

# 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; and 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 3, 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.

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## Things Worth Reading

By Dr. T. F. Mayo

### MORE AGGIE FAVORITES

The interest aroused by the list of "Aggie Best Sellers" recently printed in this column encourages me to note a few more of the College Library books which have circulated ten times or more within the last few months.

"The Importance of Living," by Lin Yu Tang  
A pleasantly informal book about a modern Chinaman's philosophy.

"The Arts," by Hendrik Van Loon  
As good an introduction as I know to the whole subject of the fine arts, by a man who brightens up whatever he touches.

"Deserts on the March," by Sears  
An interesting account of the way in which vast arid spaces have moved on the globe causing equally vast dislocations and disturbances in human affairs.

"Discovering Ourselves," by Stecker  
Common sense observations about human nature drawn from the more sensible of the recent psychologists.

"Little Golden America," by Ilya Ilf and Eugene Petrov

Two communist Russians, with a strong sense of humor, cover the USA in a Ford, and record their impressions of the greatest capitalism—something maliciously, always entertainingly.

"Mustang and Cow," published by the Texas Folklore Society.  
Good yarns that smack of our own soil.

"Portrait of Mexico," by Diego Rivera  
Reproductions of paintings by the greatest North American artist.

"American Social Problems," by Howard Washington Odum  
Frank and sensible discussion of most of the things that are, or ought to be, bothering you.

"The Story of the Bible," by Hendrik Van Loon  
Another subject enlivened by this interesting fellow.

"The Dream We Lost," by Freda Uteley  
An intelligent English communist renounces communism and Stalin, and explains why they are even worse than National Socialism.

"Americas to the South," by Whitaker.  
What we all ought to know about our neighbors.

*Great economic and social forces flow with a tidal sweep over communities that are only half conscious of that which is befaling them. Wise statesmen are those who foresee what time is thus bringing, and endeavor to shape institutions and to mold men's thought and purpose in accordance with the change that is silently surrounding them.*  
—John Viscount Morley.

## The World Turns On

By Dr. R. W. Steen

For many years certain sections of the American press have played up what they described as the "Yellow Peril." It is true that relations between the United States and Japan have been something less than friendly for many years, but it is only recently that we can speak with justice of the "Yellow Peril." Even now Japan is a peril more because of her relationships with certain European countries whose policies are considered dangerous to America's welfare than because of any intention Japan may have to fight the United States.

Japan has aligned herself with the Axis powers, and to some degree her activities are being determined in Berlin. Japanese military officers are much more aggressive and much more jingoistic than are the naval officers. Perhaps they haven't been around as much. In any case the question of peace in the Pacific is apt to depend largely upon the composition of the Japanese cabinet. A cabinet dominated by naval officers will doubtless attempt to avoid any move which would anger America. A cabinet dominated by army officers might see fit to issue a definite challenge to this country.

The initiative in meeting a Japanese challenge rests with the United States. This has been more or less true since the beginning of the war in Europe, but was not definitely stated until Winston Churchill reported to the world on his meeting with the President of the United States. In his address Churchill declared that Britain would back the United States in any stand she took in the Far East. It was clearly intimated that in case of war the United States navy would have free access to the British naval base at Singapore.

The "yellow peril" now seems to offer the most likely road for American entrance into the world war. For quite some time it seemed that the activities of our ships in the Atlantic might result in war, but at the moment the situation in the Far East seems more threatening.

Russia has now fought for ten weeks, and even though the Russians have suffered great losses in men, materials and territory they have thrown the German time table entirely out of gear and have practically guaranteed the continuation for some time to come of a war on two fronts. General Winter will soon come to their assistance in the north and that will make the work of defense much easier than the work of attack.

## Kollegiate Kaleidoscope



Each year the president of Northwestern Univ. lights a huge purple candle 4 ft. high at 8:01 P.M. on a Wednesday in the middle of May. At the same moment N.U. alumni all over the world light candles.

## BACKWASH

By Charlie Babcock

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

Back In The Saddle . . . Advance period brings to mind the case of a Cornell University undergraduate as related by the ACP.

Fascinated by the epic proportions of the feat, the young collegian decided to pay his university registration bill of \$243.50 entirely in pennies—24,350 pennies. The resultant sack of copper coins was hauled to the fiscal office and stacked before the proper window, whereupon an incensed treasurer informed the panting student that pennies in that sum were not legal tender and could not be accepted.

Undaunted, our hero returned to a bank to deposit his pennies and get the cash to pay his bill. It seems, however, that the bank had an unfortunate rule that pennies could not be accepted for deposit unless wrapped. So, for the small sum of \$8.00, the student hired a clerk who worked the greater part of the night, and by morning the pennies were wrapped and ready for deposit.

Armed with the necessary cash, a much chastened student returned to the fiscal office, feeling much relief at the prospective ending of an unhappy episode, only to find that an additional fine of \$5.00 had been slapped against his account for late payment of fees.

## Honeymoon

When Jim Collins, an Aggie graduate of 1940, and Walter Sullivan, class of '41, completed their training at the Engineering School in Fort Belvoir, Virginia, this past summer, they asked for a five-day leave before being assigned to permanent posts. Jim wanted to be married, and Sully was to be his best man.

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

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

## From Now On

And so it is that the first Backwash of the 1941-42 session breaks into print with a new author.

The policy and purpose of the column is an established fact with returning Aggies. To all new stu-

## Common Cents

The present Aggie registration

## Aggie Water Tower Assumes Appearance of an Art Gallery

By Douglas Lancaster

Fool's names and fool's faces often appear in public places—so goes an old saying.

The A. & M. counterpart of this statement seems to be the water tower, which stands high over the A. & M. campus and displays for miles around the art and enterprise of many an Aggie fish.

A constant source of amazement are the many and varied signs which adorn the "Aggie Art Gallery." Probably all of us at one time or another have wondered just how those signs were printed up there as straight as they are. To solve the mystery all one must know is that alongside the tower is a revolving ladder which rotates about the sides of the tower. After discovering how the signs were put on the tower the insignias of many organizations are seen proudly painted upon its sides. Crossed cannons, rifles, sabers, and num-

bers of graduating classes give evidence of Aggie daring. There are some organizations who would find it difficult to paint their insignias on the tower. It seems quite impossible to paint a picture of a regimental headquarters battery. However this didn't phase the second combat train of the Field Artillery—they promptly proceeded to paint a drawing of a train and a tender with the figure 2nd above it.

Strangely appearing on the tower is an orange "Texas U" painted on its sides by a group of "teasippers" prior to a Thanksgiving game on Kyle Field. The freshmen of that year were told that they would have to do something about it in a hurry in order to get one step ahead of the "teasippers," so the Aggie fish scurried up the tower and painted the word "Beat" above the Texas U. inscription.

Now with the water tower holding its capacity of both art and water, a question has arisen as to whether the tower will be repainted so the fish of '45 can have room to show their artistic ability. According to B. D. Marburger, head of the B. & C. U. department, the tower will not be painted for another two years. The class of '45 will have to find new fields on which to display their art.

Constructed in 1920, the tower has a capacity of 145,000 gallons. After its completion the water tower was painted black, but at a later date it was painted aluminum.

Experiments have been made to indicate that teachers have most of their disciplinary problems on windy days.

Join the Battalion staff.

## Freshman! It's up to You Now

You're not an Aggie yet—but you're being introduced to the Aggie way of doing things. Long hours of waiting in registration lines will serve to introduce you to A. & M. But a yellow fiscal receipt does not constitute proof that you are an Aggie.

Your class has made the first step toward becoming a member of an organization which has turned out over 25,000 graduates. Some of you will eventually possess a diploma from A. & M. By that time you will be an Aggie in every sense of the word. Today you are being given an opportunity to gain an education at one of the finest colleges in the country. You are being tested to see if you are capable of being a credit to your school and state.

Your freshman year may well be a crisis in your life. It is your opportunity to be on your own. Home ties have been temporarily cut. It may be sink or swim for many of you. But your problems are no different from those which have faced thousands of A. & M. fish before. Their record is proof to you that you too can be an Aggie. Life here will be different from that at home. Any one of you will have an equal opportunity here to make yourself what you want to be.

As the months of the school year roll on, you will begin to realize what being an Aggie means. You can understand why A. & M. has the most loyal student body in the state. The A. & M. ideal will grow on you; it will become part of you. It can not be expressed in words but its existence is just as tangible as every building on this campus.

Prove yourself worthy of being an Aggie. It is entirely up to your own ability to make the most of your opportunities here. The facilities of a great educational institution are at your disposal. You made a wise choice when you determined to come here; now see that you do the best possible work of which you are capable. Keep on plugging and fighting! You'll be an Aggie soon!

*They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty or safety.*  
—Benjamin Franklin.

## Work with The Battalion

Men Wanted! Here is an opportunity that is open to any student. The Battalion is your student newspaper. With the formation of a new staff for this year, new men will be needed. The editors of The Battalion extend to any interested Aggie an invitation to join the paper's staff. Previous experience is not a necessity. All students who are interested in joining the staff of The Battalion newspaper or magazine are invited to come down to The Battalion office in the Administration Building and meet with the editors or try to attend the first organization meeting, notice of which is found on the first page of this issue.

## Open Forum

TO THE STUDENT BODY:

The Battalion of 1941-42 will make an effort to be truly representative of student opinion on the A. & M. campus. In order to accomplish this end, the editors of The Battalion invite all students who are interested to make full use of the "Open Forum" column which appears from time to time on the editorial page.

This is your column in which you can express your ideas concerning A. & M. The welfare of this college is to a great degree entrusted to the students. It is partly your task to see that the program of this college is progressive. This column offers all Aggies an opportunity to better their college. Suggestions concerning the welfare of the student body should find an outlet for expression here.

All articles which are genuine in their aim to improve A. & M. will be printed in The Battalion if they are signed. Lack of space often will prohibit publication of articles over 350 words. Try to make your expressions brief and accurate. All "Open Forum" articles must be signed. If your views are worth expressing, they are certainly worthy of carrying your signature.

The "Open Forum" is for you. Use it to yours and your college's advantage.  
—THE EDITORS



Steen

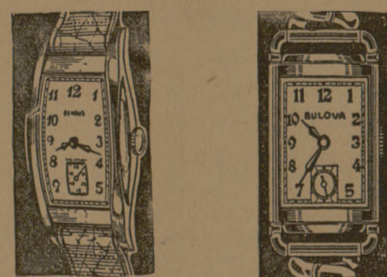


Babcock

Babcock was inserted in the Dallas News under his name. Public retraction was made by the News, and Gilchrist is still trying to find out who perpetrated the fraud . . . How several Texas Aggies now in the Royal Canadian Air Force "can't take it" is explained in an article appearing Sunday, August 3, 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. There are a few around here that remember that 7 to 0 licking . . . Success story: It's another touch-down for Jimmy Parker. After serving the A. & M. team for the past two years in the capacity of student football manager, Parker has been appointed manager of the equipment and storage room . . . Aggie's 1940-41 cadet colonel, Lieutenant Bill Becker, is stationed with the 62nd Field Artillery at Fort Bliss, Texas . . . Summer tragedy: Louis Engelke, a summer student at the U. of T. who had 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!



## WELCOME BACK AGGIES



WE STAND READY AGAIN TO SERVE YOU IN WATCH AND JEWELRY REPAIR WORK

## DOBYNE JEWELERS

North Gate

He'll be ready to stand all inspections because he'll have his tailor work done at the . . .

## CAMPUS CLEANERS

Over Exchange Store Agent In Every Hall In New York