestra  
ADMISSION 15¢

## COVERING CAMPUS DISTRACTIONS

with TOM GILLIS

Another picture named for a Priscilla Lane is the girl in this state is coming to the Assembly Hall Wednesday and Thursday, but this one does not have enough horse flesh in it to make it the kind of show the others were. "VIRGINIA" is the story of a sophisticated young woman, southern born but northern reared, who returns to her family plantation in the South with intentions of selling it.

Beautiful, blonde Madeline Carroll is the sophisticated miss. A rich northern business man, Stirling Hayden, does his worst to persuade Madeline to sell the old plantation and marry him, but poor southern gentleman Fred MacMurray shows her there is more to southern traditions than can be bought by a northern checkbook. The accents used in the picture show a strange mixture of old southern and yankee lingos, but it is interesting to listen to. The authentic Virginia scenery shown in technicolor puts a great deal of emphasis on the traditions and beauty of the old Southland.

Two people well worth watching, for their parts in this show and others to come, are Marie Wilson and five-year-old Carolyn Lee. Marie is a very shapely blonde who plays a gay, rich playgirl to perfection. And Carolyn Lee, the youngest star signed by a major studio since Baby LeRoy, shows that all comedienne don't have to be over 21. This show is a more than pleasant treat for the eye, because of the technicolor and beautiful actresses, and for the ear because of good dialogue and southern accents.

If Pat O'Brien ever gets in a show where he takes the girl away from the other fellow don't fail to see it, but "COWBOY FROM BROOKLYN" at the Campus today and tomorrow is not the one.

During such a busy week-end, probably very few Aggies had the opportunity to see the decent show now at the Assembly Hall. Decent is not exactly the proper word, because it is a crime story in which Humphrey Bogart even betters his former thug roles. "HIGH SIERRA" shows him as a hardened gunman but a softie in human ways. Without a moment's hesitation, he shoots his way out of traps, yet he is tender and gentle to a mongrel pup he picks up. He goes out of his way to help a little crippled girl. There is finally a trap in the high sierra mountains however, that he doesn't shoot his way out of. The mighty mountains add good background to this crime story.

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL  
LAST DAY

THE ONLY THING HIS BULLETS COULDN'T CONQUER WAS...  
HIGH SIERRA

starring IDA LUPINO  
A gun-moll with a heart  
HUMPHREY BOGART  
A dreamer with a gun!

THURSDAY  
FRIDAY and SATURDAY

BUCK PRIVATES  
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE  
Andrews Sisters and Abbot and Costello

15¢ to 5 p.m. — 20¢ After  
TUESDAY - WEDNESDAY  
BIG DOUBLE FEATURE

No. 1  
"Cowboy From Brooklyn"  
Shows at 2:15, 5:03, 7:50, 10:27

No. 2  
EXTRA EXTRA  
BEHIND THE NEWS  
LLOYD NOLAN  
DORIS DAVENPORT  
FRANK ALBERTSON - BOB ARNOLD - PAUL HARVEY

Shows at 1:00, 3:17, 6:20, 9:07

CARTOON - NEWS  
ORCHESTRA  
3:30 and 6:45

## Assembly Hall

Wednesday - Thursday  
3:30 and 6:45

REFRESHING — ENTERTAINING  
"VIRGINIA"  
Madeline Carroll - Fred MacMurray  
(Technicolor)

Cartoon  
Orchestra  
ADMISSION 15¢

## Ending Fish Year

SINCE THERE ARE to be no more official fish days, why doesn't every organization drop "handles" on names now after Parent's Day?

It has always been customary for an event to occur after fish day in different organizations, but even without fish days, it is important that the Aggie reputation of friendliness be maintained. And it is time the freshmen and upperclassmen became better acquainted with each other on equal terms. For nearly nine months now the Class of '44 has served in the capacity of freshmen, by far the greater part of future contact between the classes is to be on the equal terms of upperclassmen, and dropping Mister and Fish from names would do much to promote the unity of the classes.

This is the last month that all these freshmen and upperclassmen will be together on the campus, and the seniors want to know their room-orderlies and other fish by a more appropriate term than just Fish So-and-so when they happen to meet again during life. This will be their only chance to gain such close friendship before they are called by other duties. The upperclassmen other than seniors also want to begin to know their freshmen more intimately before another fish class arrives in all its seemingly uncontrollable numbers.

Dropping handles will make easier the task of next year's cadets who have begun to take over their positions now. In many organizations it regularly happens at this time of year that each class is prepared for the responsibilities they will bear next year by giving them those responsibilities now. This gives the future officers and upperclassmen experience in their positions while still under the watchful and helpful eyes of the seniors. And if this year's freshmen are to consider discharging their responsibility as sophomores for next year, it would be well if they became more informally acquainted with other upperclassmen now and considered their duty of leading future freshmen.

It would not be contrary to any traditions to drop handles on names at this time of year. On the other hand, it would be in keeping with a tradition which is now non-existent. This last month is a valuable time during which next year's upperclassmen should become more intimately associated as friends without the formality which regular freshman conduct equires.

Dropping handles could be accomplished simply by a ruling of the organization commander. Many organizations have already given the freshmen their customary privileges since the Parents' Day review. The others should do so.

## Annual Engineer's Review

THE ENGINEER'S DAY MUSICAL REVIEW was another "first" event for this year that should become an annual feature of that day. It is an excellent addition to an already packed day because it provides entertainment of a different sort and an opportunity for student development.

Credit for the idea of the show itself and the parts of the show belongs to the cadets. With the exception of the dean of the school of engineering, all the actors were students who originated and presented their acts. Such an opportunity for student initiative and the display of their talent should not be passed up in later years, particularly after seeing what excellent talent was presented at their show this year.

Considerable originality was shown in the presentation of the acts by all the engineering departments, and all was coordinated and directed by students. The review demonstrates that engineers do many things that can't be worked out by a slide rule formula, and should be a permanent part of the Engineer's Day show.

Five mathematics courses at University of Texas have been rearranged to tie in more closely with problems relating to defense.

The music library at Mills college contains more than 6,000 phonograph records.

Forty first additions of Joel Harris are the latest addition to the Harris Memorial room in the Emory university library.

A history student, roaming through the halls of Centenary college, found an inscription that Centenary was founded in 1825.

## Quotable Quotes

"Fear keeps many teachers, none too bold at best, from voicing what they know to be true about the society that surrounds them, or the history they are supposed to interpret. Most of them are not fighters. They are experts on information, with a desire to be let alone in their work. So when their opinions are disapproved, their position and experience are not such as can resist intimidation. The young scholar learns early he can succeed best by silence. There is little academic freedom in the sense of the right to teach without institutional coercion or censorship of personal faiths." Author Leon Whipple, in his "Story of Civil Liberties in the United States".

—Associated Collegiate Press

## As the World Turns..

BY R. W. STEEN

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT WILL ADDRESS THE AMERICAN PEOPLE on Wednesday evening. There was a time when these talks were described as "fireside chats" but conditions have now become so serious that no such matter of fact title will serve. The way for Mr. Roosevelt has been carefully paved, and it is to be expected that he will tell the American public something about the immediate part to be played by America in the war.

Three weeks ago Secretary Hull declared that American aid to Britain must reach its destination. On the same day Secretary Knox declared that we could not permit American goods to be sunk in the Atlantic. A week later Wendell Willkie called for the use of American convoys. A few days later Secretary Stimson called for the use of the American navy in making the seas safe for the delivery of war materials to Britain. Late last week Senator Pepper, who is frequently an administrative spokesman, made an address to the Senate in which he urged that America "get tough" with the dictators. He proposed that such strategic bases as Dakar, the Azores, and Singapore be immediately occupied.

With these speeches as a background it will be surprising if President Roosevelt does less than announce that American naval vessels will be used in an effort to guarantee the arrival of planes and supplies in Britain. Public opinion has moved so far in the past few weeks that the opponents of conveying are now apparently afraid to bring the issue to a vote in the senate.

The race for the Senate seat left vacant by the death of Morris Sheppard is attracting much attention. Twelve candidates have announced their willingness to serve, and most observers are still of the opinion that Governor O'Daniel will soon add his name to the list. The biggest splash of the past week was made by Hal Collins of Mineral Wells, who began his campaign in Waco. He was not content with a hillbilly band, but had a whole medicine show. There was a master of ceremonies who introduced musical numbers, singers, and comedians. To cap it all a mattress was given to the largest family attending the meeting. The winning family marched fourteen children onto the platform. Mr. Collins doubtless wishes that children could vote.

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At any rate, the situation resulted in one of the best gags of the year at the Senior Ring banquet.

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