

The Battalion

STUDENT TRI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
 TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE
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Quiet-Men Studying

IT TAKES AN EXCEPTIONALLY good man to study for his final exams when there is noise and commotion going on around him. Everyone has heard of these fellows who can concentrate so effectively that a cannon fired in the room goes unnoticed, but men who can actually concentrate like that are spread extremely thin, and there probably aren't any on this campus.

But we can make conditions here as conducive to study as possible by maintaining an atmosphere of quiet industriousness around the dormitories—quiet so there will be no elements distracting from complete concentration, and industriousness to encourage an all-out effort toward the subject.

Maintaining quiet will be only too easy for those who have to study; it is those who are so fortunate as to be exempted or for other reasons not taking exams that will cause the commotion. The natural tendency is to loaf around with other fellows or to start bull sessions, but a little consideration and thought will show that it might be disturbing to someone. After making a good showing on a quiz there is a natural feeling to celebrate too, but celebrants should keep away from the halls.

It was one of the points used by the corps in wanting Final Review placed after exams that the seniors present during exam week would act as a stabilizing influence to maintain order and prevent breakage. Their main way to help other Aggies is to preserve an atmosphere in which underclassmen may study. A studying man deserves this consideration from all his classmates, so let's take our celebrating and commotion away from the halls.

Opportunity in Finals

THE BEST CHANCE TO RAISE A GRADE that exists is the final examination. They are long, tedious, and comprehensive, but they count one-third of the total grade and that can be a staunch support for a sagging average.

Since the final exam grade does count so heavily toward making the rating given for the term grade, any effort spent on raising it will be more amply repaid than the same effort spent on any other one feature of the course. It is easy to use that last bit of energy to study a little longer, and with the end so near in sight it will be worth the added effort.

With the end of the year there is a strong feeling to slight some things for plans to get home a few minutes sooner, but finals are not the things that should be passed over lightly. Since it is so easy to raise a grade, any sacrifice made now toward that end will prove its worth later by the extra grade points or better record left with the college.

With the opportunity to raise a grade so easily by a 3 hour quiz and several hours preparation, there should be nothing that stands in the way of total efforts toward finals.

No Smoking, Girls

A RECENT DECREE by Pat M. Neff, president of Baylor University, has outlawed smoking for girls who attend the university. He stated that beginning next fall "high school girl graduates who have contracted the habit of smoking will not be admitted to the institution and any young lady who smokes will be sent home."

We used to have horses and buggies too and some people thought the automobile was a passing fancy. But no sane modern person thinks so now. And cigarettes used to be thought immoral and sinful, but not many modern people think so. Even their physical harm has been discounted greatly by medical findings and the fact that few deaths are attributed to smoking.

What is so wrong with girls smoking, wrong enough to forbid her the advantages of higher education? It is freely admitted that some dainty young things make an awkward appearance handling a cigarette when they don't know how, but lack of grace is not enough to bar the portals of education either. The decree further declares that Baylor does not consider as good investments young women who smoke, and dormitory applicants are being interviewed personally by the dean of women and asked to sign a no-smoking pledge.

Isn't all that going a little far in the light of present day trends? Isn't a college girl mature enough to make her own decision concerning such a minor issue as smoking? It looks like the institution is playing around with some unimportant cigarette fires while the world is about to burn down around them.

FRANK LOVING PRESENTS:

I Heard the Preacher Say

ONE WOULD BE beyond the bounds of logic if he laid claim to perfection for anything of human origin. Nevertheless when you shake the hand of those seniors at final review, you can read in their eyes—through tears probably—that they have little complaint to register over their years here at Aggieland. Very few fellows need an explanation of "The Spirit of Aggieland", and the best of us could not give an adequate one if we tried. If perchance some newcomers are a bit hazy on the matter, the scene of that final handclasp and parting word next Saturday will certainly clear up the issue. To a man, that class of '41 will agree that no finer friendships, no richer experiences, no fonder memories are to be had anywhere than here on our campus. We who leave are completing a potent chapter in our lives; a chapter whose influence is deathless and whose wealth is immeasurable. We owe a tribute of lasting gratitude to the faculty and institutions of this college whose efforts have made it what it is. To fight changes is but to delay progress, but we will all place a stamp of approval and a vote of thanks on this institution and the men who have done the job.

Finally, we are proud of our class, and we think the rest of the students and the faculty join us in this pride. This class is amply seasoned with honesty, courage, chivalry, friendliness, and, above all, respect for the other fellow be he friend or foe. These things in my humble opinion are the qualities of a Christian character. I firmly believe that many of the best Christians rarely set foot in a church—important as that is. After all, Christianity is a way of living; and in fulfilling that requisite I can point with pride to the Class of '41.

Quotable Quotes

"THE NEWEST RESPONSIBILITY for newspaper editors is at once the oldest — to give the people the facts straight. I tell you frankly that I believe six-inch banner headlines and the constant competitive effort to shock citizens into buying a paper are among the greatest enemies of press freedom because they blunt the public trust in newspapers. I think the competitive effort to cap one sensational bulletin lead with another, the struggle to get a more glaring headline than your opposition, is an evidence of irresponsibility toward the facts, which hurts in the long run far more than subtle attacks from Washington or the threat censorship. I mention these Achilles Heels simply because I believe self-criticism is the way to freedom. It is also true that the American press tackles every day huge responsibilities and comes through with flying colors. Our newspapers and press associations are covering the war with great skill and resourcefulness. Our papers, small and large, are vigilantly telling the truth about our national defense program at home."—Erwin D. Carnham, managing editor, the Christian Science Monitor. —ACP

"AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS on the whole are giving us objective, factual, straight news reporting which is unique in the world today. In a world that has turned black under government censorship, we can thank God that here in America, faulty as our press may be, it is nevertheless, free."—Kenneth E. Olson, Dean of Journalism, Northwestern University. —ACP

As the World Turns..

DR. AL B. NELSON

SOLDIERS ARE NOW BEING STATIONED in shipyards and plane factories on the west coast in order to prevent sabotage of any kind. Machine guns are a part of the equipment of these troops.

Report all aliens whom you suspect of being in the country without legal sanction and also all persons suspected of disloyalty to the government. This is a request that is being made by government agencies now.

Japan is reported to be increasing the pressure on the Dutch East Indies. The idea is to force the Islands to grant all economic preference to Japan, to turn all their immense oil and rubber supplies to the Japanese in order that they may be more independent of other sources of supply. The Japanese are apparently convinced that the United States will do nothing but talk even in the face of extreme provocation.

Events in Crete indicate a further disaster for the British. This will be far more serious than the sinking of the Hood and indicates plainly the need for more fighting planes and tanks for the British in the near East. The British planes in the Mediterranean were outnumbered tremendously and were fighting against the best German planes and had to leave the Germans in control of the air.

The W. P. A. still has 1,496,863 men on its rolls and their budget requires nearly as much money per year as the entire yearly cost of the United States government previous to 1910.

Virginia Judd Anstead Jr., former Butler university student, once chosen as America's most beautiful model, is the mother of twin boys.

Women students at L. S. U. led the men in scholastic average for the first semester by .165 grade points.

Sally Stanton, queen of Pasadena's Jan. 1 rose parade, recently addressed students at California Institute of Technology.

The national youth administration is providing part-time work for about 450,000 boys and girls from 16 to 24 in high schools and colleges.

University of Georgia art department drew up a check 25 feet long, by means of which university sororities made a donation to the British relief campaign.

Colonel Ashburn Said...

The following quotations are excerpts from the special Commencement address delivered to 61 graduating seniors in Guion Hall last night:

"I am glad your graduation day falls upon Memorial Day. After all, memories are not just for the aged and for tombstones. I know of no light with which we may illuminate the path of the future except that which falls on our way from the lamp of the past. Certainly for every tragic human experience there was a prior human experience. These tragic events if we have been seen and heard them frantically waved a red flag, rang a bell and showed a caution light. Man in his folly generation after generation repeats the same mistake.

"I am almost equally sure that these interruptions which we call war and which have irritated the human family about every score of years often may be necessary to bring mankind back to the enduring things of life. If we but constantly realize how profitless and how vain are greed, selfishness, jealousy and envy, moral cowardice, self indulgence, and unweddedness—mankind would not be diverting you young men today from the course of peace to preparation against war. If, however, you come out of this situation with a continuing knowledge of how few things really count, and of enduring values of life you will have achieved man's greatest lesson.

"As I look around over the world and see the disorder and confusion which we face it seems difficult to me for any one of us older men to try to give you compass bearings, or to give you sound counsel and advice because frankly we do not know where you are going or what will be required of you. I do not know at what port of call you may have to report. I do not know where you can find the stability of opportunity that you rightfully seek and which stability was given to your generation when we stood on the threshold of life where you now stand at commencement time.

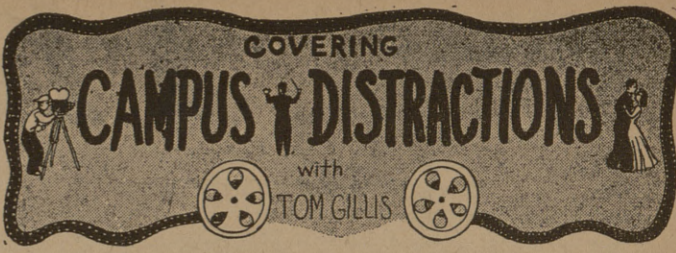
"The first channel in which you will navigate is in your business or professional fields—presently that is to be service in the United States Army. Whether that will be for one year, two years or longer, I do not know, but I am sure that in due time you will be returned to those fields of business enterprises for which you have here prepared yourself.

"No field offers the opportunity for human leadership and understanding of men as you now have before you in your duty with troops. A sense of fairness, of helpfulness and of willingness to do everything that you require of those under you and to do it better than they will take you far in that field. Likewise it will enrich your service in business when you have done your service for the colors. The ability to motivate and to inspire men to action is one of the supreme requisite for success in all enterprises.

"Freedom and liberty are not a matter of geography. Freedom did not just happen. Democracy is an achievement. . . . Our Democracy is an achievement by conquest. A very definite price tag was attached to every liberty we enjoy. A price tag paid in terms of human life and human suffering for the freedom we accept as a matter of fact. At the close of our Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin was asked what kind of government had been created for the people. It would be well for us to remember his brim reply—"A Republic if you can keep it."

"We talk about four freedoms—Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Press, and Freedom from Hunger and Freedom from Fear. I am not so sure but what the world migration is in the interest of the last of these four freedoms—freedom from hunger or a hunger for greater economic freedom. We have approached this economic stability here in the United States to a greater degree than the people of any other land. To preserve our standards of living, your resourcefulness, your educated talents must be brought to bear on our problems of distribution. I hope your genius may evolve a program which hereafter will make it impossible for us to have bread lines where men stand in wheat waist high.

"By example and precept you must strive to raise the level of human behavior. In the field of friendship recognition must be given to the responsibility of preserving proper moral levels—no man rises above his friendships. Be careful in choosing them, be jealous of the time you give to others who are unworthy of that time.



By Tom Vannoy

Now that finals are upon us once more, there is not just a great deal of time for the various distractions offered on and around the campus. The motion pictures scheduled for the next week hit a new low. Except for one or two, the best thing to do is stay at home and study.

The Campus is showing "ARIZONA" for the last times today. Jean Arthur and William Holden are the shining lights in the show. It is about the first American women to settle in Arizona.

Pat O'Brien and Constance Bennett are presented in "ESCAPE TO GLORY" at the Campus Saturday midnight and Sunday.

"ELLERY QUEEN, MASTER DETECTIVE" is one-half of the double feature offered for Monday and Tuesday at the Campus. Ralph Bellamy as the new character, Ellery Queen, is starting a new series of detective stories. Margaret Lindsay is co-starred with him. From where we stand, this is just Austria to Czechoslovakia and to France are portrayed excellently. It represents what the movie world can do when they get down to business and try to put out something really worthwhile. We recommend it as tops in drama and acting.

You have listened to them on the radio networks, and now they are on the screen. The Aldrich Family in "LIFE WITH HENRY," starring Jackie Cooper, Leila Ernst, and Eddie Bracken, will be at the Assembly Hall next Tuesday. The show has lots of publicity because of the radio connections, but the story is only fair. There are lots of comical situations throughout, and it is calculated to be a relief from studying.

"STRAWBERRY BLONDE" with all that James Cagney, Olivia DeHavilland, and Rita Hayworth can another one of those Hollywood "whodunits" that leave an insipid taste in your mouth after it is all over. In fact it is so inferior that you will probably solve the crime

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Saturday, May 31, 1941

11:25 a. m.—Lest We Forget (Institute of Oral and Visual Education).

11:40 a. m.—Popular Music.

11:55 a. m.—Community Bulletin Board.

12:00 noon—Sign-Off.

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SATURDAY, MAY 31

HEARTS UNDAUNTED

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Also Mickey Mouse

"PLUTO'S PLAYMATES"

6:45 and 8:30

STORAGE for your trunks this summer.

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Good Luck

Seniors

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See you next year!

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