

The Battalion Something to Read

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE
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Student Leaders' Views

THE OPINIONS OF STUDENT leaders over the nation present some interesting information as to beliefs and possible future trends of national thought, for the students who are now receiving leadership training in college will be guiding the nation within a not too distant period. To obtain the opinions of what may be called student leaders, questionnaires were sent to the 6292 students from 610 colleges who were selected as Who's Who Among Students from their campus. Their compiled opinions bring to light some interesting facts and are good indications of possible future public opinion.

As to the purposes for which these leaders came to college, most made some reference to their preparation for latter life or to learn to think intelligently. The increased opportunities which are open to college graduates and their increased powers to live up to these opportunities seem to have inspired many. One answer to the questionnaire from a University of Texas student stated a twofold purpose for attending college "to prepare for later life and to enjoy it now." But all the varied answers had a serious note of moulding themselves for the future, looking forward to the time when they must play the game for keeps.

The musical opinions of the college leaders runs fairly heavily toward the classical music of Beethoven and Wagner rather than to the modern music. Forty per cent of the students indicated their preference for the cultured music of the masters, while 26 per cent favor modern. Among the various designations of what might be called popular music, more said they enjoyed sweet swing than any other type, with comparatively few favoring jitterbug jive.

Our first third term president brought a 62 per cent approval from the students questioned, but scorching criticism was voiced by those who opposed him. The points in his favor considered his tact and judgment, sincerity and courage. However, a Notre Dame student declared that "any president who brings us close to war is a failure in his office." The president's wife received a general approval of 72 per cent, and even those who criticize admit that she is a woman of great ability. Her successes were attributed by one to her possession of "the common touch", but others thought she was capitalizing on her position as first lady.

The approval of the president is further echoed by the group by his selection as the most popular individual in the world today, by a vote of 80 per cent. A weak second of 11 per cent is given to England's Prime Minister, Winston Churchill. Secretary of State Cordell Hull was third. Somewhat startling are their opinions on outstanding persons in past history. Our American Civil War president Abe Lincoln took top place, being selected by 30 per cent of the student leaders. Second was Jesus Christ with approximately 26 per cent, then George Washington and Napoleon.

Today's college leaders do not believe in subsidized football, but only by the slim majority of 52 per cent. Statements on the condition showed that it was accepted by some as a necessary evil, or some indorsed the practice when done indirectly as through bona fide jobs or reductions in board and tuition charges. A student from Stetson University in Florida stated that football participants lost the spirit of friendly competition when they are paid for their efforts.

Greater economic equality among nations was considered by a majority of the college leaders as a factor which would do more toward establishing world peace than greater world religion. But even with the emphasis on the need for economic soundness, the importance of religion is recognized. Some students declared that the establishment of a greater economic security would automatically lead to an increase in the amount of religion. Another student made the distinction of not needing more religion but more everyday application of the religion we have.

True dramatic ability was recognized by the college leaders for Spencer Tracy and Bette Davis were selected by wide majorities as movie favorites. Ronald Coleman and James Stewart were also selected as male favorites, with Helen Hayes, Myrna Loy, and Jeanette MacDonald chosen as leading ladies. Donald Duck was frankly preferred by a University of Tampa boy, and not without reason.

Many of the opinions of these students will probably change with advancing maturity and more varied contacts with life, but many serious thoughts are indicated. The general outlook of the students is optimistic, which speaks well for the courage of the younger generation. All that the young leaders ask is an opportunity and the chance to apply what they have learned.

BY DR. T. F. MAYO

A Proposition to Underclassmen

BELOW ARE LISTED FIVE MODERN BOOKS for you to read this summer. If you will read each one carefully, making notes on it; if you will discuss each book with at least five intelligent people—then you are promised that you will be a definitely different person next Fall from what you are now.

It is assumed, of course, that you do want to change yourself. After all, isn't education, as distinguished from training, the process of changing a man's self for the better? (Training is teaching the man to do something. Dogs and monkeys, also, may be highly trained, I believe.) You owe your education, of course, not merely or even principally to classroom work, but to all the influences that act upon you: your roommates, your girls, your family life, etc. It is as such an influence that the reading, thinking over, and discussion of these five books are offered to you for this summer. Here they are. You needn't agree with them. Just understand them, give them a chance, and discuss them:

1. **Man and His Universe**, by John Langdon-Davies—A comparison of the universe as seen by modern science with the world-pictures accepted, respectively by savages, medieval men, and us.
2. **Man Stands Alone**, by Julian Huxley—Short talks by a modern biologist on many subjects, biological and otherwise.
3. **Of Human Bondage**, by W. Somerset-Maugham—The finest novel dealing with the modern young man's search for a philosophy.
4. **I Believe**, edited by Clifton Fadiman—Twenty famous moderns state briefly their general attitudes.
5. **Technics and Civilization**, by Lewis Mumford—How ways of gettings things done have influenced ways of living and thinking; with recommendations.

Quotable Quotes

"I HAVE NEVER BEEN MUCH IN SYMPATHY with those who would restrict higher education to a small number of handpicked individuals. There are, to be sure, colleges and universities which do so restrict it. But the picture of higher education in America as a whole is not that. We have made a more serious attempt than any other nation has ever made to carry forward to higher levels the education of great numbers of our young people. We have done it because on the whole we have believed that was the democratic thing to do. We have believed in it not only because it benefits the individual but because we have held it of great social importance that a democracy of the type we are trying to operate should be made up of people who have some understanding of the kind of world in which we live." Harry Woodburn Chase.

As the World Turns..

BY "COUNT" V. K. SUGAREFF

THE UNITED STATES is now on a War Basis. President Roosevelt, speaking before the Pan-American Union, night before last, declared an "Unlimited National Emergency." Our new status in regard to the war clearly indicates that the war is now a part of our national life. Events abroad and at home convinced the President that if we are to keep the war from this hemisphere, there must be a centralized effort to aid Britain. Britain is being slowly driven out from the eastern Mediterranean zone, and the loss of ships together with their cargoes has been also increasing. At home, nearly a year has passed and we still have about 19-billion dollars of defense contracts to be let. Plant expansion has been too slow to cope with the greatly increased production demands. The big manufacturers have not been willing to "farm out" orders so that production would meet the defense demands and provide jobs for many unemployed. And even the dollar-a-year men have been criticized for delaying our defense program. Moreover, there has been too much wrangling between "capital and capital, labor and labor, and capital and labor." All these led the President to take the necessary steps to bring an immediate aid to Britain. The best way to do it is to put us on "Unlimited National Emergency." The President now is in a position to utilize his powers, short of declaration of war, to meet the emergency.

Mayor La Guardia gets a new honor. Last week President Roosevelt appointed Mayor La Guardia of New York "Director" of the Office of Civilian Defense. This new office is an ambitious one. Mayor La Guardia will be in charge of "coordinating Federal, state, and local civilian programs. He will devise means to protect life and property and train civilians for such duties as fire fighting, bomb protection and guarding of key industries." It is a task of great importance to the nation. Besides being a mayor of our largest city, La Guardia is now a chairman of the United States conference of mayors and co-chairman of the Canadian-American permanent defense board. All of these positions require a good deal of the mayor's time and energy. As the head of the office of civilian defense he assumes another great responsibility—a task which might become too burdensome for Mr. La Guardia should we finally enter the war actively. With the "unlimited National Emergency" now in force, it might be necessary to appoint someone else who must devote his full time to the job at hand.

Maj. Gen. James Henry Burns heads a newly created agency—Division of defense aid reports. General Burns will be in charge of keeping straight "the record, reports and applications" in the Lend-lease office of which Harry Hopkins is the director. The expediting of business in aiding Britain and other democracies has become so dilatory that the new agency, headed by a military man, is to supply the needed speed and efficiency. General Burns is also to play an important part in deciding the kind and amount of arms we should send to Britain.



BACKWASH By Carl Van Hook
"Backwash: An agitation resulting from some action or occurrence."—Webster

The Way of Things

This concerns a rookie (name unknown) at Camp Wolters near Mineral Wells. The story goes that he was just sauntering along one day and passed an officer and, by a breach of army etiquette, failed to salute him. At this, the officer stopped the rookie and said, "Don't you see this uniform?" and the rookie replied, "Yeah, but just look at the one they gave me!" Some members of the opposite sex from over "forty acre way" have been sending personal bleeds to their "only ones" here at A. & M. about the way some of the Aggies conducted themselves at the ball game in Austin. Where do they get the grounds on which to bleed? After all, the Aggies didn't throw tomatoes at them. . . . The nocturnal water blitzkreigs are progressing very nicely and everyone seems to be getting his share of the free water. When a raider starts on a party, class distinction makes no difference to him. In fact, some of the "fish" (the naughty things) have been drowning out seniors and five-year men. Some of the boys who have been in the habit of sleeping behind locked doors have been unable to do so lately because some free-hearted person just wants to make sure.

Jarrin' Jawn

It seems that John Kimbrough is in the same rut as most of this year's graduates—it's into the army. He went to New York a few weeks ago to put the finishing touches on his pro-football contract and to straighten out other incidentals, but no sooner had he done this until the man wearing the long white beard and striped pants stepped in and nipped it in the bud.

"Big Jawn" asked for a deferment, but it could not be granted unless he was going to work at something concerning national defense. From what we have seen property of the football team, and of him on the gridiron, profootball for him could be just about as good a form of national defense that the government could ask for.

for. When John gets those pile-driving legs of his working, they are just about as destructive as any caterpillar tractor or army tank.

Whatever John has to do, whether it be the army or football, the cadet corps and everyone else are backing him all the way.

Toothpicks

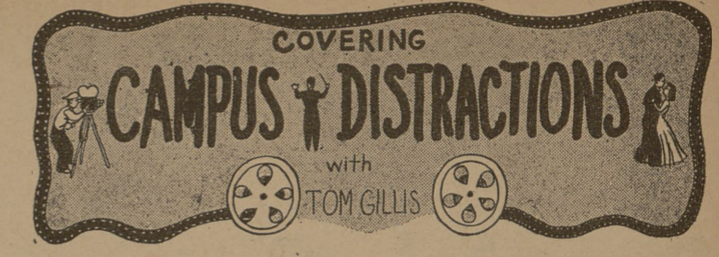
All those who have eaten in the new mess hall have probably wondered how those toothpick bottles are filled and why a bottle of such shape is used. J. G. Peniston, the commissary steward, said that the bottles are much more sanitary than the open containers like the ones used in Sbsia hall, but the small neck bottles are no more economical than the open containers.

The filling of the bottles has been made very simple by a Mexican employee of Duncan hall. Leonard Treveno proved his efficiency by making a small gadget which looks like a funnel and is used to fill the bottles. The toothpicks are poured into the device and they pass through the opening, one at a time, into the bottle. It takes about one minute to fill a bottle and each bottle holds approximately one box of toothpicks.

Buckskin

Buckskin, Aggie land's mascot No. 2, knows exactly what kind of breakfast cereal she wants every morning. If you toss her a box of the wrong kind of cereal, she will immediately refuse it and wait for the right brand. When she receives the correct brand (good advertisement for some cereal company), she will take it between her front paws and, with the aid of her molars, tear the top off the box and eat the cereal without sugar and cream right out of the box. And it has to be the proper kind of cereal before she will eat it. Try it and see!

Incidentally, Buckskin is the defense. From what we have seen property of the football team, and of him on the gridiron, profootball for him could be just about as good a form of national defense that the government could ask for.



By Tom Vannoy
Calculated to be something more than a glorified "horse opera," "ARIZONA" at the Campus for three days starting today is really a whole lot of worthwhile motion picture. Jean Arthur is the first American woman to settle in Arizona. William Holden is cast in the co-starring role.

Holden got his start several years ago in the cinema world in the film "Golden Boy." After a rather weak beginning, he has come up in popularity and ability. For his performance in "Arizona," he can take his place among the very best of the young actors. Incidentally, Jean Arthur does not do such a bad job for herself, either.

In order to make it a story of Arizona, the producers just couldn't resist the temptation to put in a bit of a cattle stampede to wind things up in the proper way.

"BROADWAY MELODY OF 1940" is showing at the Assembly Hall today. Co-starring Fred Astaire and Eleanor Powell, it is a musical extravaganza with lots of those popular song and dance numbers that the team of Astaire and Powell can do. There isn't much drama connected with the picture. It is practically all music, more music, and, oh yes, lavish costumes.

Gene Stratton-Porter's novel, "LADDIE," in its third filmed version will be shown at the Assembly Hall Friday.

Tim Holt and Virginia Gilmore play the leading roles in the show.

College freshmen know less and less about the "King's English" with each successive year, according to a diagnosis made by Theodore J. Gates, head of the department of English composition at Pennsylvania State College.

WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL
Thursday 3:30 & 6:45—**"BROADWAY MELODY OF 1940,"** featuring Fred Astaire, Eleanor Powell, George Murphy, and Frank Morgan.
Friday 3:30 & 6:45—**"LADDIE,"** with Tim Holt, Virginia Gilmore, Joan Carroll, and Spring Byington.
AT THE CAMPUS
Thursday, Friday & Saturday — **"ARIZONA,"** starring Jean Arthur, William Holden, Warren William, and Porter Hall.

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Assembly Hall

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also

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3:30 and 6:45



15¢ to 5 p.m. — 20¢ After

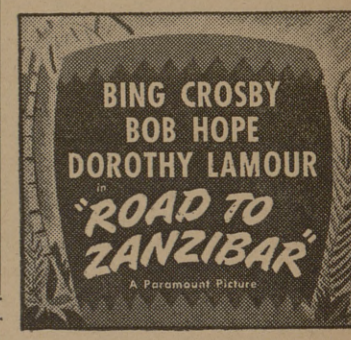
Today - Friday Saturday



THURSDAY - FRIDAY SATURDAY

PALACE

THURSDAY - FRIDAY SATURDAY



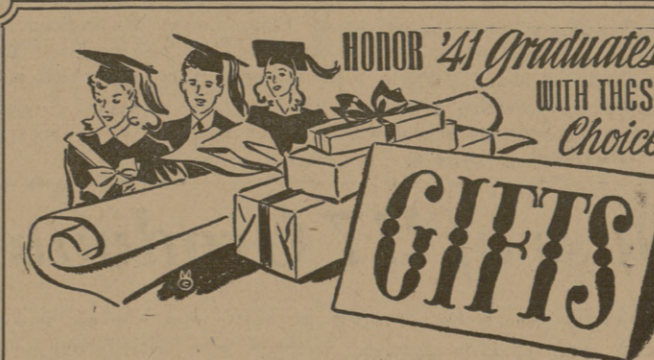
PREVUE 11 P. M. SATURDAY NIGHT

Loretta Young

"Lady From Cheyenne"

with Robert Preston

Shown Sunday - Monday



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