

# The Battalion

STUDENT SUMMER-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE  
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## In Memoriam

With the death of Edwin J. Kiest, A. & M. college lost a man who has served it in a valuable capacity for fourteen years. His services to the institution were given in his untrusting and unselfish manner.

Kiest was most generous in dealing with the college and with the boys. Through his donations, he helped furnish the lounge in the new area which now bears his name. And many times students of the college whose financial troubles loomed as a barrier to graduation found gifts from an anonymous donor which allowed them to continue. These were from the benevolent and modest man whose death is now mourned by the college.

Dr. T. O. Walton, president of the college, paid him his greatest tribute when he said "Many men have contributed their energies—their very lives—to make Texas A. & M. College the great institution it is, but none has done more than Edwin Kiest."

*There is nothing more difficult to take in hand, more perilous to conduct, or more uncertain in its success, than to take the lead in the introduction of a new order of things.*

—Nicolo Machiavelli.

## Open Forum

From an Old Aggie to Those not so old:

When I went to A. & M.—We didn't know much or expect very much either. We saw our wood and carried it up to the top of Ross Hall, or stole it from the more energetic fish.

We pumped our water out of cisterns and used the good old No. 3 round type of tub, and dumped it on the "Bull" or down on stoop No. 1 when we were finished with it.

The "Sink" was located where the "Old Chem building" was built; there were lots of good quarter men in days, speed was essential. We walked to Bryan and we walked back, after "Taps"—We thought we were hell raisers, and I guess we were. Mamas didn't let their little daughters roam around College Station in those days.

But times have changed—now the Aggies have everything, but one thing, that any other school in the land can boast of.

WHY is it that the BEST SCHOOL in the big state of Texas has no UNION BUILDING?

Why is it that when you go down to visit the place, you have to sit on a bench in the sun, or climb a mile of stairs to find a rest room for your old wife or mother? Why is it that a visitor has to drive a hundred miles to find a place to stay all night if he wants to witness the Final Review the next morning?

I have been asked these questions by dozens of people who have been there. I haven't the answer.

A school the size of Texas A. & M. without a Union building or any place for a stranger to rest or stay over night in comfort is as out of date as it was during the days I spent there.

A. & M. is a college now, and ranks with the High Brow schools in the country, but to a stranger visiting it who does not know the traditions behind it, it looks like an institution.

It's up to you young fellows to bring the old school up to date, you know that I'm right in what I say about it; if I didn't love it, I wouldn't give a damn about it.

An old Aggie, who wouldn't climb that flight of stairs at the "Y" to shake hands with John Kimbrough.

I'll take that back, I'll get up there somehow, for that privilege.

Slayton W. Hamner, '04  
Healdton, Okla.

*It therefore comes to pass that every one is fond of relating his own exploits and displaying the strength both of his body and his mind, and that men are on this account a nuisance one to the other.*

—Benedict Spinoza.

*Time is a sort of river of passing events, and strong is its current; no sooner is a thing brought to sight than it is swept by and another takes its place, and this too will be swept away.*

—Marcus Aurelius.

## Things Worth Reading

By Dr. Mayo

### PERSONAL FAVORITES (II)

(This is the second of a series of observations on the books which the writer likes best—books of all kinds, nations, and times. He makes no claim to greatness for any of them, but simply takes the liberty of occasionally writing about what he likes because he likes it.)

#### "Political Ideals"

By Bertrand Russell (England, 1917)

What is a "good" economic system, anyhow? What sort of ideal should we set up in our minds as a means of determining the goodness or the badness of a social or political set-up?

A good society, Lord Russell says in *Political Ideals*, is one which brings out and develops the best and happiest qualities in each of its members. Now any man's desires may be divided into two groups: (1) Possessive impulses—impulses to get something, to beat somebody, in other words to exalt the self; and (2) Creative impulses—impulses to express one's nature in creative work like making a fine farm, or a sound highway, or a good poem or picture or tune; in shaping an excellent character and life; in choosing and loving our friends and mates; in helping to shape the world as we think it ought to be.

It will be noticed that the possessive, self-exalting desires can usually be satisfied only at somebody else's expense; you can't become powerful, for example, without taking away from freedom of action or opinion from many other people. You can't win without making somebody else lose.

On the other hand, the satisfaction of the creative desires does not in itself involve the defeat or frustration of anybody at all. If my chief pleasure is to perform beautifully delicate surgical operations, then I get my chief pleasure without interfering with anybody else's satisfaction. Enjoying my friends does not diminish in any way my neighbor's ability to do likewise.

It follows, then, that the best human traits are the creative impulses. A good social system, therefore, (Lord Russell says) is the one which stimulates and develops the creative impulses of its members, and weakens and discourages their possessiveness.

This little book, *Political Ideals*, having worked out this yardstick for evaluating economic and political institutions, proceeds to apply it briefly to our own system, Capitalism, and then to Socialism, which is the substitute usually suggested.

If you have followed this brief analysis, you can already measure these economic systems for yourself. If you will read Russell's *Political Ideals*, you will always, I think, have a standard by which to judge of the excellence or barness of economic and political institutions: Our own democratic Capitalism, Hitler's Nazism, Stalin's Communism.

## The World Turns On

By Dr. Steen

AMERICA SHOULD GIVE SOME THOUGHT TO HER POSITION in the world after the war. America is a great and powerful country with the most free and the most highly educated people in the world.

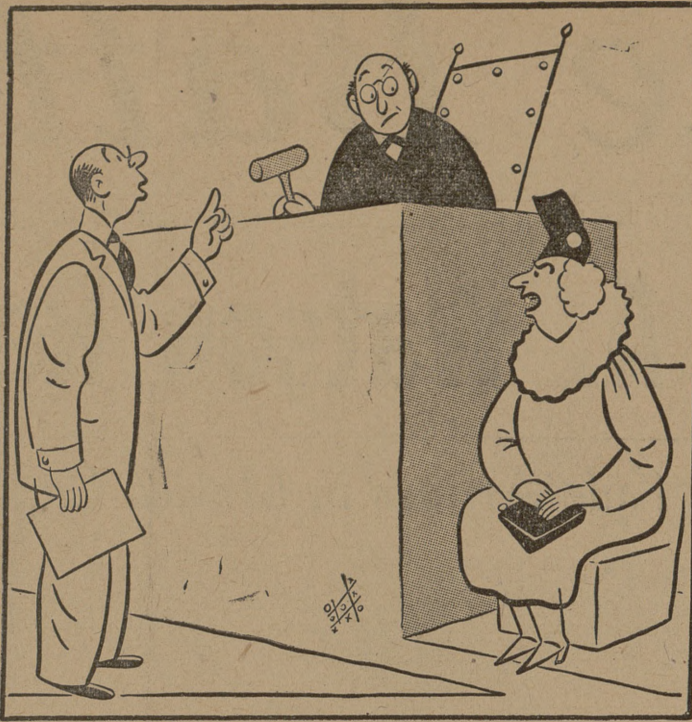
By any manner of reasoning that can be devised she should be a leader in world affairs. Yet, she is not now and she never has been.

THIS IS DUE TO THE CURSE OF ISOLATIONISM. Many Americans have tried to believe that this country has no interests beyond the three mile limit. Washington believed this and so did Jefferson.

It was a difficult thesis in their time, and an impossible one now. The isolationist always assumes that isolation will keep America out of war, and that, therefore, America need do nothing to try and maintain peace in the world. Experience has proved that this is not correct. America has become involved in every war that can be described as a long, major war since the declaration of independence was issued. We took part in the Napoleonic wars, we took part in the first World War, and we are taking a limited part in the present conflict.

THE ISOLATIONISTS INSIST THAT AMERICA IS DEFENDED BY ITS TWO OCEANS. This theory is also difficult to maintain. During the war of 1812 when troops had to travel in pint-sized sailing vessels the British landed an expeditionary force in America. The argument that an army cannot be transported across an ocean becomes absurd when America's achievement in 1917-1918 is considered. The oceans have shrunk a great deal since 1918. They were not then, and they certainly are not now a sufficient guarantee of safety. These are facts which Americans should take into account in forming a policy for the future.

AMERICA HAS REFUSED TO JOIN OTHER COUNTRIES IN MOVEMENTS TO MAINTAIN PEACE. We have, instead, followed a policy of helping end wars after they have gotten under way. America is too great a country to operate only in the negative. In the past we have always let something happen, and then have announced that we were opposed to it. It would be better to adopt a positive policy and say that we stand for certain definite things. In the past America has too often been a country with its head hidden ostrich-like in the sands of isolation crying peace in a world which knew no peace. It might be better if the new America took an active part in working for a better world.



"Your Honor, I object. She won't give me a chance to ask any questions!"

## BACKWASH

By Charlie Babcock

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

Only 134 Days Until Christmas . . . How several Texas Aggies now in the Royal Canadian Air Force "can't take it" is explained in a recent article appearing in The Summer Texan, student newspaper of Texas University during the summer months.

Among other things, the story quips: "The boys from the University of Texas are doing nicely and there's two or three from A. & M. that we passed some time ago. Good boys, just lacked the old initiative. They're back in Texas now—safe and sound!" Well, let's wait until Thanksgiving and see how the "University boys" can take it themselves. . . . A tale is told of a private who passed a second lieutenant and failed to render the customary salute. The chagrined officer called him back and punished him for the unforgivable error by requiring him to salute 50 times. The private carried out the punishment and was about to continue on his way when a major who had witnessed the proceedings came up and made the lieutenant return the salutes—all 50 of them! . . . A tribute to the memory of the late Augustus Jarred Allen, '39, who was lost somewhere in the jungles of the Panama Canal Zone recently while performing in the capacity of an officer in the U. S. Air Force. Allen was one of the most conscientious and unassuming men to ever come to Aggie land, earning most of his college expenses in the employ of the Commandant's office and the magazine stand near Sbisahall. . . . From the officials of the local mess hall units comes a plea to the cadet corps for a united effort to preserve the aluminum pots and pans now in use, for it will be impossible to acquire a new supply during the present national emergency.

Babcock

weekly quizzes, take a look at the case of Louis Engelke, a Texas University student from Galveston:

Engelke, who has studied Spanish for half a year, reported for an examination which was to cover a year's work. By mistake he took a two-year exam instead of the one-year test. He rushed back and took the one-year exam.

The grade list, posted a week later, announced that Engelke passed the two-year quiz but failed the one for one-year students!

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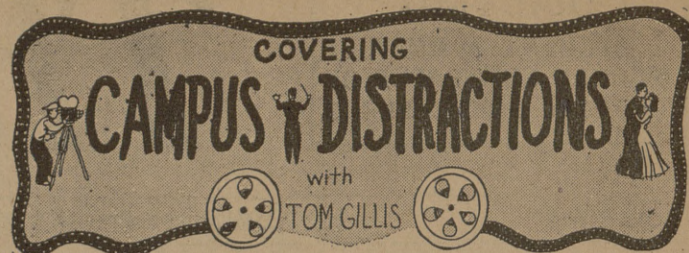
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By Jack Decker

The only distracting thing about this week is the drastic lack of run of shows, and one can always our old standby, the cinema, is still with us with about the usual run of shows, an done can always think about the fact that the regular fall term of school is only four weeks off. Everyone will rejoice at this, especially those of us who have been going strong, summer school and all, for a couple of years without letting up.

At last, a double feature is billed in which both shows should provide average entertainment instead of one dud "goldbricking" on a decent show.

The best of the two "Time Out For Rhythm," is a musical comedy that has a good cast of characters to bolster a weak story. The lead is played by Rudy Vallee, whose acting is surpassed by his singing, even if you don't care for his singing.

He is supported, maybe he had better say held up, by high stepping Ann Miller, three stooges, Brenda and Cobina and Glenn Gray and his Casa Lomans.

It is the usual musical comedy plot that has been used time and again, but the actors, plus the musical numbers, make good looking at; even the slapstick comedy provided by the Three Stooges is not nearly as bad as usual, evidently the result of better material and good directing.

The Casa Lomans give out with several good musical numbers and good looking Ann Miller contributes good entertainment to the show.

Billed with "Time Out for Rhythm" is "Here Comes The Navy," starring James Cagney and Pat O'Brien. This show is several years old as the clothes styles will prove, but the typical wrangling of Pat and Jimmy who are forever at one another's throats, always puts the show over, even though the same technique is used for every show they appear together in. The show has made the rounds once but it evidently must have a little on the ball to warrant another round of the country. The setting—the Navy—is probably the reason.

The best of the week, "Man Hunt," is to play the prevue melodrama in any and all forms with more than their money's worth of suspense and thrills, but those prone to be critical of implausible stories and thinly veiled humors are due to be disappointed.

The feature has a strong anti-Nazi flavor with the story concerning the capture of Walter Pidgeon in Germany by the dread Gestapo. He is accused of attempting the assassination of Herr Hitler, with a high powered rifle, but he escapes to England where the hunt continues. The relentlessness and cruelty of the Nazi secret police is well played up throughout the show.

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### WHAT'S SHOWING

AT THE CAMPUS

Wednesday, Thursday — "TIME OUT FOR RHYTHM," featuring Rudy Vallee, Ann Miller, Rosemary Lane, Brenda and Cobina, The Three Stooges, and Glen Gray.

Also "HERE COMES THE NAVY," starring James Cagney and Pat O'Brien.

Friday, Saturday — "THE BLACK CAT," with Basil Rathbone, Hugh Herbert. Also "BULLET CODE," with George O'Brien.

Saturday Night Prevue, Sunday, Monday — "MAN HUNT," starring Walter Pidgeon, and Joan Bennett.

drama in any and all forms with more than their money's worth of suspense and thrills, but those prone to be critical of implausible stories and thinly veiled humors are due to be disappointed.

The feature has a strong anti-Nazi flavor with the story concerning the capture of Walter Pidgeon in Germany by the dread Gestapo. He is accused of attempting the assassination of Herr Hitler, with a high powered rifle, but he escapes to England where the hunt continues. The relentlessness and cruelty of the Nazi secret police is well played up throughout the show.

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## White Collar Workers Subject To Many Hazards

Swivel Chair Tends To Break Down Physical Ability Due to Inaction

"The average person, if considering the question at all, likely will conclude that the white-collar worker lacks hazards such as surround the man or woman in industry. Accident prevention campaigns, which have been directed toward making factories and plants safer places in which to operate, have given rise to this popular notion. Nevertheless, the fact remains that those in offices also are confronted with hazards which are no less real simply because they are somewhat intangible and often insidious in their efforts," states Dr. Geo. W. Cox, State Health officer.

"A prominent health educator recently topped his list of office hazards with the swivel chair. He indicated that in its virtue lies its vice. Being comfortable, the office worker either by choice or a measure of necessity remains in it. Thus its harm is not of itself, but in the physical inaction for which it is responsible, coupled with bad posture due to undisciplined sitting.

"Again the male office worker, despite his comparative physical inactivity is prone to consume more food than is good for him. Excess weight in many cases results. And excess weight can be a healthy liability. On the other hand, a limited number of the female contingent are likely to be too streamlined-conscious. Over-emphasizing this idea frequently results in breakfastless days, light lunches, and insufficient dinners. Malnourishment with its untoward effect upon well-being, as well as a consequent lack of resistance to disease, is another conducive to health nor maximum vitality.

"Emphasis on the need of physical conditioning as a direct result of the present emergency should be reflected to some extent in a constructive change in the office worker's habits. More daily exercise in the open, a more rational attitude toward food from both the over-eating and under-eating standpoints, adequate amounts of sleep, and a curb on exercises of all kinds are natural buffers against the disadvantages to which the office population is subjected.

"In factories safety committees, safety education, and protected machinery do much to eliminate industrial hazards. On the other hand, in the office the removal of less pronounced but just as real hazards depend largely upon personal interest, understanding, and action."

## Instructor's Positions Open In Air Corps Now

The United States Civil Service Commission has announced that applications for the position of student instructor in the Air Corps technical school are now being received and that all persons interested and qualified are urged to put in an application.

Any of the following types of individuals can qualify for the position of student instructor: Individuals having completed three years of a four-year course in an engineering school of recognized standing; individuals having completed three years of a four-year course in vocational training or industrial education; individuals having received a college degree and having majored in applied science; individuals having received a college degree and having twenty credits in physics. All applicants, except those with veteran's preference, must be between the ages of 20 and 35.

For further information those interested should avail themselves of the announcements and correspondence in the office of the dean of the school of engineering at Texas A. & M. college.

"I Know Why," will be very popular. Both songs are from his latest picture—a movie, by the way, that all Miller fans must not miss. Charlie Spivak of "Intermezzo" fame has recently turned out a new one. "If It's True" is the tune in question; Charlie Spivak's recording naturally features an excellent trumpet solo.

Bob Crosby and Dinah Shore have contributed their recordings of "Do You Care?" Mitchell Ayres' "Time Was" features an odd saxophone section. Also the lyrics to the song are of interest.

Last Saturday night a number of popular tunes of a few years back were played. It's nice to hear Artie Shaw's "Begin the Beguine," Gene Krupa's theme song, and Glenn Miller's "Sunrise Serenade," but wouldn't you rather hear today's popular songs?

Below are a few records to keep an eye on. Glenn Miller's "Chatanooga Choo Choo," coupled with

### Irony Of Life

Say fella, if you think that you're having trouble with those

## Pickin' Up Plates

By J. Elwood

Who will succeed Glenn Miller as the outstanding recording orchestra? According to statistics, Jimmy Dorsey will be his successor. It is odd to note that whatever band the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City presents is usually the outstanding recording orchestra the next season. This has proved true in the cases of Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw, and Glenn Miller. If Jimmy Dorsey keeps up his present rate he is almost certain to follow in the footsteps of Glenn Miller. Some of his best records which are still popular are "Blue Champagne," "Yours," "The Things I Love," and "Green Eyes." He frequently plays part of the record in a slow tempo and the other part a good deal faster. And too, his vocalists, Helen O'Connell and Bob Eberly, rank high in popular opinion.

Locally the best seller of the last week was Tommy Dorsey's "Yes indeed." It is one of the best he has put out in a long time—and that's saying a good deal when Tommy Dorsey is concerned. Another fast seller is Glenn Miller's "You and I," backed up by "The Angels Came Thru." Both of these tunes are very slow. "Til Reveille" by Kay Kyser has been do-

ing very well for itself of late. That type of slow ballad frequently stays popular for a long time. After a long stay on the mediocre list, Gene Krupa's "Flamingo" is finally catching on. Keep an eye on that record. Glenn Miller has three other best sellers this week—"Boogie Woogie Piggy," backed up the "Boulder Buff," "Adios," and "Sweeter Than the Sweetest." All three are done in the best Miller style.

Some of the good records which haven't caught on yet are Harry James' "It's Peaceful in the Country," and King Sisters' "Love Me a Little Little," and Charlie Barnet's "When the Sun Comes Out." A sure hit is Kay Kyser's "The Cowboy Serenade." The tune may be a typical cowboy song, but it has a certain appeal that will go over big with the fans. Tommy Dorsey's "This Love of Mine," backed up by "Neiani," is still being given a big build-up by the Victor Company. Both of the tunes are very slow, but that doesn't seem to hurt their popularity.

Below are a few records to keep an eye on. Glenn Miller's "Chatanooga Choo Choo," coupled with

So, Collins reported to his military post a single man, and Sullivan whiled away the time at Coney Island.

However, wedding plans had to be postponed when Collins was refused the requested absence. But Sullivan was granted his five-day furlough.

In the ranks of honorable mention were: "Till Reveille," "Yours," "In Apple Blossom Time," and "Sweeter Than the Sweetest."